

# NU adds popular works to its art collection

## Selections chosen from 82 pieces in art exhibition

With the close last Sunday of one of the most successful art exhibitions in the history of the Nebraska Art association, the University of Nebraska announced the purchase of four outstanding paintings by famous artists and two popular pieces of sculpture, shown here.

A total of 57 paintings were on display this year in the Morrill hall galleries, and 25 pieces of sculpture. Of this number, art patrons voted 45 of the canvases "favorites." Only 12 failed to receive any votes, indicative of the high quality of the show.

### Hall gifts aid to standing.

Much of the fame that has come to the university art galleries is entirely due to the generosity of the late Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Hall, Lincoln art patrons, who left their entire estate to the institution. Interest from this estate is used each year to make purchases for the galleries.

In the ten years that the university has had the bequest, Nebraskans have had unusual opportunity to learn how to judge and buy good works of art, and when they visit the annual exhibition most of them are interested in "selecting" the pictures that might well be added to the Hall collection. This question is eagerly discussed from the opening day. Votes are cast in the boxes provided in the galleries. Nebraska Art association board members are asked to turn in individual statements as to their preferences. Members of the fine arts staff are quizzed as to what they consider good choices. Even public school children are listened to. Final decision rests with two critics who are chosen each year under the terms of the bequest. The critics consider the preferences that have been expressed during the exhibition.

### Rogers, Gardner judge pieces.

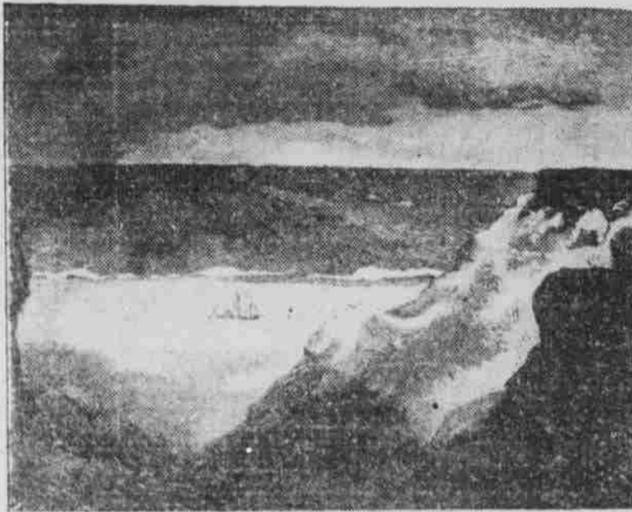
Experts chosen this year were Meyric Rogers, director of the City Art Museum of St. Louis, and Paul Gardner, head of the William Rockhill Nelson Memorial Gallery in Kansas City. They studied the Hall collection, considered its present value and its future needs. They studied the works of art in the Nebraska Art association's exhibition. And they considered the votes which art patrons had cast. Results indicated that the exhibition, arranged by Dwight Kirsch, chairman of the fine arts department; Mrs. Harry Grainger, and Lowell R. King, assisted by Maynard Walker of New York City, was a great success.

After Mr. Rogers' enthusiastic tribute at an art symposium two weeks ago to Charles Sheeler's "Barn Reds," no one will be surprised to learn that it headed the list of works recommended. Neither should one be surprised that Alexander Brook's "Peggy Bacon and Metaphysics" is here to stay. John Flanagan's solid little stone carved elephant that meets all the dictates laid down for good sculpture centuries ago by Michaelangelo will remain, as will Morris Kantor's "Sand Dunes"—a "painter's" picture but nevertheless an arresting and beautiful canvas.

### Rondout to stay.

Lucille Blanch's unforgettable impression of Rondout, a small town in New York state from which her canvas gets its title, will be added to the permanent collection. The other piece of sculpture chosen for the galleries—Mahonri Young's bronze figure of "The Laborer," will also add considerable interest to the Hall collection.

These newly acquired pieces bought with the income provided by Mr. and Mrs. Hall, will meet the most critical tests as exquisite works of art, critics declare. They are not dependent for their value on the prestige of the artists who created them. The name of Alexander Brook, however, is an important one, and the university is glad of the opportunity of adding one of his canvases to the permanent collection. Winner of many prizes, his paintings are represented in the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City, the Metropolitan, the Art Institute of Chicago and many others. The portrait of his well known wife, Peggy Bacon with her cat,



—Journal and Star.

For the years to come, the F. M. Hall collection will be the richer for having "Sand Dunes," Morris Kantor, upper left; "Barn Reds," Charles Sheeler, upper right; "Rondout," Lucille Blanch, center above; "Elephant" (stone), John Flanagan; "Laborer" (bronze), Mahonri Young, and "Peggy Bacon and Metaphysics," Alexander Brook, lower right.

"Metaphysics," is Brook at his best.

### Lucille Blanch well known.

The name of Lucille Blanch—first woman artist to have a painting sold to the Hall collection since Olive Rush's "Food Bearers" was purchased in 1932—is well known in American art. She has also won many prizes and awards, including a Guggenheim fellowship.

John Flanagan, sculptor of the stone elephant, has work on exhibit in many galleries in this country in Europe. He is a leading figure in the field of numismatics and designed the "Medaille de Verdun" which was voted by congress and presented by the president of the United States to the City of Verdun.

Charles Sheeler, painter of "Barn Reds," has canvases in many important eastern art museums in the country, and is represented in the Detroit Institute of Arts, and the Arts Institute of Chicago. Sheeler has made a reputation for himself in photography as well as in painting.

### 'Sand Dunes' attracts interest.

Morris Kantor's "Sand Dunes" excites the interest of all those who are especially sensitive to paint and canvas. Kantor, like Alexander Brook, has the distinction of having won a \$2,500 prize and Logan medal in the Art Institute of Chicago show for 1931. He is

well represented in eastern galleries.

Mahonri Young, member of the well known Young family of Utah, is the designer of the "Sea Gull Monument" proudly pointed out to all visitors to Salt Lake City. Young is an etcher as well as a sculptor, and has won recognition in both fields.

### 'Roadmenders' Camp' now out on loan.

There may be some regrets that certain "favorite" paintings or sculptures were not bought for the collection this year. Some voices were raised in protest a few years ago when John Stuart Curry's "Roadmenders' Camp" was acquired. Nearly everyone, now, is proud of having it in the university galleries. Repeatedly requested for loans to other galleries, it is at this moment on loan to a Chicago gallery. The same is true of several other purchases made in recent years.

### Show announcements

... Sample copies of the senior commencement announcements are now available at Co-op and Long's bookstores. They will be on display until April 25th.

