

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XLI, Number 9

Chicago, Illinois

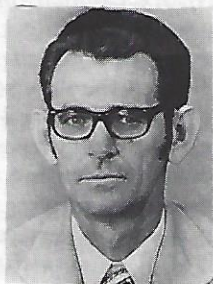
May, 1981

ARCHIE P. MCDONALD ON JED HOTCHKISS, JACKSON'S TOPOGRAPHER

Jedediah Hotchkiss, the Yankee on whom Stonewall Jackson came to rely for his map-making ability, will be Professor Archie P. McDonald's subject when he addresses The Civil War Round Table on May 8. Dr. McDonald, a professor of history at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas, is well acquainted with his subject (he did his Ph.D. dissertation on Hotchkiss's diary). We are thus assured of an interesting, in-depth look at this key member of Jackson's staff.

Jed Hotchkiss was born in Windsor, New York, in 1828.

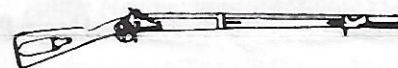
He taught school among the German miners in central Pennsylvania for a year before moving to Virginia where he taught in several places. In 1858 he established the Loch Willow school with his brother. When Virginia seceded, Hotchkiss determined to remain there and entered the Confederate service in time for the first action in the Valley in the fall of 1861. The following spring he joined Jackson's command and became its topographical engineer. He remained with Jackson until that officer's death, and then served all the other Second Corps commanders until the end of the war. Following the war Hotchkiss became a developer of the western Virginia coal fields. He died in 1899.



DR. ARCHIE P.
MCDONALD

Professor McDonald was born and raised in Texas. He received his B.S. in 1958 from Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas; his M.A. from Rice University in 1960; and his Ph.D. from Louisiana State in 1965. He has taught at Louisiana State, Murray State and Central Washington State College. He joined Stephen F. Austin State University in 1964 and became a full professor there in 1972. He teaches such courses as the American Civil War, Reconstruction, Texas History, The South, and American Social and Intellectual History.

Among the one dozen books Dr. McDonald has written are *The Mexican War: Crisis For American Democracy* (1969); *Fighting Men, The Western Military Heritage* (1970); *Make Me a Map of the Valley: The Journal of Jedediah Hotchkiss, 1862-1865* (1974); *Nacogdoches: Wilderness Outpost to Modern City, 1779-1979* (1979); and *The Texas Heritage* (1980). He is also the author of numerous articles, professional papers and book reviews. Currently he is at work on a biography of Hotchkiss.



401st REGULAR MEETING

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DR. ARCHIE P. MCDONALD ON JED HOTCHKISS, JACKSON'S TOPOGRAPHER

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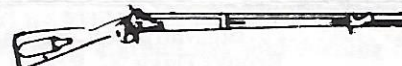
FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1981

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Como Inn

546 N. Milwaukee

Cocktails at 5:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

An important Executive Committee meeting will be held at the Como Inn at 5:00 p.m. on May 8, just prior to the regular meeting. Among the items on the agenda is selection of the site of the 1982 Battlefield Tour. All current officers, trustees, and committee chairman, as well as all past presidents, are urged to attend.

Dr. McDonald has served as editor of the *East Texas Historical Journal* (published twice yearly) since 1972. He is also a member of the executive council of the Texas State Historical Association. In 1975 he was named an Outstanding Educator of America and in 1976 the Alumni Distinguished Professor at Stephen Austin.

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

18 East Chesnut Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Phone: (312) 944-3085

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Founding Newsletter Editor: Gil Twiss, 1954-1968

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Terms expiring in 1981: J. William Gimbel, Jr., James Girman, Paul I. Klinger, Richard J. Percy.
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The only requirement for membership in The Round Table is a genuine interest in the Civil War and its era. For information, address Ward C. Smidl, 1104 Whippoorwill Lane, Palatine, Illinois 60067.



The ceremony dedicating the Pelham monument at Kelly's Ford will be held May 24 and will involve participation by units of the Tidewater North-South Skirmish Association. The fund drive to raise the money to erect a suitable monument to Pelham on the site of his death was headed by Margaret Vogtsberger of the Williamsburg Round Table.

from the Editor's pen



The battle of Petersburg goes on. As we reported several months ago, the Department of Housing and Urban Development wants to put a 101-unit, high-rise, low-income housing project directly adjacent to the boundaries of Petersburg National Battlefield. This would be in addition to the 314 HUD units already located on the northern boundary.

