



# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

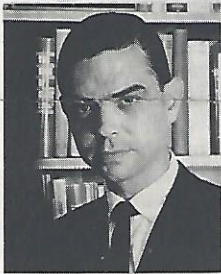
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Chicago, Illinois

May, 1963

## James V. Murfin - 'The Enigma and Significance of Antietam' - May 17

James V. Murfin, business manager of CIVIL WAR TIMES Illustrated, will speak on "Antietam: The Enigma and the Significance" at our meeting Friday, May 17.



James V. Murfin

Murfin is writing a definitive study of Antietam, to be published by Yoseioff, and his talk will be from manuscript notes which he believes to be in greater detail than any previous study.

Jim is a founder-member of Hagerstown (Md.) Civil War Round Table and for three years has been president. He says: "Antietam has been a close subject with me, because I live so near the battlefield, and because I have felt that Antietam has been neglected in many ways. We have no Gen. Eisenhower living close by, and have had no advantages in promotion. In my humble opinion, Antietam is one of the most decisive, if not THE most decisive, battle of the war. I base this primarily on the fact that the life of the Confederacy hinged on Lee's Maryland campaign."

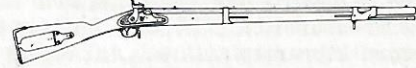
Murfin regards any study of Antietam, of necessity, as a study of Gen. George B. McClellan. "Much of my material will be based on some of the mysteries surrounding McClellan and the battle," he says. He will concentrate on the "importance or unimportance" of the lost orders, "the strange circumstances of McClellan's return to command, the significance of Lee's division of his army, and McClellan's actions during and after the campaign."

This includes "McClellan's insistence that he went to Antietam with no real command, the relationship between Lincoln and McClellan, a comparison of McClellan's insubordination and the relationship between MacArthur and Truman in the Korean War." Jim says he intends to "present some fresh ideas and new thinking on Antietam."

Murfin is well known in the east where he has made more than 50 talks on the Civil War centennial and Antietam. He and a friend, Jerry Hess, produced the picture booklet THE FIELDS OF ANTIETAM for the Antietam centennial commemoration. He worked in the promotion of the centennial and the Fourth Annual Assembly of Civil War Round Tables which was held at the same time at Hagerstown.

Jim is a talented artist and illustrated the July, 1962, cover of CIVIL WAR TIMES. He joined the staff in July 1961, as director of promotion and advertising. Since January, 1962, he has been business manager. On occasion he has written articles. His principal work is in circulation, promotion, and advertising. He comments, "This brings me into contact with many of our subscribers, which I thoroughly enjoy."

Murfin will be on a panel of the national Civil War Centennial Commission assembly at the Parker House in Boston, May 22-24.



221st REGULAR MEETING

\* \* \*

James V. Murfin

on

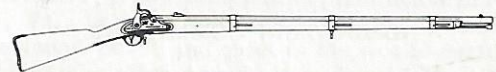
"Antietam: The Enigma and the Significance"

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FRIDAY, MAY 17, 1963

St. Clair Hotel  
162 East Ohio Street

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



"STONEWALL" JACKSON is being honored with an exhibit through May and June at the Centennial Center in Richmond. A public dinner in Richmond observes the centennial of Jackson's death. Chancellorsville, the scene of Jackson's greatest victory, May 1-2, 1863, and where he received a mortal wound, will open its new visitor center on May 5. Virginia Military Institute, where Jackson taught at Lexington, Va., will hold ceremonies on the date of his death, May 10. He is buried in the town cemetery. On May 11, there will be ceremonies at the renovated house at Guiney's Station where Jackson died. Exhibits in the Chancellorsville visitor center include dioramas, audiovisual devices, cases and panels interpreting the battle of Chancellorsville and furnishing introductions to the Wilderness and Spotsylvania Court House campaigns in the same area.

