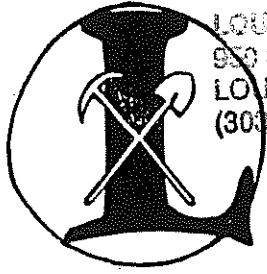


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LOUISVILLE HISTORIAN
A publication of the Louisville Historical Commission & Society
Issue No. 45, May, 1999

THE MUSEUM CORNER

Improvements on the museum are ongoing with the siding being replaced this month. The museum was closed for the duration of this construction. It was suggested that we purchase a plaque for the wrought iron fence that surrounds the Tomeo house to indicate the origin of the fence.

The plaque for Eileen was completed and a special presentation was made at the April Commission meeting. Her family members were present. It will be placed on one of the walls in the museum. It is a beautiful reminder of her many accomplishments in Louisville.

We are in desperate need of artifacts and photos from the 1940's, 1950's, and 1960's. If you have anything or know of anyone who might be willing to donate items, please contact Don Ross at 666-6836.

The Annual Society Meeting was held on Sunday, May 16, 1999 at the museum. We showed the Rex Theater Ads that were put on video.

The town of Superior is trying to get their own Historical Commission in place and asked for our input on how this might be accomplished.

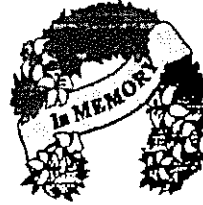
The Taste of Louisville is scheduled to take place on June 12th, weather permitting. This is a fun family event and gives all the opportunity to taste the many culinary talents represented in our city. It also gives craft vendors and local businesses a way to promote their goods.

Please accept my apologies for the delay in this newsletter being sent to you. Our computer had a complete breakdown and had to be sent to California for repairs which put me several weeks behind in completing and mailing it out.

**LOUISVILLE HISTORICAL
COMMISSION MEMBERS**

- Virginia Caranci..... 666-6235
- Frank Domenico..... 666-6233
- Robert Enrietto..... 666-4145
- Dave Ferguson..... 666-6000
- Richard Franchini..... 666-6272
- Marion Junior..... 666-8283
- Donald Ross..... 666-6836
- Patricia Seader..... 666-8385
- Cassandra Volpe..... 665-8542

MILITARY LEADERS



Although we celebrate Memorial Day by remembering our loved ones who have passed away, veterans are most often remembered during this time of the year.

There were many military leaders who were given recognition and others you may have never heard of, but their stories of triumph in battle may prove to be of interest.

Epaminondas (c. 418-362 B. C.)

The dominance of Thebes as a land power in Greece was almost solely due to the influence of Epaminondas. He fell victim to the rivalry of his colleagues and was deprived of his command after his victory at Leuctra and his campaign in the Peloponnese. He became a common soldier in Thessaly but was recalled because the Thebans could not do without him. He led two more campaigns against the Spartans but his death at Mantinea virtually negated the benefits of victory. His main achievements were the overthrow of Spartan predominance and the introduction of tactical originality as characterized by the oblique attack. He did not achieve any lasting power for Thebes. Despite his period of disfavor, he was considered to be a man of excellent character and reputation.

Duke William of Normandy (C. 1027/28-1087)

William became Duke when he was 9 and there were 12 years of anarchy before he established control over his dukedom. He visited England in 1051 and may well have received a promise of the English throne from his kinsman, Edward the Confessor. His invasion of England and his victory at Hastings were followed by his coronation at Westminster Abbey on Christmas Day, 1066, but it took him another 5 years to assert his authority over the whole country. He died of an injury while on campaign in France and was buried at Caen. Known to us as William the Conqueror, the first of a long line of Norman kings, he had a powerful personality and his military tactics were marked by determination and cool calculation.

