

The **Banner**

National Publication of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Organized 1881 — Only Male Organization Recognized by the Grand Army of the Republic — Chartered by Act of Congress

VOLUME 70

SECOND QUARTER, 1966

NUMBER 2

BIRTHPLACE OF THE G.A.R. ... A Hundred Years Later



BIRTHPLACE OF
THE GRAND ARMY
OF THE
REPUBLIC

IN A SECOND FLOOR
ROOM ON THIS SPOT THE
GRAND ARMY OF THE
REPUBLIC WAS ORGANIZED
APRIL 6, 1866. BY DR.
BENJAMIN F. STEPHENSON

Little remains in Decatur, Ill., today to remind one of the great fraternal society of veterans which had its birth in that modest-sized midwestern town. Pictured on the left is a drawing of the building at 253 South Park Street in Decatur where the original post of the Grand Army of the Republic — Old Post No. 1 — was organized on April 6, 1866.

On the right is a photograph of the tablet on the outside wall of the Linxweiler Building, which now occupies this site. While there are still some valuable G.A.R. relics housed in Decatur buildings, this tablet is the only outward indication a visitor would find to tell him of the glorious movement to which this town gave birth a century ago.



S.V.R. officers and the SUVCW color guard from Gettysburg Camp 112 with the Commandery-in-Chief's colors at the Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C., on February 12. Left to right: Col. O. G. MacPherson, Robert Pyles, Kenneth N. Mummert, James Martin, Barry D. Snyder, Col. Howard L. Dissinger and Lt. Col. Chester S. Shriver.



Shown at the M.O.L.L.U.S. reception in the Department of State's Diplomatic Suite are, left to right, Frederick Drum Hunt, luncheon chairman; Ambassador Guillermo Sevilla-Sacasa; Maj. Genl. U. S. Grant 3rd, P.C.-in-C. of both SUVCW and M.O.L.L.U.S.; and Lt. Col. Chester S. Shriver (S.V.R.), P.C.-in-C. of SUVCW. Behind these gentlemen can be seen a portion of the desk on which the Louisiana Purchase was signed.

THE BANNER

Published Quarterly by the National Headquarters of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

C. A. Brady, Jr. — Editor

Post Office Box 6165 Chicago, Illinois 60680

Subscription rate: \$1.00 per year. All subscriptions expire on the first day of each year.

All material submitted for publication must be received by 15th of December, March, June and September.

SUVCW Participates in Services at Lincoln Memorial

Following a tradition that spans more than a decade now, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War again this year took part in the annual Lincoln Memorial service in Washington, D.C., on February 12, at the invitation of The Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. The colors of the Commandery-in-Chief were carried by uniformed members of Camp 112 (Gettysburg, Pa.), and, except for the color guard of the combined armed forces, this Gettysburg unit was the only color guard representing a national organization at the ceremony.

Beginning promptly at noon, and with the United States Marine Band providing the music, the ceremony again proved to be a very fitting tribute to our martyred Civil War President. Numerous wreaths were placed at the Lincoln statue in the memorial building. President and Mrs. Johnson attended the ceremony and placed a wreath. The Commandery-in-Chief's wreath was placed by P.C.-in-C. Chester S. Shriver, escorted by Col. O. G. MacPherson, Commander of the National Military Department, S.V.R.

Col. Howard L. Dissinger, S.V.R., commanded the SUVCW color guard and escorted the Commander of the Pennsylvania Commandery, M.O.L.L.U.S., when that organization placed its wreath. Also placing a wreath was Lincoln-Cushing Camp 2 (Washington, D.C.). Arthur R. Glenum, SUVCW's District of Columbia Representative, placed the wreath, while other members of the camp looked on.

U. S. Senator John J. Sparkman of Alabama delivered the address at this memorial service, and became the first Southerner ever to have done so. Following the ceremony, approximately 200 invited guests attended a luncheon in the Diplomatic Suite at the State Department, hosted by the Loyal Legion. His Excellency Guillermo Sevilla-Sacasa, Nicaraguan Ambassador and dean of the Washington, D.C., diplomatic corps, addressed those assembled, and, in referring to the Gettysburg Address, said in part "it was natural that President Lincoln should go to the Gettysburg community to bestow his respects to those who sacrificed for the saving of the United States, 102 years ago." In the same vein, it was natural that a uniformed unit of descendants of Lincoln's Boys in Blue should travel from Gettysburg to the national capital to show their respect for their ancestors' Commander-in-Chief.

