



THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XXVI, Number 5

Chicago, Illinois

January, 1966

Dee Alexander Brown - "Grierson's Raid" - Friday, January 14

D. Alexander Brown will speak to our meeting January 14 on "Grierson's Raid," which also is the title of his book published in 1954 which has become known to most all Civil War followers and is accepted as the standard work on the subject. A novel and movie based on it were called the "Horse Soldiers".



D. Alexander Brown

For the meeting we return to the Chicago Press Club dining room on the top floor of the St. Clair hotel, 162 East Ohio St.

Here is Brown's briefing of the subject matter of his talk:

"It is the story of Col. Benjamin Grierson's horse soldiers on their 17-day march from La Grange, Tenn., down through Mississippi to Baton Rouge, La. - a cavalry strike timed as a part of General Grant's preliminary operations against Vicksburg in April 1863. The raid had two main purposes - to sever the railroad which brought Confederate munitions and supplies to Vicksburg from the east, and to distract the Confederate high command's attention from the Union Army as it prepared to move across the Mississippi river.

"Grierson's Raid is generally considered a classic example of military deception, with success or failure in doubt until the last day of the expedition. General Sherman described it as 'the most brilliant expedition of the war.' Grant said that 'it will be handed down in history as an example to be imitated.' One Iowa and two Illinois cavalry regiments participated. The major actions of the raid, the dangerous and sometimes amusing adventures of the raiders, and the characters of the leaders will be described in the talk."

It is planned to have copies of the endpaper maps of the book available for listeners to the talk.

Brown started his working life as a printer-journalist in a small town in the Ozarks, attended college, taught school briefly, and worked for the United States department of agriculture. He served in the army during World War II.

After the war he was technical information librarian at the Aberdeen Proving Ground. Since 1948 he has been on the library staff at the University of Illinois in Urbana.

Besides "Grierson's Raid," Brown's Civil War books have been the "Bold Cavaliers" and "The Galvanized Yankees." He also has written on the West immediately after the Civil War: "Fort Phil Kearny", "The Gentle Tamers, the Women of the Old Wild West," "Trail Driving Days," and "The Settlers' West".

Surplus stock of an early Civil War Round Table publication will be gifts to members and guests who attend the January meeting.

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247th REGULAR MEETING

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D. Alexander Brown

on

"Grierson's Raid"

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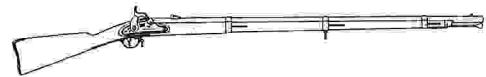
FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 1966

Chicago Press Club

Cocktails at 5:30

162 East Ohio Street

Dinner at 6:30 p.m.



Speakers Bureau

The CWRT Board of Directors (Trustees) has approved the proposal to set up a Speakers Bureau for the assistance of other Round Tables in the Midwest area. Elmer Brinkman accepted the invitation of President Brooks Davis to manage the project. Elmer was instructed to deputize any needed help from Round Table members to set up the bureau, assemble the list of speakers, and plan how to publicize its establishment. Included with this mailing of the newsletter is a form which members and others who are willing to speak to other Round Tables can complete and return to The Civil War Round Table, 18 East Chestnut street, Chicago, Ill. 60611. Groups desiring speakers can write to the same address.

The first speaker under the program was Walter Tatsch, who spoke on "Civil War Artillery" to Cedar Rapids (Ia.) CWRT on December 6.

Tape recordings of speeches made to our Round Table have been catalogued and are available on request and payment of postage at the above address.

CAMP FOLLOWERS: All unauthorized personnel are invited to 18 East Chestnut street on January 14 (while the men are at the regular meeting) to hear a tape recording of "Grant's Seven Failures Above Vicksburg," an address delivered by Shelby Foote to the 225th meeting on November 15, 1963. Camp Followers then will adjourn to dinner and meet the men later at the Press Club. Read up on Vicksburg, Gals!

