

# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

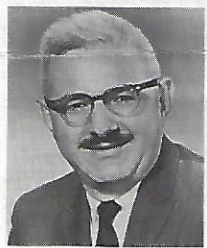
Volume XXVIII, Number 3

Chicago, Illinois

November, 1967

## Ladies' Night - Ralph Newman - Kungsholm Puppet Show - Friday, Nov. 10

Ladies' Night will be at the Kungsholm, one of America's fine restaurants, at 100 East Ontario street, on Friday, November 10. After cocktail hour at 6:30 p.m., the dinner will feature the superior smorgasbord of the famous Scandinavian restaurant.



Ralph G. Newman

After dinner speaker is our own Ralph Newman, a founder of the Round table, speaker most in demand among Round Tables over the country, and an outstanding figure in Chicago's public life.

Ralph has chosen the subject, "Readin' Writin' and Round Tables,"

That leaves him the opening for a free-wheeling discourse on Abraham Lincoln, the Civil War, and personalities linked to both and the present day historical field. Ralph's range may reach to Bruce Catton, Allan Nevins, Carl Sandburg, MacKinlay Kantor, Carl Haverlin, and anecdotes connected with them and many others.

Whether there will be a discussion period is up to Ralph and President Ver Lynn Sprague and whether there is available time before the puppet show at 9:45 p.m.

Since Ralph last spoke before the Round Table thirteen months ago, he has become president of the Chicago Library board and is chairman of the approaching Illinois Sesquicentennial observance. Before that he was chairman of the Chicago Civil War Centennial commission, secretary-treasurer of the state commission, and was the guiding hand of the outstanding Illinois exhibit at the New York World's fair.

Ralph is a native Chicagoan, attended Northwestern university, was a champion sprinter in high school, and tried his luck at professional baseball before he became immersed in Lincoln and the Civil War. Today his Abraham Lincoln Book Shop is known as a source of primary materials on both subjects. He is an authority on tax deductible gifts. He has appraised the papers of public figures. Ralph's writings are too numerous to repeat here as are his identifications with other public projects and colleges. Catton said he "has exercised a great influence on modern American historical research and writing," Sandburg described him as "founder of a unique American institution," and Nevins said he is a "national resource."

Kungsholm was founded by Frederik A. Charmer and now is under the management of the Fred Harvey company. Its setting and decoration match its famous cuisine. The place was a favorite of the operatic singer Lauritz Melchior. It has a 200-seat theater for its puppet show. It has more than 1,000 puppets, each 13 inches high, available to perform, combining the ancient art of puppetry with the finest sound recording equipment. For our visit, there will be a special performance of excerpts



265th REGULAR MEETING

LADIES' NIGHT

\* \* \* \* \*

Ralph G. Newman

on

Readin' Writin' and Round Tables

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Puppet Show: Excerpts from

"Sound of Music" and "Paint Your Wagon"

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1967

Kungsholm Restaurant  
100 East Ontario Street

Cocktails at 6:30  
Dinner at 7:30 p.m.

(Speaking and Puppet Show follow)

Mail checks for reservations, \$7.50 per person, give name of lady and guests. Pick up tickets at door.



WACO (Texas) CWRT has adapted the masthead of our newsletter in color for the return address on its envelopes.

MIKE KLATT, 12 years old, a junior high school student, will speak to the Waco, Texas, CWRT December 7 on "The Decisive Battle of the Civil War."

from "Sound of Music" and "Paint Your Wagon."

An advance announcement of Ladies' Night has been mailed to speed reservations. A return with checks is requested to reduce congestion at the door where tickets will be delivered. Any cancellations or late reservations should be phoned to Whitehall 4-3085 so that an accurate count can be given to the Kungsholm food service.

The cocktail hour will be a cash bar. The dinner and puppet show fee is \$7.50 per person. Mal Hoffmann is chairman of the event. Parking is available in public facilities at Ohio and Rush streets, a block south of Kungsholm.



# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

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

## OFFICERS

President . . . . . Ver Lynn Sprague  
 Vice President . . . . . Arthur V. Bergquist  
 Secretary . . . . . Elmer Underwood  
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 Official Engrosser (Printer) . . . . . Allen Meyer  
 Judge Advocate General . . . . . Arnold Alexander  
 Balladeer . . . . . Win Stracke

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES (Executive Committee)

Terms expiring in 1968: Elmer C. Brinkman,  
Henry W. Kennedy, William C. Krone.

Terms expiring in 1969: Maurice Fisher,  
Dan J. Lapinski, Charles Wesselhoeft.



DR. A. M. GIDDINGS, Battle Creek, Mich., for a number of years owned a parcel of land known as the Widow Tapp farm on the Wilderness battlefield. The site played an important part in the Battle of the Wilderness and was the scene of the "Lee to the Rear" incident. About a year ago, Dr. and Mrs. Giddings decided to deed the property to the National Park Service in the name of the Battle Creek CWRT. A plaque has been placed on the site with an inscription acknowledging the gift. To our knowledge, this is the only Civil War battlefield marker which mentions a Round Table and we can take great pride in this unique distinction. - Sherman J. Lavigna, in The Long Roll, newsletter of CWRT of Battle Creek.

(Dr. Giddings and Lavigna are members of Chicago CWRT. On our 1955 battlefield tour to the Wilderness, Dr. Giddings was host at a barbecue on the Tapp farm.)

THE FAR-FORWARD-LOOKING Illinois State Historical Society has scheduled its 1969 fall meeting and tour for Peoria. It will be the 70th annual meeting. The state society's 1968 meetings are keyed to the state Sesquicentennial observance - spring meeting in Chicago with Walter Trohan as principal speaker; special August meeting in Springfield for the rededication of the Old State House, and fall meeting in Chester, beside submerged Kaskaskia, where the state began 150 years ago. Philip D. Sang is president of the society for 1967-68. The state society authorized a special \$1.50 Sesquicentennial year membership. Such members will receive some of the society's publications and notices for all events of the year and then will be invited to enlist for full membership.

## from the Editor's pen



Dr. Mark M. Krug had wrapt attention of sixty-five members and guests for his talk on "Abraham Lincoln and Lyman Trumbull - Moderate Republicans" at the October 27 meeting. He traced the political careers of the two men - Trumbull, the lawyer from Belleville and Alton and Lincoln the legislator and Springfield attorney. Their stands on issues, particularly slavery were examined. The Civil War was brought about by extremists, Dr. Krug said. Myths related to Lincoln should be re-examined. The question period brought Maurice Fisher, Dan Lapinski, Mike Lerner, Don Pfeuffer, Miner Coburn, and Ralph Newman to the firing line. To Fisher's query, Krug replied that Andrew Johnson was a Democrat, a white supremacist, and "the wrong man in the White House at the wrong time." Newman noted that Lincoln wanted to get rid of slavery but also to transport the Negroes out of the country. He pointed out that the Emancipation Proclamation was effective because slaves left their masters whenever the Union armies came near. Lerner defended beautiful myths, but Krug countered, "Let's present the historical record to our children as it was." President Ver Lynn Sprague presented one of the Illinois Sesquicentennial medals to Dr. Krug.

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Maurice Fisher, as chairman of the welcoming committee, called for introduction of guests. Among them was A. J. Cummings, a member of the CWRT of Cedar Rapids, Ia. Dennis Donnellan and Norman Toberman were introduced as new members. Members were informed that Frank Palumbo, George Donovan, and Newton Farr were on the sick list.

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A book auction was held at the start of the meeting with Treasurer Marshall Krolick as auctioneer and Assistant Richard Cohen as clerk. The selling totaled \$44.50, with some of it reserved for donors, but most going to the Fellowship Award fund.

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Camp Followers met at the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop and heard Ethel Joseph speak on Rose O'Neal Greenhow, intriguing spy of the Confederacy. It was Mrs. Joseph's first appearance as a speaker to the group and the ladies reported her presentation showed much work and research. A buffet dinner was served. Since the next Round Table meeting is Ladies' Night, chairman Betsy Ross Davis will announce the speaker for December in the next issue of the newsletter.

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In September we included in our newsletter mailing a request to courtesy, exchange, and institutional recipients to tell us whether the mailing was desired. We hoped to make a sizeable cut in our mailing cost. The cut will be less than 10 per cent - and requests to continue the mailing were flattering. One was from the Library of Congress. Others were from historical agencies in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, and Wisconsin.