RHODE ISLAND HOST TO SPRING REGIONAL MEETING

The spring conference of the New England Regional Assn. was held in Providence, R.I., on March 19. Delegates were present from all of the New England states except Vermont. An interesting meeting was held by the Sons and Auxiliary in the afternoon, followed by a dinner in the evening, after which the delegates were entertained by a 25-piece accordion band, piano and vocal selections, and community singing. Several national officers of SUVCW were present — Natl. Council Member Harold Drown, Natl. Patriotic Instructor Kenneth Wheeler, and Natl. Historian Allen Spink. Auxiliary national officers attending were National Council Members P.N.P. Emma Wheeler and Minnie Maderios, and Natl. Chief-of-Staff Jessie Wells.

In June the association will make its annual sword presentation to an outstanding graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy at New London, Conn. The sword will be presented by William W. Haskell, Regional Comdr.

The next meeting of the association will be held at the Weirs, New Hampshire, July 16-17. This will be the annual meeting and election of officers. Also at this time the Sons of Veterans Reserve's 1st Military District will hold its annual review and competition. A trophy donated by P.C.-in-C. Harold E. Arnold will be awarded for the best company. Vermont has won the trophy two years in succession; if won again this year, it will keep the trophy and another will be donated for future drills.

Lincoln Bay Planned for Washington Cathedral



Artist's conception of the way Lincoln Bay will appear after embellishment of existing walls and erection of proposed statue.

Construction is under way on a new section of the Washington National Cathedral in our nation's capital, which will include an Abraham Lincoln Bay as its principal feature. This bay, measuring 18 x 22 feet, will exactly counterbalance the George Washington Bay on the opposite side of the Cathedral.

Dominating the Abraham Lincoln Bay will be an imposing 8-foot statue of the Great Emancipator. Other features of the bay will be stained glass windows illustrating highlights of his career, and special symbolic stone carving. In commenting on the inclusion of this memorial to President Lincoln in the Washington National Cathedral, the Very Rev. Francis B. Sayre, Jr., Dean of the Cathedral, spoke of the qualities of greatness Lincoln possessed and the impact he had upon the American people. Noting that every generation of Lincoln's countrymen will doubtless build its own memorial to him, he said it seemed fitting that Lincoln should be included in this great shrine which serves as an eloquent token of the nation's uniting faith. He concluded, "His face in stone, the record of his testing writ in stained glass, a place by the great front door set aside for that man whose life is what we would wish our country's life to be. Abraham Lincoln, rooted in God, servant of all."

This undertaking is supported by a national group of sponsors, which includes many leading Lincoln students and admirers throughout the country. Additional funds are needed to complete the construction and embellishment of the bay, and both individuals and groups are being invited to underwrite portions of the work or make memorial gifts of particular items. Estimated cost for specific items has been given as follows: Statue of Lincoln, \$34,000; 1 large window (3 lancets), \$5,000 each; carved tympanum (arched space above door), \$3,700; marble flooring, \$3,000; 1 lancet window, \$2,000; 3 carved bosses, \$800 each; 2 label mould terminations, \$325 each; 3 stone wall shields, \$70 each; ornamented stones, \$25 each; building stones, \$10 each.

Just as construction of the Washington Bay was made possible by subscriptions of individuals throughout the country (notably Masons), so it is also hoped that Americans who admire Abraham Lincoln will give their support to further this memorial to him. The Cathedral's address is Mount Saint Alban, Washington, D.C. 20016. THE BANNER suggests that members of the G.A.R. Allied Orders making contributions to this project indicate the Order with which they are affiliated. Perhaps many local and/or state units will want to take up a collection from members or allocate a sum from their treasury so that the gift can be made in the organization's name. In this way the sponsors of the project can see the support being given them by the descendants of Lincoln's "Boys in Blue."

DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENTS

Department	Dates	City	Place
California & Pacific	April 22-24	Fresno	Hotel Californian
Connecticut	April 30-May 1	New Britain	Hotel Burrill
Illinois	June 10-11	Decatur	Orlando Hotel
Iowa	June 16-18	Des Moines	Hotel Savery
Kansas	April 25	Newton	Salvation Army Hall
Maine	June 18-19	Portland	Sheraton-Eastland Motor Hotel
Maryland & Delaware	May 7	Wilmington, Del.	Holiday Inn of America
Massachusetts	April 22-21	Boston	Hotel Bradford
Michigan	June 14-17	Grand Rapids	Pantlind Hotel
New Hampshire	April 29-30	Concord	N. H. Highway Hotel
New Jersey	June 10-11	Asbury Park	Hotel Berkeley-Carteret
New York	June 26-29	Rochester	Manger Hotel
Ohio	June 16-18	Columbus	Southern Hotel
Oregon & Washington	May 23-21	Portland, Ore.	Washington Hotel
Pennsylvania	June 19-22	Allentown	Americus Hotel
Rhode Island	April 8-9	Providence	Sheraton-Biltmore Hotel
Vermont	June 23-25	Bellows Falls	Hotel Windham
Wisconsin	May 21-22	Fond du Lac	Retlaw Motor Hotel

NOTES FROM NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

The 1966 supply requisition slips (printed on pink paper stock for easy identification) are now available from National Headquarters upon request. Also the newly printed, updated, attractive Ritual and Ceremonials books. Keep your stock of supplies complete; order needed badges, credentials and forms now.

