REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
AND THE DIRECTOR

ONE OF THE MOST PLEASANT duties of the President of the Museum is to welcome the members of the Corporation to the Annual Meeting and to report the transactions of the Board of Trustees during the preceding fiscal year. In accordance with a practice of several years’ standing, the Director joins in the report. The Treasurer’s report and the detailed departmental reports begin on pages 111 and 45.

The Administration

On December 20, 1966, the Board of Trustees elected Thomas P. F. Hoving the Director, and Joseph V. Noble the Vice-Director for Administration, and they took office on March 17, 1967. Both men, whose distinguished work at the Museum and in public affairs is well known, were honored at two receptions, one by the staff and the other by the Museum’s members.

The Board of Trustees

At the meeting of the Board held on November 15, 1966, Richard M. Paget and Robert M. Pennoyer were elected Trustees of the Museum.

Mr. Paget is a graduate of Northwestern University and senior partner in the management-consulting firm of Cresap, McCormick and Paget. He served in the Navy during the Second World War and was awarded the Legion of Merit. He is a director of several business and banking corporations, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Parsons School of Design, and a Trustee of Northwestern University.
Mr. Pennoyer is a graduate of Harvard University and Columbia Law School, and a partner in the law firm of Patterson, Belknap and Webb. A Trustee of the Union Theological Seminary and The American Place Theater, he is also President of Exodus House, a rehabilitation center in East Harlem.

On March 16, the Museum acquired a new ex officio Trustee: August Heckscher, appointed by Mayor John V. Lindsay to succeed Mr. Hoving as Commissioner of the Department of Parks and as Administrator of Recreation and Cultural Affairs.

It is our sad duty to report the death of Henry R. Luce, on February 28. Mr. Luce was elected a Trustee on September 20, 1948, and served on the Purchasing Committee of the Museum with great distinction, brilliance, and characteristic vigor. Our loss is great; his presence on the Board will be long remembered.

The Museum suffered another grievous loss in the death of Elihu Root, Jr., on August 27, 1967. Elected to the Board in 1931, he was the senior Trustee in point of service. Mr. Root was a Vice-President from 1940 to 1963, and contributed actively to the work of virtually every Trustee committee. A gifted painter himself, he was largely responsible for the Museum's re-entry into the field of contemporary American painting. His warmth and humanity endeared him to all who worked with him.

Benefactors

In recognition of their generosity, the Board of Trustees elected the following persons Benefactors during the past year:

Brooke Astor
Alice Kay Bache
Harold L. Bache
Walter C. Baker
Christos G. Bastis
Amanda K. Berls
Margaret K. Cassatt
H. Dunscombe Colt
C. Douglas Dillon
Armand G. Erpf
Charles Goldman
Adelaide Milton de Groot
Jean Amsden Haupt
Susan Morse Hilles
Arthur A. Houghton, Jr.

Elizabeth McCall Houghton
Lincoln Kirstein
John J. Klejman
Halina Klejman
Edmundo Lassalle
Paul E. Manheim
John William Middendorf II
Arthur J. Neumark
Mrs. John C. Newington
Joan W. Payson
Roland L. Redmond
James J. Rorimer
Janos Scholz
Mrs. Carl Stern

Never before have so many Benefactors qualified for election in a single year. Each represents a foundation block upon which this institution will count throughout gen-
erations of growth. The contributions of our new Benefactors to the Museum’s well-being and the enrichment of its collections are deeply appreciated by the Trustees and staff.

Profoundly encouraging, too, is the continued concern of people who have helped the Museum in the past. Colonel C. Michael Paul is one of these; by enabling us to buy superb baroque and rococo French sculpture, he has again demonstrated his interest in ensuring that the Museum becomes pre-eminent in this field.

Mr. and Mrs. Lammot du Pont Copeland made a notable gift of securities, the proceeds to be used for the new wing for American art; and, before his death, Henry R. Luce made substantial gifts of securities, their proceeds to be devoted to the purchase of American paintings. Further encouragement toward the wing for American art was received in an anonymous pledge of $100,000 over five years.

