

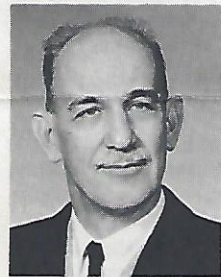
THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XXII, Number 10

Chicago, Illinois

June, 1962

"The Twenty-Fourth Michigan" - Donald L. Smith - Friday, June 15



Donald L. Smith

Twenty five years of research went into the book that prompts Donald L. Smith's talk, "The 24th Michigan, a Regiment of the Iron Brigade", to our meeting Friday, June 15. Smith served in the 1st Infantry division in World War II and his curiosity was aroused regarding its background.

"While the heredity is admittedly hazy, the 1st Brigade, 1st Division, 1st Corps of the Army of the Potomac, respectfully referred to as the Iron Brigade, seemed to be its beginning," Smith said. "When I found there was a Michigan regiment in it, I became curious and the book is the result."

Continuing, Smith said:

"The 24th Michigan met with coldness and hostility by the black hatted veterans of the Iron Brigade, but swore to win their respect - and did, with a vengeance!

"At Fredericksburg, in 'artillery hell' and under murderous crossfire from the guns of 'Stonewall' Jackson and 'Jeb' Stuart, they performed the manual of arms to steady the line. The first day at Gettysburg they sparked this remark from the Confederate ranks, 'That ain't no milishy, there's those damn black hats again.'

"With the 1st Corps they were ordered west of the town to hold long enough for the army to occupy the strategic heights behind them. They held, and by evening they had lost more men than any of the 400 odd Union regiments engaged in the battle.

"They marched down that 'crimson strip across the maps', which marked Grant's Wilderness campaign; they bled at Petersburg, and then, their ranks almost decimated, were sent to guard bounty jumpers. The last tribute to their gallant service came as they were chosen the Guard of Honor for Lincoln's funeral in Springfield.

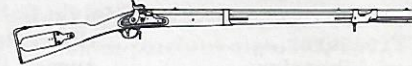
"In a little more than two years of bloody fighting they fought their way to 19th place on the list of '300 Fighting Regiments'."

Donald Smith was born in Detroit and became interested in the Civil War when, in his teens, he was given a copy of the 1861 drill regulations and an ancient set of "Battles and Leaders". He became a searcher in old book stores, antique shops, attics, basements, barns, and sheds. He trekked to battlefields.

Smith attended Michigan State university and various military schools. He joined the Detroit police department in 1937 and the army reserve. He was ordered to active duty in 1941 and served throughout the war. He returned to Detroit police, but was called again for duty in the Korean emergency.

Smith's interest in the 24th Michigan sprang anew on his return from service. Two long hospital stays as a result of service wounds provided ample time to collect the material which resulted in his new book.

Smith will be honored at an autographing party at the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop, 18 East Chestnut St., at 4 p.m. on the day of the meeting.



212th REGULAR MEETING

* * *

Donald L. Smith

on

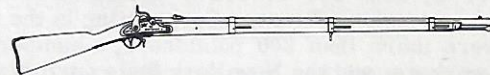
"The Twenty-Fourth Michigan,
a Regiment of the Iron Brigade"

* * *

FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 1962

St. Clair Hotel
162 East Ohio Street

Cocktails at 5:30
Dinner at 6:30 p.m.



ANTIETAM-HAGERSTOWN FETE IN SEPTEMBER

Hagerstown CWRT, Box 1155, Hagerstown, Md., is acting as agent for lodging, Antietam re-enactment and pageant tickets for visiting Round Table members for the events of next September. Hagerstown is sponsoring a CWRT assembly which begins Friday, September 14, with registration, displays and special events; September 15, Civil War Art Exhibit, luncheon, Antietam re-enactment, banquet with guest speaker and special events; September 16, centennial breakfast, and in the evening, the pageant "Hills of Glory". Headquarters is at the Venice motel, Hagerstown. The Antietam-South Mountain Centennial association is directing the actual re-enactment and the pageant. Centennial military units will take part. The Maryland department of the American Legion is conducting a drive for funds to add to the publicly owned lands of Antietam. There will be events in the area from August 31 to September 17, with special days for Hagerstown's 200th anniversary, Dunker church rededication, Keedysville, Sharpsburg, Williamsport, Harpers Ferry, Boonsboro, Frederick, Gathland memorial, and Red Cross-Clara Barton.