Copies of the 84th Annual National Encampment Proceedings have been mailed to all camp secretaries, department secretaries, national officers and registered delegates.

Chester S. Shriver, Natl. Secty-Treas.
P. O. Box 24, Federal Bldg.
Gettysburg, Pa. 17325



GENERAL ORDER NO. 2

Series 1965-66

Headquarters
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
527 Stetler Ave., Akron, Ohio 44312

GOING TO
GRAND RAPIDS?

You're Assured
A Grand Time!



Grand Rapids, Mich., will be the scene of chronologically historic conventions this coming August — the 85th Annual Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans and the 80th Annual Encampment of the Auxiliary. Meeting at the same hotel, The Pantlind, will be the Ladies of the G.A.R. which will be holding its national convention at the same time.

Following the customary convention schedule, the Sons and Auxiliary Joint Memorial Service will be held Sunday, August 14, at 3:00 p.m., and the Campfire program that evening at 7:30 p.m. — both in the hotel's ballroom. The Past Commanders-in-Chief and Past National Presidents' banquet will be held at 5:30 p.m., on Monday. At 7:30 p.m. that evening the Auxiliary will hold an exemplification of the ritual, followed by the traditional "courtesy hour" and then concluding the evening with a dance. The banquet and reception honoring national officers of the Sons and Auxiliary is scheduled for Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. Business sessions will be held during the daytime on each day except Wednesday, when a special tour being arranged by the convention committee will leave the hotel at 2:00 p.m. First stop will be the public museum, where there will be on display a fine collection of material of interest to those associated with the G.A.R. Family. From the museum, the tour will take you to some of Grand Rapids points of interest, and then to Happy Jack Mannagin's where the Pantlind Hotel will serve a chuck-wagon dinner. A full evening's entertainment will follow the dinner, after which the tour will return to the hotel.

Final business sessions will be held Thursday morning, August 18. For those who will not be departing for home until the following day, an old-fashioned songfest has been planned for Thursday evening at 8:00 p.m. in the hotel ballroom. So get out your maps, train schedules, suitcases, convention credentials, etc., and let's head for Grand Rapids!

PERMANENT FUND

Our Permanent Fund was authorized to unite us and to assure a permanent association. No member is obligated to contribute, nor may he be assessed. All funds in the Permanent Fund must be voluntary to fulfill its intent and purpose. Any member may contribute in memory of his family or Civil War ancestor to honor and perpetuate the memory of their name.

To—Chester S. Shriver, Natl. Secty.-Treas.
P. O. Box 24, Gettysburg, Pa. 17325
Kindly enter the following Civil War record on the HONOR ROLL FUND.
Name of Veteran
Company & Regiment
Enclosed find (\$10.00 or more) donation to the HONOR ROLL FUND from
Name
Address
(Donations, legacies, and bequests to this fund are welcome and will be preserved.)
Contributions are deductible for Income Tax purposes.

The following contribution has been received since the last issue of THE BANNER:
ORRIN H. WILSON, Co. G, 46th Massachusetts Vols.
Courtesy of Dr. Frank G. Maguire — Mass.\$10.00
JOHN FRED WOLF, 2nd (Troy) New York Vols.
Courtesy of Fred Wolf, Sr. — Fla.\$10.00



The First
Memorial Day

There seems to have long been a dispute regarding the origin of Memorial Day. Bro. Elmer P. Whittredge, Historian of Camp 81 at Chelsea, Mass., has again called our attention to the story of Martha Morton of Columbus, Miss., who led a group of ladies to the local cemetery on April 26, 1866, where they decorated the graves of both Union and Confederate dead with laurel and lilac blossoms. This act of reverent patriotism is said to have caused the editor of a large newspaper to write the famous poem, "The Blue and The Gray," and an account of the occurrence appeared in THE BANNER a few years ago.

