

AINSLIE GALLERIES OPEN IN DETROIT

On December 15th the Ainslie Galleries of New York, Philadelphia and Los Angeles will enter Detroit. A fourth gallery will be opened in that city and will occupy quarters in the new \$12,000,000 Fisher building on the Grand Boulevard.

The expansion program of the Ainslie Galleries which has resulted in the opening of three Ainslie branches within the past three years—in Los Angeles, Philadelphia and Detroit—is a significant evidence of the geographical growth of the art market in this country.

George H. Ainslie, president of the Ainslie Galleries, Inc., declared in announcing his decision to enter Detroit:

"The American art market today is undergoing important changes. The course of empire in the field of art is, in a sense, moving westward. At least it is true that the Atlantic seaboard no longer holds its former position of undisputed pre-eminence.

"Prophets of gloom and the numerous detractors who can see neither good nor hope in the American scene will insist that the increase of wealth in this country is alone responsible for the growing interest in art here. But, as usual, their cries will be half truths. There is evidence on every hand that America is on the threshold of a Renaissance in art—that there is a great and growing public for works of art. The rapid increase in

the number of first rank art museums in this country is one evidence. But there are other signs. Brightly colored pots and pans, ice-boxes, cigarette lighter, and all the rest may not seem to be symbols of a new age but they point to an awakening. Manufacturers have discovered that color sells more goods—whether pianos or tooth-brushes."

Rare paintings valued at close to a quarter of a million dollars have been shipped to Detroit for the opening of the Ainslie Galleries there. They include Fragonard's "Fete Galant," one of the few large decorative paintings by the

great French master not in private hands, Constable's "Flatford Lock," which was at one time in the Tate collection, and "Mrs. G. F. Stratton" by Sir Thomas Lawrence. The Fragonard alone is valued at \$125,000.

The opening exhibition will also bring the work of two outstanding modern painters to Detroit—Merton Clivette and Gustav Wiegand. Some twenty of Clivette's most recent landscapes, sea-scapes, still life paintings and submarine fish pieces are to be shown. A dozen delicate flower pieces by Wiegand will be hung in the mezzanine of the new galleries.