

## THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XXI, Number 7

Chicago, Illinois

March, 1961

## Richard N. Current to Speak on "The Continuing Civil War, 1865-1877"

Our programs usually dwell on Civil War battles and personalities, occasionally on the causes of the war, Now

we will have a discussion on the aftermath.

Richard N. Current

Appearing at our 199th meeting, March 10, Richard N. Current will speak on "The Continuing Civil War, 1865-1877." He will raise the question of just when the war actually ended.

"My tentative answer would be that in a very real sense the war continued for years after Appomattox," Dr. Current said.

"There was a good deal of fight-

ing between 'irregulars' on the one side with the Carpetbaggers and their Negro allies, aided from time to time by units of the United States Army and by state militia. On the other side were the semi-military organizations of the southern conservatives, such as the Klan and the rifle clubs.

"At times the casualties, though uncounted, were fairly heavy. The issues involved were essentially the same as those of the period 1861-1865: reunion and freedom."

Dr. Current is professor of history at the University of Wisconsin. He is best known to many of our members as co-author of "Last Full Measure" the concluding volume of the late James G. Randall's series, "Lincoln the President." Dr. Current was on the University of Illinois faculty with Dr. Randall. "Last Full Measure" was awarded the Bancroft history prize for 1956.

After leaving University of Illinois, Dr. Current was professor of history at Woman's College, University of North Carolina. In 1958 he was one of the lecturers in the Gettysburg Civil War Conference. He went to Wisconsin in the fall of 1960.

Dr. Current is a native of Colorado and was educated at Oberlin, Tufts and Wisconsin. He studied or taught in 11 states. He lectured in three foreign countries, Japan, India and Germany and next year will lecture in England. He is author of six books, co-author of ten others, and editor of two more.

#### VOLUME I, NUMBER 1, OF TWO NEWSLETTERS

"The Minnie Bawl" has been introduced by the 1861-65 CWRT of LaSalle, Ill. The letter notes that all full members as of February 3, 1961, will be raised to the rank of brigadier - courtesy of the Johnny Reb Distillery of Frankfort, Ky.... The CWRT of Pensacola, Fla., announces that Maj. Gen. U. S. Grant III will speak at a banquet meeting March 28. Members will escort him on a tour of Forts Barrancas and Pickens and the navy yard.



199th REGULAR MEETING

Richard N. Current

on

The Continuing Civil War 1865–1877

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1961

St. Clair Hotel 162 East Ohio Street

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



#### CATTON CIVIL WAR HISTORY NEXT FALL

New York Times Magazine of February 5 had an article, by Bruce Catton, "Where the Great Change Took Place," which called the Civil War "the continental divide of American history". The article was introductory to a series starting April 9 adapted from the Catton "Centennial History of the Civil War", the first volume of which will be published next fall, by Doubleday & Co., Inc. Research on the three volume history has been proceeding for five years, with our own E. B. (Pete) Long as chief researcher for Catton.

The Saturday Evening Post has a continuing series, "Untold Stories of the Civil War."

#### GILBERT GOVAN SPEAKS AT L.M.U.

Gilbert E. Govan, librarian at the University of Chattanooga, gave the Lincoln Day address at Lincoln Memorial University at Harrogate, Tenn., on February 15. He discussed Lincoln, East Tennessee, and the study of history. Dr. Govan, co-author of "A Different Valor", was our guide and lecturer at Chattanooga on our 1956 battlefield tour.

### THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

18 East Chestnut Street, Chicago 11, Illinois Phone: WHitehall 4-3085

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#### SHORT SHOTS ON THE CIVIL WAR FRONT

South Carolina papers in early 1861 were printing dispatches from New York under the heading FOREIGN NEWS....Our frequent battlefield tour companion, Justin G. Turner of Los Angeles has been named chairman of the California Civil War Centennial commission, the 44th state to have a commission . . . . New York CWRT has renewed its CIVIL WAR BOOK SWAP listing books available and books wanted; if interested write Charles O. Johnson, Box 78, Route 1, Brick Town, N.J. .... Florida Civil War Centennial Commission is publishing "Florida 100 Years Ago", a monthly bulletin of day by day events .... District of Columbia Civil War Centennial commission is putting out a list of events in "Washington During the Civil War".... William W. Luckett, superintendent of Fort Sumter National Monument, South Carolina, has been named to succeed the late Millard Dean Guy as superintendent of Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Kentucky-Tennessee-Virginia .... Dayton, Ohio, CWRT newsletter says: "Bring your friends to the Round Table meetings. You can even bring your Mother-in-Law. It will give you a new subject to fight over!"

