



THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XXV, Number 10

Chicago, Illinois

June, 1965

T. Harry Williams - 'The Valley Campaign of 1864' - Friday, June 11

A favorite speaker, T. Harry Williams, returns June 11 and will talk on "The Valley Campaign of 1864". He will take up the battle of the Opequon and Fisher's Hill and give full treatment to Cedar Creek. On the latter he will mainly read a chapter from his new book, "Hayes of the Twenty-Third", which will be out in June. "I'm going to evaluate Sheridan and Early, which should be good for some arguments," he says.



T. Harry Williams

T. Harry is an Honorary Award Life Member of our Round Table and also holds the Harry S. Truman award of the Kansas City CWRT. He spoke at our 131st, 142nd, and 191st meetings on "The Pattern of an Historian", "Beauregard the Man," and "Generalship North and South".

At our 230th meeting, April 17, 1964, he spoke on "The Civil War in Louisiana." Just after that, he and his wife were our hosts at their home, "Lincolmland" in Baton Rouge after our day of visiting the Port Hudson battlefield on our 14th annual battlefield tour. They were with us at our dinner meetings in New Orleans.

The name of the Williams home was invented after the success of his books, "Lincoln and the Radicals" (1941) and "Lincoln and His Generals" (1952). Other books include "P.G.T. Beauregard; Napoleon in Gray" (1955) and "Americans at War" (1960).

For the 1966-67 academic year, T. Harry will hold the Harold Vyvyan Harmsworth professorship (the American history chair) at Oxford university in England, the highest tribute to an American historian.

Williams was born at Vinegar Hill in northwestern Illinois, but grew up in Hazel Green, Wisconsin. He attended Wisconsin State Teachers college, then took his master's and doctoral degrees at the University of Wisconsin. He taught there, then at West Virginia and Omaha before going to Louisiana State University in 1941. He has been Boyd Professor of History there since 1953.

Dr. Williams has served as editor of the Southern Biography Series published by the L.S.U. Press and has contributed articles to American Heritage and many history periodicals. He was president of the Southern Historical association in 1959. He has honorary degrees from Northland college, Bradley university, and the Lincoln Diploma of Honor from Lincoln Memorial university.

Harry was a foremost figure in the Louisiana Civil War Centennial commission, in its activities and its publications. He participated in the program of the eighth and final assembly of the national Civil War Centennial commission at Springfield, Ill.

The Confederate battle flag had 13 stars, yet only eleven states officially seceded. The other two stars represented Kentucky and Missouri, both of which had troop units in the Confederate army.



242nd REGULAR MEETING

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T. Harry Williams

on

"The Valley Campaign of 1864"

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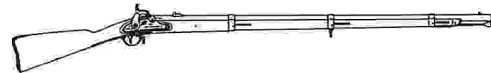
FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 1965

St. Clair Hotel

Cocktails at 5:30

162 East Ohio Street

Dinner at 6:30 p.m.



ILLINOIS PAVILION at New York World's Fair is in excellent operating condition and is drawing even better than last year. It had 200,000 visitors by the same date it had 100,000 a year ago. Though the fair's gate admissions are less than a year ago, Illinois Pavilion is drawing a larger percentage of the visitors to the grounds and is rated one of the top attractions of the fair with the moving and speaking figure of Abraham Lincoln. The grounds have been planted with a rose named Mr. Lincoln by the American Rose Society. The New Salem cabin is outfitted with artifacts of the 1830 period and is a tourist information center for Illinois. On June 16, Illinois day at the fair, Who's Who in America will feature persons born in the state, living there, or who rose to fame there. The Illinois State Historical Society is sponsoring an air tour to the fair Aug. 25-27 for Constitution day, Aug. 26. The Lincoln figure—the fourth created by Walt Disney—is an improvement over last year's, with more body and facial movements and better co-ordination with the sound track. The figure has one difficulty—Lincoln rises from his seat about 120 times a day and wears out pants.

ELMER GERTZ, a Chicago CWRT founder and honorary award life member, has authored A HANDFUL OF CLIENTS, just published. The first section has to do with his work in the Nathan Leopold parole case. In the second part he has a chapter on "Litigating the Civil War" which tells of Otto Eisenschiml's litigation over plagiarism of "Why Was Lincoln Murdered?" and "In the Shadow of Lincoln".

