

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XXI, Number 3

Chicago, Illinois

November, 1960

20th ANNIVERSARY MEETING; FIRST SPEAKER, PERCIVAL G. HART, RETURNS

The 20th anniversary dinner of the Civil War Round Table will present the same speaker in the same locale as the first meeting in 1940. The group gathered then was the forerunner of a spontaneous movement that has now grown to about 120 Civil War Round Tables in the United States and abroad.



PERCIVAL G. HART

The speaker is Percival G. Hart, one of our founders. The locale is the Bismarck hotel. The date, Friday, November 4.

Mr. Hart's talk to the first meeting was on "Stonewall Jackson's Valley Campaign." For the anniversary meeting he has chosen "The Campaign of Chancellorsville", because, as he says, "my paramount interest in the Civil War is the military - and this campaign is an outstanding example of maneuver, and from a tactical standpoint one of the great battles of military history."

Continuing, Mr. Hart says: "I have always been critical of writings and speeches on military actions which are not adequately supported by detailed maps and charts. I hope that my presentation will demonstrate how such visual material can clarify a complicated narrative of events."

Recalling the founding of the Civil War Round Table, Mr. Hart said:

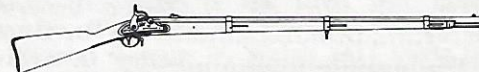
"My own connection with the group came through my life-long friend, Newton Farr, who first steered me to Ralph Newman's Home of Books on Madison Street, across from the LaSalle hotel. It was after a meeting of the Abraham Lincoln association in the Brevoort hotel, during which Otto Eisenschiml had been stirred to wrath by an uncalled for criticism, that several of us decided to meet informally from time to time and discuss the Civil War in all its aspects.

"That I happily agreed to give the first address on Stonewall Jackson's Valley Campaign is proof of my great enthusiasm for the founders and for the variety of subjects to choose from. I also shared a program in early 1942 with Otto Eisenschiml in which we reviewed the career of George B. McClellan.

"A stickler for maps in those days, as now, I spent hours with Joe Parrish in the Tribune Tower while he patiently traced for me in color the backings and filling of that controversial leader."

Other founders besides Hart, Farr, Newman and Eisenschiml were David Annan, Monroe F. Cockrell, Fred C. Evers, Seymour J. Frank, Elmer Gertz, Vernon Hanson, Walter S. Holden, Alexander J. Isaacs, Henry W. Lackey, Walter W. L. Meyer, C. Norton Owen, and James Rosenthal.

Mr. Hart grew up in Chicago. He was graduated from Yale university, served as a flying officer in France in



MEETING NOTICE

195th REGULAR MEETING

20th ANNIVERSARY of
THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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Percival G. Hart

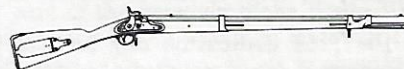
on

"The Campaign of Chancellorsville"

* * *

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1960

Bismarck Hotel, Walnut Room Cocktails at 5:30 p.m.
Randolph and Wells Streets Special Dinner at 6:30



1918 and was decorated with the Distinguished Service Cross and the Silver Star. For twenty-three years he was in the real estate business with offices at 33 North LaSalle Street.

In 1942 Mr. Hart accepted a commission as lieutenant colonel in the air force and was AAF plant representative at the Ford Motor company, Dearborn, Michigan, until the end of World War II. He and his family then moved to California where he is presently manager of procurement for Hughes Aircraft company, Los Angeles.

He had a part in the formation of the CWRT of Southern California. He relates: "It was first proposed by John Valentine in September, 1954, to Justin G. Turner, William W. Wakelee and me. Together we arranged for the first meeting in January, 1955, with Irving Stone as speaker. We are enjoying an interesting and prosperous career, with about 100 active members. I was honored to serve as the first president."

TOUR CANCELLED - Because of the small number of responses, the Chicago CWRT tour planned for Springfield and New Salem October 22 and 23 was cancelled.

