

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

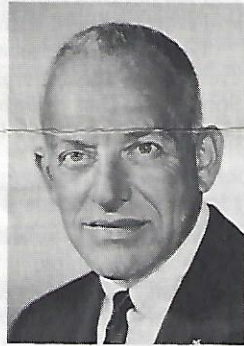
Volume XXXI, Number 10

Chicago, Illinois

June, 1971

Joseph L. Eisendrath on Lincoln Myths, Friday, June 11

It may be recalled that at our February meeting one of those always unanticipated crises occurred. Our speaker, coming from no further away than Milwaukee by scheduled bus, ran into dense fog, a chain reaction of 15 accidents, closed highway, detours, and the slows. As time for the talk arrived President Dan Lapinski pressed into service as backup speaker former president Joseph L. Eisendrath, who got fairly well launched into the outline of his talk, when our scheduled speaker, Harry H. Anderson, arrived.



Joseph L. Eisendrath

All of this sounded so good as far as it had gone that it was determined that we must hear the rest of it at the first opportunity, with or without crisis, disaster, hell, or high water. Accordingly Joe Eisendrath is our scheduled speaker for the meeting of Friday, June 11, 1971, at the Chicago Bar Association; his topic, "The Lincoln Myths."

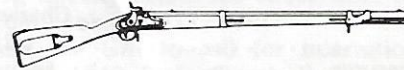
Joe has rounded up some twenty-five myths relating to Lincoln, all subjects of frequent debate and discussion. Few will have missed hearing of that concerning Ann Rutledge of New Salem. There are others about his home life and wife Mary Todd, his many defeats, his box score as lawyer, his changing religious views—or did they change? Was he shrewd politician or "Honest Abe?" What are the true facts on his voice and appearance? What is really known about his wrestling match with Duff Armstrong? How did he get to be President? Was he a complete unknown—he had served only one term in Congress? Did he write the Gettysburg Address on the train? What are the facts in the Widow Bixby letter? What is the box score on soldiers saved from death in Lincoln's review of courts martial? Was he an angry man? Melancholy? Was he a follower of spiritualism? Did he have forebodings of disaster? Did he tell dirty stories? To what degree was he military leader? Did most of his fame come after death?

Joe should have a lot to talk about—and give us much to argue about.

Joseph L. Eisendrath was born June 12, 1908. (If he talks long enough we can sing "Happy Birthday.") His wife was Gladys Rothafel; they have two sons and five grandchildren. His home is in Highland Park. He received his Ph.B. degree at the University of Chicago in 1929.

He has been active in the Boy Scouts for more than 25 years; is a member of the National Council and holder of the Silver Beaver award. Joe has national reputation as a philatelist. He has been a stamp collector for more than 50 years. He is past president of the American Air Mail Society and has served other philatelic groups. He is at present editor in chief of The American Air Mail Catalogue. He has written many articles on philatelic subjects.

Joe writes that he has been interested in Lincoln and the



302nd REGULAR MEETING

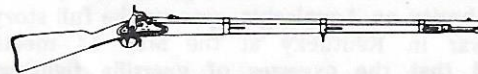
Joseph L. Eisendrath
on
The Lincoln Myths

Friday, June 11, 1971

Chicago Bar Association
29 South LaSalle Street

Cocktails at 5:30 p.m.

Dinner at 6:30 p.m.



Civil War since 1941 and has been a member of CWRT since early 1942. He was president of CWRT 1949-50. He says he has "a good working library on Lincoln and has authored many Lincoln and Civil War articles. Biggest honor was footnoter and researcher for Otto Eisenschiml. (He wanted me to do a book with him.)"

Professionally Joe Eisendrath is head of Banthrico, Inc., manufacturers of coin banks and die castings. He has engaged in numerous civic activities, and admits to being a lousy golfer.

KROLICK ELECTED

Marshall Krolick was elected president of The Civil War Round Table for 1971-72 at the annual meeting May 14. Other officers chosen were: senior vice president, Charles Falkenberg; vice presidents, Henry Kennedy and Elmer Pendarvis; secretary, Gordon Whitney; treasurer, Charles Wesselhoeft; assistant treasurer, Don Jensen. Elected to the Board of Directors were Richard Cohen, George Fleming, and Don Sikorski.

