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Mr. John Hay Whitney, Chairman of the Motion Picture Committee of The Museum of Modern Art, announced today the acquisition by the Museum of Modern Art Film Library of five important groups of motion picture films from the following individuals and companies:

MARY PICKFORD -- A selection of her early pictures, which include Her First Biscuits, Violin Maker of Cremona, The New York Hat, The Lonely Villa, Kentucky Feud, Mender of the Nets, Pueblo Legend, Friends, Willful Peggy, and Lena and the Geese,

In giving her pictures to the Film Library, Miss Pickford made the following statement: "As one of the pioneers of the industry let me say once again how much I appreciate the efforts of the Film Library. I am one of its staunch supporters and believe the preservation of significant and outstanding films to be of great historic and educational value. I am only surprised that this important work was not undertaken long ago by the industry itself."

SAMUEL GOLDWYN -- Mr. Goldwyn presented his gifts Stella Dallas, directed by Henry King, 1925, and The Night of Love with Ronald Coleman and Vilma Banky, 1927, with the statement: "As one who has striven for many years always to bring the motion pictures to a higher level of achievement, I feel a great personal gratification in the knowledge that the motion picture has now attained recognition among the arts through the Film Library of the Museum of Modern Art.

"Apart from the purely entertainment side of motion pictures, they have become for this century, as have books and paintings in the past, a living picture of the world and as such should be guarded zealously as a Gainsborough portrait or a Gutenberg Bible. They are an accurate portrayal of contemporary times, presenting as they do not only the factual evidence of modern existence, but presenting it in a visual form. I am very proud indeed to have my pictures included in this splendid movement and feel that the Museum justifies my contention that really fine motion pictures are not only entertainment but also graphic pages in the living history of a great era."

UNIVERSAL FILMS CORPORATION -- The pictures given by Universal are The Dumb Girl of Porticci with Anna Pavlova, 1916; Blind Husbands, 1916, and Foolish Wives, 1921, both directed by Eric Von Stroheim; The Cat and the Canary, directed by Paul Leni, 1927; All Quiet on the Western Front, directed by Lewis Milestone, 1930. Mr. Carl Laemmle, President of Universal Pictures said: "It is a great personal satisfaction to me that the records of the progress of this industry are to be preserved. You may rely upon my heartiest cooperation and upon the use of the negatives of any pictures you may choose from Universal. As you know, Universal has negatives which go back to the year 1909. Unfortunately a few of them were destroyed in a fire. May your efforts to preserve the past history of the moving picture art meet with the success they so richly deserve!"

PARAMOUNT PICTURES CORPORATION -- The films given by Paramount are as follows: Queen Elizabeth with Sarah Bernhardt, 1911; The Covered Wagon, 1923; Monsieur Beaucaire with Rudolph Valentino, 1924; Grass, 1925, and Chang, 1927; both directed by Cooper and Schoedsack; Underworld, 1927, and The Last Command with Emil Jannings, 1928, both directed by von Sternberg. Mr. J. E. Otterson, President of Paramount Pictures, made the following statement: "Our Company is in sympathy with your organization in its program of aiding universities, colleges and museums in offering study courses in the history and appreciation of the motion picture. We believe that the undertaking of the Museum of Modern Art will be greatly beneficial not only to students of the art but to all those engaged in the creation of motion pictures and to the public who are their patrons and critics. It gives me pleasure to announce to you that Paramount will cooperate with you by making available to you from time to time prints of our historic motion pictures."

In May, 1935, the Museum of Modern Art, New York, received a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation for the purpose of establishing a department of motion pictures to be known as the Museum of Modern Art Film Library. The Film Library was organized the same month with the following officers: John Hay Whitney, President; John E. Abbott, Vice President and General Manager; Edward M. M. Warburg, Treasurer; and Iris Barry, Curator. The Library is making as complete a record as possible of all noteworthy motion pictures produced in this country or abroad from 1889 to the present day. Selected programs of these films will be circulated throughout the country to museums, colleges and study groups, just as the Museum of Modern Art circulates traveling exhibitions of paintings, models and photographs of architecture, and reproductions of works of art.