



# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

CLEVELAND, OHIO

2060 Illuminating Building  
Cleveland 13, Ohio

February 9, 1962

## "FACTS ABOUT OHIO IN THE WAR"

Time: 6:30 P.M. - February 20, 1962  
Place: UNIVERSITY CLUB, 3813 Euclid Avenue  
Speaker: ROBERT S. HARPER, Staff Executive, Ohio  
Civil War Centennial Commission

Robert S. Harper, a former New York newspaperman, is a lifelong student of Civil War history and an authority on Ohio's part, civil and military in the War. He compiled the official pamphlet of the Ohio Centennial Commission and has authored articles on the subject. His "Ohio Press in The Civil War" was published in Civil War History.

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND THE CIVIL WAR

Members who attended the January 30 meeting of The Western Reserve Historical Society heard an interesting discussion of the part played by Ohio troops at Gettysburg. The speaker, Prof. Louis Stillwell of Dartmouth College, gave a list of all Ohio troops in the battle together with a statement of the sections of the state from which they were recruited.

The February issue of the Historical Society News was devoted largely to Charles Whittlesey, Colonel of the 20th OVI. Colonel Whittlesey, on November 20, 1861, submitted to General Halleck a plan for operations up the Cumberland and Tennessee rivers. The suggested operations were adopted, at least in part, by Halleck and Grant. Credit for the plan was claimed by numerous individuals, including Anna Ella Carroll who demanded recompense for her suggestion and was backed by Senator Wade of Ohio. The obvious advantages of the water routes raises serious doubts as to whether military men like Halleck and Grant needed suggestions from others before adopting them. However, the fact that Colonel Whittlesey saw these advantages in November '61 marks him as the capable military man which his later conduct proved him to be.

(over)

## CENTENNIAL COMMISSION REORGANIZATION

Effective January 1, 1962, Dr. Allan Nevins succeeded Major General U. S. Grant III as chairman of the National Commission. At the same time, Dr. James I. Robertson became executive director. To students of Civil War History neither of these men require an introduction. Dr. (Bud) Robertson has made two appearances before the Cleveland CWRT and, as editor of Civil War History, is especially well known to our members.

## UNITY NOT DISUNION

In his first statement as chairman of the Civil War Centennial Commission Dr. Allan Nevins said: "So far as we can, we shall allow the just pride of no national group to be belittled or besmirched. A host of white Southerners died for what they believed a just cause; a host of white Northerners died for what they held a sacred duty; a host of Negroes died, many in the uniform of the United States, for the achievement of freedom and human equality. We must honor them all. When we finally reach the commemoration of Appomattox, we shall treat it not as victory or defeat, but as a beginning -- the beginning of a century of increasing concord, mutual understanding, and fraternal affection among all the sections and social groups of the republic."

And the following timely statement by Dr. William H. Stauffer, appeared in the December Quarterly Newsletter of the Richmond CWRT: "It occurs to us that the Round Table movement, without expressly intending so to do, has served to promote the cause of good will and understanding as between the North and South. Certainly it has provided a forum for clarifying much that has been misunderstood and misinterpreted with regard to the political, economic and social background of the Civil War.... And when the Centennial Years shall have passed, regardless of the successes and failures of commemorative programs and projects, the Round Tables will continue to function as before, unaffected by any distresses that may have arisen between the years 1961-65."

## ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

Treasurer Guy Di Carlo reports that ten members are delinquent on 1962 dues. If you are one of the ten, get your \$10 in the mail. Delinquents at the next meeting of the executive committee are subject to expulsion.

And there is still time for subscription to the Civil War History magazine for 1962 at \$4. If you overlooked this bargain send your check to Guy at 21491 South Lake Shore Blvd., Euclid 23, Ohio.

## OUTSTANDING CIVIL WAR HOSPITAL

The National Park Service Headquarters in Richmond, Virginia stands on the site of Chimborazo Hospital. This institution was one of the most effective in the country in caring for ill and wounded soldiers during the War.

The Richmond Newsletter had the following to say about it: "During the course of its operation upwards of 80,000 sick and wounded soldiers were cared for at Chimborazo. In addition to its 7,500 beds, this facility operated a bakery which turned out each day from seven to ten thousand loaves of bread, five soup houses, a brewery, and five ice houses. It operated its own farms, manufactured soap from the kitchen greases and ran a canal boat between Richmond, Lynchburg and Lexington bartering cotton, yarn, shoes, etc. for provisions raised in the surrounding countryside."

