

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XXI, Number 6

Chicago, Illinois

February, 1961

"Life and Contributions of Stephen A. Douglas" - Dr. Glenn H. Seymour

Dr. Glenn H. Seymour is a rough and tumble orator not unlike Stephen A. Douglas who will be the subject of his talk to our Round Table meeting on Thursday, February 9.



Dr. Glenn H. Seymour

Seymour, a native of Vermilion county, Illinois, and graduate of University of Illinois, wrote his doctoral thesis on "An Analysis of the Political Principles of Stephen A. Douglas." That was in 1929 when he joined the faculty of Eastern Illinois University and he has kept up his study of Douglas ever since.

Seymour has been head of the social science (history) department of Eastern Illinois U. since 1951. He is the 1960-61 president of the Illinois State Historical Society.

It has been our custom to have a Lincoln day speech in February. This year it is on the man who held Lincoln's hat at the inaugural. It is also in commemoration of the centennial of Douglas death. He returned to Chicago and died in June, 1861. Many things around Chicago are identified with Douglas' name.

Dr. Seymour said: "I shall give some sort of resume of Douglas' life and public career with commentary on his physical and personal qualities. I shall analyze to some extent what I have come to believe were his motives in 1854 and later.

"As I see it, his two greatest contributions to American history were:

"1. In building for himself a national position which furnished the means by which Lincoln could bring himself to the attention of the nation; and

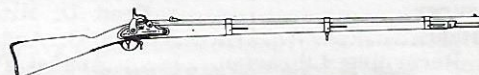
"2. In rallying the Northern Democrats, especially in the Northwest to the support of the union in 1861.

"His first contribution was, of course, unintended by him, but the second was deliberate, generous, and patriotically inspired."

At E.I.U., long known as Charleston Teachers College or Eastern Illinois State Teachers College, Seymour has been closely associated with Dr. Charles H. Coleman, known to many of us as author and CWRT member.

Among younger members of the Charleston faculty, Seymour is affectionately known as "Our Leader." One of the faculty, a former CWRT member, Robert Sterling, will accompany Seymour here.

The date, Thursday, February 9, is a change from the one previously announced in Future Meetings. Seymour's appearance here was moved up a day so he and some of our members closely identified with the State Historical Society can be present at Bloomington, February 10 when the David Davis mansion is turned over to the state historical society.



MEETING NOTICE

198th REGULAR MEETING

* * *

Dr. Glenn H. Seymour

on

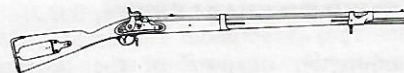
"Stephen A. Douglas"

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1961

St. Clair Hotel
162 East Ohio Street

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



PUBLIC LIBRARY CIVIL WAR LIST

The Chicago Public Library has brought up to date its booklet, A NATION DIVIDED, A Representative, Annotated, Selection of Books on the Civil War Period and Abraham Lincoln. The book list presents a selection of about 250 books, divided into groups according to subject content. The library has many more items not on the list. Through the courtesy of the library and Librarian Gertrude E. Gscheidle, a supply of the booklets has been provided to the Civil War Round Table and they will be mailed to members.

BASS OKLAHOMA C.W.C.C. CHAIRMAN

Our member Henry B. Bass is chairman of the Oklahoma Civil War Centennial commission. The commission's stationery is a work of art. The top of the page is a fold-over which has a color reprint of the Battle of Honey Springs, the largest fought in what is now Oklahoma during the Civil War. The picture is from an 1863 copy of Leslie's Weekly. The top folded back reveals an outline map of Oklahoma with 17 numbered Civil War engagements.

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

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NEW YORK SETS UP BENJAMIN BARONDESS AWARD

New York CWRT has established the Benjamin Barondess Award in honor of their member who died November 28. The award will be presented to a high school student of New York City who writes the best essay on some aspect of Lincoln's life of philosophy. Mr. Barondess was present on some of our battlefield tours and his writings are known to many of our members.

PULLMAN TOUR TO CHARLESTON, S.C.

The Washington chapter of the National Railway Historical Society is sponsoring special pullman cars to the Fort Sumter re-enactment at Charleston, S. C. The train leaves Washington at 8:20 p.m. April 11 - stops at Alexandria and Richmond, Va., and arrives at Charleston at 5 a.m., April 12. The pullmans will serve as quarters in Charleston, with buses to the points of interest. There will be a bus tour of the city and a yacht tour of the harbor to Fort Sumter. The cars leave for Washington at 10:21 p.m. April 13. Further information and prices can be obtained from Civil War Committee, National Railway Historical Society, 3113 Holly Street, Alexandria, Va.

