



News Letter

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

CLEVELAND, OHIO

October 7, 1960

2060 The Illuminating Building
Cleveland 13, Ohio

"OHIO TROOPS IN THE CIVIL WAR"

Time: 6:30 P.M. - October 18, 1960

Place: UNIVERSITY CLUB, 3813 Euclid Avenue

Speaker: NED DOWNER

Our first meeting of the 1960-1961 season opens with Ned Downer, who has made a life-long study of the Civil War and, in particular, of the part Ohio men played in the conflict. Ned, who is current foreman of the Grand Jury, will present some intensely interesting human interest stories about Ohio regiments and individuals. The Plain Dealer Pictorial, October 2, presented something of Ned's background, educational and sartorial.

RETURN YOUR CARD PROMPTLY

The program committee asks your cooperation in making satisfactory arrangements for the meeting. Prompt return of the enclosed card will assure adequate and prompt service at the University Club.

THIRD ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

The Third Annual Assembly of Civil War Round Tables was held at Hagerstown on May 6, 7 and 8. Cleveland had six representatives who joined the field trips to South Mountain and Antietam. Following the dinner on May 7, there was an informal meeting of Round Table officers and representatives at which such matters as participation in the Centennial, exchange of speakers, and field tours were discussed.

An interesting feature of the assembly was the large display of Civil War artifacts. A display which attracted much interest and favorable comment was that provided by Cleveland Frank Gillen. His collection of armorer's tools was exceptional.

NOVEMBER MEETING

"The Civil War in Tennessee"

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15 at the University Club, Dr. Robert J. Womack will talk on an important phase of the War in the West with special emphasis on Stone's River. Dr. Womack, a native of Shelbyville, is on the faculty of Middle Tennessee State College, Murfreesboro, where he now teaches. He is a popular speaker and an authority on his subject. Reserve the date.

(Over)

NEWS OF OTHER ROUND TABLES

CHICAGO conducts a field trip to Springfield and New Salem, Illinois for October 22 and 23 ... Philadelphia, St. Joseph's College has scheduled a special course in History of The Civil War which meets for three hours twice weekly under Father Kines, CWRT member ... Atlanta meeting was addressed by Governor S. Ernest Vandiver a CWRT member ... Wilmington completed a survey which indicates that there are ninety-five Round Tables in thirty states and the District of Columbia. Illinois has the oldest and the largest number of organizations -- nine. Louisville Kentucky State Fair used the Civil War as its main theme and September 9 was devoted entirely to a Civil War program.

OHIO IN THE CIVIL WAR

GENERAL JAMES A. GARFIELD

General Garfield in August, 1861 was appointed Lt. Colonel by Governor Dennison of Ohio. He helped to form the Forty-Second Ohio Regiment Volunteers. In September he became its first Colonel, commanding. In December he reported for duty to General Buell at Louisville, Kentucky and was placed in command of a brigade of four regiments of infantry to repel the Confederates under General Marshall. In January, 1862, Colonel Garfield with his forces met and defeated General Marshall in the Battle of Middle Creek, forcing him to retreat from the state. For this action he was commissioned a Brigadier-General and placed in command of the Twentieth Brigade. He reached the field of Shiloh on the second day of the battle and aided in the repulse of the Confederates. He also participated in the siege of Corinth. In November, 1862, he was appointed to serve on the court-martial which tried General Fitz-John Porter. In February, 1863, he joined the Army of the Cumberland under General Rosecrans, just after the Battle of Stone's River and was appointed Chief of Staff. In the Battle of Chickamauga, September 19, 1863, Garfield after the retreat of the right of the army, rode under fire across country, took word to General Thomas, commanding the left wing, of the necessities of the situation and under General Thomas assisted in the retrieving of the disaster. General Thomas became the "Rock of Chickamauga" and Garfield was promoted to a Major-General, December 3, 1863. (News Letter, Wilmington, Delaware, CWRT).

STRAW VOTE RESULTS

The majority of those returning the slips, signifying the most convenient night for meetings, indicated that Tuesday night was the most agreeable. The program committee as far as possible will arrange accordingly.

FIELD TRIP

BRANDY STATION and SECOND MANASSAS

By Neville Bayless, Field Trip Chairman

The following CWRT members assembled at Fairfax Courthouse on Thursday evening, September 15, Carroll Prosser, George Farr, John Cullen, Neville Bayless, Tom Knickerbocker, Paul Schildt, Dave Wood, Rex Corfield, Bill Schlesinger, Guy DiCarlo and Jack AuWerter.

On the way down, one car full stopped to restudy the battlefield of Sharpsburg, while George Farr visited Antietam. A more esoteric group explored the Chantilly field, where General Stevens and Kearny were killed within a few minutes of each other.

