



News Letter

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

CLEVELAND, OHIO

2060 Illuminating Building
Cleveland 13, Ohio

March 3, 1961

"WHAT PRICE GETTYSBURG?"

Time: 6:30 P.M. - March 14, 1961

Place: University Club, 3818 Euclid Avenue

Speaker: Colonel Harry Lee Campbell

Colonel Campbell brings us not merely a discussion of the battle itself, but the story of the overall strategy leading to Gettysburg and the effect of the battle upon the destiny of the Confederacy and the Union. Colonel Campbell, who illustrates his talk with original slides and charts, is a serious student of the ill-fated invasion of the North in 1863.

"SURGERY AND MEDICINE IN THE CIVIL WAR"

At the meeting on February 14, Drs. W. L. Schlesinger and Paul Schildt presented a thorough and authentic picture of medical treatment and surgical practices at the time of the Civil War and especially in the field with the armies. Explaining the relatively high death rate from wounds and disease, they pointed out that medical practices and sanitation had advanced very little from the middle ages to 1860.

After the discussion period, Ray Williams entertained the members with his illustrated discussion of "The Battle of Puckerbush Swamp."

DR. MUDD'S DAUGHTER DIES

Howard Preston passes along an Associated Press bulletin from Baltimore, announcing the death on February 3, of Mrs. Samuel Alexander Mudd at the age of 86. Mrs. Mudd was the daughter-in-law of Dr. Samuel Alexander Mudd, who treated the broken leg of John Wilkes Booth after the latter shot Abraham Lincoln. Dr. Mudd was sentenced to life imprisonment but was later pardoned. Mrs. Mudd was buried in the family cemetery, at Waldorf, Maryland, not far from the Mudd home where Booth was treated.

RETURN YOUR CARD FOR THE MARCH MEETING

(Over)

OHIO IN THE CIVIL WAR

Soldier, author, and bibliophile, Henry Martin Cist was born in Cincinnati, a son of Journalist Charles Cist. He enlisted as a private in the 6th OVI immediately after Sumter. At the end of his 90 days, he became 2nd Lieutenant of the 52nd OVI on October 16, '61. On October 22, '61, he was appointed 1st Lieutenant and Adjutant of the 74th Ohio. Promoted to Captain he became assistant Adjutant General of Volunteers, April 20, '64. He was promoted to Major, March 13, '65. He served as Assistant Adjutant General on the staffs of Rosecrans and Thomas. He was breveted Brigadier for War Service.

In 1882 he published Army of the Cumberland. His article "Comments on General Grant's Chattanooga" appears in Battles and Leaders of the Civil War.

At the time of his death in 1902, he had collected what was said to be one of the finest and most comprehensive Civil War libraries in the world.

CENTENNIAL NEWS

Karl S. Betts, Executive Director stated "Members of the National Commission are very proud of the manner in which the nation observed the opening of the Centennial. We wanted the ceremonies to be quiet and dignified and humble, deeply religious in their significance and filled with tribute to our forefathers ... and that's the way they were."

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library has published a 17 page list of Civil War printings, drawings, and prints which were assembled by the late president over a 45 year period.

The YMCA, which had its start at the beginning of the Civil War contributed 4,859 volunteers. It will be given recognition in both the North and the South during the Centennial.

Cairo, Illinois, the Union naval base of Mississippi gunboats, plans a two-day program for April 22 and 23 the anniversary of the date troops were dispatched from Chicago to protect the base. A train from Chicago will follow the route of the troops and lay over for the ceremonies.

Baltimore. Winter's snow and ice appear to have spoiled a Centennial ceremony planned for Sunday, January 22. According to an Associated Press dispatch "The participants barely outnumbered the statues" as the chilled contingent gathered in "biting winds and 18 degree temperatures."

"The Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., has issued a selected reading list of 256 books about the Civil War. Some were published soon after 1865, 203 have appeared in the last 30 years, and 105 in the past decade. Twenty-one were published in 1959 and nine more in the first half of 1960." (Chicago CWRT Newsletter)

BALLOONS, INCLUDING POST MORTEM WINDBAGS,
NOT CIVIL WAR "FIRSTS"

(Imprimatur: Field Marshal Iffey, Chief of Imperial
War College, Kingdom of Kibitz)

"He (Napoleon) disbanded in 1799 the French Balloon Corps formed 5 years earlier, which in earliest infancy rendered valuable service in the operations subsequent to the battle of Fleurus, especially around Gosselies. If Napoleon had not stifled the babe, there is every likelihood that on its 21st birthday in 1815 it might have saved him on that very spot.

