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THE ARTS

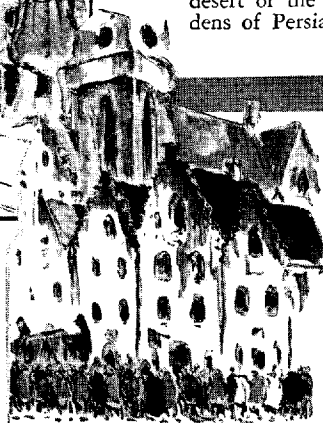
BY HENDRIK WILLEM VAN LOON

RETAIL PRICE \$3.95

The illustrations shown below are reproductions of a few of the many paintings and drawings which Hendrik Van Loon made for The Arts. A book of over 800 pages, with over 100 full-page illustrations, 48 in full color, 32 in wash—and in addition innumerable illustrative line drawings.



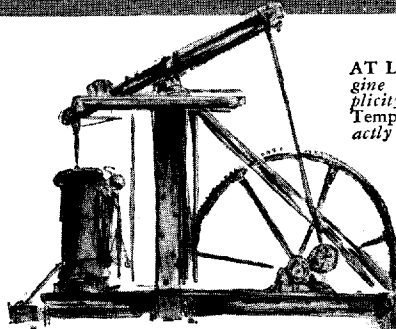
ABOVE: The beginning of our modern orchestra. Jongleurs improvising a little concert while waiting for their dinner to get ready in the kitchen.



AT RIGHT: THE GENTLEMAN PAINTER. Rubens leaves his native town on a foreign mission.

VAN LOON'S purpose in this book—and he achieves it, beautifully,—is to give the general reader a love for and an understanding of the background of all the arts, through the ages. He begins with the cave-drawings of 35,000 B.C. and comes down to our own day, with way-stops at Egypt, Babylon and Chaldea; at the Athens of Pericles; amid the mysterious remains of Etruscan art; in Byzantium and medieval Russia; in the desert of the Islamites and the gardens of Persia; in Provence, Renais-

sance Italy, Rembrandt's Holland and Beethoven's Vienna. We read not merely about the towering figures—Giotto, Michelangelo, Velasquez, Wagner, Beethoven—but explore a thousand bypaths. Troubadours, minnesingers, monks, saints, bohemians, generals—all troop by in a colorful cavalcade. Always the close relationship of art to ordinary life is stressed; and always the emphasis is laid on the human beings who made that art and who have heard it, viewed it, enjoyed it, for hundreds of centuries.



AT LEFT: We admire the first steam engine of James Watt for its logical simplicity . . . but No. 1 of Bach's Well-Tempered Clavichord is beautiful for exactly the same reason.

BELOW: THE OLDEST PICTURE OF MAN: The creature, Van Loon points out, is engaged in his customary pastime of killing his fellowmen.



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