From letter Agnes Morgan to MSB, 9 August 1983:

Early MoMA History: PSSachs / AAR



know what the errors were that you found. I hope that they can be easily adjusted.

No, it was not banking that brought DJ & Mrs Rockefeller together. For years, she was on the Fogg's Visiting Committee, with a special interest in the Oriental Dept. You will remember that she was born an Aldrich & that the Aldriches were collectors in the Providence circle quite early. DJ knew both her brother, the diplomat & her sister, Lucy, & I don't know how many other family members.

I think that the reason Lincoln didn't mention Balanchine when he lunched with John R.H. is that Balanchine's health is still too painful for him to speak of, especially at the lunch table. I hope that your lameness is no worse. I scarcely dare hope that it will go away.

Can you enjoy Greenburg a little?

I am very pleased to be here. I plan to stay until after Labor Day. I go to Venice for two weeks Sept. 19. When I return early in October, I'd be ~~happy to see you~~ and Rona.

Here we go to 8:15 A.M. Mass on

(over)

Rockefeller

# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

ANNA L. KELLY
ASSISTANT TREASURER
10 WEST 54TH STREET
NEW YORK

730 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

December 20th, 1929

Dear Miss Sands:-

Will you please send to Mrs. Halpert at the Downtown Gallery, 113 West 13th Street 12 copies of the catalog of the First Exhibition, for which I am enclosing Mrs. Rockefeller's check for $24.

Sincerely,

Anna L. Kelly.

ions. The interest of our own Trustees cannot be maintained, as I see it, unless we have a home of our own. If we go on renewing our lease, I am afraid that interest will wane rapidly, and we will have missed our opportunity.

You will perhaps remember a plan was suggested whereby we might be relieved of a considerable part, if not all, of the rental which Mr. Rockefeller has fixed. I explained this plan to your son Nelson before I went to Europe, and he seemed favorably impressed with it. Briefly, it was proposed that Mr. Rockefeller should sell the house to the Museum, taking in payment therefor a purchase money mortgage, and receiving as a further consideration for the sale an option to repurchase within some agreed period. Under such an arrangement, the Museum being the owner of the property would be entitled to exemption from taxation, and this would save something over $8,000.00 a year in taxes.

Mr. Cornelius Bliss telephoned me the other day and said that he felt it was very desirable that we should look around for some house that we could take over for the Museum. This would seem to indicate that he as Executor of his sister's estate, might feel that with such a house, and some endowment fund, we would satisfy the conditions established in Miss Bliss' will.

If at the same time, we could interest the Foundations in contributing to such an endowment fund, not only by reason of our having permanent quarters, but because we seem to have a good prospect of establishing definite relations with the Metropolitan Museum, then

Mrs R

1253 No. 230 Park Ave.,
September 2nd, 1931.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
Seal Harbor, Me.

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

Mr. Kimball, ~~who is~~ the Real Estate Agent, telephoned me yesterday to say that the house owned by Mr. Rockefeller on 53rd Street, is still available, at the suggested rental of $12,000.00 a year. I feel it is very necessary that we should make some arrangements that will provide us with permanent or semi-permanent quarters at the close of our present lease. It is expected that we will do something, and it seems to me most necessary to meet these expectations. The interest of our own Trustees cannot be maintained, as I see it, unless we have a home of our own. If we go on renewing our lease, I am afraid that interest will wane rapidly, and we will have missed our opportunity.

You will perhaps remember a plan was suggested whereby we might be relieved of a considerable part, if not all, of the rental which Mr. Rockefeller has fixed. I explained this plan to your son Nelson before I went to Europe, and he seemed favorably impressed with it. Briefly, it was proposed that Mr. Rockefeller should sell the house to the Museum, taking in payment therefor a purchase money mortgage, and receiving as a further consideration for the sale an option to repurchase within some agreed period. Under such an arrangement, the Museum being the owner of the property would be entitled to exemption from taxation, and this would save something over $8,000.00 a year in taxes.

Mr. Cornelius Bliss telephoned me the other day and said that he felt it was very desirable that we should look around for some house that we could take over for the Museum. This would seem to indicate that he as Executor of his sister's estate, might feel that with such a house, and some endowment fund, we would satisfy the conditions established in Miss Bliss' will.

If at the same time, we could interest the Foundations in contributing to such an endowment fund, not only by reason of our having permanent quarters, but because we seem to have a good prospect of establishing definite relations with the Metropolitan Museum, then

I feel that Mr. Bliss would quite certainly take the position that we had completely complied with the conditions referred to. It seems to me that under present business conditions, this is all that we can hope for at present.

I am writing you now thinking that you might learn from Mr. Rockefeller if some such arrangement would be agreeable to him. If you find that it would, I will take the matter up with some of the other Trustees and possibly we could have a plan developed upon which we could take definite action at an early meeting of our Board.

Yours very truly,

President.

Rockefeller

May 27, 1931

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I think it wise to write a letter since time is so short and I may not have a chance to speak with you about the German paintings which you have been considering.

I feel that the Beckmann Family Pictures is perhaps the most important available picture in the Exhibition either for your collection or for the Museum. It is not a particularly agreeable subject but has extraordinary interest both in composition and in detail. Many of the more discerning critics and painters spoke of it, especially James Sweeney and Lloyd Goodrich. In Germany it is one of the most famous Beckmann's and was reserved until the time of our Exhibition by the Modern Arts Society of Hannover at a price of 12,000 RM, almost $3000. Neumann has made a special price which is actually well below the current German market of $2500.

Barlach's Singing Man which you also spoke of was insured for $960. but Neumann feels that Flechtheim might reduce the price to $780. It also was among the most admired of the German bronzes.

The Dix Portrait of Doctor Meyer Hermann was insured for $762. by Dix himself. This price was later raised by Dix's dealer, Probst, to over a thousand dollars and since then Dix has wished to raise it even further. I think, however, it could be had at its original insurance price. The small bronze, Runners, by Gernard Marcks, is valued at $200. While it is possible that he might reduce his price I do not like to ask him to do so since his large plaster Prophet was very badly smashed on the way over and we may not be able to get any insurance redress because of the material. He has taken his loss in a most gentlemanly way so that I do not feel like asking him to reduce what is really a fairly low price (for comparison I might mention the small bronze figure of a kneeling man by Noguchi which you asked about last year and for which Noguchi wanted $500.).

I think it possible that Neumann might arrange to give you the Beckmann and either the Barlach or the Dix for $3200. or $3000. He receives no profit from either the Marcks or the Dix and very little from the other two.

Very sincerely yours,

AHB

Rockefeller

CONSUMERS' RESEARCH
340 West 33 Street
New York, N.Y.



Barr pers

April 18, 1931

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street
New York City

April 20, 1931

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

We have sent you, special delivery, a duplicate copy of the Handbook of Buying and are enclosing herewith bulletin G.88, which covers some of our recommendations on radio sets, in which Mr. A. H. Barr, Jr. told us you were interested. We are sorry that you failed to receive the first Handbook, sent you on receipt of your signed application blank, and are addressing both this and the Handbook to you personally so that there can be no question of the material.

Very truly yours

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I have a note from the Consumers Research informing me that they have sent you another copy of the handbook. I hope that you received it and that it will prove of use.

Sincerely,

AB

CL:MB
Enc. Bulletin G.88

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr.
424 East 52nd Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Barr:

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

The above letter to Mrs. Rockefeller in accordance with
[illegible] on the telephone this morning.

Very truly yours

Elmer S. [illegible]

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr.
730 Fifth Avenue
New York City

CL:MB

Rockefeller

CONSUMERS' RESEARCH
340 West 23 Street
New York, N.Y.

April 18, 1931

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street
New York City

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

We have sent you, special delivery, a duplicate copy of the Handbook of Buying and are enclosing herewith bulletin O.25, which covers some of our recommendations on radio sets, in which Mr. A. H. Barr, Jr. told us you were interested. We are sorry that you failed to receive the first Handbook, sent you on receipt of your signed application blank, and are addressing both this letter and the Handbook to you personally so that we may be assured of the proper receipt of the material.

Very truly yours

CL:MB
Enc. Bulletin O.25

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr.
424 East 52nd Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Barr:

We have sent the above letter to Mrs. Rockefeller in accordance with your request on the telephone this morning.

Very truly yours

Elmer S. Lobb

CL:MB

ARIZONA INN
TUCSON, ARIZONA

March 3rd, 1931.

Dear Mr. Barr:-

I have just learned from Mrs. Halpert that she has paid Mr. Daniel $500 for the Dickinson picture you are to select. Will you, therefore, kindly pass on to Mrs. E. G. Halpert of Downtown Gallery the check for $500 Mrs. Rockefeller sent you for this purpose?

We are having a delightful time in this most attractive place. Ever since our arrival the weather has been perfect, cloudless skies and dry air, cool mornings and nights and warm in the sunshine.

I am distressed that no check has come thru as yet for Mrs. Seaver's salary. As she has the check book, I am helpless, however.

With kind regards to all your staff, I am

Sincerely,

Anna L. Kelly.

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr.
730 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Tips on passage back 15.00 $ 1,043.37

ARIZONA INN
TUCSON, ARIZONA

March 14th, 1931.

Dear Alfred:-

I am calling you "Alfred" this morning. Sometimes I call you "Mr. Barr" as you may notice. I think that I am so much of an old fashioned New Englander that it comes a little hard for me to get out of the habit of calling people by their titles rather than the informal and nicer way of calling them by their first name.

I have just received Mr. Goodyear's telegram, telling me the very sad news of Miss Bliss' death. I am sure that you feel as I do that this is much the greatest loss that the Museum could sustain. I am sure that you also feel it a great personal loss; she was such a lovely person. We shall all have to work much harder than ever to make the Museum a success.

Thank you very much for sending me the proof of the foreword of the German catalog. It arrived last night and I am eagerly looking forward to reading it. I also appreciate your holding back some of the German paintings until I can see them. I shall be in New York again on the 26th of March. Will that be too long for you to wait?

You certainly must be very active with all the things that are going on at the present time at the Museum. I am glad that Mrs. Seaver is able to be useful to you. I still feel just as strongly as I ever did that we cannot ask other people to give to the Museum in large amounts without the trustees themselves having expressed their confidence in it by making substantial pledges for its future. I have thought of this a great deal since I have been away and may have some suggestions to make when I get home. In fact I do not see why other people should be expected to take a more substantial interest in the Museum than the Trustees do. I think it is perfectly possible and also feasible to work the Museum on the Russian five-year or ten-year plan. I do not doubt we could get the Foundation to underwrite the rent for instance for us whilwe we are proving ourselves worthy. But on the other hand the disadvantage of this is that probably no one will give us collections of pictures while we are still in the uncertain stage. It seems to me the educational side of the work is much the easiest and simplest to work out. The part that distresses me most is how we are going to remain modern and at the same time satisfy donors that the pictures they give will not be disposed of in a manner that would be objectionable to them.

Hoping that you and Mrs. Barr have escaped the cold and grippe that seems to be going about in New York, I am with kindest remembrances to her,

Sincerely,

Abby A. Rockefeller.

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Paris - Cherbourg 7.00
Tips on passage back 15.00 $ 1,043.37

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER
ORMOND BEACH
FLORIDA

February 24th, 1931.

Dear Mr. Barr:-

At one of the meetings of the Museum I brought up the questionnaire of the American Association of Museums and I believe it was the consensus of opinion that it should be filled out and returned to them. I am returning it enclosed to you, thinking perhaps this might be something Mrs. Seaver could work up with your advice.

I have had a letter from Mr. Daniel and have written him that I was turning over the money to you and that the choice of a picture was to be entirely in your hands. I am enclosing a check for $500 for this purpose. It is very good of you to do this and I hope that the picture will prove to be of real value to the Museum.

Mrs. Seaver wrote that it would be very expensive for the Museum to hire another room and she said it had been suggested that she take office space nearby at $75 a month. I should think this would be a very good thing to do. We are returning about the 20th of March and I think if Mrs. Seaver could have the space ready for her at that time, it would be more convenient for Miss Kelly to come back to a free desk.

I have a most encouraging note from Mrs. Sullivan. It looks as if she were ready with Mrs. Seaver's assistance to take up and push forward the work of the "Extension Committee"(?)

Hoping that all is going well with you and Mrs. Barr and kindest remembrances to her, I am

Cordially,

Abby A. Rockefeller.

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr.
730 Fifth Avenue, NYCity

Paris - Cherbourg 7.00
Tips on passage back 15.00 $ 1,043.37

November 3, 1930

Dear Miss Kelly:

I am enclosing my European expense account which comes to $1528.37. This includes $64.00 for telegrams and cables sent from Greensboro during August and September as well as the expenses of Mr. J. B. Neumann who acted as our agent. I may say that he received no payment other than his railroad fare and hotel.

From this amount I have subtracted $1000.00 forwarded to me in May which leaves a balance of $528.37.

Sincerely yours,

AHB

Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Stuttgart - Schafhausen | 22. M → | |
| Neumann's expenses in Germany | ~~400. M~~ | 100.00 |
| | ~~422. M~~ | ~~101.28~~ |
| Schafhausen - Wintherthur - Zurich | 150. S f | |
| Zurich - Zanzanne, II | 35. S f | |
| " Hotel | 25. | |
| " taxis | 12. | |
| | 222. S f | 35.52 |
| Lauzanne - Paris, II | | 7.71 |
| Paris - Cherbourg | | 7.00 |
| Tips on passage back | | 15.00 |
| | | $ 1,043.37 |

EXPENSE ACCOUNT AHB Pers

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Passport and visas | | $ 30.00 |
| Passage, New York - Paris | | 184.00 |
| Paris Expenses (Hotel (St. James et d'Albany), telegrams, cables, phone calls, taxis) @ 25 fr. a day | 772. f. | |
| | 835. f. | |
| | 1912. f. | |
| | 592. f. | |
| | 1268. f. | |
| | 5379. f. | 215.16 |
| | + 3371. f. | 134.84 |
| London Trip | 1586. f. | |
| Printing | 46. f. | |
| Stenography | 1070. f. | |
| | 2702. f. | 108.08 |
| Paris to Essen, II classe | | 8.71 |
| Essen Hotel | 35. M. | |
| Taxi to Krefeld | 50. M. | |
| | 85. M. | 29.11 |
| Essen to Hamburg, II classe | 41.25 M | |
| " Hotel | 35.60 | |
| Taxi | 7. | |
| | 83.85 M | 20.12 |
| Hamburg to Berlin, II classe | | |
| " Hotel | 160. | |
| Cables | 10. | |
| taxis | 78. | |
| Stenography | 60. | |
| Catalogs | 4. | |
| | 312. M | 80.88 |
| Berlin to Dresden, II classe | 16.50 M | |
| " taxi | 15. | |
| | 31.50 M | 7.56 |
| Dresden to Munich (wagonlits) | 60. | |
| " Hotel | 82. | |
| " taxis, etc. | 30. | |
| | 172. M | 41.28 |
| Munich to Stuttgart | 24. | |
| " Hotel | 30. | |
| " taxis | 9. | |
| | 63. M | 15.12 |
| Stuttgart - Schafhausen | 22. M → | |
| Neumann's expenses in Germany | ~~400. M~~ | 100.00 |
| | ~~422. M~~ | ~~101.28~~ |
| Schafhausen - Winterthur - Zurich | 150. S f | |
| Zurich - Zanzanne, II | 35. S f | |
| " Hotel | 25. | |
| " taxis | 12. | |
| | 222. S f | 35.52 |
| Lauzanne - Paris, II | | 7.71 |
| Paris - Cherbourg | | 7.00 |
| Tips on passage back | | 15.00 |
| | | $ 1,043.37 |

Meals in Europe from May 29 to August 26 (this amount excludes the week of May 22 to May 9 during which the Director was not entirely devoted to the Museum's affairs, and includes luncheons etc. given by the Director to Museum officials, etc.)

| | |
|---|---|
| 88 days at 3.50 | $396.00 |
| Telegrams and cables from Greensboro during August and September | 64.00 |
| Neumann's special trip, Munich to Essen in September | 25.00 |
| | $ 485.00 |
| carried over, | 1043.37 |
| | $ 1528.37 |
| Forwarded to Director in May | 1000.00 |
| Balance due Director | $ 528.37 |

Mrs R.