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

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

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President Arnold Alexander
Vice President Brooks Davis
Secretary Elmer Underwood
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REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

May 14, 1965

SLATE OF OFFICERS 1965-66

President Brooks Davis, Vice-President Michael S. Lerner, Secretary Elmer Underwood, Treasurer William C. Krone, Assistant Treasurer Marshall Krolick, Tape Recording Librarian August Payne, Editor of Newsletter Gilbert Twiss.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES (Terms expiring in 1967)

—Earl F. Bartholomew, Charles V. Falkenberg, Jr., Jerry Warshaw.

Respectfully submitted,

Allen Meyer, chairman, Elmer R. Pendarvis, C. Robert Douglas.

The slate was elected unanimously and will be installed June 11.



OKLAHOMA will have observances June 22 and 23 at Fort Washita and Fort Towson. On June 22, the Oklahoma Historical Society will dedicate the rehabilitated Fort Washita, a once important military post and now on the shore of Lake Texoma. Firing of Confederate artillery will be conducted under the direction of modern artillerymen from Fort Sill.

On June 23, the Oklahoma Civil War Centennial commission will commemorate the final act of surrender of the Civil War at Fort Towson. The war in the Indian Territory was bitter and the forces of Brig. Gen. Stand Watie, the first American Indian to attain the rank of general officer, held out. He refused to believe rumors that his beloved Confederacy had surrendered, but after seeing the Choctaw forces under Chief Pitchlynn surrender on June 22, Stand Watie on June 23 signed surrender and parole with Lt. Col. Asa Matthews. The ruins of Fort Towson, once important frontier post then in the Choctaw nation, are only a few miles northeast of the modern town of the same name.

Special cachets and covers will be dispatched and may be sent to the Oklahoma Civil War Centennial commission, 1108 Colcord Building, Oklahoma City, Okla. They should be clearly marked for Fort Washita or Fort Towson.

*from the
Editor's pen*



"I write about the Civil War because I enjoy it and I don't take myself too seriously," said Glenn Tucker as he was introduced at our May 14 meeting. That set the mood for his talk on "Chickamauga", embroidered with a wealth of anecdotes. He complimented the Civil War Round Tables as an agency that have elevated interest in the Civil War.

Tucker said that in his writing he liked to bring out the personalities of the generals and give attention to the little play of coincidences. Delving into Chickamauga he said, "No human being could have followed the devious course of the battle—one of the most desperately fought battles of American history". He dealt with the importance of Garfield as chief of staff to Gen. Rosecrans and the seriousness of his absence when a gap opened in the line and an erroneous order was given to Gen. Wood. It was a coincidence that Longstreet was in position when the gap opened and was able to pour in men. But, Longstreet did not take account of the character of Gen. Thomas, and Thomas held out. "The battle was determined by a chain of circumstances", Tucker said.

Tucker said Gen. Bushrod Johnson fought brilliantly in the battle and said Illinois ought to return his body to his native Tennessee. Johnson, the only Confederate general buried in Illinois, is in a neglected cemetery in Macoupin county.

* * *

President Arnold Alexander called for introduction of new members and guests. Also introduced was Grady McWhiney, CWRT member and history professor at Northwestern University who is leaving in June for Victoria, B.C., to join the University of British Columbia history department.

* * *

Alexander read a letter from Clyde C. Walton, secretary of the Illinois Civil War Centennial commission thanking the Round Table for the reception with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres given at the assembly of centennial commissions and round tables at Springfield on May 1.

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Member Alastair Napier read an article from the London Times assessing the American Civil War and the centennial. Assistant Treasurer Marshall Krolick urged members to make reservations if planning to be present and to give names of guests. There were 78 present, though only 58 reservations had been made. This created difficulty and delay in food service.

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Brooks Davis reported on plans for the 15th Annual Battlefield Tour to Chattanooga and Atlanta, Oct. 13-17. Full details will be sent to members in September.

* * *

Honorary Award Life Memberships have been presented to three more founders of the Civil War Round Table. They are Alexander J. Isaacs, who conceived the name for the organization, and David H. Annan and Vernon Hanson.