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

18 East Chestnut Street,
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Phone: Whitehall 4-3085

OFFICERS

President Dan Lapinski
Senior Vice President Marshall Krolick
Vice President Miner Coburn
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Terms expiring in 1971: Mort Feigen, Norman Wiche.

Terms expiring in 1972: Ward Smidl, Francis Geigle,
Charles Falkenberg, Jr.

Founding Newsletter Editor: Gil Twiss, 1954-1968



from the Editor's pen



Harry M. Caudill of Whitesburg, Kentucky, nationally-known authority on Appalachia, gave us the full story of the guerrilla war in Kentucky at the May 14 meeting. He emphasized that the excesses of guerrilla fighting left a bitterness and desire for revenge that resulted in feuds that continued in the mountain region long after the war, including much of the labor troubles that afflicted the area. There was feuding in 30 counties down to about 1912. In Breathitt County, of about 11,000 population, there were 1,000 murders in 50 years. No courts were held for 20 years. At the outbreak of the Spanish-American war amnesty was promised those who enlisted in some 200 men joined the army and cases against them were dismissed.

BATTLEFIELD TOUR

Will Leonard of the Chicago Tribune took the battlefield tour and the following report appeared in his column in the Chicago Tribune of May 8, 1971:

● HERewith WE SUBMIT our annual report on the spring-time tour of historic battlefields by members of the Civil War Round Table of Chicago. This year the enthusiasts (how we hate that word "buffs") trailed back and forth, hither and yon, along the deliberately confusing trails used by Stonewall Jackson in the Shenandoah Valley campaign of 1862. If Stonewall could have President Abraham Lincoln and the federals baffled then, you can imagine what he did to a hundred Chicagoans

109 years later. But we learned a few valuable things.

Item: Sheridan wasn't "twenty miles away," as the poem says, when he rode from Winchester to Cedar Creek, to stem the good guys' retreat. It was about eleven and a half miles.

Item: At Port Royal, where Jackson did a Muhammad Ali (i. e., "float like a butterfly, sting like a bee), there's a Bing Crosby Stadium today. None of the guides could explain why.

Item: A recent wire service story to the newspapers said there's a barber in Harrisonburg, Va., who is more than 90 years old, and stubbornly refuses to raise the rates on haircuts. The story said the tonsorial operation remains where it was when he went into business some 60 years ago—at about 25 or 30 cents. No one on the tour could flush this admirable citizen. Harrisonburg papers please copy.

Item: One of the tourists, sound asleep in a motel near Winchester, was wakened by a pounding on his door, and thought for a moment the end of the world was at hand. But it seems there are fireworks for sale in the Shenandoah Valley, and his buddies from Chicago were lighting a series of sparklers and stuffing them thru the keyhole, one after another.

Long ago, before we left Chicago, we had ascertained that eventually, the federal government defeated the Confederacy. Somehow, that was reassuring, last week between the Appalachians and the Blue Ridge.

REPORTS OF PROGRESS.

We have recent letters from recipients of Civil War Round Table fellowships. Thomas Schoonover writes from the University of Southwestern Louisiana, Lafayette:

Under separate cover I am sending you a copy of my dissertation, written with the generous assistance of your Fellowship for the year 1968-1969. I wish once again to thank the whole Chicago Round Table for their help; perhaps you could do that for me at your next meeting.

I would also like to explain why I am so late in sending you your copy. Since last summer I have been engaged in revising the dissertation to publish it as a book. Having only my own copy to mail to various readers around the country, I decided to hold your copy as temporary insurance that my copy would not get lost or misplaced. The revision is completed and I hope within 6 months to inform you that your Fellowship has contributed toward the publication of a book.

Richard Winslow, The Pennsylvania State University, The Delaware Campus, Media, writes:

It has been a real honor and a source of both personal and professional pride to be the recipient of the Fellowship Award.

A full academic teaching load has greatly hampered my actual work on my study of John Sedgwick, but not my interest and enthusiasm for bringing this project to eventual completion. I have searched very long and hard for a publisher. After fourteen rejections, the University of Alabama Press notified me in February about its interest. During the term break, I talked with Mr. Travis, the press's editor in Tuscaloosa, and am happy to report that he has consented verbally to publish my study, subject to revisions and additional chapters. Dr. Warren W. Hassler, the supervisor of my dissertation at Penn State, has agreed to help me in fleshing out the study into a full-dress biography, as well as writing an introduction to the book. I have a teaching commitment for the forthcoming academic year, but have made fairly definite plans to devote my full time and attention for a year (June, 1972-June 1973) to finish the manuscript for publication.