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Dr. Louis A. Warren of Fort Wayne, Ind., author of "Lincoln's Boyhood in Indiana," and foremost researcher on the early Lincoln, was sought as speaker for our February 9 meeting. He had to decline, he explained, because two years ago on his 80th birthday he promised his wife he would cease going out on speaking engagements. However, he extended his best wishes to friends and fellow members of Chicago CWRT and said he might come for a meeting this year. Still sprightly, he continues some writing. He was founder of Lincoln Lore for Lincoln Life Foundation and the leaflet is carried on by R. Gerald McMurtry.



## Cradle of History

The 18th annual battlefield tour, May 2 to 5, to the Fredericksburg area of Virginia has a setup that has proved ideal on previous tours - plane flights out and return to Chicago, modern buses on the ground, and a single motel headquarters.

The Civil War battles - Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, The Wilderness, and Spotsylvania - involved some of the ablest, less able, and most colorful generals of the war. Included were Robert E. Lee, Ambrose Burnside, "Stonewall" Jackson, Joseph Hooker, U. S. Grant and a new set of Union generals, and again Lee.

The same area was the cradle of Revolutionary War figures and early Presidents of the United States. George Washington was born near by and the Fredericksburg battleground includes the Ferry farm, site of the cherry tree fable, and throwing a dollar across the Rappahannock.

Fredericksburg calls itself "America's Most Historic City" and cites Ferry farm, boyhood home of Washington; Mary Washington house, the home George bought for his mother; Mary Washington monument and grave; Kenmore, the home of Betty (Lewis), Washington's only sister; the James Monroe museum and memorial library; the Hugh Mercer apothecary shop; Rising Sun Tavern, built by Charles Washington, a brother; Stoner's 19th Century Store Museum, a storehouse of Americana, and Masonic Lodge No. 4 where George Washington became a member.

An afternoon will be devoted to the Fredericksburg battle, a full day to Chancellorsville, a morning to the Wilderness, and afternoon to Spotsylvania. Joseph P. Cullen, who wrote the booklet "Where One Hundred Thousand Fell," will be the chief speaker; Historian Ralph Happel will speak on the Wilderness and Spotsylvania and join with Historian Dwight Stinson in guiding the tour. Edwin C. Bearss, National Park Service research historian, will be swing man to assist wherever he can.

Persons who travel to the site by car will find any number of Civil War points of interest. One in particular can be the new Battle of New Market Memorial in the Shenandoah valley. An article in the New York Times said: "It (the battle) probably postponed the end of the war for the South for a few more months, and it was the only battle in United States history in which a corps of college cadets (Virginia Military Institute) marched into combat."

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A PARK FOREST CWRT group made a battlefield tour of the Shenandoah valley in late October. Among the group were Les Vande Berg, Malcolm Macht, Brooks Davis and son, Scott. Dr. Millard Bushong of Berryville, Va., was their guide in the Winchester area and Col. Benson around Harrisonburg. They took in the Lexington area and visited James Geary at the New Market memorial.

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DR. RICHARD D. MUDD, 1001 Hoyt St., Saginaw, Mich. 48607, has arranged for November 7 a boat trip from Key West, Fla., to Fort Jefferson on Dry Tortugas where his grandfather, Dr. Samuel Mudd, was imprisoned after the John Wilkes Booth assassination of President Lincoln. Dr. Richard Mudd will escort the party through the fort and narrate the story of his grandfather's incarceration. The private boat will hold 45 persons and the cost will be about \$10 each. Of course, getting to Key West is on your own. For reservation, contact Dr. Mudd at the above address.



Grand staircase in Kungsholm foyer. Civil War Round Table Ladies' Night will be held in famous restaurant at 100 East Ontario Street, Friday, November 10.

