



# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XXVIII, Number 5

Chicago, Illinois

January, 1968

## Dr. Glenn H. Seymour - 'Illinois in the 1850s' - Friday, January 12

Dr. Glenn H. Seymour is our speaker January 12 on "Illinois in the 1850s." Many members will remember Glenn as the little man who came to our 198th meeting on February 9, 1961, to speak on "Stephen A. Douglas" and surprised the audience with his strident, rapid-fire delivery, without reference to a note and complete confidence in his subject. He fielded questions with equal aplomb.



Glenn Seymour

He is the ringleader of a group of history professors at Eastern Illinois University, Charleston - Charles Coleman, Don Tingley, Bob Sterling, et al - who pursue Illinois history, Abraham Lincoln, and the Civil War as a pleasure, not a chore.

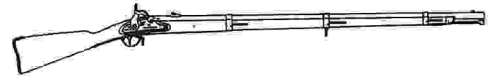
Our president, Ver Lynn Sprague, director of the Illinois Sesquicentennial commission, assigned the subject to Seymour, and of this Glenn says:

"Ver Lynn seems bent on diverting you for one year from the Civil War to a contemplation of the great state of Illinois. I thank him for awarding me the choicest nugget - Illinois in the 1850s. Many years ago my research for the doctorate kept me for the better part of three years turning the pages of Illinois newspapers on the trail of Lincoln and Douglas. Such an experience will give anyone the feeling of having actually lived in Illinois communities as they were at that time. I have never lost my interest in that earlier Illinois and I shall try to give the Round Table my impressions of what things were like in that Golden Age of Illinois and the Republic.

"The 1850s literally were a Golden Age. Every city and hamlet was growing at a phenomenal rate in population and wealth. Chicago quintupled in size - from 30,000 people in 1850 to 150,000 in 1860. The conditions of everyday life were changing also with the coming of the railroads, the telegraph, gas lighting systems, the McCormick reaper, the steel plow, the new sewing machine installed in shops turning out leather goods and clothing and a host of other innovations.

"In the 1850s Illinois was a microcosm of the nation. The struggle between North and South - freedom vs. slavery - was the theme of contention between Illinois' two greatest men. In the final climax of that contest the eyes of the whole country were perforce drawn to this state and from this state at the end of the decade the nation was to call Lincoln to his great destiny.

"My plan is not to canvass the political battle which to the membership of the Round Table is too much of a many-told story. My interest shall be in trying to recreate for you the setting - geographical, social, and economic - in which Lincoln and Douglas lived. I shall try to sort out certain features of towns and countryside



267th REGULAR MEETING

\* \* \* \* \*

Dr. Glenn H. Seymour

on

"Illinois in the 1850s"

\* \* \* \* \*

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 1968

Furniture Club in Furniture Mart Cocktails at 5:30

666 North Lake Shore Drive Dinner at 6:30 p.m.



ILLINOIS STATE MUSEUM at Springfield has assembled a notable exhibit for the Sesquicentennial year. A prime piece, lent by the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., is the portrait of Abraham Lincoln painted in Springfield in 1860 by George Patrick Alexander Healy. It was the last portrait made of Lincoln before he grew his beard and is considered by many to be the finest portrait of Lincoln ever made. The State Museum exhibit, "The Artist Sees Historic Illinois," lasts from December 2 to February 4. Among other display pieces are the Alaskan totem pole showing an Alaskan artist's impressions of Lincoln (featured at the New York World's fair); Lorado Taft's plaster sculpture of "Young Lincoln" which stood in the Centennial Building; and art selections from the Illinois State Historical Library.

and a way of life gone for more than one hundred years."

Glenn was president of the Illinois State Historical Society when he spoke here in 1961 and presently is one of the go-go directors of the Sesquicentennial commission. He is a native of Illinois (Potomac, Vermilion county) and took his AB, AM, and Ph.D., degrees at the University of Illinois. He taught for three years at Danville High school, joined the faculty at Eastern Illinois in 1929, and in 1951 became head of the social science (history) department.

Glenn has never lost the common touch. His coterie at E.I.U. call him "Our Leader", and his wife collects buttons.

# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

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

## OFFICERS

President..... Ver Lynn Sprague  
 Vice President ..... Jerry Warshaw  
 Secretary..... Elmer Underwood  
 Treasurer ..... Marshall Krolick  
 Assistant Treasurer ..... Richard B. Cohen  
 Tape Record Librarian..... Alan Aimone  
 Editor of Newsletter ..... Gilbert Twiss  
 Official Engrosser (Printer) ..... Allen Meyer  
 Judge Advocate General ..... Arnold Alexander  
 Balladeer..... Win Stracke

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES (Executive Committee)

Terms expiring in 1968; Elmer C. Brinkman,  
Henry W. Kennedy, Philip R. Davis

Terms expiring in 1969; Maurice Fisher,  
Dan J. Lapinski, Charles Wesselhoeft.



THE ADVISORY BOARD on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments has endorsed the proposal to establish Andersonville National Historic Site, Georgia, as a unit of the National Park System. Andersonville Prison was the largest and most publicized of the Civil War Prison camps. The site has been preserved in the 84-acre Andersonville Prison Park administered by the Department of the Army. The park contains what remains of the prison, such as escape tunnels and wells, and 12 commemorative monuments placed there by states and patriotic organizations. It is situated one mile east of Andersonville, Macon county, Georgia. The army would transfer the site to the Department of the Interior. The Advisory Board also recommended complete restoration of the Frederick Douglass house in Washington, D.C. Douglas was an outstanding Negro of the 19th century who was noted as a writer, orator, anti-slavery leader, civil servant, and spokesman for American Negroes.

DIVERS who inspected the sunken ironclad Tecumseh in Mobile Bay found that it has a hole in its side - possibly from battle damage - and its 200 ton turret is intact. Project Director Col. R. M. Calland, a retired marine corps officer, said, "We found a break in the hull, about 9 inches across and 14 inches long in the turn of bilge. It is obviously an old rupture, because the compartment behind there is filled with oysters, shells and debris." It was the first ship sunk in the August 5, 1864, battle of Mobile Bay. Calland said the divers found that the ship rolled as she went under, "about 150 degrees." She rests on her port rail, braced by her turret. It was the heavy turret which caused her to tip and drop so quickly to the bottom. Calland said that initial probes indicate that the ship can be raised. It is a project of the Smithsonian Institution.

*from the  
Editor's pen*



Philip R. Davis, veteran of the Civil War Round Table and of the legal profession, gave a masterful presentation of "Justice in the Confederacy" at the December 15 meeting. He said the judiciary department of the Confederacy was treated as a military junta and the supreme court never functioned. Phil traced the areas of the southern courts' operation, the attitude of United States courts after the war to the acts of the southern courts, and the southern administration of justice. These were fields which few of his listeners had studied in their pursuit of Civil War history. The reaction was spirited and the firing line included Jerry Warshaw, Mort Feigen, Marshall Krolick, Mike Lerner, Brooks Davis, Miner Coburn, Warren Reeder, and Henry Simmons. Phil parried the volleys with distinction.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mike Lerner spoke in eulogy of Dr. Arthur V. Bergquist, our vice president who passed away December 6. Mike characterized him as a mild, friendly man, an expert on Civil War medicine, and the friend of everyone. Dr. Bergquist was chairman of a panel meeting, December 15, 1961, on "Civil War Medicine-Surgery." His other love was the Illinois State Historical Society, of which he was a director and vice president. He was an outstanding membership promoter for the state society and the Round Table. Doc and occasionally his wife Edith were members of battlefield tours. He was a most faithful attendant at meetings.

\* \* \* \* \*

President Ver Lynn Sprague announced that the executive committee meeting had chosen Jerry Warshaw to fill the position of vice president for the remainder of the year, and that Phil Davis was chosen to serve the remainder of the year as director in the place of William Krone who resigned when he moved to Texas. The meeting confirmed the selections.

\* \* \* \* \*

It was announced that a cigaret lighter with the CWRT emblem engraved on it is now available and will be sold for \$2. The six-side record album, "Best Nights of the Round Table," ran into technical difficulties and could not be produced in time for Christmas sale. The target now is late April. The executive committee decided that future memorials to deceased members will be in the form of a CWRT contribution to Graduate Fellowship Award Fund. Individual members also may contribute by sending donations to the treasurer. Alan Aimone reported progress on the task of assessing the quality of meeting tape recordings and preparing them for lending.

