

Local Art Attitude "Excites"

1960

"I am excited by the vigorous attitude shown throughout this city and reflected in its art," said Mr. L. French of the Victorian National Gallery, who judged the city's seventh annual art competition.

The exhibition of entries in the contest was opened by the Mayor, Ald. W. F. Riddiford, at the Annexe print room last night, and the prizes were announced by Mr. French.

Mr. French said:

"Broken Hill is a place where people come to grips vigorously with the earth and pull themselves up by their own bootstraps. I am excited by this vigorous attitude throughout the city.

"What is Broken Hill going to do about the people who are interested in the arts — poetry, music, painting — these things that have no commercial value?

"They do have a tremendous value potentially, because we don't live by bread alone.

"Today I got the beginning of an idea.

"You are going to get a library, so why not put a smaller, two-storey building next door to it for an art gallery?"

ABILITY

"When I see painters with tremendous ability — and you have some here — how are they going to know how they compare with other painters unless they have some of their work to look at?

"Some of your painters could obtain diplomas in art — one at least could do it now.

"There is already the be-

ginning of a good collection of pictures in Broken Hill. I want to see it grow and expand.

"I would like to everybody under 20 to into your new gallery when you get it. I want it to become a living organisation.

"One section of the gallery should be for static art collections; the other ought to be for all sorts of travelling exhibitions. You would get them if you had a place to house them — exhibitions of fabrics, paintings, better-designed objects."

The prizewinners announced by Mr. French were:

ADULT SECTION

OIL PAINTINGS

First Prize (No. 6) S. M. Byrne.

Second Prize (No. 17) K. C. Hart.

Third Prize (No. 3) S. D. White.

Highly Commended (No. 22) J. Gregory.

WATER COLORS

First Prize (No. 43) S. M. Byrne.

Second Prize (No. 32) S. D. White.

Third Prize (No. 31) J. Gregory.

Highly Commended (No. 37) L. Andrews.

DRAWING

At the Judge's suggestion, the Other Media and Black and White sections were amalgamated and 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes were awarded to this single section.

First Prize (No. 63) L. Andrews.

Second Prize (No. 54) J. Gregory.

Third Prize (No. 52) F. Johnson.

Barrier Field Naturalists prize, not awarded.