



THE CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

CLEVELAND, OHIO

March 8, 1963

2060 Illuminating Building
Cleveland 13, Ohio

MOVIE NIGHT

DOUBLE FEATURE

Time: TUESDAY, March 19, 1963 - 6:30 P. M.

Place: Kiefer's Restaurant, West 25th & Detroit

Bad weather forced a postponement of the meeting. Then illness of the scheduled speaker forced last minute changes in the program.

Your program chairman met the surprise flanking attack by a rapid change of front. He has come up with - not one - but two Civil War films.

"A TIME OUT OF WAR" is a film adaptation of Robert W. Chambers classic "The Pickets" which is based on an actual incident in the war.

R. E. LEE is a study in color of the background of the Confederate general.

A TRIVIAL MATTER

"The Associated Press reports that the State of California is dunning the Federal Treasury of \$7.5 million. As the Californians explain it, their state helped finance Federal operations during the Civil War to keep the Confederates off the Overland Trail. Periodically for the past 90 years the state has been demanding payment, but so far to no avail.

"We can't say we blame California for feeling grieved at the neglect, but probably the Washington officials are also somewhat annoyed at any reminder that debts are to be repaid. Such a pesky reminder, too - here they are preparing eagerly to plunge \$12 billion deeper in debt for all kinds of big things and California comes around talking about small change."

Wall Street Journal, January 24, 1963

(over)

CENTENNIAL SONG

(From the Lincoln and Civil War Society of Philadelphia News Letter)

President Bill Hassler passes the following "librarian's lament," written by Librarian Barbara Toohey.

Oh, it's novels and it's histories,
It's diaries and journals,
It's encomiums to drummer boys,
And exposes of colonels.

We face a Pickett's Charge of books
Which limn the grim tableau --
And the Civil War Centennial
Still has three years to go.

Oh, it's albums and it's narratives
Of brother hating brother,
And it's inexhaustible supplies
Of letters home to mother,
The publishers are merciless,
Each day the book lists grow --
And the Civil War Centennial
Still has three years to go.

Oh, it's blue and gray bound volumes,
Pouring forth until we can
Fully understand why U. S. Grant
Became a drinking man.
We say with Sherman, "War is hell" --
Especially when you know --
That the Civil War Centennial
Still has three years to go.

ROSTER CHANGES

The following members have resigned; John J. Breckling, Charles Gentsch, William S. Gibbs, Thomas Hamlin, Fred Kopf, Jr., Robert T. Phillips, Robert Rosser, William West and Dr. George Wright.

The following new members should be added to the membership list:

Richard L. Henn
3085 Scarborough Road
Cleveland 18, Ohio

Frank F. Schuhle, Jr.
16114 Huntmere Avenue
Cleveland 10, Ohio

Edward O. Parry
3315 Stockholm Road
Shaker Heights 20, Ohio

Earl E. Stephenson
23178 Hilliard Road
Westlake, Ohio

Dorsey H. Rowe
531 Hemlock Point Road
Chagrin Falls, Ohio

John Stevning
Cleveland Graphite Bronze
17000 St. Clair Avenue
Cleveland 10, Ohio

WHO CHARGED?

On July 3, 1963, a commemoration at Gettysburg has been announced of PICKETT'S CHARGE. This calls to mind that on a trip to Richmond, your editor, in a discussion with a veteran member of the Richmond CWRT, this simple Yankee referred to "Pickett's Charge."

"Hereabouts" said the Virginian, "we never say 'Pickett's Charge'; we say 'the charge of Pickett's Brigade.'"

"Why?"

"Because Pickett didn't charge. Every officer in the Brigade, except Pickett, was killed, wounded, or had at least one horse shot from under him. Not George. He and his staff stayed safely in the rear!"

Recovery from the shock did not come in time to investigate the cause of this cloud on a legendary hero. Possibly it is only part of the century-old attempt to prove that Lee didn't know what he was talking about when, after Gettysburg, he said, "It was all my fault - all my fault."

A YANKEE'S TRIBUTE TO STONEWALL

"May 14, 1863, Thursday ... Stonewall Jackson is certainly dead; he was severely wounded in the attack on Saturday afternoon and died three or four days afterward. Regrets for the man himself are as freely expressed by all who knew him personally in our army as they can be on the other side. Everyone of his old acquaintances whom I have heard speak of him say he was one of the purest, most honorable and conscientious men that ever lived. He was sincerely religious, verging a little perhaps on the fanatic ... To the rebels the loss of Stonewall Jackson is almost equal to a defeat. Full of energy, prompt, obedient and lightning quick in his obedience, worshipped by his men, and fully appreciated by his commander, he well deserved the name of 'Lee's right arm'; a 'right arm' which had never failed him whether the blow was to be struck near by, or hundreds of miles away." A DIARY OF BATTLE, Col. Charles S. Wainwright, A. Nevins, Editor, page 206.

PORTRAIT OF AN ADMIRAL

"The creation of the office of Admiral ... necessitated the promotion of someone to the office of Vice-Admiral, made vacant by the appointment of Farragut to the highest grade. There was no Rear Admiral entitled to such promotion. Goldsborough who was senior had not a single qualification but size, belly and lungs." Diary of Gideon Welles, Vol. III, page 562.

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LINCOLN AND GRANT

"On the evening of March 8 (1864) the President and Mrs. Lincoln gave a public reception at the White House, which I attended ... He was in evening dress, and wore a turned-down collar a size too large. The necktie was rather broad and awkwardly tied. He was more of a Hercules than an Adonis. His height of six feet four inches enabled him to look over the heads of most of his visitors. His form was ungainly, and the movements of his long, angular arms and legs bordered at times upon the grotesque. His eyes were gray and disproportionately small. His face wore a general expression of sadness, the deep lines indicating the sense of responsibility which weighed up him; but at times his features lighted up with a broad smile, and there was a merry twinkle in his eyes as he greeted an old acquaintance and exchanged a few words with him in a tone of familiarity ... At about half-past nine o'clock ... I was surprised to see General Grant walking along modestly with the rest of the crowd toward Mr. Lincoln ... Mr. Lincoln recognized the general at once from the pictures he had seen of him. With a face radiant with delight, he advanced rapidly two or three steps toward his distinguished visitor, and cried out: 'Why, here is General Grant! Well, this is a great pleasure I assure you, 'at the same time seizing him by the hand, and shaking it for several minutes with a vigor which showed the extreme cordiality of the welcome.

"The scene now presented was deeply impressive. Standing face to face for the first time were the two illustrious men whose names will always be inseparably associated in connection with the war of the rebellion. Grant's right hand grasped the lapel of his coat; his head was bent slightly forward, and his eyes upturned toward Lincoln's face. The President, who was eight inches taller, looked down with beaming countenance upon his guest. Although their appearance, their training, and their characteristics were in striking contrast, yet the two men had many traits in common, and there were numerous points of resemblance in their remarkable careers. Each was of humble origin, and had been compelled to learn the first lessons of life in the severe school of adversity. Each had risen from the people, possessing an abiding confidence in them, and always retained a deep hold on their affections. Each might have said to those who were inclined to sneer at his plain origin what a marshal of France, who had risen from the ranks to a dukedom, said to the hereditary nobles who attempted to snub him in Vienna: 'I am an ancestor; you are only descendants.' " Campaigning with Grant, Horace Porter, page 18-21.