



News Letter

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

CLEVELAND, OHIO

August 20, 1958

JOHNSON'S ISLAND OUTING - Saturday, September 6. Let's spend a day together. See and learn about Johnson's Island.

The bus will leave from the Equitable Building, 3121 Euclid Ave., at 10:15 a.m. and will return to the same point at 6:30 p.m. Park your car in the rear of the building. The bus will be waiting in the parking lot.

The exact cost per person will depend on the number in the party, but the total expense for bus, ferry and lunch will not exceed \$7.50.

Guy di Carlo, Jr. is completing the final details--luncheon, program, etc. Frank Gillen says he will furnish each of us with a sketch map of the Johnson's Island Prison taken from the Official Atlas.

Send in your reservation card as soon as possible. We must know the approximate number in the party by August 27.

FREDERICKSBURG FIELD TRIP - September 12, 13 and 14. Neville Bayless is now on a personal reconnaissance over the Fredericksburg battle area. Upon his return you may expect to receive a special notice giving you all the details. For the time being, consult the July 5 edition of the Newsletter for the general outlines of the trip. So far, Jack Cullen, Bill Schlessinger, Neville Bayless, Ned Downer, Rex Corfield, David Humphrey, Alfred Taylor, and Arthur Hecker have joined the party. Some will go by plane; others will drive.

In order that Neville can complete arrangements for buses, meals and motels we must have answers to a few questions. Please, therefore, fill out the form below, tear it off and return it to E. T. Downer, Western Reserve University, Cleveland 6, Ohio.

CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

I shall ☐, shall not ☐ take the field trip to Fredericksburg.

I expect to take plane ☐, drive ☐.

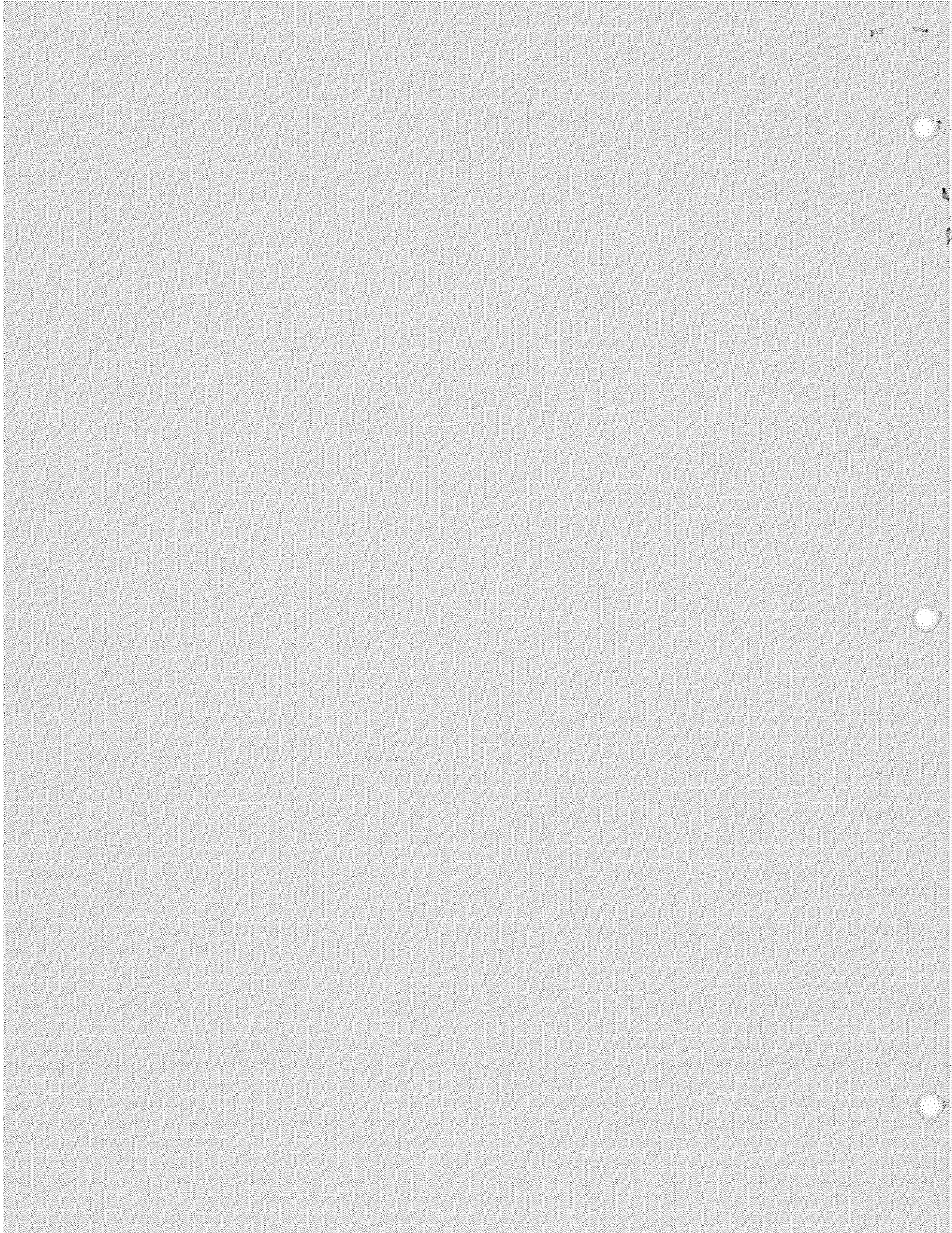
Please make motel reservations for ☐ persons at Fredericksburg for Friday and Saturday nights.