Gifts

23 December, 1932

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

Thank you very much indeed for the magazines which you sent over to the Museum for the library. As you know, at the present time, we have two people who are helping us with the library: Miss Barry and Miss Parsons. In this way, we are enabled to catalogue and arrange the gifts of this sort which are sent to us.

Your magazines are particularly welcome, because at the present time the Museum does not subscribe to art magazines. In the future, of course, the trustees will no doubt wish to subscribe to all art magazines, as they form a very important record of art.

With all good wishes for a Merry Christmas, I am

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Copy Mrs R file

Mrs R

gifts

December 15, 1932

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

We were very glad indeed to receive the gilt frame which you sent us the other day.

As I expressed to Miss Kelly such a frame will be most useful to us.

Very sincerely,

Executive Secretary.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

copy Mrs R file

Gifts

Mrs R

12 November, 1932

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

We acknowledge receipt of the six chairs which you sent to us a few days ago.

They are indeed a very real asset in the penthouse. They will have their first use at the meeting of the Executive Committee on Tuesday afternoon at four o'clock.

The Museum deeply appreciates this very practical gift and extends to you its sincere thanks.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Mrs R

15 December, 1932

Mrs. John D Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

The article in the enclosed Literary Digest is the result of a conversation which Mr. King of the Digest staff had with our publicity department not long ago.

As you know the circulation of the Literary Digest is very large. The A.B.C. figure given in Ayer's Annual is 1, 514,698.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Yours R

Miss R

November 30, 1932

Dear Miss Nourse:

Mr. Cahill has asked me to return to you the bill from Koshiba which you left with him the other day.

Very sincerely yours,

Registrar

Miss Nourse
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Mrs R

December 16, 1932

My dear Miss Kelly:

I enclose copy of a letter which was sent to our insurance brokers today with the list which was sent to you a few days ago.

You will note that in the third paragraph I have underlined the phrase dealing with the fact that the insurance is to begin at the time the insurance is handed to you. This means that your policy can be cancelled simultaneously with the beginning of this new cover.

I shall deliver the policy as soon as it is in our possession.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary.

Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Mrs R

December 15, 1932

My dear Miss Kelly:

As I told you yesterday over the telephone the statue of Washington was injured by accident but the damage can be repaired.

I enclose a memorandum about the details of the accident and the cost of repairing the statue. My suggestion would be that you communicate with the insurance company to determine if your policy will cover this repair. If the policy should cover the repair we will then have the statue repaired when we receive instructions from the insurance company. If, however, the policy does not cover this damage we will have the statue repaired upon receipt of instructions from you, and the Museum will meet the costs.

Won't you please assure Mrs. Rockefeller that the statue will be restored to its original condition?

Very sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Miss Anna L, Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Copy XXII Mrs R

December 15, 1932

MEMORANDUM RE. GEORGE WASHINGTON:

On the night of Monday, December 12th, at about 10:30 p.m. the night watchman of the Museum of Modern Art, Gustav Carlson, while making his rounds of the building injured by accident the cast iron statue "George Washington." The face of the statue was broken cleanly into four pieces.

The statue can be repaired so that its new appearance will be practically identical with that before the accident. The work can be done by the De Santis Iron Company, 27 East 4 Street, New York City. The cost would be eight dollars ($8.). The statue could be taken by truck to the Iron Company and returned to the Museum by Budworth and Sons at a cost of approximately three dollars ($3.). The total charges, therefore, for the repair would be eleven dollars ($11.).

Executive Secretary.

Mrs R

16 December, 1932

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

This letter from the New School of Social Research was received here a day or two ago.

You will remember that Mrs. Murray Crane was very much interested in bringing Mr. Frye to Americanlast year.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Mrs R

December 15, 1932

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

We were very glad indeed to receive the gilt frame which you sent us the other day.

As I expressed to Miss Kelly such a frame will be most useful to us.

Very sincerely,

Executive Secretary.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Copy Gifts file

Mrs R

11 WEST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

20 December, 1932

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

As you know, we received yesterday a check for $10,000 from Sir Joseph Duveen. This will be acknowledged in the usual way by the Museum, and we have reported the gift to Mr. Goodyear, with the suggestion that he write a letter of thanks.

It is our understanding that this payment represents the amount pledged by Sir Joseph Duveen for the fiscal year, 1931-32, and that he has given you a verbal pledge for a similar amount to be paid during the coming year. I suppose that we might look for this second payment not earlier than next fall.

The receipt of this pledge has helped the cash position of the Museum greatly. We estimate that the cash balance on December 31st should be about $31,000. Our cash balance today is $35,142.94, and we have two weeks payroll to meet before the end of the month as well as the bill for insurance on Whistler's "Mother", which amounts to $2,400.18.

We very much appreciate your help in getting this generous donation from Sir Joseph Duveen at this time.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary

AHB/HM

- Hart

Mrs R

10 WEST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

December 10th, 1932.

Dear Mr. Blackburn:-

I am enclosing an itemized list of the art works belonging to Mrs. Rockefeller that you have now on exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art, together with the cost of each.

As soon as the Insurance Company gives Mrs. Rockefeller a certificate for these, I will stop the insurance that we are now carrying on them.

Sincerely,

Anna L. Kelly.

Mr. Alan R. Blackburn
11 West 53rd Street
New York City

Folk art

Mrs R

November 14, 1932

Dear Miss Nourse:

I have checked your list of Mrs. Rockefeller's collection which was sent to us here at the Museum. I find that we do not have here three items which are on your list. These are the Pennsylvania Dutch stove plates # 334 "The Swarm of Bees" and # 276 "The Peaceable Kingdom", and # C-T, a small Pennsylvania chalkware Rooster. All the other items are here, and in good condition.

I find that we have two pastel portraits of members of the Vanderveer family # P 657 "Portrait of a Man" and # P 660 "Woman Holding Book" which are not on your list, but which will be included in the Show.

There are a number of items here which probably will not be included in the Show and we shall return these to you in a few days, as soon as the hanging committee has had an opportunity to determine just how many items can be properly displayed in the wall space which we have at our disposal.

Thank you very much for your kindness and helpfulness in getting the collection together for us. The first proofs of the catalogue are now beginning to come in and the reproductions of the pictures and sculptures are very beautiful indeed.

Very sincerely yours,

Registrar.

Miss E. Nourse
care Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street, New York City

copy my list enc.

Keppler

November 28, 1932

Dear Miss Kelly:

I am very sorry for the delay in getting this list to you. Some of the items are to be returned, as I told you over the phone, but until the Show is entirely hung I cannot tell what these items are. Just as soon as this is done I will notify you. I am returning the list Miss Nourse sent me as this will be of more help to you than my list could.

Very sincerely,

Registrar.

Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 58 Street
New York City

(1)

Mrs Rockefeller

---

11 West 53 Street
May 13, 1932

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

As you know, Ryder and Eakins are to be two of the most important painters in our fall exhibition. The Smithsonian has the most important Ryders in the country and the Jefferson Medical College has Eakins' masterpiece, the "Gross Clinic." While the Gellatly pictures are probably a hopeless problem I think that we can get the "Gross Clinic" if we exert sufficient influence upon the trustees of the Medical College.

I have had the following letter from Doctor Charles G. Abbot of the Smithsonian Institution:

"In reply to your letter of May 10, I regret to say that it is more out of the question than ever to lend pictures from the Gellatly Collection, because, as you may have heard, Mrs. Gellatly is taking legal proceedings and endeavoring to recover the Collection for the estate."

A little more hopeful is the Eakins "Gross Clinic" problem. When we tried to get the Eakins for the Homer, Ryder, Eakins show the Jefferson Medical College refused on the grounds that they wanted the picture in its place during commencement. Next fall they would not have that excuse but Sturgis Ingersoll, who is a trustee, informs me that he very nearly failed in borrowing this picture for the large Eakins exhibition two years ago at the opening of the Philadelphia Museum. He believes that we will have to put on a very heavy campaign to move the trustees. I have written a long letter asking to borrow the picture to Dean Patterson but Ingersoll suggests that Mr. Goodyear should write President Johnson as well. I have asked him to do this.

Now, if you know any of the trustees it might be very helpful to drop them a line also. I am asking Mr. Sachs to write Lessing J. Rosenwald. In any letter to a trustee I think we should emphasize the following points: 1, the extreme importance to American art of the "Gross Clinic"; 2, the fact that it has not been seen in New York for fifteen years during which period Eakins' reputation has vastly increased; 3, the importance of the Exhibition itself; 4, the glory that would redound to the Medical School. These are the trustees and their addresses:

over →

| | |
|---|---|
| Alba B. Johnson (President) | 1521 Packard Bldg. |
| Robert P. Hooper | Juniper & Cherry Sts. |
| James M. Willcox | 7th & Walnut Sts. |
| Van Horn Ely | 1501 Walnut St. |
| John C. Martin | Public Ledger |
| Walter H. Lippincott | 1508 Walnut St. |
| Clarence H. Geist | 1622 Packard Bldg. |
| Lessing J. Rosenwald | Sears, Roebuck, Roosevelt Blvd. |
| Percival E. Foerderer | 123 S. Broad St. |
| Joseph W. Wear | Commercial Trust Bldg. |
| Wilfred W. Fry | W. Washington Square |

Sincerely,

P.S. Please omit Mr. Ingersoll's name in any correspondence as he is really a fellow conspirator.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Folk Art

Mrs R.

November 21, 1932

Dear Miss Kelly:

Please thank Mrs. Rockefeller for the pedestals which she is going to lend for use in the coming exhibition of American Folk Art. Excellent care will be taken of these and they will be returned immediately at the end of the Show.

Will you kindly let me know when it will be convenient for us to call for these pedestals?

Very sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Mrs. R.

September 16th, 1932

Mrs R

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street
New York

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I am very anxious to have photographs of Hart's "Merry-Go-Round" and Sheeler's landscape in your collection.

Will you be kind enough to let me know where we can obtain copies of these photographs?

Very sincerely yours,

HC/f

9

Mrs R

Mrs R

10 WEST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

October 27, 1932

Dear Mr. Blackburn:

In reply to your letter of October 25th, Mrs. Rockefeller does not care if Mr. Rich knows this painting is hers. If he shows it, however, please tell him to list it as from a private collection.

The photograph of the painting is enclosed. We appreciate your taking care of this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Anna L. Kelly

Mr. Alan R. Blackburn, Jr.
11 West 53rd Street
New York, New York

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

AHB/LB

Mrs R

October 18, 1932.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street,
New York City.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

Because the Exhibition of American Painting and Sculpture, 1862 - 1932, will be an outstanding event and the official opening of our season, Mr. Goodyear has suggested that each Trustee send in names of persons to whom invitations to the opening of this exhibition should be sent.

Won't you send the names to me at the Museum?

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

AHB/LB

Mrs. R.

October 28, 1932

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

As you know, our Summer Exhibition closes soon. If convenient for you we will ask our agent, Budworth & Son, to return your nineteen paintings and watercolors and two bronzes to you on Thursday, November 3rd.

It is our understanding that your insurance covers the works in transit as well as while on exhibition here.

Will you kindly sign the enclosed receipt and return it to the Museum as soon as your loans have reached you safely.

Very sincerely yours,

Registrar.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Mrs R

9 November, 1932

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

You will be interested, I know, in looking over these letters which Mr. Goodyear has written thanking lenders to the summer exhibition for their loans.

We should like to have these copies for our files when you are through with them.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Mrs R

October 29th, 1932

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I want you to know that I have given to Mr. Cahill your message about going to Boston to see the Aldrich collection of American Primitives.

Immediately after Mr. Cahill has attended to the details of the opening of the American Exhibition he will speak to you about this matter.

The price of the Persian fresco, #83, is $325.00. As I explained to you yesterday, however, it is quite possible that after Mr. Katchadourian arrives in this country in a week or so, these prices may all be reduced.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street
New York

ARB/f

Mrs R

25 October, 1932

Miss Anna L. Kelly,
c/o Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Miss Kelly:

Mr. Daniel Catton Rich of the Chicago Art Institute has asked us for a photograph of "Danger on the Stairs" by Pierre Roy. We have no photograph of this painting in our files.

Since this painting is always listed as from a "Private Collection", I thought it best to inquire if you wish us to have Mr. Rich write to Mrs. Rockefeller directly. Perhaps if you have a photograph, you would prefer that we send it to Mr. Rich. You would also probably want us to instruct Mr. Rich about the credit line which Mrs. Rockefeller would like to have him use.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Mrs R

18 October, 1932

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I am sure that you will want to know that Mrs. Sullivan has just made a pledge of $100 for the current fiscal year.

This pledge has been formally acknowledged here and Mr. Goodyear will also write a letter.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Mrs R

October 8th, 1932

Miss Janet M. Warfield
10 West 54th Street
New York

My dear Miss Warfield:

Thank you very much for your note of October 7th and the information about the "metal gadgets" requested by Mr. Marvel. I have written referring him to Mr. Deskey.

Sincerely yours,

Ernestine M. Fantl.
Department of Architecture.

Mrs R

10 WEST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

October 7, 1932

My dear Miss Frank:

Thank you for your letter of October 4th with its enclosures. I have been waiting to get in touch with Miss Nourse who knows most about Mrs. Rockefeller's gallery, for, as you thought, it would not be necessary to trouble Mrs. Rockefeller herself about Mr. Marvel's question.

Donald Deskey, 145 West 57th Street, designed the "metal gadgets" in the gallery. Will you relay this word to Mr. Marvel? Thank you so much for taking care of it.

Sincerely yours,

Janet M. Warfield

Miss Ernestine M. Frank
11 West 53rd Street
New York, New York

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Sincerely,

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Enclosure.

Mrs R

October 4th, 1932

Miss Warfield
C/o Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street
New York

My dear Miss Warfield:

Following our telephone conversation of this afternoon, I am, as you suggested, enclosing a copy of Mr. Marvel's letter to Mr. Blackburn in regard to Mrs. Rockefeller's gallery.

We wish to trouble Mrs. Rockefeller as little as possible and shall be glad to take care of the correspondence if Mrs. Rockefeller will be kind enough to give us the necessary information.

Very sincerely yours,

I am enclosing copies of the memoranda which were shown to Secretary.

Sincerely,

f
Enclosure.

Mrs R

September 30th, 1932

Miss Anna L. Kelly
The Eyrie
Seal Habbor, Maine

My dear Miss Kelly:

Word has been sent to Miss Warfield that Mr. John T. Spaulding is married as you requested in your letter of September 27th.

Will you please tell Mrs. Rockefeller that I have talked with Mr. Clark and explained that what he understood to be a cash balance of $6000. mentioned in his letter to Mrs. Rockefeller was actually a surplus and that the cash balance was over $25,000. at that time. The cash balance on October 1st we estimate will be about $33,000.

I am enclosing copies of the memoranda which were shown to Mr. Clark and which may interest Mrs. Rockefeller.

Sincerely,

ARB/f

Mrs R

The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine

September 27th.

