

# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XXXIV, Number 5

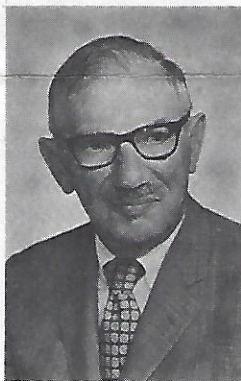
Chicago, Illinois

January, 1974

## Stephen Z. Starr On Border Ruffians, Jayhawkers, And Guerillas: The Kansas-Missouri Border, 1854-1865

Stephen Z. Starr, the Secretary and Director of the Cincinnati Historical Society will be the featured speaker at our meeting on January 11, 1974. His topic that night will be "Border Ruffians, Jayhawkers and Guerillas: The Kansas-Missouri Border, 1854-1865."

Mr. Starr proposes to set the stage for the events that were to take place west of the river during the Civil War by first describing to us the bloody seven years prior to April, 1861. It was during that period when the volatile issue of the extension of slavery burned across the land and the bitter hatred of neighbor versus neighbor gave birth to acts of violence unmatched in our history.



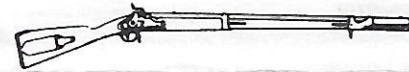
Stephen Z. Starr

Once the war itself began, the soil of Kansas and Missouri was to turn even a deeper red as the death and destruction continued. Now the fighting, looting, and raiding hid behind the cloak of battle as the participants donned uniforms. Mr. Starr will relate the deeds of not only Quantrell and Anderson, but also of those such as Jim Lane, Ewing, the Red Legs, and others who, while not as famous today, played an equal if not greater role.

Included in the roster of famous units we will hear of will be the Seventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, better known as "Jennison's Jayhawkers." This regiment, composed mainly of ardent abolitionists, is the subject of Mr. Starr's latest book. To be published early in 1974 by Louisiana State University Press, the book takes its title from the above nickname of the regiment. Mr. Starr's prior book, published by L.S.U. Press in 1971, was "Colonel Grenfell's Wars." A biographical study of the fascinating Englishman who fought for the Confederacy in the Western theater; it received much praise from the critics. In a review written for the June, 1973 issue of Civil War Times Illustrated, our old friend "Bud" Robertson said "... it is a work deserving high commendation. ... Starr possesses the analytical powers of a scientist and the judiciousness of a scholar."

At the present time Mr. Starr is putting the finishing touches on another book, this one a study of Civil War cavalry operations, and is also beginning to gather material for a biography of Jim Lane. In addition to his books, he has written articles and book reviews for many publications, including Civil War History and the Journal of Southern History. His speaking appearances include addresses delivered before the Round Tables in Louisville, Lexington, Milwaukee, Baton Rouge, Indianapolis, Cleveland and Cincinnati.

Mr. Starr, a native of Cleveland, received a B. A. degree at Western Reserve University and a J.D. at the Law School of New York University. A resident of Cincinnati for thirty-one



327th REGULAR MEETING

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Stephen Z. Starr

on

Border Ruffians, Jayhawkers, and Guerrillas:  
The Kansas-Missouri Border, 1854-1865:

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Friday, January 11, 1974

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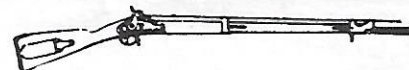
Chicago Bar Association

29 South LaSalle Street

Cocktails at 5:30 p.m.

Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Send in your reservation.



years, he was a charter member of the Round Table in that city and served as its president in 1961-1962 and 1962-1963. Upon his retirement as secretary of Clopay Corporation in April, 1973, he accepted his present position with the Cincinnati Historical Society, an organization which he had served for the past ten years as Trustee and Vice President.

### LADIES NIGHT — FEB. 8, 1974

Be sure to mark your calendars for February 8, 1974. On that evening the gentlemen of the Round Table will host their ladies at our annual Ladies Night. Thanks to the able planning of President Gordon Whitney, a full program combining history and entertainment will be presented for the enjoyment of all.