The Newsletter relates this amusing incident which occurred at Chimborazo when Gen. Weitzel led Union troops into Richmond: "Later in the day the General paid a visit to a setting the like of which was unparalleled in all previous military history. There on a high hill on the eastern outskirts of the city he beheld the mammoth Chimborazo Hospital -- a city unto itself. Accompanying him was Dr. Alexander Mott, chief medical director of Weitzel's staff. They were received by the corps of hospital officers in full uniform.

"Heading the receiving group was Dr. James McCaw, from whose creative mind was born the design of this massive institution. Dr. Mott, who had known McCaw before the war, on seeing his friend exclaimed: 'Ain't that old Jim McCaw?' 'Yes!' answered McCaw, 'and don't you want a drink?' Replying in the affirmative, Mott added, 'The General will take one too, if you will ask him.'"

### WHO WANTS A SET OF O. R.?

Mr. Edward Abella, 33713 Lake Shore Blvd., Lakeline, Ohio, advises that he has a complete set of Official Records for sale. He states that the condition of the set, except for covers on 2 volumes which are cracked, rates as "Excellent" condition.

### HISTORY OF 41st OHIO

Through the courtesy of Frank Gillen, we had the privilege of reading a history of this regiment published in Cleveland in 1897. "The 41st Ohio Veteran Volunteer Infantry," by Robert L. Kimberly and Ephraim S. Halloway, was replete with personal reminiscences about the personnel and battle experiences of this regiment which was recruited in Cleveland and Northern Ohio.

## OHIO IN THE CIVIL WAR

The 7th OVI, the "Gamecock Regiment," was recently re-activated in the Cleveland area as a unit in the North-South Skirmish Association. It was host in June 1961 to the district "skirmish" at Camp Warren in Kirtland Township. Presently on display at the Western Reserve Historical Society is the "White Banner" of the regiment.

The interesting history of this banner presents an interesting sidelight on the record of the "Gamecock Regiment" which was recruited in Cleveland and neighboring communities, including Painesville, Warren, Oberlin and Lorain. The patriotic ladies of Ohio birth then resident in New York organized a society to make articles for sale at a fair held in 1864 to raise funds for the Sanitary Commission.

Among the articles made by the ladies was the "White Banner" which bears a variation of the seal of Ohio and the words "First in Valor, First in Achievement." The Ohio ladies decided that, at the end of the war, the banner would be presented "to the Ohio regiment which had most distinguished itself in service."

From 1865 until 1868 the ladies attempted to discover which Ohio regiment was entitled to the banner. Governor Tod was politic. He stated that "Everyone is entitled to it." Finally, General Geary, then governor of Pennsylvania; Gen'l Slocum of New York; and General E. B. Tyler of Maryland, agreed that the 7th OVI should be awarded the banner. In making the presentation the committee for the ladies said to Colonel George E. Hall; "We desire you, in presenting the flag, to assure the shattered remnants of the regiment that we entertain for each and everyone of them sentiments of gratitude and esteem it is not in our power to express."

It was not until February of 1870 that a committee of the 7th OVI veterans was appointed to accept the honor. J. B. Molyneaux was chairman of the committee and Frank Rockefeller was its secretary. The former was a sergeant of Co. B, and latter became its captain. Rockefeller served as a private in Co. A.

One June 18, 1904, the 7th OVI Association, with appropriate ceremonies, presented the "White Banner" to the Western Reserve Historical Society which was then located at Euclid Avenue and Fairmount Street.

## CWRT ASSEMBLY AT ANTIETAM

In connection with the commemoration of the centennial of the Battle of Antietam, the CWRT of Hagerstown plans a national assembly of Round Tables, September 14 to 16, 1962 in Hagerstown. Complete schedule and information relative to reservations will be announced later. Members who attended the 1960 assembly know what excellent hosts the Hagerstown group make and will schedule the 1962 meeting for attendance.

# Cleveland C.W.R.T. Record of Events

Our Round Table has now acquired a history of which we can be justly proud. Some of the members have been asking for a list of meetings of the past, so at the close of our fifth year, we furnish it herewith.