VOLK — A bronze memorial plaque commemorating the site where Sculptor Leonard W. Volk had a Chicago studio in 1860, when he made the life mask of Abraham Lincoln, will be placed on March 25 by the International Fraternal Order of United Commerical Travelers. The studio was in the fifth floor of the old Portland block at the southeast corner of Washington and Dearborn streets.

## from the Editor's pen



Dr. Glenn H. Seymour, at our February 9 meeting, covered Stephen A. Douglas so thoroughly that there was little left to argue about. Seymour spoke without notes and without microphone and held rapt attention throughout. Attendance was more than 90 and among guests was Alan Nolan, fresh from an autographing party of his new book, "The Iron Brigade".

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A proposition of interest to all Round Table members is Illinois Senate Bill No. 39. This would provide \$1,015,000 for the purchase and plans to restore the Old State Capitol, now the Sangamon County Court House. In its court room Abraham Lincoln made his "House Divided" speech and there his body lay in state. Douglas, Grant and many others of Illinois history are linked to the building. Its architectural lines are handsome. When restored it would be dedicated as a memorial and serve a practical purpose by housing the Illinois Historial Library and Illinois Historical Society. Your support of this bill can be expressed in a letter to your state senator.

When our battlefield tour takes us to Jackson, Miss., campaigners will see the magnificent restoration that has been done on the Old State Capitol there, converting it into what promises to be one of the finest hisory museums in the nation.

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Honorary Member Abe Geldhof writes: "I detest that appelation 'buff' and the Civil War Round Table should crusade against it." Recently there have been some contortions of language in CWRT newsletters trying to explain what "buff" means. To us, it has the simplest meaning, "fan" - or, if you want to go Spanish, "afficionado". We're neither on Abe's side, nor against him. Every man for himself in this hassle!

Ver Lynn Sprague, national commander of the International Order of Patriots for Peace and Pardon, was present at our February 9 meeting, and appealed for support of his organization which seeks the pardon of "John Doe, who on July 9, 1832 in Whitewater, Wis., stole Abraham Lincoln's horse." Sprague issued membership cards with military rank. I.O.P.P.P. headquarters is in Sycamore, Ill.

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#### ZACHARY TAYLOR AND HOW TO GET LOST

"The Gate of Horn is the only cabaret in town that is taking cognizance of the Civil War centennial, according to Donald Young of the Gate's staff. It is doing this, he declares, by presenting Judy Collins, granddaughter of the Civil War general, Zachary Taylor, Well, Gen. Zachary Taylor died more than ten years before the Civil War began, and the other Zack Taylor, who managed the St. Louis Browns, never saw the Civil War. (One thing you have to admit about this department; for a saloon column, it's educational.)"

...from "On the Town", by Will Leonard, Chicago Sunday Tribune.

Headquarters of the Kentucky Civil War Centennial commission has been opened in the First National Bank building, Lexington, Ky., under the direction of Paul Brannon and Joe Jordan. Operational funds for the office are being supplied by the Kentucky Historical Society, which has allotted \$15,028 for the first six months and plans to make annual allotments thereafter.

#### To Port Gibson and Grand Gulf

Our battlefield tour to Vicksburg and Jackson, April 26-May 1, will take us to the Port Gibson-Grand Gulf



Steeple with Hand Pointing to Heaven

area on Friday, April 28. We were there only briefly in 1954, but some campaigners will remember the famous Presbyterian church with hand topping the steeple and pointing to heaven; the bank, court house, and homes built in ante-bellum days.

This year we are scheduling time for a better look and visits to Bruinsburg, Grand Gulf and the terrain where Grant crossed the Mississippi and set the stage for his march to Jackson. If time permits we will visit the Earl van Dorn home place

near the "House on The Rock", and the pillars of the fabulous Windsor mansion near Rodney.

We are indebted for arrangement of this portion of the tour to Mrs. Elizabeth McLendon, president of the Port Gibson-Claiborne County Historical society; the Chamber of Commerce, and Mayor Ed Davis. We will arrive at Port Gibson City Hall in highway buses, then, after a coffee break, transfer to transportation furnished by the Chamber of Commerce. The roads near the river are too difficult for highway buses. Lunch will be prepared and served at Port Gibson. The tour will continue in the afternoon, concluding in time to visit Old Court House Museum in Vicksburg.

Travel from Chicago and return will be on the Panama Limited of the Illinois Central railroad, (Leaflet enclosed).

#### U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY MAPS

Member Morrison Worthington called our attention to topographic maps which can be a valuable addition to Civil War collections and particularly of use in connection with our battlefield tour to Vicksburg and Jackson. The 24 x 34 inch quadrangle maps that apply in this case are titled JACKSON and NATCHEZ. Adjoining quadrangles are titled Greenwood, West Point, Meridian, Hattiesburg, Mobile, Baton Rouge, Lake Charles, Alexandria, Shreveport and El Dorado.

