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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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REORGANIZATION AT MUSEUM OF MODERN ART. ALFRED H. BARR, JR.

RETIRES AS DIRECTOR.

Stephen C. Clark, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Museum of Modern Art, yesterday announced that Alfred H. Barr, Jr. has retired as Director of the Museum in order to devote his full time to writing the works on modern art which he has had in preparation and which his heavy directorial duties have made impossible for him to undertake. At the same time, Mr. Clark announced that Mr. Barr had accepted the Board's appointment as Advisory Director. Mr. Clark's statement was as follows;

"The growing scope of the Museum's activities, particularly since it has had the enlarged facilities of its new building, has brought about additions of new departments and heavily increased work even for an enlarged staff. Added to this has been the Museum's war program which has caused its own changes in staff personnel and a constantly accelerating schedule of activities and exhibitions. As a result, much of the Museum's work has been done under extreme pressure in an atmosphere of emergency.

"The Board has therefore reorganized the administration of the Museum's directorial duties, which will now be placed in the hands of a small committee of the Trustees. Mr. Barr's curatorial duties as head of the Department of Painting and Sculpture will be taken over by James Thrall Soby, who was elected a Trustee in April 1942 and appointed Assistant Director of the Museum in January 1943. Mr. Soby has also been head of the Museum's Armed Services Program since January 1942. He directed the Dali and Tchelitchew exhibitions in 1941 and 1942 and wrote the catalogs for those exhibitions. The Board has now appointed him Director of the Department of Painting and Sculpture.

"Mr. Barr's tremendous service to the Museum, the high standards of modern art both inspired and maintained by him during his years of active directorship, are well known not only in this country but abroad. The brilliance and clarity of his writings on modern art which so illuminated the publications of the Museum made them famous all over the world. It is therefore a pleasure to announce that this week the Museum will bring out his new publication What is Modern Painting? To this title the Museum hopes to add others authored by Mr. Barr."