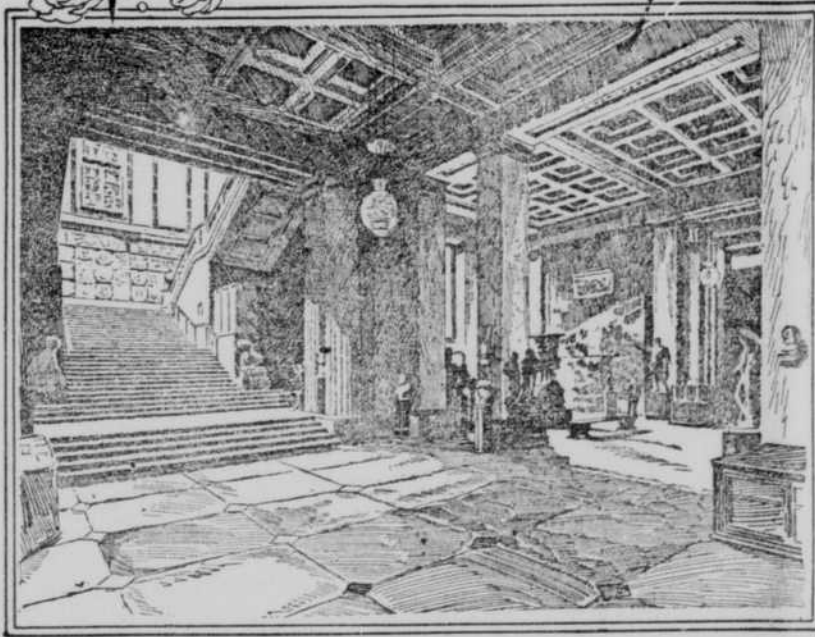




British Museum Library



Entrance Hall of British Museum.

"IN THE ARGONNE FOREST"

Notes Reported by Edward T. Moore

All of the boys in Headquarters Co. 816, P. I., are very busy now preparing to take their final ride in the box cars.

The band of Headquarters Co. 816, P. I., after returning from their furlough in southern France, are feeling fine.

Corporal Nick Love and Sgts. Anderson and Logging have just returned from Paris, where they spent several days visiting. They report a great time.

Musicians Vernon L. Page, Edw. T. Moore, Clinton Weaver, Geo. A. Wells and Roy H. Revelly will leave tonight for a short stay in Paris, Verdun and Sedan.

The camp chaplain, Rankin, delivered a fine sermon in the "Y" hut this morning.

Musicians Geo. W. Guest, John Fulton and Sgt. A. M. White are in Paris on business.

Headquarters Co. 816 base ball team was defeated yesterday for the first time this season by Headquarters Co. 815, P. I., by a score of 8 to 4.

Several promotions have just been made in the band. Corporal Roy Monroe, to sergeant. Corporal Charlie Hoops to sergeant; musician C. B. Wilkes to corporal, and Musician S. Cook to corporal.

The foremost band of Headquarters Co. 816, P. I., had the honor of being one of the three bands that were selected to take part in the memorial service at the Argonne cemetery on May 30.

All of the Headquarters Co. boys send their best wishes to their friends and hope to return to the good old U. S. A. very soon.

RACE BOOKS AND PERIODICALS

Our Boys and Girls

A weekly newspaper for our youth, \$1.00 per year; 50c for 6 months. 54 West 140th St., New York City.

The Negro in American History
By Prof. John W. Crowell, \$1.40 and worth more. 1439 Swann St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

The Negro Soldier
By John E. Bruce "Grit". The glorious record of America's black heroes, 25 cents (no stamps.) 2709 Madison Ave., New York City.

The Crusader Magazine
The Greatest Negro Magazine of America. \$1.00 per year and cheap at that. 2299 Seventh Ave., New York City.

A monthly Review of Africa and the Orient, \$1.50 per year. Monitor office or 158 Fleet street, London, E. C. 4, England.

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Copies at 25c at Monitor office, or send 25c to Eva A. Jessie, 309 West Street Boulevard, Muskogee, Okla.—Adv.

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION ON PETITION FOR SETTLEMENT OF FINAL ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNT.

In the matter of the estate of Abraham W. Parker, deceased:
All persons interested in said matter are hereby notified that on the 26th day of June, 1919, Leona A. Johnson filed a petition in said County Court, praying that her final administration account filed herein be settled and allowed, and that she be discharged from her trust as administratrix and that a hearing will be had on said petition before said Court on the 16th day of July, 1919, and that if you fail to appear before said Court on the said 16th day of July, 1919, at 9 o'clock a. m., and contest said petition, the Court may grant the prayer of said petition and make such other and further orders, allowances and decrees, as to this court may seem proper, to the end that all matters pertaining to said estate may be finally settled and determined.
BRYCE CRAWFORD,
County Judge.

J. J. FRIEDMAN, Attorney
650 Omaha Natl. Bank Bldg.

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE COLUMBIA INVESTMENT CO.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned have associated themselves for the purpose of conducting business as a corporation under the laws of the State of Nebraska.

