THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

FOR RELEASE SATURDAY AFTERNOON, JAN. 20, 1940, or SUNDAY MORNING, JAN. 20, 1940.

MUSEUM OF MODERN ART ELECTS NEW TRUSTEES

Stephen C. Clark, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Museum of Modern Art, announces that Mrs. John S. Parkinson, Jr., Henry Robinson Luce, Alfred H. Barr, Jr. and John E. Abbott have been elected to the Board of Trustees.

Mrs. Parkinson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius N. Bliss and the niece of the late Miss Lillie P. Bliss, one of the founders of the Museum and a member of its Board of Trustees until her death in 1931. Miss Bliss bequeathed the Museum the major portion of her famous collection of modern art on condition that the Museum establish itself as a permanent institution. This the Museum did by raising an Endowment Fund in March 1934 which went toward financing the Museum's new home, opened last May at 11 West 53 Street. The Lillie P. Bliss Collection, particularly rich in paintings by Cézanne, comprises an important section of the Museum's permanent collection of modern European art. Mrs. Parkinson is a Charter Member of the Museum's Advisory Committee, which was formed in 1930.

Henry Robinson Luce is Chairman of the Board of <u>Time, Inc.</u>, which publishes <u>Time</u>, <u>Life</u>, <u>Fortune</u> and <u>The Architectural Forum</u>, magazines which have been active for a number of years in bringing art and news of art to a large public. Alfred H. Barr, Jr., has been Director of the Museum of Modern Art since it was founded in 1929 and was made Vice-President in July 1939. John E. Abbott was one of the organizers of the Museum of Modern Art Film Library and was made Director of it when it was established in 1935. In July 1939 he became Executive Vice-President of the Museum. The Museum of Modern Art announces the following staff appointments:

Douglas L. Baxter has been made Assistant to the Executive Vice-President and has been placed in charge of the physical operation of the Museum. Mr. Baxter, who joined the staff of the Museum of Modern Art Film Library in 1938, was for eleven years with the Fox Film Corporation in Hollywood, where he served variously as art director, technical director, and supervisor and head of the research department.

Alistair Cooke has been made Assistant to the Curator of the Museum of Modern Art Film Library. Mr. Cooke was formerly film critic of the British Broadcasting Corporation and of several English magazines, including <u>The Spectator</u>, <u>The Listener</u> and <u>Sight</u> <u>and Sound</u>. He is a Scholar of Jesus College of Cambridge, England. In 1937 he settled permanently in the United States where, for the past two years, he has been a radio commentator and dramatic critic.

-2-