IOWA'S CIVIL WAR COMMEMORATION will be highlighted by a pageant in connection with the Midwest Old Settlers and Threshers Reunion at Mt. Pleasant, Sept. 5-7. A cast of more than 500 persons will take part. As one feature of the program, special attention will be called to soldiers from Iowa who received the Congressional Medal of Honor for their services during the war.

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

18 East Chestnut Street,
Chicago 11, Illinois
Phone: Whitehall 4-3085

OFFICERS

President..... Warren A. Reeder, Jr.
Vice President..... Fred D. Mitchell
Secretary..... Arnold Alexander
Treasurer..... Malvin Hoffman
Assistant Treasurer..... Albert Harris
Tape Record Librarian..... August Payne
Editor of Newsletter..... Gilbert Twiss

BOARD OF TRUSTEES (Executive Committee)

Terms expiring in 1963: George D. Neptune,
Robert E. Morton, Michael S. Lerner.
Terms expiring in 1964: Morton B. Feigen,
Robert J. Jensen, Walter K. Tatsch.



CIVIL WAR BOOKS IN PRINT

The New York and Pennsylvania company, manufacturer of fine printing papers, has published A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE CIVIL WAR, listing all books, including fiction, devoted to the Civil War or any major aspect of it, that are currently available from book stores or publishing firms. Cooperating in the compilation were more than 200 publishers, a number of research workers, and the New York State Civil War Centennial commission, which is supervising the distribution of the booklet through its counterparts in other states. The 24 page, 3 color booklet lists prices and more than 1,000 titles, classified as follows: Gathering Clouds, Slavery, The War, Political Scene, Reconstruction, Biographies, General, Fiction, Pictorial, and Songs, Poems, Tales, and Plays. Illustrations include drawings, prints of stamps and seals, and small portraits of Civil War personalities. The booklet sells for \$2.50, but a limited number of copies have been supplied to our Round Table for free distribution to members. They will be given on a "first come first served" basis to members who call for them at headquarters, 18 East Chestnut St., and to out-of-town members who send 25 cents to cover mailing cost.

ON SUNDAY, MAY 6, 1962, the town of Grand Gulf saw more people than at any time since the rear brigade of Sherman's XV Corps departed May 15, 1863 and marched inland to join Grant's column. The official opening of the military park was attended by almost 4,000 persons. The park was dedicated by former Gov. J. P. Coleman and was accepted for the state of Mississippi by Gov. Ross Barnett. This park is one of the state's two Historic Parks. (The other is Nanih Waiya - near Nexapater). Though much work has been done at Grand Gulf, much remains to be done.

Generals Don Carlos Buell and Braxton Bragg who opposed each other at the battle of Perryville, Ky., were brothers-in-law.

*from the
Editor's pen*



HOME TALENT triumphed again when member Everett Lewy spoke to the May meeting on the "Battle of Chickamauga". Everett aided his talk with the use of charts and maps of the "greatest battle in the west". It was full of dramatics, "and while it was not a critical battle, it stemmed the tide for a year," Everett said. He gave details of the terrain and related features of the battle. He concluded that the "Rock of Chickamauga" was not only Gen. George H. Thomas, but also "the common American soldier who fought there." Everett deftly handled a barrage of questions from fellow members.

Attendance was 95, though only 83 reservations had been made. Members are reminded that such situations make catering difficult, especially when it is a "meat or fish" night. Please make reservations, even to the last day, and cancel by phone if you cannot be present.

* * *

Past President C. Robert Douglas presented the report of the nominating committee. Mike Lerner and Newton Farr moved and seconded that the secretary cast a unanimous vote for the slate. Approval was loudly voiced. And, retiring President Gerhard P. Clausius, declared that "after another spirited election", the slate is elected. The officers (see column 1) will be installed at the June meeting.

* * *

Past President Hal Hixson presented the BAFFART trophy - the creation of a group of battlefield tour fun lovers - to Wilson A. Smith for his exploits on the 12th battlefield tour to Gettysburg. The tour, and its management by H. George Donovan and local arrangements by Dr. Fred Tilberg and others was highly praised.