Dear Mr. Blackburn:-

Will you kindly send word to Miss Warfield, at Circle 7-0026 whether or not Mr. John T Spaulding of Boston is married. I want it for our lists. Thank you. I expect to be in N Y next Monday, but Mrs. Rockefeller is not coming until later.

Sincerely,

Anna L. Kelly

a letter to Mr. Whitney also. We plan then to send a reminder of the pledge after the beginning of the fiscal year, asking then if Mr. Whitney wishes to tell us more definitely when he wishes to make payments on this pledge.

We are very glad to know that Mrs. Iselin will continue her contribution this year. Her contribution last year was $250.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

Mr Alan R Blackburn
11 West 53rd Street
New York City

ARB/HM

Mrs. R

9

The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine

September 12th, 1932.

Dear Mr. Blackburn:-

As you are seeing Mrs Rockefeller tomorrow night, she may tell you just what response she has received to her appeal.

Mrs. John D.Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Mrs. Alexander's secretary writes that she is forwarding the letter to Mrs. [illegible] says she cannot possibly contribute this year.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

15 September, 1932

We have received, within the past few days, two pledges, resulting, I feel sure, from letters which you have written. These are a pledge from Mr. John Hay Whitney for $3,000. and one from Mrs. T. W. Lamont for $1,000.

dear to my heart and I shall continue my contribution this year. I wish I could make it [illegible]

Mr. Whitney's pledge card bears simply the notation of the amount, without signature and without dates for payments. We shall acknowledge this pledge from the Museum, and possibly you may wish to write a letter to Mr. Whitney also. We plan then to send a reminder of the pledge after the beginning of the fiscal year, asking then if Mr. Whitney wishes to tell us more definitely when he wishes to make payments on this pledge.

We are very glad to know that Mrs. Iselin will continue her contribution this year. Her contribution last year was $250.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

Mr Alan R Blackburn
11 West 53rd Street
New York City

AHB/HM

9

Mrs. R. R

The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine

September 13th, 1932.

Dear Mr. Blackburn:-

As you are seeing Mrs Rockefeller tomorrow night, she may tell you just what response she has received to her appeal.

Mrs. Robert C Hill says she cannot possibly contribute this year.

Mrs. Alexander's secretary writes that she is forwarding the letter to Mrs. Alexander who is abroad.

Mrs Iselin writes "The Museumof Modern Art has become very dear to my heart and I shall continue my contribution this year. I wish I could make it much larger but I am quite unable to do so." $250

She also had a letter of acknowledgment from Mr. Spaulding.

No word has come from Mr Whitney.

Sincerely,

Anna L. Kelly.

Mr Alan R Blackburn
11 West 53rd Street
New York City

Mrs R

7 September, 1932

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I received two very generous pledges this morning for the next fiscal year: one for $5,000 from Mr. Edward Warburg, accompanied by his check for that amount, and one from Nelson for $1,000.

The Museum will formally acknowledge each of these pledges. In addition, Mr. Goodyear will write a letter to Mr. Warburg and to Nelson.

Pledges for the coming year now total $34,500, of which $22,500 has been paid.

Mrs. Sheppard is very enthusiastic indeed about the prospects of a successful effort to double memberships this fall through the membership committee. I feel that under her confident leadership our membership will be increased to a point where it will reflect more convincingly the interest ofthe public in modern art.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Mrs R

September 21st, 1932

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

Mrs. Julius Haas of Detroit visited the Museum two or three days ago. Mr. Cahill. who knows Mrs. Haas, says that she is quite wealthy, very interested in modern art, and a close friend of the Edsel Fords. Mr. Cahill met Mrs. Haas when he helped her to arrange an exhibition of early American work for the Detroit Society of Arts and Crafts in which Mrs. Haas is quite interested.

I do not find Mrs. Haas to be a member of the Museum. It occurred to me that you might know her, or that some of our Trustees might know her, and would wish to ask her to become a member.

Very sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street
New York

ARB/f

Mrs R

9

3 September, 1932

Miss Anna L. Kelly,
The Eyrie,
Seal Harbor, Maine.

My dear Miss Kelly:

We have today mailed copies of The Public as Artist to Mr. Barney and Mr. Crowninshield.

I am glad that Mrs. Rockefeller's letters have gone out at this time when the sentiment appears to be buoyant. We add our hopes to yours that the money will come rolling in.

Recently I talked with Mrs. Sheppard about membership work. She is very optimistic about the prospects for an increase in membership and believes that, by a concentrated drive in October and November, we may aim toward a doubled membership with good promise of success.

I am sending you a dozen copies of The Public as Artist, so that you may have some copies on hand.

With best regards, I am

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

ARH/HM

Mrs R

2 September, 1932

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

Mr. Barr has changed his date of sailing from September 10th to September 17th and will be in New York on the 13th. He hopes in this way to be able to see you before he leaves.

Mr. Barr may already have told you himself about his plans.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

TODAY IS FRIDAY
Letters forwarded today are not likely to be acted on before Monday
A WESTERN UNION NIGHT LETTER WILL GET ATTENTION EARLY SATURDAY
3937

QUESTED TO FAVOR THE COMPANY BY CRITICISM AND SUGGESTION CONCERNING ITS SERVICE 1201 A

# WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT — J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS
DL = Day Letter
NM = Night Message
NL = Night Letter
LCO = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
WLT = Week-End Letter

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at 36 EAST 52 ST.. 1932 AUG 26 PM 1 48

TIME IN TRANSIT Mins.

NAF87 14=SEALHARBOR ME 26 130P

ALAN R BLACKBURN=
11 WEST 53 ST=

PLEASE SEND ME EIGHTEEN PLEDGE CARDS FIFTEEN NEW LARGE BOOKLETS WITH ENVELOPES FOR SAME=

A L KELLEY.

Sent 8/27/32

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE



Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine

PATRONS ARE REQUESTED TO FAVOR THE COMPANY BY CRITICISM AND SUGGESTION CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

1201 A

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

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The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at 26 EAST 52 ST., N.

1932 AUG 27 PM 1 48

TIME IN TRANSIT

Mins.

NF80 13=SEALHARBOR ME 27 130P

ALAN BLACKBURN=

11 WEST 53 ST=

PLEASE SEND ME COPY FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO BE USED IN LETTERS OF APPEAL===

A A ROCKEFELLER.

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE.



Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine

Mrs R

9 Mrs R

# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

ALFRED H. BARR, JR., DIRECTOR
JERE ABBOTT, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
MARY SANDS, SECRETARY
CARY ROSS, ASSISTANT

730 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 7-7471
CABLE ADDRESS: MODERNART

7/8/32

RECEIVED OF THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART TWO WATER COLOR PAINTINGS BY CHARLES DEMUTH.

1. "IN THE KEY OF BLUE"
2. "ACROBATS"

H. M. Skevington



August 29, 1932

8 August, 1932

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Secretary

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine

Mrs R

August 29, 1932

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I believe you will want to know that Alfred has changed his date of sailing to September 10th. He will be in New York from Wednesday morning, the 7th, to noon on the 10th.

Very sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine

Mrs. R

8 August, 1932

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I am sending you, under separate cover, several copies of the pamphlet, "The Public as Artist", which has just come from the printer.

I shall be glad to send you additional copies as you wish them. Mr. Nelson Rockefeller is using a number of these booklets to send to the members of his committee with letters asking for their subscriptions for the coming year.

I hope that the booklet meets with your approval in every way.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Mrs R.

July 30, 1932

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I am sending you as you suggested the material about Offner's great publication of Florentine painting.

I know that your generosity has been taxed to the utmost yet I feel that this work is so important that you will be glad at least to look through the statement so that you may be acquainted with what Dr. Offner is doing. I hope also that you may find an opportunity to show it to Mr. Rockefeller for it concerns a field which interests him. It is perhaps one of the most important single works in the entire field of American scholarship in the fine arts. Both as a collector of Italian painting and as a patron of the arts I think he would wish to have a copy in his library. I notice that several friends of yours have already subscribed.

Very sincerely yours,

(signed in Mr. Barr's absence)

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
~~10 West 54 Street~~
~~New York City~~

auth: The Eyrie
Seal Harbor Me

Picken 9 Thro. R.

The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine

August 4th, 1932.

Dear Alfred:-

I am sorry that you are not having a complete rest. I feel that you are like ourselves unable to escape appeals.

I am enclosing a check for $50 to help young George Picken. You can do whatever you think wise. I shall be glad to have a very good watercolor or a small oil painting.

Most unfortunately, my husband has been quite ill ever since we have been here. He was miserable before we left New York and on reaching Hanover we discovered that he had shingles, which sounds simple but is far from it. He was in bed for two weeks and the doctor says he must have a complete rest for the next two months. We are trying to keep all problems away from him, so I discussed with John III the possibility of his being willing to underwrite Mr. Offner's book on Florentine Painting, and John tells me he is trying to carry on all the things that he has been doing in the past and is not at present undertaking any new responsibilities. I am sorry for Mr. Offner's sake and am sorry that I cannot do it personally.

I think you may be interested to know that last week Zborowski cabled me offering Manet's Le Linge. I cabled back and asked him the price and he replied $120,000. In my next cable I said "Not interested." I wonder if this does not mean that probably Manet paintings will come into the market in the near future. I certainly would like to have one at the proper price.

Hoping that you are hearing very little from the Museum, which seems to be going remarkably well, and that you are not being bothered by anyone, I am, with kindest regards to your mother and father and the Eisenharts and the Scoons,

Cordially,

Abby A. Rockefeller.

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr.
Greensboro, Vermont

Mrs R

The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine

August 2nd, 1932.

Dear Mr. Blackburn:-

Mrs. Rockefeller has asked me to thank you for your letter of July 27th, which she has read with much interest. She thinks it has been very wise to defer sending out the appeals until this month, and will try to get her letters written soon after receiving the pamphlets being prepared.

Trusting you are having more bearable weather in New York just now, I am

Sincerely,

Anna L. Kelly.

ARB/f
Enc.

Mrs R

July 14th, 1932

Miss Anna L. Kelly
C/o Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street
New York

My dear Miss Kelly:

The enclosed letter was addressed to the Director of the Museum, but it appears to be for Mrs. Rockefeller.

We shall forward the photographs mentioned in the letter when they arrive unless otherwise instructed.

Yours sincerely,

Executive Secretary.

ARB/f
Enc.

Mrs R

8 July, 1932

Miss Warfield,
c/o Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street
New York, N. Y.

My dear Miss Warfield:

Thank you for sending over the voucher files and also the magazines.

We received them in good condition.

It will be a great convenience to us to have the vouchers here.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Mrs R

570 Lexington Ave.,
July 7th, 1932.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street,
New York City.

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I am sending to the other members of the Executive Committee Mr. Barr's notes on Departmental Expansion of the Museum. He tells me that he has already sent you a copy.

I think these notes are interesting and well prepared. If you have any suggestions, I will be glad to hear from you.

Sincerely yours,

President.

+Copy to A.H.B.Jr.

Mrs R

Gen

6 July, 1932

Miss Anna L. Kelly,
c/o Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street
New York, N. Y.

My dear Miss Kelly:

Several weeks ago, Mrs. Rockefeller suggested asking the trustees, not including the Executive committee, to help secure pledges for the coming year and to make their own donations.

In the list below you will note the present status of each trustee in regard to fund raising:

| | |
|---|---|
| A. Conger Goodyear | |
| Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. | Pledged $10,000 |
| Samuel A. Lewisohn | |
| William T. Aldrich | |
| James W. Barney | |
| Frederic C. Bartlett | Pledged $500 |
| Cornelius N. Bliss | Assigned to Mr. Goodyear |
| Stephen C. Clark | Pledged $5,000 |
| Mrs. W. Murray Crane | Pledged $1,000 |
| Frank Crowninshield | |
| Duncan Phillips | |
| Nelson Rockefeller | Advisory Committee |
| Mrs. Rainey Rogers | Assigned to Mrs. Rockefel ler |
| Mrs. Charles C. Rumsey | Assigned to Mr. Goodyear |
| Paul J. Sachs | Do not ask |
| Mrs. John S. Sheppard | |
| John T. Spaulding | Pledged $500 |
| Mrs. Cornelius Sullivan | Do not ask |
| John Hay Whitney | Nelson Rockefeller ? |

I enclose a suggestion for a letter from Mrs. Rockefeller. Enclosures would be lists of former subscribers of large amounts and subscription cards. We offer this merely for Mrs. Rockefeller's consideration. It may be that she would prefer to write a personal letter along entirely different lines.

In our opinion the trustees who might reasonably be written to at the present time are:

Mr. William T. Aldrich
Mr. James W. Barney
Mr. Frank Crowninshield
Mr. Duncan Phillips
Mrs. John S. Sheppard.

We shall be glad to do the typing work here if that is possible. We shall, of course, supply the enclosures when they are needed.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Mrs. R.

9.

July 4, 1932

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

Miss Mallette has made the excellent suggestion that we ask Mr. Sheppard to act as the Museum's counsel.

I recently sent out a flood of letters to our Trustees and Advisory Committee asking for some one who had some pull in or owned stock in the Fifth Avenue Coach Company, which carries free placards for the Metropolitan Museum and the Lewisohn Stadium. and so forth. Mrs. Sheppard wrote back suggesting that I write her husband who knows a Mr. Wood, president of the Company.

I was very much impressed by the letter which Mr. Sheppard wrote Mr. Wood. It certainly showed an intelligent, enthusiastic interest in the Museum. I do not know anything about Mr. Sheppard as a lawyer, but I suspect he might consider acting as a volunteer if he knew how little legal business the Museum has had during the past three years.

Sincerely,

AHB

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Mrs R

July 4, 1932

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I am enclosing notes on departmental expansion of the Museum which outline programs for the Architectural Department and the Film Department.

I understand that Mrs. Paine is to talk with you on Tuesday so that you might care to read the section on films before that meeting. I gave Mrs. Paine a copy of this memorandum some ten days ago.

Sincerely,

AHB

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

10 West 54 Street

New York City

Nurse

10 WEST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

2 July, 1932

Miss Anna L. Kelly,
c/o Mrs. John D. Rockefeller Jr.
10 West 54th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Miss Kelly:

Thank you very much indeed for the thank-you letter from the Buffalo Fine Arts Society to Mrs. Rockefeller.

It is certainly a splendid letter. We particularly like the way in which Mr. Washburn has, not only thanked the lender, but also added definite reasons why the loan was of particular value.

May I ask that from time to time you send us other letters of this kind? It is very helpful to know what other institutions do to make their friends realise how much their help is appreciated.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

9

10 WEST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

June 29th, 1932.

Dear Mr. Blackburn:-

Mrs. Rockefeller thought this was such a good letter that she ventures to send it to you, as it might give some suggestion for the letters which you write along the same line. She doesn't doubt the Modern Museum writes fully as good a letter of thanks.

Sincerely,

Anna L. Kelly

Mr. Alan R. Blackburn
11 West 53rd Street
City

June 28, 1932

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it seems to make no impression upon the gentlemen of the Executive Committee. We can, of course, accept Mr. Goodyear's books and store them and use them for the staff. But neither Mr. Johnson nor Mr. Hitchcock will give their books or slides to the Museum nor will Mr. Warburg, until the Museum undertakes to make them available to the public, or at least to students. This requires cataloging and intelligent supervision. I think it is perfectly reasonable not to maintain a library if the Museum's financial condition requires such an economy. But I fear that I fail to impress upon the Executive Committee what you so clearly see, that a library is not merely a collection of books or slides, but is a collection plus a catalogue plus supervision.

Gen. Rockefeller

10 WEST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

June 28th, 1932.

Dear Alfred:-

As far as I know, none of this family are stockholders in the Fifth Avenue Coach Company. I suggest that you take this question up with Nelson and he may know someone or some way that we could secure permission to show the Modern Museum signs.

