



"D'ya feel uncomfortable, mum...I hope?"



BABY: Remember now what it's like to be a baby, Mum!

MUM: Whew—what a life babies do lead! People doing this to you—that to you—and so many things to make your skin scratchy and irritated!

BABY: My complaint exactly, Mum. Guess now you're in the mood to listen—when I yell for Johnson's Baby Cream and Johnson's Baby Powder!

MUM: You bet I am—just ask me!

BABY: Please may I have some nice, pure Johnson's Baby Cream, to smooth over me and help prevent what my Doctor calls "urine irritation"? And, please, some soft, smooth Johnson's Powder, for times when chafes and prickles bother me?

MUM: Lamb—from now on, I'll do right by you!



BABY: You and Johnson's, Mum! Just wait till you see how those smoother-uppers agree with my pink pelt!



★ Sterilised for your protection in accordance with the regulations.

Safe for Baby—Safe for You
Johnson's Baby Powder
Johnson's Baby Cream
Johnson's Baby Soap

Johnson & Johnson
(NEW ZEALAND) LIMITED

N.Z. Distributors: Potter & Birks (N.Z.) Ltd., 14 Lower Federal St., Auckland.

A YEAR OF ART

seriousness, refinement of feeling, though empty of the cruder emotions, and I level this as a criticism because it does not seem to me true of New Zealand and its essential quality, its history, which has many a lusty page." In effect, though with a slightly different emphasis, he reiterates what has already been said of our artists. The essential lushness and gusto of the New Zealand scene has not yet impinged itself sufficiently on the minds of our creative artists. "The integrity, seriousness and refinement of feeling" evident in the work of Paula Hanger, Allen Curnow, Charles Brasch, Anton Vogt, James Baxter, and Hubert Witteford, are obvious and inescapable, but I think perhaps that here the operative word is "seriousness," or perhaps "refinement." If these unmistakable gifts could be allied to another which I can only define as, crudely, gusto, our New Zealand poets would not only rank with the best, but would lead where others would follow.

Year Book of the Arts is not a book to be taken lightly. It is a book to be thankful for. It presents a cross-section of thought and idea, of visual and mental imagery which any country would be pleased to claim. I would like to see, in a future issue, an article on the Short Story in New Zealand. I would like to see, in a future issue, some comment on radio and film in New Zealand. All these have a bearing on our cultural existence and cannot be ignored entirely. But this, perhaps, is where one runs counter to Mr. Wadman's implicit and explicit philosophy of the aristocrat. Mr. Wadman is here exercising his trained, subtle and urbane sense of selection only in the fields which make the deepest appeal to him as an aristocrat among aristocrats. Could he not, in the future, exercise it too upon all those other less obvious manifestations of the human spirit which flower occasionally in shady corners of *The Listener*, and even in some of the dailies, instead of catering only for the prepared minds which can appreciate how good it is? "The trouble with Republican meetings," Mrs. Taft observed, "is that only Republicans and their friends come to them."

The book itself is very pleasingly presented. H. H. Tombs have carried out their usual meticulous job of printing and it is a volume which should have a place of honour on every bookshelf. Mr. Wadman is to be congratulated on the courage, technical knowledge and sheer hard work which must have gone into the establishing of this



A GODDESS OF MERCY (oil), by Rita Angus

yearly volume, which has now attained its third issue. We look forward to many more.

NOTABLE BIRD BOOK

NEW ZEALAND BIRD LIFE. By E. G. Turbott. A. H. & A. W. Reed, Wellington.

MOST fortunately books about New Zealand birds and plants published these days are launched on a rising tide of public interest, and (though this is contrary to the conditions of the metaphor) they themselves help to swell the movement. If you wish to interest a boy in the birds of his country—and it is best to catch them young—give him E. G. Turbott's *New Zealand Bird Life*. If he responds, give him a camera. Written originally for children in the *Auckland Star*, these chapters on birds of the bush, open country, seashore, and outlying islands, are done in a simple informative style that will appeal to youngsters and adults alike. The author is a keen observer, as befits the ornithologist at the Auckland War Memorial Museum, and has ranged in travel from the Three Kings to the Chathams. He gives the main points in the make-up and habits of a considerable number of birds, with a journalist's eye for what will interest the non-scientific reader. Here is exceptional knowledge and deep love of birds, and the result contains lessons for a people who in the past have been careless of their bird inheritance and ignorant or unmindful of the consequences of its destruction.

Two pieces of fact may be picked out from the mass to illustrate the value of the book. "On Little Barrier Island the pigeons (native) knowing they are safe, graze on young clover leaves in the house paddock, waddling over the grass like ducks." And G. M. Thomson, whose work on acclimatisation is known to few besides students, is quoted as reporting that when sparrows were imported, the colonists, longing for any-

(continued on next page)