The Duke of Marlborough (1650-1722)

John Churchill's army career advanced rapidly but his fortunes at court fluctuated with changing allegiances under James II, William of Orange and Queen Anne. He became Captain-General of the English Army on Anne's

accession and Commander-in-Chief of the United Armies of England and Holland. He won a series of brilliant victories, the United Armies of England and Holland. He won a series of brilliant victories, beginning with Blenheim (for which he was amply rewarded) and followed by Ramillies (1706), Oudenarde (1708) and the less successful Malplaquet (1709). Intrigues at home forced him to stay abroad for the last 2 years of Anne's reign and, when he returned to England, he played little part in public life. He was a skillful diplomat and a charming and intelligent man. He took as much care over the comfort of his soldiers as over the details of military planning. He also had the clarity of mind to adapt to a crisis, as Blenheim aptly demonstrated.

Napoleon Bonaparte (1769 - 1821)

Born in Corsica, he became a supporter of the radical Revolutionary party in Paris and, at 26, brilliantly commanded the French army in Italy. After his Egyptian campaign, he returned to France and played a leading part in restoring the authority of the Republic. He became First Consul, or virtual dictator, and proclaimed himself Emperor in December 1804. His campaigns against Austria, Prussia and the Russian armies between 1805 and 1812 were the military highlight of his career but his Russian campaign ended in disaster, just as Hitler's was to do more than a century later. He was forced to abdicate in 1814 and was exiled to Elba. He returned in March 1815, for the "Hundred Days" and, after victories at Ligny and Quatre Bras, was defeated at Waterloo, on June 18. He was captured and sent to St. Helena. A master of tactics on the field and of speed and co-ordination between battles, Napoleon was able to merge manoeuvre and attack into one concerted movement. His imitators failed to emulate his success, and the marshals who assumed increasing responsibility for directing his battles, while he concentrated on political strategy, did not possess his flair.

Ramesses II (Pharaoh from 1304-1237 B. C.)

Ramesses ruled Egypt for 67 years. He fought against the Nubians, Lybians, Syrians, and Hittites and built many monuments throughout Egypt and Nubia. He completed the great hall of pillars at Karnak; he ordered the construction of his mortuary temple, the Ramesseum; he was responsible for the excavation of the rock temple at Abu Simbel. Scenes from the battle of Kadesh, regarded by Ramesses as his greatest victory, appear in paintings and inscriptions on many of these walls. The battle was fought in the fifth year of his reign. Subsequently he formed a defensive alliance with the Hittite king Hattusili and married his daughter. The energy with which he attempted to restore the scope of the empire diminished in old age and towards the end of his long reign there were many incursions along Egypt's borders.



The Duke of Wellington (1769 - 1852)

Arthur Wellesley combined a political and military career. He gained his military reputation as the "Sepoy General" by a series of victories in India and subsequently became Irish Chief Secretary at the Westminster Parliament. He commanded the British army against the French in the Peninsula and drove the French back across the border after five years of steady campaigning. He was created a duke in 1814 and won his greatest victory the following year at Waterloo. He joined the cabinet three years later and in 1828 became Tory Prime Minister for two rather unsuccessful years. As a mark of the nation's gratitude, he was appointed Commander-in-Chief for life in 1842 but his influence from an armchair was less constructive than his influence on the field, where he had shown a masterly appreciation of defensive tactics, a quick eye for the instant opportunity and a sure knowledge of how to get the best out of his men.

Horatio Nelson (1758 - 1805)

Nelson joined the navy when he was 12 and had his first command at 21. He served widely on both sides of the Atlantic and came to prominence at the Battle of Cape St. Vincent in 1797. In the same year he lost his right arm in an attempt to capture the port of Santa Cruz, Tenerife. He had been blinded in his right eye three years earlier at the siege of Calvi, in Corsica. Nelson demonstrated his tactical genius at the Battle of the Nile, in 1798 when he sailed inshore of the French fleet to attack them by surprise. Three years later, he ignored his Admiral's signal to break off the battle and defeated the Danes at Copenhagen. His most famous victory was at Trafalgar, when he and Collingwood broke through the French line with their two columns. He himself was fatally shot by a sniper. Not only was Nelson a great naval tactician but also an inspirational leader. He created a heroic naval myth that has endured for more than a century and a half.

