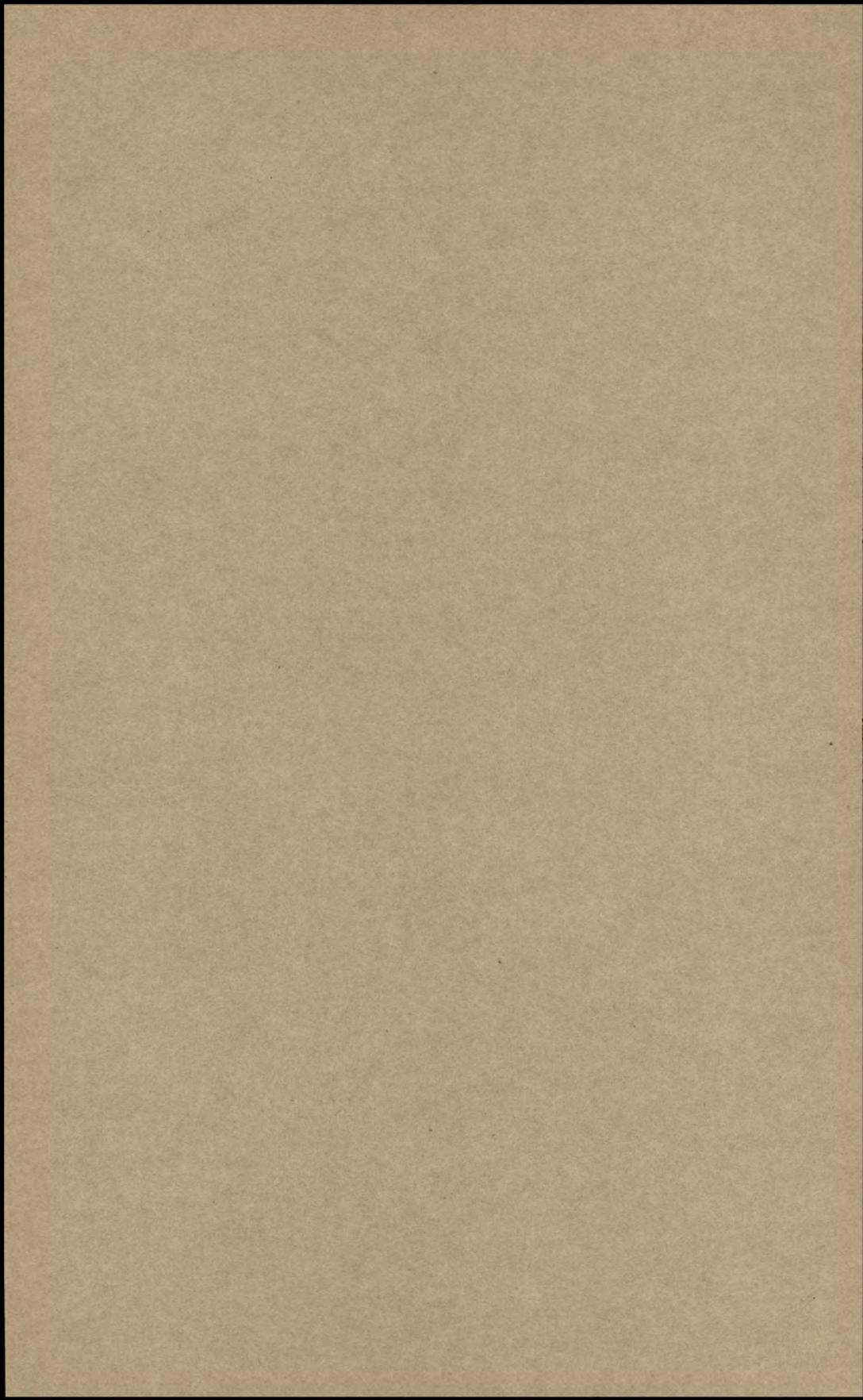


REPORT ON THE  
NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

1945

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
WASHINGTON  
D. C.



REPORT ON THE  
NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

FOR THE  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1945

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From the Smithsonian Report for 1945  
Pages 26-36



UNITED STATES  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
WASHINGTON : 1946

## APPENDIX 2

### REPORT ON THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

SIR: I have the honor to submit, on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the National Gallery of Art, the eighth annual report of the Board, covering its operations for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1945. This report is made pursuant to the provisions of the act of March 24, 1937 (50 Stat. 51), as amended by the public resolution of April 13, 1939 (Pub. Res. No. 9, 76th Cong.).