Sincerely,

Abby A. Rockefeller.

Mr. Alfred H. Barr
11 West 53rd Street
City

June 28, 1932

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COPY

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
11 West 53rd
New York, N. Y.

A.H. Barr
pers.

Mrs Rockefeller

P. S. You have probably received Miss Kelly's letter long since, asking you to send the check for $500 for the Dickinson picture to Mrs. Halpert, which will set that matter straight.

in the future, or in case a patron happens along who is especially interested in prints.

The Architectural Department certainly fills a very important need and I feel that if it were to include industrial arts as a sub-division it would perform a useful service. I wish that you could take time in this connection to go through the exhibition of industrial arts at the Art Center which has just opened. I think you would agree that it is really bad and rather pointless except in that it gives the manufacturers and designers included a chance to exhibit without, so far as I can see, any kind of discrimination. I do not feel that the Metropolitan industrial art exhibition included in their biennial decorative arts show has been very much better. I make these criticisms to you confidentially.

At luncheon I hope to discuss with you the question of a film department which seems to me to be of really extraordinary importance and far from impossible in achievement.

I keep hammering on the library question but it seems to make no impression upon the gentlemen of the Executive Committee. We can, of course, accept Mr. Goodyear's books and store them and use them for the staff. But neither Mr. Johnson nor Mr. Hitchcock will give their books or slides to the Museum nor will Mr. Warburg, until the Museum undertakes to make them available to the public, or at least to students. This requires cataloging and intelligent supervision. I think it is perfectly reasonable not to maintain a library if the Museum's financial condition requires such an economy. But I fear that I fail to impress upon the Executive Committee what you so clearly see, that a library is not merely a collection of books or slides, but is a collection plus a catalogue plus supervision.

COPY

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
11 West 53rd
New York, N. Y.

June 28, 1932

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I am enclosing some notes on the departmental expansion of the Museum which I have prepared for the Executive Committee. You might care to read through them before our discussion tomorrow (Wednesday) at luncheon.

The expansion of the Museum along departmental lines is, of course, very much dependent upon opportunity and need. I think it would be quite useless for the Museum to trouble itself about decorative arts, nor is there any urgent need for a department of prints though this should be considered in the future, or in case a patron happens along who is especially interested in prints.

The Architectural Department certainly fills a very important need and I feel that if it were to include industrial arts as a sub-division it would perform a useful service. I wish that you could take time in this connection to go through the exhibition of industrial arts at the Art Center which has just opened. I think you would agree that it is really bad and rather pointless except in that it gives the manufacturers and designers included a chance to exhibit without, so far as I can see, any kind of discrimination. I do not feel that the Metropolitan industrial art exhibition included in their biennial decorative arts show has been very much better. I make these criticisms to you confidentially.

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On Thursday at five Mr. Clark, Mr. Lewisohn, and Mr. Goodyear are to meet Lloyd Goodrich at Mr. Goodyear's apartment. This meeting is the result of a meeting last week at which neither you nor Nelson could be present. During this meeting the problem of the direction of the Museum's exhibitions next year was discussed. It is still my feeling that the staff is sufficiently well organized to carry on the exhibitions with the assistance of a special director for each exhibition who would in most cases be a volunteer.

To take on an acting director with full powers would, I think, be a mistake or at least a waste of money. It would take him a considerable length of time to work himself into the position. The position would be temporary so that in addition to his duties as organizer of exhibitions he would have comparatively little responsibility since the formation and execution of the Museum's general policies could scarcely be expected of him. So much for theory.

Practically the problem of who might be acting director is decidedly difficult. Lloyd Goodrich is, I think, the best man to run the American show but he would not be a good person to run the French exhibition in the spring, nor would he be a good person to organize the Sterne exhibition since he is not sympathetic with Sterne's work or with contemporary French painting. Moreover, he is already obligated to the Whitney Museum for which he is writing three books, one of which on Eakins is just completed. If we are able to get him for the American show we may count ourselves fortunate.

James Sweeney has been suggested to the Committee but he, as everyone is now convinced, could not do an American show because he knows too little about it and is not interested in it. Moreover, Sweeney has to give half his time to his business. I think he would be willing to work part time as a volunteer and would enjoy organizing the French exhibition. I do not think he could be expected to drop his business to assume an acting directorship for a temporary period.

I really do not see why the Museum need have more than two large exhibitions next year - the American exhibition and the French masterpiece exhibition in the spring. If we had small exhibitions in small rooms those could certainly be done by volunteers or specially appointed organizers. For instance, Mr. Cahill could perhaps with your and Sweeney's advice select and arrange the American Primitive exhibition. He has already written a catalogue for it. If we should show the Persian mural paintings Mr. Smith, the secretary of the Persian Institute, could hang the exhibition after Mr. Goodyear or Sweeney had gone over the pictures with him to make sure that they were interesting in relation to modern art.

Incidentally, who is going to publish the Cahill catalogue of your collection of American Primitives? Couldn't it be sold at the time of the exhibition?

I do not know whether Mr. Goodyear has asked you and Nelson to come to meet Goodrich on Thursday but I thought you would like to have some notes on these problems.

I look forward with pleasure to luncheon with you tomorrow.

Sincerely,

s/ Alfred

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street
New York City

Rocke.

Gen.

June 28, 1932

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Sincerely,

AB

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Mrs R

Gen.

28 June, 1932

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

It was decided, as you know, at a meeting of the Executive Committee, that, during Mr. Barr's absence, bills of the Museum should be approved for payment by any member of the Executive Committee.

In order to facilitate this arrangement, may I ask you to let me know at what period during the summer you expect to be in the city, so that we may send bills to you for authorization?

Yours very sincerely,

ARB

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Rocke.

Gen.

Gen.

June 20, 1932

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

Just a word to thank you for the magnificent table which will be extremely useful in the library. I am delighted also to have the back numbers of your art magazines which will fill a valuable place once the library is organized.

Sincerely yours,

AB

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Gen.

Rocke.

18 June, 1932

Miss Anna L. Kelly,
c/o Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Miss Kelly:

I should very much like to know whether Mrs. Rockefeller has approved the subscription card which was enclosed in my letter of June 9th.

If Mrs. Rockefeller has written any letters to the list which was also enclosed in my letter, we should be very glad to know, so that we may keep our list here up to date.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Rockefeller

Gen

14 June, 1932

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

At the request of the Executive Committee, I have been bonded to the amount of $15,000 in connection with my duties as Assistant Treasurer of the Museum.

The amount of the bond was suggested by Mr. Fish of Mr. Keebler's office.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

7 June, 1932

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. GOODYEAR

POSSIBLE SAVINGS BY CLOSING MUSEUM IN AUGUST

| Item | Budget | Saving | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|
| Building Operation | $1,000 | | |
| Light & Power | | $111.60 | On summer hours the reflectors take about 60 kilowatt hours per day. Saving on work lights and elevator is negligible. |
| Heat | | 00.00 | From May 1 to Oct. 1 the steam is shut off. |
| Hot water boiler | | 00.00 | Charge for gas is negligible. Hot water is necessary for incidental cleaning. Since April 15, we have used $4.50 worth of gas. |
| Lamps | | 00.00 | Replacement would hardly be affected by their not being used for one month. |
| Supplies | | 00.00 | One month would not change our requirements for hardware, etc. |
| Repairs | | 25.00 | At present our repair costs are extremely low |
| Cleaning | | 25.00 | Of course some cleaning should be done whether or not museum is closed. |
| Insurance | | 00.00 | Insurance is on an annual basis |
| Payroll | 2,351. | | |
| Director | | 00.00 | A saving in the Director's salary will be applied whether or not the Museum closes in August. |
| Exec. Sec. | | 00.00 | |
| Secretary | | 00.00 | There will be considerable work on fund raising and memberships. Moreover there is much routine work and many records to put in order which a full schedule during the season leaves no time for. If not done during the summer, work would have to be doubled up in the fall |
| Registrar | | 00.00 | |

| Item | Budget | Saving | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tel. Operator | | $72.00 | |
| Superintendent | | 00.00 | Although closed, it would be unsafe to leave the building without a superintendent who would also act as a guard during the day. |
| Catalogue and ent. desk | | 00.00 | For safety another guard is necessary during the day. |
| Guards, night-watchmen, and overtime. | | 368.00 | The salary of a guard is $18.00 per week and $2.00 for Sunday. Our schedule calls for two night-watchmen for relief: one cleans, one guards. $368. represents laying off 5 men for 4 weeks. |
| Office | $250 | 00.00 | Office expenditures will, of course, be lower in August. In view of circulating exhibitions, memberships etc. a saving would be negligible. Printing and stationery and postage are on an annual basis. |
| Fixtures | 200 | 00.00 | Annual basis |
| Publicity | 433.33 | 00.00 | Annual basis |
| Fund Raising | 100.00 | 00.00 | Annual basis |
| Exhibitions | 575.00 | 00.00 | Annual basis |
| TOTAL SAVING | | 601.60 | |

If the Museum is closed in August, there will be a certain loss of income. For the month of May catalogue sales, mostly at the desk, totalled $656.70. Admission fees totalled $240.75. In August it is estimated that the sale of catalogues at the desk might total $200.00 and admission fees $100.00 ($12.50 per pay day) if the Museum were kept open.

| | |
|---|---|
| Saving by closing Museum | $601.60 |
| Loss of income | 300.00 |
| Total saving by closing Museum in August | $301.60 |

The estimated saving by closing in August is so much less than the budget allowance because:

1. The budget items for one month are arrived at by dividing the annual budget figures by 12. Many items are on an annual basis. Experience does not permit us as yet to determine monthly variations for operating expense.
2. August is one of the least expensive months to operate the Museum.

Rocke

11 West 53d Street

27 May, 1932

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I wish to acknowledge receipt yesterday of a check from Mr. Richard D. Brixey to the amount of $5,000 in payment of his pledge for the fiscal year, 1932-33. I have written Mr. Goodyear, suggesting that he write Mr. Brixey and thank him for his contribution.

Last Tuesday, Mr. Nelson Rockefeller very kindly invited me to lunch. We had, in my opinion, a very encouraging talk about fund raising for the Museum. He believes that the Advisory Committee should be asked to raise $20,000 of the $75,000 budget for the fiscal year, October 1, 1932 to October 1, 1933.

Nelson is very much in favor of having an illustrated leaflet briefly describing the activities of the Museum. He believes that this would greatly aid the work of the Advisory Committee in raising money. We have such a leaflet in preparation and I should be glad to show it to you and also to discuss with you the way in which the Advisory Committee should proceed in raising its quota.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Rockefeller

11 West 53d Street

26 May, 1932

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

Here is the rest of our list of members. You will notice that, opposite of few of the names, we have put Mr. Barr's initials. This indicates that Mr. Barr believes these members should be urged to increase their donations.

Mr. Barr has also made certain suggestions in regard to Associate Members. These include the following names:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| John Nicholas Brown | might give | | $500 to $1,000 |
| Edward W. Forbes | " | " | $500 to $1,000 |
| Mrs. Otto H. Kahn | " | " | more |
| Mrs. Percy Straus | " | " | more |

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

AHB/HM

Rockefeller

Gen

11 West 53d Street

24 May, 1932

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

Here is the list of our Fellows and Associate Members, with a record of their payments to the Museum in the past three years.

We will have the list of the Annual $10 members ready for you within a few days.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Rockefeller

Gm

11 West 53d Street

21 May, 1932

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I enclose a list of the larger donors to the Museum since its beginning, with information about the time and amounts of their contributions.

The rest of the list will be sent you within a few days.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Rockefeller

11 West 53d Street

21 May, 1932

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

The following is the information which you requested about the pledge made by Mrs. Kerrigan.

Our records show that Mrs. Kerrigan made a two-year pledge of $1,000 for each of the years 1929-30, and 1930-31. The first payment of $1,000 was made on August 20, 1929. No payment has been made of the $1,000 promised for the year 1930-31.

We have, in accordance with Mrs. Kerrigan's letter of April 12, taken from our accounts the $1,000 pledge for 1930-31. This makes it possible at some time in the future to ask Mrs. Kerrigan for a contribution for the year 1931-32, or 1932-33.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Rockefeller

11 West 53 Street
May 20, 1932

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

Mr. Blackburn, as you know, plans to go down to see Nelson as early as possible next week to discuss with him the matter of fund raising; both his own subscription and what we might expect from the Advisory Committee. Alan would very much appreciate your talking the matter over with Nelson before he goes down to see him.

May I congratulate you on your seduction of Mr. Brixey. He is certainly very generous to give the Museum so much during this difficult time and you are certainly to be admired for your achievement.

Sincerely,

AB

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
courtesy Mrs. Bowles
10 West 54 Street
New York City

11 West 53d Street

19 May, 1932

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I enclose a brief report which gives a picture of our present work and some of our plans for the future.

I have included a photograph of the new building.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

AHB/HM

Rockefeller

11 West 53d Street

16 May, 1932

Mrs. John D Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I understand that bills of the Museum received in Mr. Barr's absence this summer are to be authorized for payment by any member of the Executive Committee who is in New York City during this period.

I have taken the proper steps to be bonded and I shall let you know the amount of the bond as soon as I receive the recommendation of the insurance company.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Rockefeller

Gen

11 West 53d Street

April
Twenty-fifth
1 9 3 2

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

The enclosed letter from Mr. Frederic Clay Bartlett was addressed to the Museum of Modern Art.

Mr. Bartlett's statement that he sent us $500 in February is correct.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

AHB/HM

Rockefeller

11 West 53d Street

April
Eighteenth
1 9 3 2

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

Enclosed is a letter from Mrs. Kerrigan which was addressed to the Museum of Modern Art.

We have noted the facts on our subscription records, but have not, of course, replied to the letter.

You will recall, of course, that this pledge of $1,000 was for the year 1930-31 and not for the current year.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

AHB/HM

Rockefeller

Gen

Rockefeller

10 WEST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

April 15th, 1932.

Dear Alfred:-

In view of the financial condition of the Museum of Modern Art and the fact that the Trustees are apparently doing all that that they possibly can for it, I should feel that it would not be a feasible thing for you or Mr. Kahn to present to the trustees a request for funds for the exhibition of modern art at the Chicago World's Fair.

Of course we all agree that it would be very unfortunate to have no modern art shown at that time, but I really do not feel that the Modern Museum is able to even consider the matter at this time.

Sincerely,

Abby A. Rockefeller.

Mr. Alfred Barr, Jr.
730 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Rockefeller

Gen

April 14, 1932.

Mrs. J. D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street,
New York City.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

The architect, Ely Jacques Kahn, is in charge of most of the building at the Chicago Fair. He informs me that a fine arts building had been planned but has been abondoned, and that no provision is being made for the exhibition of painting and sculpture.

He has tried to excite interest in Chicago and has met with no success. He has, however, succeeded in interesting Mrs. Whitney who would be willing to participate in a movement to make modern art an important section of the Fair. Mr. Kahn proposes a fund of $100,000. to provide for the building and pay the expenses of collection, transportation, and insurance of the works of art.

I told Mr. Kahn that I would bring the matter before our Trustees but that in view of the fact that Chicago is not even providing a building I felt that New York could scarcely be expected to supply both building and exhibition. What is your personal personal opinion in the matter, and what opinion may I convey to Mr. Kahn, who if he receives any encouragement, wishes to proceed with his plan? Do you think the Museum should take any action in this matter?

Sincerely yours,

Director.

AHB/LB

Rockefeller

Gen

April 8, 1932

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I am enclosing copies of two letters written to M. Verne and M. Guiffrey about our borrowing Whistler's "Mother" from the Louvre.