"It is reasonable to suggest that a reconnaissance might have disclosed to Ney the weakness of Prince Bernard's detachment at Quarter Bras on June 15th and prompted him to seize the key point, gaining important initial advantage for Napoleon. Even if Ney had missed this opportunity, he would hardly have wasted so many hours on the 16th in passivity while Wellington's reinforcement were marching thither --- But if Blucher had been allowed to make good his retreat from Ligny, it is more than probable that on the morning of the 17th balloon observation would have shown that he was retreating northwards, not eastwards. If so, Grouchy --- would have had every chance of preventing Elucher from moving to Wellington's help at Waterloo, and Wellington could have been crushed at leisure." From "Ghost of Napoleon" by L. Hart.

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

By Neville Bayless

The U.S. Government Printing Office has available 17 booklets on Civil War subjects. The prices are from 5 to 25 cents per copy. The publications cover all of the important battles from Sumter to Appomattox.

An official order blank, GPO 1961-0-578583, will be supplied free, upon request to the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C.

SAGA OF SHAWL, CLOAK AND SPURS

The raincloak, shawl and spurs of Jefferson Davis, confiscated when he was captured near Irwinville, Georgia, on May 10, 1865, are finally to be restored to his family. Most of the Davis belongings were restored to the family in 1874 and 1880 by the War Department.

The cloak, shawl and spurs, however, got into the National Archives whence, it appears, their removal presented more legal difficulties than the extraction of plasma from a turnip. Finally, however, the release to Mr. Jefferson Hayes Davis, a grandson, has been sanctioned.

Dr. Dallas Irvine, of the National Archives, rates a palm for the understatement of the year in which he said, "This sort of thing takes a ghastly amount of time."

(Over)

THE CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
AND THE CENTENNIAL

"The Open Shelf," published by the Cleveland Public Library, January-February 1961 issue, is devoted to the Civil War. The publication is dedicated to William Howard Brett, Drummer Boy and Soldier, 196th OVI, who was Librarian from 1884 to 1918, and who founded "The Open Shelf."

The publication contains articles on Cleveland and Ohio in the Civil War and a list of books on the war which are available at the library.

The following information is taken from "The Open Shelf":

Cleveland had volunteers in 92 regiments and batteries.

It sent to war 94 military companies (infantry, 77; artillery, 12; cavalry, 3; navy, 2)

Cleveland supplied 621 commissioned officers (infantry, 432; artillery, 104; cavalry, 57; navy, 7; staff officers, 21)

Four regiments were filled mainly with Clevelanders.

Three U.S. Presidents served in our regiments: Rutherford B. Hayes; James A. Garfield; William McKinley.

Cuyahoga County, with a population in 1861-1865 of approximately 78,000 - available men, 15,600 - furnished 10,000 men for the service - 328 more than its quota and 64% of its available men.

The Ladies' Aid Society of Cleveland was the first general organization in the United States for the relief of soldiers and probably the most efficient one organized during the Civil War.

NEWS OF OTHER ROUND TABLES

Springfield, Illinois asks "Did you know that Don Carlos Buell and Broxton Bragg, who opposed each other at Perrysville, Kentucky, were brothers-in-law and close friends. Camp Curtin, Pennsylvania, was the first Northern camp for Confederate prisoners of war. La Salle, Illinois sends the first issue of its Newsletter called "Minnie Bawl." Lincoln-Civil War Society, Philadelphia resumes publication of its News Letter, "Official Records." Chicago. A field trip to Vicksburg and Jackson, April 26 to May 1, will include the Port Gibson-Grand Gulf area. The trip will be on the Panama Limited of the Illinois Central R.R. Indianapolis viewed "Battle of Gettysburg" and "Mississippi River Campaign," two films which are part of a series produced by the Westinghouse Broadcasting Corp. Kansas City newsletter reports that a unified series of five commemorative stamps are to be issued by the post office department. The stamps with the dates of issue are: Fort Sumter, April 12, 1961; Shiloh, April 16, 1962; Gettysburg, July 1, 1963; The Wilderness, May 5, 1964; and Appomattox, April 9, 1965.