Montgomery of Alamein (1887-1976)

Wounded in the First World War, Montgomery gained promotion to Lieutenant-Colonel by the end of the war in a succession of successful staff jobs. After a divisional command at Dunkirk and a subsequent corps command, he took over the Eighth Army in August 1942, raised the morale and efficiency of the troops and won a victory at El Alamein that proved a turning point in the war. He led the army to Sicily and Italy and later planned Operation Overlord, in which he commanded the land forces under Eisenhower. He became Deputy Commander of NATO after the war. Dedicated to efficiency, he studied tactics carefully and was an idiosyncratic soldier who gained the devotion of his men, if not all of his colleagues.

Joseph Pilsudski (1867 -1935)

An ardent nationalist, Pilsudski fought actively to throw off the yoke of Tsarist Russia. He organized an army-

a-exile, which he used in the First World War to fight within Poland, under Austrian orders, against the Russians. After the Bolshevik Revolution, he quarreled with Germany and was imprisoned for a year. In 1919 he became head of the Polish State but resigned after four years. He was regarded with suspicion both by the Soviets and the Western Allies, although he formed a nationalist army supported by the French. His decisive victory against the Soviets at Warsaw was a remarkable tribute to his strong personality and careful planning. He returned to power with a coup d'etat in 1926 and effectively controlled the government of the country until his death in 1935.

Alexander the Great (356-323 B. C.)

Son of Philip II of Macedonia and pupil of Aristotle, Alexander became king in 336 B. C. He hated the Persians and possessed an inspired belief in a united world empire and the spreading of Hellenistic culture. His practical genius, together with his tremendous energy and heightened idealism, enabled him to forge the lands he conquered from Egypt to the Indus, into a cohesive civilization. In action, he combined caution with instant decision and bold manoeuver. He never lost a battle. Every move was planned with the utmost care. The day before Gaugamela, he went over the ground in person. Abhorring unnecessary violence, he inspired his own men and became a god to those he conquered.

Douglas MacArthur (1880-1964)

A veteran of the First World War, MacArthur organized the army of the Philippines in 1935 and retired in 1937. He was recalled in 1941 and appointed commander of all forces in the Philippines but was forced out by the Japanese in March 1942. Later that year, he began his island-hopping return. He became Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces on land in the Pacific and received the Japanese surrender on board USS Missouri in September 1945. Subsequently, he spent five years as Chief of the Occupation Forces in Japan and, in 1950, became head of the United Nations forces in Korea, at the age of 70. He argued with President Truman the following year and was dismissed. His particular skill was amphibious warfare. He combined a strong personality with both tactical and strategical awareness.

Hannibal (247 - 183/2 B. C.) Italy

Accused by the Romans of cruelty, avarice and treachery, Hannibal was certainly courageous, a powerful leader of men and one of the greatest military commanders of the past. The Romans themselves were forced to admire his tactical brilliance in the field and the speed with which he marched up and down Italy. After campaigning successfully in Spain and marching through Gaul, he achieved his best known feat of crossing the Alps to fall "like a thunderbolt" on northern Italy. He failed to follow up his victory at Cannae and to attack Rome because he lacked the siege equipment to do so. After many years harassing the Romans, his

Carthaginian army was finally defeated at Zama, in 202 B. C. Hannibal survived for another 20 years but was finally exiled and poisoned himself to escape arrest by the Romans.

HEAT WAVE

Some of you might remember the summer of 1952.



Apparently, it was quite hot during June. The following article was taken from The Louisville Times, Thursday, June 19, 1952.