For that special event, we will meet at the Como Inn, a restaurant known throughout Chicago for its excellent cuisine and old world atmosphere. There we will be favored with a performance by our own member, Dick Blake, as he presents his moving portrayal of our 16th President, "A Look at Lincoln." This is a presentation which is unique, not only in

(continued on Page 3)

# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

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

## OFFICERS

President	Gordon Whitney
Senior Vice President	Ward Smidl
Vice President	Donald E. Jensen
Vice President	Francis R. Geigle
Secretary	Terry Carr
Treasurer	Gerald Edelstein
Assistant Secretary	Daniel Vetter
Assistant Treasurer	Glen Wiche
Editor of Newsletter	Marshall D. Krolick
Contributing Editor	Dick Clark
Assistant Editor	Robert H. Franke
Judge Advocate General	Philip R. Davis
Inspector General	Charles Wesselhoeft

Founding Newsletter Editor: Gil Twiss, 1954-1968

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Terms expiring in 1974: Elmer Pendarvis, Edward Johnson, Norman Toberman.

Terms expiring in 1975: Burton Rovens, Robert H. Franke, Myron Cohn.

## COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Battlefield Tour	Warren Reeder and Gerald Edelstein
Membership and Hospitality	Donald E. Jensen
Fellowship	Arnold Alexander, Lloyd Miller
House Committee	Ray Jankovich and William Sullivan

The only requirement for membership is a genuine interest in the Civil War and its era. For information, address Donald E. Jensen, 335 East Woodland Road, Lake Bluff, Ill. 60044.



*from the  
Editor's pen*



With this edition of the Newsletter, the baton of editorship passes to yours truly, Marshall Krolick. To my immediate predecessor, Don Russell, I join with the entire membership in expressing our heartfelt appreciation for a job well done during the past three and one-half years.

The three men who have served as editor since the Newsletter was founded in 1954, Gil Twiss, Dick Bjorklund, and Don Russell, have, each in their own way, contributed to the high standards which have been so evident in each edition. They are a tough act to follow. Yet, for that reason, it is a privilege to have the opportunity to tread in their footsteps. But this is a task that cannot be done alone and so appreciation for assistance must be expressed in advance to Bob Franke, our Assistant Editor, Dick Clark, our Contributing Editor, and to you, the members of the Round Table.

That's right, TO YOU, the membership, for as you know, it is your Newsletter; not only is it written for you, but it should also be about you. It should contain the articles you want to have read as well as those you want to read. Therefore, it is up

to you to advise the staff as to what you are doing in the Civil War field, where you are speaking, what problems you wish to point out, etc. Your comments and suggestions on format and content are not only gratefully received, but they are hereby solicited. The address is right on this page, so let us hear from you and together we will strive to continue the tradition of excellence Gil, Dick and Don have established.

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At the December meeting, Philip J. Hohlweck, president of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, spoke to us on one of the most famous fighting units of the Army of the Potomac, Berdan's Sharpshooters. This was an unusual organization not only in purpose and function, but also in organization, uniform, insignia and requirements for membership. Consisting of two regiments of volunteers, they nonetheless bore the official designation of 1st and 2nd United States Sharpshooters. As Phil pointed out, the companies in the regiments were organized by states with New York and Michigan having the most, four apiece.

Admission was based on strict marksmanship tests, with contests held in each state to determine the qualifiers. At 200 yards a man was expected to put ten consecutive shots in the target, the average distance not to exceed five inches from the center of the bulls-eye. The uniforms were dark green rather than blue and the hat insignia was not the customary infantry badge of a curved horn, but was instead the letters "U.S.S." surrounded by a wreath.

Their main function in battle was as skirmishers and in this role they established an expertise unequalled by any other unit. The Sharpshooters' great ability as long-range marksmen soon found for them another role, that is as an effective weapon against Confederate artillery. Armed with their Sharps rifles and telescopic sights, they could silence batteries by shooting gunners and horses while staying out of cannister range.

From the time he was first authorized to raise the regiments, Col. Hiram Berdan had sought to have them equipped with the new Sharps breech-loading rifle. Originally thwarted in this by the unprogressive War Department, Berdan persisted and finally was successful through the intervention of President Lincoln. Lincoln gave the order for the breech-loaders after being favorably impressed with a shooting demonstration outside Washington in the Fall of 1861. The great advantage of the breech-loader for skirmishing and sniping was that it could be easily loaded by the soldier in almost any position while he still kept one eye on the enemy.