NEWSLETTER OF NATHAN BEDFORD FORREST CWRT

Number 1 of GAUS' BUGLE, the newsletter of Nathan Bedford Forrest Round Table of Murfreesboro, Tenn., was issued in December. Bob Womack explains the name thusly: "Before Forrest made an attack on the enemy, he customarily turned to his bugler and said, 'Gaus, sound the charge.' Gaus was at Forrest's side throughout the war, and the clear, crisp notes from his bugle were a fitting prelude to the classic military accomplishments of his commander....Hence, GAUS' BUGLE."

Three years ago Hartford Civil War Round Table had 23 members; now it has 148.

*from the
Editor's pen*



Joseph P. Cullen, historian of Richmond National Battlefield Park, presented us with a character study of Gen. George Brinton McClelland as well as the story of the Peninsula Campaign of 1862 when he spoke to our meeting January 13. Attendance was 117.

Cullen's report covered "Little Mac's" stalling and cavalier manner in dealing with Lincoln, but he also brought out that the Army of the Potomac was well trained and did not run as did the Federals at Manassas and that the army was handled well in the Seven Days withdrawal to Harrison's landing.

In the question period, Cullen emphasized that Gen. Lee failed to destroy McClelland's army. When questioned on placing reliance on McClelland's letters to his wife, Cullen replied, "If I can read a man's letters to his wife, I'll always learn something."

Cullen's speech was highly pleasing in content and delivery.

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Treasurer Fred Mitchell reports that we had 323 paid members as of January 1, 1961. The present membership limit is 350. Mitchell reports there are six members of 21 years standing, 7 of 20, 6 of 19, 7 of 18, 3 of 17, 11 of 16, 2 of 15, 6 of 14, 7 of 13, 13 of 12, 15 of 11, 12 of 10, 12 of 9, 15 of 8, 19 of 7, 13 of 6, 21 of 5, 28 of 4, 31 of 3, 45 of 2, and 44 of 1 year. The figures do not include honorary members.

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Jos. L. Eisendrath, Jr., who is working on a study of Civil War weather and is enlisting helpers, has prepared some cards for recording data: date, place, time, temperature, wind, barometer, ground condition; author, title of work, page, and quotation. Persons who wish to cooperate with Joe please write him at 350 N. Deere Park Drive, Highland Park, Ill.

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Allan Nolan, author of the new book "The Iron Brigade" and speaker on that subject to our Round Table meeting in January, 1960, will be honored at a cocktail party at 18 East Chestnut Street at 4 p.m., Thursday, February 9.

WISCONSIN BEGINS CENTENNIAL

The Civil War centennial in Wisconsin was inaugurated January 26 jointly by the centennial commission, the state historical society, and legislators.

There was a joint session of the legislature in the assembly chamber of the capitol with an address by Gov. Gaylord Nelson. At a luncheon in the great hall of Wisconsin Union, Alan T. Nolan spoke on his new book, "The Iron Brigade". Later, at a reception in the Sellery room of the historical society, Nolan autographed copies of the book. The Iron Brigade was made up of troops from Wisconsin, Indiana, and Michigan.

A museum exhibit, "Wisconsin in the Civil War", was presented on the fourth floor of the society building.

On January 13, Milwaukee symphony orchestra presented a program of Civil War music in honor of the centennial.

The American Automobile Association has published an excellent Civil War Historical Sites map showing major points of interest and highways leading to them. The reverse side bears a commentary by Bruce Catton and photos by A. Aubrey Bodine. The map is available exclusively to members of local AAA affiliated motor clubs.

"Gold In The Hills"



One of the features of our tour to Vicksburg April 26-May 1, will be a special performance of "Gold in the Hills" by the Dixie Showboat Players who are from the Vicksburg Little Theater group.

The performance is on the Steamer Sprague, the retired "Big Mama", famed as the biggest sternwheeler towboat of the Mississippi. A theater has been built into the steamer and also a restaurant where we will have dinner before the show.

"Gold in the Hills" is old style river boat melodrama - hero, villain, sweetheart, and all that. Peanuts in the shell are sold to throw at the villain. You can hiss and cheer, too, and join in the old songs with the singing waiters.

"Gold in the Hills" has been a popular feature of Vicksburg's tourist season.