Other early "memorial day" observances are also on record — such as those at Richmond, Va.; Vicksburg, Miss.; Washington, D.C.; Decatur, Ill.; Winchester, Va., and Hopkinton, Ia. — but these were primarily instances where a small group of townsfolk journeyed to the cemetery grounds to decorate veterans' graves rather than being a day set aside by the town for memorial observances. The G.A.R. Allied Orders have always recognized that Memorial Day became a national observance on May 30, 1868, following Genl. John A. Logan's issuance of General Order No. 11 while serving as Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic. So far as THE BANNER can determine, though, it was not until this year that formal action has been taken to designate a particular town as "the birthplace of Memorial Day."

The honor appears to belong to Waterloo, New York, and we have been told by Richard T. Schreck, Village Trustee, that the story of this town's first Memorial Day appeared in the May, 1933, issue of THE BANNER. Regrettably, copies of THE BANNER printed that far back are not available to the present editor, so this cannot be readily verified. Nevertheless, Waterloo is indeed observing the 100th Anniversary of Memorial Day this year, and Mr. Schreck, who has served as research chairman for the Waterloo Memorial Day Centennial Committee, has kindly supplied the following facts about the basis for their claim as "birthplace of Memorial Day":

The story starts in 1865, when Henry C. Welles, a local druggist, mentioned at a social gathering that, while praising the living heroes of the war, it would be well to also remember the patriotic dead by decorating their graves. In the spring of 1866, he again mentioned this subject to General John B. Murray, then Seneca County Clerk. Murray, a man of action, quickly advanced the thought and developed it. Plans were formulated by a committee and it was decided to close all businesses and devote a day to honoring the dead. Townspeople adopted the idea wholeheartedly. Ladies of the village met at a local hall and prepared wreaths, crosses and bouquets for each veteran's grave. The village was decorated with flags at half-mast, draped with evergreen boughs and black mourning streamers.

Civil societies joined the procession to the three then-existing cemeteries, led by veterans marching to the strains of martial music. Impressive and lengthy services were held at each cemetery, including speeches by General Murray and a local clergyman. No festivities broke the solemnity of the day.

On the same day the following year (May 5, 1867), these ceremonies were repeated. Then in 1868, Waterloo joined with other communities in holding their observance on May 30. It has been held annually on that date ever since.

The people of Waterloo feel that the formal, dignified manner in which their town observed its first Memorial Day initiated the pattern for future Memorial Day observances all over the nation. As a matter of fact, they note that General Logan's proclamation concerning Memorial Day was issued on May 5, 1868, exactly two years following their first Memorial Day observance. They also note that in the G.A.R. National Encampment Souvenir of 1892 it is recorded that General Murray, who had been instrumental in getting Waterloo's Memorial Day observances under way and was also a

friend of General Logan, "had stated to the end of his life that he mentioned Waterloo's first Memorial Day to Logan." The inference is, of course, that the solemn and reverential manner in which Waterloo had been observing its Memorial Day may well have influenced Logan to call for a like type of observance by comrades of the G.A.R. throughout the nation.

Whether or not Murray was responsible in any way for Logan's call to observe a national Memorial Day will have to remain unsolved, for it is noted in "The History of the Grand Army of the Republic" (written by Robert B. Beath and published in 1889) that Adjutant General Chipman had shown Logan a letter from a Union soldier of German origin who wrote of the decorating of graves each springtime in his native land. Beath credits this letter with the implanting in Logan's mind of the idea for Memorial Day observances. However, he also records the date of the first Waterloo observance as May 27, 1866 (rather than May 5, 1866), so it is clear that Beath is not to be considered an unquestioned authority on all matters touched on in his book.

On March 7 of this year, the State of New York recognized Waterloo's claim as "birthplace of Memorial Day" through a formal proclamation issued by Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller. It noted that Waterloo's "was the first formal, complete, well-planned, village-wide observance of a day entirely dedicated to honoring the war dead." Seeking to obtain for the town national recognition also, Congressman Samuel S. Stratton of New York's 35th District submitted Concurrent Resolution 587 in the United States House of Representatives on February 10 of this year. If passed, it would officially recognize Waterloo, N.Y., as the birthplace of Memorial Day and authorize the President of the United States to issue an appropriate proclamation relating to the centennial anniversary of the first observance of Memorial Day. Up to the time this issue of THE BANNER went to press, no word had been received on the passage of this resolution, which had been referred to the House's Committee on the Judiciary.

Waterloo has made elaborate plans for its centennial event, and expects to have both state and national dignitaries present on that occasion. A religious and patriotic theme will be observed. Bronze plaques will be placed on historically-significant houses in the town and signs will be posted at the village limits proclaiming Waterloo as the birthplace of Memorial Day. A lovely, century-old brick home has been obtained for use as a museum, which will house the artifacts associated with the first Memorial Day. It is anticipated that the State of New York will erect a monument or marker in Waterloo in the near future, and, in anticipation of such recognition, a village beautification program is in progress, with scores of trees being planted, etc.

