

The **Banner**

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

Organized 1881 — the only male organization recognized by the Grand Army of the Republic — Chartered by Act of Congress

Volume 80

JANUARY, 1976

No. 1

REMEMBRANCE DAY - GETTYSBURG - 1975



REMEMBRANCE DAY PROGRAM

John H. Stark, Past Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, was the Master of Ceremonies at the 19th Annual Remembrance Day Program held in the Visitors Center Auditorium on the Gettysburg Battlefield on November 22nd. Maj. Norman Bowen, SVR, Chaplain NMD and Pastor of the Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Lindsey, Ohio, gave the opening and closing prayers. Fifes and Drums made up of musicians from a number of SVR units provided Civil War music for the program.

Brief remarks were made and greetings extended by Clarence J. Riddell, Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War; Mrs. Caroline E. Riddell, National President, Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War; Mrs. Edra Gene Tighe, National President, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic; Mrs. Joan Bennett, National President of the Woman's Relief Corps; and Miss Helen J. Beckman, National President of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Heads of the Penn. Depts. of the Allied Orders were introduced. Wm. L. Simpson, Dept. Commander, SUVCW; Mrs. Mary Jane Simpson, Department President, Auxiliary to SUVCW; Mrs. Ruth M. Mann, Department President, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War; and Mrs. Viola Crawford, Department President, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic. Mrs. Mildred White, a Past President, was introduced as the representative of Mrs. Mina Hankin, Department President of the Woman's Relief Corps.

The main address was delivered by Brig. Gen. W. A. Morgan, U.S.A.R., Retired, from Altoona. Gen. Morgan is a son of a veteran who fought on the Union side in the Civil War and is a charter member of Maj. Gen. H. J. Madill Camp No. 141 of Sayre, Penna. He noted that the local battlefield "serves well as a reminder of the sacrifices made here . . . Gettysburg," he said, "constituted a turning point in the Civil War. The 845 monuments here, the 415 field guns are a grim reminder of the vast extent of the engagement." Gen. Morgan went on to say, "America, the cornerstone of democracy, stands today as in its historic past, not as a masterpiece of organic government, but as an instrument inspiring the highest ideals of citizenship."

In making reference to Pennsylvania's significance in the history of our Nation, with Gettysburg, the turning point of the Civil War, only 118 miles from Philadelphia, where the Nation was founded, Gen. Morgan said, "Like those who fought here at Gettysburg, the signers of the Declaration of Independence were from all walks of life — holding that freedom was the priceless heritage that inspired their courageous endeavors."

Following the program in the Auditorium, the activities moved to the Comrade Albert Woolson Monument, the Memorial to the Grand Army of the Republic, in Ziegler's Grove. Comrade Woolson was the last survivor of the Grand Army of the Republic. While the audience was gathering at the monument, appropriate music was provided by the Fifes and Drums. The Color Guard was "M" Company, Sons of Veterans Reserve of Northampton, Penna., Capt. Clinton H. Simmons, Commanding.

Following the placement of wreaths at the Woolson Monument by the National and State heads of the Allied Organizations or their representatives (Upper left photo, page 1) the 21st Virginia-Maryland Guards, ANV, CSA, Major John Bell, Commanding, fired the Volley. Taps were sounded by MM3 Ivan E. Frantz, Jr. (U.S. Navy).

The afternoon's program was preceded by a parade of approximately 400 men in uniforms of the Civil War era — the Union Blue and Confederate Gray — accompanied by a number of women, some in hoop-skirted clothing of that era. The marching units included both Sons of Veterans Reserves in Union uniform and members of the Army of Northern Virginia in Confederate uniform.

Prior to the parade, at a meeting of the Sons of Veterans Reserve units, Brig. Gen. Chester S. Shriver of Gettysburg was unanimously reelected as Commanding Officer of the SVR for another term of five years. Gen. Shriver is also a Past Commander-in-Chief and Past National Secretary-Treasurer of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and a member of Gettysburg Camp 112.

G.A.R. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

The annual scholarship of \$250 awarded by the National Organization of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in memory of the Grand Army of the Republic was presented to Carl E. Alexis (Center left photo, page 1 left) of Bethesda, Maryland, a senior and outstanding history student at Gettysburg College, by Commander-in-Chief Clarence J. Riddell (center) at the 45th Annual Dedication Day Banquet held at the Gettysburg Holiday Inn on November 22nd, as Dr. Charles H. Glatfelter (right), Professor of History at Gettysburg College, looks on. Mr. Alexis plans to become a lawyer. In accepting the scholarship, Mr. Alexis informed those present that he became interested in Civil War study in an effort to understand "how good men could hold convictions so strong they were willing to die rather than relinquish those ideals." He added that "while I probably will not long remember the dates or perhaps even the names of some of the battlefields, I will always remember the great personal convictions of such men as Abraham Lincoln and Robert E. Lee and the other great men who served with them."

Past Department Commander George W. Long (Pa.) was the Banquet Toastmaster. The Banquet commemorated the dedication of the Gettysburg National Cemetery on November 19, 1863. Ralph Peifer, President of the Past Commanders and Past Presidents Association of South Central Pennsylvania, sponsors of the dinner, gave the address of welcome. The Gettysburg Address was recited in unison by all present. The audience also participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and the singing of America. Miss Mary Seitz, Association Chaplain, gave the invocation and benediction. National and Department heads of the five Organizations allied with the G.A.R., or their representatives, spoke briefly and extended greetings.

