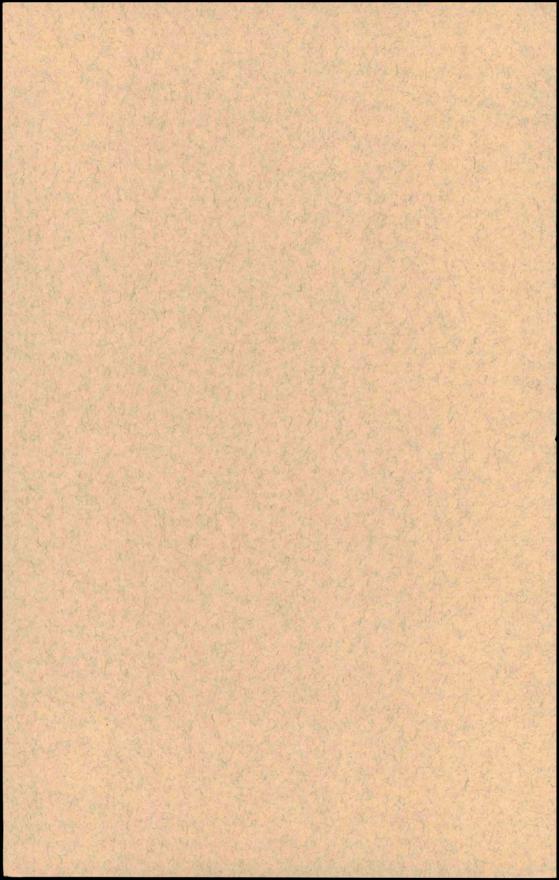
REPORT ON THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

1955

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION WASHINGTON

D. C.



REPORT ON THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1955

From the Smithsonian Report for 1955 Pages 145-156



UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON: 1956

Report on the National Gallery of Art

Sir: I have the honor to submit, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, the eighteenth annual report of the National Gallery of Art, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1955. This report is made pursuant to the provisions of section 5 (d) of Public Resolution No. 14, Seventy-fifth Congress, first session, approved March 24, 1937 (50 Stat. 51).

ORGANIZATION

The statutory members of the Board of Trustees of the National Gallery of Art are 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. The five general trustees continuing in office during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1955, were Samuel H. Kress, Ferdinand Lammot Belin, Duncan Phillips, Chester Dale, and Paul Mellon. The Board held its annual meeting on May 3, 1955. Samuel H. Kress was reelected President and Ferdinand Lammot Belin Vice President, to serve for the ensuing year.

All the executive officers of the Gallery continued in office during the year. The executive officers of the Gallery as of June 30, 1955, are:

Huntington Cairns, Secretary-Treasurer. David E. Finley, Director. Ernest R. Feidler, Administrator. Huntington Cairns, General Counsel. John Walker, Chief Curator. Macgill James, Assistant Director.

The three standing committees of the Board, as constituted at the annual meeting May 3, 1955, were as follows:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chief Justice of the United States, Earl Warren, Chairman. Samuel H. Kress, Vice Chairman. Ferdinand Lammot Belin. Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, Dr. Leonard Carmichael. Paul Mellon.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Secretary of the Treasury, George M. Humphrey, Chairman. Chester Dale, Vice Chairman. Samuel H. Kress. Ferdinand Lammot Belin. Paul Mellon.

369607-56

ACQUISITIONS COMMITTEE

Ferdinand Lammot Belin, Chairman. Duncan Phillips. Chester Dale. Paul Mellon. David E. Finley.

PERSONNEL

On June 30, 1955, full-time Government employees on the staff of the National Gallery of Art numbered 301, as compared with 306 employees as of June 30, 1954. The United States Civil Service regulations govern the appointment of employees paid from appropriated public funds.

