

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

In its post-war consideration of plans for the continued development of the Museum of Modern Art, the Board of Trustees has realigned the organizational structure of the Museum to meet the administrative complexities brought about by the institution's rapid growth.

Under the new plan, the Executive Committee continues to act as the governing body of the Museum on behalf of the Board of Trustees. It works closely with the recently organized Coordination Committee composed of staff executives appointed to take administrative responsibility for the five major divisions of the Museum's activities, which are: Research, Curatorial, Program, Secretarial, and Business. This revised administrative program, in effect since September 30, has contributed materially to the efficient operation of the Museum.

Nelson A. Rockefeller, President of the Museum, today (November 1, 1946) announced with regret on behalf of the Trustees the resignation of James Johnson Sweeney, Director of the Department of Painting and Sculpture. Mr. Sweeney's resignation was tendered immediately following the reorganization on the grounds that the new administrative structure altered the conditions under which his appointment had been made. Mr. Rockefeller stated that he had discussed the matter at length with Mr. Sweeney in the hope that he might withdraw his resignation. Mr. Sweeney felt, however, that it was impossible to do so within the framework of the new administrative structure.

The Trustees deferred action on Mr. Sweeney's resignation, hoping that some area of agreement might be worked out. This was, unfortunately, found impossible in view of the fact that Mr. Sweeney felt he could stay only if the conditions under which he was originally appointed be restored. The Trustees, however, felt this would be incompatible with the design of the new administrative structure. Therefore at its regular meeting this week the Executive Committee regretfully directed that Mr. Sweeney's resignation be

entered in the records of the Museum as of September 30.

The Executive Committee unanimously voted that the President be instructed to write Mr. Sweeney on their behalf expressing the Museum's deep regret over his separation from the Museum and sincere appreciation for his distinguished and scholarly services as director of the Department of Painting and Sculpture, in which capacity he has done so much to further the cause the Museum represents.

It was further resolved that an appropriate resolution be prepared for the consideration of the Board at its next meeting and an earnest hope was expressed that Mr. Sweeney would continue to participate actively in the councils of the Museum in order that they might continue to have the benefit of his advice as well as the pleasure of association with him.