



THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XXV, Number 1

Chicago, Illinois

September, 1964

LeRoy Fischer - "Another View of Adam Gurowski" - Thursday, Sept. 17

One of those sideline characters who are among the most interesting personalities of the Civil War will be under discussion at our first fall meeting, Thursday, September 17.



LeRoy H. Fischer

The subject, "Another View of Adam Gurowski", is adopted by the speaker, LeRoy H. Fischer, from his newly published book, "Lincoln's Gadfly, Adam Gurowski". The manuscript won the \$5,000 prize at the Gettysburg centennial observance and is said to be the largest prize ever given to a Civil War book in manuscript.

Here is Dr. Fischer's comment on Gurowski:

"During the Civil War the nation's capital teemed with a variety of people - generals, congressmen, civil servants, and foreign envoys, but among those who stood out the most was a rotund man with a pronounced accent and blue goggles which concealed an old eye injury. Known universally as 'the Pole', Count Adam Gurowski remained an enigma. He had, at various times, been a Polish patriot, a Russian civil servant, a protagonist of Pan Slavism, and, after emigrating to the United States, a lecturer on Roman law, a journalist on Horace Greeley's staff, a clerk in the State Department, and an unofficial arbiter of public questions.

"The eccentric count was a familiar sight as he made the rounds of Washington collecting the latest bits of gossip, sitting at other men's desks and openly rummaging through their files, breaking in uninvited on conferences. As he mingled in top government circles, he gave advice freely, and it was often heeded, for his prognostications were amazingly accurate.

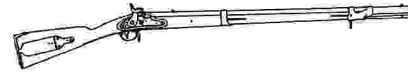
"The most radical of Radicals, the Pole was feared by Lincoln as a possible assassin. His vituperative attacks, which fell on all without discrimination, alienated his friends and infuriated his enemies. Uncompromisingly severe, his writings reveal, perhaps better than any other record, the mind of a Radical Republican."

Gurowski's writings were copious, emphasized his activities in the wartime capital, and portray a fascinating character who was part of Civil War history.

"For a century Count Adam Gurowski has been dismissed as an eccentric, and his importance as the most astute political observer of his day has been lost in his unique personality," Fischer says.

Though Fischer has been away from us for a long time, he is one of our own. He is a native of Centralia, Ill., and holds degrees up to Ph.D. from the University of Illinois. He was graduate research assistant under Prof. James G. Randall. Fischer was an early member of our Round Table and presented a paper at one meeting.

Then Fischer went to Oklahoma State University at Stillwater where he organized the first collegiate Civil War Round Table in the United States. He is a professor



233rd REGULAR MEETING

* * *

Dr. LeRoy H. Fischer

on

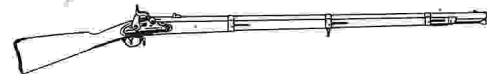
"Another View of Adam Gurowski"

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1964

St. Clair Hotel
162 East Ohio Street

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



AN ITEM in the Ripley (N.Y.) Review said: "In 1937 when the United States Historical Tower was erected in Springfield, Illinois, a stone from the house at 36 Washington Street in Westfield (N.Y.) was mortared into place." That was the home of Grace Bedell, the girl who wrote to Abraham Lincoln in 1860 and suggested that he grow a beard. If anyone has any information concerning the truth or error of the item, please write to Daniel F. Lincoln, 421 East Second Street, Jamestown, N.Y.

HARRY S. TRUMAN, member of Kansas City CWRT, speaking at the Westminster College commencement emphasized his campaign to "establish firmly that the papers of Presidents are the property of the nation." He said Lincoln's son Robert "was a smart-aleck who thought he knew more than his Dad and tried to destroy his father's papers, and he burned half of them."

of history at the university and has served in numerous university activities. He has served under three governors - by appointment - as a member of the Oklahoma Civil War Centennial Commission, 1958 to date.

Fischer was a speaker on the Vicksburg centennial program. He is author of many articles and reviews. He has received honor citations and belongs to professional and honor societies. He had short courses at Oxford and Cambridge universities. He is an overseas veteran of World War II.

LeRoy renewed his acquaintance with our Round Table by joining us on the Battlefield Tour to Louisiana last spring. An autographing party will precede his appearance at our meeting.

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

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

OFFICERS

President Arnold Alexander
Vice President Brooks Davis
Secretary Elmer Underwood
Treasurer William C. Krone
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BOARD OF TRUSTEES (Executive Committee)

Terms expiring in 1965: Everett Lewy, Frank A. Palumbo, Wilson Smith.
Terms expiring in 1966: Arthur V. Bergquist, Elmer R. Pendarvis, Ver Lyn Sprague.