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

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

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CENTENNIAL PLANS IN VIRGINIA

On February 4, 1961, Virginia will commemorate the convening of the Peace Convention, held, at the invitation of Virginia's General assembly, 100 years before in Washington, D. C. This convention, to which all the states in the Union were invited, sought to find a way to reunite the North and South and prevent the Civil War.

Virginia officially opens its centennial commemoration April 23, 1961, the anniversary date of the acceptance by Robert E. Lee of the command of the armed forces of Virginia.

July 1, 1961, is dedication day for the Centennial Center in Richmond, wartime capital of the Confederate States of America. In this center, the over-all story of the war in Virginia will be told through films and exhibits.

To implement the program proposed by the Richmond city centennial committee, the city council has appropriated \$20,000 for the year beginning July 1, 1960. Of this sum, \$5,000 is designated for the purchase of cannon to be erected on the Confederate earthworks near the entrance to Byrd airport.

MISSISSIPPI GREYS BEING FORMED

The formation of units of the MISSISSIPPI GREYS is proceeding at a rapid rate in that state. Communities are urged to organize units of 40 to 100 men and if more are available to organize two units in a community. The Mississippi Manufacturers association has designed a uniform including tunic, trousers and hat for \$21.50. The units will be mobilized January 9, 1961, for a march down Capitol street in Jackson to the reconstructed Old State Capitol which is now the Mississippi Museum. The date commemorates Mississippi's Act of Secession 100 years ago. The observance is being sponsored by the Mississippi Commission on the War Between the States, the state's centennial commission. In the evening a Confederate Ball is planned for all MISSISSIPPI GREYS and their ladies. The Greys are called Mississippi's Centennial Military Force in Memoriam. There will be infantry, artillery, and cavalry units.

from the
Editor's pen



HISTORIC MEETING - When The Civil War Round Table was founded in Chicago in 1940, it was alone in its field for five years. Then came Milwaukee and a few others. By 1955 there were about twenty firmly founded CWRT's. In the last few years, with the approach of the Civil War centennial, the number of Round Tables has been increasing at a rapid rate. There are now more than one hundred.

Ralph G. Newman, Otto Eisenschiml, Monroe Cockrell and others of our founders and early members, and W. Norman FitzGerald, Jr., of Milwaukee (a Chicago member) had a hand in establishing some of the early Round Tables as well as some of the newer ones.

Each Round Table is an autonomous body - there is no national organization. But there always has been a friendly co-operation among the CWRT's.

To mark our 20th anniversary, a founder, Percival G. Hart, is returning from Los Angeles (where he helped in founding the CWRT of Southern California) to be our speaker. For this special dinner meeting the CWRT returns to the place of its founding, in the Walnut Room of the Bismarck Hotel.

Older members remember Mr. Hart as a keen scholar and friendly spirit. For this meeting he has prepared with maps and charts to give a detailed account of the campaign of Chancellorsville. It is a meeting that deserves a great turnout. Members are encouraged to bring guests (male only) as well as extend the invitation to former members.

* * *

DR. BOB WOMACK drew a fine attendance of nearly ninety to the October 6 meeting, speaking on "The Civil War in Tennessee." They were rewarded with a talk that ranks with the best heard here.

"When you tell the story of Tennessee in the war, you have to tell two sides," Dr. Womack said. Then he went on to tell how Lincoln's call for volunteers raised a wave of protest in the state and divided its loyalties between North and South - hill people and cotton raisers.

"Men were hanged in their own front yards....There were bridge burnings....After Shiloh, romantic notions of war were gone....The Yankees took over middle Tennessee....The state felt the sting of informers....The raid on Murfreesboro was Nathan Bedford Forrest's finest hour....Guerrillas and bushwhackers took the law into their own hands," were some of Dr. Womack's comments.