APPROPRIATIONS

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 1955, the Congress of the United States appropriated for the National Gallery of Art \$1,300,000, to be used for salaries and expenses in the operation and upkeep of the Gallery, the protection and care of works of art acquired by the Board of Trustees, and all administrative expenses incident thereto, as authorized by Joint Resolution of Congress approved March 24, 1937 (20 U. S. C. 71–75; 50 Stat. 51), and a supplemental appropriation of \$23,264 to meet the Gallery's requirements for the fiscal year under the "Federal Employees Salary Increase Act of 1955." The total appropriation for the fiscal year was \$1,323,264. The following expenditures and encumbrances were incurred:

Personal services	1 \$1, 173, 681. 41
Printing and reproduction	3, 082. 05
Electricity, supplies, equipment, etc	146, 500. 54

otal______ 1, 323, 264. 00

ATTENDANCE

During the fiscal year 1955 there were 814,932 visitors to the Gallery—an average daily attendance of about 2,245.

ACCESSIONS

There were 842 accessions by the National Gallery of Art as gifts, loans, or deposits during the fiscal year. Most of the paintings and a number of the prints were placed on exhibition.

¹This includes the \$23,264 of the supplemental appropriation and \$2,572 of the otherwise unobligated balance of the regular appropriation.

GIFTS

During the fiscal year 1955 the following gifts were accepted by the Board of Trustees:

PAINTINGS

Donor	Artist	Title
Mrs. Charles D. Draper	Stuart	George Washington,
Mrs. Charles D. Draper	Stuart	Ann Barry.
Mrs. Charles D. Draper	Stuart	Mary Barry.
Mrs. Charles D. Draper	Raeburn	Jean Christie.
Mrs. Margaret S. Lewisohn	Renoir	The Vintagers.
Mrs. Dwight Davis	Romney	Captain Forbes.
Mrs. Leland Harrison	R. Peale	Thomas Sully.
Mrs. Wm. D. Vogel	Pater	On the Terrace.
Lessing J. Rosenwald.	Blake	The Last Supper,
Lewis Einstein	Rosalba Carriera	Portrait de Femme, Comtesse Orzelska.
Lewis Einstein	Pater	Scene Champêtre.
Arthur Sachs	Goya, attr. to	The Bullfight,
	SCULPTURE	
Mrs. Margaret S. Lewisohn	Renoir	Coco.
Miss Mildred Howells	J. Q. A. Ward	Wm. Dean Howells.
Lessing J. Rosenwald	Daumier	Le Bourgeois qui flâne.
Lessing J. Rosenwald	Daumier	L'Amoureux.
	PRINTS	
Lewis Einstein	_ "Jeu de Cartes" by Du	Rameau.
Mrs. W. Murray Crane	_ 27 prints.	
George Matthew Adams		
Lessing J. Rosenwald		
People of the Federal Republic		
of Germany	64 prints.	

EXCHANGE OF WORKS OF ART

The Board of Trustees during the year accepted the offer of Lessing J. Rosenwald to exchange the following prints for superior impressions of the same works:

Artist	Title
Mantegna	Bacchanalian Group with a Press.
	Entombment.
Zoan Andrea	A Nereid and Two Children Playing Musical
Zoan Andrea	Instruments. Griffins and Two Cupids Crossing Halberds.
Zoan Andrea	A Nereid Ridden by Two Children.
Zoan Andrea	Three Children Blowing Horns.

WORKS OF ART ON LOAN

During the fiscal year 1955 the following works of art were received on loan by the National Gallery of Art:

From—	Artist
Chester Dale, New York, N. Y.:	
Chrysanthemums	William Chase.
Portrait of a Young Woman	_ David D'Avignon.
Edward T. Wailes, Washington, D. C.:	
Italian Landscape	_ Jan Both.
Robert Thayer, Washington, D. C.:	
Harrison Gray	Copley.
Elizabeth Gray Otis	Copley.
Samuel Alleyne Otis	Stuart.
Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, New York, N.	
Sixty-three early American paintings.	
Robert Woods Bliss, Washington, D. C.:	
Nineteen objects of Pre-Columbian art.	

LOANED WORKS OF ART RETURNED

The following works of art on loan were returned during the fiscal year 1955:

To-	Artist
Chester Dale, New York, N. Y.:	
Ralph Waldo Emerson	Thomas Sully.
The Seine at Giverny	Monet.
Mrs. Charlotte Fuerstenberg, Johannesburg, South Africa:	
Bread and Eggs	Cézanne.
The Bridge of Langlois	
La Toilette	Toulouse-Lautrec.
John S. Broome, Oxnard, Calif.:	
Lost on the Grand Banks	Homer.
Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Wrightsman, Palm Beach, Fla.:	
Girl with a Cat	Renoir.