The maps are 50 cents each. Send order to U. S. Geological Survey, Department of Interior, Washington 25, D. C. Order maps by title.

At present there are 439 quadrangle maps available, covering nearly all of the United States, and including all Civil War battlefield areas. Persons desiring an extensive set of maps should ask for "Index to Topographic Maps of the United States at the Scale of 1:250,000" and "Checklist of United States 1:250,000 scale maps."

#### GOVERNMENT CIVIL WAR PUBLICATIONS

The Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C., recently has issued an order form "Authoritative Government Publications Relating to the Civil War" (GPO-1961-0-578583). This lists the leaflets and booklets available on all the principal battlefields. The order form will be sent on your request to the superintendent of documents.

The Library of Congress, Washington, D. C., has issued a selected reading list of 256 books about the Civil War. Some were published soon after 1865, 203 have appeared in the last 30 years, and 105 in the past decade. Twenty-one were published in 1959 and nine more in the first half of 1960.

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#### BULLETIN BOARD

BATTLEFIELD TOUR and EXECUTIVE COM-MITTEES: Meetings at 4 p.m. Friday, March 10, to deal with planning for Vicksburg-Jackson trip and St. Procopius centennial proposal. Meet at 18 East Chestnut street. See committee lists on page 2.

RESERVATIONS: When you have made a dinner reservation and cannot attend meeting, please cancel by note or phone, to relieve difficulties caused by "no shows".

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NEW MEMBERS of the Civil War Round Table: Dr. Harry H. Hetz, 739 Foxdale Ave., Winnetka, Ill. Russell E. Q. Johnson, 2730 Broad Way, Evanston, Ill. Walter H. Oehmig, 447 Lenox St., Oak Park, Ill. John D. Pope, 1712 N. LaSalle St., Chicago 14. John B. Sharp, 141 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago 3. Harry E. Stopek, 6737 N. Hermitage Ave., Chicago 26. Peter H. Storm, 4800 Linscott Ave., Downers Grove, Ill.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Ezra J. Warner to: P. O. Box 1945, La Jolla, Cal.

DECEASED: Dr. H. M. Baitinger, Paul E. Gerst.

AVAILABLE at meetings: Gold finished CWRT lapel pin, \$1; Cloth patch of emblem, 50 cents.

#### JEFF DAVIS' SHAWL TO BEAUVOIR

National Archives is turning over to Beauvoir, the Jefferson Davis memorial at Biloxi, Miss., the raincoat, shawl and spurs Davis wore when Union soldiers captured him at Irwinville, Ga., on Máy 10, 1865. About dawn Davis heard firing and, thinking he was attacked, snatched up his wife's cloak by mistake. As he left the tent, hatless, Mrs. Davis threw her shawl over his head. He was captured moments later.

#### BALTIMORE OBSERVANCE IN THE SNOW

Participants barely outnumbered the statues at a Civil War Centennial observance in Baltimore, January 22, the Associated Press reported.

Eight persons dressed in Confederate and Union uniforms showed up in biting winds and 18 degree temperatures. Fortified by coffee they marched to the double equestrian statue of Generals Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. (Stonewall) Jackson. As the men stamped their feet in the snow, the brief ceremony proceeded before three television cameras and newspaper photogs and two women with movie cameras. The group marched to the Soldiers and Sailors monument and repeated the ceremony in honor of Union soldiers.

"I had a wonderful plan, but it went awry," said Edward Turner, chairman of Baltimore's centennial committee.

#### COMMISSIONS TO MEET AT CHARLESTON

All state commissions are expected to be represented at the fourth national assembly of the Civil War Centennial Commission at Charleston, S. C., on April 11-12 at the Francis Marion hotel. On adjournment at noon April 12, ceremonies in connection with a reenactment of the firing on Fort Sumter will begin. Beginning April 6, a drama, "The Burning Tide", will be presented at the famous Dock Street Theater.

#### THE NEW BOOKS



SOUTH CAROLINA SECEDES, by John Amasa May and Joan Reynolds Faunt (U. of S. C. Press, Columbia, \$4).

CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES, by Robin W. Winks (Johns Hopkins, \$6.50), tells of relations in Civil War period.

THE WAR IN THE FAR WEST: 1861-1865, by Oscar

Lewis (Doubleday, 263pp, \$3.95).

INFERNO AT PETERSBURG, by Henry Pleasants, Jr. and George H. Straley (181pp, Chilton, \$3.95), mining the tunnel at Petersburg.

THE MOSQUITO FLEET, by Gordon D. Shirreffs (184 pp, Chilton, \$2.95), the tinclads at the siege of

vicksburg.

THE SCARLET RAIDER, by Joseph B. Icenhower (165pp, Chilton, \$2.95), a young fellow who becomes the youngest corporal in Mosby's Rangers.

