

USE SHELL MOTOR OIL

You can be sure of SHELL

THE SHELL COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND LIMITED
(INCORPORATED IN ENGLAND)

MAKE MONEY

DESIGNING DISPLAY CARDS,
POSTERS, TICKETS,
ILLUSTRATING and
CARTOONING

Earn 5/- to 10/- hr.

Write for Free Illustrated Booklet

McKAY'S ART STUDIOS,
P.O. Box 367, WANGANUI.



STAMPS

SEND 1/- for Monthly
Bulletin of Stamp
Offers.

PIM & CO.

310 Chancery Chambers,
Auckland.

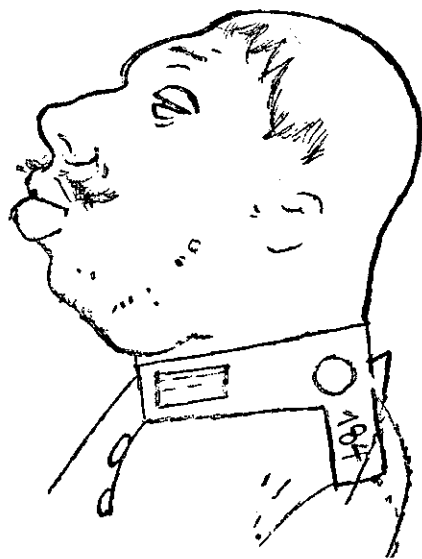
ART IN ACTION

William Dobell Again

(Written for "The Listener" by
KAY)

WE have not done with William Dobell yet. Not only has he won this year's Archibald Prize with his portrait of a fellow artist, Joshua Smith, but now, from a Sydney correspondent of the *Otago Daily Times*, comes the pleasant news that Mr. Dobell has been appointed as one of the 12 trustees on the National Art Gallery Board of Trustees, Sydney.

When his name was submitted, even Mr. Dobell's most ardent admirers doubted if the Government would declare itself on such a highly contentious matter. After weeks of indecision, the Government had the good sense to



A caricature by Grosz from post-war Germany.

appoint him, and it will be interesting to watch for the result.

Mr. Dobell's own reactions are refreshing. He says that one thing is paramount in his mind: that conditions must be made easier for the young artist, and that he should have access to examples of the world's finest art in the local galleries. He declares also that he would like to take some of the Gallery's outmoded pictures to pieces and distribute their canvases and frames among Australian painters and students. Here is art in action, against art in reaction and the dead hand of the past.

For we must not forget that Australia began by describing the portrait of Smith as a gargoyle, a praying mantis, a caricature, and that only a few voices voted it a masterpiece. Even our own New Zealand papers took up the cry, and many New Zealand voices joined in. There was a heated correspondence in several of our dailies. The picture, in short, created a sensation. While I hold no brief for sensation for its own sake, it can be safely said that any work of art that does not arouse controversy must be safely dead. We may therefore take it as a healthy sign that in Sydney crowds have flocked to see the portrait, an unusual phenomenon in the midst of a war.

(continued on next page)