WORKS OF ART LENT

During the fiscal year 1955 the Gallery lent the following works of art for exhibition purposes:

T0—	
Kennedy Galleries, New York, N. Y.:	Artist
Arctic Hare	J. J. Audubon.
Sharp-Tailed Sparrow	J. J. Audubon.
Yellow Warbler	J. J. Audubon.
Orchard Oriole	J. J. Audubon.
Farmyard Fowls	J. J. Audubon.
John James Audubon	J. Woodhouse Audubon.
Armed Forces Medical Library, Washington, D. C.:	
Christ Healing the Sick (print)	Rembrandt.
The White House, Washington, D. C.:	
Ships in the Scheldt Estuary	Storck.

To-	Artist
The Morgan Library, New York, N. Y.:	
Philosophy (print)	Dürer.
Man of Sorrows (print)	Dürer.
Young Woman (Costume Study) (print)	Dürer.
The Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia, Pa.:	
Timothy Matlock	Charles Willson
	Peale.
Lady with a Harp; Eliza Ridgely	Sully.
Young Woman in White	Henri.
The Supreme Court, Washington, D. C.:	
Vue general des Alpes et Glaciers	Descourtis.
Vue de Schadau	Descourtis.
Chute de Staubbach	Janinet.
Vue de Thun du Côte du Midi	Janinet.
Boston Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Mass.:	
Storm over Taos	Marin.
Phillips Memorial Gallery, Washington, D. C.:	
Storm over Taos	Marin.
The San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, Calif.:	
Storm over Taos	Marin.

EXHIBITIONS

The following exhibitions were held at the National Gallery of Art during the fiscal year 1955:

- American Primitive Paintings. From the Collection of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch. Continued from previous fiscal year, through July 11, 1954.
- Renaissance Prints by Lucas van Leyden, Marcantonio Raimondi and Jean Duvet. From the Lessing J. Rosenwald Collection. October 24, 1954, through February 6, 1955.
- Austrian Drawings and Prints. From the Albertina Museum, Vienna. February 20 through March 20, 1955.
- Goya Drawings and Prints. From the Prado Museum and the Lazaro Galdiano Museum, Madrid. April 2 through April 24, 1955.
- American Primitive Paintings. From the Collection of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch. Opened May 29, 1955.
- Miniatures and Prints. From the Lessing J. Rosenwald Collection. Opened May 29, 1955.

TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS

Rosenwald Collection.—Special exhibitions of prints from the Rosenwald Collection were circulated to the following places during the fiscal year 1955:

Milwaukee Art Institute. Milwaukee. Wis.:

Prints for an exhibition, "Music in Art."

September 1954.

The Print Club of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pa.:

Exhibition of prints from the collections of Board Members. Anonymous German, "Christ's Entry into Jerusalem."

September 1954.

Portland Art Museum, Portland, Oreg.:

Exhibition of Early German Prints.

October 1954.

Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, Ohio:

Renoir, "Portrait of Wagner" (lithograph). Lent to "Composer Portraits and Autograph Scores."

October 3-November 7, 1954.

The Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, Ohio:

Two Huber drawings lent to the Chinese Landscape Exhibition.

November 4, 1954-January 2, 1955.

Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.:

Loans to the exhibition, "American Drawings," sent to Munich, Rouen, and London, by the United States Information Agency.

1954-55.

Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.-Traveling Exhibition:

Goya Drawings and Prints. Rosenwald Goya prints added to those from Madrid.

1955.

The Pierpont Morgan Library, New York, N. Y.:

Dürer Prints and Drawings.

March-April 1955.

Davidson Art Center, Middletown, Conn.:

Early French Prints.

Modern French Monotypes.

April 1955.

Fogg Museum of Art, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.:

Early prints showing musical themes to illustrate two concerts called "Love Songs of the Renaissance."

April 1955.

Marion Kogler McNay Art Institute, San Antonio, Tex.:

Daumier Drawings.

May 1955.

Tyler School of Art, Elkins Park, Philadelphia, Pa.:

Hobby Show-Four American Contemporary prints.

May 12-14, 1955.

American Federation of Arts-Traveling Exhibition:

Nuremberg and the German World.

1955-1956.