* * *

MEMBERS AND GUESTS who took part in the 12th annual battlefield tour, April 25-29, to Gettysburg, were:

CHICAGO: Arnold Alexander, Frances Ames, Margaret April, Diane and Robert April, Paul Behanna, Joseph Benz, Dr. A. V. Bergquist, Miner Coburn, Frank Curtis, Brooks Davis, H. George Donovan, C. Robert Douglas, Joe Eisendrath, Charles Falkenburg, Mort Feigen, C. E. Graham, Robert Havey, Hal Hixson, Miles Janousek, George Johnson, Peter Johnson, Lester Joseph, Stanley Kearney, Henry Kennedy, Philip Kuhn, Peggy Lebold, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Long, Ken MacIntyre, Daniel McCarthy, Dr. Morley McNeal, Al Meyer, Irving Meyerhoff, Lloyd Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Murgatroyd, Ralph Newman, John O'Shaughnessy, Elmer Pendarvis, J. B. Reavley, Dr. Vernon Schick, Ray Smith, Wilson Smith, Walter Tatsch, Elmer Underwood, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Warsaw.

ILLINOIS: Dr. and Mrs. Don Burhans and Clarence Johnson, Peoria; Dr. G. P. Clausius, Belvidere; Wilbur Layman, Lincoln; Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Mathis, Prophetstown; Dr. W. W. Sauer, Paxton.

WISCONSIN: L. P. Eager, Evansville; Don Gerlinger, Dr. G. J. Gumerman, P. J. Hohlweck, Milwaukee; Fred Hillyer, John Hunter, Madison; George Markham, Oconomowoc; Bill Neill, Waterloo; Jerry Slechta, Jefferson.

INDIANA: Warren Reeder, Hammond; Mrs. C. E. Long, Frankfort.

ELSEWHERE: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bass, Enid, and John Bass, Norman, Okla.; Dr. Theodore and James Caplow, Englewood, N. J.; Mr. and Mrs. Chester Gannon, Sacramento, Cal.; J. Ambler Johnston, Richmond, Va.; Carl Haverlin, New York City, Mr. and Mrs. Will Plank, Marlboro, N. Y.; Robert Schultz, Benton Harbor, Mich.; Ed Waterbury, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Gain Knowledge of Gettysburg



- Photo by John Patrick Hunter

"Pickett's Chargers" approaching stone wall that was "High Water Mark of the Confederacy". Codori barn and house in background.

BY GERHARD P. CLAUSIUS

Gettysburg battlefield tour campaigners had an excellent trip and our knowledge of Gettysburg was enhanced.

After our flight from Chicago and bus trip from Washington, April 25, the campaigners were refreshed in quick order - our advance corps already had set up command post at Gettysburg Hotel headquarters.

Thursday, April 26, with fair weather, we did the first day of battle in the morning and the second day in the afternoon. At dinner in the hotel Joseph Eisendrath presented an honorary award membership to Dr. Frederick Tilberg. A distinguished service award was presented to Dr. Harry Pfanz for the staff of Gettysburg National Military park. Supt. James B. Myers of the park was present at the ceremony. Tilberg and Pfanz were lecturers and guides on the day's tour.

J. Ambler Johnston invited the Chicago CWRT to make its annual tour to Richmond in 1963. H. George Donovan, 1962 tour chairman, made announcements.

The group adjourned to the new Visitors Center and the cyclorama where we were given a preview of the restored cyclorama, not yet open to the public.

Friday, study of the battlefield was continued with the third day of the battle, including the Longstreet march and Pickett's charge. Many campaigners followed on foot the Path of the Confederate charge which culminated at the "High Water Mark of the Confederacy."

The electric map at the Gettysburg National museum was viewed and the party returned to the hotel.

Friday night, the dinner featured the panel discussion, "Antietam Free-for-All". Panelists were Dr. Tilberg, research historian; Arthur Sullivan, Harpers Ferry historian; Robert Lagemann, Antietam historian; Gen. Edward J. Stackpole, Harrisburg, Pa., publisher of Civil War Times; Gen. Willard Webb, a founder of Washington D. C. CWRT; Lloyd Miller, Ralph Newman, and Ken MacIntyre of Chicago. E. B. (Pete) Long of Chicago was moderator. Newman presented distinguished service awards to Harpers Ferry National monument, Antietam National Battlefield site, Gettysburg College and CIVIL WAR TIMES Illustrated.

On Saturday, guided by Supt. Joseph R. Prentice and Arthur Sullivan we toured Harpers Ferry in the morning and then stopped briefly at the Swearingen mansion, near Shepherdstown, W. Va., as guests of the historical society there. The mansion, now being restored, was the home of Col. James Swearingen who commanded the men who built Fort Dearborn, Chicago, in 1803.

Members of Harrisburg (Pa.) CWRT joined us at lunch at Keedysville, Md. On the Antietam battlefield in the afternoon, such spots as the Sunken road, the Cornfield, Dunker church, and Burnside bridge, emerged as real places instead of spots on the maps in history books.

