



News Letter

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

CLEVELAND, OHIO

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Sect.
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Civil W. R. Table.
17830 Dillwood Rd
Cleveland 19, Ohio*

January 7, 1958

LADIES NIGHT - FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, DINNER AT 7:00 P.M., \$3.25 per plate - UNIVERSITY CLUB, 3813 EUCLID AVENUE.

We are fortunate in having Bell I. Wiley, as the speaker for our annual ladies night meeting. His subject will be "Why the South lost the Civil War," based on his research in preparing his book entitled The Road to Appomattox.

Those who heard Professor Wiley when he spoke to us a year ago know what a fine evening is ahead for us. Those who were unable to hear him before are lucky in having this second chance.

Reserve early for yourself and your wife. Let her see the company you keep when you leave the family hearthstone every month to be out with those Civil War buffs.

BELL IRVIN WILEY -- From "Who's Who In America" - (just to refresh your memory)

Professor of History, Emory University (Atlanta) since 1948.

Author of: Southern Negroes, 1861 - 1863. 1938.
The Life of Johnny Reb, Common Soldier of the Confederacy. 1943.
Plain People of the Confederacy. 1943.
The Life of Billy Yank, Common Soldier of the Union. 1952.
The Road to Appomattox. 1956.

Edited: Sam R. Watkins, Co. Aytch. 1953.
William A. Fletcher: Rebel Private, Front and Rear. 1954.
Reminiscences of Big L. 1956.

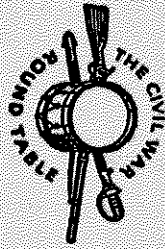
Graduated from Asbury College, 1928; M. A., University of Kentucky, 1929;
Ph.D., Yale University, 1933.

History Officer, Army Ground Forces, 1943 - '46; Legion of Merit, 1945.

Member: American Historical Association; Phi Beta Kappa.



U.S. GRANT III

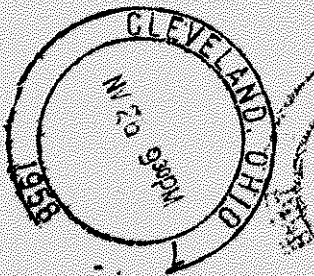


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MR. THEODORE I. ADAMS
R.F.D. 3 - Eagle Road
WILLOUGHBY, OHIO

12/4/58



A DISTINGUISHED VISITOR. We greatly enjoyed the visit to Cleveland of Major-General Ulysses S. Grant III. At a joint meeting with the Western Reserve Historical Society on the evening of December 3, he gave a scholarly address on "The Strategy of the Civil War." Believing that this study is worthy of careful study, and because some of our members may have had difficulty in following the General's discussion in an over-crowded hall, we have reproduced enough copies of the paper for distribution to our members.

The following day, those fortunate enough to be able to attend had a delightful lunch with General Grant at the University Club. He talked informally with us about his Grandfather, and then told us about the plans of the Civil War Centennial Commission.

In a tape recording released by the Commission, he has given his answer to the question, "Why Commemorate the Civil War?" Here is a part of this statement:

"To commemorate the Centennial of this war we do not want simply to string together a series of holidays, reviving here the exultation of victory and there the sadness of defeat. Rather, the Centennial must give us a new understanding of the way in which Americans built from sacrifice and suffering an enduring Nation and a lasting peace. Our ancestors fought to the limit of endurance for four years; when the fighting ended they closed ranks, saw in the unity of their land something that over shadowed the bitterness of the fight. Ever since the sons and grandsons of the enemies in that war have fought shoulder to shoulder in four foreign wars. - - This is an inspiring happening unique in history . . .

"Finally, while our country raised and trained two citizen armies, who fought one another with an effectiveness and self-sacrifice seldom equalled in human history; when the war was over the combatants of both sides quickly and without question resumed their peaceful occupations; another unique demonstration of American character.

"So, the Centennial observances must be a new study of American patriotism and capability - a study which should give us deeper understanding of the immense reserves of bravery, of sacrifice and of idealism which lie in the American character."

sketched by Ted Adams at the luncheon with General Grant - University Club, December 4, 1958.

COURIER NEWS
by
Gay DiCarlo, Jr.

The courier is late what with being shot at by THE BUSHWHACKER (St. Louis) when traveling through BIG CREEK GAP (LaFollette, Tennessee) and later while eating HARDTACK (Indianapolis) with THE FORAGER (Monmouth County, N.J.) had to duck a shot of GRAPE AND CANNISTER (Wilmington, Delaware) fired from THE PETERSBURG EXPRESS (Hartford) of the 1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery. Responding to the BUGLE CALL (Hagerstown) the courier grabbed his RAMROD (Denver) along with the GENERAL ORDERS (Vandenburg Court House, Indiana) and OFFICIAL RECORDS (Philadelphia) and outrode them varmints to his typewriter before they could play DRUM TAPS (Baltimore) over him. This is what he found in the dispatch case:

COLORADO: Member Ed Wilcox transported the membership over 2,000 miles and 90 odd years to the site of "The St. Alban's Raid" during their November meeting.