Opposition to the plan centers around the known adverse affects on the park of the existing HUD housing. As park superintendent Wallace B. Elms has said, "the fact that high-density housing is on the boundaries of the park has added to our troubles by being the source of numerous fires, vandalism to park exhibits and equipment (2,780 incidents in 1980), damage to historic resources through unauthorized trails to and digging in and around earthworks, unauthorized motor vehicle traffic on trails and earthworks (the cost this past year for repair of earthworks at Petersburg was \$32,750), and about any other adverse use you could imagine when a park is doubling as a 'backyard' for a housing project."

A Memorandum of Agreement has been executed between HUD and *partial* representation of the President's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regarding the impact of the project. However, it really only deals with effects on the project site, not the park itself. In addition, HUD and the Advisory Council have refused to permit a full member Council hearing on the Park Service's objections and HUD has suggested the Park Service is against low-income housing and even prejudiced against minority groups. But, with regard to the last point, it should be noted that the Park Service has supported alternative siting but that HUD has consistently rejected all alternatives in favor of putting all low-income housing in a single area, an area effectively isolated from commercial and recreational opportunities in Petersburg by the interstate and state highways and the railroad. It would appear that HUD is deliberately creating a ghetto.

What's needed at this point are letters to your senators and representatives expressing opposition to the HUD park boundary site. You should also urge that the National Park Service be permitted a hearing on the issue before the *full* membership of the Advisory Council and that it be a signer of any Memorandum of Agreement before the project can proceed. (Up to now HUD has not considered the Park Service a "concerned party" and thus it has not been entitled to sign any agreement regarding the project's impact.)

The importance of this effort was well-expressed by Dr. Robert Meinhard, of Winona State University in Minnesota and national battlefield preservation chairman for Civil War Round Table Associates, in a letter to the Richmond and Petersburg papers. He said, "Petersburg National Battlefield Park is a great asset for Petersburg, and it is much more: it is a great national resource. We should not allow these historic structures and the historic setting of this park to be destroyed. It must be preserved for our children and grandchildren, so that they may visit these historic battlefields and learn of the valiant struggle of our ancestors for their ideals, and to do so in a setting that is respectful of the sacrifices they made."

APRIL MEETING

One hundred thirty seven members and guests gathered at the Como Inn April 10 to celebrate the 400th regular meeting of The Civil War Round Table. They enjoyed an evening of reminiscences, good humor and songs by the Schimmelfennig Singers. But, most of all, they enjoyed the opportunity to greet the many old friends who had returned for the event as well as the chance to make some new ones.

Master of ceremonies for the evening was founding member Ralph Newman (Ralph noted that only four founders are still with us, himself, Elmer Gertz, David Annan, and Percival G. Hart). He recalled briefly the early days—the activities and particularly the people—summing them up by noting there was never a dull moment. “All the members were remarkable men,” he said, “and every one was a character.”

Ralph then began introducing the past presidents who were present—each one spoke for a few minutes. First was Lloyd Miller who served as president in 1948-49 and to whom the Round Table owes so much—the fellowship program and the Civil War Research Collection, for example. Lloyd took the occasion to present us with two bound volumes of early meeting notices, each one autographed by the person who spoke at the meeting.

Joe Eisendrath, who served in 1950-51, recalled the 100th regular meeting that was held during his term as well as the first Battlefield Tour. He also remembered the presentation by Colonel Robert McCormick who, instead of discussing the Civil War spent the entire evening on the Greeks and Romans. Elmer Gertz, 1952-53, then talked about the Round Table's visit to Richmond and the hospitality shown them by Douglas Southall Freeman.

Pat Newman read a message from Pete Long (1955-56) in which, among other things, he praised The Round Table for the inspiration it provided him to keep going as a Civil War scholar. Margaret April, who started serving as registrar in 1956, recalled some of the early tours. Momentous events from Battlefield Tours past were also the subject of other past presidents—for instance, the beer can rolling contests on the buses (Mike Lerner, 1966-67), and the moving ceremony held at the site where Alexander Schimmelfennig had his finest hour (Dan Lapinski, 1970-71).