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FORD'S THEATER, which we will see on our battlefield tour next spring, had a press preview on October 4. Restoration began late in 1964. The theater has two balconies and seated 1,700 when Lincoln was assassinated. Because of fire codes and installation of washrooms and other facilities, however, it will now seat only 600. More than 4,000 items of Lincolniana will be on display in a basement museum when the theater is reopened late in December. The National Repertory Theater Foundation has expressed interest in establishing a resident company at the theater, with presentations focused on Lincoln-period plays he attended, including Shakespeare, and modern plays relating to his life. A nation-wide drive for funds to establish and underwrite the troupe will be financed by a \$250,000 grant from the Lincoln National Life Insurance company of Fort Wayne, Ind. The company will sponsor a special CBS-TV telecast of an "inaugural evening" program of music, dance, and drama devoted to Lincoln on January 30. It is hoped that a repertory season can begin on February 12.

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THE SPEAKERS' BUREAU has been busy! Elmer Gertz spoke in September to Milwaukee CWRT and in October to Kansas City CWRT on "The Lincoln and Kennedy Assassinations." Miner Coburn spoke October 21 to the General George A. Custer Camp No. 1 of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War on "Humorous Incidents of the Civil War." Elmer C. Brinkman is scheduled November 13 to speak to the Custer Camp on "The Military Career of Maj. Gen. John A. Logan. Everett Lewy will speak to the Park Forest CWRT December 21 on "The Battle of Chickamauga." James Huston, professor of history at Purdue University, is scheduled to speak next May 13 to Indianapolis CWRT on "Development of the Army Signal Corps." Warren Reeder spoke on "The 27th Indiana Regiment" at the October 20 dinner meeting of the Salt Creek CWRT in Elmhurst College student center. Brooks Davis is Salt Creek's speaker Nov. 17 in Glen Ellyn Public Library on "The Battle of Perryville." For December 15, Salt Creek will have open discussion on "Mistakes of the Civil War," with Vice President Harry Thornburg as moderator. Available speakers or Round Tables in need of one can write Chairman Elmer C. Brinkman, 9031 N. Knox Ave., Skokie, Ill. 60077.



## THE NEW BOOKS



**CAMPAIGNING WITH PARSONS' TEXAS CAVALRY, C.S.A.:** The War Journal and Letters of the Four Orr Brothers, 12th Texas Cavalry Regiment, edited by John Q. Anderson (Hill Junior College Press, Hillsboro, Texas, 173pp, \$6). Down to earth aspects of soldier life.

**STRUGGLE FOR VICKSBURG:** The Battles and Siege that Decided the Civil War, by Editors of CIVIL WAR TIMES Illustrated; Stephen E. Ambrose, Edwin C. Bearss, Wilbur S. Nye, and Beverly Utley; maps and art, Frederic Ray (Stackpole Books, Harrisburg, Pa., 66pp, \$4.95).

**OWEN LOVEJOY:** Abolitionist in Congress, by Edward Magdel (Rutgers, 494pp, \$10).

**THE RAVING FOE,** the Diary of Maj. James T. Poe of the 11th Arkansas Volunteers, edited by J. C. Poe (Longhorn Press, Eastland, Texas, 144 pp, \$5). War experiences and list of 1,253 Confederate prisoners at Johnson's Island.

**PRESIDENTIAL RECONSTRUCTION IN MISSISSIPPI,** by William C. Harris (Louisiana State University Press, 296pp, \$8).

**MISSOURI'S CONFEDERATE CAPITAL AT MARSHALL, TEXAS,** by William R. Geise (Max S. Lale, 3704 Fitzgerald St., Marshall, Texas, paper \$1.10).

**THE STORY OF TOBACCO IN AMERICA,** by Joseph C. Robert (North Carolina, 296pp, \$6). A reissue brought up to date.

**THE BIRTH OF A NATION STORY,** by Roy E. Aitken, as told to Al. P. Nelson (Denlinger's, Middleburg, Va., 96pp, 8 1/2 x 11 in., 115 illus., \$4.50, paper \$2.95).

**THE MIND OF THE OLD SOUTH,** by Clement Eaton (Louisiana, 348pp, paper \$2.45, cloth \$6.95). Revised edition.

**ROMANTICISM AND NATIONALISM IN THE OLD SOUTH,** by Rollin G. Osterweis (Louisiana Paperbacks, 275pp, \$2.25).

**THE LAZY SOUTH,** by David Bertelson (Oxford, 284pp, \$6.75).

**MEAGHER OF THE SWORD,** by Christian D. Stevens (Dodd, Mead, \$4).

**WHEN THE EAGLE SCREAMED:** The Romantic Horizon in American Diplomacy, 1800-1860, by William H. Goetzmann (John Wiley & Sons, New York, 138pp, \$4.95).