Outstanding bequests of works of art were received from Susan Vanderpoel Clark and Susan Dwight Bliss, both long-standing friends and supporters of the Museum.

Membership and Attendance

Membership stands at 21,810. This is 1,539 less than last year’s; the raised membership fees that went into effect in July probably had much to do with the drop. We are not discouraged, as the gap is being closed, and it should not be long before we exceed all previous totals. Nevertheless, we need more public support. How can we encourage it? What can we do for members in return? These are important questions and we are giving them careful thought; we welcome your suggestions.

For the calendar year 1966, attendance at the Main Building was 4,697,157, and at The Cloisters 1,444,534, a total of 6,141,691. During the first six months of 1967 there were 2,408,753 visitors at the Main Building and 607,855 at The Cloisters, a total of 3,016,608.

On Tuesday, May 30, the Museum tried its first evening opening since shortly after World War II. The attendance on the first four Tuesdays was 1,301, 5,786, 4,275, and
6,226–17,588 visitors in all—a response that encouraged the Board to continue the experiment through September 12. By that time a full evaluation of the project's popularity and usefulness could be undertaken, with an eye to the permanent establishment of at least one evening opening a week.

Exhibitions and Special Events

The outstanding exhibition of the year was Collecting American Art for the Metropolitan: Recent Accessions, 1961-1967. Over 100 paintings, watercolors, drawings, and sculptures, and 210 pieces of decorative art were on view in the American Paintings Galleries from April 12 to September 24. The opening was celebrated by a dinner party in the American Wing, attended by some of the Museum's most distinguished members and friends, and afterward a reception took place in the galleries. The launching was auspicious—the show was a great popular success. One of its main purposes was to dramatize the Museum's intent to build additional galleries for the display of its American collections, the most comprehensive ever gathered beneath one roof. We hope that within less than a decade a new American Wing will rise to join the old in presenting a panorama of America's art from the eighteenth century to today.

On April 18, In the Presence of Kings opened with a reception for the entire membership of the Museum, at which guests were also invited to meet the new Director and Vice-Director for Administration. Over 12,718 people came that evening, a figure surpassing any other for a similar occasion in the history of the Museum. The exhibition, presenting fifty centuries of royal and court styles in all media, displayed our holdings creatively and imaginatively. By the first week in July almost two hundred thousand persons had come to see it, and its success led us to extend it through Labor Day.

The Party of the Year, in November, brought $77,891 to the Costume Institute. Once again our friends in the fashion industry proved the inestimable value of their dedication and hard work. We look forward to a moment in the near future when all City approvals will have been granted and the plans for the new Costume Institute can be put out for bids. Construction is expected to start at the beginning of the year.

In tribute to our late Director, James J. Rorimer, a memorial concert was held on April 2 in the Grace Rainey Rogers Auditorium for an audience of his friends. The program, chosen by his family and Frederic Waldman of the Musica Aeterna Orchestra and Chorus, ranged from Monteverdi madrigals through music by Schütz, Bach, Verdi, and Ravel, concluding with Poulenc’s organ concerto.

On June 8, the Board of Trustees and Mr. and Mrs. James A. Linen III held a reception and dinner in the Great Hall for Their Majesties King Bhumibol Adulyadej and Queen Sirikit of Thailand. In honor of the occasion, His Majesty graciously presented to the Museum a ceremonial gold sword, a gift that was accepted with thanks by the President.
Special Activities and Services

So that the public might get the fullest enjoyment from a visit to the Metropolitan, a visitors' bureau was opened on July 5. A supervisor was hired, and seventeen volunteers from colleges and universities were trained by members of the Education Department and the curatorial staff. The volunteers were assigned either to a booth in the Great Hall or to posts throughout the galleries to guide and instruct the visitors, answer their questions, and help to plan itineraries. The visitors' bureau has been welcomed by museum-goers, and we hope to continue it.

In cooperation with the City's Administration of Human Resources and the Office of Economic Opportunity, twenty-five young men of high-school age, primarily from East Harlem, were hired for the summer as trainee guards and craftsmen. If, after study, this experiment is shown to be a success, efforts will be made to expand and refine the program next year.