LIST NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS

The National Park Service has issued a report on additional sites recommended for historic landmark status. Fourteen sites not administered by the N.P.S. have been listed as eligible to receive certificates as Registered National Historic Landmarks. These are: Confederate Capitol, Montgomery, Ala.; Fort Morgan, Mobile, Ala.; Lincoln Home, Springfield, Ill.; Lincoln Tomb, Springfield; U. S. Grant Home State Memorial, Galena, Ill.; Nancy Hanks Lincoln State Memorial, Lincoln City, Ind.; Perryville Battlefield, Perryville, Ky.; Fort Jackson and Fort St. Philip, La.; Franklin Battlefield, Franklin, Tenn.; Confederate Capitol, Richmond, Va.; Five Forks Battlefield, Dinwiddie County, Va.; Fort Monroe, Va.; White House of the Confederacy, Richmond, Va., and Lee Chapel, Lexington, Va.

HE CARRIES ON ABOUT THE CIVIL WAR

DEAR MISS HURLEY: My husband is a Civil War buff. That's great with me but sometimes I think he bores people talking about it. I wouldn't hurt his feelings, though, by saying so. I think he's suspected it himself. He remarked a couple of times he guessed he held the floor too long at a couple of recent parties. I really didn't have the heart to agree. How can I tell him without coming right out? MRS. S.

Wait until he mentions his suspicions again. Say that just in case he's right, you'll time him for 15 minutes then whistle Dixie. That's his signal to quit.

- from Lynn Hurley's column, Family Living, in the Chicago Tribune.

BULLETIN BOARD

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Another meeting to deal with planning for the Vicksburg-Jackson battlefield tour will be held Thursday, February 9, 4 p.m. at 18 East Chestnut street. This is notice to all officers and members of the Board of Trustees (named on page 2) to attend.

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NEW MEMBERS of the Civil War Round Table: P. J. Kuhn, 1438 Edgewater Ave., Chicago 26. Val Taylor, 4419 N. Whipple St., Chicago 25. Dorwin E. Zappe, 2642 Lawndale Ave., Evanston, Ill. CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Joseph Titan to: 5525 S. Hyde Park blvd., Chicago 15.

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

The navy department asking for bids on supplies for its 2,000 sailors during the year 1860-61, wanted among other things 50,000 gallons of whisky (from grain only; delivered in good, new, sound, bright 3/4 inch hooped white oak barrels, the hoops to be painted with red lead.)

Late in June, 1860, the National Temperance convention asked the U.S. Navy to stop buying so much whisky for its men. In all fairness, we should state that the navy ordered 1,800,000 biscuits (hardtack) too. From Hardtack, Indianapolis CWRT.

Kansas which became the 34th state of the Union in 1861, will have prominence at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, on February 22. That is the centennial of the date Abraham Lincoln spoke there on his way to Washington.

BEECH GROVE MEMORIAL CEMETERY

A tiny cemetery, 16 miles southeast of Murfreesboro, Tenn., on Route 41 has been designated as Beech Grove Memorial State Park by the Tennessee Historical commission. It is on the brow of a hill overlooking Manchester pike. A marble monument, surrounded by small white headstones, is dedicated to the memory of Confederate soldiers who fell in the three days of fighting at Beech Grove and Hoover's Gap, June 24-26, 1863. The white headstones mark 50 graves where the men were buried with full military honors in 1866. Metal markers recording the history of the battle and the origin of the cemetery have been erected by the Tennessee Historical commission.

The estimated cost of the Civil War to the Union was \$6,190,000,000 and to the Confederacy, 3 billion dollars.

JOSEPH COTTON TO BE FILM NARRATOR

Movie Actor Joseph Cotton, a native of Petersburg, Va., will narrate the documentary film to be shown at the Virginia Civil War Centennial center in Richmond. The 32 minute movie will be directed by Jean Oser, an Academy Award winner, and will consist of eight 4 minute parts, each of which will depict an episode of the war. The eight episodes will be projected simultaneously on eight separate screens arranged in an octagon. Visitors will see each part by moving around the octagon. This will reduce waiting time to an average of two minutes.

THE NEW BOOKS



WHIPT 'EM EVERYTIME, the diary of Bartlett Yancey Malone, Co. H, 6th N. C. Regiment, edited by William Whatley Pierson, Jr. (131pp, McCowat-Mercer, Jackson, Tenn., \$3.95). The Confederate diary of a North Carolina farmer in most of the great battles and campaigns of Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania.

CONFEDERATE STRATEGY from SHILOH to VICKSBURG, by Archer Jones (258pp and maps, Louisiana State U. Press, \$5).

THE WAR-TIME JOURNAL OF A GEORGIA GIRL, 1864-1865, by Eliza Farances Andrews; edited by Spencer Bidwell King Jr. (396pp, Ardivan Press, \$5.50). Reprint, first published in 1908.