On Friday, Colonel J. Gay Seabourne guided the group to Brandy Station. The route paralleled the old Orange and Alexandria Railroad.

Crossing the Rappahannock, a dirt road led toward Beverly Ford. Here Buford's Cavalry rent the shrouding fog and galloped through splashing water to open the Battle of Brandy Station at dawn on June 9, 1863. The Brandy action covers forty square miles of beautiful piedmont rolling hills, little changed in 97 years.

Later the travelers saw the site of Stuart's two great cavalry reviews, Kelly's Ford, and the Wheatley farm where the gallant Pelham fell. The four-car caravan then followed the route of Gregg and Duffie. Because of one member's refusal to drive across Mountain Rund Ford, he was dubbed "Chicken" Cullen. Passing the metropolis of Stevensburg, the men saw where Wade's brother, Frank Hampton, was killed and where the scout, William Downes Farley, was mortally wounded by a ricocheting cannon ball. That night, after a roast beef dinner at the Old Coach Inn, Tom Knickerbocker won first prize in the limerick contest. His original composition began: "There was an old lady from Manassas."

On Saturday, Park Superintendent Francis Wilshin oriented the group on Second Manassas at the Museum. Places viewed included: Brawner's Farm and Gibbons Wood where the Iron Brigade won its name; the Conrad house; Fort Beauregard, now leveled; the Weir home "Liberia," visited by both Presidents Lincoln and Davis during the war. Mitchell's Ford and Blackburn's Ford were crossed. At Dawkin's Branch there was a discussion of Fitz John Porter's problem. The Stone house, Buck or "Coronary" Hill (Pope's Headquarters), Sudley Church and the Unfinished Railroad were other stops. A trek of several hundred yards thru dense underbrush along the Unfinished Railroad was made to the "Dump" and "Deep Cut" to visit the 95-year-old stone pyramid marking some of the most furious fighting of the war. The Dogan House, Battery Hill, Warren Avenue on New York Hill and several stops on Chinn Ridge completed the day.

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THE CIVIL WAR IS BIG BUSINESS

"Business Week," the McGraw-Hill business magazine, August 20 issue, gave the Civil War Centennial its front page illustration under the heading "Business Merchandises The Big Celebration." An important article was headed "Dixie Cashes in on The Civil War."

THE BOOKSHELF

Neville Bayless sends a list of the ten best books recommended by the News Letter of The District of Columbia CWRT Newsletter as a basis for a Civil War library. Whether these are the "ten best" may be a matter of opinion, but they are at least ten worthwhile publications.

Battles and Leaders, 3 vols.; Photographic History of The Civil War, 10 vols.; Story of The Confederacy; The Civil War and Reconstruction; Campaigns of The Civil War, 13 vols.; Military Memoirs of a Confederate; R. E. Lee, 4 vols.; Lee's Lieutenants, 3 vols.; The Life of Johnny Reb; The Life of Billy Yank.

From where we sit, it appears that having perused these 38 volumes it might be well to give some slight additional attention to the Union, which did have something to do with the War. Lincoln, it should be remembered, had a part in it; and Grant, aided and abetted by some men including McClellan, Meade, Sherman and Sheridan, did "move south."

CIVIL WAR ARTICLES

IN OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

Ex-President George Farr compiled the following list of articles appearing in the early publication of the Society. Roman numerals indicate volume, and Arabic numerals are page numbers.

Biography of Salmon P. Chase I, 109; Down South Before the War II, 461; Biography of Governor Tod VIII, 107; John Brown - A Review IX, 375; Opening Scenes of The Rebellion IX, 125; U. S. Grant, A Character Study, XI, 232; Biography of Governor Brough XIII, 40; Songwriters (Including Dan Emmet) XIII, 504; Stations on Underground Railway XIV, 164; Underground Railway XIV, 396; Stanton, The Patriot by A. Carnegie, XV, 290; S. P. Chase, by Joseph Foraker XV, 311; George Custer XV, 341; Fugitive Slave Cases XVI, 292; Morgan's Raid XVII, 48; John Sherman, XVII, 309; Morgan's Raid XVIII, 79; General Benjamin R. Cowen XVIII, 149; Dedication of Grant Tablet at Point Pleasant XVIII, 380; Oberlin's Part in The War, Co C, 7th OVI, XX, 269; Surrender of Morgan by his captor Major Rue XX, 368; Abolition Holes, Underground Railway XXII, 308; Vallandigham XXIII, 256; General and Field Officers in the War XIII, 306; Birthplace of U. S. Grant XXVI, 117; Johnson's Island XXVI, 470; Biography of S. P. Chase XXVIII, 119; Battle Flags of Ohio XXVIII, 227; Lecture by General Warren Kiefer XXIX, 514; S. P. Chase's Cane, (From Wood of The Merrimack) XXIX, 529.