COMMITTEES, 1964-1965

FELLOWSHIP - Lloyd Miller and Ralph G. Newman, co-chairmen; Grady McWhiney, Harold M. Hyman, Clement Silvestro, Clyde C. Walton.

BY LAWS REVISION - Everett Lewy, chairman; Charles V. Falkenberg, Jr., Philip R. Davis, Marshall Krolick.

LADIES' NIGHT - Clement Silvestro and Allen Meyer, co-chairmen; Win Stracke, Ralph G. Newman.

AUDITING - Frank Kinst, chairman; George B. Collins, S. J. Kearney, Herbert W. Kuehnle.

SICKNESS AND MEMORIALS - H. George Donovan, chairman; G. P. Clausius, Paul Behanna, Leslie Jacobi, Earl Bartholomew.

SPECIAL EVENTS - Ver Lyn Sprague, chairman; Vernon Schick, J. B. Reavley.

SPRINGFIELD TOUR - Michael Lerner and Newton C. Farr, co-chairmen; Clyde C. Walton, Gilbert Twiss, Ralph G. Newman, Charles Wesselhoef.

BATTLEFIELD TOUR - Brooks Davis and Hal Hixson, co-chairmen; Allen Meyer, Lloyd Miller, Warren Reeder, Ver Lyn Sprague.

PUBLICATIONS - E. B. Long, chairman.

HOSPITALITY - Lester Joseph, chairman; Thomas Kelleghan, Morley McNeal, J. B. Reavley, G. P. Clausius.

MEMBERSHIP - Robert Morton, chairman; Ver Lyn Sprague, Maurice Fisher, Newton C. Farr.

LIAISON GROUP ON ROUND TABLE HISTORY - E. B. Long, chairman; Gilbert Twiss, Ralph G. Newman.

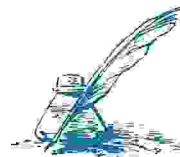
HONORARY AWARDS - Robert Douglas, chairman; Joseph L. Eisendrath, Jr., Newton C. Farr, George Barkley.

DONATIONS - Brooks Davis, chairman; George A. Barkley, Joseph L. Eisendrath.



MADISON (Wis.) CWRT will open its 1964-65 program September 10 with our Ralph G. Newman as speaker.

*from the
Editor's pen*



What is to be the course of Civil War Round Tables after the centennial? That was one of the liveliest subjects of discussion at the assembly of Civil War Centennial Commissions and Civil War Round Tables at Atlanta in June. Some writers have argued that the Civil War was not over until Federal troops were taken out of the South in 1877. So, perhaps a study of the Reconstruction is necessary to complete the study of the Civil War. Copies of papers read at Atlanta are available from Civil War Centennial Commission, 1815 H. Street, N.W., Room 1117, Washington 25, D.C.

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Our 1964-65 year gets under way with a prize winning author and former member, LeRoy Fischer, as speaker. The speaker program is about two-thirds completed and a look at the schedule shows some outstanding talent. As always, we need two things, dues payments and new members. Normal attrition is about 10 per cent, or 30 members a year. Though our authorized membership is 350, we have never reached it. Our usual membership of 300 to 325 contains a goodly number of national members - outside the states of Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin.

* * *

The first meeting of the year has been scheduled on Thursday, September 17, so that members may attend the annual fall meeting of the Illinois State Historical Society at Belleville, Sept. 18-20. The state society also is sponsoring a tour to Illinois Day at the New York World's Fair, September 22. CWRT members are welcome to join the society tour.

* * *

At our June 12 meeting, Honorary Award Life Memberships were presented to Elmer Gertz, a founder of the Civil War Round Table, and Ray D. Smith, who has indexed nearly one million items on Confederate veterans. Ray and his son Clifford presented the work to Knox College some months ago. H. George Donovan received an engraved gavel on completing his term as president. Then Arnold Alexander and the 1964-65 slate of officers took over.

Grady McWhiney, speaking on "Confederate Defeat", attributed it to "poor strategy and poor tactics . . . carrying the war to the enemy bled the Confederacy to death . . . President Davis closed his eyes to the casualty list . . . The Confederates abandoned defense for attack and lost when they did . . . They made the same mistakes over and over". McWhiney traced the course of the war, the use of weapons, and the successes and failures of generals. Sixty-five members and guests attended the meeting.