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

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

OFFICERS

President Brooks Davis
 Vice President. Michael S. Lerner
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 Official Engrosser (Printer) Allen Meyer
 Judge Advocate General Arnold Alexander
 Balladeer Win Stracke

BOARD OF TRUSTEES (Executive Committee)

Terms expiring in 1966; Arthur V. Bergquist, Elmer R. Pendarvis, Ver Lynn Sprague.

Terms expiring in 1967; Earl F. Bartholomew, Charles V. Falkenberg, Jr., Jerry Warshaw.

BATTLEFIELD TOUR COMMITTEE: Co-Chairmen: Wilson Smith and Ver Lynn Sprague; Assistant: Charles V. Falkenberg, Jr.; Washington Co-Chairmen: Edward Waterbury and Claire Graham; Assisted by Col. J. Gay Seabourne and Elden E. (Josh) Billings. Liaison Member: Ralph G. Newman. Senior Marshal: Allen Meyer; Assistants Lester Joseph, Richard Cohen, Pete Johnson. Tour Bulletin: Gilbert Twiss. Book List: E. B. (Pete) Long.



IT HAS BEEN LEARNED that some members are not receiving their copies of CIVIL WAR HISTORY as they should. The management of the periodical is anxious to correct any such deficiency. John T. Hubbell, editor, said, "It would help us if your members would write directly to us when their copies do not arrive on schedule. This would greatly facilitate the correcting of any oversight on our part. Unless someone informs us to the contrary, we can only assume that they are receiving their issues." Therefore, if you have subscribed, and are missing copies, write to Civil War History, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Ia.

WITH ALL THE EMPHASIS on beautification of Washington, there is one conspicuous area that the beautifiers seem to have overlooked. That is the sad fate of the army of commemorative statues to Civil War generals....Their memorials have been decorated liberally by pigeons, soot, auto smog, and just plain dirt. Among these silent sufferers are Grant, Sheridan, Thomas, Scott, Logan, Farragut, McPherson and other greats.... How about a project by the National Capital Parks to clean up the warriors? Surely this is something worthy of the attention of Mrs. Johnson's campaign for beauty. - CWRT of District of Columbia newsletter. (Editor Walton Onsow also reprints Win Stracke's Centennial Park song and an account of the dedication.)

*from the
Editor's pen*



A highlight of the 25th anniversary dinner was a muster roll done in Civil War style and containing the names of the 303 members and honorary life members. These were in the center spread of the 21 by 32 inch fold-out. A brief history of the Round Table was embellished with cannon from the head of the newsletter, and with other battle scenes and figures. The front had the evening's program in Civil War era typography. Inside were lists of current officers, founders, past presidents, and honorary award members. Folded to 4 x 10-1/2 inches, the face had documentary notations and there was an envelope for it. There was a limited printing of the document, all who attended the dinner received one, and the remainder are available for \$2 a copy.

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The muster roll was largely the work of Jerry Warshaw, designer and typographer; President Brooks Davis, and Allen Meyer. At the dinner Davis thanked his aids and also the members of the dinner committee: Chairman Al Harris, George A. Barclay, and Julian Jackson. Though the dinner fee was \$10, publication of the muster roll and other costs exceeded that and Davis expressed thanks to members who made contributions to defray the added costs.

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Besides the muster roll, women at the dinner received copies of "Our Women of the Sixties," by Sylvia G. L. Dannett and Katharine M. Jones.

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During our tour to the Chattanooga-Chickamauga battle area, members took interest in the unused railway tunnel at the end of Missionary Ridge. President Brooks Davis wrote to D. W. Brosnan, president of the Southern Railway, suggesting the donation of the tunnel to the military park and received this reply:

"We are at present considering some plans for use of this tunnel and certain of its approaches in a way which would insure its preservation and access to those interested. Should these plans not materialize, however, I shall certainly then give consideration to your suggestion that we might donate it to the National Park Service."