Index of American Design.—During the fiscal year 1955, 33 traveling exhibitions of original watercolor renderings of this collection, with 60 bookings, were sent to the following States:

State	Number of exhibitions
Arkansas	1
Colorado	_ 3
Connecticut	1
District of Columbia	6
Florida	2
Georgia	1
Illinois	1
Iowa	11
Kansas	1

State	Number of exhibitions
Massachusetts	_ 3
Michigan	_ 2
Missouri	_ 3
Montana	_ 3
New York	_ 1
North Carolina	_ 4
Ohio	_ 3
Pennsylvania	3
Tennessee	_ 2
Texas	_ 2
Virginia	3
Wisconsin	_ 5

CURATORIAL ACTIVITIES

The Curatorial Department accessioned 417 gifts to the Gallery during the fiscal year 1955. Advice was given regarding 365 works of art brought to the Gallery for expert opinion, and 65 visits to collections were made by members of the staff in connection with offers of gift or for expert opinion. About 1,500 inquiries requiring research were answered verbally and by letter. John Walker, Chief Curator of the Gallery, gave a lecture at the Seattle Museum of Art on the occasion of the opening of the Samuel H. Kress Collection in that museum. Mr. Walker also lectured on masterpieces of painting in the National Gallery of Art to the Woman's Club in Richmond, the museum class at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, and the Twentieth Century Club in Pittsburgh. Miss Elizabeth Mongan gave a series of five lectures on the history of printmaking at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. She gave a lecture at Wesleyan University on the First French Engraving. She also conducted a symposium at Bryn Mawr College on Piranesi and one at Swarthmore College on Rembrandt. Charles M. Richards conducted two courses in art history under the auspices of the Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Richards, as chairman, prepared the program for the registrar's section of the American Association of Museums meetings held in Washington this spring. He attended the Southeastern Museums Conference in Miami, and Miss Katharine Shepard was the official delegate to the General Meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America in Boston.

William Campbell selected reproductions of Gallery paintings which are to be installed in new domiciliary buildings of the U. S. Soldiers' Home, Washington, D. C.

Mr. Walker served as trustee for the American Federation of Arts, the American Academy in Rome, and the Bureau of University Travel. He also served on the following committees: Dumbarton Oaks Visiting Committee, Harvard University Press Visiting

Committee, Art Committee of the New York Hospital, Harvard Committee on the Visual Arts, Committee for the Exhibition of Nineteenth Century French Paintings from American Collections in Paris. Mr. Walker was also a member of the United States National Commission for UNESCO. Perry B. Cott served as President of the Washington Society, Archaeological Institute of America. Miss Shepard was secretary of this organization.

Mr. Cott served on the following art juries: Corcoran Alumni Association, Arts Club, National Museum Sculpture Exhibition.

RESTORATION AND REPAIR OF WORKS OF ART

Necessary restoration and repair of paintings and sculpture in the Gallery's collection were made by Francis Sullivan, resident restorer, at the Gallery.

PUBLICATIONS

During the year Huntington Cairns contributed an article on "Legal Theory" to a Jurisprudential Symposium in Memory of Felix S. Cohen, published in the Rutgers Law Review, and reviews of "Aesthetics and the Gastalt," by Ian Rawlins, to Philosophy and Phenomenological Research; "Definition and Theory in Jurisprudence," by H. L. A. Hart, to the Philosophical Quarterly; "The Age of Ideas," by George R. Havens, to the Washington Post and Times Herald; and "The Law of Primitive Man," by E. Adamson Hoebel, to the Journal of Politics.

Mr. Walker wrote an article on a painting by Delacroix in the National Gallery, London, for the Ladies Home Journal. He also prepared the text for a "pocketbook" of works of art in the Gallery's collection to be published by the Harry N. Abrams Company. Mrs. Fern R. Shapley wrote an article on Bingham's "Jolly Flatboatmen" for the Art Quarterly. Mr. Cott wrote an article for the Gulf Oil Orange Disc publication on Della Robbia sculpture. An article by Miss Mongan entitled, "New Acquisitions in the Lessing J. Rosenwald Collection" appeared in Arts Digest, and she also wrote an article on Norma Morgan for the International Graphic Arts.