As I recall, M. Verne remembers you with special regard. I think it would help matters exceedingly if you could support our request for this key picture by writing him a short note. I hope this will not cause you too much trouble. I have asked Mr. Goodyear to write M. Verne and also M. Guiffrey.

I am not sending either of these letters until I have Mr. Goodyear's confirmation nor until you and he have prepared your notes.

Sincerely,

AHB

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Mrs. Rockefeller

Gen.

March
Twenty-ninth
1 9 3 2

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

As you pointed out at the meeting of the Junior Advisory Committee yesterday, it is most important, from a fund-raising point of view, that the educational program of the Junior Advisory Committee be first incorporated in the budget of the Museum. When this special program has become an integral part of the program of the whole, it would be then in order for the Junior Advisory Committee to donate the money necessary to support this activity. However, as you say, it is of questionable benefit to have certain groups of the Museum give money for programs which they have originated, because it may cut down their gifts to the general program of the Museum and may cause a certain division of purpose which would be unfortunate.

According to my notes of the minutes of the meeting, I do not find that the committee made any definite proposal of what to do with Mr. Warburg's report beyond considering it further. I do hope that the Junior Advisory Committee will ask the trustees to include the educational program in their budget for the fiscal year, October 1, 1932 to October 1, 1933.

I send you these notes because of the bearing I believe they have on the future fund raising efforts and not because of any desire to suggest what course the Junior Advisory Committee should take, which is, after all, a matter of their own concern.

Very sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Gen

Rockefeller

March 28, 1932

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I have written Byron Thomas who painted the "View in New York" which you had in your gallery for some time.

I had suggested him as a possible painter of the view of New York out of your window, or the view of the River out of Mrs. Milton's window.

I do not remember whether you made any decision about it. Perhaps you prefer to let the matter lapse for the time being.

Sincerely,

AHB

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

March
Twenty-fourth
1 9 3 2

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

Mrs. Sheppard and I decided on the enclosed letter which has been sent today to all members of the Membership Committee.

I do believe that such a list will be useful. It has occurred to me that members of the committee might make a special effort to secure Fellows and Associate Members if this is not already being done.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

AHB/HM

March
Twenty-first
1 9 3 2

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

At the last Trustees Meeting, Mr. Clark told me of your suggestion that Mrs. Paine might aid us greatly in securing members for the Museum.

I should indeed be very glad to have you suggest in what way we could best work with Mrs. Paine.

Very sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Rockefeller

March 17, 1932

Dear Miss Kelly:

Thank you for your letter of March 16th about the prints which Mrs. Barr and I purchased for Mrs. Rockefeller last summer.

I regret that there has been delay and some confusion about these plates because of our effort to get them through the customs free of duty. I am going to put the matter in Mrs. Barr's hands so that she may take it up directly with Miss Nourse.

I may say, however, before Mrs. Barr undertakes to clear the matter up that there is some mistake about several of the prints on the list which you enclose since we did not purchase any prints by Susan Roger, José de Tagorès, or Elie Lascaux.

Sincerely yours,

AHB

Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Rockefeller

Gm

March 17, 1932

Dear Miss Kelly:

It would certainly be very useful to the Museum to have the magazines which you list in your note of March 16th. If Mrs. Rockefeller intends to continue her subscription so that we might expect to have the back copies for our library during the next year we could stop our own subscription to several of the more expensive and less essential magazines.

Mrs. Rockefeller's proposal comes at an opportune moment since we have no item in our budget for a library and are much concerned as to how we shall continue our subscriptions to magazines.

Very sincerely yours,

AHB

Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

(1)

Rockefeller

Gen.

March 12, 1932

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I enclose a copy of the letter written Mr. Goodyear about Jere's resignation.

I am sorry that the matter was forced but I think you will understand why I thought it best to give Jere the chance to come to his own decision in the matter since the decision would in all probability have conformed to the wishes of the Trustees. As I state in the letter to Mr. Goodyear, Jere understood very clearly that he was to make no final decision until after he had talked the matter over with me following his return from Northampton.

I am sorry that the matter got out of hand during my absence.

Sincerely,

AHB

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Rockefeller

per

March
Fourteenth
1932

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I wish to call to your attention the enclosed statement which forecasts our cash position for the months of April and May and beyond.

Assuming that we make no collections of unpaid subscriptions, and not counting income from catalogues and other miscellaneous sources, I have indicated our commitments for the coming months. I have also shown our estimated expenses to October and the total cash now available.

As this is merely a statement of quick assets, I have not listed the unpaid subscriptions on the statement but I enclose a separate list of them.

It will be necessary before the first of May, either to collect certain of these subscriptions which it might be possible to obtain at this time, or to borrow on the New York City bonds. The Bankers' Trust Company would loan today $16,500 on these bonds.

Yours very sincerely,

Assistant Treasurer

AHB/HM

Unpaid Subscriptions

March 14, 1932

1930-31

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Mrs. Rumsey | 1,000 | |
| Mr. Kerrigan | 1,000 | |
| Mrs. Hare | 500 | |
| Mr. Phillips | 250 | |
| | | 2750.00 |

1931-32

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sir Joseph Duveen | 10,000 | |
| Mr. Bliss | 5,000 | |
| Mr. Lewischn | 2,500 | |
| Mr. Bartlett | 500 | |
| Mr. Spaulding | 400 | |
| | | 18400.00 |

Total Unpaid Subscriptions 21,150

Estimated Income and Expenses

April 1 to October 1

1932

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Bank Balance March 14 | | 18,886.26 |
| Bonds (loan value) | | 16,500.00 |
| Unpaid Subscriptions | | 21,150.00 |
| | | 56,536.26 * |

Expenditures--Estimated

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Commitments | | |
| April | | |
| Rent | 1075.00 | |
| Salaries | 2561.76 | |
| Publicity | 433.00 | |
| Miscellaneous | 800.00 | |
| Remodeling | 13290.00 | |
| Arch Ex. | 1000.00 | |
| Mural Ex. | 2500.00 | |
| Moving | 500.00 | |
| | | 22,159.76 |
| May | | |
| As per budget | | 4,534.00 |
| June | | |
| As per budget | | 4,534.00 |
| July | | |
| As per budget | | 4,534.00 |
| August | | |
| As per budget | | 5,117.00 |
| September | | |
| As per budget | | 5,117.00 |
| Total Expenditures to October 1 (estimated) | | 45,995.76 |

*This figure does not include income from Architectural Exhibition, memberships, or from miscellaneous sources.

MEMORANDUM

TO MRS. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR. FROM ALAN R. BLACKBURN, JR.

March 1, 1932

I. ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBITION

1. Itinerary

In about ten days over one hundred letters will be sent to Museums and galleries where we have reason to expect that it will be possible to hold the Architectural Exhibition. We have about four positions open on the schedule for the first two years, and about eight positions on the third year.

During the next month, we hope to sell many of these positions, to fill our schedule as completely as we can.

2. Collections

We have collected to date, in advance payments from museums--$3560.00. All the museums, with the exception of Worcester, who have signed up have made advance payments.

3. Shipping

With the Architectural Exhibition, the Museum enters the field of circulating exhibitions. In this field we are indirectly in competition with the American Federation of Arts and the College Art Association. In our opinion, it is well that the Museum develop, for present and future use, the technique of traveling exhibitions. This includes check sheets, instruction sheets, shipping arrangements, insurance, catalogue distribution, etc.

4. Publicity

While publicity on the Architectural Exhibition is continuing in New York, arrangements are being made to direct publicity in the other cities of the itinerary, particularly now in Philadelphia and Los Angeles.

The national service of the Museum is thus emphasized.

5. Modern Architecture Photograph Exhibit

Because we have had increasing demand for a smaller and less expensive exhibition of Modern Architecture, we are planning such a show. Mr. Johnson is now preparing figures on the cost of the Exhibit. It will be distri-

buted purely on a pro-rata basis of share in expenses and will be undertaken only when the cost has been assured, by contributing museums and galleries.

II. MURAL EXHIBITION

The Mural Exhibition is being directed by Mr. Lincoln Kirstein. A budget is near completion, the items of which will eventually determine the extent of the Exhibition itself.

It is hoped that we can circulate this Exhibition. However, unless an Exhibition is planned some time in advance, it is more difficult to circulate it.

III. NEW BUILDING

Work is progressing satisfactorily at 11 West 53d Street. The last estimate on the cost of remodeling is tentatively $15,100.

IV. PUBLICITY

The Phoenix News Publicity Bureau has been asked to put their extra work, over and above services, on a monthly budget, which is to be exceeded only by special requisition.

Mrs. Heed has also preparing a statement of general Museum policy, independently suggested by Mrs. Sheppard.

V. CATALOGUES

A study is being made so that the cost of printing our catalogues can be made lower, not only by less expensive printing, but by larger editions. Incidentally a study is also being made looking toward distribution of the paper bound catalogues through the retail trade.

VI. COMMITTEES

There will be a meeting of the Membership Committee on March 10, at the A. W. A. Club House. Mrs. Sheppard has asked me to prepare a general survey of present Museum work to present to the members of this committee.

VII. TRAVELING REPRODUCTIONS

The Traveling Reproductions will be circulated during the next two months to the following schools:

Evander Childs High School
Theodore Roosevelt High School

VIII. BOOKKEEPING

We are supplementing the present bookkeeping system by providing a voucher register system which will enable us to follow the daily expenditures of the Museum and relate them to the budget.

It is our desire to keep the expenditures of the Museum within the budget and we are therefore asking each member of the staff to cooperate with the Assistant Treasurer by routing all orders for purchases through his office.

IX. FUND RAISING

Because it is necessary that we have funds for the next fiscal year, we have in preparation certain memoranda with a view to future presentation.

Mrs Rockefeller

February 15, 1932

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

May I call your attention to the symposium of architects on the evening of February nineteenth at eight-thirty in the Museum's gallery.

There will be several short talks on architectural problems posed by the Museum's Exhibition of Modern Architecture. We are asking Professor Hitchcock to speak on the International Style and its relation to the problems of functionalism and ornament; Mr. Cortissoz on the attitude of the traditionalist; Mr. George Howe on "Why I turned from traditional to modern architecture;" Mr. Lewis Mumford on the architect's responsibility toward the housing problem. It is possible that Mr. Hood and Mr. Corbett will also speak. Over forty architects have accepted invitations.

I hope that you will find time to attend what I think will be a most stimulating and interesting discussion.

Very sincerely yours,

AHB

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Rockefeller

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February
Thirteenth
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Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs Rockefeller:

I enclose a copy of a letter which was sent at Mrs. Sheppard's suggestion to all members of the Membership Committee directly following the luncheon on Wednesday, February 10th. The letter was attached to the envelope containing the "Official Statement". The two sections bearing directly on the policy of the Museum were checked with a red mark.

Mrs. Sheppard hopes in this way to bring to the attention of the members the policy of the Museum in its present printed form. It is, of course desirable that the members be well informed on the purpose and activities of the Museum in explaining its work.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary

ARB/HM

Rockefeller

Rockefeller

January 23, 1932

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

In accordance with your instructions we are handing your Riveras, "Two Women", "Moscow", "The Checkered Dress", "The Rivals", "The Offering", and "Indian Family" (drawing) to the Pennsylvania Museum of Art at the close of our present exhibition on January 27th. We are instructing that Museum to return your pictures to you at 10 West 54 Street unless they hear from you to the contrary.

The other three paintings and the forty-five watercolors our agent, Budworth and Son, will return to you on Thursday, January 28th if this is convenient for you.

We are very grateful to you for your generosity in lending these Riveras to us. They have been valuable additions to the Exhibition.

Yours very sincerely,

Registrar.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street, New York City

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XIV

Rockefeller

Rockefeller

January 19
1932.

My dear Miss Nourse:-

I enclose a list of the pictures of Mrs.Rockefeller's which we would like to send to Philadelphia. It is subject to her wishes.

Two Women, No.3; Moscow,No.33; The Checkered Dress,No.41; The Rivals,No.44; The Offering, No.45; Indian Family,No.109a.

The remaining pictures on exhibition here will be returned shortly after the close of the exhibition here on the 27th.

Sincerely,

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Rockefeller

January
Nineteenth
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Mrs. John D Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I give below answers to the questions which you asked yesterday.

1. Accrued Interest from the Building Fund.

There has been one payment of interest on the securities, amounting to $425. On the books this amount has been added on to the amount of the securities. It is included in the statement of the financial condition of the Museum under the heading of Cash in Bank.

The Building Fund is, at present, a floating quantity. By this I mean that neither securities nor cash in the bank has definitely been established as Building Fund. It is my suggestion that the securities be definitely designated as the Building Fund and that the accrued interest be added to the Building Fund and not be made to appear with the cash in the bank.

The history of the securities and the Building Fund is briefly this: On about May 27, 1930, you and Mr. Clark gave $20,000 to be considered as a Building Fund. Some months later, Mrs. Seaver was advised to purchase $21,000 worth of New York City bonds, so that the large cash surplus in the bank at that time could be made to earn interest. To Mrs. Seaver's knowledge these securities were never specifically designated as Building Fund. It was merely a coincidence that your gift and Mr. Clark's gift were the same amount as that of the securities purchased.

2. Borrowing

If it should be necessary before October 1, 1932 to borrow money, either for remodeling of the new building, or to have cash on hand for operating maintenance, it is recommended that this borrowing be done on the books of the Museum. It is certainly not wise to sell securities at the present market price, and it seems unnecessary to borrow on them at the bank. If the Museum has a certain amount of cash on hand, it may be possible for the Museum to lend the money keeping the securities as collateral.

3. Contribution of Mr. Clark.

I have checked up on the contribution of Mr. Clark of $10,000. In the statement of condition as of January 1, 1932 which we showed to you yesterday, there is no duplication of this amount. In other words, Mr. Clark's contribution can be considered as represented by $10,000 worth of securities or by $10,000 worth of cash in the bank.

In other words, the total assets listed of $84,799.23, is a true total.

4. Mrs. John S. Sheppard' Nomination.

You asked me to call your attention to the fact that a note might be sent by Mr. Goodyear to Mrs. Sheppard, telling her of her nomination to the Board of Trustees at the last trustees meeting.

5. Financial Condition as of January 19, 1932

I am enclosing herewith a statement prepared by Mrs. Seaver, giving the condition of the Museum as of January 19.

Yours very truly,

ARB/HM

Rockefeller

January 7, 1932

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

Because of the great importance of the present exhibition of the work of Diego Rivera at the Museum of Modern Art and the great interest that is being shown the Pennsylvania Museum of Art is extremely anxious to borrow the exhibition to show in Philadelphia after its close here. The Museum feels that it would be a very important thing to do as it would give further opportunity to people in the east to see the work of this man.

I am writing to ask whether you would be willing to allow the works which you have so graciously loaned the Museum of Modern Art to be sent fully insured to the exhibition in Philadelphia. It would unfortunately delay their return to you by about a month and I realize very well that people who are really fond of the paintings in their collections do not care to have them a long time absent.

The Museum of Modern Art would, however, be deeply appreciative if you would be willing to co-operate with us in arranging this exhibition at the Pennsylvania Museum.

Yours very sincerely,

Anna L. Kelly

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Gen. Rockefeller Rockefeller

10 WEST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

December 26th, 1931.

Dear Miss Sands:-

Do you know what Mrs. Liebman's addrrss is? I thought it was the Savoy Plaza and sent this check to her, but it has come back, and they tell me at the Plaza she is not there. I thought you might have her address, on Mrs. Seaver's list anyway.

And would you ask Mr. Barr if he would please let me know how much Mrs. Rockefeller owes for the pictures that he bought for her at this same sale of the works of living artists. Thanks a lot.