The Sharpshooters rendered great service in almost every eastern battle, but were especially valuable on the Peninsula, at Gettysburg, and in the Wilderness. Throughout the war, each regiment suffered casualties, killed and wounded, of thirty-nine per cent of the number enlisted.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

At the Executive Committee meeting held prior to the December meeting, President Gordon Whitney announced that Don Jensen has succeeded Don Sikorski as Membership Chairman. Next on the agenda was a preliminary report by the Co-Chairmen of the 1974 Battlefield Tour, Warren Reeder and Jerry Edelstein. They had just returned from a scouting trip to the site of the Tour, Chattanooga and Chickamauga. From all indications, it should be a great trip with many interesting features in addition to the battlefields themselves. Details are still being worked out and will be announced soon. The dates are May 2nd through the 5th.

Also discussed were the rising prices of the meals at the Bar Association, current location of our meetings. Several alternative restaurants were reported upon and it was decided to try one for the May meeting. February, Ladies Night, is already scheduled for the Como Inn and the June Award and

Installation Dinner will be at the Public Library. Therefore, only the March and April meetings in the current year, 1973-1974, will be at the Bar Association.

Ralph Newman reported on the progress of the campaign to raise funds to establish a permanent headquarters for the Round Table adjacent to the G.A.R. Room at the Public Library. A forthcoming issue of the Newsletter will be devoted to a full discussion of this important project.

At a recent conducted house sale in Wilmette, Illinois, a north shore suburb of Chicago, the Civil War collection of John A. Nourse was sold. A young clerk at the Chicago Board of Trade upon the outbreak of the Civil War, Mr. Nourse and his brother enlisted and served three years in the Chicago Board of Trade Battery. This famous artillery unit was in the midst of the heaviest fighting as a component of the Army of the Cumberland from Stone's River to Selma.

Mr. Nourse returned to the Board of Trade after the war and subsequently rose to its presidency. His Civil War library of books and artifacts was carefully preserved in the family home by his three daughters, the last of whom recently passed away. Included in the collection were numerous G.A.R. ribbons and badges, three diaries kept on the battlefields and in camp by Mr. Nourse, historical works on the battery and many other books in mint condition. Among the purchases by Round Table members were 112 volumes of the O.R. with the two volume atlas, acquired by Dan Vetter, and the eight volume Illinois Adjutant-General's Report, bought by Marshall Krolick.

An unfortunate note in the course of the sale occurred when one of the three diaries was stolen from the table on which the collection was displayed. This diary was of the standard type carried by Civil War soldiers, being a small black leather folder as pictured on page 85 of Dr. Lord's "Civil War Collector's Encyclopedia." Mr. Nourse's name appears inside. If anyone should come in contact with this diary, such as by someone attempting to sell it to them, they are urged to contact the Round Table at once (Area Code 312 WH. 4-3085).

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As a follow-up to the item which appeared in the November Newsletter, our member and veteran Battlefield Tour campaigner, Dr. A. M. Giddings of Battle Creek, Michigan reports his wife, Polly, is improved after her stroke last August and should be back home from the hospital when this is printed. Her recovery will take some time, however, and we all wish her the best.

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The December 4, 1973 issue of the Emory University campus paper reports the impending retirement as a Professor of History of Dr. Bell I. Wiley, our life member and oftentimes speaker. After twenty-four years at Emory, Dr. Wiley's retirement will take effect at the end of the current school year, but he will be on sabbatical beginning with the next quarter while he lectures in the Far East. Upon his return to the United States this summer, Bell plans to accept a visiting professorship at a university while he continues to do research and write. His latest book, on the women of the Confederacy, is now at the publishers.

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A monument in honor of Mississippi Confederate Dead was dedicated at Gettysburg National Military Park, October 19, 1973, under the auspices of the Gettysburg Memorial Commission.

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A Graduate Fellowship in Illinois History in the amount of \$2,000 is offered by the Illinois State Historical Society for



## TO THE CAMP FOLLOWERS (LADIES)

"Slavery in the Old South" will be our subject on Friday, January 11th. The Executive Vice President of the Round Table, Ward Smidl, will present a very interesting and informative program as he delves into the Slavery question—its beginning; how it became accepted by the Church, as well as the State; the daily life, its routines and ways of existence. This should provide us with a most informative evening. We will be meeting at the Book and Bottle, 17 East Chestnut at 5:30 P.M. Be sure to call Margaret April at 787-1860 for reservations.