A steering committee of ten men has been earnestly engaged in planning this centennial observance. It has had the full cooperation of the county and village governmental bodies, the Waterloo Chamber of Commerce, various village organizations, veterans' groups and the local citizenry. Over \$7,000 has been raised to help finance the undertaking. The Waterloo Memorial Day Centennial Committee will drop "Centennial" from its name after this year and become a perpetual body, dedicated to advancing Waterloo as the birthplace of Memorial Day in any way possible and to keeping the annual observance alive and meaningful.

THE BANNER would certainly be remiss if it should fail to note this historic event and the dedicated Americans — both past and present — who have made it possible. HATS OFF TO WATERLOO!

This is the emblem adopted by the town of Waterloo, N.Y., for its centennial observance. It features an American flag at half-mast and a family with heads bowed in prayer.





Department News



CALIFORNIA & PACIFIC

Presentation of the first Department Commander's Plaque (awarded to the camp obtaining the most new members during the encampment year) was made in December to Philip Sheridan Camp 4, San Jose, by P.D.C. McCoy for the 1964-65 year.

The Lincoln Club marked President Lincoln's birthday on February 12 at a dinner served by members of Sunny Side Methodist Church, Los Angeles. Before a gathering of 75 persons, James A. Black of the Sons of Confederate Veterans (and an admirer of Lincoln) spoke and showed color slides on Lincoln. George Lorentzen is president of the club.

The Mid-Winter Meeting was held at Inglewood in the Veterans Memorial Building. Dinner was served under the supervision of Meta Caldwell, the auxiliary's Chief of Staff. In the afternoon meeting Rev. Paul Fredman of the Narcotic Educational Foundation presented films and facts about narcotic addiction.

CONNECTICUT

Alden Skinner Auxiliary 5, Rockville, marked Lincoln's and Washington's birthdays with a dinner held February 12 in the G.A.R. Hall. During the evening's program, a flag was presented by the auxiliary to Girl Scout Troop 257. The presentation was made by Ann Willeke, the auxiliary's patriotic instructor, and the flag was accepted by Mrs. Jackie Evans, leader of the troop. The program also included readings on the lives of the two Presidents and showing of color slides of P.D.C. C. Brown Newton. P.D.C. Robert Daniels was presented with a 50-year badge by Griffith Stedman Camp. Guests in attendance included Natl. Historian Allen Spink and Dept. Comdr. Chauncey Geer of SUVCW, and Natl. Patriotic Instructor Nathalie Linnell and Dept. Pres. Barbara Scott of ASUV.

ILLINOIS

The ninth consecutive Lincoln Day Dinner sponsored by Genl. Geo. A. Custer Camp 1 and its Auxiliary 30 was held at the LaSalle Hotel in Chicago on February 12. Dinner Co-Chairmen were P.N.P. Eva B. Blackman and Bro. Earl F. Bartholomew. The featured address was delivered by Melford W. Clayton, a member of the Chicago Civil War Round Table, who spoke on "Lincoln's Last Birthday." A program of Civil War songs, interspersed with narration on the course of that war, was offered by a quartet from the Austin Academy of Fine Arts. A plaque representing the Camp's and Auxiliary's first Lincoln Memorial Award was presented to



PHOTO BY ELMER R. LUCKOW

PRESENTATION OF FIRST LINCOLN MEMORIAL AWARD

Initial recipient of award to be given annually by Chicago camp and auxiliary was Dr. Sidney L. DeLove (left). Presentation was made by P.N.P. Eva B. Blackman (center). Looking on is Roderick Van Trump, Sr. (right), commander of the camp.

Dr. Sidney L. DeLove, President of Cook County Federal Savings and Loan Assn., who founded and maintains Independence Hall Museum and Library in Chicago and is noted for his lectures and writings on history and patriotism. An additional presentation — a 25-year badge — was made to P.D.C. George W. Lovering who joined SUVCW on Lincoln's birthday in 1941.

The annual ceremony at the statue of Genl. John A. Logan was held in Chicago on the morning of April 2. A wreath was placed by the department heads of the G.A.R. Allied Orders and another by the Indian War Veterans Assn. Members of the 104th Illinois Volunteer Infantry (Reactivated) served as color guard.

