



THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XX, Number 7

Chicago, Illinois

March, 1960

James I. Robertson, Jr.: "Jackson's Stone Wall - The Stonewall Brigade"

JAMES I. (BUD) ROBERTSON, JR., editor of CIVIL WAR HISTORY, will speak on "Jackson's Stonewall - the Stonewall Brigade" at our meeting on Friday, March 11.



James I. Robertson

"My talk will be a summary of the most famous fighting unit in the Southern armies, and possibly the most renowned infantry unit in American military history," Dr. Robertson said. "The Stonewall Brigade, composed of the 2nd, 4th, 5th, 27th, and 33rd Virginia regiments, plus the Rockbridge Artillery, carved a record of gallantry and glory that made it the inspiration of all Confederates.

"The love between its members and their commander was deep and mutual. Known as 'Jackson's foot cavalry', 'The Valley Warriors', 'The Jackson Band', 'The Men of Manassas', and 'The Old Stonewall Brigade', this unit fought a total of 39 engagements from Manassas to Appomattox. At the surrender of Lee's army, its aggregate was less than 5 per cent of its total number."

Dr. Robertson said: "In my talk I plan to summarize the composition and history of this brigade, emphasizing its independent and proud air, its bravery on many battlefields, the many humorous episodes of its members, and the many times it brought victory to Jackson, Lee and the Confederacy. I hope to show how men of humble origins rose to heights of valor in personifying what became The Lost Cause."

"Bud" Robertson is a native of Danville, Va., and says his interest in the Civil War descended from his great-grandfather, Capt. Joel C. Compton, who was Gen. Lee's cook and reputedly the champion wrestler in the Army of Northern Virginia.

Robertson received his B.A. from Randolph-Macon College and M.A. and Ph.D. from Emory University, where he taught for three years during the course of his doctoral studies under Bell Irvin Wiley.

He has three books in various stages of publication: A new and annotated edition of Sarah Morgan Dawson's A CONFEDERATE GIRL'S DIARY, which Indiana University will publish in April; a new and annotated edition of General James Longstreet's FROM MANASSAS TO APPOMATTOX, due in the fall of 1960 from Indiana, and a full scale history of THE STONEWALL BRIGADE, planned for print early in 1961.

Since taking up the editorship of CIVIL WAR HISTORY in September, 1959, "Bud" has spoken to Civil War Round

189th REGULAR MEETING

* * *

Dr. James I. Robertson, Jr.

on

"Jackson's Stone Wall - The Stonewall Brigade"

* * *

FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 1960

St. Clair Hotel

162 East Ohio Street

Cocktails at 5:30 p.m.

Dinner at 6:30

Tables of Minneapolis-St. Paul, Cedar Rapids, Dayton, Cincinnati, and Kansas City. He will come to Chicago on a tour which includes speeches in Cleveland (March 8, Longstreet), Milwaukee, and Madison (March 9 and 10, Stonewall Brigade).

He was a consultant and commentator at the Third Annual Civil War Conference at Gettysburg, Nov. 19-21, 1959. He will be one of the featured speakers at the Civil War Centennial Commission national assembly in St. Louis, May 5-6, discussing the search for historic documents and their proper identification and preservation in local and state archives. He is a member of the Advisory Council of the centennial commission and president of the Iowa City CWRT. He has been with our group on Battlefield Tours.

WARS ON CARELESS WRITING

William Stauffer, editor of Richmond's newsletter, conducting a campaign against careless writing on Civil War subjects, says:

"...nor did Thomas Jonathan Jackson or his famous brigade come to be designated 'Stonewall' immediately following the utterance of General Bee on the plateau above Bull Run in July, 1861, as one recent writer blandly asserts....We deplore such careless writing. One way to discourage it is to expose it, and this we do with all constructive intent."

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Parker Merrow, a member of the New Hampshire Civil War Centennial commission, is recording on tape the sound of a Minie ball at 200 yards, the smack of its impact into pine board, the whine of its ricochet off water and off stone, and other sounds heard by the soldiers of a century ago.

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Dr. William Lamers, assistant superintendent of Milwaukee schools, is working on a biography of Gen. William S. Rosecrans.



THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



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18 East Chestnut Street,
Chicago 11, Illinois
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INVITES SPEAKERS TO ENGLAND

Patrick C. Courtney, 34 Highclere Ave., Havant, Hampshire, England, U. K., secretary-treasurer of the Confederate Research Club of England, lauds Dr. Otto Eisenschiml's suggestion for a CWRT Speakers' Bureau and adds:

"Altho we could not participate in an exchange system at this distance, we could use the service in the following manner. List our meeting dates, namely the last Saturday in February, May, August, and November. We would be happy to welcome speakers from the United States who are sometimes in Great Britain. We have in the past met many Civil War students, both professional and amateur, who have been visiting Britain. It has always been our regret that they haven't been able to address or even attend our meetings because the dates were not known to them before they left the United States. Whether they come to our meetings as speakers or guests, they are assured of a welcome."

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From The Forager, Monmouth County (N.J.) CWRT:

"A Speakers' Bureau would be particularly advantageous to new Round Tables just getting started on programming, and to Round Tables in areas remote from large cities that have speakers readily available from universities, historical societies, or Park Services."

During the Civil War Illinois furnished 158 infantry regiments, including Sturgis Rifles, the Marine Brigade, and the Alton Battalion, 17 cavalry regiments, 2 light artillery regiments, and 8 independent batteries. - Springfield (Ill.) CWRT newsletter.



from the
Editor's pen



Newton C. Farr (left) and Dr. Robert L. Kincaid
Photo by Al Meyer

An honor usually conferred only at the campus of Lincoln Memorial University at Harrogate, Tenn., was awarded February 19 at a joint meeting of the Civil War Round Table and the Abraham Lincoln Heritage in Chicago.

Newton C. Farr, a founder of the CWRT and president of the board of trustees of L.M.U., conferred the university's Diploma of Honor on Dr. Robert Lee Kincaid, president emeritus of L.M.U. It was a surprise and Dr. Kincaid's reaction was, "You floored me, Newt." He related that he was one of the committee which developed the Diploma of Honor and said, "I've had many honors along the way, but this is closer to my heart than any I have received."

Farr had noted that each year L. M. U. recognizes a man who has contributed to the university's advancement.

The diploma to Dr. Kincaid reads: "In recognition of his distinguished service in the field of Lincolniana in the interpretation of the life, deeds and immortality of Abraham Lincoln." It was dated February 12, 1960.

Dr. Kincaid, featured speaker at the meeting, remarked that he was a Georgia boy, the grandson of a Confederate soldier. He said he found the Lincoln trail 50 years ago and "has been on it ever since." He reminisced of great events of the 50 years. The first was the three lectures of the poet Edwin Markham at L.M.U. in 1912.

Then there was the great Lincoln celebration at L.M.U. in 1917 which drew many noted men and speakers to the campus. Another was the July 1-3, 1938, last bivouac of the G.A.R. at Gettysburg on the 75th anniversary of the battle.

Dr. Kincaid told of a group which held a silent vigil at 7:22 a.m., April 15, 1940, in the Peterson house at Washington on the 75th anniversary of the passing of Lincoln. Another high point was July 25-26, 1947, the opening of the Robert Todd Lincoln papers at the Library of Congress. Finally, there was the joint session of Congress, February 12, 1959, and the tribute to Lincoln by Carl Sandburg.

More than 80 men of the Heritage and CWRT and their ladies heard Dr. Kincaid.

President Jerry Slechta introduced Dr. Edward Stullken, president of the Heritage group, who said, "I first studied the Civil War and then studied Abraham Lincoln - you have to understand the Civil War."

Dr. Otto Eisenschiml told the story of how he came to edit the new book, VERMONT GENERAL, and gave a synopsis.

* * *

Treasurer Fred Mitchell has analyzed the geographical distribution of Chicago CWRT and finds there are 138 members from Chicago; 122, other Illinois; 19, Indiana; 6, Wisconsin; 4 each, Washington D.C., Tennessee, and California; 3, North Carolina, Kentucky, and Ohio; 2, Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, New York, Texas and Minnesota; 1 each, Massachusetts, Arkansas, Florida, Iowa, Maine, Montana, Virginia, and West Virginia.

EXHIBIT OF WEAPONS

Perhaps the most representative exhibit of weapons and other relics ever assembled will be a major feature of the third annual assembly of the National Civil War Centennial Commission at the Sheraton-Jefferson hotel in St. Louis, May 5-6.

Part of the weapons exhibit will be sent from Jefferson Barracks and Fort Leavenworth, two of the frontier outposts of the war period.

J. P. Altmayer of Mobile, Ala., chairman of the Exhibits Committee of the American Society of Arms Collectors; the Company of Military Collectors, and the American Ordnance Association, are working in behalf of the exhibit. The Missouri Centennial commission, headed by Dr. Bert Maybee of Kansas City, and Norman Halls of St. Louis, commission member, are working on the program. Maybee and Halls have been presidents of their respective CWRT's.