Also, during the evening's program the scrapbooks of Mrs. Bessie E. Kapp ("Bess Kapp") of Gettysburg, Past National President of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, a dedicated American and a student of Civil War history, were presented to the Gettysburg National Park (United States National Park Service) for preservation. Mrs. Kapp, who died approximately one year ago, was referred to by Mrs. Helen J. Beckman, National President of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War (Lower left photo, page 1 — second from left), who made the presentation, assisted by Carl Baum (far left) of the Gettysburg Times, as a person of great literary talents and ability to write beautiful prose and pageants based on patriotic themes and a great collector of Civil War memorabilia. John A. Earnest, Superintendent of the Gettysburg National Park (center) accepted the books.

In addition, Brig. Gen. Chester S. Shriver, SVR, (Lower left photo, page 1 — second from right) presented three pictures, one of Abraham Lincoln; one of Gen. George Meade; and one of Gen. Robert E. Lee — gifts from Henry M. Scharf, former manager of Hotel Gettysburg — to Gettysburg Camp No. 112 (SUVCW). Dr. Joseph H. Reiley, Camp Commander, (far right) accepted the gifts.

The Emmitsburg Community Chorus sang a number of selections during the dinner program.

IN MEMORIAM

EDITH B. NILE

National President 1944-45

It is with sadness that we record the death of Sister Nile. For countless years she has worked in the interest of our Organizations and she will be missed by all.

Sincere sympathy is extended to her family, the Alliance Auxiliary, the Department of Ohio and the National Organization.

CUSHING'S DARING EXPLOIT

by

GEORGE L. CASHMAN

Past Commander-in-Chief

and

Former Curator, Lincoln's Tomb



At the time when Admiral David Dixon Porter was fitting out a naval fleet which he was to command in the proposed assault on Fort Fisher, Cape Fear River, North Carolina, in the Fall of 1864, the Navy Department was greatly concerned over the depredations of the Confederate ram "Albemarle."

Porter, apprised of the department's concern, suggested a plan to blow up the ram by use of steam launches fitted with torpedoes. His plan was approved, and in July, the redoubtable William Parker Cushing was sent to Washington to discuss the possible capture or destruction of the ironclad. The Navy Department sent Cushing to New York to arrange for the procurement of two specially-designed steam launches. These to be fitted with a fourteen-foot boom, on the end of which would be fastened a torpedo, and mounting a twelve pound howitzer in the bow.

Cushing left the New York Navy Yard about the middle of October bound for Hampton Roads. One of the two launches ran aground in Cheseapeake Bay, and was captured by the Confederates. The other boat, badly battered, with Cushing aboard, escaped and arrived at its destination on October 24, delayed somewhat by a severe storm.

While the launch was being made shipshape once more, Admiral Porter received orders to prefer charges against Cushing for an alleged violation of some neutral rights while in command of a vessel. Porter made a brief investigation of the incident and reported the young officer free from blame. Cushing was jubilant at having so fortunately slipped out of a possible court-martial. At the designated time, Cushing started on his probable suicidal mission. Passing through the Dismal Swamp Canal, he reached the Roanoke River on October 27, and reported to Captain Maccomb on the flagship "Shamrock."

In his report, Cushing said that he had called his seven man crew together, and for the first time, revealed to them their objective, and told them that they were at liberty to go or not as they pleased. All seven men volunteered.

The night was dark and the weather foul. Cushing accompanied by fourteen men, additional men having been recruited from the "Shamrock" whose duty, as Cushing described it, was to dash aboard the U.S.S. Southfield, which had been sunk by the Confederates in the Roanoke River about a mile below the "Albemarle's" berth. They were to prevent a signal rocket from being ignited. Cushing's good fortune held and he passed within twenty feet of the "Southfield" without being challenged.

Cushing had hoped to board the "Albemarle" and "take her alive", but as he was moving close to the ram, an alert picket saw the outline of the launch and challenged. Hearing no reply, a heavy fire was opened on the boat, not only from the ram but from the troops ashore. A large fire was now lighted on the river bank which cast a glow upon the water, and Cushing discovered that the ram was protected by an intricate log boom along its waterline. Backing off, Cushing ordered full steam ahead and as the boat struck the boom was forced under water. Cushing lowered the torpedo boom and struck the "Albemarle" at the waterline, and a tremendous explosion ensued. A huge column of water rose high in the air lifting the ram several feet. She settled back in a sinking condition, having received a mortal wound. The little launch was swamped by the falling water, but drifted down stream with her crew still aboard, except for Cushing and five of his men, who were struggling in the water attempting to swim beyond the light of the fire on shore, and beyond the range of rifle fire.

The launch crew, some wounded, were picked up by the Confederates and taken prisoner. Cushing had been wounded in the wrist, but he escaped by drifting down the river in icy cold water until his strength nearly gave out. He tried to save John Woodman, a member of the crew, who was struggling in the water and crying for help, but his waning strength gave out and Woodman slipped under and drowned.