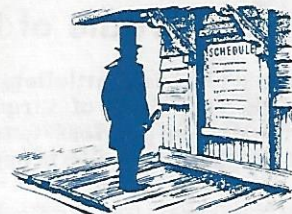
**SLAVERY AND THE SOUTHERN ECONOMY:** Sources and Readings, edited by Harold D. Woodman (Harcourt, Brace & World, 261pp, \$3.95).

### BOOK NOTES

**CIVIL WAR TIMES Illustrated** (October) has these principal articles: "Pea Ridge: Gettysburg of the West," by D. Alexander Brown; "Gideon Pillow, A Personality Profile," by Patricia Bell; "Porter's Mortar Schooners," by Eugene B. Canfield; "Pickett's Report at Gettysburg," by Glenn Tucker, and "A French Report on Federal Hospitals," by General DeChanal.

Forrest Cavalry Corps, c/o Riley W. Gunter, 3540 Graves Road, Memphis, Tenn., is issuing a "War Between the States Memorial Medal" for \$3.25 (including postage) to raise funds to promote remembrance of the Civil War era in the sesquicentennial of Memphis next year. The medallion is of oxidized bronze with the likeness of two Confederate siege guns firing on Fort Sumter on the front, and on the reverse a rendering of Gen. Robert E. Lee and two southern officers outside McLean House.

## BULLETIN BOARD



**FUTURE MEETINGS** (All on Friday Nights)

December 15 - Philip R. Davis, "Justice in Gray."

January 12 - Glenn Seymour, "Illinois in the 1850s."

February 9 - To be announced.

March 8 - Shelby Foote, "General Grant Reaches Washington."

April 5 - Rodney Loehr, "Cavalry Operations of J. H. Wilson Around Selma."

May 2-5 - 18th Annual Battlefield Tour, to Fredericksburg, Va., area.

May 10 - LeRoy H. Fischer, "The Civil War in Today's Perspective."

June 7 - William K. Alderfer, Topic to be announced.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

December 3-4 - Opening events of Illinois Sesquicentennial in Chicago and Springfield.

April 18-20 - Chicago, Spring tour of Illinois State Historical Society (Fall tour Oct. 4-6 at Chester).

August 25-26 - Springfield, Old Capitol Days, rededication of Old State House.

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**CHANGE OF ADDRESS:** C. L. Johnson to: 303 N. 6th St., Wyoming, Ill. 61491; William McBride to: Shamel Manor, 509 N. Adelaide St., Normal, Ill. 61761.

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**AVAILABLE** at meetings: Lapel pin, \$2; Key chain with CWRT emblem, 50¢; Cloth patch of emblem, 50¢.



**BROOKS DAVIS** attended the Jefferson Davis monument rededication at Fairview, Ky., and the 175th anniversary celebration of Russellville, Ky. on September 16. Brooks noted that Russellville was in Logan, Kentucky's oldest county, and that two natives were Ninian Edwards and John McLean who came to Illinois to attain fame. Frank G. Rankin of Louisville was chairman of the 17th anniversary committee.

Our member **H. K. MacCorkle**, a resident of Midwest City, Okla., is program chairman of the CWRT of Oklahoma City.

"Houston Civil War Round Table, 1954-1967" has been compiled by Cooper K. Ragan and issued in a 24 page booklet by Lone Star Press, Houston. Our member **George Kirksey** called the organizational meeting of the group and was first president. The booklet contains a history, list of past officers, programs of each year, copy of charter and by-laws, and a list of present members.

Two of our members have articles in the **JOURNAL** (Summer 1967) of the Confederate Historical Society of London. **Alan Aimone** wrote "Reinvestigation of the Battle of Hartsville, Tenn." **John W. Barriger** wrote "Railroads in the Civil War." The **JOURNAL** is using printed maps as an improvement over its previous mimeograph method.