

## Mary Wigman Coming Back to St. Louis

Adherents of the dance are looking forward to the appearance here shortly after the New Year of Mary Wigman and her ensemble as one of the series to be offered this season by the Civic Music League.

This is expected to be the pinnacle of the year's dancing season in St. Louis. Mary Wigman created a sensation on her appearance here last year and it was through the efforts of her many enthusiastic followers that her ensemble was booked for the Odeon in preference to outstanding artist exponents of other forms of the dance.

Mary Wigman has surrounded herself with some of her most brilliant pupils for her return to America this year. As the leader in the Modern Rhythmic dance movement she has made it one of the most discussed topics in cultural circles.

Roy O. Chaffee and Olive Holbert Chaffee have returned from Pine Lodge on Lookout Mountain in Alabama. Pine Lodge is a summer colony of artists, musicians and writers.

Dr. J. Ellis Jennings, who has led an art movement in the medical fraternity, has returned from Gloucester, Mass.

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## PLASTO-RHYTHMICS DRAW INTEREST OF ST. LOUIS DANCING TEACHERS

### August Leimbach, Sculptor, Teaching

August Leimbach, 3424 Magnolia avenue, whose sculptured creation "Madonna of the Trail" appears in every state along the National Old Trails highway from coast to coast, has become a teacher of sculpture and is accepting pupils for instruction in modeling and woodcarving.

Leimbach is best known for his activities as an architectural sculptor. He collaborated with the late Tom Barnett and other architects in the beautifying of many buildings both in St. Louis and in other cities.

At present he is teaching a private class on Wydown Terrace. His pupils in this class are daughters of prominent residents of the West End and St. Louis county.

One of his activities is also the teaching of a class in modeling at the Neighborhood house at Nineteenth and Wash where last year he had more than 50 children of various nationalities under his direction.

### League Prepares For Thumb Box

Following closely on the No-Jury exhibition for which the St. Louis Art League has courteously consented to vacate the rotunda of the Old Courthouse, the League's eighteenth annual Thumb Box exhibition will be installed.

Until then the Art League will continue its various permanent exhibitions and one-man shows in the Old Courthouse.

The League's Sketch Class has gained in popularity and money has been obtained for prizes to be awarded to members of the groups which meet evenings during the week in the room set aside for the Sketch Class in the Old Courthouse.

Plasto-rhythmics, recently the subject of demonstrations at the convention of the Dancing Masters of America at Toronto, Canada, is receiving much attention in St. Louis dance circles.

Along with the modern German dance, plasto-rhythmics is probably the most discussed dance development. The name well describes a form that draws from the orthodox classic dances and their modernistic variations.

### Educational Talks At City Art Museum

The City Art Museum begins October 1 its annual educational program, a series of talks for adults and hours for children extending until the end of the current art season in May.

During October there will be talks for adults by Miss Mary Powell every Tuesday at 11 a. m., and repeated on Fridays at 10 a. m. October 4, 7, 11 and 14 will be devoted to the American show. October 18 and 21 to Mediaeval Art, and October 25 and 28 to Chests and Cupboards.

Miss Powell will also give talks on prints every Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 p. m. During October the subjects to be discussed in the order named will be: The Earliest Prints, Woodcuts, Engravings and Italian Engravers.

A series of twelve gallery talks for adults will be given by Miss Caroline Gleick at 11 o'clock every Saturday morning. The topics for the first month: October 1, Renaissance Sculpture in Italy; October 8, Italian Painting; October 15, Early Italian Prints; October 22, Metalwork; October 29, Painting in Germany.

Stories from legend and history told in relation to the objects in the Museum are to be told to the children Saturday afternoons at 2:30 p. m. by Miss Powell. "Folke Filbyter", "A Greek Athlete", "The Boy and the Heron", "Tired Mercury" and a sculpture demonstration are scheduled in the order named. A drawing period for children under the direction of Margaret Wuerpel is to be held Saturday afternoons at 1:30 o'clock. Paper and crayons are furnished.

Under the direction of Miss Elise Mardorf a story hour for children under six years old will be given Saturday afternoons at 2:30 o'clock. As far as possible a period of drawing and games preceding the story hours will be correlated with the subject of the story.

During October the subjects will be in the order named: The Lion and the Hare, Lambiken, Christopher Columbus, The Fisherman, and a demonstration of sculpture.

### Floats Down River For Drama Material

Hank Richards, the new program director of KMOX, spent part of the summer floating down the Mississippi river in a canoe gathering material for a series of radio dramas. These will

## Lisbeth Ebers Hoopes Preparing for The Solo Dance Recital

Preparations are being made by Lisbeth Ebers Hoopes, exponent of Modern Art dance, to present friends of dancing three solo recitals this winter in addition to the Student recital at the end of the season. Her studio at 6651 Enright avenue was reopened for the season September 15.

