

PRITZKER MILITARY MUSEUM & LIBRARY

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Bernard Flexner Collection

Creator: Bernard Flexner
Dates: 1917-1928
Quantity: 1.25 linear feet, 2 boxes
Acquisition: Donated by Harry Rosenberg, June 18, 2014
Identification: PMML ID# 800206, OCLC# 944444789, Call# PAPERS 00198
Citation: [Document Title]. The Bernard Flexner Collection, [Box #, Folder #], Pritzker Military Museum & Library, Chicago, IL.
Language: English
Finding Aid: Brie Montoya, 2016; Updated by Andrea Martinez, 2018

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Biographical Note

Bernard Flexner was born February 24, 1865 in Louisville, Kentucky. He moved to Chicago in 1911, before eventually settling in New York City. Flexner was a successful lawyer, who focused of his interest in public welfare and wrote a lot of material based on his studies of neglected children.

As a major in the Red Cross, he traveled to Roumania in 1917 to study wartime conditions. Shortly after World War I, he became associated with the Joint Distribution Committee. He was also a well-known Zionist, having served as counsel to the Zionist delegation at the Paris Peace Conference following World War I.

Scope and Content of the Collection

The Bernard Flexner Collection is made up of items from a scrapbook and trench art. The vast majority of the collection arrived on separated sheets of an old scrapbook. Items were removed from the pages, if possible, but arranged in folders in the page order they were found. A collection of button pins were removed from one page and

arranged in their own tray. The vast majority of this collection pertains to Flexner's visit to Roumania in 1917 as a member of the Red Cross.

Arrangement

Parts of the collection arrived in a discernable order. While items have been removed from pages in the original scrapbook, staff has kept them in original order when able. Other items have been arranged, as needed, by museum staff. The collection consists of two series:

Series One: Scrapbook

This series includes items that were attached to pages and tucked between pages of a scrapbook detailing Flexner's visit to Roumania with the Red Cross in 1917. Other items in the scrapbook pertain to the Henderson County, Kentucky branch of the Red Cross. Button pins found in the scrapbook have been separated and arranged in their own tray. An oversized bulletin is included, but has also been placed in a separate box.

Series Two: Trench Art

This series includes pieces of trench art and a keychain made from a 5-franc coin. The trench art items have been separated and placed in Memorabilia. The keychain has been placed in the tray with items from Series One.

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Separations

Item ID	Call Number	Description	Location
800206025		French flag pin - one side has the seal of a women hugging a child, the other side says "Journee de L'Orphelinat Armees"; removed from page 3 of scrapbook	Trays

800206026	Button insert labeled "Volunteer" and "Slip inside of Fourth Liberty Loan Button"; removed from page 3 of scrapbook	Trays
800206027	Button pin - Fourth Liberty Loan; removed from page 3 of scrapbook	Trays
800206028	Button pin - Fourth Liberty Loan; removed from page 3 of scrapbook	Trays
800206029	Button pin - American Red Cross emblem; removed from page 3 of scrapbook	Trays
800206030	Button pin - American Committee Relief in Near East; removed from page 3 of scrapbook	Trays
800206031	Button pin - American Red Cross 1920; removed from page 3 of scrapbook	Trays
800206032	Button pin - American Jewish War Relief; removed from page 3 of scrapbook	Trays
800206033	Button pin - Third Liberty Loan Volunteer; removed from page 3 of scrapbook	Trays
800206034	Button pin - American Red Cross 1919; removed from page 3 of scrapbook	Trays
800206035	Button pin - War Savings Service; removed from page 3 of scrapbook	Trays
800206036	Button pin – Woman’s Liberty Loan Committee; removed from page 3 of scrapbook	Trays
800206037	Button pin - U.S. flag; removed from page 3 of scrapbook	Trays
800206038	Button pin - Victory Girls; removed from page 3 of scrapbook	Trays
800206039	Button pin - The Salvation Army; removed from page 3 of scrapbook	Trays
800206040	Button pin - Liberty Loan with button insert; removed from page 3 of scrapbook	Trays

800206041	Victory Liberty Loan medal and ribbon; removed from page 3 of scrapbook	Trays
800206042	Keychain - 5 francs, engraved with "H.N. Rosenberg" and "A.E.F." (American Expeditionary Forces) on the other side	Trays
800206043	Trench art - WWI shell casing "1914-18 Meuse Argonne"	Memorabilia
800206044	Trench art - WWI shell casing "Marne Chateau Thierry"	Memorabilia
800206045	WWI shell and casing marked 37-85 PDPs 187 9.17 (produced 9/1917)	Memorabilia
800206046	WWI shell and casing marked 37-85 PDPs 331 9.17 (produced 9/1917)	Memorabilia

Key Subjects

This collection is indexed under the following headings in the Library's online catalog. Researchers interested in materials about related topics, persons, or places should search the catalog using these subject headings.

Subjects

American National Red Cross.
World War, 1914-1918 -- Art and the war.
World War, 1914-1918 -- Romania.