Following these exercises, the Sons and Daughters of Union Veterans Banquet Assn. of Cook County entertained at its annual reception and luncheon at the Palmer House. Ivy M. Lyman, Dept. Pres. of DUVCW, and John Brooks Davis, Dept. Comdr. of SUVCW, were guests of honor. This year's event, which was attended by over 100 people, took on extra significance since it commemorated the 100th anniversary of the founding of the G.A.R. As part of the program, P.D.C. Alexander J. Levy paid special tribute to the men who made up this great veterans' organization. Bro. Miner T. Coburn of Custer Camp, who is a director of the Illinois State Historical Society, gave the main address of the afternoon, in which he traced the history and development of the G.A.R.

The department welcomes its newest members — Dr. Glenn F. Boas, Thomas D. Eilers and Frank A. Ward II of Camp 1, and Walter Brooks Fields, Jr. of Camp 61-65.

IOWA

Grenville M. Dodge Auxiliary 8 held its installation of officers on January 19 at the Y.M.C.A. in Des Moines. Mrs. H. R. Hilliard was installed as president. P.N.P. Willma Coombs and P.D.P. Amy Noll had charge of the social hour.

At its February meeting, held one day prior to the auxiliary's 44th anniversary, members of Auxiliary 8 were joined by those of Grenville M. Dodge Camp 75 for an anniversary party. P.N.P. Willma Coombs related instances out of the auxiliary's past, such as the placing of a bronze tablet on a granite boulder in the city park in memory of the 23rd and 39th Iowa Infantry Regiments in 1925, and a similar marker on the Polk County Court House lawn the following year.

MARYLAND & DELAWARE

Dept. Pres. Margaret Carter was honored at a dinner on January 15 in the Dutch Pantry of the Holiday Inn, Wilmington. P.N.P. Dorothy Hilyard served as mistress of ceremonies and presented a "This is Your Life" review for Sister Carter. Among those attending were John C. Yocum, Natl. Chaplain; Madge Fullerton, Dept. Pres. (Pa.); Frank Hancock, P.D.C. (Pa.); and our own Dept. Comdr. William Davis. After the dinner, Comdr. Davis showed slides of the dedication ceremony in Gettysburg, Pa., when a bench was placed at the Woolson monument honoring P.N.P. Celeste D. Gentieu.

Dept. Comdr. William Davis and Dept. Pres. Margaret Carter, both of whom had attended a dinner at Beck's in Philadelphia, Pa., last November honoring Pennsylvania's Dept. Pres. Madge Fullerton, returned to the scene of that event on February 12 for the Lincoln Day Dinner, as did also P.N.P. Dorothy Hilyard.

MASSACHUSETTS

The annual ceremony at Emancipation Statue, Boston, was held February 12 with Herbert W. Jackson, Acting Mayor of Malden and a lineal descendant of a fugitive slave, serving as master-of-ceremonies. The Gettysburg Address was read by Natl. Council Member Harold M. Drown. Dept. Comdr. James K. Cheney and representatives of the City of Boston participated. Wreaths were placed by the city, SUVCW, ASUV and DUVCW. Arrangements for the ceremony were made by P.D.C. Louis E. Winchell, Secretary of Programs.

Dept. Pres. Bessie T. Drown was honored by Capt. R. B. Grover Camp and Auxiliary at a reception in February at the War Memorial Building in Brockton. Co-chairmen for this were William W. Haskell and Nellie Nelson. The event had been postponed five months because of the serious illness of Mrs. Drown. National officers attending were: Natl. Pa-

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triotic Instructor Kenneth Wheeler, Natl. Historian Allen F. Spink and P.C.-in-C. Harold E. Arnold of SUVCW; Natl. Council Member Minnie E. Maderios, Natl. Chief-of-Staff Jessie G. Wells, Natl. Patriotic Instructor Nathalie E. Linnell, P.N.P. Emma Wheeler and P.N.P. Maude B. Warren of ASUV; and Natl. Pres. Alice F. Harwood of L. of G.A.R.

Bay State Camp held its first annual meeting, combined with "Lincoln Night," in the First Corps Cadet Armory which is soon to be demolished. Officers elected at this meeting included David J. McCarthy, Commander, and former Senator Frederick T. McDermott, Senior Vice Comdr.

TAPS: The charters of all camps in the department were draped in March to mark the passing of P.D.C. Parker B. Chandler.

NEW JERSEY

"The War in Viet Nam . . . and If Lincoln Were President" was the theme of a talk given by Dr. Carl E. Hatch, Associate Professor of History at Rider College, at the Lincoln Banquet held February 12 in Nassau Inn, Princeton. Dr. Hatch pointed out that "Lincoln was the most tenderhearted of men, even to the point of appearing softhearted, but a closer look at Lincoln would compel one to think twice. For behind the facade of tenderness, there was a toughness in Lincoln's character. As President he led the nation to victory, and wars are not won by sheer kindness and benevolence." He further stated, "To be sure, Lincoln was humane. But he was also a realist. In Lincoln's mind, whatever would win the war most speedily would win it most humanely."