\* \* \* \* \*

Dr. B. H. Bartfield was attendance chairman for the evening and introduced Henry Simmons as a new member and E. Erie Jones as a guest. Fifty members and guests were present. Brooks Davis called attention to the fact that the day was Maurice Fisher's birthday. Mort Feigen is attendance chairman for the January meeting. Glenn Seymour is the speaker then and President Sprague characterized him as a "feisty, humorous, and dynamic man."

Salt Creek CWRT which meets at 8 p.m. in the Glen Ellyn Public Library will have our Alan Aimone on January 19 speaking on "The Crater at Petersburg," and Dr. Gerhard Clausius on February 16, speaking on "Mary Todd Lincoln." Brooks Davis was speaker to Park Forest CWRT on November 16 on the "Battle of Perryville."

## Illinois on National TV

The year long celebration of Illinois' Sesquicentennial year got under way December 4. With the new year it will quicken its pace. There are more than 2,000 events scheduled in the 102 counties of the state, observing the 150th birthday or tying traditional events to the Sesquicentennial.

On January 9, there will be a memorial observance of Carl Sandburg's 90th birthday at Galesburg.

The Sesquicentennial stamp will be issued on Lincoln's birthday, February 12, at Shawneetown, the oldest continuous post office in Illinois. Also in February, newspapers of the state will distribute a Sesquicentennial magazine.

On Sunday, February 18, a national television network will present, "I Remember Illinois." It will feature distinguished sons and daughters of Illinois: Bob Hope, Dick Van Dyke, Mahalia Jackson, Burr Tillstrom, Benny Goodman, Jack Benny, Mercedes McCambridge, Dave Garroway, George Gobel, Bob Newhart, Mike Nichols, Elaine May, Mark Van Doren, Buckminster Fuller, Everett Dirksen, Otto Kerner and others. Steve Allen will narrate the show.

The Illinois State Historical Society will meet in Chicago April 18 to 20 and the Civil War Round Table and Sesquicentennial commission will join in one banquet that will have a national speaker and attract 1,000 diners. The feature will be territorial day celebration and the state will observe Sesquicentennial Sabbath, all denominations.

The first observance of Memorial Day in the state will be commemorated at Carbondale with Arthur Godfrey of radio and television as the featured speaker. Other special observances will be at McHenry, Kankakee, Shelbyville, St. Francisville, and Murphysboro.

The Fourth of July will have special attention at Kaskaskia State park with an Old Fashioned Independence day celebration. The park overlooks the site of Kaskaskia, Illinois first capital, now under waters of the Mississippi.

Southern Illinois University Players will present the prize-winning Abraham Lincoln play July 23 through August 15 at New Salem State park.

August 26, Constitution Day, will be celebrated at Springfield and New Salem. The restored Old State House, where Lincoln made his "House Divided" speech, will be rededicated in the Springfield square. Civil War Round Tables will be invited to rally in Springfield for the week-end.

The State Historical Society will hold its fall meeting and tour October 4 to 6 at Chester, beside Fort Kaskaskia. The state will commemorate the inauguration, October 6, 1818, of Shadrack Bond, first governor of the state who is buried in the cemetery there. There will be a memorial service at the grave.

The climax of the year will come - statewide - on December 3, with celebrations of the 150th anniversary of Illinois' admission to the Union.

ON SEPTEMBER 16, 1967, Confederate Historical Society (London) had 301 members, 138 in the United States, 137 in the United Kingdom (Britain), and 26 overseas. Meetings for 1968 are on Wednesdays, Jan. 31, March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5, July 31, Sept. 4, Oct. 2, Nov. 6, and Dec. 4. Members gather at 6:30 p.m. in the dining room above the Ordnance Arms, 79 York Road, London, S.E.1 and are in informal meeting until 8 p.m. when a discussion on a selected subject is held.

Michigan Regimental Round Table, Birmingham, Mich., has begun an exchange of meeting tape recordings with the Confederate Historical Society in London.

## TO THE LADIES -

The Camp Followers add to their list of distinguished speakers January 12, with Eleanor Sprague talking on "150 Years in Illinois." She is editor of the Sesquicentennial Cook Book and co-author of "Enjoy Illinois." This is a must meeting for cooks and lady history buffs. Eleanor is a graduate of Penn State, is an editorial and industrial writer, and wife of Ver Lynn Sprague, president of the Round Table and director of the Illinois Sesquicentennial commission. She has received awards from Freedom Foundation and the National Safety Council. The meeting is in the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop with cocktails at 5:30 p.m. and a buffet dinner after the talk. For reservations please call 944-5082 (evenings).