PEA RIDGE NATIONAL MILITARY PARK will be dedicated on Friday, May 31. Superintendent John T. Willett has expressed the wish that some members of Chicago CWRT will be able to attend. Chicago CWRT will be well represented in one respect - books. Our former president, Marshall Rissman made his set of the Official Records available to Chicago CWRT for a drawing. Plans for Pea Ridge park were under way at the time and the National Park Service entered a request for the books. Members waived their rights in the drawing and the books were sent to Pea Ridge. The battle was fought on March 7-8, 1862. So much construction work and road building was necessary on the site, that necessarily the dedication was delayed more than a year. The 4,210 acre park was purchased by the state of Arkansas and turned over to the nation. The location is 10 miles northeast of Rogers, Ark., and 30 miles northeast of Fayetteville.



# 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.

## BATTLEFIELD TOUR COMMITTEE

Hal Hixson and Brooks Davis, co-chairmen; J. Am-  
bler Johnston, co-chairman in Richmond; Pete Long, Jerry  
Slechta, Ralph G. Newman, Gilbert Twiss; H. George  
Donovan and Al Meyer, marshals; Margaret April, reg-  
istrar, and all officers.

RICHMOND COMMITTEE: W. W. Mallory, chairman;  
C. Hobson Goddin, and Jack Stinson.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

C. Robert Douglas, chairman; Jerry Slechta,  
and Hal Hixson.

The committee submits the following slate:

President..... H. George Donovan  
Vice President..... Fred D. Mitchell  
Secretary..... Arnold Alexander  
Treasurer..... Albert Harris  
Tape Record Librarian..... August Payne  
Editor of Newsletter..... Gilbert Twiss

TRUSTEES: Terms expiring in 1965; Everett  
Lewy, Frank A. Palumbo, Wilson A. Smith.



W. J. LOWRY, a founder of Hartford (Conn.) CWRT,  
was a visitor to Chicago CWRT headquarters in March.

FORT LARNED, Kansas, has been recommended as a  
national historic site by the Interior department, to be-  
come an area of the National Park Service. Larned was  
the northern anchor of a series of military posts that  
defended the southwestern frontier, and particularly  
traffic on the Santa Fe trail. During the Civil War the  
fort was the marshalling point where armed escorts  
were assigned to westbound wagon trains. The fort  
figured in the Plains War of 1863-64, and in 1867 was  
Gen. Winfield S. Hancock's base against the Plains In-  
dians. Sheridan and Custer also operated from there at  
times.

*from the  
Editor's pen*



Robert W. Waitt, Jr., of Richmond, entertained and  
informed a gathering of eighty members and guests at  
our April 11 meeting with his discussion of "Sin and the  
Civil War", or "The Kinsey Report of the War". How-  
ever, Waitt said, his studies were "prepared without the  
cooperation of the Department of Zoology of Indiana U."  
He brought out that, according to Confederate medical  
corps reports, there were 14 different categories for  
sexual maladies and 16 for battle wounds. The Union  
army had a venereal rate of 17.6 per cent and the Con-  
federates, 15.8. In veterans homes after the war, 30 per  
cent of deaths were attributed to the effects of venereal  
disease. The Civil War rape rate was the lowest of any  
war, which is attributed to the availability of women to  
the soldier. Waitt mentioned the legend that at Antietam  
Lee had more men available for duty than McClellan due  
to the presence of camp followers with the Union army.  
After the talk, the questioning was spirited.

John Justin Smith, who attended the meeting, wrote  
in his Chicago Daily News column, "As things turned  
out, Waitt might as well have entitled his talk, 'Sex and  
the Civil War.' Sexual sins were the only ones mentioned."

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For reports of the last two meetings we are indebted  
to Warren Reeder, Mal Hoffman, and C. Robert Douglas.  
We played hookey. Well, not exactly. One instance was to  
attend the Illinois high school basketball finals - a form  
of civil war. The other was to hear our Madison comrade  
William Hesseltine speak to Decatur CWRT.

\* \* \*

Newton C. Farr, CWRT founder-member, was in-  
stalled as president of the Geographic Society of Chicago  
at a banquet meeting in the Palmer House on April 15.  
He succeeded Andrew McNally III ..... Gov. Otto Kerner  
of Illinois on April 6 announced location of the Illinois  
section of the Lincoln Heritage Trail which zigzags  
through most of the Lincoln parks, memorials, and  
monuments in Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois .... Phila-  
delphia Lincoln-Civil War Society is making its June  
field trip to Union Mills, "where the battle of Gettysburg  
should have been fought".