Container List

Box	Folder	Item ID #	Title	Dates
			Series 1: Scrapbook	1917-1919, c. 1928
1	1		Scrapbook	1917
		800206001	<p>Page 1 - titled "Red Cross Commission to Roumania. Aug. - Dec. 1917" with four photographs and name plate of Major Bernard Flexner; photographs include headshot of Flexner captioned "On Passport.", Flexner standing in uniform, Flexner standing in outside a train with four men captioned "En route to Vancouver. Taken by Wells." and group in front of a pagoda captioned "Nikko, Japan." on the front and "[unknown] one of the only gates of the Temple. The commission and a family of Roumanians" on the back</p>	8/1917- 12/1917
		800206002	<p>Page 2 - three photographs, including a group of people standing in front of the "Red Cross Headquarters Tokio", a headshot signed Bernard Flexner, and a group of men in uniform standing next to a group of women</p>	n.d.
1	2		Scrapbook	1918
		800206003	<p>Page 3 - letter to Mrs. Julius Bauldauf from the Liberty Loan Organization selecting her as a member, "Fatherless Children of France" paper, American Defense Society for Fatherless Children of France stamp, photograph of a woman</p>	3/8/1918

		Page 4 - invitation to Charles P. Schwartz for Flexner's speech "How America Can Help Russia and Roumania" at Hotel Morrison on 3/2/1918, invitation to Flexner's speech at St. Mark's Men' Club on October 7, announcement of Flexner's speech "Roumania and the War" at the Union League Club on January 5	c. 3/2/1918
1	3	Scrapbook	1917, 1918
		Page 5 - postcard with the R.M.S. Mauretania on the front to Mrs. Julius Bauldauf from Flexner, invitation to Flexner from Lord Rothschild for dinner with Emir Feisel on 12/21/1918, note from Herbert Samuel dated 12/22/1918	12/10/1918-12/22/1918
		Page 6 - the Union League Club of Chicago's statement on buying United States Government Bonds of the Second Liberty Loan	c. 1917
1	4	Scrapbook	1917, 1918, c. 1928
		Page 7 - <i>The Tenyo Wireless</i> news for 11/29/1917, copy of a cable to Flexner from Queen Marie of Roumania thanking him for dedication to the cause of her country (11/27/1918)	11/29/1917-11/27/1918
		Page 8 - Philadelphia College of Pharmacy 32nd Alumni Reception for the Class of 1896 booklet	c. 1928
1	5	Scrapbook	1918
		Page 9 - Division of Four Minute Men bulletin number 31	5/27/1918
		Page 10 - two Emergency Ration Cards issued to Bernard Flexner	12/25/1918-12/31/1918

1	6	Scrapbook	1917
	800206011	Page 11 - invitation to Flexner's speech on "Roumania and the War" at La Salle Hotel on March 9, thank you note to the Chairman of the Red Cross Chapter of Henderson County, Kentucky (12/7/1917), newspaper clippings "Gold Medal for School Children" and "Four Minute Talks for the Red Cross"	C. 12/7/1917
	800206012	Page 12 - newspaper clipping "Woman's Club Notes" on the club in Henderson, Kentucky; thank you letter from the American Red Cross in Paris to the Henderson County Chapter, with envelope (12/16/1917)	c. 12/16/1917
1	7	Scrapbook	1919
	800206013	Page 13 - American Protective League Honorable Discharge certificate	1/31/1919
	800206014	Page 14 - application for identification card in France signed 3/21/1919; nametag for Mr. Henry Webster hand-dated 7/3/1919	3/21/1919- 7/3/1919
1	8	Scrapbook	1917, 1918
	800206015	Page 15 - black and white photograph of an Orthodox priest; black and white photograph captioned "David R. Francis to Major Bernard Flexner with sincere regard. Petrograd Oct. 17th - 30th 1917"	9/17/1917- 10/30/1917
	800206016	Page 16 - Liberty Loan Organization certificate naming Mrs. Julius Bauldauf as County Chairman for Henderson County, Kentucky	3/7/1918

Loose Items**1917, n.d.**

800206017	Passenger list booklet for the Canadian Pacific Ocean Services Trans-Pacific Lines - Flexner was on the Empress of Russia	8/2/1917
800206018	Passenger list booklet for the S.S. "Tenyo Maru" - voyage no. 46 homeward from Hong Kong; signed by "H.H. Arthit, Prince of Siam," "Arthur Glasgow, Red Cross Commission to Rumania" and "Bernard Flexner, Red Cross Commission to Rumania"	10/27/1917
800206019	Program handout for the Tenyo Grand Opera Troupe's S.S. "Tenyo Maru" Grand Concert	11/21/1917
800206020	Programme of Sports and Entertainment pamphlet for the S.S. "Tenyo Maru" voyage 46 homeward	11/21/1917
800206021	Letter to Helena from Bernard Flexner - details of his trip on the Tenyo Maru, including meeting the Crown Prince of Siam	12/5/1917
800206022	4th Liberty Loan flyer	n.d.
800206023	Victory Girls poster	n.d.

Oversize Materials

800206024	<i>Cunard Bulletin</i> from the Mauretania	6/2/1919
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