Plans for the observation of the Museum's centennial in 1970 were announced by the President and Director at a news conference in May. In observing this hundredth anniversary we will not only look back, but at the same time launch future endeavors. The celebration will include a series of exhibitions, several focusing on American art; the opening of reconstructed and newly installed galleries; scholarly programs and symposia; special publications; and dazzling membership activities.

The Metropolitan, along with other leading museums in the New York area, is collaborating with New York University's Institute of Computer Research in the Humanities to determine the feasibility of establishing a single comprehensive catalogue of art objects in public collections. This information would be stored in a central "data bank" and disseminated through a network of terminals located in various museums. It is hoped that such a computer network would be enlarged to include museums in other American cities and abroad. The use of computers has proven of value in anthropology, history, literature, musicology, and linguistics. Development of their use in art education and research is both exciting and promising.

The Lester and Kathlyn Wolfe Foundation has indicated its willingness to underwrite half the cost of a major archaeological project in the Middle East. This generous grant will enable the Museum to continue field work in that area, provided that we are able to get the necessary permissions from the local governmental authorities.

Fellowship and High-School Programs

Through the munificence of the late Chester Dale and J. Clawson Mills, the Museum has established a program devoted to one of the most vital aspects of our work - research.
This year, Elizabeth E. Gardner of the European Paintings Department was given the opportunity to work in European libraries to prepare a bibliographical repertory of Italian private collections. At the same time, outside scholars, American and foreign, were invited to study our collections: fellowships were given to Mohamed Abdel-Wahab for research on our Islamic art, especially Fatimid and Tulunid material and problems of epigraphy; to Isabelle Bessard for research on medieval and Renaissance French sculpture; to W. Thomas Chase III for research and training in our laboratory on the conservation of works of art, to meet part of the requirements of his master's degree; to Tessa Greig for research in the Western European Arts Department, mainly on porcelain and furniture; to Jane Hayward for research on paintings in our collection and in others; to James Pilgrim for research in the Department of American Paintings and Sculpture; and to George Wanklyn for research in museology and methods of museum education. Father Cornelius P. Chang, Dianne Hauserman, Morrison H. Heck-scher, and Marilynn Johnson will continue their studies, through an extension of their fellowships. It is also pleasant to announce that others of last year's Fellows have joined our staff: Don Aanavi, Malcolm Delacorte, and John K. Howat.

We are beginning a study to determine our possible services to the nation’s high schools. The New York State Council on the Arts will contribute $100,000 over a three-year period to this effort, a major step in the Museum's involvement with organized education. In addition, the Geigy Chemical Corporation gave us a fund for the coming year to develop educational materials for use in the American history curriculum. A high-school division has been set up in the Education Department, and we are groping with the challenges of talking to the vast teen-age population, which seems to have so great an effect on our country's style and tastes.

**Building Program**

The building program, successfully carried forward by Mr. Rorimer, continued unabated throughout the year. The installation of six new period rooms has proceeded so rapidly that they will soon be opened to the public. Much of the construction, however, has taken place out of our visitors' sight, such as the corridors that will eventually link all the galleries on the ground floor.

In the 1967-1968 Capital Budget of the City of New York, the Museum requested the sum of $330,000 for general reconstruction and improvement of the existing buildings and the roofs and skylights, and received $216,000 from the Board of Estimate.

One of the more important projects from earlier budgets is the funding for the design of the protective structure for the Temple of Dendur. On February 16, the Museum was requested to submit to a special committee, formed by the President of the United States, the reasons why it should be the recipient of the Egyptian temple, a gift to America from the United Arab Republic in acknowledgment of a United
States contribution of sixteen million dollars in Egyptian pounds to save Nubian monuments from the waters of the Aswan High Dam. On April 28, President Johnson wrote the Director: "It gives me great pleasure to inform you that the Egyptian Temple of Dendur is being awarded to The Metropolitan Museum of Art for its permanent location." The Board of Trustees and staff would like to express their thanks to all those friends and officials who gave so much time and energy in the successful attempt to have the Temple awarded to The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Particular appreciation goes to Mrs. Vincent Astor and Francis T. P. Plimpton of the Museum's Board; Senators Jacob K. Javits and Robert F. Kennedy; and Commissioner Elinor C. Guggenheimer of the City Planning Commission. Special thanks are also due Mayor Lindsay, whose Capital Budget message, calling for an expenditure of City funds for half the cost of the protecting structure, was strongly instrumental in gaining the Temple for the Museum.