$05.00

Cordially,

Anna L. Kelly

Ans'd Dec. 28.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street, New York City.

Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

ERN ART

730 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

230 Park Ave.,
20, 1931.

November 27, 1931

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XIII

Rockefeller

December 4, 1931.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

We have been informed by Mr. John Nicholas Brown of Providence that you have consented to lend your Matisse, "Girl in a Turban" to the Exhibition at the Museum of the Rhode Island School of Design.

Therefore, we will have Budworth ship this picture to Providence with the other Matisses which are going from our Exhibition.

I have requested Mr. Brown to place insurance on your Matisse beginning December the 7th, in case you are asking to attend to the insurance of the picture.

Your drawing and bronze will be returned to you the morning of December the 7th, as agreed with Miss Kelly by telephone.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street, New York City.

Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Mrs Rockefeller

Rockefeller

Dec. 2, 1931

Miss Mary Nurse,
Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street,
Manhattan, New York City.

Dear Miss Nurse,

It is Mr. Barr's impression that the painting by Byron Thomas of which we spoke on the telephone had been submitted to Mrs. Rockefeller as an example of his work in view of the possibility that he might be commissioned by Mrs. Rockefeller to paint a view from a window in her house, and that the particular painting now in your care had not been bought by Mrs. Rockefeller before she left the city.

For this reason I am unable to give you the memorandum you spoke of, but would appreciate any further call from you which might throw fresh light on the matter.

The catalog of the exhibition of Thomas' work at the Ferargil Gallery in the autumn of 1930 states that he was born in Baltimore, Maryland, but gives no date of birth. I have therefore written him for this information and will let you know as soon as I hear from him.

Sincerely yours,

C. R.

Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
730 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

230 Park Ave.,
20, 1931.

November 27, 1931

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Rockefeller

# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

A. CONGER GOODYEAR, PRESIDENT

730 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

November 27, 1931

Dear Miss Kelly:

Could you bring to Mrs. Rockefeller's attention that no decision has been made about two Matisse drawings, photographs of which she has received from Mme. Duthuit, Matisse's daughter-in-law and business manager.

One of these drawings Mrs. Rockefeller likes, the other is not particularly interesting so that she thought of the possibility of substituting one of the drawings in our exhibition.

Would it be possible for her to look over the exhibition before she leaves next week since the exhibition closes on Sunday, the sixth of December.

Also, if by any chance she should be interested in oils by Matisse there are one or two belonging to German collections of superb quality which probably could be had very cheaply. I refer especially to the picture, Number 23 in our catalogue, called "Goldfish and Sculpture" belonging to Herr Purrmann of Berlin.

Sincerely yours,

AHB

Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Gen. Rockefeller

10 WEST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

November 27th, 1931.

Dear Mrs. Seaver:-

Mrs. Rockefeller thinks the pledge card as Mr. Barr has revised it is all right, if he does not think it is necessary to put on the term of the fiscal year. I think his adding the tax exemption clause is very good.

Sincerely,

Anna L. Kelly.

Rockefeller

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730 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

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Gen. Rockefeller

# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

A. CONGER GOODYEAR, PRESIDENT

730 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

1253 No. 230 Park Ave.,
November 20, 1931.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street,
New York City.

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I have a letter from Mr. Frederic C. Bartlett, copy of which I attach hereto. You will note that he agrees to subscribe $500.00 a year for three years.

At the meeting yesterday, Mr. Lewisohn spoke to me about limiting the subscriptions to one year. I feel that as several of the subscriptions have been so limited, we cannot fairly ask Mr. Lewisohn to make his for three years, and I said so to him. Of course, if we do not secure subscriptions to enable us to carry on beyond the one year period, we would not require any one to continue their subscriptions even though they did make them for the full three years.

Sincerely yours,

Conger Goodyear

President.

Rockefeller

Gen.

1253 No. 230 Park Avenue,
November 17th, 1931.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
Treasurer, Museum of Modern Art,
10 West 54th Street,
New York City.

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I enclose original of letter I have received from Dr. Koppel, with copy of my reply thereto.

Sincerely yours,

President.

Rockefeller

XV

Mrs Rockefeller

Mrs Rockefeller

Gen.

November 4, 1931

10 WEST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

November 10, 1931

Dear Miss Kelly: November 7th, 1931.

I am returning the material on Ernesto Thayaht. I find his work very interesting but there is no possibility of an exhibition of his work at the Museum in the near future. Perhaps next year there will be a chance of showing one or two of his things in a general exhibition. Thank you for calling his work to my attention.

Very sincerely yours,

AHB

P.S. Concerning Frida Hanson's tapestries I know nothing. I am looking into the prices of Homer woodcuts.

Sincerely,

Anna L. Kelly.

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr
730 Fifth Avenue
City

Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Rockefeller

XV

Mrs Rockefeller

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

730 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

November 4, 1931

10 WEST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

November 7th, 1931.

Dear Mr. Barr:-

Did Mrs. Rockefeller ask you about the work of Frida Hansen? I know this letter was among others she was going to talk to you about.

Did you receive the catalog I left in your office regarding work of Ernesto Thayaht-great grandson of Hiram Powers, the sculptor? My brother Will saw this distant cousin of ours last summer and thought his work seemed quite creditable. He would be glad to come in and tell you more about him sometime, if you cared. Mr. Thayaht studied at Harvard, did some work here, then had a three year contract in Paris. He is now eager to show some of his work here. I don't want to bother you with this, and if the whole thing seems impossible, just let me have the material back, and I will have done my part.

Sincerely,

Anna L. Keely.

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr
730 Fifth Avenue
City

Rockefeller

XV

Mrs Rockefeller

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

730 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

November 4, 1931

XV

Rockefeller

10 WEST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

November 9th, 1931.

Dear Mr. Barr:-

In reply to your letter of the 4th, Mrs. Rockefeller doubts if there would be enough people at Bar Harbor next summer who would be interested to see the Architectural Show, and then too she does not know of any gallery where the Exhibition could be held.

Sincerely,

Anna L. Kelly.

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr.
730 Fifth Avenue
City

Rockefeller

XV

Mrs Rockefeller

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

ALFRED H. BARR, JR., DIRECTOR
JERE ABBOTT, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
MARY SANDS, SECRETARY
GRAY POOR, ASSISTANT

730 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 7-5900
CABLE ADDRESS: MODERNART

November 4, 1931

November 6, 1931.

Delivered to Mrs.

One painting by

" "

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

Mr. Johnson has asked me to write you concerning the possibility of holding the Architectural Exhibition at Bar Harbor this summer.

Is there a club or gallery where the Exhibition might be held? And do you think that a committee could raise $600. for the expenses? The attendance would probably be small but of great importance for the future of American architecture.

Will Mulhuney

Sincerely yours,

ab

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Copy to Mr Blackburn

Mrs Rockefeller

# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

ALFRED H. BARR, JR., DIRECTOR
JERE ABBOTT, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
MARY SANDS, SECRETARY
CARY ROSS, ASSISTANT

730 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 7-7471
CABLE ADDRESS: MODERNART

November 6, 1931.

Delivered to Mrs. Rockefeller:-

One painting by Milton Avery
" " Charles J. Martin

Peter Kuthmann



Mrs Rockefeller

November 4, 1931

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Sincerely yours,

AHB

Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

(3)

Mrs Rockefeller

Gen.

November 4, 1931

Dear Miss Kelly:

I do not quite understand what Mrs. McMahon wishes to ask Mrs. Rockefeller. I know from a dependable source (but very confidentially) that one of the principal supporters of the College Art Association has withdrawn for unknown reasons though I believe that his support was given to fellowships rather than to other activities of the Association.

Apparently from her letter she does wish to ask Mrs. Rockefeller for some support for the first if not for the second suggestion.

It is rather embarrassing to answer your question as to how the Association is doing since Mrs. McMahon has during the last year taken an aggressive and jealous attitude toward the work of the Museum as well as toward the work of the American Federation of Arts. I think that a more unprejudiced observer would be Professor Sachs of Harvard who is a member of the Board of the College Art Association.

As you know, the most conspicuous activity of the College Art Association has been its some thirty exhibitions which are to be circulated among colleges this year. Some of these exhibitions, I believe, have been quite interesting but I have seen none that did not have far too many mediocre works. In spite of Mrs. McMahon's extraordinary industry I do not see how it is possible to organize so many exhibitions and maintain a high level of quality. The exhibitions are evidence of this.

Sincerely yours,

AHB

Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Mrs. Rockefeller

10 WEST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

November 2nd, 1931

Dear Mr. Barr:-

Would you kindly let me know how well you think the College Art Association is doing. You will see by enclosed letter Miss MacMeehan wants to talk to Mrs. Rockefeller. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anna L. Kelly.

October 21st
1931

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10 West 54 Street
New York City

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 East 54 Street
New York City

Rockefeller Mrs. Rockefeller

October 26, 1931

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

Mrs. Morton of the Morton Galleries would like to know when she could send you the water-colors and gouaches for inspection. I refer to the ones I mentioned in my letter of October 14 th.

If you could let me know I could arrange to have her send them over.

Sincerely,

A B

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

October 21st
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Rockefeller Mrs. Rockefeller

October 26, 1931

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I wish to suggest that in the future Miss Sands be given the power to O.K. the bills of the Museum. Inasmuch as the purchasing and all plans for shipment of loans, and so forth go through her hands she is the one who actually knows whether the bills are correct or not.

The necessity of having the signature of one of the Directors in the past has been merely a formal step, which often has delayed and involved the business of the payment of the bills. It has been Miss Sands who has had to pass final judgment in each instance.

It would facilitate our work if this extra formality could be eliminated and Miss Sands' O.K. made acceptable to the Treasurer and the auditors.

Yours sincerely,

AB

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

October 21st
1931

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Mrs. Rockefeller

Gen

October 21st
1931

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

May I please have your recommendation as to notices which should be sent to subscribers of large amounts ? It is possible that they may feel that they are being ignored, after having supported the Museum in its early days, unless a notice of some sort is sent to them. Could you, as Treasurer, ask the recommendation of the Finance Committee on this point ? The usual renewal notices are being sent to subscribers of $10, $25 and $100.

Enclosed is a summary of estimates for 1931-1932 sent to Mr. Goodyear, so far as I am able to judge. The details are in the original estimates.

Very sincerely,

Frances Seaver

XIII

Rockefeller

Oct. 19, 1931

Miss Nurse,
% Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street,
New York City.

Dear Miss Nurse,

We are anxious to illustrate Mrs. Rockefeller's Matisse oil painting in our catalog of the Matisse Exhibition. The photograph sent from Kraushaar's is unfortunately not suitable fortthis purpose.

In order to illustrate this painting in the catalog it would be necessary to have another photograph made of it to-morrow, unless you already have a better photograph than that sent us by Kraushaar.

I spoke to Miss Kelly this morning, and she seemed to feel that it would be quite all right for us to send for the picture to-morrow so that our photographer could make a negative from it, and then we would keep it here at the Museum until the exhibition which opens, as you know, about the first of November.

I will telephone you to-morrow ( Tuesday ) morning, hoping that we can arrange satisfactorily to illustrate this fine Matisse in our catalog.

Sincerely yours,

C-A.

Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

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September 25, 1931

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Rockefeller

October 15
~~October 7~~ 1931

My dear Mrs.Rockefeller:-

I am writing to clear up the matter of the pictures that we would like to borrow for the Matisse exhibition.

Head (Oil)
Girl in Feathered Hat (Drawing, ink.)

and a bronze, Standing Woman

We will instruct Budworth to call for these on October 26 if convenient.

May we also have valuations for our insurance and are you able to let us have any photographs.

Sincerely,

Mrs.John D.Rockefeller,Jr.,
10 West 54
New York

Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

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Mrs Rockefeller
Rockefeller

September 25, 1931

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Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Rockefeller Rockefeller

Rockefeller

October 7, 1931

Dear Miss Kelly:

Mr. Barr has asked me to return the enclosed letter from Doctor Post.

Yours sincerely,

Asst. Secretary.

Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

September 25, 1931

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Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Mrs Rockefeller

Rockefeller

10 WEST FIFTY FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

October 6th.

Dear Mr. Barr:-

Mrs Rockefeller wishes me to thank you for your letter of the 25th ult in regard to Dr. Post's letter to her. May I trouble you to return that letter to me, so that I can reply to Dr. Post?

Sincerely,

Anna L. Kelly.

September 25, 1931

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not. I don't feel that his exhibitions would interfere with ours.

I haven't had time to look over your account book. It looks very wonderful.

Sincerely,

AHB

Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Mrs Rockefeller

Mrs. Rockefeller

The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine

September 25, 1931

Miss Sands

Dear Miss Kelly:

In reply to the letter which you have sent Mrs. Seaver concerning Doctor Hermann Post: Doctor Post is the American correspondent for Kunst und Kunstler and has, as he mentions in his letter, considerable education in the history of art as well as great interest in contemporary art. The exhibitions at the Rand School were organized by Miss Katherine Dreier and Doctor Post was in the gallery as guardian and docent during the exhibition.

He is an intelligent and scholarly man and has apparently had very bad luck in the United States. I cannot make out whether he wishes to borrow pictures from Mrs. Rockefeller or whether he wishes her financial aid. I have never heard him speak so that I cannot say whether he would do justice to the exhibitions which he plans or not. I don't feel that his exhibitions would interfere with ours.

Sincerely,

AHB

Miss Anna L. Kelly
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Rockefeller

Miss Sands

10 WEST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

Will you please call this to Mr Pearsons attention

September 23rd, 1931.

Herman Post letter

Dear Mrs. Seaver:-

Mrs. Rockefeller asked me to send this to you. Do you know anything about this man and his work?

I am returning the memo you requested.

Cordially,

Anna L. Kelly.

I haven't had time to look over your account book. It looks very wonderful.

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wrote Sept 18th reply by Telephone he will telephone Mr Pearson

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New York City

Fellows.

Mrs. Frances Seaver
730 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Rockefeller

October 14, 1931

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I am returning the letter from Miss Francie of the "Contemporary Arts" which was sent me by Miss Kelly for comment.

I am afraid that I do not know more about this organization than is stated in Miss Francis' letter. I have not been able to see any of the exhibitions. I may say, however, that Mr. Burton Emmett is an enthusiastic and generous collector of modern prints but without much judgment in the matter of paintings. Mr. Emmett underwrites the "Fifty Prints of the Year."

Sincerely yours,

AB

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Mrs. Rockefeller

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Rockefeller.

Mrs. Frances Seaver
730 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Rockefeller

September 25, 1931.

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I suggested to Adolf Wolff, the sculptor, that he leave this small figure of a Standing Woman and Child for you to see.

Mr. Wolff is at the moment in financial difficulties and would sell this figure for seventy-five dollars if you feel that you wish it for your collection.

Though I have not seen the figure itself, the photograph seems to me to show a work of great scale and dignity. The medium is of metallized plaster.

Sincerely,

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street,
New York City.

P. S. I am just writing Sir Joseph Duveen.

Mrs. Frances Seaver
730 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Rockefeller

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wrote Sept 12 reply by Telephone he will telephone Mr Seaver

Rockefeller.

Rockefeller

Mrs. Rockefeller

The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine

September 21, 1931

2nd, 1931.

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I am enclosing at
Mrs. Murphy's request a letter sent to
Mrs. Murphy from Mrs. John Nicholas Brown.
If Mrs. Brown is not too occupied with
social matters this coming year I think
we certainly should try to find something
for her to do as she is a most active and
intelligent person.

Sincerely,

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Mr Barr

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

cial summer. I
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Sincerely,

Mrs. A. Brown Zeller.

P. S. I am just writing Sir Joseph Duveen.

Mrs. Frances Seaver
730 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Gen. Mrs. Rockefeller

The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine

September 2nd, 1931.