HEAT WAVE CAUSES RECORD

PULL ON WATER

Residents of Louisville sweltering under an unprecedented early June heat wave last week used a record breaking amount of water. John Dionigi, water commissioner, said it was the worst he had ever seen and was the biggest pull on the water system since he had been on the job.

Dionigi started washing the filter beds twice daily Monday of last week. He would wash the beds and fill up the storage between the morning and afternoon hours and then would wash the beds again at night.

The consumers are using everything the four filter beds can put out, Dionigi said. He is running water into the town lake to keep up the supply and this keeps the water roily necessitating more washing. The strong wind Sunday night stirred the water up badly, Dionigi said.

It is impossible to give any more water without another clear well, Dionigi declares. With the present storage capacity, the storage supply is drawn down by the end of a three hour water period for a third of the town, and that cuts down the water pressure and causes poor pressure complained about by parts of the town, he explained. The pressure gets especially low during the evening watering period because there is no time between the afternoon sprinkling hours and the third period to wash the beds and refill the storage.

Some residents are requesting four-hour water periods each day. That would be impossible under the three-section set-up, without more storage capacity, according to Dionigi, as he points out it would not give sufficient time to wash the beds and rebuild the storage supply in the day time between the morning and afternoon watering period. With the present three hours every day, each household is getting two hours more watering in two days than it did during the old set-up of four hours every other day.

In making his report, Dionigi stressed the importance of everyone disconnecting the hose from the hydrant at the end of the watering period, because some are leaving the hose connected and drawing water when they are not supposed to, which takes not only more water than they are entitled to, but deprives the next section of town the pressure to which it is entitled.

REMEMBERING 1947

Clothing

In a departure from wartime styles, French designer Christian Dior eliminates shoulder pads and drops skirts to within 12 inches of the floor. Suit jackets are made to fit tight through the bodice, and then flare out from the waist over a straight skirt or an exceptionally wide skirt (with shortages in fabric, Britain considers a ban on this style). Evening skirts are shortened to emphasize the leg and ankle.



Life magazine dubs the curvaceous designs the "New Look," but critics describe them as a throwback to the 1860's. Jimmy Stewart disapproved of the new styles (as did most men) saying "Long dresses are going to interfere with a very fine hobby."

Colors and Materials

The European industry has been revived, and the United States is once again importing fabrics. However, due to postwar inflation, the prices of woolens are 116 percent over 1939 costs, while cottons, with tropical shortages, hit an amazing 340 percent.

Accessories

Cultured pearls and long chains of pearl beads, typical of the 1920's, capture the market.

Flat-heeled ballet shoes remain popular. For the shorter evening length, "naked" sandals are built up to decorate the leg.

The new look renews the hat industry. In the fall, berets and pillboxes win favor while the more daring wear fezzes trimmed with feather and veils.

Popular Music

"Near You" – Francis Craig's Band; vocal: Bob

Lamm

"Ballerina" – Vaughn Monroe & His Band

"Heartaches" – Ted Weems & His Orchestra

"Peg o' My Heart" – Harmonicats

"Smoke, Smoke, Smoke (That Cigarette)" – Tex Williams & His Band the Western Caravan

"Chi-Baba, Chi-Baba (My Bambino Go to Sleep)"/"When You Were Sweet Sixteen" – Perry Como

"Linda" – Ray Noble Orchestra featuring Buddy

Clark

"Too Fat Polka" – Arthur Godfrey

"The Anniversary Song" – Al Jolson

"Open the Door, Richard" – Dusty Fletcher

"Almost Like Being in Love" (from the film

Brigadoon)

"Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah" (from the film Song of the

South)

"Here Comes Santa Claus" – Gene Autry

Movies

"The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer" (d. Irving Reis; bw) – Cary Grant, Shirley Temple, Myrna Loy

"Body and Soul" (d. Robert Rossen; bw) – John Garfield, Lilli Palmer

"Crossfire" (d. Edward Dmytryk; bw) – Robert Young, Robert Mitchum, Robert Ryan, Gloria Grahame