* * *

The opening date of the Civil War Centennial, January 1, 1961, falls on Sunday, and Maj. Gen. U. S. Grant III, commission chairman, has announced that every church and every clergyman will be asked to arrange special programs calling attention to the significance of the observance. The national commission has created a Religious Cooperative Council to aid in the work.

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Forty states now have centennial commissions. Absentees are Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Nebraska, Nevada, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Utah and Washington. Wyoming, the 40th state with a commission, will send its 5th Volunteer Cavalry to the Manassas re-enactment in July, 1961, moving on horseback through Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Maryland.

The United Daughters of the Confederacy as a centennial project has launched a search for the SOUTHERN CROSSES, originated in the early 1890's as a medal of honor for Confederate veterans. Those discovered will be displayed by the individual chapters.

Alabama will mark the anniversary of the establishment of the Confederate government at Montgomery, commemorating the inauguration of Jefferson Davis as president in February, 1861.

N. E. (Nip) Warinner of Richmond CWRT has compiled a booklet, released by the Virginia commission, listing more than 1,000 actions, engagements, and battles that took place in Virginia in the years 1861-65.

Officers of the Indiana Civil War Centennial commission are Carl Zenor, Bainbridge, chairman; State Rep. J. J. Bailey, Anderson, vice-chairman; Elsa Strassweg, New Albany, secretary, and Robert Christianson, Mishawaka, treasurer.

The largest membership and guest turnout (175) in Baltimore CWRT history heard V. C. (Pat) Jones speak on "Guerrilla Activity in the Eastern Theater of the Civil War." He defined guerrilla activity as "to upset, harass the enemy and avoid general battle." Baltimore is holding a joint meeting with Maryland Historical society on March 14 with Bell I. Wiley as speaker.

BULLETIN BOARD

BATTLEFIELD TOUR LEAFLETS will be mailed to members in mid-March, but advance reservations may be made now by mailing a \$25 deposit to Registrar Margaret April, 18 East Chestnut Street, Chicago 11. This will assist the tour committee in an advance estimate of plane, bus, hotel and motel, and meal accommodations needed. The tour leaves Chicago by plane Wednesday morning, April 27, and returns Sunday evening, May 1. On the itinerary are Richmond, Petersburg, Five Forks, Amelia Court House, Saylor's Creek, Farmville, Appomattox, Charlottesville, Gordonsville, Cedar Mountain, Brandy Station, Manassas, Ball's Bluff and Washington.

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REPRINTS of the October issue of our newsletter, featuring the Civil War Tour of Chicago, have been made and will be available at meetings.

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NEW MEMBERS of the Civil War Round Table:

Edwin S. Hunt	Dennis C. Orphan
2527 Central Park Ave.	340 Oswego St.
Evanston, Ill.	Park Forest, Ill.

Louis L. Quigley
5901 N. Talman Ave.
Chicago, Ill.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Irving Meyerhoff to 1660 Ryders Lane, Highland Park, Ill. Sam L. Nowinson to 9912 Avenue H, Chicago 17.

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AVAILABLE - At Meetings: Picture (8x10) of group on 9th Battlefield Tour, \$1; Gold finished CWRT lapel pin, \$1; Cloth patch of emblem, 50 cents.

CWRT AT PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

A Civil War Round Table has been organized at Pensacola, Fla., with Earle Bowden, 215 Hart Drive, as president. Sixty interested persons have responded so far. At a meeting February 25, Dean Felton Harrison of Pensacola Junior College spoke on "Causes of the Civil War." Meetings will be held in Old Christ Church building, a structure used by the Federals as a Civil War hospital.

Bowden, a staff member of the Pensacola News-Journal, said future subjects for discussion include Stephen Mallory, Confederate navy secretary, who practiced law in Pensacola before the war; Lincoln's decision to reinforce near by Fort Pickens and give up Fort Sumter, and Pensacola's role in the war. The Florida centennial commission will be urged to commemorate the Battle of Fort Pickens and the Confederate capture of the Pensacola Navy Yard.



THE NEW BOOKS

Books on Abraham Lincoln are predominant in the new listings.

LINCOLN DAY BY DAY: A Chronology; Volume 1, 1809-1848; Volume 2, 1849-1860. Earl Schenck Miers, editor in chief; compiled by William E. Baringer, Lincoln Sesquicentennial commission. (327pp and 395pp, Government Printing Office, Washington, \$2 each.) Basic books; revision and expansion of earlier works done by Paul M. Angle and the late Harry E. Pratt and Benjamin P. Thomas. A third volume, covering the war years, is due in a few months.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN GOES TO NEW YORK, by Andrew A. Freeman (160pp, Coward-McCann, \$3.95). The story of the Cooper Union speech in February 1860, from contemporary sources.

