

DAILY DISPATCH
EAST LONDON
JAN (26th) 1940.

SHOW OF MODERN DRAWINGS

Art That Fits in With
a New Age

WORK OF MR. HERMAN WALD

The following are the impressions of a fellow artist who visited Mr. Herman Wald's exhibition of modern drawings at Howard Shaw's art gallery. Mr. Wald's exhibition closes on Saturday.

The art of Mr. Wald is the art which fits this modern age, with all its chaos and lack of simplicity, has forced upon those who think while they create.

Being a sculptor, Mr. Wald has naturally introduced into his drawing that wonderful feeling of solidity which only those who work in clay seem to master.

No doubt many who see this type of art for the first time will feel bewildered, and some may even feel contemptuous. But that is not the way to view it. Those lovely, sweeping, continuous lines of Mr. Wald's work are neither drawn to "bamboozle" the ignorant beholder, nor are they a sign of his lack of creative ability. But today, with artists, as with everyone, time is too short, and life too serious, to whittle away a talent on needless detail when the soul of the subject can be revealed stripped of its trappings and in all its stark beauty and reality.

THE SACRIFICE

The highlight of Mr. Wald's collection is "The Sacrifice." Here is something that is happening all over the world today, for "The Sacrifice" is a mother sacrificing her son to war. All the mixed emotions of this woman seem to struggle to find expression in this masterpiece of composition and characterisation. For sheer abstract design this picture would be noteworthy. The tight grip that has been kept to retain the original ground shape is very stimulating, and also very pleasing to the eye.

A picture which also should appeal is "Prayer." Although the composition is less formed here, the line-work is perhaps the best in the exhibition.

DIFFERENT STYLE

A few of Mr. Wald's subjects are purely Jewish, and may not appeal to the general public, but one of this series, quite apart from subject, is worthy of note. It is the head and shoulders of an old man. This is executed in quite a different style from the previous works mentioned. There is deeper tone and more line-work, giving great depth and a subdued note.

Mr. Wald has also a series of lighter and gayer subjects, which, with their sweeping line, should look marvellous in conjunction with modern architecture. Perhaps the jolliest is "Two Girls Chatting." Here by an unusual use of perspective Mr. Wald has got extraordinary motion into a few skillfully placed lines.

This exhibition is well worth seeing, and those who go should keep in mind the fact that this type of art is not decadence from the art of the old masters, nor just another passing fancy, but an art which has grown out of the old via the machine age. Also, do not forget that alongside this new style of art there is, stepping hand and hand with it, modern sculpture, architecture and textile design.

HALL MARKING OF