I shall wish places for ☐ on the bus ride over the battlefield area on Saturday and on Sunday.

Please reserve places for ☐ persons at the dinner on Friday, September 12;
☐ persons for Saturday, September 13.

_____, 1958

(Signature) _____



COMING EVENTS. These are preliminary announcements about future events. You may expect to receive final details about them at a later date.

Dr. Frederick Tilberg, Park Historian, Gettysburg National Military Park, will be the speaker at the opening meeting on Monday, October 13. His topic will be "Command Decisions at Gettysburg, July 2 and 3."

As every Civil War buff knows, Dr. Tilberg has been the Park Historian at Gettysburg for many years. He and his staff have furnished many basic facts on which numerous writers have strung their theories as to who were the heroes and who were the villains on these three eventful days.

General Ulysses S. Grant III will be the guest of the Western Reserve Historical Society and the Cleveland C.W.R.T. on December 3 and 4. He will speak at the Historical Society building at 10823 East Boulevard on the evening of December 3. The present plan is for us to have our own dinner meeting in one of the dining rooms on the Western Reserve University campus, and then walk the short distance to the Historical Society for the speaking program.

On the following day (December 4) the General will have lunch with as many of us as can be present, at which time he will report on the progress and plans of the Civil War Centennial Commission of which he is Chairman.

Contributions from Members

GORDON TATUM sent us the program of "The Confederacy", a symphonic out-door drama which is offered at Virginia Beach, each evening except Mondays up until September 1. The play, written by Paul Green, is based on the life of Robert E. Lee. It consists of eighteen scenes with a cast of ninety players. Gordon reports that the performance is held in a delightful amphitheatre located in a large grove of pine trees. He says, "The chorus, music and sound effects were outstanding."

Tatum also visited the Antietam and Chancellorsville battlefields, but was not pleased with the markers. About Antietam, he says, "From the Battlefield markers I gained the impression that at every point the Confederates had fled in dismay, never to be seen again that day." And at Chancellorsville he learned that "some temporary advantages were gained at great cost by the Confederacy, that the Confederates burned down Chancellor house." Could it be that the markers were written by Yankees?

FRANK GILLEN, a frequent visitor at Geauga County auctions in search of rare Civil War material, has obtained a two-volume book on the Civil War Military Telegraph published in 1882. Gillen has sent us some interesting items culled from the book, for instance: -

The first military telegraph code system ever used for war purposes was designed by Anson Stager, General Superintendent, Western Union Telegraph, at Cleveland in 1861. He set up a telegraph code system at the request of Governor William Dennison of Ohio for the use of the Governors of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois in putting these states on a war footing. In November 1861, Stager was appointed head of the United States Military Telegraph with the rank of Assistant Quartermaster of Volunteers.

The first military telegraph attached to an army in the field was used by McClellan in the West Virginia campaign of 1861.

The first telegraph line used by the Federal Government connected the War Office with the Navy Yard in Washington. It began operations on May 2, 1862.

Andrew Carnegie was the first casualty in the Telegraph Corps. He was gashed across the face when freeing a line staked to the ground.

Here are a few code names used by the Union Telegraph: -

President of the United States
Halleck
U. S. Grant
Lee
Bragg
Forrest

ADAM
APPLAUSE
ASP
PRESTON
QUADROON
QUAKER

ASIA
ABORTION
AXIS
PRESCOTT
QUADRANT
QUEEN

SUMMER READING - Recent Civil War Books

Thunder at Harper's Ferry
Allan Keller
Prentice-Hall, N.J. 1958.

An End of Valor: The Last Days of the Civil War
Philip Van Doren Stern
Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston. 1958.

Private Elisha Stockwell, Jr. Sees the Civil War
Edited by Byron R. Abernathy
University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, Oklahoma. 1958.

The Guns at Gettysburg
Fairfax Downey
David McKay Co., New York. 1958.

Death of a Nation: The Story of Lee and His Men at Gettysburg
Clifford Dowdey
Alfred A. Knopf, New York. 1958

First Lady of the South
Ishbel Ross
Harpers, New York. 1958.
Life of Mrs. Jefferson Davis (Varina Howells)

Blockade: The Civil War at Sea
Robert Carse
Rinehart & Co. 1958.

Doctors in Gray - Confederate Medical Service
H. H. Cunningham
Louisiana State University Press
Baton Rouge. 1958.