

CAPTAIN B. H. LIDDELL HART (below) is the editor of "The Rommel Papers," which will be reviewed by Brigadier G. H. Clifton in ZB Book Review on August 23. Other books for discussion the same evening are: "The Cardboard Giants" by Paul Hackett, reviewer Dr. T. O. Garland; and "The Happy Island," by Bengt Danielsson. C. R. H. Taylor



away A-Bomb contamination, have the support of the best scientific brains.

With these and many more such idiocies to hand, E. S. Turner might well have turned his book into a shocking lambasting of advertising. That he has not done so is a tribute as much to his self-control as to his scholarship. His gift for the parenthetical witticism ("A poster of two enigmatic nymphs, hot from the *Decameron*, poised above their Barlock typewriters, may have done much to fill moralists with misgivings about the wisdom of employing women in offices") has also been kept in check just sufficiently to leave room for constructive and considered judgment. The result is a tightly-knit history which instructs while it entertains, and which should be acceptable to advertiser and consumer alike.

—A.S.F.

DECLINING GLORY

UGO FOSCOLO, by E. R. Vincent. Cambridge University Press. English price, 25 s.

UGO FOSCOLO, poet and patriot, was a strange wanderer to come to rest in Regency England. The natural sympathy of the Holland House Whigs for anyone who had resisted tyranny so strenuously in eloquence and in arms in his native country, enhanced by a sense of his real intellectual distinction, was soon diminished (though not extinguished) by acquaintance with Foscolo's temperament (more accurately, his temper) and his complete inability to live within a meagre income derived from spasmodic journalism. An Italian political exile who was half-Greek, Foscolo came to England bathed in Byronic glory. His English years are the years of decline and fall, and Professor Vincent's pedestrian and rather scrappy biographical sketch of these last years of the poet's life before his death in poverty creates a sense of discomfort in the reader—the same sort of feeling that

Baudelaire describes in his poem about the albatross, emperor of the air, taken by the sailors, swaying drunkenly on the deck of the ship, its great wings preventing it from walking.

—David Hall

MOMENTS IN TIME

THE MOUNTAINS REMAIN, by Hanama Tadaki. Victor Gollancz. English price, 14 s. **THE APPRENTICE**, by Joseph Tomelty. Jonathan Cape. English price, 12 s. **THE ENGLISH MARCH**, by Elizabeth D'Ovlev. Michael Joseph. English price, 10 s. **DESIREE**, by Annemarie Selinko, translated by Arnold Bender and E. W. Dickes. Heinemann. English price, 15 s.

IN one sense all these novels are "historical," concerned with specific moments in time. Their period is the heart of the matter, post-war Japan, Belfast between wars, Restoration England or Napoleonic Europe. The placing in this review is in order of merit.

The Mountains Remain dramatises the contemporary conflict in Japan between a native tradition and the ideas of an encroaching west. Tasaki's novel has a value as a document because of what it is about—it would be interesting even if it were less ably handled. Here is a book, however, with the line and melancholy of a Hiroshige print; the Japanese characters in it maintain style and dignity even in despair.

The Apprentice is also a study in melancholy and compassion: readable, too, although the subject has been explored in fiction so much more often than Japanese life for example. Adolescent storm and stress is a common topic of contemporary fiction and it indicates the quality of Tomelty's writing that he gives the impression of treading new pasture. There is suffering in his novel which invokes but does not force pity.

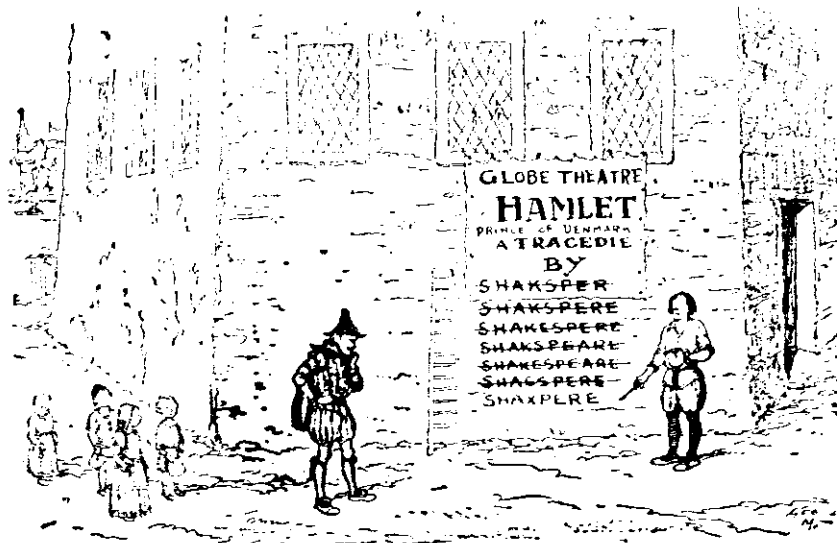
The English March takes Prince Rupert as hero, the older scholarly Rupert, not the dashing cavalry commander. This might be a useful background book for fifth and sixth form history classes. It is less impressive than the author's earlier *Mired Horse*. Of *Desiree* I can only say that it should make a very nice movie with Vivien Leigh in the lead. Pure M.G.M.

—D.N.W.

COLLECTORS' CONRAD

TWO TALES OF THE CONGO, by Joseph Conrad. The Folio Society. English price, 18 s.

CONRAD was a master of the long short story, and one of his best, next to *Typhoon* or *Youth*, was *Heart of Darkness*, a fatalistic tale of the Belgian (continued on next page)



"I'd better come back when you've made up your mind"

(C) Punch

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