He told of Champ Ferguson's campaign of hangings and slashings - "and there was some Yankee butchery, too." The "Fort Pillow Massacre" was a result of inflamed feelings in Tennessee. And the war did not end in 1865. Reconstruction found the enemies of the Confederate soldiers in control. In 1869 the reconstructionists divided and the rebels gained control.

Stanley F. Horn, author, longtime member and now an honorary member of our Round Table, was present and joined in the lively and entertaining post-speech discussion. Dr. Womack will speak to the Cleveland CWRT on November 15.

Construction of BARKLEY DAM in Kentucky will raise the water level on the Cumberland River at Fort Donelson about 13 feet. However, the two river batteries and Confederate entrenchments will not be disturbed. Bottom land along Hickman creek, Indian creek and Federal positions in these low areas will be flooded. George E. Jackson, GRAPE AND CANISTER (Wilmington, Del.).

THANKS FROM PARK SERVICE

The Chicago CWRT renunciation of rights to Marshall W. Rissman's set of the Official Records and award to Pea Ridge National Military Park was warmly received:

John T. Willett, Pea Ridge superintendent wrote:

"The books arrived in excellent condition. It was thoughtful and generous of the donor to select this area (near Rogers, Arkansas) to be the recipient of this gift. I know of no place where the books could contribute so much to the research program as in this park. We will be looking forward to a visit of your group in the very near future."

Elbert Cox, National Park Service director for Region One (Richmond, Virginia), which includes Pea Ridge, wrote:

"This was indeed a public spirited action, for there (at Pea Ridge) this extremely valuable reference work can be expected to serve a host of historians over an indefinite number of years.

"We had been casting about for a set of the Official Records for Pea Ridge, but not with any notable success. Some of the battlefield parks in the National Park System have a few scattered extra copies, but nothing resembling a complete set could have been assembled from them. The set will be designated as the gift of Marshall W. Rissman and the Chicago Civil War Round Table.

"As much as the effect it produced, we value the sentiment of the Round Table members voting for making the gift as a very substantial gesture of appreciation for services they have received at the national military parks. Our people like to give the best possible service to interested organizations, such as the Round Tables, as well as to interested individuals and family groups."

Superintendent Willett formerly was stationed at Fort Sumter, Richmond Battlefield, and Stones River, where he was host to our 1958 battlefield tour. Pea Ridge historian is John Bond, who aided in conducting our tour at Petersburg last spring. The new superintendent at Stones River is Lawrence W. Quist.

AMERICAN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE, U.K.

A letter from Patrick C. Courtney, secretary-treasurer of The Confederate Research Club of England says: "Steps are being taken to bring about a change of Constitution of the CRC, which will, subject to the necessary number of votes being cast by the membership, change its name to THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE, U.K. (United Kingdom) All being well, this change is scheduled for January 1, 1961. It marks a change in policy which will bring a better understanding of the Civil War, and it will come at an appropriate time at the beginning of the Centennial."

Mr. Courtney said "we shall cease to use the Confederate Battle Flag as our emblem". He requested permission of the Chicago CWRT to use our lapel pin and shoulder patch. Samples of these have been sent to Mr. Courtney with the information that American CWRT, U.K. members are welcome to use the design, as many Round Tables in this country already are doing.

Chicago CWRT members who are also members of the British group include W. Norman FitzGerald, Richard B. Harwell, Carl Haverlin, Col. Robert S. Henry, Stanley F. Horn, E. B. Long, Ralph G. Newman and John R. Peacock.

The Fourth Annual Assembly of Civil War Round Tables will be held in Atlanta in 1961 on dates to be announced. The Third Assembly, at Hagerstown, Md., last spring, had a record registration of 210 persons from 28 Round Tables in 15 states.

BULLETIN BOARD

CIVIL WAR TIMES is publishing a Round Table Guide to be distributed free to persons interested in forming a new Civil War Round Table. It tells how to organize a CWRT, includes a model constitution, and has chapters on programs, publications, the autonomous nature of the Round Table movement, ways a Round Table can help in the centennial, and the movement in other countries. Copies may be obtained by writing to: Round Table Guide, c/o Civil War Times, P. O. Box 1861, Mechanicsburg, Pa.