Cushing finally managed to reach the river bank where he dragged himself half way out of the water. He lay there until morning, completely exhausted. Finding himself near a dense swamp he crawled into the reeds, and hid there until dusk. His strength partially restored, Cushing began walking down stream on the river bank. In a short time he discovered a small skiff moored to the bank. Crawling into the boat he began paddling down river. Reaching Albemarle Sound, about eight miles below, he was sighted and picked up by the U.S.S. Valley City.

On October 30, Cushing reported to Admiral Porter saying, "I have the honor to report that the Rebel ironclad "Albemarle" is at the bottom of the Roanoke River."

With Cushing's report, Admiral Porter was elated. He said, "Lieutenant Cushing has displayed a heroic enterprise seldom equalled and never excelled . . . He has shown an absolute disregard of death or danger, and will no doubt be suitably rewarded by the Government, which reward he well deserves." The admiral's fervor was well-founded, for the destruction of the "Albemarle" paved the way for the capture of Plymouth and gave firm control to the Union of the entire Roanoke River area.

Cushing and Seaman Houghton were the only members of the fourteen-man crew to escape imprisonment or death. Congress commended Cushing for his bravery and enterprise, and promoted him to the rank of Lieutenant Commander. Edward Houghton was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

CENTRAL REGION CONFERENCE HELD



Delegates who attended the Central Region Conference at Richmond, Indiana, on October 11-12, participated in a workshop entitled, "Using Genealogy to Trace Your Civil War Ancestor." Leading the interesting and informative discussion was Bonnie Abel who distributed a packet of materials collected from state archival offices.

At the banquet on Saturday evening, Allen Paul, secretary-treasurer of Wm. Benton Camp, Richmond, spoke on ways to improve the image and success of our Order.

A roundtable discussion of problems and concerns of general interest to the Departments represented highlighted the Sunday morning session. Officers elected for 1975-76 are as follows: Louise Hernke, commander; Donald Kelly, senior vice commander; Betty King, junior vice commander; Argus Ogburn, secretary; Ellinore K. Johnson, treasurer; Ramona Greenwalt, patriotic instructor; Grover R. Huff, chaplain; and Bonnie Abel, guide.

Departments with delegates in attendance were Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin. It was agreed by everyone in attendance that the members of Wm. Benton Camp had done a fine job in hosting this year's Conference. Illinois extended an invitation to host the 1976 Conference which will be devoted to a discussion of Bicentennial plans and activities.

Pictured in photo above are l. to r.: Donald L. Kelly, retiring Indiana Department Secretary-Treasurer; Wayne C. Klusman, newly-elected Indiana Department Secretary-Treasurer; Argus E. Ogburn, Indiana Past Department Secretary-Treasurer and Past Department Commander; George L. Cashman, Past Commander-in-Chief; Daniel Boyer, member of host Camp No. 28. (Picture is courtesy of Palladium-Item, Richmond, Ind.)



General Order No. 2 Series 1975-76

Headquarters
COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF
Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War
3437 N. Howard Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19140
Phone: (215) RE 9-5796

- As we approach the New Year my sincere wishes go to each and every one for a Happy and Healthy 1976. All of us should also celebrate the birth of our country; the land we should all be proud to be a part of. Let us help to keep it "The Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave."
- November 22, 1975 was quite a day and one that will long be remembered. Remembrance Day is becoming bigger every year. The line of parade was outstanding, and both the National President and I were thrilled to walk through the lines of the Blue and the Gray — at peace with each other and just proud to be Americans. Many thanks to General Chester S. Shriver for such a fine turnout. Thanks also to Lt. Gen. Henry Horn and his men of the Army of Northern Virginia. Congratulations to Lt. Col. Wm. B. Kearney who was presented with a medal and certificate for his many years of service and to General Shriver who was re-elected for a five-year term as the Commanding Officer of the S.V.R. The annual dinner in the evening was also well attended, and it was my pleasure to present the scholarship award to Carl E. Alexis, a student at Gettysburg College. The committee for the affair is to be congratulated. The following day a short meeting was held in Camp No. 112's Hall for the purpose of discussing means of endeavoring to have Memorial Day returned to May 30.
- I will appreciate it if all Department Secretaries will advise me of the date and place of their Encampment so that I may make plans to visit as many Departments as possible.
- Our trips will start on the West Coast in February. We are looking forward to seeing many of you on our visits. All correspondence will be answered promptly upon our return.
- Each Brother who secures three or more members will become a National Aide and should wear the National ribbon with his Membership Badge. My congratulations to Brother Frank C. Bellinger, Commander of Chaplain P. G. Cook Camp No. 223, Tonawanda, New York, for having secured four new members.
- I hope that all Camps will prepare a program in observance of Abraham Lincoln's birthday. Your Commander-in-Chief and National President will be attending the annual ceremony and the placing of the wreaths at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D. C. on February 12.
- The first Camp meeting in January is the last time for installations. It is my sincere hope that every Camp will have a good attendance. My best wishes to all new officers.
- Brothers, please remember that our Patriotic Instructor, Brother Frank Clark, needs your help in order to reach his goal.
- To the family of P.N.P. Edith Nile, and all others who have lost loved ones, my deepest sympathy. Our prayers go out to Past National Chaplain, Brother Franklin Lucas of Wilmington, Delaware, for a speedy recovery from his recent accident, and to all who are in poor health at this time.

CLARENCE J. RIDDELL
Commander-in-Chief

Photos for the Remembrance and Dedication Day ceremonies in Gettysburg, November 22, are by courtesy of the Gettysburg Times.