John Junge, Sr., was toastmaster at this well-attended observance of Lincoln's birth, sponsored by Dayton Camp 5, Trenton. Among those present were: Dept. Comdr. Frank Clark, Dept. Pres. Patricia Donahue, Natl. Vice Pres. Genevieve Bolan, Natl. Treasurer Florence Jansson, P.C.-in-C. Albert C. Lambert, P.N.P. Edna S. Lambert and P.N.P. Anne O. Clayton.

The New Jersey SUVCW annual Good Citizenship Award for 1966 will be presented at the convention banquet Friday evening, June 10, in the Hotel Berkeley-Carteret, Asbury Park. Auxiliary business sessions will be held June 10 and 11; business sessions for the Sons will take place June 11.

Mrs. Patricia Donahue, Dept. Pres., is planning to present a flag to Temple Beth Israel in Scotch Plains, N. J. This is but one of many presentations being made to various groups.

NEW YORK

The department's office in Room 2225 of the Municipal Building, New York City, was vacated on March 15 at the request of the city's Real Estate Department which needed it for other purposes. Space has been allocated the department in a building across the street, at 238 William St., where 13 other veterans' organizations have their offices, and all of the department's G.A.R. relics and records have been moved to this space under Dept. Secty. Bertram Isaacs' supervision.



NEW YORK TIMES PHOTO

ONE FINAL LOOK AT OLD ROOM 2225

The 77th annual Transfer of Flags Ceremony was held February 13 in Rochester through the cooperation of the public schools, and attracted the largest audience in recent

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years. Henry R. Dutcher, Sr., prominent local attorney and 35-year member, addressed the 208 Standard Bearers and Guardians of the Flag. Carl S. Hallauer, Chairman of the Board of Bausch & Lomb, Inc., presented the Henry Lomb medals to the retiring Standard Bearers, and Dept. Senior Vice Comdr. Raymond Hightree led the audience in the National Anthem. Serving as chairman of this ceremony for the fifteenth year was Grover C. Scott of Glidden-Pierce-Lomb Camp 6.

A dinner was held March 12 by Diven Camp 77, Elmira, and the Abraham Lincoln Memorial Dinner on April 16 at Buffalo, under the auspices of the G.A.R. Memorial Assn. with Mrs. W. B. Stephan as chairlady.

OHIO

McClellan Camp 91 and its auxiliary again sponsored the annual Lincoln Banquet in Alliance, with Municipal Judge Rex Russell (a member of Camp 91) serving as this year's speaker. The judge's talk covered the years Lincoln practiced law in Springfield, Ill. — 1850 to 1860.

Sunday, February 13, Salem Camp held a Lincoln Banquet, and had Al DeCafe as speaker. Mr. DeCafe is a local school teacher who has made an extensive study of the Civil War era, and chose the part played by the 19th Ohio in that war as the subject of his address.

A joint meeting of U. S. Grant Camp 100, the Ohio Commandery of M.O.L.L.U.S., the Greater Cincinnati Civil War Centennial Commission and other local centennial organizations was held in Cincinnati on March 31.

TAPS: The department regrets to report the passing of Bro. John M. Markley, which occurred on February 8 in his home town of Georgetown, Ohio, following a long illness.

OREGON & WASHINGTON

TAPS: P.D.C. Stanley P. Olin passed away March 2. He was a member of Owen Summers Camp 4, Portland, and of the Oregon Blues Brigade, S.V.R. Originally a member of the Wisconsin Dept., Bro. Olin had transferred his membership to our department in 1919, and had been awarded the 50-year membership badge in 1962. He is survived by his wife, Helen, three nieces and two nephews. The department wishes to extend its sincerest sympathy.

The department was also saddened to learn of the passing in February of Bro. Rutherford B. Hayes at the age of 87. He was a member of Hiram R. Gale Camp 1, Seattle.

PENNSYLVANIA

Harrisburg — Act No. 529, as approved by Gov. William W. Scranton, provides "that schools shall be closed on Memorial Day." The following is the Act, originated as Senate Bill 815, which passed the Senate by a vote of 48-0 and the House by a vote of 202-2:

"Section 1 — Section 1502, Act of March 10, 1949 (P. L. 30) known as the 'Public School Code of 1949,' is amended to read:

"Section 1502. Days Schools Not to be Kept Open — No school shall be kept open on any Saturday for the purpose of ordinary instruction, except when Monday is fixed by the Board of School Directors as the weekly holiday, or on Sunday, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, or Christmas, nor shall any school be kept open in any district during the time of holding the teachers' institute for such district. WHENEVER MEMORIAL DAY SHALL BE ON A SUNDAY, THE FOLLOWING MONDAY SHALL BE A HOLIDAY."