#### ORGANIZATION AND STAFF

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1945, the Board consisted of the Chief Justice of the United States, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, ex officio; and five general trustees, David K. E. Bruce, Ferdinand Lammot Belin, Duncan Phillips, Samuel H. Kress, and Chester Dale.

At its annual meeting, held on February 12, 1945, the Board elected Samuel H. Kress as President, succeeding David K. E. Bruce who resigned, and re-elected Ferdinand Lammot Belin as Vice President, to serve for the ensuing year. The executive officers continuing in office during the year were:

Huntington Cairns, Secretary-Treasurer.

David E. Finley, Director.

Harry A. McBride, Administrator.

Huntington Cairns, General Counsel.

John Walker, Chief Curator.

Macgill James, Assistant Director.

Donald D. Shepard continued to serve during the year as Adviser to the Board.

During the year Margaret D. Garrett was appointed Acting Chief of the Inter-American Office, to succeed Porter A. McCray, who resigned.

The three standing committees of the Board, provided for in the bylaws, as constituted at the annual meeting of the Board, held February 12, 1945, were:

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chief Justice of the United States, Harlan F. Stone, Chairman.

Samuel H. Kress, Vice Chairman.

Ferdinand Lammot Belin.

Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, Dr. Alexander Wetmore.

David K. E. Bruce.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Secretary of the Treasury, Henry Morgenthau, Jr., Chairman.  
 Samuel H. Kress, Vice Chairman.  
 Ferdinand Lammot Belin.  
 David K. E. Bruce.  
 Chester Dale.

## ACQUISITIONS COMMITTEE

Samuel H. Kress, Chairman.  
 Ferdinand Lammot Belin, Vice Chairman.  
 Duncan Phillips.  
 Chester Dale.  
 David E. Finley, ex officio.

The permanent Government positions on the Gallery staff are filled from the registers of the United States Civil Service Commission, or with its approval. On June 30, 1945, the permanent Government staff of the Gallery numbered 245 employees. Since the beginning of the war 61 members of the staff, or approximately 25 percent, have entered the armed services, and during the past year 5 of these employees have obtained their discharges and have returned to the Gallery.

The operating and maintenance staffs have been reduced to a minimum, owing to the fact that the Gallery has desired to curtail expenditures and the use of manpower to the greatest possible extent during the war period. Nevertheless, owing to the intensive effort, interest, and efficiency of the employees, it has been possible to maintain a high standard of operation and maintenance of the Gallery building and grounds and protection and care of Gallery collections.

## APPROPRIATIONS

For salaries and expenses for the upkeep and operation of the National Gallery of Art, the protection and care of works of art acquired by the Board, and all administrative expenses incident thereto as authorized by the act of March 24, 1937 (50 Stat. 51), as amended by the public resolution of April 13, 1939 (Pub. Res. No. 9, 76th Cong.), the Congress appropriated for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1945, the sum of \$642,600. This amount includes the regular appropriation of \$634,000 and a supplemental deficiency appropriation of \$8,600 for increases in personal services and other Gallery expenses.

From these appropriations the following expenditures and encumbrances were incurred:

## EXPENDITURES AND ENCUMBRANCES

Personal services.....	\$521, 211. 91
Printing and binding.....	1, 838. 17
Supplies and equipment, etc.....	119, 425. 88
Unencumbered balance.....	124. 04
Total.....	642, 600. 00

In addition to the above-mentioned appropriations, the Gallery received the sum of \$35,000 from the Department of State to cover expenses during the fiscal year of the Inter-American Office of the Gallery for the promotion of art activities between the United States and the Latin American republics.

#### ATTENDANCE

During the year 1945 the Gallery enjoyed the largest annual attendance since the building was opened to the public in 1941, the number of visitors being 2,078,739, as compared with 2,060,071 in the fiscal year 1944, or an increase of 18,668. This is an average daily attendance of 5,711 visitors, showing the continuing popularity of the Gallery. The greatest number of visitors on any one day was 25,023, on Sunday, September 10, 1944.

Men and women in the armed services are visiting the Gallery in increasing numbers, accounting for approximately 35 percent of the total attendance. For relaxation they make constant use of the Servicemen's Room, where writing and reading materials are furnished them.

The Sunday night openings, together with the Sunday evening concerts offered free of charge, continued throughout the year and contributed to the public's interest. Special exhibitions of contemporary art held during the year, especially art produced by members of the armed services, have been unusually well attended.

