Around the New York Fire Razed Art Studios

NOT MENTIONED in the first reports of the big fire at Broadway and 23d Street in New York last week that took the lives of 12 firemen was the fact that several artists had their studios in this block.

All were completely destroyed. One of the two better known artists involved, Alfred Leslie, lost the greater part of his work; the other, Adolph Gottlieb, a world famous leader of the "abstract expressionist" movement, lost all his paintings of the last three or four months.

One hopes that the artists who suffered this setback

will find the courage to continue with their work.

CORCORAN GALLERY-Four new acquisitions are now included in the Gallery's survey collection of American art. They are a halflength "Portrait of Simon Pease" by Robert Feke (1706 -52); a small, quite vividly colored history painting. "The Sortie Made by the Garrison of Gibraltar" by John Trumbull (1746—1843): a somber-colored abstract. "Mulberry and Brown," by Mark Rothko, and a small painting, "Small Burst," by Adolf Gottlieb.

The first three paintings were purchased by the Gallery from various private collections; the small Gottlieb was donated to the Corcoran by the Women's Committee.

OF INTEREST—John N. Pearce, Curator, Department of Properties, at the National Trust for Historic Preservation, will speak on "American Decorative Wall-Painting of the 19th Century" at the National Gallery at 4 p.m. today.

Adelyn D. Breeskin, special consultant to the National Collection of Fine Arts, will present an illistrated lecture on "The Art of Jasper Johns" at the Natural History Museum Monday at 8:30 p.m.

Dr. J. W. von Moltke of the Bielefeld Museum in

West Germany will speak on "German Art of the Last 20 Years" at the Fine Arts Center of the University of Maryland Monday at 7:30 p.m. Matthew Moss, assistant restorer at the National Gallery of Ireland, will speak at the university on "The Restoration of Painting" Tuesday at 8 p.m.

An exhibition of "The Sculpture of Primitive Peoples," organized by Mary Washington College of the University of Virginia, will be on view in the College's du-Pont galleries at Fredericksburg Oct. 24 through Dec. 11.

An exhibition of "20th Century Italian Art" opens at the Baltimore Museum of Art Oct. 25—Andrew Hudson,