- Betsy Ross Davis, program chairman

\* \* \* \* \*

Joyce (Mrs. Jerry) Warshaw gave an interesting and instructive talk on "Schizophrenic Illinois" at the December 15 meeting. She began with the French explorers in the 17th century, the French and Indian period, and followed through with the conquests by the British and then the Virginians, and the birth of the state in 1818. Her score of listeners heard anecdotes about Abraham Lincoln and men of his time, and then of plans for the Sesquicentennial of the state. (Reported by Eleanor (Mrs. Maurice) Fisher).

EARL BARTHOLOMEW, Commander, Gen. George A. Custer Camp No. 1, Department of Illinois, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, is enthusiastic about the CWRT Speakers Bureau. Earl says, "Ver Lynn Sprague gave a wonderful talk at our October meeting, as did Elmer Brinkman at our November session (on John A. Logan). The Speakers Bureau of the Civil War Round Table should be very proud of its personnel." Earl invites all male descendants (lineal or collateral) over 16 years of age to join the Sons of Veterans of the Civil War. Anyone interested can contact Brooks Davis, Charles Bournstine, Miner Coburn, Charles Wesselhoeft, Wilson Smith, Ron Persenico, or himself at CWRT meetings, or by mail to Earl Bartholomew, 9026 S. May St., Chicago, Ill. 60620.

PRESIDENT AND MRS. EISENHOWER have donated their farm and home at the edge of the Gettysburg battlefield to the United States as a National Historic site. The Eisenhowers will continue to live there and use the farm facilities during their lifetime. The Eisenhowers bought the original 189 acres of the farm for \$44,000 in 1950 when he was still an active five-star general of the armies. Land has been added and it now totals 230 acres, with a considerably expanded house. Our battlefield tour to Gettysburg in 1952 visited the farm as guest of Arthur Nevins, the farm manager.

IN ALL THE WARS of the United States and among all the faiths, 305 armed forces chaplains have died. To honor their memory, the Military Chaplains' Association many years ago mounted a plaque at its Washington headquarters. Recognizing that many casualties among chaplains in the Revolutionary War and Civil War went unrecorded, the plaque bears a tribute to "those known only to God." Of those recorded, 10 died in the Revolution, one each in the War of 1812 and the Mexican War, 67 in the Civil War, 24 in World War I, 188 in World War II, and 14 in the Korean War.

--Milwaukee CWRT Newsletter

## THE NEW BOOKS



A SHIPMENT OF TARTS, by Edmund G. Love (Doubleday). Another spoof by Love.

THE GLORY AND THE DREAM, by Michael L. Musmanno. A story of Lincoln's walk through Gettysburg cemetery the night of Nov. 18, 1863.

PATRIOTISM LIMITED, 1862-1865, by Eugene Converse Murdock (Kent State University, Kent, Ohio, 270pp, \$7.95). Resistance to the draft in Civil War years.

HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY, by Russell F. Weigley (Macmillan, 688pp, \$12.95).

REFERENCE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN, edited by Bernard Klein and Daniel Icolari (New York, B. Klein & Co., 536pp, \$15).

TRAVELERS IN TEXAS, 1761-1860, by Marilyn McAdams Sibley (University of Texas, \$5).

BALLOTS AND FENCE RAILS: Reconstruction on the Lower Cape Fear (U. of North Carolina, \$7.50).

THE BRANDYWINE HOME FRONT DURING THE CIVIL WAR, 1861-1865, by Norman B. Wilkinson (Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington, \$6.50).

### PAPERBACKS

COTTON AND THE GROWTH OF THE AMERICAN ECONOMY, 1790-1860, by Stuart Bruchey (Harcourt, Brace & World, Inc., \$3.95).

AN HISTORIAN AND THE CIVIL WAR, by Avery Craven (U. of Chicago, \$1.95).

THE PRICE OF UNION, by Herbert Agar (Houghton Mifflin, \$2.85).

AMERICAN LIFE IN THE 1840s, edited by Carl Bode (Anchor, \$1.95).