Senators Charles Mathias and J. Glenn Beall, Republicans, Maryland, have introduced a bill to repay a \$200,000 ransom paid by the city fathers of Frederick to Gen. Jubal A. Early in 1864. They seem to have a point in that it was 1951 before the city finished paying off the banks, as had been agreed 87 years before. However the senators' bill seeks interest at 4 per cent compounded annually, figured out as \$6,066,392.62. That seems excessive, even for Jubal Early.

QUIZ PHOTO IDENTIFIED

One of our hopes in establishing a quiz program of partially identified photographs was that they might be of use to someone if we knew more about them. We seem to have hit the jackpot with the Antietam picture in the April CWRT Bulletin. James R. Atkinson, Park Historian, Antietam NBS pins down the location and the approximate date. The South Mountain range that he refers to can be seen in the original photograph, and shows up faintly even in our reproduction when you know where to look. We are delighted to find that this cast-off photo has research value at Antietam Battlefield and of course the original goes there with the compliments of CWRT of Chicago. Mr. Atkinson writes:

I noted with interest the photograph taken at Antietam that you published in the April newsletter. After a little comparing and pondering I believe I have identified its location.

I am enclosing two poloroid photos taken from about the same place as the old one. The view is of "Bloody Lane" from a point just below the exit of Mumma lane. The Hagerstown pike, therefore, is behind the photographer, and the right angle turn in the lane is in the distance. The northernmost end of Elk Ridge can be seen at the right in both the old and new pictures. The white structures at left center in the old photo is undoubtedly some since-obiterated outbuildings connected to the post 1862 farm house which now stands at the sharp turn in "Bloody Lane." This farm was established between 1862 and 1877.

You will notice that in the darker poloroid shot the South Mountain range is visible, but is not in the lighter exposure. This wash-out of South Mountain occurred in the old photograph also. It was not until I discovered this that I was able to figure the photograph out.

The man in the black clothes is looking across the fields over which Union Brigadier General William H. French's division attacked the five Alabama regiments of D. H. Hill's division.

As you say, the photograph was probably taken in the late 19th century. Soon after the establishment of Antietam National Battlefield Site in 1890 the U. S. War Department removed the old rail fences, widened the lane in this section into an avenue for tourists, and built the concrete post and wire fences shown in the recent photographs.

I consider this photograph a real find, for we do not have a view on file of this part of "Bloody Lane" before it was "improved" by the War Department. It would be of tremendous value in a possible future restoration project of this section of the lane.



ANTIETAM LOOKING DOWN THE LANE. This photo was taken by James R. Atkinson, Park Historian, Antietam NBS at the same location as the quiz picture shown in the April CWRT Bulletin. The quiz picture apparently was taken before 1890 when the War Department took over the battlefield and rebuilt the road as seen above. Further details are given in Mr. Atkinson's accompanying letter.

TO THE LADIES—

Mrs. Eleanor Smith was elected president of The Camp Followers for 1971-72 at the May 14 meeting. A long and faithful member of the group, she will take charge of programs for the ensuing year. Meanwhile—

The Program: "The Sisters," that thrilling, romantic tragedy, conceived, dedicated, and written in the style of the 1860's by Joyce Warshaw, will return to the scene of its first great triumph after a successful tour of the provinces. The talented thespians who present this unforgettable play are Joyce Warshaw, Lenore Fleming, and George Fleming.

The Time: Friday, June 11, 1971

The Place: The Book and Bottle, 17 East Chestnut Street, directly across the street from the Abraham Lincoln Bookshop.

And the Girl to call for reservations is Joyce Warshaw, 1319 Crain Street, Evanston, Ill. 60602; phone 866-6667.

Last Meeting: Charles Wesselhoeft performed superbly in instructing the ladies on railroads in the Civil War, their operating problems in wartime, and their importance in strategy. He successfully fielded many questions concerning the role of the roads in wartime. In the absence of Margaret April trouble developed with the security system at the close of the meeting, by which it seemed to be possible to move anywhere but out. Eventually Dick Clark rode to the rescue with a horeshoe nail without which the battle had been lost, in the form of a key, and all escaped without loot.