A well trained group of students assist the dancer in these performances. The main purpose of these recitals to prove that dancing is able more than mere entertainment it can be brought to an artistic level.

St. Louis artists interested in dancing from life are invited by Hoopes to come to her classes.

## Negro Artist's Work To Be Brought Here

Through the efforts of Miss Flinn, art director of the Urban City Schools, and the Urban 1 the one man show of James I. Wells, prominent colored artist and art instructor at Howard University, Washington, D. C., will be brought to St. Louis following its showing at the Brooklyn Museum. It is said that work more nearly approaches the true spiritual and emotional life and simplicity of the colored folk than any other negro artist.

## Lisbeth EBERS HOOPS

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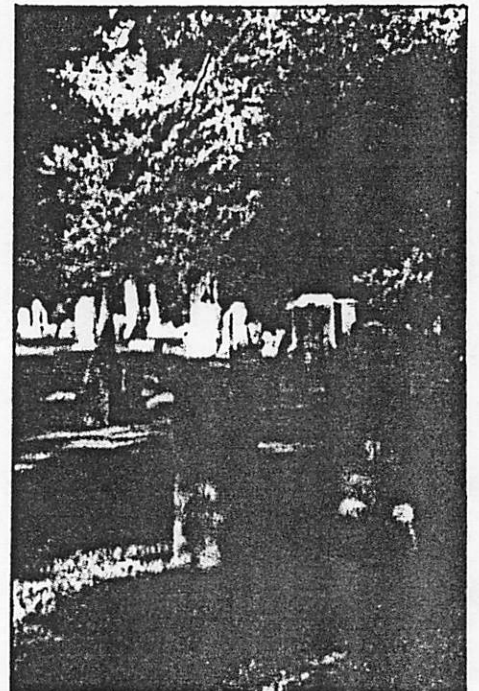
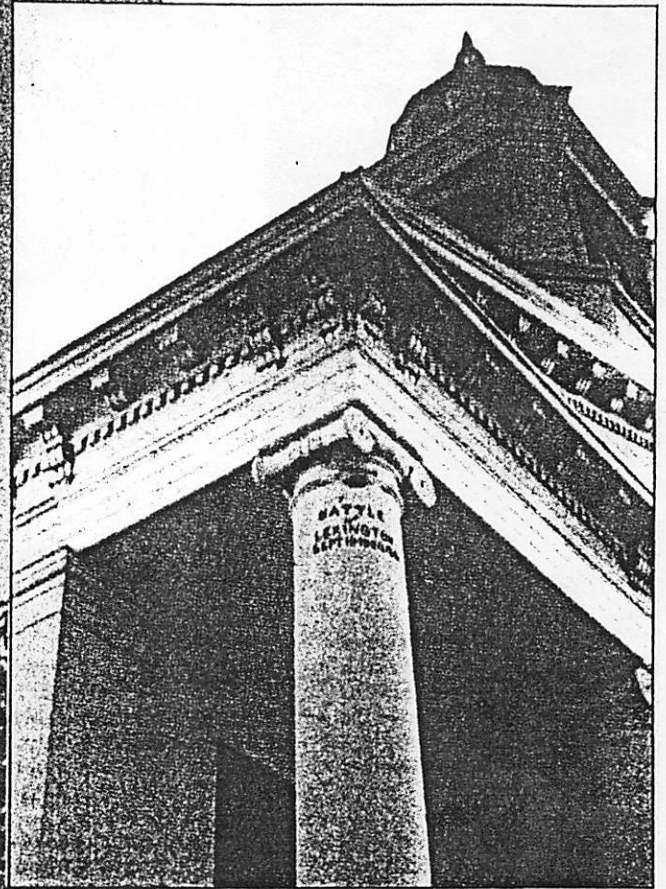
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# The New Battle For Lexington <sup>Missouri</sup>

Below, the cannonball — or whatever — in the courthouse.



Above, the Madonna of the Trail, armed with blunderbuss, shod in boots and burdened with babies, looks out over Highway 13 toward the Missouri River. The statue, erected in 1928 by the Daughters of the American Revolution, is a tribute to the pioneer mothers who traveled through Lexington on their

Above, parts of Macpelah Cemetery have remained unchanged since the first skirmishes of the Battle of Lexington occurred there 122 years



Audrey - Here is all I have  
on Leinbach family. I didn't  
send sooner because I sent  
my mother my copy (she lost  
hers), then she misplaced her  
mine. In going through her  
things I finally found a copy.  
Will write to Germany & get  
Lipphardt update. (Edoef  
Judy - sister, their children,  
etc.) if you want. Let me  
know. Send for picture of  
Khannon. She is a pretty girl.  
Don't send picture of Reed.