ARNOLD GATES, a charter member of New York CWRT and secretary since 1954, has been elected president for 1965-66. At the Springfield, Ill., assembly, Arnold made a New York CWRT presentation to Allan Nevins for his "scholarly leadership" as chairman of the United States Civil War Centennial commission. Then Arnold hurried back to New York for the Round Table's presentation of the Fletcher Pratt award to Clifford Dowdey for his "The Seven Days: The Emergence of Lee".

Centennial at Springfield

Seven hundred and fifty representatives of Civil War Centennial commissions, Civil War Round Tables, and the Illinois and Sangamon county historical societies attended the various commemorative events of the Abraham Lincoln funeral centennial at Springfield, Ill., April 30 to May 4. It was the eighth and final assembly of the national commission. Chairman Allan Nevins and Executive Director James I. Robertson Jr. told of accomplishments and the Impact Series of publications that is to come.

Eighty members, ladies and guests represented Chicago Civil War Round Table. The Round Table was host at a large reception the evening of May 1 to members of the assembly. Cocktails and hot hors d'oeuvres were served. At a seminar on May 3, President Arnold Alexander told of the fellowship award program which was instituted by Chicago CWRT with a donation of \$3,000 by Lloyd Miller. He also told of a second prize award of \$500 awarded through contributions by members and the Madison, Springfield, and Battle Creek Round Tables. He urged similar fellowship programs by other Round Tables to stimulate interest in Civil War and American history and provide history teachers.

State Civil War Centennial commissions represented included Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Vermont, and Wisconsin, and the District of Columbia and Richmond Civil War committee.

The program included a brilliant cast of personalities and presentations at meetings, luncheons and dinners.

The evening of April 30, Southern Illinois University Players presented "The Last Days of Lincoln," by Mark Van Doren, who was present and shared the applause given the players.

On May 1, an open house at Illinois State Historical Library included a presentation of Sangamon county history by Dr. Floyd S. Barringer and Stephen A. Bartholf. Dr. William A. Pitkin, president of Illinois State Historical Society, presided at a luncheon with Past President Glenn H. Seymour speaking on "Lincoln's Illinois". In the afternoon there were tours of the Lincoln home and Old State House. Congressman Paul Findley (Pittsfield) spoke at the dedication of the home as a national historic landmark. At afternoon panels, T. Harry Williams presided when Dr. Nevins spoke on Civil War scholarship and Clement Silvestro, director of Chicago Historical society, read a paper by Paul M. Angle, former director, on Lincoln scholarship. At dinner, Ray Tate led a program by the Old Town Singers and Players of Chicago. Pulitzer Prize winner Gwendolyn Brooks read a poem she had composed for the centennial observance. Mark Van Doren gave a thorough and appreciated discussion of "Poetry of the Civil War."

At brunch on Sunday, May 2, Bell I. Wiley presided when Sen. Ralph Yarborough (Texas) spoke on Lincoln's relationship to the South. Visitors toured New Salem State Park where hostesses of the Junior League of Springfield were present in costume. After a picnic supper in Kelso Hollow theater, State Senator Hudson Sours (Peoria), chairman of the state Civil War Centennial commission, presented Sen. Paul H. Douglas (Illinois) who spoke on the reaction of foreign lands to Lincoln and the Civil War. Norman Luboff, nationally famed composer, conducted the a cappella choirs of Springfield, Feitshans, and Lanphier High schools, in a stirring production of "The Lonesome Train" by Earl Robinson.

On Monday, May 3, James I. Robertson presided over a panel on "The Civil War; Causative Factors", with papers and discussion by Avery O. Craven, Richard N. Current, Harold M. Hyman, and E. B. Long, and a talk by Author Shelby Foote on "Civil War Fiction". Illinois

BULLETIN BOARD

AUTOGRAPHING PARTY for T. Harry Williams and his new book, "Hayes of the Twenty-Third. Members and friends of Mr. and Mrs. Williams invited to cocktails at Abraham Lincoln Book Shop, 18 East Chestnut street, 4 p.m., Friday, June 11.

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THE ANNUAL REVISION of the newsletter's exchange and courtesy mailing list will be made during the summer. In the interest of economy, as many mailings as possible will be dropped. Regular exchanges will continue, but request is made to designate a permanent mailing address if there is one. Persons on the courtesy list are invited to apply for membership.