A total of 125,000 leaflets describing paintings in galleries 8, 52, and 57 have been printed and are being distributed to the public in the respective galleries.

Mr. Walker's monograph on Bellini's "Feast of the Gods" has gone to press.

Publications in process include Mr. Walker's text for a portfolio of works of art in the Gallery's collection to be published by the Harry N. Abrams Co., an article written by Mrs. Shapley for The Studio, and a book she is preparing to be published by the Phaidon Press.

Gallery publications in process include the catalog of paintings and the catalog of paintings and sculpture acquired by the Samuel H. Kress Collection since 1951 for the exhibition in 1956.

During the past fiscal year the Publications Fund published seven new 11- by 14-inch color reproductions and acquired five new Christmas card color plates. Two large collotype reproductions of paintings in the collection and nine sculpture reproductions distributed by

two New York publishers were placed on sale.

A new Portfolio No. 4 entitled "Landscape Paintings in the National Gallery of Art" (containing text by a staff member and twelve 11- by 14-inch color reproductions, of which seven were completely new prints) is in the process of publication. The catalog of "Twentieth Century French Paintings from the Chester Dale Collection" was reprinted during the year. The Fund made available to the public a National Gallery of Art engagement calendar.

Exhibition catalogs of the Austrian Drawings and Prints, and Goya

Drawings and Prints, were distributed.

Representations of Gallery works of art in 2- by 2-inch color slides and in "stereo" color slides are now being sold in the Gallery Information Rooms. These slides, which are all original photographs, are an entirely new type of item in Publications Fund stock.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The attendance for the general, congressional, and special tours, and the "Picture of the Week" totaled 41,023, while that for the 44 auditorium lectures on Sunday afternoons was approximately 10,025 dur-

ing the fiscal year 1955.

Tours, lectures, and conferences arranged by appointment were given to 256 groups and individuals. The total number of people served in this manner was 6,042. This is an increase of 110 groups and 2,586 people served over last year. These special appointments were made for such groups as representatives from leading high schools, universities, and museums, other governmental agencies, wives of members of the Cabinet and of Congressmen, women's clubs, store supervisors, and attaches from foreign embassies.

Three separate training programs for volunteer docents from the Junior League, the American Association of University Women of Arlington County, and members of the Parent-Teacher Association of the Barrett School of Alexandria were carried forward during the

year by several members of the Education Department.

Lecture programs on "American Cultural Life" have been prepared for librarian members of the United States Information Agency, and for members of the Department of State, who may act as cultural attaches on overseas duty. The wives of the officers in the Departments of State, Army, and Navy at Fort McNair, who are preparing for

overseas duty, also attended these programs.

The staff of the Education Office delivered 14 lectures in the auditorium on Sunday afternoons, and 30 were given by guest speakers. During March and April, Dr. Étienne Gilson, Director of Studies at the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies at Toronto, delivered the Fourth Annual Series of the six A. W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts on the theme, "Art and Reality."

During the past year 150 persons borrowed 4,697 slides from the lending collection. The 16 centers throughout the country that distribute the National Gallery of Art film, report that approximately

42.564 viewers saw the film in 260 bookings.

Members of the Education Office prepared and gave 32 broadcasts to accompany the Sunday night concerts over Station WGMS. The Curator of Education prepared and produced a half-hour television program entitled "Rembrandt and the Art of the Dutch Homeland" as part of the project of the Citizens Committee on Educational Television.

The printed Calendar of Events announcing all Gallery activities and publications is distributed monthly to a mailing list of 5,316 names.

LIBRARY

The most important acquisitions to the Library during the fiscal year 1955 were 1,940 books, pamphlets, periodicals, subscriptions, and photographs purchased from private funds made available for this purpose. Gifts included 639 books, pamphlets, and periodicals, while 717 books, pamphlets, and bulletins were received on exchange from other institutions. There were more than 540 visits and phone calls to the Library by persons other than Gallery staff during this fiscal year.

The Library is the depository for photographs of the works of art in the collections of the National Gallery of Art. A stock of reproductions is maintained for use in research by the curatorial and other departments of the Gallery; for the dissemination of knowledge to qualified sources; for exchange with other institutions; and for sale

at the request of interested individuals.