Marshall Krolick said that for him the highlight of his presidency was the people he met and the friendships he formed (and, he said, the friends he has made are the most important part of his membership today). This sentiment was echoed by many of the other past presidents. Unfortunately, as they noted, many of these fine friends are gone now—but certainly not forgotten. To underscore that point, the evening concluded with the playing of taps for the comrades no longer with us.

It has been learned that Dr. Harry W. Pfanz, Chief Historian for the National Park Service, has retired from that position. Dr. Pfanz had been chief historian since 1974, and served with the National Park Service for 25 years. A successor has not as yet been named.

In other Park Service news—Appomattox Court House National Historical Park has a new superintendent, Jon B. Montgomery. Importantly, Mr. Montgomery has a degree in history. Very few Civil War parks have historians as superintendents.

E(VERETTE) B(EACH) “PETE” LONG

1919-1981

By Ralph G. Newman

In 1944, a young newspaperman, working on the Associated Press night shift, walked into the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop, then on Michigan Avenue, and in his own words “never left the book shop or the Civil War.”

Born in Whitehall, Wisconsin in 1919, Pete Long attended Miami University, in Ohio, and Northwestern University before going to work as a newspaperman, eventually ending up with the AP for eight years. He left the AP to take an editorial position with the *American Peoples Encyclopedia*. In 1955, it was my good fortune to be able to recommend him to Bruce Catton and Doubleday & Company as chief of research for what was to become Catton's magnificent three-volume *Centennial History of the Civil War*. Following this, Pete performed a similar task for the latter part of Allan Nevins, multi-volume *Ordeal of the Union*.

Immediately after joining The Civil War Round Table in 1944, Pete became one of the pillars of the organization. He participated in at least 12 programs, either at regular meetings or on battlefield and special tours; his record in this respect has not been equalled by anyone. He served as our president in the 1955-1956 term. In 1969, Pete left Chicago to become associate professor and ultimately professor of American Studies at the University of Wyoming at Laramie. After leaving Chicago he returned on several occasions, notably to mark the publication of his incredible *Civil War Day by Day* in 1971. Bruce Catton, in his introduction to the volume, said of Pete, “It is no exaggeration whatever to say that this man knows more facts about the Civil War than any other man who ever lived.” He returned again in June, 1979, when he was the sixth recipient of the Nevins-Freeman Award.

Pete returned for the last time on Monday, March 30 when he spoke to The Westerners and some members of The Civil War Round Table on *The Saints and the Union: Utah Territory during the Civil War*. This was the title of his latest book which was published that day. His talk was superb, his spirits were high. He left the Chicago Press Club, where the meeting had been held, and walked with his niece a few blocks to the Allerton Hotel. After bidding his niece goodby, he went to his room, called his beloved Barbara; told her what a grand day and evening he had had; told her that he loved her, and shortly after he completed the conversation, died of a heart attack.

He was one of the most conscientious and honorable men I have ever known. He never failed to lend a helping hand when it was requested, and even if it was not asked. He was so generous to so many who worked in the Civil War field that he could have properly been listed as co-author for many works on which he contributed impeccable research and editorial advice.

When Pete left Chicago more than 10 years ago I wrote, “He has been a steady influence, a generous helper, a willing confidant, and true friend of all of us . . . To say that we will miss him is one of the great understatements of the age.” We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Barbara, and again to borrow a phrase from Robert E. Lee and Abraham Lincoln, “we bid you an affectionate farewell.”

THE NEW BOOKS



(Compiled by Dick Clark)

Angle, Paul M. *The Lincoln Reader*. Edited, with an introduction by... Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1981. \$49.50. Reprint of the original of 1947, Rutgers University Press.

Brooke, George M. *John M. Brooke: naval scientist and educator*. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1980. \$24.95.

Bushong, Millard K. *General Turner Ashby and Stonewall's Valley Campaign*. Verona, Va.: McClure Printing Co., 1987. \$13.00.

Chestnut, Mary Boykin Miller. *Mary Chestnut's Civil War*. Edited by C. Vann Woodward. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1981. \$29.95. The definitive edition.

Hoehling, A.A. and Mary Hoehling. *The Day Richmond Died*. San Diego: A.S. Barnes, 1981. \$12.95.

Mattern, Carolyn J. *Soldiers when they Go: The Story of Camp Randall, 1861-1865*. Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin for Dept. of History, University of Wisconsin, 1981. Pbk, \$4.95.