ALLAN NEVINS, chairman of the national Civil War Centennial Commission will be Harmsworth Professor of History at Oxford University during the 1964-65 academic year.

SENATOR A. WILLIS ROBERTSON of Virginia will be a featured speaker at the May 1-4, 1965, eighth and final National Assembly of Civil War Centennial Commissions in Springfield, Ill. He will speak on "Lee the American". The senator is a resident of Lexington, Va., the burial place of Lee and of "Stonewall" Jackson and the site of Washington and Lee university and Virginia Military Institute with which they were identified. Robertson is now in his 32nd year as a congressman. The Illinois Civil War Centennial Commission is host to the assembly.

William H. Townsend

William H. Townsend, an Honorary Award member of our Round Table, died July 25 at the age of 74 in his home town, Lexington, Ky. He was famed as a lawyer, raconteur, and writer on Lincoln. In the courtroom and on the platform he was known for his distinctive phraseology, oratorical with a touch of the flamboyant, and for his incisive, often acid, wit.



William G. Townsend

Most memorable was his speech to our 113th meeting, Oct. 17, 1952. It had a record turnout at the House on the Roof at the Sherman House for the speech on "Cassius Marcellus Clay: Lion of Whitehall." The speech was taped and then put on a record. It has become a collector's item. Bill made the 1953 battlefield tour to Richmond with us and joined us on a number of other occasions.

Bill served as a research guide for William E. Barton, the Lincoln biographer and completed and revised Barton's "President Lincoln". Living in Mary Todd Lincoln's home town and in the middle of the Lincoln birthplace country, Bill naturally took that turn in his historical writing. His books included: "Abraham Lincoln, Defendant", "Abraham Lincoln, Litigant", "Lincoln and His Wife's Home Town", "Lincoln and Liquor", "The Boarding School of Mary Todd Lincoln", and "Lincoln and the Bluegrass: Slavery and the Civil War in Kentucky". His last book, reflecting his effervescent personality, was "100 Proof", a series of sketches of his birth town, Glensboro, and the Salt River Valley of Anderson county, Kentucky.

In his large collection of Lincolniana were Lincoln's first law book, "The Revised Statutes of Indiana" and a \$5 check payable to Lincoln's son "Tad" (payable "when he is well enough to present").

Bill held honorary degrees from Lincoln Memorial University, of which he was a trustee, and from University of Kentucky, where he was president of the alumni association in 1952 and "Alumnus of the Year" in 1954. He was a director of the Abraham Lincoln association and in 1957 President Eisenhower appointed him a member of the Lincoln Sesquicentennial commission.

Bill helped to organize the Kentucky Civil War Round Table which elected him president at its first meeting in 1953 and kept him in office until his death. At the Round Table's 10th anniversary the Round Table presented him with a portrait executed by Howard Barron.

U.S. GRANT ASSOCIATION headquarters has been moved from Columbus, Ohio, to Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Ill. Executive Director John Y. Simon will have his office and conduct operations in the new university library. Further details of progress of the association will be given in a later issue.

THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC is to be treated in a comprehensive history. Anyone possessing significant data on the powerful post-Civil War organization is urged to write Ernest G. Wells, chairman, Centennial Committee of the Sons of Union Veterans, 12-1/2 Tufts Street, Cambridge, Mass., 02139.

UNION CITY, Tenn., claims the first monument to an Unknown Confederate Soldier, erected in 1869. If anyone knows of an earlier one, Union or Confederate, please write Rex B. Magee, 211 House Office building, Washington, D.C. Any information on other monuments to Unknown Soldiers of the Civil War will be appreciated.

BULLETIN BOARD

AUTOGRAPHING PARTY for LeRoy H. Fischer and his new book, "Lincoln's Gadfly, Adam Gurovski", at Abraham Lincoln Book Shop, 18 East Chestnut Street, 4 p.m., Thursday, September 17.

John F. Hogan, 352 Northcliffe Blvd., Toronto 10, Ont., Canada, would like to hear from anyone who can supply material on Canadians who served in the Union and Confederate armies.

NEW MEMBERS: Alan Conrad Aimone, 104 Thomas Hall, Charleston, Ill.; William McDowell Grant, 52 Westwood Rd., Columbus, O., 43221; Harold M. Hyman, 1708 Henry St., Champaign, Ill.; Dan J. Lapinski, 16 W. 263 Timber View Dr., Elmhurst, Ill.; Roy L. Mongeon, 20 Wailupe Circle, Honolulu, Hawaii; H. Oliver Skoglund, 1235 Wesley Ave., Evanston, Ill.; Roger F. Wilhelm, 239 S. Edgewood Ave., Lombard, Ill., 60148.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Dr. William H. Hazlett to: 1428 N. State Parkway, 60610; M. Kenneth MacIntyre to: 310 S. Michigan Ave., c/o United Air Lines; Robert E. Morton to: 7235 Palma Lane, Morton Grove, Ill.; James B. Phillips to: 7 Dunham, Park Forest, Ill.; Dan E. Pickle to: Veterans Administration Hospital (160), Hines, Ill., 60141.

