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News Letter

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

CLEVELAND, OHIO

May 4, 1959

MAY MEETING

E. B. (PETE) LONG

on

FREMONT, LYON AND WILSON CREEK

Monday, May 18, Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

University Club, 3813 Euclid Avenue

We are fortunate to have as our speaker a really top authority. The name of E. B. Long appears on every list of Civil War scholars. He is the editor of the current edition of the Personal Memoirs of U. S. Grant, published by the World Publishing Company. At present he is collaborating with Bruce Catton in preparing the Centennial history of the Civil War. Long is supplying the facts; Catton will do the writing. His comments on the Missouri conflict in 1861 will be based on this recent research.

The talk will be followed by our annual business meeting which President Jack Cullen promises will be brief. George Farr, Chairman of the Nominating Committee will present the report of the committee on officers for 1959-1960.

MEETING OF APRIL 6. Hubert Hawkins, Secretary of the Indiana Historical Society, talked on "John Hunt Morgan and His Raid Across the Ohio." A large audience was delighted with Hawkins' interesting anecdotes, supplemented by excellent pictures of places visited by Morgan and his troopers. The speaker was most generous in answering questions, and a fine discussion covered many of the controversial points relating to the raid. Max Gard, County Commissioner of Columbiana County and author of a coming book on Morgan added to the fun with some unusual stories about Morgan's visit to Columbiana County.

FIELD TRIP. Dr. Harry Bromley is working on plans for our annual fall field trip. The area about Petersburg has been suggested as the field of exploration, but the membership will be canvassed for opinions sometime during the summer.

CIVIL WAR BUDGET CUTS. The House Committee on Appropriations has cut the budget of the National Park Service by \$1,250,000, part of which money was to enlarge the battlefield parks at Gettysburg and Antietam. Also this same committee deducted \$23,492 (nearly 25%) from the budget of the Civil War Centennial Commission. Both items can be restored by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

The Round Table has petitioned the two Ohio Senators to see that these serious errors are corrected. You can supplement our official appeal by writing yourself to Senators Frank Lausche and Stephen Young asking them to contact Senator Carl Hayden, chairman of the Appropriations Committee, U. S. Senate.

GET ACQUAINTED WITH OUR RECENTLY-ELECTED MEMBERS:

William H. Clark 3300 Dorchester Road Shaker Heights 20, Ohio	Investment Banker
Dr. Harold Newton Cole, Jr. 3550 Warrensville Center Road Shaker Heights 22, Ohio	Physician
D. A. Heckaman 2500 Greenvale Drive Cleveland 21, Ohio	Architectural Draftsman
Charles O. Kemper Rockwell and East 9th Street Cleveland, Ohio	Cleveland Press Artist
Donald F. Rense 2673 Edgehill Road Cleveland Heights 6, Ohio	Manager - New Process Fur & Cold Storage Co.
William Henry West, II 17511 Fries Avenue Cleveland 7, Ohio	Sales & Consulting Process Engineer
Dr. George W. Wright 2928 Falmouth Shaker Heights 22, Ohio	Physician
Robert R. Ziemer 25687 Butternut Ridge Road North Olmsted, Ohio	Aeronautical Research Scientist

SOME PHILANTHROPISTS AMONG US. Thirty-five members contributed \$1.00 each to the Stonewall Jackson Memorial Incorporated in Lexington, Virginia. In return, each received an autographed copy of Ned Downer's booklet on Stonewall Jackson's Shenandoah Valley Campaign, which has been published by the Jackson Memorial for distribution throughout the Shenandoah Valley.

MORE CIVIL WAR GRANDFATHERS:

Lester Swift's grandfather served on the U.S.S. Silver Cloud, gunboat in the Mississippi Squadron, "chiefly fighting guerillas."

Gordon Tatum writes that his maternal grandfather, Henry Clay Townes' (3rd Va. Cav.) most vivid memory of the war is the sparing of his life by a Union trooper. During a Cavalry skirmish, he came upon the Union trooper unexpectedly in a belt of woods. His enemy had the drop on him at a distance of a few yards, but gradually the Union man lowered his rifle, and remarking contemptuously, "Nothin' but a damn ragged kid," he wheeled and rode off. This incident made more of an impression on Grandfather Townes than Gettysburg, where he was wounded.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A CIVIL WAR GENERAL? If so, you can try the new game called "The Battle of Gettysburg." Tom Hamlin says "it is just terrific." The game is played on a contoured and detailed map of the battlefield. Players move divisions, cavalry regiments and artillery (each marked by comparable size) according to a time schedule. Hamlin stresses the fact that this is definitely not a "kid's parlor game," but presents a real challenge to armchair strategists. It probably can be purchased at Burrows.

