

Art Center Gifts

Ann. June 19-59

\$500,000 in 4 Yrs.

#4

The Milwaukee Art Center in the past four years has acquired, either by gift or purchase, \$567,440 in paintings, water colors, pastels, etchings, drawings, prints and other objects of art.

More than \$500,000 of these "accessions," using the museum term, were gifts, Edward H. Dwight, Art Center director, told the board of trustees at the Center Thursday noon.

\$60,000 PURCHASE

The major purchase was the \$60,000 for the Zurburan "St. Francis." Other actual purchases amounted to about \$5,000, said Dwight.

In the last four years the accessions have been 1955—\$87,810; 1956—\$90,035; 1957—\$94,660; 1958—\$192,935; including the Zurburan purchase.

Howard J. Tobin, elected president of the board of trustees at the annual meeting in May, noted that the acquisitions, thanks to the donors, exceeded the Art Center's income by \$20,000 a year or more.

\$40,000 FROM CITY

The report showed the income was \$60,449 in 1955, \$62,865 in 1956, \$76,495 in 1957 and \$108,010 in 1958. Expenses last year were \$101,227. A substantial part of the income is the \$40,000 contributed by the City of Milwaukee.

Dwight also reported total attendance for the 1958-1959 season was 169,142, compared to 175,339 in 1957-1958, 65,217 in 1956-1957 and 67,519 in 1955-1956. Membership has risen from 1,646 four years ago to 2,340 at the present time. Tobin

and Dwight agreed the goal should be 5,000.

The trustees named these members of the executive committee: Harry L. Bradley, Edmund Fitzgerald, Thomas F. Nelson, Ald. Irving G. Rahn and Fitzhugh Scott Jr. Other members are the officers: Tobin, president; George P. Blakney, 1st vice president; Maurice W. Berger, 2nd vice president; Richard E. Krug, secretary; Donald L. Bell, treasurer.

Committee chairmen appointed were Fitzgerald, finance and fund raising; Scott, nominating; Krug, personnel; Bruno V. Bitker, membership; Dwight, acquisition and also exhibition. All but Fitzgerald's are reappointments.