THE LEGISLATIVE REPORT

MONDAY HOLIDAY LEGISLATION — With the signing of Public Law 94-97 by Pres. Ford which returns the federal observance of Veterans Day to its original date beginning in 1978, attention turns to the status of Memorial Day. A review of debate in the House over the Veterans Day issue reveals little sentiment among the leaders of the Post Office and Civil Service Committee, the group charged with the responsibility for considering measures relating to federal holidays, to return Memorial Day to its May 30 date.

Rep. Patricia Schroeder of Colorado, chairwoman of the subcommittee that handled the Veterans Day measure, said in her remarks opening debate. "With the exception of Veterans Day, Monday holidays have worked out quite well, and the committee does not anticipate considering any further changes in the Monday Holiday Act."

Later, in reply to a question from Rep. Stratton of New York, a long-time backer of Monday holidays, Rep. Schroeder asserted. "I would be happy to assure the gentleman that we have not declared war on Monday holidays, that this is not a secret way to nibble them away or eat them away one by one, but this is one (Veterans Day) that was supported by 46 States. That is what put us into this position."

In his remarks in support of the shift of Veterans Day back to November 11, Rep. David Henderson of North Carolina, chairman of the Post Office and Civil Service Committee, declared, "Memorial Day, for instance, was for many years the 30th of May, but that date has no significance as an anniversary of any event. It was simply a date chosen to commemorate the contribution and sacrifices of American soldiers in war. So I join my colleague, Mrs. Schroeder, in expressing the committee's views that further amendments to the Monday holiday law should not be made simply because Memorial Day and Columbus' Birthday, or Washington's Birthday used to be celebrated on a different day. I am convinced that the advantages of the Monday holiday law outweigh the advantages of returning to the old law. The return to November 11 to commemorate Armistice Day should be a singular exception."

In the opinion of your chairman, these statements together with others made during the debate should tell us two things. It is going to be most difficult to obtain Congressional action to return Memorial Day to May 30 nationally unless a grass roots campaign is undertaken at the State level to convince the States to make the shift back to May 30. Then Congress will be forced to consider a return to the traditional date as it did for Veterans Day.

With reference to action at the State level, the Wisconsin State Senate on Sept. 10 voted 21 to 9 to pass a bill that would return Memorial Day to May 30 in the Badger State. The measure is now awaiting action in committee in the Assembly.

FUTURE OF SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNAL SECURITY — A move is afoot in the Senate to cut off the operating budget of its Subcommittee on Internal Security beginning in 1976. On July 23, 1975, the Committee on Rules and Administration voted 4 to 3 to approve a motion by Sen. Mark Hatfield of Oregon that reduced the 1975 budget of SSIS and to notify the chairman of the parent Judiciary Committee that funds for its subcommittee would "not likely" be provided beyond the current year. The SSIS is the last remaining institution in either the Legislative or Executive branch of the Federal government that investigates and reports to Congress on the subversive activities of radical terrorist groups and other organizations that threaten our nation's internal security. Last January the House of Representatives abolished the House Committee on Internal Security, and the Internal Security Division of the Department of Justice has been liquidated. A decision on the budget for the SSIS is expected early in 1976.

Respectfully submitted,
THOMAS L. W. JOHNSON, Chairman

Behind all these men you have to do with, behind officers, and government, and people even, there is the Country Herself, your Country . . . you belong to Her as you belong to your own mother. Stand by Her, boy, as you would stand by your mother.

— Edward Everett Hale

TWENTIETH ANNUAL LINCOLN TOMB CEREMONY Springfield, Illinois Thursday, April 15, 1976

A memorial ceremony commemorating the 111th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's death will be conducted by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, assisted by The Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, at 11:00 A.M. on April 15, at the Lincoln Tomb, Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Illinois. In charge of arrangements are George L. Cashman, Thomas L. W. Johnson, Robert M. Graham, and Wayne C. Temple, co-chairmen of the ceremony committee.

The State House Inn will be the site of the commemorative luncheon that will immediately follow the rites at the Tomb. Edwin C. Bearss, research historian with the National Park Service and noted authority on Civil War history, will be the luncheon speaker. A shuttle bus will provide transportation free of charge between the Tomb and the hotel. It is expected that the 114th Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment (Reactivated) of Springfield and other units attired in authentic Civil War period uniforms will be on hand to form an honor guard for the ceremony.

As a Department Commander, Department Auxiliary President, or as an individual member of our Order, this is your invitation to participate in this meaningful ceremony. Individual invitations will not be sent to Departments. If your organization wishes to participate, please indicate by letter that (1) you will present a wreath and that (2) you wish to make a specific number of luncheon reservations. It is imperative that the number of luncheon reservations desired be specified. To insure a proper listing of your organization and the name of your wreath-bearer in the printed program, send your letter giving full details not later than **MARCH 25** to

Robert M. Graham, Co-chairman
Oak Ridge Cemetery Office
Springfield, Illinois 62702

Wreaths may be sent to the Tomb for delivery not later than 9:30 A.M., Thursday, April 15, 1976. Instruct your florist to deliver your wreath c/o CURATOR, Lincoln Tomb, Springfield, Illinois.