Harrisburg Camp and Auxiliary celebrated Lincoln's Birthday with a dinner at the Penn Harris Hotel on February 5. All the Pennsylvania department heads were present. These department heads were also all present at the Lincoln Dinner held by the Philadelphia Camp and Auxiliary on the following Saturday, February 12.

Genl. E. O. C. Ord Camp 54, Mahanoy City, held its installation of officers on January 5, with Charles H. Engle presiding. Installed as commander of the camp was Bro. Harry Richelderfer.

February 26 the Lehigh Valley Lincoln Dinner was held at the Americus Hotel, Allentown, with all department heads attending. This year for the first time since 1921, Allentown will be the site for the department encampment of the G.A.R. Allied Orders. General chairlady for the encampment is P.D.P. Catherine V. Hilbert, ASUV, and P.D.C. Arthur Noll is chairman of the Campfire Committee.

Speer Orr Camp 14, Johnstown, reports the G.A.R. Memorial Hall Assn. has rebuilt its 3-story building which had suffered a \$40,000 fire in June of 1965, and the camp is again meeting there along with 15 other patriotic and fraternal organizations which use the hall.

Dedication of the library cupboard at Lower Saucon Lutheran Church, Hellertown, on March 20, honored the memory of P.D.P. Beatrice A. Werkhiser who was killed in an auto accident last year en route to the Philadelphia Lincoln Dinner.

Riddell's Rodeo Ranch was the setting for the annual meeting of the Sons of Veterans Club of Philadelphia on March 19. John H. Stark, retiring president, presided at this meeting. Edwin K. Kramer was elected president for the coming year, and George W. F. Hoke as vice president; P.D.C. Frank M. Heacock and P.D.C. Charles H. Dern, Sr., were retained as secretary and treasurer respectively. Plans for the next two years' annual Lincoln Dinners (which will be the 99th and 100th) were discussed. The Philadelphia Lincoln Dinner was originated by the G.A.R. and has been held annually ever since. It is believed to be the oldest Lincoln observance in the U.S.

VERMONT

By appointment of the Department Council, P.D.C. Arthur L. Ballou is serving as Department Secretary-Treasurer for the remainder of the term, following the death of that officer.

Installation of officers for Camp 91, Bellows Falls, was held December 19. Serving as commander for the current year is Bro. Leland W. Bryant.

P.C.-in-C. Thomas A. Chadwick presented silver 45-year numerals to P.D.C. Arthur L. Ballou on December 19, follow-

ing Bro. Ballou's recovery from a severe case of shingles suffered during late summer and fall.

A grand 50th Wedding Anniversary reception was held by H.E.K. Hall Camp 28 and Auxiliary 15 on November 27 for John and Bertha Doyle. John is a past commander of the camp, and Bertha a past president of the auxiliary. On January 8, all camp officers were reinstated in their offices for another year, and Sister Adeline Durkee was installed as president of the auxiliary along with her corps of officers.

Members of Camp 11, Brattleboro, have made a determined effort to reactivate their camp, and have chosen Bro. Howard Bell as the new commander and Bro. Joseph Aldrich as secretary-treasurer.

TAPS: The department was deeply grieved upon the passing last August 5 of Archie C. Aldrich, of Camp 11, Brattleboro. A long-time member and a faithful officer in our Order, he was serving as Department Secretary-Treasurer at the time of his death.

The department also lost another faithful member of many years with the passing of Bro. Glenn P. Tarbell, for whom funeral services were held February 19. He had been commander of Milan Parks Camp of Springfield at the time it was disbanded, also belonged to State Camp 1, and was 90 years of age at the time of his death.

WISCONSIN

On January 17 Governor Warren P. Knowles signed a proclamation designating 1966 as Grand Army of the Republic Centennial Year in Wisconsin. The citation noted that the Department of Wisconsin, organized on June 7, 1866, was the first *officially recognized* department of the G.A.R. in the nation. Gov. Knowles is a member of Camp 2, Madison.

The Allied Orders of the G.A.R. held their Lincoln-Washington-McKinley patriotic dinner at the Y.M.C.A. in Milwaukee on February 12. Dept. Comdr. Thomas L. W. Johnson was the speaker. His topic was "Lincoln in Wisconsin." General chairlady for this traditional dinner was P.N.P. Ellinore L. Konrad.

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