COL. EDWARD DICKINSON BAKER, Lincoln's Constant Ally, by Dr. Harry C. Blair and Rachel Tarshis (Oregon Historical Society).

TERRY'S TEXAS RANGERS: 8th TEXAS CAVALRY, C.S.A., an address given by Lester N. Fitzhugh before Houston CWRT; Stagecoach Press, P.O. Box 24, Houston 24, Texas.

For April, Louisiana State University Press will have a two volume boxed set, **MISSISSIPPI IN THE CONFEDERACY**, with John K. Bettersworth editing the first volume, "As They Saw It", and James W. Silver, editing the second, "As Seen in Retrospect."

CIVIL WAR HISTORY, winter issue, has an article by James I. Robertson, Jr. giving a bibliography of Civil War Articles, 1959-60.

LINCOLN HERALD in its fall, winter and spring issues is printing the "Civil War Letters of Henry C. Bear (Decatur, Ill.): A Soldier in the 116th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, edited by Wayne C. Temple.

The national magazines and the Sunday magazines of metropolitan newspapers are printing a wealth of material on the Civil War. Our member Ralph Newman has a page each week in the Chicago Tribune Sunday magazine. Member Elmer Gertz had an article, "The Continuing Civil War" in The Paper, Chicago weekly.

PICTURE MAGAZINE of the Minneapolis Sunday Tribune (Jan. 8) had a fine article by Kenneth Carley on "Minnesota in the Civil War" and the famed 1st Minnesota regiment. Carley is a veteran member and officer of the Twin Cities CWRT.

WASHINGTON STAR has begun printing its weekly summary of the Civil War as reported in the Star of 1861. These will be available later in book form.

On April 16, the St. Louis Globe-Democrat will have a special Civil War section in rotogravure. It will have several articles by St. Louis CWRT members.

The Confederate States Centennial Conference was formally organized when representatives of the commissions of the southern states met in Richmond on October 27 and 28. Mrs. Gladys Slayden of Holly Springs, Miss., was elected chairman. She is also vice-chairman of the Mississippi commission. The CSCC will meet again in April in Charleston, S. C.

Maryland will spend \$35,000 to restore the historic Dunker church at Antietam to its 1862 form and appearance. The National Park Service will provide the site, roads, and parking areas; and thereafter will maintain and operate the building.

A special cancellation, to call attention to the re-staging of the "Battle of the Hemp Bales" at Lexington, Mo., on May 18, has been authorized by the Post Office department. It will be used on outgoing first class mail from Lexington from January 1 to June 30.

FUTURE MEETINGS



Friday, March 10 - Richard N. Current, "The Continuing War, 1865-1877".

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

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

MIDWEST CWRT CALENDAR

MADISON (Wis), Feb. 9 - Paul Meyer, "Lincoln and the Russians".

SPRINGFIELD (Ill.), Feb. 17 - Howard F. Rissler, "Zouave Elmer E. Ellsworth".

MILWAUKEE, Feb. 20 - Otto Eisenschiml, "Adventures in History."

LONDON, Feb. 25 - American Civil War Round Table of London, meeting at Eccleston Hotel, Gillingham St., Victoria, SW 1.

SPECIAL EVENTS

February 12 - Chicago Historical Society, Paul M. Angle, "Abraham Lincoln's Last Days in Illinois", songs by Win Stracke.

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

Washington, March 3 - Abraham Lincoln sworn in as president (re-enactment before joint session of Congress).

March 4 - Inauguration of Lincoln (parade and inaugural ball).

ATLANTA, March 9 - Centennial ball.

March 10 - "Gone With The Wind" commemoration.



THUMBNAIL REVIEWS

Grant's Memoirs: Veni, Vidi, Vici.

Sherman's Memoirs: Shake the hand that refused to shake the hand of the secretary of war.

Sheridan's Memoirs: We shoulda won in a walk, but I couldn't be every place at once.

Jeff Davis, "Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government": We wuz robbed.

MacKinlay Kantor, "If the South Had Won the Civil War" (LOOK, November 22, 1960): This Iffey should win the Leg Puller prize of 1960. From newsletter of Cleveland CWRT.

The U.S. Navy will operate a museum ship that will visit ports on the Atlantic, Gulf, Mississippi and Great Lakes. On board will be displayed dioramas, Civil War equipment and other naval items, plus a 40 minute Civil War film.

The Lincoln-Civil War Society of Philadelphia will participate in the city's first big centennial observance, the February 22 Independence Hall Lincoln speeches of 1861.