Long-time CWRT member Robert L. Huttner has ended a long hospital siege and is reported recuperating in the Carlton Convalescent home, 725 West Montrose Avenue, where he would be glad to hear from old friends.

CWRT member Charles Bournstine suffered an operation in Presbyterian-St. Lukes Hospital early in May. He is currently commander of the Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Association of Cook County, Illinois

HELP WANTED

I would sincerely appreciate the assistance of members in obtaining information to be used in connection with a doctoral dissertation. My dissertation pertains to the Union bands of the Civil War with emphasis on those bands which remained in after the issuance of General Order #91 in July of 1862. Information prior to that time would, however, be useful.

My interests are concerned with securing photographs, letters, diaries, concert programs, newspaper clippings, muster rosters, or any other materials pertaining to Union bands. Additional information such as regimental histories, with references to bands, would also be highly desirable. Foremost among wanted items are manuscript books actually used by Union musicians and instruments in private hands or collections.

My research *excludes* drum calls, bugle calls, navy bands, and sheet music (unless it refers to the bands).

I would be pleased to swap materials with anyone having like interests. Other suggestions of possible sources would be most welcome.

William A. Bufkin
Box 22641 L.S.U.
Baton Rouge, La. 70803

THE NEW BOOKS

(Compiled by Dick Clark)



Adams, Charles Francis. *Lee at Appomattox, and Other Papers*. 2d ed., enlarged. Freeport, N.Y.: Books for Libraries (1970). Reprint of the 1903 edition. \$12.50

Allan, Francis D., compiler. *Allan's Lone Star Ballads; a Collection of Southern Patriotic Songs, made during Confederate Times*. N.Y.: Burt Franklin (1970). Reprint 1874 edition, without music, in part with tune indications. \$17.50

Brooks, William E. *Grant of Appomattox, a Study of the Man*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1970. Reprint 1942 edition. \$13.00

Burgess, John Wm. *The Civil War and the Constitution 1859-1865*. Port Washington, N.Y.: Kennikat Press (1971). 2 vols. Reprint of the 1901 edition. \$27.50

Coffin, Charles Carleton. *Four Years of Fighting*. N.Y. Arno (1970). Reprint of the 1866 edition. \$19.00

Davidson, Chalmers Gaston. *The Last Foray: The South Carolina Planters of 1860; A sociological study*. Columbia, S.C.: Published for the South Carolina Tricentennial Commission by the University of South Carolina Press, 1970. \$6.95

Dewey, George. *Autobiography of George Dewey, Admiral of the Navy*. N.Y.: AMS Press, 1968. Reprint 1913 edition. \$12.50

DeWitt, David Miller. *The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln and its Expiation*. Freeport, N.Y.: Books for Libraries Press (1970). Reprint 1909 edition. \$11.00

Dickson, Harris. *The Story of King Cotton*. Westport, Conn.: Negro Universities Press (1970). Reprint 1937 edition. \$12.75

Foster, G. Allen. *Sunday in Centreville: The Battle of Bull Run, 1861*. N.Y.: D. White (1971). For young people. \$4.95

Greeley, Horace. *Recollections of a Busy Life*. N.Y.: Arno (1970). Reprint 1868 edition. \$21.00

Hamer, Philip May. *The Secession Movement in South Carolina, 1847-1852*. N.Y.: Da Capo, 1971. Originally presented as the author's thesis, University of Pennsylvania, 1918. \$9.50

Hamlin, Charles E. *The Life and Times of Hannibal Hamlin*. Port Washington, N.Y.: Kennikat Press (1971). Reprint 1899 edition. \$27.50

Hardee, William J. *Rifle and Light Infantry Tactics; For the Exercise and Manoeuvres of Troops When Acting as Light Infantry or Riflemen*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1971. 2 vols. Reprint 1855 edition. \$28.00

Helper, Hinton Rowan. *The Impending Crisis of the South; How to Meet it*. Westport, Conn.: Negro Universities Press (1970). Reprint 1857 edition. \$14.75

Higginson, Mary Potter. *Thomas Wentworth Higginson: The Story of His Life*. Port Washington, N.Y.: Kennikat Press (1971) Reprint 1914 edition. \$15.25

(Hopley, Catherine C.) *Life in the South . . . By a Blockaded British Subject*. 2 vols. N.Y.: Augustus M. Kelley, 1971. Edition of 1863. \$32.50