NATIONAL PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR'S MESSAGE

Having been appointed National Patriotic Instructor, I am pleased to serve our National Organization and to strive to fulfill the responsibilities and obligations of the office to the very best of my ability.

I shall need the help of each member, Camp and Department to reach the goal of \$1,200 suggested by the National Council of Administration for the National GAR Fund. It is with this Fund that many patriotic projects in memory of Union Veterans of the Civil War are financed.

Please send contributions in the form of checks or money orders made out to the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, to me, **Frank L. Clark, 4 Jacata Road, Marlboro, New Jersey 07746**, using the contribution form which is enclosed with this issue of the Banner.

May I also urge all Department and Camp Patriotic Instructors to promote the observance of all patriotic holidays and the teaching of patriotism and love of Country, thereby perpetuating the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic.

FRANK L. CLARK
National Patriotic Instructor

SMILE AWHILE

(Overheard at a Dinner Table)
— It is considered poor judgement to attempt to traverse a chasm in two leaps.
— Our Board is continually faced with a series of great opportunities brilliantly disguised as insolvable problems.

RETURN OF MEMORIAL DAY TO MAY 30TH SOUGHT

An all-out effort to restore Memorial Day to May 30th was the purpose of a meeting held at the G.A.R. Post Home, East Middle Street, Gettysburg, Penna. Sunday, November 23rd. Representatives were present from New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania. P.C. in C. Frank M. Heacock, Sr., Department Patriotic Instructor, Penna., was named Chairman to spearhead the drive. A resolution will be presented at the National Encampment in Columbus, Ohio in August urging concurrence. Departments will be asked to take similar action.

GENERAL GRANT'S BIRTHDAY TO BE OBSERVED

The 154th Birthday of Gen. Ulysses S. Grant will be commemorated by the Camps and Auxiliaries of the New York Department on Sunday, April 25th at the General Grant National Memorial, Riverside Drive and 122nd Street in New York City at 2:00 p.m. A dinner will follow at 4:30 p.m. at Stouffer's Restaurant on Fifth Avenue at 53rd Street. The arrangements Committee is composed of the following: Paul Furst, Chairman; J. Herbert Guion, Vice-Chairman; Chester E. Hudson, Patrons and Memorials; Cecil M. Baer, Honored Guests; Arthur T. Knowles, Program; Albert A. Morey, Chairman of Dinner; P.N.P. Edith M. Paulding; P.D.P. Florence R. Parsons, P.D.S. Leila M. Kroepeke; and D.P.I. Mary L. Cronin.

1976 NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT AUGUST 15-19, COLUMBUS, OHIO MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW

The Niel House in Columbus, Ohio will be the site of the 95th annual National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the annual conventions of the Auxiliary to the Sons and of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, August 15-19, 1976. The committee has been working earnestly in making plans that will guarantee an enjoyable and interesting time for all who attend. The Encampment will open on Sunday with the traditional Memorial Service and Campfire program. Business sessions will be conducted on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Thursday will be a free day to provide time for sightseeing, trips and pleasure. Further information and details will be published in the April issue of the Banner. In due time reservation cards will be available at all Department headquarters.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING ALL OF YOU IN
THE CAPITAL CITY OF OHIO IN AUGUST, 1976.

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL ASSOCIATION

The Fall meeting of the New England Regional Association was held in Framingham, Massachusetts with representatives from all six states in this region present. A short business session was followed by a general discussion and exchange of information and ideas for the good of the Organization. Sunday morning was spent listening to a short but most interesting resume of Massachusetts in the "Civil War" prepared by P.D.C. Ernest G. Wells. In spite of the inclement weather and consequent small attendance, a pleasant time was enjoyed by all.

Husband: "In our six years of marriage we haven't been able to agree on anything."
Wife: "It's been seven years, dear."

Customer in book store: "Pardon me, miss, I'm looking for a book called "Man—The Master of Woman."
Sales Clerk: "Sir, the fiction department is on the other side of the store."

Wife: "You worm. What do you mean by coming home at this hour?"
Husband: "Every other place was shut, dear."



Department News



COLORADO-WYOMING

At the September 14, 1975 meeting of Colorado Springs Camp No. 5, Memorial Services were held in honor of Brother Earl F. Wright who died September 5, 1975. Brother Wright was Past Camp Commander and Past Department Commander and one of our most stalwart members. His loss is a heavy one.

We are proud to announce that we now have in Colorado Spring Camp No. 5 three members who are in active military service: Capt. G. B. McBride, Air Force; Capt. Charles H. Davis, Army; and Charles E. Sharrock, Jr., Marine Corps.

CONNECTICUT

Conklin Sellar Camp No. 55 has taken in two members, Robert Henry Punce and Fredrick A. Royce, who have been elected as our new Camp Commander and Sr. Vice Commander, respectively. They will be installed at a joint installation with Auxiliary No. 20 on January 17th. They will be the youngest Commander and Sr. Vice Commander ever installed in the Camp — Robert is 21; Fred is 19.

INDIANA

At a special meeting of the Department Council called by Commander Otto Guedelhoefer and held in Indianapolis, P.D.C. Wayne C. Klusman was elected to fill the unexpired term of office of Department Secretary-Treasurer. All communications should now be sent to Brother Klusman, 431 S. W. 17th St., Richmond, Indiana 47374.