CONFEDERATE CITY, AUGUSTA, GEORGIA, 1860-1865, by Florence Fleming Corley (130pp, U. of S. C.

Press, Columbia, \$6).

ABE LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY, by Wilma Pitchford Hays, illus. by Peter Burchard (Coward-McCann, \$2.75). CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS IN THE CIVIL WAR,

by Edward Needles Wright (paper, A. S. Barnes, \$1.95). GENERAL LEE, by Fitzhugh Lee, introduction by

Philip Van Doren Stern (416pp, paper, Fawcett, 75 cents). LINCOLN AND THE RADICALS, by T. Harry Williams (413pp, paper, U. of Wisconsin Press, \$1.75), reprint of

work first issued in 1941.

HERNDON'S LIFE OF LINCOLN, by William H.Herndon and Jesse W. Weik, with newly revised introduction and notes by Paul M. Angle (496pp, paper, Fawcett, 75 cents).

A new luxury hard cover quarterly, <u>The American Gun</u>, has been started by Madison Books, Inc., 7 East 48th street, New York. It has articles of antiquarian, historic and literary interest about guns and gunfire.

CIVIL WAR TIMES for February has a profile on Gen. John B. Gordon, "The Pride of All Georgia".... A story on plans for the Bull Run reenactment, July 22-23.... An article, "A Tale of Two Inaugurations".... and many other items of history.

#### GETTYSBURG COLLEGE CIVIL WAR GROUP

Dr. Robert L. Bloom, director of the Civil War Study Group, tentatively scheduled by Gettysburg College for July 31-August 4, is conducting a survey of interest in the project. One query on preference is (a) individual lectures by experts on Union generals at Gettysburg, (b) intensive tours of the Gettysburg battlefield area, or (c) overnight tours of other battlefields. If (c) is preferred, these may be chosen: (1) Antietam, South Mountain and Harpers Ferry, (2) Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and the Wilderness, (3) Jackson's Valley Campaign of 1862, (4) Brandy Station and route of Lee's advance into Pennsylvania in 1863, (5) Richmond, Petersburg and Appomattox, or (6) any other suggestions. If you are interested, write Dr. Bloom at Gettysburg College, Pa.

Union Gen. Philip St. George Cooke was the father of Gen. John R. Cooke, uncle of John Esten Cooke, and father-in-law of Gen. Jeb Stuart, all three of whom fought with the Confederacy.

# FUTURE MEETINGS



Friday, April 7 - 200th Regular Meeting, Frank D. Vandiver, professor, Rice Institute, author.

Friday, May 12 - Dr. Robert D. Meade, author, chairman of history department, Randolph-Macon, Lynchburg, Va.

June - Meeting to be announced.

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

April 21 - New Orleans CWRT battlefield tour to Shiloh.

April 22-23 - Spring tour of Illinois State Historical Society to Cairo, Mound City, and Columbus, Ky.

April 26-May 1 - Chicago CWRT battlefield tour to Vicksburg and Jackson, Miss.

May 2 - St. Louis CWRT battlefield tour to Chattanooga and Chickamauga.

#### CIVIL WAR CENTENNIAL EVENTS

March 3-4, Washington - Reenactment of Lincoln inauguration before joint session of congress; parade and inaugural ball.

March 9-10, Atlanta - Centennial ball and

"Gone With The Wind" commemoration.

March 16, Mesilla, N. M. - Secession convention.

April 6-14, Charleston, S.C. - Fort Sumter reenactment.



#### LONDON WANTS SOME NORTHERN SYMPATHIZERS

A London dispatch by United Press International told of the switch of name, Confederate Research Club to American Civil War Round Table, U.K. Now the members want a few northern sympathizers in their ranks.

"We would like to move a bit more toward a neutral position," said J. A. Bailey, a London bank employee who visited American battlefields last year. "It seemed like we were taking sides. So we changed the name. Now we would like to find some Britons who believe the North was right."

But they will continue to signal meetings by flying the Confederate flag from the Eccleston hotel.

Secretary Patrick Courtney recalled that the clubwas started eight years ago "because of Leigh - No, not General Lee, but Vivien Leigh, the film star."

"I saw the movie 'Gone With The Wind'", Courtney said, "and afterward we got into a debate and decided to look up the history books to back our assertions. The movie may have influenced some of the early club members toward the Confederacy, but most apparently prefer the South because Britons generally side with the underdog.

"They fought gallantly against odds, sir," said Courtney with the closest approach a Briton can make to a southern drawl.

FILMS - D. W. Griffith's BIRTH OF A NATION and Carl Laemmle's UNCLE TOM'S CABIN are now available on 16mm, film. For rental information write Daniel Martin, Audio Film Center, 2138 E. 75 St., Chicago, Ill.