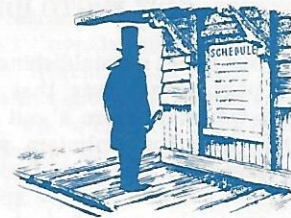
Humphreys, Charles Alfred. *Field, Camp, Hospital, and Prison in the Civil War, 1863-1865*. Freeport, N.Y.: Books for Libraries (1971). Reprint 1918 edition. \$16.50

Johnson, Jesse J., edition. *A Pictorial History of Black Soldiers (1619-1969) in Peace and War*. Hampton, Va.: the author, Hampton Institute (c.1970) \$6.95

Jomini, Henry, Baron. *The Art of War*. New edition (Philadelphia, 1862). Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1971. \$15.50

Lyman, Theodore. *Meade's Headquarters, 1863-1865; Letters of Colonel Theodore Lyman from the Wilderness to Appomattox*. Selected and edited by George R. Agassiz. Copyright 1922. Freeport, N.Y.: Books for Libraries (1970). \$15.00

BULLETIN BOARD



FUTURE MEETINGS

June 11: Joseph L. Eisendrath on Lincoln Myths

September 10: To be announced.

Regular meetings are held to the Chicago Bar Association, 29 South LaSalle Street, 11th floor, second Friday in each month.

Reservations have been made for the following dates, subject to change as untoward circumstances arise: September 10, October 8, November 12, December 10, 1971; January 14, February 11, March 10; April 14, May 12, June 9, 1972.



Main, Edwin M. *The Story of the Marches, Battles and Incidents of the Third United States Colored Cavalry, a Fighting Regiment in the War of the Rebellion, 1861-5*. With official orders and reports relating thereto, compiled from the Rebellion records. (Louisville, Ky., 1908). Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1971. \$13.50

Moore, Edward Alexander. *The Story of a Cannoneer under Stonewall Jackson . . .* Freeport, N.Y.: Books for Libraries (1971). Reprint 1907 edition. \$13.75

Pollard, Edward Alfred. *Echoes from the South*. Comprising the most important speeches, proclamations, and public acts emanating from the South during the late war. Westport, Conn.: Negro Universities Press (1970). Reprint 1866 edition. \$9.25

Russell, William H. *My Diary North and South*. 2 vols. N.Y.: Augustus M. Kelley, 1971. Reprint 1863 edition. \$30.00

Sala, George Augustus. *My Diary in America in the Midst of War*. N.Y.: Augustus M. Kelley, 1971. 2 vols. Reprint 2nd edition of 1865. \$30.00

Sandburg, Carl. *Abraham Lincoln; the Prairie Years and the War Years*. Illustrated edition. N.Y.: Harcourt (1970). \$12.95

Scheliha, Viktor Ernst Karl Rudolf von. *Treatise on Coast-defence; Based upon the Experience Gained by Officers of the Corps of Engineers of the Army of the Confederate States, and Compiled from Official Reports of Officers of the Navy of the United States. Made during the Late North American War from 1861 to 1865*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1971. Reprint of London issue of 1868. \$23.25

Trollope, Anthony. *North America*. N.Y.: Augustus M. Kelley, 1971. 2 vols. Reprint 1862 issue. \$32.50

Unger, Irwin and D. M. Reimers. *The Slavery Experience in the United States*. N.Y.: Holt, 1970. paper \$2.95

Warren, Robert Penn. *John Brown, the Making of a Martyr*. St. Clair Shores, Mich.: Scholarly Press, 1970. Reprint 1929 edition. \$19.00

Weinberg, Adelaide. *John Elliot Cairnes and the American Civil War; a Study in Anglo-American Relations*. London: Kingswood Press, 1970. 55s.

Wells, Damon. *Stephen Douglas: The Last Years, 1857-1861*. Austin, Texas: University of Texas Press, 1971. \$10.00

Wilson, Henry. *History of the Reconstruction Measures of the Thirty-ninth and Fortieth Congresses, 1865-1868*. Westport, Conn.: Negro Universities Press (1970). Reprint 1868 edition. \$16.25

Wilson, Henry. *History of the Rise and Fall of the Slave Power in America*. Westport, Conn.: Negro Universities Press (1970). Originally published 1872 and 1877. 3 vols. \$55.00