Dear Mrs. Seaver:-

I am very glad to receive your letter of August 29th and am delighted there is to be a meeting of the Membership Committee on the 16th. I arrive in town that morning and will be present at the meeting.

It seems to me it is very wise for you to get in touch with Mr. Clark in regard to the money for the Architectural Show.

wrote Sept 12 reply by Telephone he will telephone Mrs Seaver

I am strong for any simplification in the handling of the membership bills and am eager to eliminate any possibility of anyone's getting two bills in one year.

We have had a most happy and beneficial summer. I shall be at Pocantico about two weeks before we take our little trip West.

Looking forward to seeing you, I am

Sincerely,

Abby A. Rockefeller.

P. S. I am just writing Sir Joseph Duveen.

Mrs. Frances Seaver
730 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Rockefeller

Rockefeller.

GALERIE JEANNE BUCHER
TABLEAUX·EDITIONS·GRAVURES
5·RUE·DU·CHERCHE-MIDI·PARIS
6e ARR·TELEPHONE·LITTRÉ·12·34

18 Juillet 31

April 21, 1931.

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I am enclosing copies of letters sent to Mr. Breck and Mr. Kent, and the telegram sent to Mrs. ~~Rockefeller.~~ Robinson

As soon as possible I think that we should send a more official resolution.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street,
New York City.

Chère madame

Trop tardé à
à Paris cette
Il se trouve
pédition avait envoyé
à New York "port payé",
carte que vous me devez
de 245 frs:
certainement à vous
de vous
plaisir, et la fin
recevez
l'au prochain,
mes souvenirs les plus cordiaux.
Jeanne Bucher

"a Purchase of some prints for her personally by G.H.B. Jr. in Europe 1931.

R. C. Seine 439.310

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller

GALERIE JEANNE BUCHER
TABLEAUX·EDITIONS·GRAVURES
5·RUE·DU·CHERCHE-MIDI·PARIS
6e ARRt·TELEPHONE·LITTRÉ·12-34

18 Juillet 31

Cher monsieur et chère madame

Je ne sais si j'ai trop tardé à vous répondre; je suis à Paris cette semaine encore. — Il se trouve que mon expéditeur avait envoyé le paquet à New. York "port payé", de sorte que vous ne me devez que ce reliquat de 245 frs:

Je penserai certainement à vous avec plaisir, et la joie de vous revoir l'an prochain, recevez mes souvenirs les plus cordiaux.

Jeanne Bucher

"a Purchase of some prints for her personally by G.H.R. Jr. in Europe 1931.

R. C. Seine 439.310

Rockefeller

May 21, 1931

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I regret that I had no time to answer Miss Nourse's letter of May 12th about Mr. Kootz before I left on my western trip.

I have had a talk with Mr. Kootz who as you know has written a somewhat dogmatic volume on American painting. Mr. Kootz is, I think, earnestly interested in painting and had (until he was forced to sell) a very well chosen collection of modern French pictures.

As his letter indicates he is interested in promoting a costly edition of monographs on important modern painters mostly French. He wishes to get capable authorities to write and the books are, I believe, to be sumpuously illustrated.

As I told Mr. Kootz the plan does not interest me since it concerns a luxury product whereas I feel that we should have a great many more inexpensive books in English on modern painters before experimenting with de luxe editions. If, however, you are interested in the project you would not waste your time by talking with Mr. Kootz who is an interesting person.

Sincerely yours,

AHB

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Rockefeller

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER
ORMOND BEACH
FLORIDA

Gen.

February 21st, 1931.

Dear Mr. Barr:-

Thank you very much indeed for what you say about my Beckman portrait of an old woman. I did have a feeling that you were not very enthusiastic about it, and I am delighted to know that I was mistaken. I wonder if Neumann [illegible] graph of his landscape. I would like to have another Beckman if I could g[illegible]

I had a [illegible] been good enough to [illegible] card promising that their information wo[illegible] dential. Before [illegible] a copy of the report [illegible]

We are [illegible]

I should love to h[illegible] or not you feel th[illegible] Mrs. Sullivan's committee. Any help about the [illegible] will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr.
730 Fifth Avenue
New York City

April 10, 1931

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

In filing an old letter of yours of February 21st I notice with regret that I have not answered a paragraph concerning the Consumers Research handbook for which I subscribed for you.

You write that they have asked you to sign a card promising that their information will be considered entirely confidential. I think that this can be done without hesitation since the information which they spread is, I believe, thoroughly honest and for the most part highly competent. It concerns as you perhaps remember more or less scientific analyses of an immense variety of manufactured goods ranging all the way from radios and motor cars to cosmetics and canned beans. I found their report extremely entertaining as well as informative.

Sincerely yours,

AHB

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER
ORMOND BEACH
FLORIDA

February 21st, 1931.

Dear Mr. Barr:-

Thank you very much indeed for what you say about my Beckman portrait of an old woman. I did have a feeling that you were not very enthsiastic about it, and I am delighted to know that I was mistaken. I wonder if Neumann could send me a photograph of his landscape. I would like to have another Beckman if I could get a good one.

I had a notice from the Consumers Research saying that you had been good enough to take out a subscription for me and asking me to sign a card promising that their information would be considered entirely confidential. Before doing so I wondered if Mrs. Barr would kindly send me a copy of the report such as she spoke of to me one day.

We are leaving on Tuesday for Arizona Inn, Tucson, Arizona. I should love to hear from you out there how things are going and whether or not you feel that Mrs. Seaver can be helpful to you as well as to Mrs. Sullivan's committee. Any news about the Museum will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Abby A. Rockefeller

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr.
730 Fifth Avenue
New YorkCity

Rockefeller

March 6, 1931

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I presume Alfred has already written you about our visit downtown with John. It was very kind of him to give us the time and I found it very interesting and instructive talking with him and Mr. Packard. I could see from their reactions that there are three things that we shall have to more or less decide upon and be ready to "combat" when we get the reaction of the various Foundations to our plea.

In the first place there is going to be the question raised as to whether a little over a year is sufficient time to bespeak our success in an unqualified way. Secondly whether it is good from the standpoint of the Foundations to give money to an organization which has so little prestige to lose. One of the large protective features in the giving of money by Foundations appears to be that of the reputation of the organization to which they give it. In other words if they give to Harvard University for an art museum they realize that Harvard University cannot afford to let the venture fail. We would, I am sure, be called upon to give not only our financial assets that would appear on the horizon for the next ten years but also a very definite educational program quite completely worked out. And thirdly it would appear that even the Foundations may consider it a bad time to ask for a luxury. I hardly intend to willingly admit such a pessimistic outlook but I do feel that we may have to decide whether it would not be better at present to map out say a five year plan or a ten year plan and work definitely toward an end five or ten years hence, spending the principal over that period which we might hope to get from donations and possibly in part from Foundations rather than the income on that principal. Then at the end of that time if we have reached anywhere nearly a successful point we will be in a much stronger position to ask for large amounts.

I am also certain that the Foundations will want to know exactly where our Board stands in its willingness to help financially, a thing which naturally the Board rather wish to avoid.

I feel personally that we must try in some wise to simplify our general policy and boil it down to a few definite directions and not immediately grow in a mushroom way simply because our enthusiasms may lead us in very diverse

directions. I think the most important thing before us from the standpoint of the Foundations is what we are able to do educationally. I hope in our educational policy that we will stand far apart from the merely factual, archaeological side of the art problem. In other words, if we can reach the public through the informality of small groups, in talking before small college organizations or in the gallery with small delegations from art classes or clubs, and as soon as possible being able to offer students a reasonably complete though not large library in which they can work, we would entrench ourselves more strongly with the Foundations. As I see it after having talked matters over slightly with John, Mr. Packard, and Mr. Keppel our strongest point, I think, will be the contact in a semi-educational way that we will have with young people and with the universities of the country.

In that I am not minimizing the importance of our exhibitions. I think they are important but I think our strength lies in gatering less to the sophisticated New York exhibition going public and wealthy conoisseurs and collectors than to young people who really want to know something about fine arts. I think our strength with other museums can be vastly increased if we can swing later the policy of offering to them gifts made to us which we do not want being careful that it is always because of the completeness of our collections rather than lack of quality in the gift that inspires the offer. Naturally, it would be some time before this policy could be carried out.

The most difficult problem as I see it before us is to really try to find out our Board views the Museum. Speaking frankly, and in confidence naturally, I feel that we have a great deal of dead wood already on the Board and I know that the younger Board is full of irritation in having been kept dormant so long. I think those who are interested in the Museum on the Board must solidify this interest among themselves and realize that they will after all have to bear the brunt of the work and can, therefore, act with reasonable independence. We are, I feel, and I know that I am just as responsible for it as anyone, a long time getting really vital things done and our Board meetings certainly are of the most casual nature. That, of course, is the habit with Boards but if the Board as a whole is casual then it is absolutely necessary that the inter-committees be not casual.

I think Mrs. Seaver is going to be a help. She has already had her ears bombarded from the outside by a great deal of criticism of the Museum. I think that is an extremely healthy thing to have happened, so relatively little gets sifted through to reach us. It is very easy to have an independent policy when the bank account is full and it is certainly just as important to have it when there is less money in the bank, but it takes more courage and more activity in the latter case. I don't feel that we can look at this time for very much help from the Foundations. I don't for one minute think that that means that we are going out of existence. On the other hand, if there is any genuine interest in the Museum it might be conceivable that it would be a good thing if it did not succeed in getting financial aid from the Foundations but was forced to go along experimentally a little longer. If we have any right to exist successive years should certainly strengthen rather than weaken our position. It might mean somewhat a curtailment of certain things but that could be frankly stated. I have had some long talks with Mrs. Sullivan and I have also, of course, talked with Alfred, and I think we are agreed. Predicaments invariably call for activity

which should lead to their solution and as I have said before I see no reason why we should be as yet downhearted.

I hope you will pardon this long and somewhat rambling letter.

Sincerely,

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
Ormond Beach, Florida

Rockefeller

March 6, 1931

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I have chosen the small Dickinson, a plate of fruit on a napkin in oil. It seems to me one of the most distinguished though not one of the largest of all Dickinson's still lives that I have seen, surpassed only by the brilliant somewhat larger example in the Cleveland Museum.

There is, however, some slight confusion as to the payment. You enclosed in your letter five hundred dollars in a check made out to me. I offered to pay Daniel immediately remembering that he is usually hard up but it seems that Mrs. Halpert had made over to him five hundred dollars so that our painting is already paid for with five hundred dollars to the good. Could you let me know what you wish done with this?

Some of the German things seem to me extremely fine and one or two of them very reasonable but if you are considering at all purchasing any of them I should certainly wait until you return. Meanwhile I shall hold several of them that I especially like in case anyone should ask about them.

Already a man was in the gallery this morning from out of town and wanted to buy the only salable Marc in the exhibition. He feels, however, that the price is too steep. It is the picture belonging to the Princess Lichnowsky.

The German show, I think, will be extremely interesting. I am sending you a galley proof of the preface. The catalogue will follow as soon as printed.

We are riding two horses at once in preparing the German show and the statement to the Foundations but I think will get through without a breakdown. Neither job will be done as well as I would wish to do it if there had been a little more time.

We have had most interesting and in many cases very careful replies to a letter sent out to various museum directors asking for their suggestions and advice concerning the future of our Museum with possible view to quoting

from their letters in our appeals to the Foundations. Mr. Goodyear has seen Mr. Fosdick and is, I believe, to see him again. Miss Bliss' illness has made necessary some other approach to Mr. Keppel. When Mr. Keppel was in Cambridge, Mr. Sachs spoke with him and laid a firm foundation of good will which, of course, had already been more or less established by Miss Bliss. Mr. Keppel came in the other day and talked with Jere and myself and in spite of his interest I feel that we will have a very difficult time in securing much money from the Carnegie since we are at present not long established, without a large sinking fund drawn from our own resources, and without connections with any long established institution which as Mr. Keppel put it "might have a reputation to lose."

It looks rather as if we would have to ask for a fund which could be spent for running expenses rather than for a larger amount to be devoted to an endowment. Both in talking with John and with Mr. Keppel I found that the plan of the Girl Scouts was much approved. They expect to spend their gifts during the next five years and then perhaps to ask for a larger amount.

I now feel more and more convinced that we are wise in considering a second stage before a final stage and that the scheme to take space either in the new development or in some other new building for a period of five or ten years is better than attempting to build at the present time. I feel like insisting, however, that we must have or we must budget sufficient funds to extend an educational program and to pay for space for a beginning of the permanent collection or at least a collection borrowed from our friends which might be of a rotating nature. I do not believe that we could continue the quality of our past exhibitions even at four a year and that we ought to have a supplementary exhibition of more or less permanence.

None of these ideas I think are at all novel but they are what happens to be running through my head at the present moment.

One special point which Mr. Keppel made has been made, I think, by you in past conversations. That is, that the Foundations especially the Rockefeller and to some extent the Carnegie will ask and expect the Trustees who are asking for funds from them to equal those amounts either through gifts of their own or gifts brought about by their own efforts. This means, I suppose, that we must have a putting of cards on the table financially in a tentative way at least. Mr. Goodyear does not seem particularly sympathetic to this point of view and it is, I agree, a difficult problem to meet.

Did I write you what an agreeable time Jere and I had with John and Mr. Packard? They were most helpful.

With best wishes to Mr. Rockefeller and whatever members of your family are with you and to Miss Kelly, I am

Very sincerely yours,

AB

P.S. Mrs. Seaver is excellent.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
Ormond Beach, Florida

Mrs. Rockefeller

February 4, 1931.

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I was delighted with our talk yesterday. I am especially relieved that you and Mr. Goodyear came to the conclusion that we should aim for $3,500,000 instead of $3,000,000. Previously I had been unable to confront our Trustees with this situation.

I feel that it would be a very great help to talk with John and Mr. Packard. You suggested John's inviting Jere and myself to dinner with Mr. Packard. If, however, this would be in any way inconvenient for him, we would be very happy to ask them to luncheon. I hope in any event that we may meet as soon as possible since I am sure their suggestions will be invaluable.

You spoke of the possibility of buying Beckmann's "Self Portrait". I do not feel that this is as good a picture as the "Portrait of an Old Woman" which you already have. Should you purchase another Beckmann, I should certainly recommend either a figure composition or a landscape. The German Exhibition will continue through April 26th so that you will be back in town well before it closes. I would suggest that you wait before purchasing further German paintings until you have a chance to see this Show. However, if you are considering a Beckmann at present, I feel that the "Landscape" lent to the Hartford Exhibition by Neumann is much finer than the "Self Portrait".

It has come to my ears that you feel that I do not like your Beckmann "Old Lady". This is quite untrue. I feel that it is perhaps the most distinguished Portrait Study by him that I have ever seen.

If I can be of any further assistance, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

AHB

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street,
New York City.

Rockefeller

Gen

Rockefeller

January 31, 1931

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I saw the two Dickinsons and think the smaller by far the better. It is really a very charming still life. I should like to know, however, how much he is asking for it.

You spoke some time ago of having possibly a lecture on modern architecture by Philip Johnson to which you might invite friends who could be interested in the Museum through this channel. Mr. Johnson is lunching today with the secretary of the Cosmopolitan Club with whom he is arranging a lecture. Perhaps we could wait until that lecture is given so that we could form a more definite opinion of his ability though he seems to have been extremely successful in Cleveland.

I spoke to Jere about lecturing at your house and at Mrs. Clark's. He is very willing to do so.

I will not discuss the meeting in this letter since it is better done in conversation.