\* \* \*

One of our earliest members, later made an honorary  
award member, Abe E. Geldhof, died April 15. Abe was  
on our first battlefield tour and on a number after that.  
He edited News of the Civil War Round Tables for the  
Lincoln Herald. His study and knowledge of the Civil War  
was great and he was one of the most penetrating ques-  
tioners at meetings. He was gregarious and known to  
many. As years advanced, asthma was troublesome and a  
constricting lung ailment made breathing difficult. He had  
to give up attending meetings in the last year. The family  
requested that flowers not be sent to the funeral services  
and the money devoted instead to a charity. His son, Lee,  
said an appropriate one would be the donations fund of the  
Civil War Round Table. Accordingly, this was done from  
the general fund of the CWRT and by several members.

CALIFORNIA has dunned the federal treasury again  
for \$7,500,000 for money spent during the Civil War to  
keep the Confederates off the Overland trail. California  
has been turned down before, but keeps on trying.

## Flag in Blue and Gray



Pictured above is the flag designed and made for Chicago Civil War Round Table. It measures 3 by 5 feet. The upper half is blue and the lower half gray; the upper lettering gray and the lower blue. The center design is principally white, red, and gold. The flag's fringe is gold. The design was by Ralph Newman. The flag was hand made by Annin and company of Verona, N. J. The flag will be displayed at meetings, along with the Stars and Stripes. If other Round Tables are interested in obtaining such a flag, address Secretary, Civil War Round Table, 18 East Chestnut street, Chicago 11, Illinois.

### ON THE BATTLEFIELD TOUR

Members and guests on the 13th Battlefield Tour to Richmond, April 24-28, were as follows:

CHICAGO AND SUBURBS: Arnold Alexander, Frances D. Ames, Margaret H. April, Paul C. Behanna, Dr. Arthur V. Bergquist, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer C. Brinckman, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Andrew Brown (Libertyville) and Master Peter Brown (Madison, Wis.), Miner T. Coburn, Frank J. Curtis, J. Brooks Davis, H. George Donovan, C. Robert Douglas, Mr. and Mrs. John R. Fugard, G. Edward Hiscox, Hal B. Hixson, Miles Janousek, Peter H. Johnson, Lester Joseph, Stanley Kearney, Henry W. Kennedy, Frank J. Kinst, Mr. and Mrs. Philip J. Kuhn, Peggy P. Lebold, Dr. Morley D. McNeal, Allen Meyer, Ralph G. Newman, Elmer Pendarvis, Warren A. Reeder (Hammond, Ind.), Dr. Vernon W. Schick and Robert V. Schick, Wilson A. Smith, Walter Tatsch, Gilbert G. Twiss, Elmer Underwood, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Warshaw, and John Wilhelm (Hammond, Ind.).

ILLINOIS: Dr. and Mrs. Donald L. Burhans, and C. L. Johnson, Peoria; James L. Capel, Champaign; Wilbur E. Layman, Lincoln; Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Mathis, Prophetstown; Mr. and Mrs. Morrison Worthington, New Canton.

WISCONSIN: Milwaukee, Donald Gerlinger, Dr. G. J. Gumerman, P. J. Hohlweck, Herman H. Pfeil; Madison, John Hunter, Dr. J. L. McClung; Oconomowoc, George F. Markham, Jr.; Waterloo, William Neill; Jefferson, Jerry M. Slechta.

ELSEWHERE: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bass, Enid, Okla.; Dr. Theodore Caplow and James Caplow, Englewood, N.J.; Dr. and Mrs. A. Q. Cato, Houston, Texas; C. E. Graham, Washington, D.C.; Gen. A. G. Paxton, Greenville, Miss.; Will Plank, Marlboro, N.Y.; William L. Tierney, Louisville, Ky.; Edward S. Waterbury, Pittsburgh, Pa.; and Frank J. Welcher, Indianapolis.

Publication time of this issue does not permit a report of the tour in this issue. It will be printed in the June issue.

