

5-707901
60/84

PICASSO JACKPOT.

At Sotheby's, more proof that there's no stepping art, even modern art. Jacques Sarlie and the Sarlie Foundation sold 51 works; the 29 Picassos, included, went for nearly £230,000. Somerset Maugham bought nothing. Georges Braque's 'Woman and Mirror' fetched a cool 42-thousand, and the total amount reached in the auction was nearly £430,000 - in an hour and a quarter; 38-thousand was paid for a portrait by Modigliani. Prices nowadays soar beyond the resources of private collectors or art galleries; dealing in pictures, ancient or modern, has become a very big business. At Sotheby's it goes on as calmly as if no more than a few pounds were changing hands. Picasso's Crouching Woman was the top price sale, £48,000.