"Dark Passage" (d. Delmer Daves; bw) – Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall, Agnes Moorehead

"A Double Life" (d. Delmer Daves; bw) – Ronald Colman, Shelley Winters

"The Farmers Daughter" (d. H. C. Potter; bw) – Loretta Young, Joseph Cotten, Ethel Barrymore, Charles Bickford

"The Fugitive" (d. John Ford; bw) – Henry Fonda, Dolores Del Rio, Pedro Armendariz

Discoveries, Developments, and Inventions

Tubeless tires, from B. F. Goodrich, which reseal themselves

Electromatic speed meter capable of clocking cars

First successful launch of a missile from a moving platform, a German V-2 captures at the end of the war

First major U. S. Aerosol food product, aerated real whipped cream from Reddi-Whip

Varifocal, or "zoom" lens for TV, and 16-mm and 35-mm cameras

Piston core sample for ocean floor drilling

Canadian deHavilland Beaver, a bush plan developed in response to a questionnaire

Robot-piloted USAF airplane

Concentrated frozen orange juice from Florida

Disposable plastic baby bottle which, as the milk flows out, collapses as a result of a vacuum

Remote-controlled TV camera from the navy

Standardized film speeds from the American Standards Association (ASA ratings)

First military transport helicopter, the Piasecki HRP-1 Rescuer

The Arts

January 10. "Finian's Rainbow," with Ella Logan, David Wayne (725 performances before closing).

March 13. "Brigadoon," with David Brooks, Marion Bell (685 performances).

October 9. "High Button Shoes," with Phil silvers, Nannette Fabray (727 performances).

December 3. "A Streetcar Named Desire," with Marlon Brando, Jessica Tandy, Kim Hunter, Karl Malden (855 performances).

Tony Awards

Formed in 1917 to assist with the war relief program, the American Theater Wing was headed by Antoinette Perry during WW II. In her memory, the Wing

this year creates the Tony (her nickname) to honor Broadway performances and productions.

Books

- Saul Bellow, "The Victim"
- John Gunther, "Inside U. S. A."
- A. B. Guthrie, "The Big Sky"
- Laura Hobson, "Gentleman's Agreement"
- Malcolm Lowry, "Under the Volcano"
- James A. Michener, "Tales of the South Pacific"
- Jean Paul Sartre, "The Age of Reason"
- John Steinbeck, "The Pearl;" "The Wayward Bus"
- Hugh Trevor-Roper, "The Last Days of Hitler"
- Frank Yerby, "The Vixens"

Cartoon and Comics

December. Fox Features brings out the first confession comic book with a romance theme, "Sunny, America's Sweetheart." The title folds after a year.

News. After 13 years, artist Milton Caniff leaves "Terry and the Pirates" to debut another comic strip, "Steve Canyon."

New Words and Phrases

- across the board
- baby-sit
- black-marketing
- bubble gum
- chain reaction
- flying saucer
- hot rod
- laundrette
- lay-up (in basketball)
- pipe line (a channel of information, communication)
- police state
- to sideline (a player)
- spot check
- strip (a row of restaurants on a highway)
- watchdog commission

Man of the Year

George C. Marshall

News

October 7. Dr. Hilde Bruch of Columbia University makes the newspapers when he announces that recent studies show overeating, not glandular disturbances, causes obesity. Fewer than 1 in 200 overweight people have a glandular problem.

October 23. Julie Andrews makes her stage debut at age 12 in a revue at the London Hippodrome.

November 20. British couturier Norman Hartnell creates a magnificent satin gown for the royal wedding, embroidering some 10,000 tiny American seed pearls into flowers.

Princess Elizabeth's trousseau consists mainly of New look fashions.

January 28. The Bay Psalm Book, the first book printed in the American colonies, fetches \$150,000 at a New York auction, the highest price ever paid for a single volume.