## BULLETIN BOARD

President Warren Reeder has appointed two committees authorized by the board of trustees meeting of March 22. One is to study the question of formation of CWRT groups in high schools and financing the attendance of outstanding young Civil War students at our meetings. Miner T. Coburn is chairman with Morton Feigen, William McBride, and Pete Long members and Gilbert Twiss ex-officio.

The second committee is to consider and administer CWRT donations which are made from time to time. Dr. Vernon Schick is chairman of this group, with Al Meyer and Brooks Davis members and the president and treasurer ex-officio. It is expected that \$200 will be available from CWRT funds for donations through the end of the current year and \$600 next year.

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NEW MEMBER: Maurice Fisher, 5442 Kenmore Ave., Chicago 40.

DECEASED: Abe E. Geldhof, Honorary Award member, April 15, 1963.

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

DERWENT, a now dilapidated farm house in Powhatan county, Va., is to be restored. At Derwent, Gen. Robert E. Lee found peace and quiet in the woods during a part of the summer after Appomattox. In mid-May, 1963, the renovated Lee chapel at Washington and Lee college, Lexington, Va., will be reopened.

JACOB M. SHEADS, who guided President Kennedy's March 31 tour of the Gettysburg battlefield, is a founder and longtime officer of the Gettysburg CWRT. Sheads is American history teacher in Gettysburg High school. A week later the President toured Antietam and his guide was Robert Lagemann, who guided the Chicago CWRT tour of the battlefield last year.

MAYOR JOHN D. HOLLAND of Vicksburg has been added to the list of panelists who will take part in a discussion of "Outstanding State Contributions to the Centennial" at the sixth annual assembly of the National Centennial Commission at the Parker House in Boston on May 22-24. Holland will discuss the Vicksburg program planned for July. Louis M. Simon, executive secretary of the Gettysburg Centennial Commission, will outline the July plans for his area. Erwin C. Zepp, of the Ohio commission, will talk on the U. S. Grant papers.

JOHN HOPE FRANKLIN, chairman of the history department of Brooklyn College, has been appointed professor of American history at the University of Chicago and will assume his post in the fall of 1964. During the current year he is William Pitt professor of American history and institutions at St. John's college, University of Cambridge, England. Franklin's books include "From Slavery to Freedom", "The Emancipation Proclamation", and "Reconstruction After the Civil War".

KANSAS with 8,498 casualties suffered the highest mortality rate of any state during the Civil War.

## THE NEW BOOKS



**THE STONEWALL BRIGADE**, by James I. Robertson, Jr. (Louisiana State, 272pp, \$6). The Story of the brigade seen through the eyes of the men themselves.

**TERRIBLE SWIFT SWORD**, by Bruce Catton; E. B. Long, director of research (Doubleday, 559 pp, \$7.50, pre-pub, \$5.95). Vol. II of Centennial History of the Civil War.

**NINE MEN IN GRAY**, by Charles L. Dufour (Doubleday, 364pp, \$4.95). Biographies of nine Confederate heroes.

**A DIARY OF THE CIVIL WAR**, by John L. Ransom (Paul S. Eriksson, New York, 320pp, \$5.75). Union soldier captured in 1863 and held in prison.

**THE CIVIL WAR IN NORTH CAROLINA**, by John G. Barrett (U. of N. C., 480pp, \$10).

**MEMORIALS OF A SOUTHERN PLANTER**, by Susan Dabney Smedes (Knopf). Originally published in 1887.

**DEATH TO TRAITORS**, by Jacob Mogelev, the story of Lafayette Baker, founder of the Secret Service.

**RUNAWAY TO HEAVEN: The Story of Harriet Beecher Stowe and Her Era**, by Johanna Johnston (Doubleday, 490pp, \$5.95).

**THE AMERICAN HERITAGE SHORT HISTORY OF THE CIVIL WAR**, by Bruce Catton (Dell, paper 50¢).

**GAINES' MILL TO APPOMATTOX**, by H. B. Simpson (Texian Press, Box 1684, Waco, Texas). The story of a Texas company in Hood's Brigade.

**THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE CIVIL WAR**, edited by R. Andreano (Schenkman Pub. Co., 1 Story St., Cambridge, Mass., \$4.95, paper \$2.45).