## 1957

January 8	Civil Law in Southern Courts	George Farr Jr.
February 19	Pea Patch Island (Ft. Delaware)	Preston Rutter
March 21	Civil War Influence on the Social and Political Outlook	Bruce Catton
April 18	Stonewall Jackson's Shenandoah Valley Campaign	Edward T. Downer
May 27	The Civil War in Bronze & Stone - slides	William Carlin
September 12-14	Field Trip to Antietam, Harper's Ferry & Winchester	
September 18	Dred Scott -- Agent of Decision	Albert Woldman
October 8	Sundry Experiences in Refighting the Civil War	Ralph Newman
November 2	The Gallant Mrs. Stonewall	Harnett Kane

## 1958

January 20	Gettysburg: I'd have sacked them both	Harrison Frost
February 17	The Last Home of Jefferson Davis - slides	Guy Di Carlo Jr.
March 18	I Remember Mosby	William A. Ralls
April 15	Movie Nite: "Robert E. Lee" & "True Story of the Civil War"	Otto Eisenschiml
June 4	Why the Civil War?	
September 6	Field Trip to Johnson's Island	Guy Di Carlo Jr.
September 12-14	Field Trip to Fredericksburg Battle Area	
October 13	Command Decisions July 2 & 3 at Gettysburg	Frederick Tilberg
November 11	Panel Discussion: "The Turning Point of the Civil War"	Rex Corfield Charles Clarke Paul Guenther Edward T. Downer
December 3	The Strategy of the Civil War	U.S. Grant III

## 1959

January 16	Why the South Lost the Civil War	Dr. Bell I. Wiley
February 24	A Small Battle, but Not a Forgotten One The Battle of New Market	Neville Bayless
March 17	The Assassination of Lincoln	Thomas Hamlin
April 6	John Hunt Morgan and His Raid Across Ohio	Herbert Hawkins
May 18	Fremont, Lyon and Wilson's Creek	E.B. "Pete" Long
October 8-11	Field Trip to the Shenandoah Valley	
October 19	Family Reminiscences of the Confederacy	Rt. Rev. Beverly D. Tucker
November 17	The Mississippi Campaign	Robert E. Warren Sr.
December 14	Movie Nite: "Shiloh - Portrait of a Battle" "The Civil War"	

# 1960

January 18	"Little Known Facts About Ohio in the Civil War"	Colin Montis
February 16	"Brandy Station: Prelude to an Invasion"	Col. Jay Seaborne
March 8	James Longstreet - The Man Without a Country	James Robertson
April 18	Panel Discussion: Best & Worst Union Generals	Don Hamill T. Knickerbocker William Rothe Lester Swift William West George Farr Lawrence Sagle
May 18	The Baltimore & Ohio in the Civil War	
September 15-17	Field Trip to Brandy Station and Second Manassas	
October 18	Ohio Troops in the Civil War	Edward T. Downer
November 15	The War in Tennessee	Robert J. Womack
December 13	Pamunkey-Chickahominy Expedition	Neville Bayless

# 1961

January 17	Union Women Under the Guns	Mrs. S. Dannett
February 14	Surgery and Medicine in the Civil War	Dr. W.L. Schlesinger Dr. Paul Schildt
March 14	What Price Gettysburg	Col. Harry L. Campbell
April 11	Legend Into History	William West Samuel Wang
May 9	The Battle of Atlanta	Col. Allen P. Julian
September 22-24	Field Trip to Gettysburg	William West
October 10	LaFayette C. Baker — Secret Service	Guy Di Carlo Jr.
November 20	The Last War Between Gentlemen	Dr. James I. Robertson
December 12	Civil Law in Southern Courts	George Farr Jr.

# THE SCOREBOARD

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Meetings</u>	<u>Our Speakers</u>	<u>Out-of-Town</u>
1957	9	5	4
1958	8	5	3
1959	8	4	4
1960	8	3	5
1961	<u>8</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>
TOTALS	41	20	21

As you have probably noticed our lead-off talk was given by George Farr and the ending program of the five year period was also delivered by member and past-president Farr. Now the remarks made prior to his December 12th talk about it being a graduate talk become clearer. Congratulations to all of us for this past history for without a devoted membership it would not have been possible.

From one who saved all his newsletters.....