THE STRUGGLE FOR RACIAL EQUALITY: A Documentary Record, edited by Henry Steele Commager (Torchbooks, \$2.75).

### BOOK NOTES

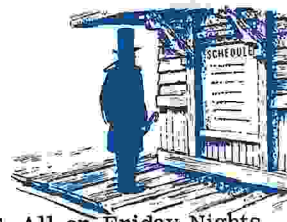
CIVIL WAR TIMES Illustrated for December has these principal articles: "How the Union Army was Disbanded," by Ida M. Tarbell (from McClure's Magazine, March 1901), "Running the Blockade," by "Captain Roberts" (from an 1867 English publication), "The Procurement of Horses," by John V. Barton, and "As a Battlefield Artist saw Gettysburg," by Edwin Forbes (a never before published account).

GEN. W. T. SHERMAN, at a reception, shook hands with a man whose face was familiar, but whom the general could not place. "Who are you?" the general asked in a whisper as he heartily welcomed the guest. The man's face flushed as he answered, "Made your shirts, sir." "Ah, of course," exclaimed the general. Then turning to the receiving committee, he said, "Gentlemen, allow me to present Major Shurtz."

--Louisville CWRT Adjutant's Call

BROOKS DAVIS, who accompanied Park Forest CWRT on their tour of the Shenandoah valley reports that Col. R. T. Benson of Harrisonburg and Lewis Barton of Winchester were the excellent guides in the area. Benson operated the electric map of the area for the group. Brooks said Jay Johns, entrepreneur of Stone-wall Jackson's home at Lexington and headquarters at Winchester, has acquired battlefield land at McDowell, Cross Keys, and Port Republic to set up museums.

## BULLETIN BOARD



FUTURE MEETINGS: All on Friday Nights.

February 9 - Lloyd Ostendorf, "The Faces of Lincoln."

March 8 - Shelby Foote, "General Grant Reaches Washington."

April 5 - Rodney Loehr, "Cavalry Operations of J. H. Wilson Around Selma."

May 2-5 - 18th Annual CWRT Battlefield Tour, to Fredericksburg, Va., area.

May 10 - LeRoy H. Fischer, "The Civil War in Today's Perspective."

June 7 - William K. Alderfer, Topic to be announced.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

January 9 - Galesburg, Ill., 90th Birthday Memorial for Carl Sandburg.

February 12 - Shawneetown, Ill., issuance of Sesquicentennial postage stamp.

February 18 - Nationwide television special, "I Remember Illinois," featuring distinguished sons and daughters of Illinois.

May 16-19 - New York CWRT Battlefield Tour to Vicksburg, Miss.

### MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS: President Herbert Y. Live-say, Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, Tennessee; Henry E. Simmons, 5107 S. Blackstone Ave., Chicago 60615.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Seymour Wasserman to: 535 N. Michigan Ave., Apt. 803, Chicago 60611.

DECEASED: Dr. Arthur V. Bergquist, CWRT Vice President, December 6, 1967.

\* \* \* \* \*

AVAILABLE at meetings: Lapel pin, \$2; Key chain with CWRT emblem, 50¢; Cloth patch of emblem, 50¢; Cigaret lighter, \$2.



WHITEHALL, the mansion of Cassius Marcellus Clay, near Richmond, Ky., is to be restored by the state. Two of Clay's great grandchildren have given the mansion to Kentucky, and the state is negotiating to buy 14 acres around it. The oldest portion of the mansion was built by Clay's father, Green Clay, in the 1790's. While Cassius was minister to Russia in 1861, his wife, Mary Jane Warfield Clay, had a Polish architect design a three-floor Italian-style wing to the older section. The newer, and more elegant section, had 20-foot ceilings. After a stormy life, Cassius died in the mansion in 1903 at the age of 92. The house has been neglected since then and damaged by vandals. The estimated cost of restoration is \$250,000.

OUR WAR has finally reached the Hippies! Don Maclean, Washington Daily News columnist, reported a visit to East Greenwich Village, which to New York is what Haight-Asbury is to San Francisco. He reported seeing "flower children" equipped with long hair, dirty necks and face fuzz strolling around dressed in Civil War uniforms. They must have looked like some of the troops after days of hot, dirty marching, according to his description. Well, you never can tell who might be interested in Our War next! - Walton Onslow, CWRT of D.C. newsletter.