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MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
730 Fifth Ave., New York City

Alfred H. Barr, Jr., Director of the Museum of Modern Art, and Mrs. John Sheppard, Chairman of the Membership Committee of the Museum, addressed the season's first conference of High School Art Teachers held Thursday afternoon at the Auditorium of Public High School No. 59, 228 East 57th St at 4 o'clock. After a short introduction, Mr. Forest Grant, Director of Art in the New York Public Schools, turned the meeting over to Mr. Barr and Mrs. Sheppard.

After describing the privileges of members of the Museum of Modern Art Mrs. Sheppard announced a new class of Memberships, to be called Educational Memberships, strictly limited to teachers. These memberships, she explained, will carry (1) the privileges of ordinary \$10.00 memberships and (2) additional privileges of a very special nature to be given to a group of High School Art Teachers.

Mr. Barr then spoke on the subject of "The Museum of Modern Art and the High Schools", and explained the second type of privileges mentioned by Mrs. Sheppard.

The text of Mr. Barr's talk is attached:

During its first two years the Museum of Modern Art was primarily concerned with loan exhibitions by which it sought to discover whether or not the public was sufficiently interested in modern art to encourage the trustees to make the Museum a permanent institution and to extend its work not merely by exhibitions in the Museum but by specifically educational work.

While the Museum expects to extend its educational work throughout the country it believes that work should begin at home.

The high schools of New York offer an excellent field for work since their art departments provide students who are already interested in art and know something about it.

Last Thursday a week ago at the suggestion of Mr. Forest Grant, ^{Director of Art, New York} ~~Chairman of the art training in high schools~~, I had the privilege of talking with four teachers of art in the high schools - Miss McDonald of the Theodore Roosevelt High School, Miss Bebarfald of the Evander Childs High School, Miss Johnson of Textile High School, and Miss Murphy of Erasmus Hall High School. I was astonished at their enthusiastic interest in modern art. With their advice the Museum has prepared the following plans for co-operation with the high schools.

First of all the Museum wishes to offer a series of special lectures and conferences upon each of its four exhibitions. These conferences which it is hoped will be small enough to hold in the gallery will be restricted to art teachers with the intention that after discussion of the exhibition each teacher will be enabled to interest her students and if possible bring them to the Museum for visits to the exhibitions. These conferences will be arranged at a time most convenient for teachers. In order to keep the group to a small number who are genuinely and seriously interested only those teachers who are Educational Members of the Museum will be admitted.

The second channel through which the Museum may be of use to high schools will be by means of traveling exhibitions of large color-reproductions of modern paintings. These are four in number and are to consist of about twelve reproductions each - two exhibitions devoted to the 19th Century and two to the 20th. The first exhibition will be composed

of the work of pioneers in modern art - Daumier, Corot, Courbet, Manet, Renoir, Degas, and Monet, and if good reproductions can be secured Homer, Eakins and Ryder will also be included. The second exhibition will comprise the work of the Post-Impressionists. Cézanne will be represented by five paintings and other artists included are Seurat, Gauguin, Redon, and van Gogh. The 20th Century will be divided into two groups. In the first Henri Rousseau, Matisse, Bonnard, Derain, Utrillo, Rouault, Segonzac, and Munch are included. The second part, which is perhaps the most international in scope of all the exhibitions, will include Picasso, Marie Laurencin, Modigliani, Pascin, Leger, Marc, Klee, Kandinsky, Severini, Giorgio de Chirico, Mondrian, Dickinson, Marin and Demuth. These four exhibitions which will follow one another in sequence in each high school are intended to give the student an idea of the development of modern painting. While the paintings are not originals, the reproductions are so perfect that in many cases it would be difficult to tell the difference between the original and the reproduction. Each picture will be accompanied by a card giving a brief account of the artist and some explanation of the meaning of the picture.

Perhaps in the future it would be possible to arrange some more thorough educational program for the high schools so soon as the Museum has sufficient space for a larger staff.