



# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

CLEVELAND, OHIO

October 15, 1962

2060 Illuminating Building  
Cleveland 13, Ohio

## V I C K S B U R G

Time: October 23, 1962 - 6:30 P. M.  
Place: UNIVERSITY CLUB, 3813 Euclid Avenue  
Speaker: Dr. Edwin C. Bearss

The story of Vicksburg is the story of the beginning of the end of the Civil War. It is the story of Grant, Sherman, McPherson and of the first decisive Union victory. No one can tell that story as vividly as Dr. Bearss. Our program committee has initiated our current season with an outstanding speaker. Dr. Bearss, author of "Decision in Mississippi," speaks in Toledo on October 22. Dr. Bearss was the 1961 winner of the Harry Truman Award for Meritorious Service in the Field of Civil War History.

## RETURN THE CARD TODAY

Please assist the program committee by prompt return of the reservation card.

## 1962-1963 MEETINGS

The program committee has scheduled the following meetings. The schedule, of course, may be changed but will be adhered to the absence of unforeseen circumstances.

<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Oct. 23 - Dr. Bearss	Vicksburg
Nov. 19 - Dr. Gerald McMurtry	Lincoln's Gettysburg Address
Dec. 18 - Lester Swift	Homicide Blue and Gray
Jan. 14 - Open	
Feb. 11 - Watt Marshman	Rutherford Hayes & So. Mt.
Mar. 12 - Don Hamill	Gen'l Geo. B. McClellan
Apr. 8 - Open	
May 7 - Open	

## NEWS OF OTHER ROUND TABLES

The CWRT of Northern California has been organized at OAKLAND, 300 Lakeside Drive, Oakland 12 ... Symposium on "The Ohio Valley in The Civil War" is being sponsored by CINCINNATI together with the Cincinnati and Hamilton County Public Library, Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio, University of Cincinnati and Xavier University. The Symposium, on October 19 and 20, will feature talks by authorities on various phases of the War. Registration fee is \$10 ... LEXINGTON will have the Virginia Military Institute CWRT ... INDIANAPOLIS will have a field trip to Gettysburg, Harpers Ferry, South Mountain, and Antietam, October 25-27 ... CHICAGO plans an April 1963 field trip to Richmond ... SPRINGFIELD, ILL., helped in ceremonies at Lincoln's Tomb commemorating the Centennial of the Emancipation Proclamation ... TOLEDO, according to their CANISTER, enjoyed Ned Downer's talk on "Ohio in the Civil War" at the September meeting ... DECATUR is cooperating with the Illinois Historical Society's effort to mark properly historical sites in the State ... VANDENBURGH COURT HOUSE, CWRT EVANSVILLE (Ind.) held a joint meeting with SPRINGFIELD on September 28 ... COLUMBUS (Ind.) claims the youngest CWRT member is Brian Hendricks, aged 11.

## NEW CWRT IN VIRGINIA

From the Richmond News Letter

"Officials of the Virginia State Penitentiary have acceded to the request of a group of some twenty of the prisoners to form a Civil War Round Table. Member of the Richmond CWRT are co-operating with the group by suggesting topics for discussion, supplying speakers, and enlarging the list of books, maps and other reference material presently available at the Penitentiary library.

"At the organization meeting of the Penitentiary group, which was attended by several members of the Richmond CWRT, it became quite evident that Civil War subjects were not foreign to the understanding of the inmate group. What did we think of the baseness of Gen'l Pope's charges against FitzJohn Porter following the defeat of the Union forces at the Battle of Second Manassas? asked one of the prisoners. How does one explain the dramatic success of Stonewall Jackson in the Valley Campaign of 1862 and his comparatively poor performance some weeks later when he joined Lee to oppose McClellan during the Peninsula Campaign? asked another. Were the Southern states acting within their constitutional prerogatives in withdrawing from the Union? came as a third question."