**ECHOES OF HAPPY VALLEY**, by T. F. Hickerson (Bull's Head Book Shop, U. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N. C., \$6).

**ZACH TAYLOR'S LITTLE ARMY**, by Edward J. Nichols (Doubleday, 280pp, \$4.95). Warmup for the Civil War.

**THE AIR ARM OF THE CONFEDERACY**, by Joseph Jenkins Cornish III (Richmond Centennial Committee, 311 N. 9th St., 48pp, paper). The story of Confederate balloonists.

Brochure, prepared by Midwestern Orders and Medals Society in connection with Medal of Honor centennial in Illinois (send 10¢ in coin or stamps to Gary C. Krug, 502 N. Waiola Ave., La Grange Park, Ill.)

Emancipation Proclamation Facsimile and one page history (National Archives and Record Service, General Services Administration, Washington 25, D. C., 50¢).

**CONRAD L. WIRTH**, director of the National Park Service, received the ninth annual Gold Medal of the District of Columbia CWRT, at a dinner in the National Press Club in Washington on April 16. The medal was presented by Maj. Gen. U. S. Grant III. Bruce Catton was speaker of the evening.

**APPOMATTOX DAY BANQUET** was the title of the special event held April 9 by the CWRT of Vanderburgh Court House, Inc., Evansville, Ind. Speaker was Dr. James I. (Bud) Robertson, Jr., executive director of the National Civil War Centennial Commission.

The American Negro Emancipation Centennial Authority (ANECA) has been incorporated in a number of states and will have a national exhibit at McCormick Place in Chicago, August 16 to September 3.

## FUTURE MEETINGS



Friday, June 14 - Charles L. (Pie) Dufour on "Henry Hotze: Rebel Propagandist". Installation of officers.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

May 1 - Richmond, Va., Public dinner in honor of Stonewall Jackson at Hotel John Marshall; Lenoir Chambers, speaker.

May 1 - Petersburg, Va., Opening of Crater road.

May 5 - Chancellorsville, Va., Dedication of new Visitor Center and exhibits.

May 5 - Port Gibson, Miss., Commemoration, Battle of Port Gibson; Dedication of ferry and Grant's route markers.

May 10 - Lexington, Va., Centennial of Jackson's death, ceremonies at Virginia Military Institute.

May 11 - Guiney's Station, Va., ceremonies at house where Jackson died.

May 11 - Raymond, Miss., Centennial Ball; May 12, Commemoration of the Battle of Raymond. Restoration of Waverly (Peyton home), Grant's headquarters.

May 14 - Battle of Jackson, Miss., commemoration.

May 16 - Battle of Champion Hill, Miss., commemoration.

May 16-19 - New York CWRT Battlefield Tour to Gettysburg.

May 17 - Battle of Big Black, Miss., commemoration.

May 22 - Vicksburg, Miss., first assault and beginning of siege.

May 22-24 - Boston, Parker House, 6th National Assembly of Civil War Centennial commissions.

May 30 - Memorial Day services at Battlefield parks.

May 31 - Rogers, Ark., Dedication of Pea Ridge National Military Park.

May and June - Special Stonewall Jackson exhibit at Centennial Center, Richmond.

June 1 - Boy Scouts of America, nationwide Civil War centennial, Abraham Lincoln Birthplace site, Kentucky.

June 9 - Battle of Brandy Station (Va.) commemoration.



**SHIPS OF THE CONFEDERACY**, Volume II of the Dictionary of Naval Fighting Ships will be available in May in the Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. A major section is devoted to brief individual histories and statistics of the several hundred ships that served in the Confederacy. The Naval History Division's Civil War Naval Chronology, 1861-1865, is available from the Superintendent of Documents. Prices are: Part I (1861), 25¢, Part II (1862), 60¢, and Part III (1863), \$1.

**EDWARD J. YOUNG** CWRT of Jackson, Mich., heard Mrs. Ernest B. Harper of East Lansing, Mich., a granddaughter of Col. W. C. P. Breckinridge, C.S.A., speak on another blood relative, Gen. John C. Breckinridge.