BULLETIN BOARD

OTTO EISENSCHIML'S ethical code for Civil War writers has received new votes of approval from the Civil War Round Tables of Park Forest (Ill.) and Mishawka (Ind.).

* * *

NEW MEMBERS: Larry L. Belles, 401 N. Main St., Mt. Pleasant, Ia.; Robert W. Havey, 34 Yorkshire Woods, Elmhurst, Ill.; Dr. Mark M. Krug, University of Chicago, Chicago 37; James Reeves, 6128 N. Hoyne Ave., Chicago 45.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Robert J. Jensen to: 815 Lenox Rd., Glenview, Ill.

* * *

AVAILABLE at meetings: Gold filled lapel pin, \$1; Cloth patch of emblem, 50¢.

GETTYSBURG TRACT TRANSFERRED

The Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation association has transferred the 55 acre Roy Wolf farm lying within the Gettysburg National Military park to the federal government to be incorporated in the park area.

The land was purchased by donations from school children throughout the country and persons interested in preserving the historical site from commercial expansion.

The Wolf tract was the scene of attack by Gen. John B. Hood's Confederate division on July 2, 1863. It is considered by most historians to be the area in which Hood was wounded - requiring the amputation of his arm. The tract, west of Little Round Top and Devil's Den, is rough and partially wooded, much in the same condition as it was during the battle.

CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY has an exhibit of American firearms - matchlock to automatic - on display in its Current Exhibit gallery on the main floor of its building at North Ave., and Clark St.

Supt. Ben Davis and Historian Robert Lagemann were guides.

The party then went to Frederick, Md., where the annual "Fun Night" was held in the Francis Scott Key hotel. Carl Haverlin introduced the recording artist, Frank Warner, who told of his research in finding and preserving folk songs. He sang a number of selections and had the group join him in some.

Past President C. Robert Douglas presented a \$250 check from the Round Table and other checks from various individuals on the tour - a total of about \$600 - to Dr. Tilberg for use of the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation association in acquiring land to add to the park. Hal Hixson and Ralph Newman were given awards as the only members who have been on all 12 battlefield tours. Past President Jerry Slechta and the tour marshals presented many humorous awards to various individuals. The group returned to Gettysburg for the night.

On Sunday one bus went to South Mountain where Dr. Tilberg discussed the high spots of the action in that area. The second bus went to Frederick where the party made a walking tour of historic sites, the churches of "the clustered spires", and visited the Barbara Fritchie house. Both buses stopped at the Monocacy battlefield and then proceeded to Washington National airport and enplaned for home.

THE NEW BOOKS



THE TWENTY-FOURTH MICHIGAN, by Donald L. Smith (Stackpole, 312pp, \$6.50). Full study of a unit of the Iron Brigade.

SERVICE WITH THE 6th WISCONSIN VOLUNTEERS, by Rufus Dawes, edited by Alan Nolan (Wisconsin Civil War Centennial commission, publication May 30).

DECISION IN MISSISSIPPI, by Edwin C. Bearss (Eastern National Park and Monument association, P. O. Box 349, Vicksburg, Miss., \$5). Champion Hill is one of the battles discussed at length.

DIARY OF THE CIVIL WAR, by George Templeton Strong, edited by Allan Nevins (Macmillan, 664pp, \$10). The volume of the Strong diaries pertaining to the Civil War years.

THE SECESSION CONVENTIONS OF THE SOUTH, by Ralph A. Wooster (Princeton, 296pp, \$6.50).

THE HOSPITAL DIRECTORIES OF THE CIVIL WAR, 1862-1865 (G. K. Hall & Co., Boston, 44 volumes, \$2,900). By subscription only. Reprint of records kept by the U. S. Sanitary commission.

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF STATE PARTICIPATION IN THE CIVIL WAR (Allen Pub. Co., Charlottesville, Va., 1,140pp, \$25). Facsimile of 1913 edition.

COLUMN SOUTH: With the 15th Pennsylvania Cavalry (J. F. Colton Co., Flagstaff, Ariz., 415pp, \$12.50).

WAR WAS THE PLACE: A Centennial Collection of Confederate Soldier Letters (Johnson's Book Store, West Point, Va., 198pp, \$4.75).

A HISTORY OF AMERICAN MEDICAL ETHICS: 1847-1912, by Donald E. Konold (Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, 128pp, \$3.50).

RELIGION AND THE PRESIDENCY, by Edward J. Richter and Berton Dulce (Macmillan, 245pp, \$6).