Our Christmas meeting was a very festive affair as Betsy Davis hosted the evening. The speaker, Don Sikorski, veteran member of the Round Table, presented a most unusual and different perspective of the famous Robert E. Lee and we give a big thanks to Don for a side of "Marse Robert" we hadn't seen before.



the 1974-1975 academic year. For information address William K. Alderfer, Illinois State Historian, Old State Capital, Springfield, Ill. 62706.

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Col. and Mrs. Harland D. Sanders of Kentucky Fried Chicken fame have announced a personal gift of \$500,000 to help erect an Abraham Lincoln Library Center to be located at Lincoln Memorial University, Cumberland Gap, Harrogate, Tennessee. The new library will be named the Col. Harland Sanders Center for Lincoln Studies.

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### "THE GENERAL"

"The General," of the famed "Great Locomotive Chase" is now on view at the Big Shanty Museum, Kennesaw, Georgia, within 100 yards of where it was stolen by a band of Union spies, April 12, 1862, thus starting the chase that inspired reminiscences, histories, novels, juveniles, and at least two movies. For many years after the locomotive was retired from active service, it was on view at the passenger terminal in Chattanooga, except for such trips as to the Chicago World Fairs of 1893 and 1933-34. When the L. & N. Railroad, successor to the Georgia owned Western & Atlantic, proposed to move it to Kennesaw (Big Shanty in war times) citizens of Chattanooga opened a legal battle that lasted three years. The L. & N. won custody, and presented "The General" to the State of Georgia, which turned it over to the City of Kennesaw. The Big Shanty Museum is about five miles from Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield Park.

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Charles Wesselhoeft has assumed the duty of preparing and administering the Civil War Quiz at our monthly meetings.

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its accuracy of words and appearance, but, more importantly, in its touching revelation of the true spirit and character of Illinois' most famous citizen.

In addition, members of the First Brigade Band will be on hand to provide period music for the mood of the evening as well as modern tunes for our dancing pleasure. Those who were present at our Dress Ball several years ago will remember the authentic uniforms and instruments utilized by this fine group from Milwaukee.

All in all, it should be a most memorable occasion, so don't forget the date, Friday, February 8, 1974.

## THE NEW BOOKS



(Compiled by Dick Clark)

Benedict, Michael Les. *The Impeachment and Trial of Andrew Johnson*. New York: W.W. Norton, 1973. \$6.95. Paper \$2.95

Cochran, Hamilton. *Blockade Runners of the Confederacy*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press [1973]. Reprint of the 1958 printing. \$14.25

Fishwick, Marshall William. *Lee After the War*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press [1973]. Reprint of 1963 edition. \$12.00

Genovese, Eugene D. *The Slave Economies*. New York: Wiley [1973]. 2 vols., each \$7.95; paper, each \$4.95

Govan, Gilbert E. and James W. Livingood. *A Different Valor; the Story of General Joseph E. Johnston*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press [1973]. Reprint of 1956 edition. \$17.50

Mantell, Martin E. *Johnson, Grant, and the Politics of Reconstruction*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1973. \$9.00

Monaghan, James. *The Man Who Elected Lincoln*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press [1973]. Reprint of 1956 edition. \$13.75

Nevins, Allan. *Ordeal of the Union*. Selected Chapters. Compiled and introduced by E.B. Long. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons [1973]. \$12.50

Niven, John. *Gideon Welles, Lincoln's Secretary of the Navy*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1973. \$17.50

Osterweis, Rollin G. *The Myth of the Lost Cause, 1865-1900*. [Hamden, Conn.] Archon Books, 1973. \$8.50

Plimmer, Charlotte and Denis Plimmer, Newton Abbott . . . *Slavery, the Anglo-American Involvement*. New York: Barnes & Noble, 1973. \$10.75

Ross, Ishbel. *First Lady of the South; the Life of Mrs. Jefferson Davis*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press [1973]. Reprint of the 1958 edition. \$17.50