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To petitions urging that the Post Office issue a Grand Army of the Republic commemorative stamp in 1966, Sen. Everett Dirksen of Illinois replied: "We contacted the Post Office Department...(and) have been advised by the Director of the Division of Philately that this proposal is on the agenda for consideration by the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee...Only about fifteen commemorative stamps can be approved each year out of the several hundred requests that are received. You may nevertheless be assured of my continued interest in this particular proposal."

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Besides the congratulatory messages read at the 25th anniversary dinner, a number of others appeared in newsletters of Round Tables. Here is a typical one from the Baton Rouge CWRT: "to the parent of all Round Tables....We join with all Round Tables and students of the Civil War in extending our warmest congratulations to the Chicago group."

Quarter Century Anniversary

The 25th anniversary celebration of The Civil War Round Table was a brilliant affair held December 14 in the beautiful grand ballroom of the Knickerbocker hotel. Many men and ladies were in formal dress among the 220 members, ladies, and guests who attended.

Gen. Mark Wayne Clark (ret.), one of the leading figures of World War II and the Korean war, spoke. He recalled that he attended high school in Highland Park and was familiar with the Chicago area and was greeted here by a number of men who had been in his armies or attended The Citadel while he was its superintendent. He recalled his associations with Douglas Southall Freeman and Bruce Catton.

The principal portion of his speech was on the dangers that beset our country because of communism. He defended the United States against criticism that it had no right to be involved in a war halfway around the world. He said the war in Viet Nam was communist-inspired and supported, and the United States might as well stand up to communist militarism there as anywhere else. He told of his experiences with communism in war and at conference tables in Italy, Austria, Moscow, London, Korea, and Viet Nam. He said the aim of communism still is to dominate the world and overcome the United States.

Ralph Newman, who introduced the general, is working on his letters and papers. At the conclusion, President Brooks Davis presented to Clark from the Round Table a boxed, first edition set of G. F. B. Henderson's "Stonewall Jackson," a Clark favorite.

The meeting was dedicated to the sixteen men who founded the Round Table on December 3, 1940. Eight of the ten survivors were present: Monroe F. Cockrell, Fred C. Evers, Newton C. Farr, Elmer Gertz, Vernon Hanson, Alexander J. Isaacs, Ralph G. Newman, and C. Norton Owen. (Absent: David Annan and Percival Hart. Deceased: Otto Eisenschiml, Seymour Frank, Walter S. Holden, Henry W. Lackey, Walter Meyer, and James Rosenthal.) Those present marched into the room behind a squad of five men of the reactivated 104th Illinois Infantry in uniform.

Messages of congratulation to the Round Table were received from former President Harry Truman (a Kansas City CWRT member), Governor Otto Kerner (Chicago member), Historian Bell I. Wiley, Carl Haverlin, Historian Stanley Horn, Col. Allen P. (Ned) Julian, Historian Ezra J. Warner, J. Ambler Johnston, and T. Harry Williams, Founder Hart, and Historians Bruce Catton and Allan Nevins. The messages were read by Hal Hixson, Lloyd Miller, Bob Douglas, and Pete Long.

Ver Lynn Sprague spoke on the history of the Civil War Round Table. Arnold Alexander spoke of the Fellowship Awards and the future.

Dr. Morely D. McNeal, chairman of the awards committee, presented Honorary Life Membership awards to Founder Owen and to Win Stracke, who was commissioned as Balladeer of the Round Table. At the conclusion of the meeting, Stracke sang a song commemorating the Round Table that he had written for the occasion and led the audience in singing "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."

The special menu for the occasion featured roast sliced sirloin of beef with bordelaise sauce; fruit cocktail, stuffed celery, radishes, carrots, and olives; asparagus polonaise, chateau potatoes, chef's green salad with dressing, rolls and butter, beverages, and cherries jubilee flambeau. The dinner was topped off with sparkling burgundy.

Jack K. Anderson, formerly superintendent of Vicksburg National Military Park, has been named superintendent of Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming.