#### PUBLICATIONS

The most ambitious project of the Publications Fund of the Gallery since its organization was the publication of the book "Masterpieces of Painting from the National Gallery of Art" in October 1944. The book contains 85 color reproductions of paintings in the Gallery collections, each matched with an interpretive passage from the world's literature, and was edited by Huntington Cairns and John Walker, of the Gallery staff. The public demand for this book has been so great that a second edition is now being printed.

The Information Rooms of the Gallery continued the policy of furnishing moderately priced color reproductions of fine quality, and increased the variety of postcards, portfolios, and illustrated catalogs available to the public. A new edition of the General Information booklet, which is of great assistance to visitors and may be obtained without charge upon request at the Information Rooms, was issued during the year.

Publishers of large colotype reproductions of paintings from the Gallery collections have been gradually adding to their lists, and the 8 new reproductions completed during the year make a total of 23 large reproductions offered for sale in the Information Rooms.

## CONSTRUCTION OF NEW GALLERIES

In keeping with recommendations of the committee on the building and a resolution of the Board of Trustees, it was decided to proceed with the finishing of six new galleries, in order to make available additional exhibition space now required.

Accordingly, a contract was entered into for the completion, with funds donated for the purpose, of galleries numbered 24, 25, and 26 in the west end of the building, in which will be exhibited recent acquisitions of paintings and sculpture of Italian schools, and galleries numbered 53, 54, and 55, in the east end of the building, for exhibiting paintings of French and British schools. These galleries will be furnished in a manner similar to adjacent gallery rooms, and it is contemplated that the work will be completed in the autumn of 1945.

## RETURN OF WORKS OF ART FROM PROTECTIVE STORAGE IN BILTMORE, N. C.

It was decided by the Board of Trustees that the works of art in protective storage at Biltmore, N. C., during the period of danger of air raids, should be returned to the National Gallery of Art, and this return was effected on October 17-18, 1944.

The works of art were brought back to Washington by motor van, under police protection, through the States of North Carolina and Virginia, and the District of Columbia, and the trip was accomplished without damage to any of the works of art. The storage rooms at Biltmore House were closed, and the sum of \$10,199.85, which was the unexpended balance in the working fund furnished to the National Gallery of Art for maintenance of the evacuation center, was returned to the Public Buildings Administration.

In this same connection, it may be noted that the air raid protective measures in effect in the Gallery building have been discontinued.

## ACQUISITIONS

## GIFTS OF PAINTINGS AND SCULPTURE

During the year the Board of Trustees received from Samuel H. Kress and the Samuel H. Kress Foundation 80 important Italian, French, and Dutch paintings and 26 pieces of sculpture, to be added to the other gifts of paintings and sculpture now in the Gallery.

On September 25, 1944, the Board of Trustees accepted the portrait of "Chief Justice Harlan F. Stone" by Augustus Vincent Tack from Duncan Phillips, to be placed in the Board Room. On the same date the Board of Trustees accepted the portrait of "Joseph Dugan" by Thomas Sully from Herbert L. Pratt. The Board of Trustees, on November 17, 1944, accepted the painting "Both Members of This Club" by George Bellows from Chester Dale, and on January 2, 1945, the Board accepted two portraits, "Mrs. Chester Dale" and "Chester

Dale," by George Bellows, from Chester Dale, the latter to be installed in the Founder's Room. A copy of a painting entitled "Madonna and Child with the Magdalen and Saint Jerome" by Matthew Pratt, after Correggio, was accepted on February 12, 1945, by the Board from Clarence Van Dyke Tiers for the study collection, and on May 21, 1945, the Board accepted from Mrs. Huttleston Rogers the painting "The Lackawanna Valley" by George Inness.