LINCOLN AND THE CIVIL WAR, edited by Courtland Canby (416pp, Braziller, New York, \$5). Eyewitnesses to the events and historians summing up and interpreting the record.

THE LITERARY WORKS OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN, selected and with an introduction by Carl Van Doren, drawings by John Steuart Curry (Heritage Press, New York, \$5).

MEET MR. LINCOLN, by Richard Hanser and Donald B. Hyatt (132pp, Golden Press, New York, \$1.50 limp, \$5 cloth). Based on prize-winning television program with narration drawn largely from Lincoln's words, blended with pictures.

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MEADE OF GETTYSBURG, by Freeman Cleaves (384 pp, University of Oklahoma Press, \$5). Fully rounded study of George Gordon Meade, Army of the Potomac commander.

THE GREAT INVASION, by Jacob Hoke (613pp, New York, \$8.50). Reprint of an account first published in 1887 by an eyewitness of Lee's advance into Pennsylvania and the battle of Gettysburg.

COLONEL JOHN PELHAM: LEE'S BOY ARTILLERIST, by William Woods Hassler (140pp, Richmond, Va., \$3.50). Appraisal of youth who saw action in more than 60 battles and never lost an artillery duel or a single gun.

McMURTRY TELLS OF ASIAN TOUR

In the January **LINCOLN LORE**, Dr. R. Gerald Mc Murtry, editor and director of Lincoln National Life Foundation, told of his tour of Korea, Formosa, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaya, and Thailand sponsored by the state department to deliver lectures focusing attention on the Lincoln Sesquicentennial observance. Particularly interesting is McMurtry's account of the varying political attitudes he ran into which required him to take special tacks for the presentation of his material.

HAVERLIN, NEVINS, NEWMAN HONORED

At a banquet of the Lincoln Sesquicentennial Association of California in Los Angeles on February 8, presentations for outstanding contributions to the field of Lincolniana were made to Carl Haverlin, New York, president of Broadcast Music, Inc.; Dr. Allan Nevins, Pasadena, president of the American Historical society, and Ralph G. Newman, Chicago, founder of Civil War Round Tables. All are members of Chicago CWRT.

FUTURE MEETINGS



FRIDAY, April 8 - Symposium on sites to be visited on 10th Battlefield Tour. Moderator Ralph G. Newman. Panelists: Otto Eisenschiml, John Hunter (Madison), E. B. (Pete) Long. Special feature: Sound track of "Songs of the Civil War."

FRIDAY, May 27 - Dr. T. Harry Williams, Boyd professor of American History, Louisiana State University, a new presentation of the generalship in the Civil War.

JUNE - Date and program to be announced.

MIDWEST CWRT CALENDAR

LA SALLE (Ill.), March 4 - Richard Fling, "The Battle of Lexington, Missouri."

PARK FOREST (Ill.), March 10 - Foreign Relations.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 14 - Ward Baker (Mishawaka), "A Small Indiana Village During the Civil War."

MOLINE (Ill.) (Quad Cities CWRT), March 16 - Sgt. Theodore C. Walker, curator Arsenal Museum, "Rock Island Arsenal as a Confederate Prison".

SPRINGFIELD (Ill.), March 18 - Clyde C. Walton, "Illinois in the Civil War".



CALENDAR OF BATTLEFIELD TOURS

Battlefield tours have become increasingly popular among Civil War Round Tables. Here are some that have been scheduled so far:

RICHMOND - May 6-8, South Mountain, Harper's Ferry, and Antietam, on way to CWRT Spring Assembly at Hagerstown, Md.

NEW YORK - May 19-22, to Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and Spottsylvania.

NEW ALBANY (Ind.) - June 3-5, to Stone's River, Chattanooga, and Chickamauga, preceded by a tour symposium on June 1.

DR. FREDERICK HILL MESERVE HONORED

New York CWRT had a Tribute Meeting for Dr. Frederick Hill Meserve on February 9. The Lincoln-Civil War Society of Philadelphia presented its annual Bronze Plaque Award to Dr. Meserve on February 12.

Carl Sandburg has called Meserve "the acknowledged foremost authority on the photographs of Lincoln....a man of care, scruples, balanced judgment."

Dr. Meserve began collecting photographs in 1879. Many books carry the picture credit line, "From the Meserve Collection". He is a charter member and First Honorary President of the New York CWRT. He is also a long time member of the Chicago CWRT.