Mayfield, John. *Rehearsal for Republicanism: free soil and the politics of antislavery*. Port Washington, N.Y.: Kennikat, 1980. \$17.50.

Nevins, Allan, James I. Robertson, Jr., Bell Irvin Wiley. *Civil War Books: A Critical Bibliography*. 2 vols. Wendell, N.C.: Broadfoot's Bookmark, 1981. Reprint of the original of 1967. Vol. 1 \$20.00; vol. 2 \$25.00; the set \$40.00.

Wilson, R.L. *The Colt Heritage*. Color illustrations by Sid Latham. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1979. \$39.95

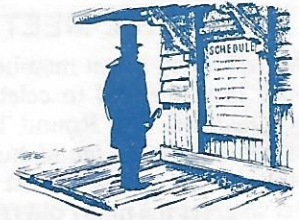
NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Merlin Sumner, chairman of the Nominating Committee, has announced the following proposed slate of officers for the 1981-82 year:

- President Robert H. Franke
- Senior Vice President Marvin Sanderman
- Vice President Donald E. Anderson
- Vice President J. Robert Ziegler
- Secretary Marvin Goldsher
- Treasurer Nathan Yellen
- Assistant Secretary William Margeson
- Assistant Treasurer Daniel R. Weinberg
- Trustee Betsy Davis
- Trustee J. Willam Gimbel, Jr.
- Trustee Matthias Lorenz
- Trustee James Vlazney

The election will be held during the May meeting, at which time additional nominations for any of the above offices may be made from the floor. Installation of the new officers will be part of the program at the Nevins Freeman Award Dinner on June 5. Four current members of the Board of Trustees, Margaret April, Robert C. Grossman, Karl Sundstrom, and Helmut Waedt, will remain in office for the coming year as they complete their two-year terms.

BULLETIN BOARD



FUTURE MEETINGS

Regular meetings are held at the Como Inn, 546 N. Milwaukee Avenue, the second Friday in each month except as noted.

April 29-May 3: Annual Battlefield Tour to Vicksburg.

May 8: Archie P. McDonald on "Jed Hotchkiss, Jackson's Topographer".

June 5: Nevins-Freeman Award Dinner and installation of officers. Recipient of award: James I. Robertson, Jr.

Every Monday: Informal noon luncheon meetings at Wieboldt's Men's Grill, 9th Floor, State and Madison; all members welcome.

NEW MEMBERS

Todd Fisher, 6908 Oakley, Chicago, Illinois 60645 (312) 465-7006.

Richard H. Frye, 2316 N. Sheffield Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60614 (312) 929-2151. Dick is a remodeling contractor and has a special interest in military and political aspects of the war.

Bill Hanlon, 6045 N. Fairfield, Chicago, Illinois 60659 (312) 262-2359. Bill works for LaSalle National Bank.

The Seventh Annual National Congress of Civil War Round Tables will be held October 1-3, 1981, in Frederick, Maryland. On the schedule are battlefield tours of Antietam and Monocacy led by Ed Bearss, Bob Krick and John Schildt and a battlefield preservation panel conducted by Dr. Robert Meinhard. Among the speakers lined up are William Frassanito on "Antietam: The Photographic Legacy of America's Bloodiest Day", Dr. Grady McWhiney who will discuss "Why the South Lost The Civil War", U.S. Senator Charles McC. Mathias, Jr., on "The Battle of Monocacy", Russell Dickenson, Director of the National Park Service, and Howard C. Westwood on "The Significance of Victory at Antietam."

Cost of the Congress is \$140 for members of Civil War Round Table Associates and \$160 for non-members (this includes all sessions, meals, tours, etc. but not lodging). Registration will be limited to 110. For further information, contact Civil War Round Table Associates, P.O. Box 7388, Little Rock, Arkansas 72217 (501) 225-3996.

A 351-foot-tall obelisk memorializing Jefferson Davis will be rededicated June 6 at his birthplace, Fairview, Kentucky. The monument, originally dedicated in 1924, was made possible by gifts from Confederate veterans and the Daughters of the Confederacy. It is the second highest of its kind in the world. Over the years, time and weather took their toll and restoration by the state was required. The rededication ceremony will follow the same format as was used in 1924 with the speakers quoting from the speeches given at that time.