DECEASED: William H. Townsend, Honorary Award Member, July 25, at Lexington, Ky.

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

Plan 1964-1965 Program

President Arnold Alexander presided over a planning session of officers and executive committee held in the library of the Chicago Press Club on July 23.

It was agreed that the Civil War Round Table will participate in the eighth and final assembly of the national and state Civil War Centennial Commissions to be held in Springfield May 1-14, 1965, at the time of the Lincoln burial centennial. Other Civil War Round Tables and the Illinois State Historical society are joining in the commemoration, which will have speakers of national note.

In view of this, it was decided to postpone our annual battlefield tour to October. After discussion of various places, G. B. Clausius moved and Wilson Smith seconded that the tour be to the Chattanooga area and Lincoln Memorial University at Harrogate, Tenn. This would be a commemoration of the 1st battlefield tour along a similar route in 1951. The motion was adopted.

There was discussion of making an award to some serious graduate student majoring in American history. On motion of Ver Lyn Sprague, seconded by Newton Farr, and then carried, it was decided to appropriate \$400 from the treasury to create the Civil War Round Table scholarship fund, to be administered by a committee appointed by the chair, for the encouragement and forwarding of scholarship in the Civil War and American History fields; this fund to be augmented by contributions from members and friends of the Round Table. The meeting received assurance of a generous additional personal contribution. A Fellowship committee has been appointed and is working out the terms of the scholarship and the money distribution. A special announcement will be made when the details are completed.

Considerable time was given to discussion of speakers and programs for the coming year. President Alexander has appointed committees for the year and some of them already have met to prepare plans.

Elmer R. Underwood, Secretary

THE NEW BOOKS



LINCOLN'S GADFLY, Adam Gurowski, by LeRoy H. Fischer, (U. of Oklahoma, 328pp, \$6.95). Gettysburg Centennial \$5,000 Prize Book on the Civil War.

UPTON AND THE ARMY, by Stephen E. Ambrose (Louisiana State U., 208pp, \$5). A biography of the military theorist Emory Upton.

CIVIL WAR NAVAL CHRONOLOGY, Part IV (1864), 75¢, Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. (Also available, Part I, 1861, 25¢; Part II, 1862, 60¢; and Part III, 1863, \$1).

DICTIONARY OF AMERICAN FIGHTING SHIPS, Vol. 1, A-B, \$3; Vol. II, C-F, \$4.25, Superintendent of Documents.

THE SEVEN DAYS: The Emergence of Lee, by Clifford Dowdey (Little, Brown, 368pp, \$7.50). The battles before Richmond in late June, 1862; the end of one type of war and the beginning of another.

HENRY WATKINS ALLEN OF LOUISIANA, by Vincent H. Cassidy and Amos E. Simpson (Louisiana State U., 220pp, \$5). Biography of the last Confederate governor of Louisiana.

INDIAN WARS OF THE U.S. ARMY (1776-1865), by Fairfax Downey (Monarch, 75¢).

ARTEMUS WARD: HIS BOOK (Wallace Heberd, Sanata Barbara, Cal., \$5.95). Reprint of the author who amused Lincoln so much.

AND WAIT FOR THE NIGHT, by John William Corington (Putnam, 508pp, \$5.95). Fiction, about the beginning of the Reconstruction period.

CONFEDERATE MILITARY HOSPITALS IN RICHMOND (40pp, Richmond Civil War Centennial Committee).

BATTLE OF ASHEVILLE, Buncombe County, N.C., Confederate Centennial Committee (Paul A. Rockwell, 142 Hillside St., Asheville, N.C., 50¢).

COMMODORE ANDREW HULL FOOTE, by Allen Keller (Connecticut Civil War Centennial Commission, 48pp).

THE GREAT ENIGMA OF GETTYSBURG, by R. E. Stivers (DMS, Inc., 1612 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 12pp, paper 50¢). The silence surrounding George Pickett's report of the charge at Gettysburg.