The name of the corporation shall be the Columbia Investment Company. The principal place of transacting business shall be in the City of Omaha, County of Douglas, and State of Nebraska. The general nature of this business shall be to equip and maintain a hall or halls to be used for public meetings, dances, etc., to contract -- and erect buildings and dwellings, and to lease or rent such buildings or dwellings, or part thereof, upon such terms as may be deemed proper by the officers or officers of the corporation entrusted with such affairs, and to purchase and hold in its corporate name, real estate and personal property, chattel and real mortgages, leases of real and personal property, and to mortgage, sell or exchange any and all property, both real and personal of which it may be possessed at any time, and to execute all necessary legal instruments required in the conduct of its business affairs; and to do every act necessary in the operation of such enterprise or enterprises and to look after the heating, lighting, janitor and other services which may be required for the buildings or dwellings owned or leased by this corporation, and to pay all wages or salaries for such services upon behalf of the company. The business of this company shall also be to deal generally in real estate and real estate securities of every kind and description, bonds, debentures, obligations and other evidences of indebtedness without security, or to secure same by mortgage, pledge, or otherwise, and generally to make and perform agreements and contracts of every kind and description. The amount of capital stock of this corporation shall be Fifty Thousand Dollars, divided into 5,000 shares of the par value of \$10.00 each, all of which shall be common stock and fully paid up when issued, and said stock may be paid for either in cash or in real estate or personal property or services, and any one stockholder may hold as many shares of stock as he or she shall deem proper. It is further provided that all questions coming before the stockholders for decision shall be decided by the majority of stock in cash or in voting, either in person or by proxy.

The corporation shall be authorized to commence business as soon as these articles shall have been filed with the County Clerk of Douglas County, Nebraska, and to continue for a period of fifty years thereafter. The highest amount of indebtedness which this corporation shall incur at any one time shall not exceed two-thirds of its capital stock. There shall be not less than two nor more than five directors, who shall be chosen by the stockholders voting according to their ownership of stock, the first set of directors to be elected at the first meeting of the incorporators to be held at an early date after the filing of these articles, and the annual meeting thereafter to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January of each year. The board of directors shall have the power to adopt by-laws for the proper conduct of the business. The officers shall consist of a president, secretary, treasurer, and general manager, and it shall be proper for any one officer to hold two offices. The term of office and duties of the officers shall be prescribed in the by-laws of the corporation.

These articles or by-laws adopted may be amended at any annual stockholders meeting or any special meeting called for that purpose by the president and treasurer, and upon approval of the majority of stock held in the corporation and present and voting at the meeting either in person or by proxy. Until the first meeting of the stockholders, the board of directors shall consist of the incorporators, and officers of this corporation shall be as follows: President, secretary, DORA HANDLER, BEN HANDLER. State of Nebraska,)
County of Douglas,) ss.
Be it remembered, That on the 9th day of June, 1919, before me a notary public within and for the said county and state, personally appeared Dora Handler and Ben Handler, to me known to be the persons named in and who executed the foregoing articles of incorporation and who acknowledged the execution thereof to be their free and voluntary act. In witness whereof I have heretofore set my hand and official seal at the City of Omaha, County of Douglas, State of Nebraska, this 9th day of June, 1919.
JACOB J. FRIEDMAN,
Notary Public.

PROBATE NOTICE
In the Matter of the Estate of Clara D. Jones, Deceased.
Notice is hereby given: That the creditors of said deceased will meet the executor of said estate, before me, County Judge of Douglas County, Nebraska, at the County Court Room, in said County, on the 29th day of August, 1919, and on the 29th day of October, 1919, at 9 o'clock a. m., each day for the purpose of presenting their claims for examination, adjustment and allowance. Three months are allowed for the creditors to present their claims, from the 24th day of July, 1919.
BRYCE CRAWFORD,
County Judge.

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BRYCE CRAWFORD,
County Judge.

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IT HAS become customary to start the history of the British Museum library with a transaction which took place between the British government and Sir Hans Sloane in 1753, but, as a matter of fact, the genesis of this library should be recorded 20 years earlier. The event chronicled upon this date of October 23, 1731, is a fire at Ashburnham house which partly destroyed the famous Cottonian library, and emphasized in the minds of influential patrons of learning the absolute necessity of properly housing the great collections which as yet had escaped the same fate, which the Christian Science Monitor.

That portion of the Cottonian collection which was saved from the flames still exists as an important and valuable part of the present British museum. Sir Robert Cotton was a real booklover and a natural collector. When summoned by Queen Elizabeth to Calais as royal commissioner in arranging a treaty between England and Spain, it was with sincere regret that he accepted the appointment, because it took him away from his library and from the research in which he found the greatest delight of life. Later Cotton's political activities aroused the suspicions of Charles I. and, as a result, his beloved library was sealed up and he himself arrested. When later a royal messenger came to him with the message that under certain conditions he might be restored to court favor, Cotton replied: "You come too late, my heart is broken."

