



PLATE XIV.

NEEDLEPOINT CHAIR DESIGNED AND WORKED BY MRS. DARRAGH PARK. AWARDED MOST POPULAR EXHIBIT 1935 "NEEDLEWORK OF TODAY" SHOW. WOOL FLOWERS, SILK FLOSS BACKGROUND.

NOTES ON THE EXHIBITION "NEEDLEWORK OF TODAY" AT THE VERNAY GALLERIES

by

GEORGIANA BROWN HARBESON

THAT modern women have become aware of the tremendous possibilities which lie in the dignified and ancient art of needlework is exemplified in the exhibition "Needlework of Today" held at the Vernay Galleries in New York this spring. The strong trend toward self-expression in new forms is indicated in this second showing of the foresighted group who sponsored the exhibition given for the benefit of the New York Association of the Blind, Lighthouse No. 1, and the "Adopt a Family" Committee.

Under the able leadership of Mrs. William W. Hoppin, this second exhibition, of more than seven hundred entries, was gathered from the homes of prominent women from all over the country. It was an intelligent and artistic expression not only of their decorative ideas but also of more practical ones as well.

An embroidered panel by Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., "Recognition of USSR" (Plate shown on page 11), was awarded the gold star for the best piece of work in the exhibit. The most popular piece in the show, a chair by Mrs. Darragh Park (Plate XIV) has an oyster white floss background, with flowers done in a higher key of white wool accented by the shaded boxwood greens of the leaves. The flowers are contained in pale turquoise blue bowls, while the entire color scheme is bound together by touches of bluish paint in the chair frame.

The first place in wall hangings was given to Mrs. C. W. Smith for a piece of crewel embroidery (Plate XV) depicting biblical scenes in a variety of stitches and showing an intelligent combination of Chinese and Jacobean elements in the design.



PLATE XV.

FIRST PRIZE IN WALL HANGINGS. BIBLICAL SCENES.
CREWEL EMBROIDERY WORKED BY MRS. C. W. SMITH.



PLATE XVI.

FIRST PRIZE IN PICTURE CLASS. CREWEL EMBROIDERED "THE NATIVITY,"
WORKED BY MISS S. B. MACDONALD AFTER DESIGN BY GEORGIANA
BROWN HARBESON.



PLATE XVII.

CREWEL EMBROIDERED PANEL, DESIGNED AND WORKED BY MARY LOW WILLIAMS. AWARDED SECOND PRIZE FOR DISTINCTIVENESS IN MODERNIZING A SAMPLER THEME.



PLATE XVIII.

FIRST PRIZE IN BENCH CLASS. CREWEL EMBROIDERED COVERING DESIGNED AND
WORKED BY MRS. HUBERT ROGERS. RADIATION IN STITCHERY OF INTEREST.

BULLETIN OF THE NEEDLE AND BOBBIN CLUB

Miss S. B. Macdonald's picture "The Nativity" (Plate XVI) was awarded the first place in that class. The colorings are of enamel brilliancy against a deep blue linen background. The shepherds are worked in warm brown tones; the Wise Men in oriental golds, yellows, and crimson shades; the trees in rich green wools shading into light turquoise blue. The little angels, as well as the Madonna and Christ Child, are embroidered in pale pink and deep rose tones. Second place was awarded to Miss Mary Low Williams for her picture of a leaping gazelle (Plate XVII) executed mainly in blues and greens, but with a pink flamingo and an autumn bush as contrast.

Others winning first places in this exhibit were: Mrs. Darragh Park, mirrors; Mrs. A. Beller, crewel embroidered screen; Mrs. J. Gordon Douglas, armorial wall panel; Mrs. Kenneth Budd, pole screen; Mrs. R. Swinnerton, purse; Mrs. Grover O'Neil, bell pull; Mrs. Curtis McGraw, box; Mrs. Hubert Rogers, bench; Mrs. Thomas LaFarge, chair; Mrs. Matthew E. Fleming, mules; Mrs. Thomas Bancroft, footstool; Mrs. Kenneth Budd, maps; Mrs. Courtland D. Barnes, rug; Mrs. Brewster Jennings, tea-table; Mrs. James Field, backgammon table; Mrs. Robert Coleman Taylor, samplers; Miss Angelica L. Gerry, ecclesiastical panel; Lady Gosford, cushion; Mrs. Arthur Peck, dolls' chairs; Miss Madeleine F. Butt, children's class.

Second places went to the following: Mrs. E. M. daC. Andrade, needlepoint crest; Mrs. John Castle, pole screens; Miss Mary Steers, bag; Mrs. Charles H. Keep, bench; Mrs. H. Bradley Martin, chair; Mrs. M. G. Wood, footstool; Mrs. F. Bonnell, rug; Mrs. John Gregory, wall piece; Mrs. Lawrence B. Cummings, sampler; Mrs. DeLancy Kountze, cushion; Mrs. John DeWitt Peltz, dolls' chairs; Miss Polly Jennings, children's class.

Three third prizes were also awarded: the first to Mrs. Ingeborg Hanscell for her wall hanging; another to Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., for her sampler; and the third to Mrs. Lewis M. Gibb for her cushion.