* * *

NEW MEMBERS of the Civil War Round Table: Dr. W. W. Sauer, Meridian Park, Paxton, Illinois; George W. Walsh 1411 Davis St., Evanston, Ill.; John J. Hollister, 1217 Church Street, Glenview, Illinois.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Robert L. Floyd to: 2054 Lincoln Ave., Chicago 14; J. B. Smith to: 10551 S. Hale Ave., Chicago 43.

* * *

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

RELIEF FOR CONFEDERATE WHITE HOUSE

Brockenborough House in Richmond, which became the residence of President Jefferson Davis, C.S.A., later a public school building, and finally the Confederate Museum, soon may have relief from its overcrowded condition. Miss India Thomas, house regent, hopes that the city will permit use of the Ruffner school building which stands on what was part of the grounds of the White House. "We could then do justice to the wealth of material that should be exhibited," she said. Also, there is possibility of use of the John Stewart house where Mrs. Robert E. Lee resided during the later years of the war and to which General Lee returned for a while after Appomattox. The house was occupied by Virginia Historical Society which has moved to its new structure behind Battle Abbey.

THE NATIONAL RETAIL MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION has issued a statement saying:

"Anything you do concerning the Civil War must be done in good taste and with proper respect for the emotion which events concerning that war arouse. Six hundred thousand Americans on both sides died in the conflict....It would be extremely unwise and the worst possible public relations to treat any aspect of the Civil War in a flippant or a highly promotional manner.

"The Civil War offers stores a magnificent opportunity to make a genuine contribution to the culture and historical education of our citizens....In making these plans, however, let us make certain that retailing lives up to its highest ideals of service to the community. Nothing less will do."

The first Union officer killed in the Civil War was Col. E. E. Elsworth, who was shot in Alexandria, Virginia, on May 24, 1861. His Confederate counterpart was Capt. John C. Marr, killed at Fairfax Court House, Va., on June 1, 1861.

THE NEW BOOKS



ANDREW JOHNSON: President on Trial, by Milton Lomask (Farrar, \$6).

THE CIVIL WAR AT SEA. January 1860-March 1862: The Blockaders, Vol. I of a three volume narrative history, by Virgil Carrington Jones (Holt, \$6).

THE CIVIL WAR IN THE NORTHWEST, by Robert Huhn Jones (220pp, Oklahoma, \$4). The Sioux uprising.

GONE ARE THE DAYS: An Illustrated History of the Old South, by Harnett T. Kane (Dutton, \$12.50).

THE IMAGE OF WAR: Pictorial Reporting of the American Civil War, edited by W. Fletcher Thompson, Jr. (Yoseloff, \$7.50).

THE NIGHT THE WAR WAS LOST, by Charles S. Dufour (Doubleday, \$4.50). April 24, 1862, David Farragut and his gunboats at New Orleans.

THE REAL ABRAHAM LINCOLN: A one volume History of His Life and Times, by Reinhard H. Luthin (800pp, Prentice-Hall).

THE CONFEDERATE CONGRESS, by Wilfred Buck Years (293pp, U. of Georgia, \$5).

CONFEDERATE EDGED WEAPONS, by William A. Albaugh, III, drawings by Carl Pugliese, letter page size (Harper, \$7.50).

DEATH TO TRAITORS: The Story of Gen. Lafayette C. Baker, Lincoln's Secret Service Chief, by Jacob Megelver (Doubleday, \$4.95).

OUR INCREDIBLE CIVIL WAR, by Burke Davis, drawings by Raymond Houlihan (Holt, \$4.95).

STORMING OF THE GATEWAY: Chattanooga, 1863, by Fairfax Downey (McKay, \$5.50).