#### GIFTS OF PRINTS AND DRAWINGS

The Board of Trustees on September 25, 1944, November 14, 1944, November 18, 1944, May 2, 1945, and June 22, 1945, accepted as gifts a total of 1,740 prints and drawings from Lessing J. Rosenwald, to be added to his former gifts of prints and drawings. Also on September 25, 1944, the Board accepted the original drawing "Shadows" by Kerr Eby from Kerr Eby, and the drawing "Prairie Titlark" by John James Audubon from Miss Martha Hogan. On November 16, 1944, the Board accepted nine sheets of drawings by George Cruikshank from Dr. Clements C. Fry, two drawings, "Seated Figure" and "Standing Figure" by Lancret, and "Sheet of Sketches" by Lancret, from Myron A. Hofer, a mezzotint of Reynold's "Lady Betty Compton" by Valentine Green from David Keppel, and two drawings, "Seth Hastings" and "James Campbell," by Saint Memin, from Herbert L. Pratt, Jr. On May 14, 1945, the Board accepted an engraving by E. Mandel after Raphael's "The Small Cowper Madonna" from David E. Finley and an engraving of Raphael's "The Alba Madonna" by B. Desnoyers from David Keppel. On June 22, 1945, the Board accepted two drawings, "Danseuse vu de Dos et Trois Etudes de Pieds" by Degas and "Deux Avocats" by Daumier, and one print "Le Stryge" by Meryon from Myron A. Hofer.

#### SALE OR EXCHANGE OF WORKS OF ART

The Board of Trustees accepted the offer of Samuel H. Kress and the Samuel H. Kress Foundation to exchange the sculpture "Madonna and Child" by Andrea Sansovino for the painting entitled "A Pagan Rite" by Giovanni Bellini; and the sculpture "Profile of a Woman" by Pierino da Vinci for the painting "Portrait of a Man" by Nicolas de Largilliere. The Board of Trustees also accepted the offer of Lessing J. Rosenwald to exchange an engraving by Schongauer entitled "The Eagle of Saint John, the Evangelist," and an etching by Hirschvogel entitled "Landscape with Buildings," for a similar engraving and a similar etching, now included in the Rosenwald collection at the National Gallery of Art, and bearing the same titles and by the same artists.

## LOAN OF WORKS OF ART TO THE GALLERY

During the year the following works of art were received on loan:

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Artist</i>
From Chester Dale, New York, N. Y.:	
Le Chevalier Louis Euseba de Montour-----	Carle Van Loo.
The Sicard David Children-----	Thomas Sully.
From Mrs. Jean de Bekessy, Washington, D. C.:	
The Duchess of Parma and Her Daughter	
Isabel-----	Jean Marc Nattier.
From Myron A. Hofer, Washington, D. C.:	
Nine prints and drawings-----	{ Gainsborough. Guys. Reynolds. Whistler.
From David Keppel, Washington, D. C.:	
Sketch of Anne-----	George Bellows.
The Dream-----	Robert Nantueil.
From Robert Rosenwald, Jenkintown, Pa.:	
Aristide Bruant-----	Toulouse-Lautrec.
Anne-----	George Bellows.
Lion d'Atlas-----	Eugene Delacroix.
From Arnold Knauth, New York, N. Y.:	
Colonel Epes Sargent-----	John Singleton Copley.
From Stanley J. Mortimer, Jr., New York, N. Y.:	
Portrait bust of a member of the Order of	
San Iago-----	After the manner of Leone Leoni.
Portrait bust of a man-----	Attributed to Tullio Lom- bardi.
Madonna and Child-----	Attributed to Ghiberti.
From Duncan Phillips, Washington, D. C.:	
Macbeth and the Witches-----	A. P. Rider.
From Lieutenant Frederick R. Pratt, Washing- ton, D. C.:	
George Washington-----	Gilbert Stuart.
Battle between the <i>United States</i> and the	
<i>Macedonia</i> -----	Thomas Birch.
Battle between the <i>Wasp</i> and the <i>Frolic</i> -----	Thomas Birch.
From Lessing J. Rosenwald, Jenkintown, Pa.:	
Ecce Homo III (Christ Presented to the	
People)-----	Rembrandt.
Ecce Homo VII (Christ Presented to the	
People)-----	Rembrandt.
From museums and private collectors in Europe:	
154 paintings of the French school of the late	
eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and	
101 French drawings.	

## LOAN OF WORKS OF ART BY THE GALLERY

During the fiscal year 1945, the Gallery loaned the following works of art for exhibition purposes:

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Artist</i>
To the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.:	
Mrs. Richard Yates.....	Gilbert Stuart.
To the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, Va.:	
Nineteen paintings.....	Gilbert Stuart.
To the Century Association, New York, N. Y.:	
Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes.....	Augustus Vincent Tack.
Chief Justice Harlan F. Stone.....	Augustus Vincent Tack.
To the Museum of Art, Providence, R. I.:	
Mrs. Richard Yates.....	Gilbert Stuart.
To the White House, Washington, D. C.:	
George Washington.....	Rembrandt Peale.
Allies Day, May 1917.....	Childe Hassam.
To the United States Department of State—Blair Lee House, Washington, D. C.:	
Daniel Webster.....	P. A. Healy.
Seven prints from the Rosenwald collection.	

