

**A0178**

**Britton Family Papers, 1904-1939**

1 box (52 items)

Processed by Dennis Northcott, September 2003

**REPOSITORY**

Missouri Historical Society Archives

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**DONOR INFORMATION**

The collection was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Britton in May 1983.

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Frank Hamilton Britton married Ida Freeman in March 1873 in Ravenna, Ohio. The couple moved to St. Louis in 1899 when Frank took the position of general superintendent of the St. Louis Southwestern Railroad. Frank Britton died in 1916. In the early 1920s Ida Britton traveled to France with a good will delegation of the American Committee for Devastated France. One of Frank H. and Ida Britton's children was Roy F. Britton, who served as the president of the Automobile Club of Missouri from 1923 to 1940. He committed suicide March 8, 1940.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The collection consists primarily of papers and publications relating to the American Committee for Devastated France, dated 1921-1923; publications of the American Red Cross, dated 1918-1920; an inventory of the contents of the residence of F.H. Britton, compiled by the American Appraisal Company, dated 1909; papers and publications relating to automobile associations and automobile tourism, dated 1904-1939; and programs for two annual Gridiron Dinners of the Advertising Club of St. Louis, dated 1938-1939.

**Folder 1**

- 1904-1905 Membership card of Robert F. Britton in the American Automobile Association
- 1906 Membership card of Robert F. Britton in the Automobile Club of St. Louis
- 1908-1910 Correspondence, contract, and change sheets of the American Appraisal Company, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (15 items)

**Bound volume**

- 1909 Oct 26 Typescript inventory of the contents of the residence of F.H. Britton, Oakland, St. Louis County, Mo., compiled by the American Appraisal Company (320 pages).

**Folder 1**

- 1914 "Empire Tours." Promotional tourism brochure with map of New York, issued by the Empire Tours Association, Newburgh, New York. Compiled by Official Automobile Blue Book Publishing Co.
- 1915 Promotional postcard of the Blue Book Touring Bureau, New York City

**Folder 2**

- 1917 "Mechanics Guide Hand Book" by Chas. J. Shields (64 pages)
- 1917 Jan 1 Membership card of F.H. Britton in the Automobile Club of St. Louis
- 1918 July 8 Printed pamphlet titled "The American Red Cross. Department of Personnel, Washington, D.C. Preliminary Information for Those Who Are Considering Red Cross Foreign Service." (14 pages)
- circa 1919 Enrollment card of the American Red Cross Motor Corps Service
- 1919 "Rand-McNally Official Auto Trails Map: Minnesota and Twin Cities"
- 1919 Feb 1 Printed pamphlet titled "American Red Cross Motor Service" (30 pages)

**Folder 3**

- 1920 Feb 16 Issue of newsletter titled "Important Items, American Red Cross, Southwestern Division, St. Louis" (Volume IV, Number 4) (8 pages)
- 1921 Oct 5 Program for the grand gala at the Palais du Trocadero, to benefit the Comite Americain pour les Regions Devastees (American Committee for Devastated France) (in French) (8 pages)

- 1922 Printed program and itinerary of the good will delegation, traveling in France under the auspices of the American Committee for Devastated France. (31 pages)
- 1922 May 21 Program for the Fete du Muguet, Compiègne, France (in French) (24 pages)
- circa 1923 Typescript list of delegates and itinerary of the good will delegation no. 1, American Committee for Devastated France (16 pages)
- Folder 4**
- circa 1923 Souvenir List and Mailing Directions, Good Will Delegation, 2<sup>nd</sup> Series, Under the Auspices of the American Committee for Devastated France, Inc.”
- 1923 Booklet titled “La Bienvenue Francaise Association Creee pour Favoriser les Echanges Intellectuels et Moraux Entre Nations a la Good Will Delegation, France, 1923”
- 1923 Apr Publication of the American Committee for Devastated France titled “Report of the Public Health Nursing Service, May 1919 to April 1923, and the Projected School for Nurses” (15 pages)
- 1923 Apr “Report of the Library Department of the American Committee for Devastated France, April 1922-April 1923” (9 pages)
- Folder 5**
- 1923 Apr 1 Publication of the American Committee for Devastated France titled “Description of the Work in France, April 1, 1923” (37 pages)
- 1923 May 14 Letter signed Major Marquis de Beauvoir, Marseilles, to Ida Britton, Paris
- 1923 May 16 Menu (in French)
- 1923 May 19-Sep 25 Three issues of “The Reconstructionist,” (Volume I, Number 6 [4 pages]; Volume I, Number 7 [8 pages]; and Volume I, Number 8 [12 pages])
- 1923 May 22 Letter signed wife of Marquis de Beauvoir[?], Marseilles, to Miss Britton, Paris
- 1923 May 31 Program for a concert to benefit the Societes de Secours aux Naufrages et Oeuvres d’Assistance Patronées par la Compagnie Generale Transatlantique.” Edited by the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique (French line) (in French).

1923 May 31	Printed poem titled "Good-by, France, We're Coming Back," on the voyage from Havre to New York, Compagnie Generale Transatlantique (French line)
<b>Folder 6</b> 1938-1939	Programs of the Sixth and Seventh Annual Gridiron Dinner of the Advertising Club of St. Louis, and seating arrangement for the seventh annual dinner (3 items)
<b>Folder 7</b> 1939	"Pedestrian Protection." Publication of the Safety and Traffic Engineering Department of the American Automobile Association, Washington, D.C. (90 pages)
<b>Folder 8</b> no date	Tentative constitution of the Alumnae Association of the American Committee for Devastated France, including a list of officers and executive committee (8 pages)
no date	Cover page of Automobile Club of St. Louis booklet, property of Roy F. Britton
no date	Page of stationery of Robert F. Britton
no date	Page of stationery of the Comite Americain pour les Regions Devastees de la France