INDEX OF AMERICAN DESIGN

In March 1955 the Gallery began to take part in the orientation program for United States Information Agency personnel about to be sent overseas. The Index was included in this program, and once a month the group listened to an illustrated lecture given by the Curator in charge of the Index. The Index material was also studied during the year by 638 persons who were interested in the material

for publication, for special research, exhibitions, designers, and those who wanted an idea of the collection as a whole.

There were 33 sets of 2- by 2-inch slides (consisting of 1,416 color slides) circulated in 22 States and Alaska.

MAINTENANCE OF THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS

The usual care of the building and its mechanical equipment and the grounds was maintained at the established standard throughout the year.

Contracts were entered into with Eggers & Higgins, architects, and Vermilya-Brown Co., Inc., general contractors, for the alteration of a portion of the library area in the Gallery building. The remodeled space is intended for the exhibition of the Samuel H. Kress Collection of Renaissance Bronzes.

Alterations were made in gallery 11 so that the opening in the north wall of that gallery now matches in architectural design the openings in the east and west walls. These modifications were made to enable the more effective and suitable exhibition of the Donatello "David," which stands in the center of gallery 11. Eggers & Higgins were the architects, and Vermilya-Brown Co. the general contractor.

The Gallery staff constructed an L-shaped, 3-compartment greenhouse within the southwest moat wall; and the staff is now constructing a cold-conditioning unit to be used in conjunction with the greenhouse. These facilities will enable the horticultural staff to supply suitable flowering and foliage plants for the garden courts and for special exhibitions at almost any time of the year.

A new plaque of Andrew Mellon, sculptured by Walker Hancock, was installed in the Constitution Avenue Lobby.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

David E. Finley, Director, delivered the following speeches during the fiscal year: "The Museum in the Cold War" at a luncheon meeting prior to the opening of the Kress Wing at the Denver Art Museum in September 1954; the principal address at the annual meeting of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Chicago in October 1954; in May 1955, in New York, he delivered a speech entitled "A Bridge for the Arts" at a meeting of the Columbia Associates of Columbia University; and at the annual meeting of the American Association of Museums in Washington in June 1955 he spoke on "Museums and their Public Relations."

Forty Sunday evening concerts were given during the fiscal year 1955 in the West and East Garden Courts. The National Gallery Orchestra, conducted by Richard Bales, played 10 concerts at the Gallery, with additional performances at the United States Naval

Academy at Annapolis, Md.; at the Corcoran Gallery of Art; and in Alexandria, Va. Two of the orchestral concerts at the National Gallery were made possible by the Music Performance Trust Fund of the American Federation of Musicians. A preseason concert was played by the National Gallery Orchestra on Tuesday, September 7, 1954, sponsored by the International Congress of Clinical Pathologists at a reception held at the National Gallery.

During April and May, six Sunday evenings were devoted to the Gallery's Twelfth American Music Festival. All the concerts were broadcast in their entirety by Station WGMS-FM, Washington, and the Good Music Network. The intermissions, during these broadcasts, featured discussions by members of the curatorial staff on painting and sculpture in the National Gallery of Art, as well as on musical subjects by Richard Bales.

In October 1954, the Columbia recording of "The Confederacy" by the National Gallery Orchestra with the Church of the Reformation Cantata Choir, soloists, and speaker was released. It has received widespread press notice, including an article in the Saturday Review of March 19, 1955, by former President Truman.

The photographic laboratory of the Gallery produced 7,368 prints, 366 black-and-white slides, 20,101 color slides, 105 color transparencies, in addition to 1,820 negatives, color-separation negatives, infrared and ultraviolet photographs and X-ray shadowgraphs; also 2,936 lantern slides were bound.

During the fiscal year, 1,289 copies of press releases were issued in connection with Gallery activities, and 302 permits to copy and 141 permits to photograph in the Gallery were also issued.

OTHER GIFTS

Gifts of money were made during the fiscal year 1955 by the Old Dominion Foundation and the Avalon Foundation.

AUDIT OF PRIVATE FUNDS OF THE GALLERY

An audit of the private funds of the Gallery has been made for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1955, 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 forwarded to the Gallery.

Respectfully submitted,

HUNTINGTON CAIRNS, Secretary.

Dr. Leonard Carmichael, Secretary, Smithsonian Institution.