## LOANED WORKS OF ART RETURNED

During the year the print "Saint Jerome beside a Pollard Willow" by Rembrandt, lent to the Gallery by W. G. Russell Allen, was returned to him.

## EXHIBITIONS

The following exhibitions were held at the National Gallery of Art during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1945:

American Battle Art paintings—Revolutionary War to World War I, from museums and private collections, from July 4 to September 4, 1944.

American portraits from the Gallery's collection, from September 5 to November 13, 1944.

Paintings of Naval Medicine from the Abbott Laboratories and the United States Government, from September 10 to October 18, 1944.

Paintings and drawings of the United States Coast Guard by United States Coast Guard combat artists, from September 17 to October 18, 1944.

Wartime paintings of flyers, planes, and world-wide combat operations of the Army Air Forces, by Army Air Forces artists, from October 15 to November 10, 1944.

Nineteenth-century etchings and drawings by Legros from the collection of George Matthew Adams, from October 15 to November 12, 1944.

Eighteenth-century prints and drawings from the Widener collection, the Dr. A. W. S. Rosenbach collection, and the Mrs. Irwin Laughlin collection, from November 19, 1944, to January 14, 1945.

French drawings from the French Government, the Myron A. Hofer collection, and the Harris Whittemore collection, from November 19, 1944, to May 8, 1945.

Italian eighteenth-century prints from the Gallery's collection, from February 28 to May 21, 1945.

Religious prints and drawings from the Gallery's collection, from May 9 to June 19, 1945.

Prints and drawings from the Gallery's collection and the Myron A. Hofer collection, from May 9 to June 19, 1945.

Paintings of The War against Japan by American artists in the Pacific areas, from the Treasury Department, with the cooperation of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps, and Life Magazine, from May 27 to June 19, 1945.

#### TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1945, the following drawings, water colors, and prints were placed on exhibition :

*Index of American Design.*—When the Index of American Design was transferred from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, N. Y., where it has been on loan, it contained 16 special traveling exhibitions which had been arranged by that institution. The National Gallery of Art has subsequently added four traveling exhibitions to this number. Exhibitions from the collection have been shown at the following places during the fiscal year just ended: Worcester Art Museum; Metropolitan Museum of Art; Ohio State Museum; John Herron Art Institute; Rhode Island State College; Children's Museum, Washington, D. C.; Little Gallery, North Canton, Ohio; Kanawha County Public Library; Baltimore Museum of Art; University of New Hampshire; Pasadena Art Institute; and Union Gallery, University of Wisconsin.

*Rosenwald prints.*—Special exhibitions of prints from the Rosenwald collection were prepared and circulated during the past fiscal year. These exhibitions were held at Cheltenham Art Center, Elkins Park, Pa.; the Print Club, Philadelphia; Philadelphia Museum of Art; John Herron Art Institute, Indianapolis, Ind.; Philadelphia Art Alliance; Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn.

#### CUSTODIANSHIP OF FRENCH EXHIBITION MATERIAL

The Board of Trustees, on February 1, 1945, relinquished its custodianship of, and transferred to the Provisional Government of the French Republic in the United States, all works of art and exhibition material sent to the United States under the auspices of the former French Government for exhibition purposes at various places in the United States, including the World's Fairs in New York, N. Y., and San Francisco, Calif.

#### VARIOUS GALLERY ACTIVITIES

During the period from July 1, 1944, to June 30, 1945, a total of 51 Sunday evening concerts were given in the East Garden Court of the Gallery. The concerts were free to the public and were attended by capacity audiences. The National Gallery Sinfonietta, under the direction of Richard Bales, played 11 concerts, with well-known guest artists appearing occasionally. The Gallery's second American Music Festival of works of American composers was held on four Sunday evenings in March 1945.

The Sunday night suppers for servicemen continued during the year and were enjoyed by approximately 1,700 service men and women. Funds to defray the cost of the suppers were contributed by members of the Gallery staff and by friends of the Gallery.

The film "National Gallery of Art" was made available during the year to 17 individuals and institutions.

The Inter-American Office has continued during the year to carry out the Latin-American art program of the Department of State through the exchange of exhibitions, the distribution of art materials and publications, and the assembling of information on Inter-American art activities. Major exhibitions were organized and sent to seven countries in Latin America.