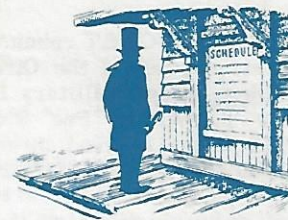
"THEY'LL DO TO TIE TO!" The Story of the 3rd Regiment, Arkansas Infantry, C.S.A., by Capt. Calvin L. Collier (Pioneer Press, Little Rock, 233pp, \$5).

CURRIER & IVES PICTURE HISTORY OF THE CIVIL WAR, 48 lithographs colored by hand silk screen process (Jack Brussel, New York, \$20).

CENTENNIAL NOTES - HERE AND THERE

NEBRASKA is the 43rd state with a centennial commission; California is the only pre-war state without one....**SOUTH CAROLINA SECEDES**, by John A. May and Mrs. Joan Reynolds Faunt, is a centennial item....**FULLER HOUSE**, Stonewall Jackson's temporary home and headquarters at Winchester, Va., is open to the public....**ALEXANDRIA, Va.**, is restoring Fort Ward, one of Washington's outer chain of fortifications....**ARKANSAS** has prepared a chronology of naval engagements within its borders during the war....**TENNESSEE** is encouraging the organization of Civil War Round Tables over the state to swell interest in the centennial....**OHIO** will place plaques at Cincinnati, Columbus, and Cleveland, where Lincoln stopped on his way to Washington in 1861....**ALABAMA** will have a seven day celebration climaxing on February 12 to mark the inauguration of the Confederacy's first and only president, Jefferson Davis....**MILWAUKEE** Symphony Orchestra will give concerts January 13 and 14 to start Wisconsin's centennial observance....**NORTH CAROLINA'S** commission prints a monthly newsletter....**VIRGINIA** commission will publish in April the wartime papers of Robert E. Lee....Edith W. McElroy, executive secretary of the IOWA Centennial commission, has issued letters opening a drive for a centennial committee in each county. County superintendents of schools will issue the calls to organizations to name representatives to organize the county units.

FUTURE MEETINGS



Wednesday, Dec. 7 - Ladies Night, Charles L. (Pie) Dufour, columnist, New Orleans States-Item, "The Night the War Was Lost".

Friday, Jan. 13 - Joseph P. Cullen, Historian, Richmond Battlefield Park, "The Peninsula Campaign".

Friday, Feb. 10 - Dr. Glenn H. Seymour, president Illinois State Historical Society, "Stephen A. Douglas".

April - 200th Regular Meeting.

MIDWEST CWRT CALENDAR

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 14 - Dr. A. W. Crandall, "Outline of the Civil War."

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 15 - Richard N. Current, "Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis as Commander-in-Chiefs".

SPRINGFIELD, Nov. 18 - Oliver J. Keller, Sr., "Lincoln and the Illinois State Register".

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 21 - Dr. Fred A. Shannon, "State's Rights in the Union Army."

SPECIAL EVENTS

Nov. 26 - Confederate Research Club, Eccleston Hotel, Gillingham St., Victoria, London SW 1, Thomas W. Glaser, "Railroads of the Confederacy".

April 22-23, 1961 - 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.



TOWNSEND HEADS KENTUCKY CWRT

Kentucky CWRT has re-elected William H. Townsend as president - the office he has held since the organization was founded in 1953. J. Winston Coleman is vice president and Hambleton Tapp, secretary-treasurer. Townsend is an honorary member of Chicago CWRT.

Miss Chloe Gifford of Lexington, who recently completed a two year term as president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, has been chosen executive director of the Kentucky Civil War Centennial commission, of which Dr. Tapp is chairman. Miss Gifford also is in charge of women's activities of the national commission.

Features planned for Kentucky's centennial include a program based on the state's position of neutrality in the war, a re-enactment of the Battle of Perryville, and a program centering on Gen. John Hunt Morgan's last raid through the state in 1864.

Two new navy guided missile ships are named Raphael Semmes for the commander of the Confederate sea raider Alabama and John L. Worden, commander of the Union ironclad Monitor in the fight with the Merrimack.