ST. LOUIS: Congratulations to the C.W.R.T. of St. Louis on their maiden effort "The Bushwhacker." It's a fine job fellows. Wish we could have heard Dean Robert Browne speak on "JEB" Stuart in November.

PHILADELPHIA: Before a record crowd the Lincoln-Civil War Society opened the 1958-59 season with an excellent talk by Colonel Ned Jullian on the "Battle of Atlanta."

MISHAWAKA, IND.: Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry of the Lincoln Life Foundation spoke on events connected with the delivery of the Gettysburg Address and captivated the club's first ladies night audience.

BUFFALO: New Round Table was organized in the city and got off to a flying start by signing 70 members at their initial meeting. Good Luck and Welcome.

HARTFORD, CONN. & SPRINGFIELD, ILL.: Both C.W.R.T.'s had interesting talks on medicine and surgery during the war.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: Mr. Walter Richards performed some acts of mitigation in relief of the luckless General John Pope during the club's November meeting.

RICHMOND: Nationally known author Harnett Kane spoke to the membership about "Christmas in the South." This by the way is the subject matter of a recent book by Mr. Kane.

CHILLICOTHE: "Railroad - 1862" was the topic for the club's third meeting as presented by Mr. H. H. McEwen.

WILMINGTON: Our Charlie Gentsch should have been at the November meeting to enjoy as the members did, Joe Ferguson's "Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge."

INDIANAPOLIS: Although late, we in Cleveland extend our regrets at word of the passing of Kenneth P. Williams, author of the monumental work "Lincoln Finds a General." Mr. Williams was an honored member of the Indianapolis C.W.R.T. and Professor of Mathematics at Indiana University.

NATIONAL NEWS - Beginning in 1961, the ABC network will broadcast 16 90-minute films. These films will commemorate major battles and events during the Civil War, on the 100th anniversaries of the events. Warner Bros. is producing the series of spectacles, which of course will begin with the Battle of Fort Sumter.

CHICAGO: "Did Lincoln's election justify secession?" Dr. Avery O. Cravens, Professor of History at the University of Chicago, viewed this provocative subject for the Chicago C.W.R.T. at their November meeting.

ARMY SUTLERS IN THE CIVIL WAR

by
Robert E. Warren, Sr.

Until my recent acquisition of U. S. Army Regulations of 1861, I had erroneously assumed that Army Sutlers were independent tradesmen. I had classed them merely as camp followers. On the contrary every military post had one sutler, " . . . to be appointed by the Secretary of War . . . " Sutlers held office for three years unless sooner removed.

"Troups in campaign, on detachment, or on distant service, will be allowed sutlers at the rate of one for every regiment, corps, or separate detachment; to be appointed by the commanding officer of such (troops) subject to the approval of the general or other officer in command."

Prices charged by the sutler were fixed by the Council of Administration and were the same for cash and credit customers.

Article 190 provided that the sutler was to be taxed not to exceed "10 cents a month for every officer and soldier of the command, according to the average in each month" The amount realized from the "tax" on the sutler was to be paid into the post fund.

Article 208, relating to intoxicating drinks, read as follows:

"Sutlers are not allowed to keep ardent spirits or other intoxicating drinks, under penalty of losing their situations."

Evidence that guard house lawyers were especially active and effective in 1861 is in paragraph 6, I, of General Orders No. 7 of The Adjutant General's Office:

"Instances have come to notice of a departure from the strict meaning of the 208th Paragraph of the Regulations, which forbids sutlers to keep ardent spirits, or other intoxicating drinks; but as they may have arisen from misapprehension, the Department has requested a postponement of legal proceedings against such cases . . . until the intention of the regulation should be more fully explained. It is, therefore, made known that the prohibition referred to is absolute, and admits of no exception; and a violation of it not only subjects the offender to the penalty . . . but also, within the Indian Country, renders him amenable to the Act of Congress of 30th June, 1834, regulating intercourse with the Indian Tribes."

Obviously, a sutler who sold "ardent spirits" was subject to a penalty but no one could enforce the penalty until the simple, eighteen words of Article 208, quoted in full hereinbefore, were more fully explained! Whoever drafted General Order No. 7, Paragraph 6, I, was misplaced in the Adjutant General's Office. He should have been a trouble-shooter in the State Department. He arranged for the prohibitionists to keep their prohibition, the sutlers their "situations" and the troops their "ardent spirits."