August 4. Abraham Lincoln's papers are made public. When his son Robert Lincoln died in 1926, at the age of 83, he bequeathed his father's papers to the Library of Congress providing the 194 volumes remain under lock and key for 21 years. Supposedly, Robert Lincoln feared that Albert Beveridge, then senator from Indiana, would use the documents in an adverse way on the Lincoln family. Nothing spectacular was revealed and historians believe that the son may have wanted to avoid the flood of requests from Americans seeking a presidential letter to their family.

Obituaries

Henry Ford (July 30, 1863 - April 7, 1947).

Established the Ford Motor Co. in 1903 and settled on the Model Y design by 1908.

Max Planck (April 23, 1858 - October 4, 1947)

Discovered vitamins in 1906.

Almroth Edward Wright (August 10, 1861 - April 30, 1947) His typhoid vaccine saved thousands of lives.

Willa Cather (December 7, 1876 - April 24, 1947)

Best remembered for her novel "My Antonia" (1918)

Hugh Lofting (January 14, 1881 - September 26, 1947). Famous for his classic Dr. Doolittle books.

Charles Nordhoff (February 1, 1887 - April 12, 1947). Coauthor of the famous "Bounty trilogy: Mutiny on the Bounty," "Men Against the Sea," and "Pitcairn's Island" (1934).

Lloyd Osbourne (c. 1874 - May 22, 1947). Stepson of Robert Louis Stevenson and instrumental in the writing of "Treasure Island"

Georg von Trapp (1880 - May 30, 1947). He and his wife Maria and 10 children fled the Nazi occupation of Austria in 1938.

LIFE IN THE 1500'S



You'll have to decide for yourself whether the following information is fact or fiction.

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May were still smelling pretty good by June. However, they were

starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the B. O.

Baths equaled a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying,

"Don't throw the baby out with the bath water."

Houses had thatched roofs. Thick straw, piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the pets...dogs, cats, and other small animals, mice, rat, bugs lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying, "It's raining cats and dogs."

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could really mess up your nice clean bed. So, they found if they made beds with big posts and hung a sheet over the top, it addressed that problem. Hence those beautiful big four poster beds with canopies.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt, hence the saying "dirt poor." The wealthy had slate floors which would get slippery in the winter when wet. So they spread thresh on the floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on they kept adding more thresh until when you opened the door it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed at the entry way, hence a "thresh hold."

They cooked in the kitchen in a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They mostly ate vegetables and didn't get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes the stew had food in it that had been in there for a month. Hence the rhyme: "peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old."

Sometimes they could obtain pork and would feel really special when that happened. When company came over, they would bring out some bacon and hang it to show it off. It was a sign of wealth and that a man "could really bring home the bacon." They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and "chew the fat."

Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with a high acid content caused some of the lead to leak into the food. This happened most often with tomatoes, so they stopped eating tomatoes...for 400 years.

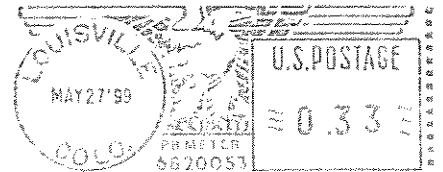
Most people didn't have pewter plates, but had trenchers - a piece of wood with the middle scooped out like a bowl. Trenchers were never washed and a lot of times worms got into the wood. After eating off wormy trencher, they would get "trench mouth."

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or the "upper crust."

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whiskey. The combination would sometimes knock them out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of holding a "wake."

England is old and small and they started running out of places to bury people. So, they would dig up coffins and would take their bones to a house and re-use the grave. In reopening these coffins, one out of 25 would have scratch marks on the inside and they realized they had been burying people alive. So they thought they would tie a string on their wrist and lead it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night to listen for the bell. Hence on the "graveyard shift" they would know that someone was "saved by the bell" or he was a "dead ringer."

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