The Department of Indiana (Sons and Auxiliary) donated \$250 to the Battle Ground Historical Corporation for the restoration of the old Methodist Chapel at the Tippecanoe Battlefield in Battle Ground. The chapel, pictured above, is thought to have been built in 1851 and is one of the largest board and batten buildings in the area. When the Battle Ground Historical Corporation took option on the abandoned camp in 1971, plans were made to move the chapel to the long-unused Harrisonville Cemetery at the north end of the property and restore it to its original, rustic look. At present the chapel has been partially repaired for use for candlelight vesper services on Sunday evenings. The donation by the Sons and Auxiliary is part of our continuing interest in the Tippecanoe Battlefield. In the late thirties, the Tippecanoe Battlefield Memorial Committee was formed out of the organization. The committee, which meets annually at the battlefield, sought to purchase as much of the land around the historic area as possible. Government bonds were purchased, but the high appraisal of the lands forced abandonment of the program. In its place, approval was granted to apply the bonds to the restoration of the chapel.

MARYLAND

Appomattox Camp No. 2 of Wilmington, Del. will hold their anniversary luncheon on Saturday, March 27th at the V.F.W. Hall, 313 Brandywine Blvd., Bellefonte, Wilmington at 1:30 p.m. The cost will be \$4.85 and reservations with remittance are to be sent to Frank M. Heacock, 421 So. Sycamore St., Wilmington, Del. 19805 no later than March 22nd. Everyone is invited.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Department Commander Richard Wyman of Keene, assisted by Robert Lawrence, P.D.C., and Arthur Bartlett, P.D.C., of Penacook, installed Wallace Hooper, Commander of John W. Spaulding Camp, and the other officers of the Camp for 1976. After the installation ceremonies a short program, including vocal selections by the Circle Singers of New Boston and recitation of the Gettysburg Address by David Hart, was presented. Guests were present from Keene, Hillsboro, Penacook, Milford, Amherst and Mount Vernon. Department Commander Wyman, who is also National Chaplain, extended greetings from the National Organization. Remarks were made also by other distinguished guests in attendance.

NEW JERSEY

Fifteen members of the New Jersey Department attended the annual Remembrance and Dedication Day observance at Gettysburg, Penna. on November 22nd.

Our New Jersey Lincoln Dinner will be held on Saturday, February 14th at Nassau Inn, Princeton. We look forward to our friends and members supporting us in the effort to keep this tradition of over 100 years alive.

The New Jersey State Camp Spring dinner meeting will be held on Saturday, April 24th at Nassau Inn, Princeton. Brother James Elliott will present a slide program on Sherman's Atlanta Campaign and the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain. Narration will be done by Roger Semplak. Mr. Semplak has a B.A. Degree from Monmouth College and is a member of the Company of Military Historians and a collector of weapons and documents of the Civil War. He is also Assistant Director of the Monmouth County Historical Association at Freehold.

Dept. Patriotic Instructor Genevieve Orme reports making a presentation of an American Flag, in the name of the Department Auxiliary, to the Sisters of St. Joseph, Roseland, N. J.

A certificate stating the flag was flown over the U.S. Capital in Washington was also presented with the flag. Sr. Orme is soliciting labels from Campbell Soup products for presentation to schools participating in this program. These labels are used toward attaining equipment for schools for use in the education of our children. So far Sr. Orme has made one presentation of labels to the Holy Name School in E. Orange, N. J.

NEW YORK

On February 12th Congressman John J. La Falce, 36th District, N. Y., will be the main speaker at the 10:00 a.m. Lincoln's Birthday Observance at the Portico of Buffalo and Erie County Historical Museum in Buffalo.

The first weekend in May Waterloo, the birthplace of Memorial Day, will stage its Bicentennial celebration with President Gerald R. Ford being the top honored guest.

Captain Harry Furman, SVR, states that on July 4th the SVR troops from New York will participate in a reenactment of the Battle of Gettysburg.



On October 25, P.C. in C. Norman R. Furman was the main speaker at the National Veterans Day ceremonies in Wheatfield

Cemetery, Wheatfield, N. Y. at the grave of William Thompson, a Revolutionary Soldier who was honored as part of Niagara County's Bicentennial observance. The Civil War soldiers who fell in the Battle of Cold Harbor buried there were also honored, flags being placed on their graves by members of Cook Camp No. 223.

Shown in the photo above is Commander of Camp No. 223, Frank Bellenger (center) who was master of ceremonies; also participating was Brother Robert Hughes (right), Camp No. 223 member wearing a War of 1812 uniform and Fremont Ferchen (rear left), chairman of Niagara County Bicentennial Commission and a member of the Legislature from Niagara County. The grave of William Thompson is in the foreground and Civil War graves can be seen in the background.

Three wreaths were placed at the Eternal Light at Fifth Avenue and 25th Street in New York City on Veterans Day, November 11th — by Chester E. Hudson, P.D.C., in memory of the Grand Army of the Republic; by Cecil M. Baer, Department Patriotic Instructor and Historian, representing the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War; and by Al Morey, acting Commander of Oliver Tilden Camp No. 26 of New York City.

On November 15th a well-attended luncheon in honor of Veterans Day was held at the Knolls under the sponsorship of Nordquist Camp No. 64 of Mt. Vernon, with good representation of Camps, Auxiliaries and guests present.