Faithfully,

P143

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Rockefeller

Jan. 8,1931

Miss Anna Kelly,
10 W. 54th St.,
New York City

Dear Miss Kelly,

I am sorry to have caused so much trouble about the Pierre Roys.

The reason I was anxious to rush them over to-day was that Brummer had held them in New York at Alfred's request because Mrs. Rockefeller expressed interest in buying one of them.

Due to an error of mine she was not informed that the one she specifically wanted was not for sale.

The two Brummer sent to-day were the least expensive and within the price range Mrs. Rockefeller suggested.

There are about a dozen other Roys also at Brummer's which might interest Mrs. Rockefeller, but they are more expensive and to my mind not superior in quality to the two sent over for her approval this afternoon.

If these two are not interesting to her I shall be gxi glad to do anything I can to make up for the orginal error I made in failing to recognize from her description to Alfred that the one she wanted was not for sale.

Sincerely yours,

C.R.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller,Jr.,
10 West 54th Street,
New York City.

Rockefeller

January 6, 1931.

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with Mr. Sulzberger
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to me a most regrette-
not known to the owners.
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Mr. Finley simply so
upon the rotagravure.
your name, I am sure

your

Faithfully yours,

AHB

Rockefeller

January 6, 1930.

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

A line to remind you to write Mr. Finley, asking him if he would be kind enough to speak to Mr. Sulzberger (the Vice President and son-in-law of Mr. Ochs) concerning the difficulties with the rotagravure, and telling him that I will come to talk over the matter of our publicity with Mr. Sulzberger who has already said that he would be interested in discussing the matter.

All this fall the Times rotagravure has been far behind the Tribune and the Post in reproducing paintings from our Exhibitions. In fact the Times has not reproduced any pictures, not even any from the Corot-Daumier Exhibition.

In view of the fact that the Times pretends to be a paper of some cultivation this seems to me a most regrettable situation and also one which is probably not known to the owners. I noticed two weeks ago, for instance, a whole page devoted to a very mediocre exhibition of photographs.

I am asking you to write Mr. Finley simply so that we may have a convergence of influences upon the rotagravure. Should he speak to Mr. Sulzberger mentioning your name, I am sure it would help us a great deal.

Thanking you very much,

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street,
New York City.

Rockefeller

10 WEST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

May 12, 1931.

Dear Mr. Barr:

Will you kindly read the enclosed letter from Mr. S. M. Kootz regarding his "plan....for bringing to American collectors and art lovers a fuller literature on the modern aspects of painting, sculpture, etc.," and tell Mrs. Rockefeller if you think there is any reason why she should see him?

Sincerely,

M. L. Rowe

Enclosure.

Mr. Alfred M. Barr, Jr.,
730 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

P.S. Please return Mr. Kootz' letter with your reply.

Rockefeller

December 5, 1930

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I hope these suggestions are of some use. I will send all further names when they occur to me. I regret to say that Mrs. Barr and myself will be unable to come since the 18th is right in the midst of a week which we had hoped to spend with Philip Johnson at his house in Pinehurst. Mrs. Barr hopes to have her tonsils out at that time so that I am sure you will pardon our absence.

Faithfully yours,

AHB

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Rockefeller

December 5, 1930

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I have been thinking over some of the people for your Matisse dinner. I still feel that Mr. Crowninshield could perhaps give you the best advice. Gay, young people who speak French would probably please Matisse.

Four names occur, not all gay, not all young; Henry McBride who, of course, knows Matisse; Jere Abbott and Cary Ross both of whom speak adequate and occasionally voluble French and are both interested in Matisse; and Miss Wiborg who also speaks good French and is a person whom I think we ought to interest in every way possible and who seems to me a very worthy candidate for Trustee.

You will perhaps consult with Mr. Goodyear about the advisability of having the Dales. I do not remember exactly what relations exist between you and the redoubtable pair.

I hope these suggestions are of some use. I will send all further names when they occur to me. I regret to say that Mrs. Barr and myself will be unable to come since the 18th is right in the midst of a week which we had hoped to spend with Philip Johnson at his house in Pinehurst. Mrs. Barr hopes to have her tonsils out at that time so that I am sure you will pardon our absence.

Faithfully yours,

AHB

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54 Street
New York City

Rockefeller

December 1, 1930.

Dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I am enclosing a list of the members of the Junior Advisory Committee.

I am also sending you an outline of business which Mr. Goodyear has suggested for the Trustees Dinner on the 10th. He left this outline with the suggestion that you and Miss Bliss and Mr. Barr might have some additions or corrections. He wishes copies sent to each Trustee a few days before the meeting.

It is very nice indeed to know that you are home again.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street,
New York City.

Rockefeller

RS
hn D. Rockefeller, Jr.
ichard G. Babbage
harles W. Ballard
illiam B. Carter
erman J. Cook
lden C. Noble
pard

Rockefeller

1228 A

$

NO. | CASH OR CHG.
CHECK
TIME FILED

CE-PRESIDENT

November 17, 1930.

HELP ARTISTS

STOP THINK

Rockefeller

1228 A

Charge to the account of _____ $ _____

| CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DOMESTIC | | CABLE | |
| TELEGRAM | | FULL RATE | |
| DAY LETTER | | DEFERRED | |
| NIGHT MESSAGE | | CABLE LETTER | X |
| NIGHT LETTER | | WEEK END LETTER | |

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

# WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT — J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

| NO. | CASH OR CHG. |
|---|---|
| CHECK | |
| TIME FILED | |

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

November 17, 1930.

Mrs. John Rockefeller,Jr.
Chasebank, Paris

MRS. LIEBMAN ORGANIZING CHRISTMAS SALE PRINTS HELP ARTISTS

REQUESTS YOUR SPONSORSHIP AMONG MANY OTHERS STOP THINK

PROJECT WORTHY

BARR

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

much for calling this to our attention, we are,

Yours very truly,

William B.Carter,Vice President

A. T. Cochran

ARG:N

Rockefeller.

10 WEST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

November 14th, 1930

Dear Mr Abbott:-

I am enclosing Mrs. Rockefeller's check for $17.17 in payment of the insurance on her pictures exhibited in the summer show.

Very truly yours,

Anna L. Kelly.

Mr Jere Abbott
730 Fifth Avenue
City

Yours very truly,

William B.Carter, Vice President

A. H. Carter

AHG:N

Rockefeller.

1228 A

Charge to the account of _____ $ _____

| CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DOMESTIC | | CABLE | |
| TELEGRAM | | FULL RATE | |
| DAY LETTER | | DEFERRED | |
| NIGHT MESSAGE | | CABLE LETTER | |
| NIGHT LETTER | | WEEK END LETTER | |

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

# WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT — J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

| NO. | CASH OR CHG. |
|---|---|
| | |
| CHECK | |
| TIME FILED | |

*Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to*

November 5, 1930.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller
Chasebank, Paris

BLUME
SURVEY MAGAZINE REQUEST PERMISSION REPRODUCE PARADE ANONYMOUSLY.

Abbott

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

much for calling this to our attention, we are,

Yours very truly,

William B.Carter, Vice President

A. T. Cheney

ARG:N

Rockefeller

MERCHANTS FIRE ASSURANCE CORPORATION OF NEW YORK

45 JOHN STREET, NEW YORK



*1910 Twentieth Anniversary 1930*

October 9th,1930

The Museum of Modern Art
730 Fifth Avenue
New York City.

ATT: Miss Mary Sands

Dear Sirs:

We have your letter of the 8th instant, and in accordance therewith, have placed insurance for account of Mrs.Rockefeller, covering the paintings listed therein,while they are on your premises.

A certificate of insurance will be issued and forwarded to Mrs.Rockefeller, and thanking you very much for calling this to our attention, we are,

Yours very truly,

William B.Carter,Vice President

A. F. Archery

AFG:N

Mrs. Rockefeller

The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine

September 13th, 1930

Dear Mr. Barr and Mr. Abbott:-

Mrs. Rockefeller has just sent a copy of the enclosed letter to Mr. Goodyear, asking if he approves or has any changes to suggest in it. You see it is almost your identical letter. She is also asking him if he should sign it , or she, or both.

Mrs. Rockefeller hopes to have his reply awaiting her at Number Ten, when I can go ahead with the letters to the larger donors, say all over $100. Perhaps Miss Mallette could do the rest.

We shall be back early Friday morning.

Sincerely, Anna L. Kelly

MESSAGE | LETTER
NIGHT LETTER | WEEK END LETTER
Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT — J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

TIME FILED

*Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to*

Sept. 6/30

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine

TOTAL ATTENDANCE TO DATE ONE EIGHTY TWO THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED THIRTY*FIVE STOP NUMBER PICTURES EXHIBITED EIGHT HUNDRED SEVENTY*NINE STOP TOTAL NUMBER DIFFERENT LENDERS TWO HUNDRED EIGHTEEN

Mary Sands, Secretary

A.E.M. 3/30 P.M.
telephoned

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

Rockefeller

1228 A

Charge to the account of The Museum of Modern Art $

| CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DOMESTIC | | CABLE | |
| TELEGRAM | x | FULL RATE | |
| DAY LETTER | ✓ | DEFERRED | |
| NIGHT MESSAGE | | CABLE LETTER | |
| NIGHT LETTER | | WEEK END LETTER | |

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

# WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

| NO. | CASH OR CHG. |
|---|---|
| CHECK | |
| TIME FILED | |

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Sept. 6/30

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine

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Mary Sands, Secretary

A.E.M. 3/30 P.M.

telephoned

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

him before coming to any definite agreement with Mr. Bernays.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Mr. Frank Crowninshield
Graybar Building
New York City

COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO FRANK CROWNINSHIELD, SECRETARY, 420 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK

PATRONS ARE REQUESTED TO FAVOR THE COMPANY BY CRITICISM AND SUGGESTION CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

1201S

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

SIGNS

DL = Day Letter
NM = Night Message
NL = Night Letter
LCO = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
WLT = Week-End Letter

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT — J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

1930 SEP 6 AM 11 18

Received at ARCADE, HECKSHER BLDG., N. Y.

N15 37=DEXTER ME 6 1045A

MARY SANDS, MUSEUM OF MODERN ART=

:730 FIFTH AVE=

:KINDLY SEND BY TELEGRAPH MRS ROCKEFELLER The Eyrie. SEALHARBOR

FOLLOWING STATISTICS TOTAL ATTENDANCE TO DATE TOTAL 184,435

879 NUMBER PICTURES EXHIBITED TOTAL NUMBER DIFFERENT LENDERS 218

STOP AM WRITING YOU LONG LETTER ABOUT SEALHARBOR CONFLAB

STOP ARRIVE IN TOWN SATURDAY MORNING THIRTEENTH=

:JERE

879 pictures
218 Lenders.

WESTERN UNION GIFT ORDERS ARE APPROPRIATE GIFTS FOR ALL OCCASIONS.

**NIGHT LETTERS**

Accepted up to 2:00 A.M. for delivery on the morning of the ensuing business day, at rates still lower than standard night message rates, as follows: The standard

Similar to Cable Letters except that they are accepted up to [illegible] for delivery Monday morning, if telegraphic delivery is selected. Rate is approximately one-quarter of the full rate; minimum 20 words.

ment with Mr. Bernays.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Mr. Frank Crowninshield
Graybar Building
New York City

COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO FRANK CROWNINSHIELD, SECRETARY, 420 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK

Rockefeller

# THE · MUSEUM · OF · MODERN · ART



Rockefeller

NEW YORK

10 West 54th Street
October 8th, 1929

January 14, 1930

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
10 West 54th Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Crowninshield:

Is the enclosed letter accompanying the Museum check for $7,000 satisfactory?

As the Committee voted that all bills should be O.K'd by the Director, Mr. Barr is coming in this morning to initial this request of Mr. Davin's.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Sachs

Mr. Frank Crowninshield
Graybar Building
New York City

My dear Mrs. Rockefeller:

I write to submit theyou the name of Victor O. Freeburg, as a possible manager for our membership campaign.

He has been very highly recommended to Miss Sands, and I think it would be advisable to consult him before coming to any definite agreement with Mr. Bernays.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Rockefeller

# THE · MUSEUM · OF · MODERN · ART



NEW YORK

10 West 54th Street
October 8th, 1929

Dear Mr. Crowninshield:-

Is the enclosed letter accompanying the Museum check for $7,000 satisfactory?

As the Committee voted that all bills should be O.K'd by the Director, Mr. Barr is coming in this morning to initial this request of Mr. Davin's.

Sincerely,
Anna L. Kelly.

Mr. Frank Crowninshield
Graybar Building
New York City

Rockefeller

The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine

August 23rd, 1929.

Dear Mr. Barr:-

I am enclosing a confirmation of the telegram I sent you the other day, also copy of the one I had in reply from Mr. Sachs. In line with Mr. Sachs' answer I am writing you my personal opinion in the matter.

I thoroughly agree with Mr. Sachs that you are the one to thrash out this matter and make recommendations to the committee. I feel that our first idea of a stunning exhibition of the French artists- Cezanne, Seurat, Gauguin, Daumier, Van Gogh- would still be my first choice. I feel this because I believe that the modern movement was started by these men and I believe it is chronologically appropriate, but if the rest of the committee wishes to have an American exhibition, I believe it would be much more of a challenge to the public to exhibit pictures of the living American artists. As the Gellatly Collection is on exhibition in the Heckscher Building, and as there are in it splendid examples of the older American group, it would seem to me a little bit flat to start with a purely American exhibition of the older men.

On this subject another thought rather disturbs me: if we select for instance ten living American artists for our first exhibition, we are going to antagonize at the very beginning the friends and admirers of all the others, whereas if we start out with a French exhibition, we may have a chance to establish ourselves before we have to plunge into the obvious difficulties of an American exhibition. My thought would be that we start with an exhibition of best French, and at the same time announce the several exhibitions that are to follow of American painting and sculpture as well as French and others. I am sorry that we are all so scattered. Of course it would be much nicer if we could talk this out together.

Sincerely,

Abby A. Rockefeller.

Mr, Alfred H. Barr, Jr.
Hotel Bristol, New York City
and
Greensboro, Vermont

Rockefeller

The Eyrie
Seal Harbor, Maine

August 20th, 1929.

Dear Mr. Crowninshield:-

Mrs. Rockefeller has asked me to send you the summary of revised estimate you sent her on the 12th, which I am enclosing.

Sincerely,

Anna L. Kelly

Glaspalast, Münich, 1926, No. 2102 of the Catalogue.

Reproduced in "Onze Kunst, 1905, page 65.

Rockefeller

Copy

Telegram

August 20th, 1929.

Alfred H Barr
Greensboro, Vermont

Miss Bliss and I feel great hesitation about making first exhibition only American. We suggest joint French American with possibly following artists: Ryder, Homer, Prendergast, Davies, Eakins, Cezanne, Seurat, Gauguin, Daumier, Renoir."

Abby A Rockefeller

Glaspalast, München, 1926, No. 2102 of the Catalogue.

Reproduced in "Onze Kunst, 1905, page 65.

Mrs. Rockefeller's
Van Gogh

Couloir de l'hospice Saint-Pol à Saint-Remy

Gouache and water color. by Vincent Van Gogh

Reproduced in L'Oeuvre de Vincent van Gogh by J. B. de la Faille, Volume 4 (Dessins, Aquarelles et Lithographies)

Collection V. W. van Gogh, Amsterdam

Exhibition at the Municipal Museum, Amsterdam, July - August, 1905, No. 363 of the Catalogue, and December 1914-January 1915, No. 156 of the catalogue.

Montross Gallery, New York, October, 1920, No. 7 of the Catalogue.

Glaspalast, München, 1926, No. 2102 of the Catalogue.

Reproduced in "Onze Kunst, 1905, page 65.