

ment, and having a seating capacity of about 225. It will never be open to the public, but is reserved for the use of accredited research students and scholars.

So far as is known, this is the most extensive effort by any country to provide for the central collection and storing of historic materials through the medium of motion pictures. The *Times* writes:

The question arises as to what benefit will accrue to scholars from the privilege of viewing "old" films when the average life of a film is only about fifteen years. In this connection the chief concern of Captain John G. Bradley, in charge of the division, is the problem of preservation. He has the assistance of the National Research Council, the United States Bureau of Standards, the Carnegie Foundation and a number of private companies and film chemists in this work.

Stored in a special library, each nitrate film is to be placed in an elaborate ventilated compartment. By control of the humidity and temperature of the air and the removal of all deterrent gases, it is hoped to lengthen the life of films from fifty to a hundred years, instead of their present fifteen, and finally, by duplication, to preserve them in perpetuity.

In stocking this remarkable library, the difficulty is one of selection. According to the *Times*, some accessions will be made by transfer from other government agencies of records of such epoch-making events in the life of the nation as inaugural processions, dedication services, Indian life, etc.

The second means of supply, by gift, is one into which the exercise of much discrimination enters. Leading motion picture producers have offered rare films, while the Motion Picture Academy has offered its prize-winning plays. There will not be room to keep more than a small percentage of the gifts proffered and so far none of them have been accepted.

With the consent of Congress and under authority of the National Historical Publications Commission, pictures may be purchased or recorded. These two provisions of the act, however, have not yet been invoked.

AN INTERNE SYSTEM FOR MUSEUMS

ESTABLISHMENT of an interne system to train candidates for museum work, similar to the system in use for many years in training men for the medical profession, has been announced, according to *The New York Times*, by Philip N. Youtz, director of the Brooklyn Museum, in Eastern Parkway. The Rockefeller Foundation has offered funds for six fellowships to make possible this system, the first of its kind in museums.

"This project," Mr. Youtz said, in presenting the plan to the Rockefeller Foundation, "provides a means by which candidates for museum positions and younger

members of the profession may have a period of practical experience in a socially oriented museum where they will not only learn methods of presenting museum material to the public but where they will become acutely conscious of their obligation to the public.

The Rockefeller Foundation approved the plan on June 21 and expressed its preference for men who were thoroughly grounded academically and who were most certain to find places of leadership in the museum profession, either as curators or executives.

It is expected that the first internships will be started on September 1. Candidates have been recommended by Professor Paul J. Sachs, associate director of the Fogg Art Museum of Harvard University and president of the American Association of Museums; Laurence Vail Coleman, director of the American Association of Museums; Horace H. F. Jayne, director of University Museum, University of Pennsylvania; Theodore Sizer, associate director of the Gallery of Fine Arts, Yale University; Professor Charles Rufus Morey, of Princeton University, and Dr. Walter W. S. Cook, chairman of the Fine Arts Graduate Center, New York University.

Professor Sachs, a sponsor of the plan, wrote: "The whole subject has long seemed to me of fundamental importance. I have advocated it for years. I made it the burden of my presidential address at the meeting of the American Association of Museums in 1934, in Toronto, and this year in Washington. I am satisfied that important results will be achieved."

FEDERAL FELLOWSHIPS FOR HEALTH OFFICERS

ACCORDING to a statement received from Science Service, over \$1,000,000 of the funds assigned to the United States Health Service in the social security program will, if the funds are appropriated, be used within the next year to train personnel for state and local health departments. Plans for this training by means of short- and long-term fellowships are being drawn up by officers of the service following suggestions made by the recent Conference of State and Territorial Health Officers.

In outlining these plans, Dr. C. E. Waller, U. S. Public Health officer in charge of this phase of the program, pointed out that such provision for the training of health department personnel is one of the most important developments in public health in this country. Never, even during the depression, have there been enough trained workers for health departments, the demand for trained medical health officers especially having always exceeded the supply.

Two types of training courses were suggested by the Conference of State and Territorial Health Officers. Details for setting these up are now being worked out