

The future now holds promise of better things. The Board of Directors, a group of public spirited citizens has formed a non-profit, non-stock corporation, named "The Lyric Foundation, Inc.," having as one of its express purposes the preservation of the Lyric and the making of proper and necessary repairs and improvements for a more effective operation. Recently, after having acquired a majority interest in the stock of the Lyric Company, the Foundation purchased the Theatre and other properties belonging to and associated with the operation of the Lyric Theatre. This Foundation is tax exempt by the Federal Government and Baltimore City.

The Lyric has been a landmark in Baltimore City since 1894. Originally called "The Music Hall," it was designed after the famous Leipzig Meues Grewandhaus. The success of the Lyric from the time of its inception was immediate, and its reputation is world-wide. Its acoustical perfection is recognized as being outstanding. Great musical artists have performed at the Lyric, and particularly Madame Nellie Melba, who sang on opening night, have commented on the peculiar and almost perfect qualities of its auditorium for acoustical effects. Present day acoustical experts rate the hall of the Lyric Theatre as one of the best in the world. The Boston Symphony performed at the first concert given in the Lyric Theatre and also performed at the Seventy-fifth Anniversary Concert.

In view of the historical, useful and honorable tradition of the Lyric Theatre, we believe its preservation and continued operation are vital to the people of Baltimore City and the State of Maryland, and every reasonable encouragement should be given to its management.

Therefore, the members of the General Assembly of Maryland are delighted to add the foregoing testimonial to this concert hall and enthusiastically endorse the continued operation of the Lyric Theatre as a non-profit and tax-free structure.

The Lyric Theatre is in fact an historical monument; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That this Body congratulates and commends the management and the ownership of the Lyric Theatre for their outstanding achievements in preserving this historical and cultural attraction, and we, therefore, endorse its designation as an HISTORICAL MONUMENT; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Secretary of State of Maryland is directed to send copies of this Resolution under the Great Seal of the State of Maryland to the Directors of the Lyric Foundation, Inc., and the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City.

Approved May 6, 1971.

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No. 35

(House Joint Resolution 46)

House Joint Resolution requesting the Governor to proclaim the week of June 13 to 20, 1971, as "Fine Arts Week" in Maryland.