Stuart, Alexander Hugh Holmes. *A Narrative of the Leading Incidents of the Organization of the First Popular Movement in Virginia in 1865 to Re-establish Peaceful Relations between the Northern and Southern States, and of the Subsequent Efforts of the "Committee of Nine," in 1869, to Secure the Restoration of Virginia to the Union*. [New York: AMS Press, 1973]. Original of 1888, \$5.00

Veysey, Laurence R., compiler. *The Perfectionists; Radical Social Thought in the North, 1815-1860*. New York: Wiley [1973]. \$7.50

Wikramanayake, Marina. *A World of Shadow; the Free Black in Antebellum South Carolina*. Columbia S.C.: Published for the South Carolina Tricentennial Commission by the University of South Carolina Press [1973]. \$9.95

Woodman, Harold D., compiler. *The Legacy of the American Civil War*. New York: Wiley [1973]. \$7.95. Paper \$4.50

Wright, William C. *The Secession Movement in the Middle Atlantic States*. Rutherford [N.J.]: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press [1973]. \$15.00

Wyatt-Brown, Bertram, compiler. *The American People in the Antebellum South*. West Haven, Conn.: Pendulum Press [1973]. \$1.95

We were sorry to learn of the death of our member, Edward Rohter of Chicago. Our sincere condolences are extended to his family.

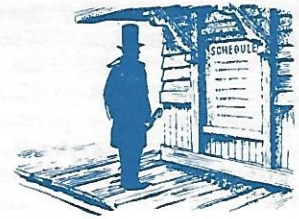
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### Change of Address

Mr. Raymond J. Jankovich, Jr., 17 W. Hinswood Drive, Darien, Illinois 60559

Ward C. Smidl, 1104 Whipporwill Lane, Palatine, Illinois 60067

## BULLETIN BOARD



### FUTURE MEETINGS

Regular meetings are held at the Chicago Bar Association, 29 South LaSalle, second Friday in each month except as noted.

January 11: Stephen Z. Starr of Cincinnati, Ohio, on "Border Ruffians, Jayhawkers and Guerrillas."

February 8: Ladies Night, Richard Blake program, "A Look at Lincoln," at the Como Inn.

March 8: Marshall Krolick on Lee and Longstreet at Gettysburg.

April 12: Robert Womack on the Battle of Murfreesboro.

May 2, 3, 4, and 5: Annual Battlefield Tour to Chattanooga and Chickamauga.

May 10: Program and location to be announced.

June 14: Annual Award Dinner and Installation of Officers; program details to be announced.

Every Monday: Informal noon luncheon meetings at LaSalle Hotel coffee shop; all members invited.

### New Members

Mr. Donald E. Anderson, 363 Dover Drive, Des Plaines, Illinois 60018

Senator W. Russell Arrington, 135 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60603

Mr. George Curry, 2117 Cedar Road, Homewood, Illinois 60430

Mr. Richard Fuith, 5416 West Addison, Chicago, Illinois 60641

Mr. Sidney N. Fuller, 1207 Antoine Drive, Houston, Texas 77055

Mr. Oscar Getz, 1550 Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60610

Mr. James R. Girman, 12321 Forrest Drive, St. John, Indiana 46373

Dr. John Howser, 623 North Oak Park Avenue, Oak Park, Illinois 60302

Mr. James R. Jacques, 652 West Melrose, Chicago, Illinois 60657

Mr. Raymond Jankovich, Sr., 2102 West 68th Place, Chicago, Illinois

Mr. Louis B. Kuppenheimer, 1560 Sandburg Tr. — Apt. 4108, Chicago, Illinois 60610

Mr. Edward J. Lucas, 1901 West Farm Road, Lake Forest, Illinois 60045

Mr. Michael Lurie, 1314 Cumberland Cir. W., Elk Grove, Illinois 60007

Mr. Vincent E. McMichael, 4351 West 76th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60652

Mr. Malcolm Macht, 11828 S.E. 56th Street, Bellevue, Washington 98006

Mr. Paul Mally, 6017 North Menard, Chicago, Illinois 60646

Mr. Roy F. Nebert, 9902 Armitage Avenue, Melrose Park, Illinois 60160

Frank A. Schmidt, 7733 South Komensky Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60652

Mr. J. Richard Stoltz, 405 Tremont Street, Lincoln, Illinois 62656

Mr. Helmuth Waedt, 6222 South Whipple, Chicago, Illinois 60629