# This time, Madonna statue is beautiful

## Woman honored at rededication

By Randy Drummer  
Daily Bulletin

UPLAND — It was a rainy winter day in 1929 when a 6-year-old girl looked up in wonder at the newly dedicated Madonna of the Trail statue.

"Mother, I don't like the shoes the Madonna is wearing; they're boots," the little girl said.

"Child," the mother answered. "She couldn't walk uphill or travel in a covered wagon with pretty lady shoes on."

Betty Hoppe Greska — who has lived in the same house in Ontario for 65 of her 69 years — was a guest of honor at the celebration of the restoration of the grand old lady Friday.

She was among more than 200 people who braved the heat under the gnarled old pepper trees to pay homage to the statue that has stood as Upland's major symbol and landmark for 63 years.

The Madonna, one of 12 statues erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution nationwide, was placed at Foothill and Euclid to mark the Anza, Colorado, Mojave Indian and Old Emigrant trails.

The statue cost \$1,127 to build and transport to Upland. In 1992, the three-month program to reinforce, clean up and seal the 17-ton, 18-foot icon cost \$37,000.

"She is our symbol of pride, our symbol of strength, unity and history," Mayor Robert Nolan told onlookers. "She gives Upland depth and character. She gives us our heritage."

Nolan said the city "will always be committed to cherish, protect and

preserve" the statue.

Filmmaker Bob Pierce filmed the event for a documentary on a national program to identify, catalogue and educate the public about outdoor sculpture.

The restoration is one of five stories produced by the Washington National Museum of American Art in Washington, D.C., a branch of the Smithsonian Institution, and the National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Property.

One of the greatest social gatherings in the city's history was the Madonna's dedication on Feb. 1, 1929, covered extensively by the then-Ontario Daily Report.

"Famous old pioneers of California, rugged old miners who panned for gold in the Fifties, Indian fighters, trail blazers, plainsmen and mountaineers are coming to Upland Friday," gushed the newspaper.

"Upland is all dressed up in flags and colors for the event."

Among the dignitaries scheduled to speak was Harry S. Truman, then a Missouri judge and president of the National Old Trails Road Association. But Truman, whose memory has been invoked by both presidential candidates this election year, apparently never showed up that rainy day in 1929.

The 5.3-magnitude earthquake in February 1990 cracked the capstones and caused mortar to fall off the statue.

"A lot of the community was disturbed about the statue, because she had cracked and deteriorated over the years," said Chief Building official Don Ramsey. "We realized

See MADONNA/B7



Walt Wels/Daily Bulletin

Winnie Kissick, past regent of the San Antonio Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution, discusses the history of the Madonna of the Trail during the Celebration of the Restoration held in Upland on Friday.

## Madonna from B3

that if we didn't do anything at this time, we would not be able to preserve her."

Art conservator Glenn Wharton, who led restoration efforts, said his crew was alarmed to find virtually nothing securing the statue to her granite foundation.

"I'm very glad we did the project because it could have fallen over in another earthquake and hurt passers-by."

Smog and traffic soot had seriously eroded the statue. Wharton's crew tried several different cleaning chemicals, settling on poultice, a compound containing ammonium bicarbonate and sodium bicarbonate to literally suck

the dirt from the stone's pores.

Afterward, restorers sprayed the statue with silicate to prevent the surface from crumbling, Wharton said.

The statue will now stand guard over new generations of residents and immigrants.

"The pioneer spirit is alive and well; it shines in the eyes of this founding mother," said Ruth Jones of the California State Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. "She will for many years to come remind viewers that a new life in a new land does not come easily."

Walt Wels

Upland's Madonna of the Trail was feted during a Celebration of

Information from Missouri Historical Society clipping file

Leimbach, August

skilled architectural sculptor--has works in nearly every state

Old Trails

vol. 1, p. 134

917.3

OL1

September 25, 1928 (Newspaper from which the article was taken was not given--The following is an exerpt from the article)

"Old Trails Statue, Made by St. Louisan, Will Be Unvailed."

With the unvailing by the Daughters of the American Revolution of their monument to the "Madonna of the Trail," by August Leimbach of St. Louis next Saturday, one more interest will be added to the pioneer town of Springerville, Ariz. The ceremony will be the culmination of long and thoughtful effort involving a line of workers from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

The monument will be placed on the main street of the town near the intersection of the National Old Trails Highway, the Coronado Trail, the El-Paso-Grand Canyon Route and the Rice-Springerville road.

Springerville is situated at almost the exact center of the eastern edge of Arizona, the heart of a section that was traveled by pioneers from every direction. The following inscription will appear on the base of each of the twelve monuments: "The Madonna of the Trail.

Daughters of the American Revolution Memorial to the Pioneer Mothers of the Covered Wagon Days, The National Old Trails Road." In addition to this, the Arizona monument at Springerville will bear the inscription, "Coronado Passed Here in 1541. He came to Seek Gold, but Found Fame."