WEST VIRGINIA CIVIL WAR LITERATURE, An Annotated Bibliography, by Charles Shetler (West Virginia U. Library, 184pp, \$7 cloth, \$5 paper).

GEORGE WASHINGTON DIAMOND'S ACCOUNT OF THE GREAT HANGING AT GAINESVILLE, 1862, edited by Sam Acheson and Julia Ann Hudson O'Connell (Texas State Hist. Ass'n., 103pp, \$5 cloth, \$3.50 paper).

ANTI-SLAVERY AND REFORM PAPERS, by Henry David Thoreau (Harvest House, Montreal, 155pp, \$4.50 cloth, \$2.50 paper).

GETTYSBURG ON YOUR OWN, by John J. Hollister (Battlefield Guide Publishers, Box 286, Glenview, Ill., 36pp, \$1.25). Picture guide using "Then" and "Now" scenes with text for following the principal actions.

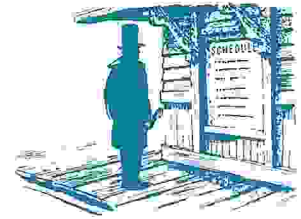
ABOARD THE USS MONITOR; 1862, The Letters of Acting Paymaster William Frederick Keeler, USN, to his wife, Anna (First Volume of the Naval Letters Series, U.S. Naval Institute, Annapolis, Md., 280pp, \$6.50).

THE REMINISCENCES OF SERGT. NEWTON CANON, Intro. by Stanley F. Horn (The Carter House Association, Franklin, Tenn., \$2.50). Recollections of a young Confederate who served three years in the 11th Tennessee Cavalry.

LINCOLN FOR THE AGES, edited by Ralph G. Newman (Pyramid Books, 95¢).

EDMUND RUFFIN, SOUTHERNER, by Avery O. Craven (Archon), a study in secession.

FUTURE MEETINGS



Friday, Oct. 16 - John Hope Franklin, subject to be announced.

Friday, Nov. 13 - Lloyd D. Miller, "The Battle of Franklin".

Friday, Dec. 4 - Stanley F. Horn, "The Battle of Nashville".

Friday, Jan. 15 - Edwin C. Bearss, "The Ironclad Gunboat Cairo".

Friday, Feb. 19 - CWRT and Chicago Historical Society, Civil War movie, Ladies' Night.

March, April, May and June to be announced.

May 1-4 - Centennial of Abraham Lincoln Internment at Springfield; special meetings of national Civil War Centennial commissions, Civil War Round Tables, and Illinois State Historical Society.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Sept. 18-20 - Belleville, Ill., Annual Meeting and Tour of Illinois State Historical Society.

Sept. 19 - Winchester, Va., Re-Enactment of the Third Battle of Winchester with 800 members of reactivated Civil War Infantry, Cavalry, and Artillery Units.

Sept. 22 - Illinois Day at New York World's Fair, Special Tour Arranged by Travel Headquarters, Inc., Prudential Building, Chicago.

Oct. 15-18 - Evansville (Ind.) CWRT Battlefield Tour to Vicksburg.

Oct. 19 - Battle of Cedar Creek commemoration.

Oct. 25 - Mound City, Kan., Battle of Mine Creek, near Fort Scott.

Oct. 31 - Camden, Tenn., Battle of Johnsonville.

Nov. 29-30 - Battle of Franklin, Tenn.

Dec. 11-13 - Battle of Nashville, Tenn.



THE SECESSIONIST MOVEMENT, 1860-1861, by Dwight L. Dumond (Reissue by Octagon).

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE CIVIL WAR, by Charles A. Dana (Macmillan).

ANDREW JOHNSON AND RECONSTRUCTION, by Eric L. McKittrick (Phoenix, U. of Chicago).

AND THE WAR CAME, by Kenneth Stampp (Phoenix).

THE PECULIAR INSTITUTION, by Kenneth Stampp (Vintage).

THE STAKES OF POWER: 1845-1877, by Roy F. Nichols (American Century).

BLACK RECONSTRUCTION IN AMERICA, by W. E. B. du Bois (Meridian).

GOODBYE TO UNCLE TOM, by J. C. Furnas (Apollo).

TWO NOTABLE BOOKS are coming out in October. One is "Generals in Blue" by our member Ezra (Bud) Warner and the other "Civil War Guide" by Alice Hamilton Cromie, Chicago writer.

Volume II of **MILITARY BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE CIVIL WAR**, regimental, compiled by Charles E. Dornbusch, will be published this fall by the New York Public Library. The volume covers Southern, Border, and additional Federal regimental histories and personal narratives.