### "YANKEE IN GRAY"

During the latter part of November, The Western Reserve Press will make a worthwhile contribution to Civil War publications by issuing "Yankee in Gray." This book contains the memoirs and correspondence of Henry E. Handerson who, after the war, was one of Cleveland's leading medical authorities and practitioners.

Before the war he migrated to New Orleans and after Fort Sumter, he enlisted in the Stafford Guards, a part of the famed Louisiana Tigers. His memoirs present an unusually intelligent account of service in the Confederate Army.

The book, which will retail at \$6.50, carries an introduction by the late Dr. Clyde Cummer and a commentary by Dr. Robert M. Stecher.

### FALL FIELD TRIP

The Fall Field Trip to the Richmond battlefield areas on September 21 to 23, arranged by Chairman Carroll Prosser, was made by eleven CWRT members and a guest.

The participants, who made the journey to Richmond by auto and airplane, began the activities on Friday morning. After viewing the film "Battlefields of Richmond" they proceeded by bus to the sites of Seven Days Battles and Ft. Harrison and Drewys Bluff.

Friday evening the tour included "Vignettes of Richmond" presented at Lee's home, the White House of the Confederacy and the church where Davis received news of Lee's retreat westward.

Saturday was spent on a tour of Grant's 1864 Campaign, covering Bethesda Church, Cold Harbor City Point and Petersburg.

On Sunday individual members visited the Confederate Museum, the Battle Abbey and other historical points in the city.

Those who made the trip were Carroll Prosser, Ned Downer, Charles Clarke, Paul Guenther, Carroll Crosser, Neville Bayless, Dr. Schlessinger, Dr. Bromley, Tom Knickerbocker, Gene Morton, Bill Dilling and Roy Smith (guest).

### ANTIETAM RE-ENACTMENT

The Hagerstown CWRT acted as host for round table members attending the re-enactment of the battle of Antietam, September 14-16. Cleveland was represented by Frank Gillen who sent us a vivid description of his experiences. According to Frank, his nocturnal visit to the bivouac area of the participating military units, where he joined in the camp-fire activities of Billy Yank and Johnny Reb, did much to recreate the spirit of '61 - '65.

MONUMENT TO MEMMINGER  
By Neville Bayless

The Asheville, N. C. Citizen, June 25, 1962, reported the dedication of a simple marker as a memorial to Christopher Augustus Memminger, first secretary of the Treasury of the C.S.A. The monument, erected in the churchyard of St. John-in-the Wilderness at Flatrock, was unveiled by the great-grandson of the German-born confederate statesman.

After the war, Memminger returned to his home in Flatrock. That home is now the residence of Carl Sandburg, the poet and historian.

Memminger served as secretary of the treasury until July, 1864, when he resigned and the cabinet post was filled by a friend and neighbor of Flat Rock, George Trenholm.

Memminger, who was born in Wurtember, Germany, January 9, 1803, died March 7, 1888 and was buried in the churchyard of St. John-in-the-Wilderness.

OHIO LEAFLETS AVAILABLE

The Ohio Civil War Centennial Commission has available for free distribution the following leaflets on Ohio's part in the Civil War: (1) Buckeyes in Blue, Civil War Losses, Military Camps; (2) The Great Locomotive Chase; (3) The Squirrel Hunters, Hundred Days Men, First in War; (4) Morgan's Raid, First Ohio Invasion; (5) The Copperheads, Lake Erie Conspiracy; and (6) Ulysses S. Grant, Ohio Generals.

The leaflets may be obtained by writing to "Civil War, Ohio State Museum, Columbus 10, Ohio

SATIRE ENJOYED

CWRT members, commonly referred to as "buffs," are all too frequently characterized by the long-hairs as over-emphasizing the military aspects of the War. Pictured as armchair strategists they are supposed to be totally lacking in a sense of humor. In rebuttal it can be said that nothing that has appeared in our News Letter has been quoted as often as the April 8, 1960, satire "How to be a Civil War Historian in One Easy Lesson." Latest use, by permission, was in the News Letter of The Lincoln-Civil War Society of Philadelphia, October 4, where it was repeated at length.