MUSTER ROLL

Of Headquarters Company

Of the 1st Regiment of Chicago Volunteers

Of

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

From the 3rd day of December, 1940

To the 3rd day of December, 1965

IN FURTHER EXPLORATION of the Big Black river area in Mississippi where a caisson was found, Bill Lum of the Grand Gulf Park commission and Tommy Deen, a diver, found two large ammunition chests. The river bank had to be jettied away with Deen working underwater. Several days of hard work yielded more than 90 shells. More than half were Mullane, with wooden dowels intact. The others were lead sabot Confederate shells with percussion fuzes. The ammunition chests had the original handles, copper linings, and hardware. Some of the wood strips in which the shells were packed were saved. As accurate as possible reconstruction will be made for the Grand Gulf museum.

Research on the caisson which was found--a supply wagon or limber with 5 foot wheels--disclosed that it was lost as Reynolds' Confederates crossed the Big Black on a pontoon bridge. It was a caisson carrying ammunition for the 3d Maryland battery. Capt. Ferd O. Claiborne, commander of the 3d Maryland at the time the caisson was lost, was killed in the Vicksburg defense line.--Margie Bearss in CWRT of Mississippi newsletter.

OUR PRESIDENT, Brooks Davis, is also state commander of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War which is taking a large part in arrangements for the centennial commemoration of the Grand Army of the Republic in Decatur next April 15-16. The G.A.R. was founded in Decatur on April 6, 1866, by Maj. Benjamin Franklin Stephenson. The site was near the present Central park there and a notable statue by Charles Mulligan in the park recalls the event. Events planned for the observance include ceremonies at the grave of Stephenson in Petersburg, programs by the Sons of Union Veterans in uniform in Decatur, a pageant and Civil War songs, re-enactment of the signing of the first charter and placing a wreath at the statue, a dinner, a torchlight parade, and a ball in costume. There is a large monument to Stephenson at his grave across the Sangamon river from Petersburg.

JOHN HOPE FRANKLIN, speaking at the Lincoln day ceremonies at Gettysburg on Nov. 19, said that citizen groups that might consider Abraham Lincoln a racist are mistaken. He said Lincoln did advocate separation of the races, but was merely expressing the views of most people in his day. "By a most artful and clever selection of quotations, by taking some out of context, and by interpreting the whole thing in terms of their own philosophy, citizens councils of America...welcomed the great emancipator into their camp," Hope said. But he emphasized that Lincoln stated publicly that "slavery and oppression must cease or American Liberty must perish."

THE NEW BOOKS



AGRICULTURE AND THE CIVIL WAR, By Paul W. Gates. The first volume of "The Impact of the Civil War" series has been published by Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., and the United States Civil War Centennial Commission. Gates, professor of history at Cornell University, evaluates the agricultural potential of the North and South and compares the problems and achievements of farms of the two sections throughout the war. The series will describe and analyze the influence of the conflict upon nearly every facet of American life - economic, social, political, and cultural. The fifteen volumes of the joint project are under the general editorship of Allan Nevins.

ATLANTA CENTURY, Civil War series published weekly from March, 1960, into May, 1965, the longest series in world journalism, 272 newspaper-size pages. Week by week events of all America, personalities, details and sidelights of conflicts, the humor, curious events; 1,000,000 words, 800 photographs and woodcuts of the period. Pages slightly reduced in hardcover book form, 272 pages, Norman Shavin, Atlanta Constitution, Atlanta, Ga. \$14.95.

THE HANKS FAMILY OF VIRGINIA AND WESTWARD, by Adin Baber (Arthur H. Clark Co., 1264 S. Central Ave., Glendale, Cal. 91204, 450pp, index of 3,000 names, \$37.50).

TEXAS IN THE WAR, by Marcus Joseph Wright, edited by Harold B. Simpson (Hill Junior College Press, Hillsboro, Texas, over 300pp, \$7.50).

CONQUEST OF A VALLEY, by Marshall Moore Brice (U. of Virginia, \$4.50). Federal campaign for the upper Shenandoah Valley in 1864.