With the cooperation of the Library of Congress, the Inter-American Office edited the directory to Latin-American art activities originally prepared by the Archive of Hispanic Culture, for publication in the forthcoming issue of the American Art Manual for the years 1942-45. The Inter-American Office has also compiled a list of circulating exhibitions of Latin American art in the United States, which will be available for distribution in the early autumn of 1945.

A total of 188 special permits to copy paintings in the National Gallery of Art were issued during the fiscal year 1945, and during the same period 75 special permits were issued to photograph paintings.

#### CURATORIAL DEPARTMENT

The curatorial work during the fiscal year consisted of installing new gifts, particularly the additional items of the Samuel H. Kress collection, and reinstallation of the evacuated works of art returned from Biltmore, N. C.; work on the new Gallery catalog and the photographic record of the Gallery collections; assisting the American Commission for the Protection and Salvage of Artistic and Historic Monuments in War Areas by providing information on damaged and looted works of art in war areas; assisting in the publication of the book "Masterpieces of Painting from the National Gallery of Art," edited by Huntington Cairns and John Walker; collaborating in the publication of the book "Drawings for Ariosto by Fragonard"; completion of a "Handbook of the Widener Collection of Decorative Arts"; completion of one catalog and three pamphlets in the series dealing with important works in the collection; and the cataloging of the Richter Photographic Archives and the Strauss collection of photographs. Seven members of the staff contributed 14 articles to periodicals, and three members of the staff lectured 13 times on six subjects.

During the year approximately 1,903 works of art were submitted to the Acquisitions Committee (including 1,740 prints from the Rosenwald collection) with recommendation regarding their acceptability

for the collection of the Gallery; 46 private collections were reviewed in connection with offers to the Gallery of gifts or loans; 128 consultations were held concerning more than 250 works of art brought to the Gallery for expert opinion, 116 written and 107 verbal replies involving research in the history of art were made to inquiries, and 8 visits were made outside the Gallery to view works of art for expert opinion.

#### RESTORATION AND REPAIR OF WORKS OF ART

With the authorization of the Board and the approval of the Director and Chief Curator, the necessary restoration and repair of works of art in the Gallery's collection were made by Stephen S. Pichetto, Consultant Restorer to the Gallery. All work was completed in the Restorer's studio in the Gallery with the exception of several works of art requiring attention before they could with safety be shipped to Washington, D. C., and two paintings on which the work was of such a delicate and complicated nature that it had to be done in Mr. Pichetto's New York studio.

#### EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The various programs conducted by the educational department continued to be popular. The Gallery tours of the collection attracted more than 15,000 people, and nearly 27,000 attended the two 10-minute lectures given daily on the "Picture of the Week." This latter attendance is an increase of 5,000 over the fiscal year 1944. Illustrated lectures on 57 special topics were given in the auditorium by members of the educational and curatorial departments and by guest speakers.

#### LIBRARY

A total of 1,035 books and 299 pamphlets and periodicals were presented to the Gallery; 9 books were purchased by the Gallery; 3,020 photographs and 45 slides were presented as gifts; 22 books, 68 pamphlets, and 357 bulletins were acquired through exchange, and 20 subscriptions to periodicals were made.

#### PHOTOGRAPHIC DEPARTMENT

During the year the photographic laboratory of the Gallery made 9,498 prints, 632 black and white slides, and 1,625 color slides.

#### OTHER GIFTS

During the year gifts of books on art and related material were made to the Gallery library by Maj. Paul Mellon, Mrs. Jesse Isidor Straus, Col. and Mrs. John Nicholas Brown, Capt. Cyrus R. Miller, the National Gallery of Canada, the Carnegie Institute, David E.

Finley, Ferdinand Lammot Belin, Samuel H. Kress, and A. G. Galloway. Gifts of money during the fiscal year 1945 were made by Richard Bales, Mrs. Florence Becker, Mrs. Dexter Brown, Mrs. Elizabeth Coolidge, Mrs. David E. Finley, Sr., David E. Finley, Macgill James, The A. W. Mellon Educational and Charitable Trust, Mrs. Lee Warren, and Mrs. Gertrude Clark Whittall.

AUDIT OF PRIVATE FUNDS OF THE GALLERY

An audit is being made of the private funds of the Gallery for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1945, by Price, Waterhouse & Co., public accountants, and the certificate of that company on its examination of the accounting records maintained for such funds will be submitted to the Gallery.

Respectfully submitted.

F. L. BELIN, *Acting President.*

DR. ALEXANDER WETMORE,  
*Secretary, Smithsonian Institution.*