* * *

NEW MEMBERS: Edwin M. Solon, Jr., 455 Moraine Rd., Highland Park, Ill. 60035; Morris S. Telechansky, 105 W. Adams, Rm. 1942, Chicago, 60603.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Alan C. Aimone to: 30 High Lake, West Chicago, Ill. 60185; Frank J. Kinst to: 37 Yorkshire Dr., Oak Brook, Ill.

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AVAILABLE at meetings: Gold filled lapel pin, \$1; Cloth patch of emblem, 50¢. File of CWRT newsletters, September 1959 to June 1964, by mail or at meetings, \$5.

FEBRUARY will be "History Month" in Wisconsin under a bill signed by Gov. Warren P. Knowles.

Historian Clyde C. Walton presided at a luncheon. Gov. Otto Kerner, who attended and participated in many of the events, spoke on "We Are Not Enemies but Friends." The governor made the presentation of a Lincoln funeral arrangement document to Robert Todd Lincoln Beckwith, a great-grandson of the president, who attended all of the events at the Springfield assembly. In the afternoon, Ralph Newman and John Y. Simon spoke on "The Collected Works of Ulysses S. Grant"; Frank Vandiver and Haskell Monroe on "The Papers of Jefferson Davis", and George F. Markham on his work of indexing the Southern Historical Society papers.

A reception at the governor's mansion was a brilliant affair with many ladies in colorful long dresses and some men in black tie dress. Ralph Newman presided at a banquet at the St. Nicholas hotel with Bruce Catton speaking on the meaning of the Civil War.

On Tuesday, May 4, the Illinois house of representatives and senate met in joint session in the chamber of the Old State House. Resolutions were adopted honoring Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas. The entire gathering moved to Oak Ridge cemetery and the Lincoln tomb. With Gov. Kerner presiding, Adali E. Stevenson III, a state representative, read a memorial by his father, the ambassador to the United Nations, who could not be present. Actor Sidney Blackmer read "There Was a Funeral . . ." from Carl Sandburg's work. Fred Schwenkel, a member of the national commission presided at a final luncheon at which Chairman Nevins and Director Robertson spoke.

Before going to Springfield on April 30, many persons attended a ceremony in Chicago city council chamber with Mayor Richard Daley presiding, the fire department choir singing Civil War songs, and Blackmer reading as he did at Springfield.

THE NEW BOOKS



HAYES OF THE TWENTY-THIRD: The Civil War Volunteer Officer, by T. Harry Williams, maps by Robert M. Reilly (Knopf, 256pp, \$5.95). The Ohio regiment with two future Presidents, Rutherford B. Hayes and William McKinley, and others who won high office.

THE GLEAM OF BAYONETS, by James V. Murfin, intro. by James I. Robertson, Jr. (Yoseloff, 500pps, maps, illus., \$12). The story of Antietam in depth by a founder and past president of Hagerstown, Md., CWRT, and speaker to Chicago CWRT on May 17, 1963.

THE LOST CAUSE: Confederates in Mexico After 1865, by Andrew F. Rolle (Oklahoma, \$5.95). Unreconstructed southerners under Maximilian.

JONATHAN WORTH: A Biography of a Southern Unionist, by Richard L. Zuber (North Carolina, 35pp, \$7.50). Lawyer, businessman, public financier, and governor of North Carolina who typified the Union advocate of the ante-bellum South.

MANY THOUSANDS GONE: The Ex-Slaves' Account of Their Bondage and Freedom, by Charles H. Nichols (Leiden, Netherlands, E. J. Brill, 224pp, 24 guilders).

THE ASSASSINATION AND HISTORY OF THE CONSPIRACY, Author or authors unknown, foreword by Roy P. Basler (Hobbs, Dorman, New York, 189pp, paper \$2.95). Reproduction of a book on the assassination of Abraham Lincoln printed in 1865.

BITTER STRENGTH: A History of the Chinese in the United States, 1850-1870, by Gunther Barth (Harvard, 305pp, \$5.95).

SAM HOUSTON'S TEXAS, by Sue Flanagan (Texas, 213pp, illus., \$12.50).

MONUMENTS TO MEMORIES, by Benjamin J. Hillman (Virginia Civil War Commission, 641 North 8th St., Richmond, Va., 48pp, \$1.50). Pictures (51) of the major and unusual Civil War Statues in Virginia, text, and list of statues by counties.

