

REVIEWS OF RECENT BOOKS

Courtesy Museum of Modern Art



Typical products of the Bauhaus which were adopted as Models for Mass-Production by German manufacturers, and also influenced Foreign Industrial Design 1922-1925. Models of Metal Lamps, Writing-Table in glass, metal and wood, China service designed by O. Lindig, Kitchen Equipment designed for the Haus am Horn at Weimar, first models for tubular steel furniture designed by Marcel Breuer.

The Bauhaus: A corner of the workshop's wing.

THE NEW ARCHITECTURE AND THE BAUHAUS

By Walter Gropius

The Museum of Modern Art. \$1.75.

Only by proper education can the present confusion of eclecticism in the arts be overcome, and Dr. Walter Gropius and his Bauhaus are pioneers of the new education in the arts. As an architect and as an educator, Gropius has done superb work; few architects and educators think as clearly and speak as concisely in the field of aesthetics. Here lies the essential element of Gropius's greatness; he has the ability to express comprehensive philosophical ideas and ideals in simple, understandable terms. Speaking of the aims of the Bauhaus, Gropius says—"The quality of a man's creative work depends upon a proper balance of his faculties. It is not enough to train one or other of these, since all alike need to be developed. That is

why manual and mental instruction were given simultaneously In carrying out this scheme, I tried to solve the ticklish problem of combining imaginative design and technical proficiency."

Institutions modeled after the Bauhaus are badly needed here in America to bridge the gap between the trade schools, where training is entirely manual and the colleges and universities, where training is entirely theoretical.

The craftsman of today is not the craftsman of old. He does not hammer metal and stone and carve wood alone with a few rough tools. He has new tools which we of today call machines, and he has what we know as a mechanical sense; he is an artist of a new type. He uses these new tools to mould the same old materials and many new ones into shapes that will accomplish some given task he has set himself to do.

"The New Architecture and the Bauhaus by Walter Gropius should be compulsory reading for everyone interested in modern education"--says George Fred Keck.