In order to prepare a comprehensive architectural plan for the next phase of the Metropolitan's physical growth, the firm of E. Kevin Roche and John G. Dinkeloo was hired by the Museum. Creating a master plan is expected to take at least a year. Highest priority in the construction phase will be given to the new area set aside for the various facets of American art. We consider the preparation of this comprehensive plan one of the most important tasks of the new administration.

The Staff

Early in July 1967, we were saddened to learn of the death of Albert TenEyck Gardner, who had just been named Associate Curator of the 100th Anniversary Committee. Mr. Gardner, author of a number of books on American art, had been with the Metropolitan since 1941 and was the greatest authority on its history and the development of its collections.

Adelaide A. Cahill retired this year after thirty-seven years of service to the Museum. At the time of her retirement, she was Assistant to the Secretary for Archives, having previously served as head of the Information Desk. Other retirements included: Jean H. Brewer, in charge of sales of color prints; Belle Fieldman, Senior Librarian in charge of the Periodical Room; Roger Garofalo, Warren S. Jordan, Johanna C. O'Toole, John S. Tucker, David Whelton, and Joseph L. Carlin. They will all be missed, and we wish them happiness in the years that lie ahead.

In March, the Board of Trustees adopted a new By-Law dealing with the "organizational structure of the Museum and the titles of heads of curatorial and academic departments"; pursuant to that By-Law, John Goldsmith Phillips was named Chairman of the Department of Western European Arts, Theodore Rousseau, Chairman of
the Department of European Paintings, and Harry S. Parker III, Chairman of the Department of Education, each appointment becoming effective on July 1. The Trustees also elected Richard R. Morsch Operating Administrator. A new Department of Contemporary Arts was created at the June 13 meeting of the Board, and Henry Geldzahler was elected its Curator. Other promotions announced following this meeting were: Carmen Gómez-Moreno to be Associate Curator, Medieval Art; Prudence Oliver Harper to be Associate Curator of Ancient Near Eastern Art; Vera K. Ostoia to be Associate Curator, Medieval Art and The Cloisters; Olga Raggio to be Associate Curator, Western European Arts; Merritt Safford to be Conservator of Drawings and Prints; Margaretta M. Salinger to be Associate Curator, European Paintings; Leon Wilson to be Associate Editor in Charge of Publications; Eric Young to be Associate Curator, Egyptian Art; Guy-Philippe de Montebello to be Assistant Curator, European Paintings; Joan K. Foley to be Assistant Editor; Margaret V. Hartt to be Lecturer in the Education Department; John K. Howat to be Assistant Curator, American Paintings and Sculpture; Hilde Limondjian to be Senior Assistant in the Office of Auditorium Events; V. LeMar Terry, Jr. as Lighting Designer; and Clare Vincent to be Assistant Curator, Western European Arts. Curatorial Assistants appointed are Don Aanavi in Islamic Art, and Malcolm Delacorte in Western European Arts. Carolyn L. Richardson was named Administrative Assistant in the Vice-Director’s Office, Ann Marie Bustillo became Administrative Assistant in the Treasurer’s Office, and Hugh R. Clopton was promoted from Chief Electrician to General Foreman in the Superintendent’s Office.

Conclusion

In closing, the Board of Trustees extends to all members of the staff of the Museum its thanks for the dedicated, loyal, and sensitive discharge of their duties throughout the year, most particularly during the period of transition following the tragic loss of James J. Rorimer.

ARTHUR A. HOUGHTON, JR., President
THOMAS P. F. HOVING, Director
DUDLEY T. EASBY, JR., Secretary