FRANK GILLEN has been loaned a most interesting day by day diary kept by a Corporal in the 7th O.V.I. The soldier is Daniel H. Wright from Freedom, Ohio (near Ravenna) and the diary covers his daily experiences from March 21 to August 9, 1862, which includes the battles of Kernstown, Port Republic and Cedar Mountain, up to the hour he was killed.

On August 9, 1862, the day of Cedar Mountain, he wrote, "despatch came in that Jackson, Longstreet and Ewell, with thirty thousand troops, were eight miles distant, drawn up in line of battle; boys anxious to 'jump at them'; Balt. American of the 8th in camp; important news; rebels moving against McClellan; they say they are going to whip Pope, and then tend to Mac; let them come on; we are ready for them;" On the back of the page are inscribed these words, "Just before the battle in which dear brother was killed."

PETROLEUM VESUVIOUS NASBY. Who was he? Someone asked Abraham Lincoln and the President replied, "Who is Nasby? There is a chap out in Ohio who has been writing a series of letters in the newspapers over the signature of Petroleum V. Nasby. Someone sent me a pamphlet collection of them the other day. I am going to write to 'Petroleum' to come down here and I intend to tell him if he will communicate his talent to me, I will swap places with him."

"Petroleum" was David Ross Locke, an Ohioan who was engaged in the newspaper business. During the Civil War he was editor of "The Weekly Jeffersonian," a Findlay, Ohio newspaper, and as such wrote the now famous Nasby Letters in which he ridiculed the Southern cause through the voice of a fictitious character with alcoholic and Copperhead proclivities. The press in which the letters were written is on display in the lobby of the Findlay Printing and Supply Company's building at 318 West Sandusky Street, Findlay, Ohio.

CLEVELAND C.W.R.T. RECORD OF EVENTS

Our Round Table has already acquired a history. Some members have been asking for a list of meetings, so at the close of our second year, we furnish it herewith. Check your attendance record:

1957

January 8	Civil Law in Southern Courts	George Farr, Jr.
February 19	Pea Patch Island (Fort Delaware)	Preston Rutter
March 21	Civil War Influence on the Social and Political Outlook	Bruce Catton
April 18	Stonewall Jackson's Shenandoah Valley Campaign - slides and pictures	E. T. Downer
May 27	The Civil War in Bronze and Stone - colored slides	W. P. Carlin
September 12, 13, 14	Field Trip to Antietam, Harper's Ferry, Winchester	
September 18	Dred Scott - Agent of Decision	Judge Albert Woldman
October 8	Sundry Experiences in Refighting the Civil War	Ralph G. Newman
November 2	The Gallant Mr. Stonewall	Harnett Kane
December 3	Johnny Reb and Billy Yank	Bell I. Wiley

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January 20	Gettysburg: I'd Have Sacked Them Both . .	Harrison C. Frost
February 17	The Last Home of Jefferson Davis - colored slides	Guy DiCarlo, Jr.
March 18	I Remember Mosby	William A. Ralls
April 15	Movie Night: "Robert E. Lee" and "The True Story of the Civil War"	
June 4	Why the Civil War?	Otto Eisenschiml
September 6	Visit to Johnson's Island	
September 12 13, 14	Field Trip to Fredericksburg Battle Area	
October 13	Command Decisions - July 2 and 3 at Gettysburg	Frederick Tilberg
November 11	The Turning Point of the Civil War	Moderator: Rex Corfield Panel: Charles Clarke Paul Guenther E. T. Downer
December 3	The Strategy of the Civil War	Gen. Ulysses S. Grant III

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January 16	Why the South Lost the Civil War	Bell I. Wiley
February 24	A Small Battle, but Not a Forgotten One - Battle of New Market	Neville Bayless
March 17	The Assassination of Lincoln	Thomas W. Hamlin, Sr.
April 6	John Hunt Morgan and His Raid Across the Ohio	Herbert H. Hawkins
May 18	Frémont, Lyon and Wilson's Creek	E. B. (Pete) Long

Of 20 home meetings, 11 have been addressed by our own members, 9 by visiting speakers, and one was a movie show.