The famous library was restored years later to Sir Robert's son and successor, Sir Thomas Cotton, who inherited, also, his father's love of books. From Sir Thomas it came down to Sir John Cotton, who presented the collection to the nation in 1700. The Cotton library, therefore, should be considered the nucleus to which the other collections were added.

Money Raised by Lottery.

This brings us to Sir Hans Sloane, where the chronicle usually begins. Sir Hans was physician, naturalist, and antiquary, and during his lifetime accumulated an extraordinary collection of books, manuscripts, drawings, prints, together with collections of natural and artificial curiosities. Toward the end of his life he offered them to the British nation, provided the government paid his executors some £20,000, which he estimated to be one-fourth of the intrinsic value of his collections. The real value was probably somewhat less than his estimate, but the price at which the British nation acquired his treasures was surely less than half their value, which made the contribution of Sir Hans a princely one under any circumstances.

To persuade King George II, so indifferent to the importance of letters and so miserly regarding the expenditure of money save for his own pleasures, that so large a sum should be paid was no easy task, and when the memorial was first presented to him he remarked: "I do not think there are £20,000 in the treasury." Fortunately, however, there was influence enough among those favoring the acquisition of this important collection to push the matter to a conclusion. As a result, an act was passed through parliament authorizing the holding of a lottery to raise £300,000, out of which £30,000 should be paid to the executors of Sir Hans and the countess of Oxford, and an additional £30,000 invested at interest in the public funds to provide for salaries and other expenses. Beyond this, an adequate sum was to be devoted to a suitable building for the collections. This act passed parliament in 1753, and marks the definite foundation of the British museum.

Early Restrictions on Users.

The records show that the first building containing the collections which went to make up the British museum was thrown open to the public on January 15, 1759; but the words "thrown open" require some explanation. Today there is no library in the world where the visitor or student is able to inspect and make use of its wonderful contents with greater ease or freedom than the British Museum

library, but originally such restrictions were imposed as to make its use almost inaccessible. In the first place, it was announced that the library would be open "except Saturday and Sunday of each week, except Christmas day and one week after, except the week after Easter Sunday and the week after Whitsuntide, and except Good Friday, and all days which now or shall hereafter be specially appointed for Thanksgivings or feasts by public authority."

If a prospective student were able to master the mathematics of these restrictions, he then presented himself at the porter's lodge, where he was obliged to give his name, condition and address, to be entered in the register. This accomplished, the volume was laid before the librarian to decide whether the person so applying was entitled to admission. If the question were settled in the affirmative, on a second visit the applicant might receive his ticket. Having secured the precious card, he would then present himself for admission, but, as there was a restriction that not more than ten persons should be admitted for each hour the museum was open, it was still problematical whether he would be successful. If so fortunate as to be a member of one of these groups of ten he was then escorted around the library by a guide, with a limit placed upon the time, and with every element created to destroy the pleasure of literary communion with the volumes.

Later, important additions to the Cottonian, Harleian, and Sloane collections include the Royal library of 12,000 volumes, which was eventually turned over to the British museum by George II; the Thomason collection of "Kings' Pamphlets," the da Costa collection of Hebrew books and manuscripts; the Birch collection of biography; David Garrick's library of English plays; Musgrave's collection of biography and manuscripts; the Cracherode collections of books and prints.

Some Great Acquisitions.

All these collections were acquired previous to the year 1807 with no expense whatever to the government, but at this time a grant of approximately £5,000 was made for the purchase of the Lansdowne manuscripts. In 1813 another £8,000 was appropriated for the Hargrave Legal library, and, in 1821, some £13,500 was granted to secure the classical library of Dr. Charles Burney. Two years later the splendid Royal library acquired by George III became part of the British museum. This necessitated larger quarters, and was the beginning of the reconstructed museum. George III's library contained no less than 84,000 volumes. George IV tried to dispose of the collection to the emperor of Russia to enrich his own private coffers, but this plan was frustrated, and the volumes were saved to the British nation.

Francis Egerton was a later benefactor of the Museum library. He bequeathed to it the famous Egerton manuscripts, together with £12,000, the interest on which to be devoted to increasing the collection and maintaining a custodian. Three years later, in 1832, the autograph collection of the museum was enriched by the acquisition of the Arundel manuscripts; and, in 1847, the Rt. Hon. Thomas Grenville presented to the museum his magnificent library, which is still preserved as a unit under the donor's name.

No library is geographically situated more favorably to be available to the world than the British museum. A famous American collector some years ago bequeathed to it an extraordinary collection he himself had made, which it seemed from patriotic motives should have been turned over to some American institution. After having worked in the British museum, however, and after seeing the cosmopolitan nature of those who visit and make use of its treasures, one is forced to admit that this collection will accomplish its highest good by being where it is rather than consigned to the geographical limitation of any one of the American libraries. In this case the American donor considered his loyalty to letters beyond the demand of any nationality.



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