FROM SAYLER'S CREEK TO APPOMATTOX, by Scott Hart (42pp, paper), plus picture for framing, \$1.20, The Randolph House, Inc., P.O. Drawer 528, Farmville, Va.

FIVE YEARS A DRAGOON ('49 to '54), And Other Adventures of the Great Plains, by Percival G. Lowe, intro. by Don Russell (Oklahoma, \$5.95). Reissue of a rare item.

A TREASURY OF LINCOLN QUOTATIONS, edited by Fred Kerner (Doubleday, \$4.95).

PAPER BACKS

THE COURSE OF THE SOUTH TO SECESSION, by Ulrich Bonnell Phillips, edited by E. Merton Coulter (Hill & Wang-American Century, \$1.75).

THE ANTISLAVERY IMPULSE 1830-1844, by Gilbert Hobbs Barnes, intro. William G. McLoughlin (Harcourt, Brace & World, \$2.25).

THE STORY OF THE CONFEDERACY, by Robert Selph Henry (Bobbs-Merrill-Charter, \$2.95).

THE HIDDEN CIVIL WAR: The Story of the Copperheads, by Wood Gray (Viking-Compass, \$1.65).

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE CIVIL WAR, by Charles A. Dana, Intro. by Paul Angle (Collier, 95¢).

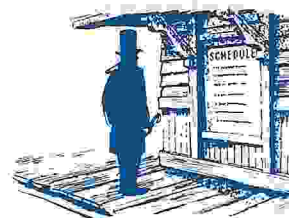
LEE AFTER THE WAR, by Marshall W. Fishwick (Dodd-Mead-Apollo, \$1.95).

THE LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATES OF 1858, edited by Robert W. Johannsen (Oxford, 330pp. \$1.95).

FARMER MOVEMENTS IN THE SOUTH, 1865-1933, by Theodore Saloutos (Nebraska, 354pp, \$1.75). Reissue.

SOUTHERN NEGROES, 1861-1865, by Bell I. Wiley (Yale, 366pp, paper \$1.95, cloth \$6.50). Reissue.

FUTURE MEETINGS



Oct. 13-17 - Chicago CWRT 15th Annual Battlefield Tour to Chattanooga area and Atlanta.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Summer - Richmond, Va., Centennial Center, exhibits.

June 1 -30—Richmond, Battle Abbey, Virginia Historical Society, exhibit honoring Col. John Mosby.

June 5 —District of Columbia CWRT point-to-point tour of escape trail of John Wilkes Booth.

June 12 —Louisville CWRT field trip to site of Battle of Mill Springs.

June 16-19—Richmond, Va., "Richmond Under Two Flags".

June 19-20—Chicago, Hilton Hotel, Illinois Department Sons of Union Veterans convention.

June 22-23—Oklahoma, Fort Washita and Fort Towson commemorations.

July 3-5—Fitzgerald, Ga., "Blue and Gray Days."

Aug. 13-15—Galena, Ill., Celebration of Gen. U.S. Grant's return from Civil War.



OFFICERS of the Hartford CWRT are Commander, Lieutenant Commander, Finance Officer-Adjutant, and Editor.

Award Winner Introduced

David Edward Meerse, winner of the Civil War Round Table \$3,000 graduate fellowship award for significant research in Civil War History was introduced at our May meeting and expressed his thanks for the award. Harold M. Hyman, CWRT member and University of Illinois history professor, introduced Robert W. Johannsen, chairman of the U. of I. history department. Johannsen said he was proud that the award had come to the University of Illinois and particularly to one of his doctoral students.



David E. Meerse

Meerse, a native of Ogallala, Neb., received his B.A. degree from Doane college, Crete, Neb., and his M.A. at the U. of I. He is married and his wife also is working on a doctoral degree. Meerse is working on "Patronage Policies of the Buchanan administration" (and Buchanan's use of patronage as a weapon). Meerse will be researching at the National Archives in Washington this summer. He said he hopes to return to the Round Table and report on his use of the study.



Mary Frances Berry, a graduate student at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, was given a special award of \$500. She is working on the doctoral dissertation "The History of Four Free and Freed Negro Regiments".