ROAD TO MANASSAS, by R. H. Beatie (Cooper Square, 285pp, \$3.95).

BATCHELOR-TURNER LETTERS, annotated by Helen Jule Hoskins Rugely (Steck Co., Austin, Texas, 99pp, \$3.50). Letters by two of Terry's Texas Rangers.

ADDRESS BY CARL SANDBURG, at the opening of Library of Congress Civil War Centennial exhibit (Limited edition of 1,000 copies, Library of Congress, Washington D. C., \$3).

ARTICLES

HISTORICAL SURVEY ON THE BATTLE OF WILSON'S CREEK, by Edwin C. Bearss, Nos. 2 and 3, Vol. XXVI of the ANNALS OF IOWA (Iowa State Department of History and Archives, Des Moines 19, Iowa, \$2).

ILLINOIS IN THE CIVIL WAR, by Clyde C. Walton, state historian, and other articles on the war and the Union League, in April, 1962, Centennial issue of MEN AND EVENTS (Union League Club of Chicago, 65 W. Jackson blvd., Chicago 4, 50¢).

CAPT. THEODORUS BAILEY AND THE CAPTURE OF NEW ORLEANS, by Enoch Squires, in New York Civil War Centennial commission's booklet for April. An amended report of Bailey's performance, submitted by Adm. Farragut, June 2, 1869.

THE CIVIL WAR FEDERAL CONSCRIPTION AND EXEMPTION SYSTEM, by William L. Shaw, member of Sacramento (Cal.) CWRT (February, 1962, Judge Advocate Journal, Denrike Bldg., Washington 5, D.C.).

MEDICINE IN THE CIVIL WAR, by Otto Eisenschiml, and other articles (May, 1962, CIVIL WAR TIMES, illustrated, Gettysburg, Pa., \$1).

Mrs. Helen Dortch Longstreet, 99, died in early May. She was the last widow of a Civil War general.

FUTURE MEETINGS



Saturday, July 28 - Chicago CWRT golf outing at Jefferson, Wis.

SPECIAL EVENTS

May 26-June 5 - THE GENERAL on exhibit at Dearborn station, Chicago.

June 2-3 - Tallulah, La., and Vicksburg, Miss., Joint commemorative programs of the Louisiana and Mississippi centennial commissions.

May 12-June 30 - Jewish Historical commission exhibit at Centennial Center, Richmond, Va.

June 15-17 - Virginia, Retracing of Stuart's Ride Around McClellan.

June 16-17 - Cancelled, Madison CWRT tour to Monticello and New Salem, Ill.

June 17-23 - Bryan-College Station, Texas, Commemoration of founding of Bryan, and establishment of Texas A & M; 100th anniversary of Hood's Texas Brigade at the Battle of Gaines' Mill.

June 16-24 - Charles Town, W. Va., "The Anvil," the Trial of John Brown, drama.

June 21-23 - Wisconsin Historical Society meeting at Green Bay, headquarters, Northland hotel.

June 23 - Louisville CWRT field trip to Munfordsville battlefield.

June 26 - Virginia, Seven Days battles. Dedication of exhibits at Chickahominy Bluffs, Cold Harbor, Malvern Hill, and Forts Harrison and Brady.

July 2 - University of Illinois, Morrill Land Grant College act, centennial.

July 4 - Clifton Forge, W. Va., commemoration.

July 4 - Berkeley, Charles City county, Va., commemoration of composition of "Taps".

July 13 - Murfreesboro, Tenn., Taking of Murfreesboro by Forrest's Cavalry.

July 15 - Battle of Apache pass commemoration, Arizona.

July 20-21 - Vicksburg, Miss., Texas Days Special events and dedication of new \$100,000 Texas state memorial.

July 22-27 - Gettysburg College, Fifth annual Civil War Study Group.

Aug. 17-18 - Vicksburg, Miss., Memorial ceremonies at Confederate state monuments of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Missouri, North Carolina and South Carolina, and other ceremonies for soldiers of Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Tennessee and Virginia.



DR. ALLEN NEVINS, chairman, announced at the May 4-5 Columbus, Ohio, meeting of Civil War Centennial commission delegates that the next big event will be the centenary observance of the Emancipation Proclamation September 22 at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington. President Kennedy will speak; Mahalia Jackson, the gospel singer, will be on the program, and Archibald MacLeish will write a special poem, Dr. Nevins said. The national commission's disapproval of battle re-enactments was announced, though this will not be a barrier to events arranged by state or local commissions.