THE GENERAL TO HIS LADY: The Civil War Letters of William Dorsey Pender, edited by William W. Hassler (U. of North Carolina, \$6).

CARPETBAGGER'S CRUSADE, by Albion Winegar Tourgee, edited by Otto H. Olsen (Johns Hopkins, 395pp, \$7.95). Post-war activities in North Carolina during reconstruction.

AFTER SLAVERY, by Joel Williamson (North Carolina, 442pp, \$7.50). The Negro in South Carolina from 1861 to 1877.

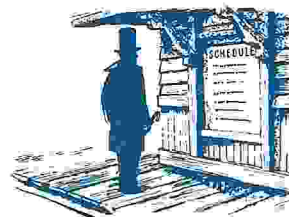
ONE GALLANT RUSH, by Peter Burchard (St. Martin's, 168pp, \$4.95). Story of Robert Gould Shaw and the 54th Massachusetts, the state's first Negro regiment.

THE NEGRO IN THE SOUTH SINCE 1865, edited by Charles E. Wynes (Alabama U., \$6.95).

MEMBERSHIP in the Confederate Historical Society of England is open to members of the Civil War Round Table and quite a number of Americans are enrolled. The dues are \$3, payable to Hon. Treas. P. J. Whale, 35 Melrose Crescent, Orpington, Kent, England. Bi-monthly meetings are held in London where the group has had some American speakers and guests. The CHS's quarterly **JOURNAL** has excellent articles, a recent one having an article of "Britons in the Civil War," and a paper by Dr. Harry J. Warthen of Richmond, Va.

The Confederate Memorial Literary Society, 1201 East Clay street, Richmond, Va., 23219, which maintains the Confederate Museum and the Robert E. Lee house, is conducting its annual membership canvass with the schedule: annual dues \$3, contributing \$10, sustaining \$25, and life \$50.

BULLETIN BOARD



IN 1964 we applied to the Internal Revenue Service as a not-for-profit corporation engaged in educational work. After numerous documents and amendments of our articles of incorporation, we recently received our determination letter. Consequently, we are no longer liable for Federal Income Taxes, but more importantly, any contributions to the Civil War Round Table are exempt by the donor under the charitable contributions section (170) of the Internal Revenue Code.

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Meeting of Executive Committee (Board of Trustees) at 4:30 p.m., Friday, January 14, at 18 East Chestnut Street. Past presidents are members.

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NEW MEMBERS: Frank Cale, 1531 N. Wells St., Chicago 60610; Will Plank, Marlboro, N. Y.
CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Michael Hoffman to: C. W. Post College Box 520, Greenvale, N. Y.

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FUTURE MEETINGS

Friday, Feb. 11 - J. Ambler Johnston, "Grant and Lee - Move and Countermove."

Friday, March 11 - E. B. (Pete) Long, "A Re-appraisal of the War in the Mississippi Valley."

April - 250th Regular Meeting, date and speaker to be announced.

Friday, May 20 - Robert W. Johanssen, "Stephen A. Douglas and the South."

June - Date and speaker to be announced.

SPECIAL EVENTS

April 15-16, Decatur, Ill., Centennial of the founding of the Grand Army of the Republic.

May 13-15 - Illinois State Historical Society at Carmi, Ill.

May 26-30, 16th Annual Battlefield Tour, to Fredericksburg, Va., and Washington, D. C.

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AVAILABLE at meetings: Gold filled lapel pin, \$1. Cloth patch of emblem, 50¢. By mail or at meetings: Muster roll program of 25th anniversary meeting, \$2. File of CWRT newsletter, September 1959 to June 1964, \$5.



A **CONTRACT** has been awarded for construction of buildings for a 200-man jobs corps center on a 77-acre tract six miles north of Harpers Ferry. Young men enrolled at the center will work on various conservation projects, including Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, Antietam National Battlefield Site, and the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National monument.