Department Commander Edson W. Baker and Department President Louella Fields were honored by large groups at dinners and receptions during the Fall — September 20 at Waterloo; October 18 at Rochester; November 1 at Schenectady; and November 8 at Albany. In western New York June 5 is the date set by Auxiliary No. 8 of Chaplain P. G. Cook Camp No. 223 to honor the top State leaders at Packet Inn, North Tonawanda.

OHIO

We deeply mourn the death of P.N.P. of the Auxiliary Edith Nile who passed away in mid-December. Sister Nile was a loyal and dedicated member and officer of the Auxiliary. Her interest and guidance will be greatly missed.

A reception was held for Department Commander Thomas E. Hoffman on October 18th at the American Legion Post 16 building in Mansfield. The main address was given by Municipal Court Judge Ralph Johns; Mansfield Mayor Richard A. Porter delivered the welcoming address.

OREGON-WASHINGTON



The Oregon Blues Brigade, SVR (above) with its fife and drum corps, participated in a July 4th parade with the Bicentennial Wagon Train. Shortly after, the wagon train started its cross-country trek.

The following week saw the Clackamas County Bicentennial Kickoff at Sandy, Oregon. Part of this 4-day celebration was a parade with 151 units entered. The Oregon Blues Brigade took part, representing its headquarters at Lake Oswego, and brought home a sweepstakes first award. LtC. Claude R. Butcher, SVR, served at the reviewing stand.

In November the Oregon Blues Brigade participated in a massed colors and ceremonial in tribute to departed veterans of the world wars, as it has done for the past eleven years.

On October 24th, the local Sons of the American Revolution sponsored a ceremonial in observance of Dependence on God Day, first held in 1775. A color guard, plus fifers and drummers, from the Oregon Blues Brigade participated.

PENNSYLVANIA

The library of Camp 200, Philadelphia is now ready for loan operation and the museum is available for tours. Renovations to the building are progressing with funds being acquired from the sale of duplicated items or unwanted and unrelated items.

Camp 200's Hancock Fund is moving along smoothly; plans for continued advertising of this worthy event were crystallized in November. The goal is to repair damage caused by vandalism, mark the compartments and seal permanently the entrance to the burial crypt of Major General Winfield Scott Hancock and his family in Norristown, Penna. A further goal is to provide some sort of continuous security, probably with appropriate fencing, to prevent vandalism and destruction in the future, and to try to restore the entire plot to its original condition. General Hancock was a soldier, politician and patriot and was considered by many historians to be one of the great Civil War military leaders.

The 108th Annual Philadelphia Lincoln Banquet will be held at Valle's, Roosevelt Blvd., Philadelphia, Saturday, February 14th, at 6:30 p.m. Tickets will be \$7.50 and reservations with remittance and names are to be sent to Frank M. Heacock, Chairman, 421 So. Sycamore St., Wilmington, Del. 19805, prior to February 9th.

The Lehigh Valley Lincoln Dinner will be held at the Dewey Fire Hall, Hellertown, Penna., Saturday, February 28th. Robert U. Werkheiser will accept reservations no later than February 23rd with remittance of \$6.50 per person.

The annual Appomattox Banquet will be held at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Reading, Saturday, April 3rd, at 6:30 p.m. Mrs. Irene K. Murphy, P.N.P. is Chairlady.

On September 20, a reception was held in Reading in honor of Department Commander William L. Simpson and his wife, Department President Mary Jane Simpson. Also present were Commander-in-Chief Clarence Riddell and his wife, National President Caroline Riddell, from Philadelphia and the Mayor of Reading who congratulated Bill and Mary Jane upon attaining their high offices.

Auxiliary No. 1 of Philadelphia held their 88th Anniversary on October 11. Guests included our own Sister, National President Caroline Riddell, and her husband, Commander-in-Chief Clarence Riddell of Camp 200, Philadelphia; also the Department Commander and Department President, William and Mary Jane Simpson, of Reading. P.C. in C John Yocum acted as Toastmaster. Delegates from New Jersey and Delaware, plus many past and present Department and National Officers were in attendance.

WISCONSIN



The annual Mid-Year Meeting of the Department was held at the Summit Town Hall, Oconomowoc, on November 16. Presiding at the joint session were Department Commander Grover R. Huff and Department President Mildred Biering. A variety of informative reports were given, and ways to stimulate membership and raise funds were discussed. The relationship of the SVR to the parent organization was also discussed. Everyone present enjoyed a delicious potluck dinner served at noon by the women of the Auxiliary. A beautiful fall day provided the setting for a large and enthusiastic turnout of the membership.

On August 19 Department President Mildred Biering paid her official visit to Tomah Veterans Hospital. Pictured above on this occasion are 1 to r.: P.D.P. Marcy Bradburn, P.D.P. Constance Nack, P.D.C. Edward E. Biering, Department President Mildred Biering, and Mr. R. N. Smotherman, Assistant Director of the Hospital.

PERMANENT FUND

Our Permanent Fund was authorized to unite 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 his name.

