

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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William A.M. Burden has been elected President of the Museum of Modern Art to succeed Nelson A. Rockefeller, it was announced today by John Hay Whitney, Chairman of the Board. Mr. Rockefeller has resigned in order to become Under Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare in Washington, a post to which he was recently appointed by President Eisenhower. Except for four years when Mr. Rockefeller was serving the government, he has been President of the Museum since 1939.

Mr. Burden, well known for his activities in government service, business, educational and charitable organizations, has been a Trustee of the Museum since November 1943, and has been Chairman of the Trustee Committee on the Museum Collections.

Mr. Whitney said, "While it is with real regret that we accept Mr. Rockefeller's resignation we are extremely pleased that he will continue to serve the Museum as a Trustee and that we are so fortunate as to obtain the services of as able and distinguished a successor as Mr. Burden who has been a close friend and active Trustee for many years."

Mr. Burden, former Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Air and Special Assistant for Research and Development to the Secretary of the Air Force, is the senior partner in the New York venture capital firm of William A.M. Burden and Co. Before becoming a Trustee of the Museum in November 1943, he served as Chairman of the Museum Advisory Committee and he initiated an important report on the Museum Collections. He was a member of the Trustee Committee on Museum Collections from 1943-1950 and served as its Chairman. He was also Chairman of the Committee on Membership.

Mr. Burden's private collection includes outstanding examples of American and European paintings and sculpture and he is also well known for his interest in modern architecture and industrial design. Mr. Burden is a director of The Hanover Bank, Cerro de Pasco Corporation, Union Sulphur and Oil Corporation and The American Metals Co., Ltd. He is a governor of the Society of the New York Hospital, a director of the Council on Foreign Relations, a Trustee of the Parsons School of Design, a member of the council and past President of the Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences, Chairman of the Aviation Advisory Committee of the Harvard School of Business Administration, and a Trustee of the French Institute in the U.S. He was graduated cum laude from Harvard in 1927 and recently received an honorary degree of Doctor of Science from Clarkson College of Technology. Mr. Burden was born in New York City in 1906.