**To — Fred H. Combs, Jr., National Secretary Treasurer,
P. O. Box 6193, Lawrenceville, N. J. 08648**

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 — Section 170 of the Code of 1951)

The following contributions have been received since the last issue of *The Banner*:

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS:

- Charles H. Small, Knoxville, Ill.
(Member of Camp No. 33, York, Penna.) \$ 75.00
- Thomas L. W. Johnson, P.D.C., Madison Wisc. 100.00
- Ben H. Lebo, U. S. Soldiers Home, Washington, D.C.
(Member of Meade Camp 16 — Reading, Pa.) 75.00
- Frank C. Bellinger, Chaplain,
P. G. Cook Camp No. 223, Tonawanda, N. Y. 100.00
- Thomas C. Etter, Jr., Bala-Cynwyd, Pa. 100.00
- David C. Laing, P. G. Cook Camp No. 223,
Tonawanda, N. Y. 100.00
- From Myron A. Cleaver, Allentown, Penna.,
In memory of Mahlon F. Cleaver, Co. A.,
109th Penna. Vol. Inf. \$ 10.00
- From James R. Buck, West New York, N. J.,
(In behalf of the Buck Family and all the descendants)
In memory of Lt. George W. Buck, Co. A.,
110th Penna. Inf. 25.00
- From U. S. Grant Camp No. 100, Cincinnati, Ohio,
In memory of P. C. in C. William M. Coffin 10.00
- From John Everett Finders, Ph.D., Kearny, N. J.
In memory of his father, John Finders, Co. C.,
1st. Regt., N. J. Vols. 25.00
- From Charles F. Kane, MS/GT Retired, U. S. Army,
Huntsville, Ala., (Member at Large) in memory of
Sgt. Thomas A. Kane, Co. E, 198th Regt.
Penna. Vol. Inf. 10.00

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS 1975-76

COLORADO & WYOMING

Commander — John B. Tipton, 725 N. Farragut Ave., Colorado Springs, Colo. 80909
Sec'y-Treas. — William F. Woolsey, 101 Jasper Dr., Colorado Springs, Colo. 80911

ILLINOIS

Commander — William H. Baxter, Sr., 1523 N. Kildare Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60651
Sec'y-Treas. — Charles A. Brady, Jr., P.O. Box 6165, Chicago, Ill. 60680

NEW YORK

Commander — Edson W. Baker, R.D. 2, Interlaken, N. Y. 14847
Sec'y-Treas. — Lawrence E. Isaacs, 69-02 138th St., Flushing, N. Y. 11367

VERMONT

Commander — William O. Wilson, 11 Walker Rd., Springfield, Vt. 05156
Secretary — Arthur Ballou, R.R. Tinmouth, Wallingford, Vt. 05773
Treasurer — Ned Durkee, 34 Pine Ave., Claremont, N. H.

The mob is man voluntarily descending to the nature of the beast.

1976 DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENTS

DEPARTMENT	Location	Dates	Location
Calif. & Pacific	Fresno, Calif.	April 9-11	Sheraton Inn
Colo. & Wyo.	Manitou Springs	July 6-8	Manitou Springs City Hall
Connecticut	Hartford	May 1-2	Shoreham Three Motor Lodge
Illinois	(Arrangements not yet completed)		
Indiana	Indianapolis	June 12-13	Howard Johnson's (Wash. Ave.)
Iowa	(Information Will Be Printed in Next Issue)		
Maine	(Information Will Be Printed in Next Issue)		
Maryland	Wilmington, Del.	April 30 & May 1	Holiday Inn
Massachusetts	Framingham	April 2-4	Farmingham Motor Inn
Michigan	Grand Rapids	June 13-15	Pantlind Hotel
New Hampshire	Concord	Apr. 30 & May 1	New Hampshire Highway Hotel
New Jersey	Avon	June 17-19	Buckingham Hotel
New York	Glen Falls	June 27-30	Queensbury Inn
Ohio	Alliance	June 25-27 (tent.)	Mt. Union College
Ore. & Wash.	(Information Will Be Printed in Next Issue)		
Pennsylvania	Reading	June 27-30	Abraham Lincoln Motor Inn
Rhode Island	Warwick	April 9-10	Howard Johnson's (Jefferson Industrial Blvd.)
Vermont	Warren	June 24-26	Pitcher Inn, Xmas Tree Inn, Kehoe Inn
Wisconsin	Milwaukee	June 5	Holiday Inn Mid-Town

National Heads Honored at . . .

PENNSYLVANIA DINNER AND RECEPTION

Representatives from several Departments of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and its Auxiliary joined with the Department of Pennsylvania on November 8th at a delightful joint testimonial dinner and reception honoring Commander-in-Chief Clarence J. Riddell and National President Caroline E. Riddell at the Holiday Inn, King of Prussia, Penna.

Past Commander-in-Chief Frank M. Heacock, Sr. served as Toastmaster.

Included among the more than 160 persons in attendance were Mrs. Helen J. Beckman, National President of the Daughters of Union Veterans; Mrs. Edna Tighe, National President of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic; William Simpson, Pennsylvania Department Commander, SUVCW; Mrs. Mary Jane Simpson, Pennsylvania Department President, Auxiliary to the SUVCW; many present and past National and Department officers; officers and representatives of Allied Orders; and members of the families and friends of Commander-in-Chief and National President Riddell. Many letters and telegrams were received.

A large replica of the Liberty Bell was presented to the guests of honor by Leon C. Goldberg, Chairman of the Philadelphia Veterans Advisory Committee, on behalf of Philadelphia Mayor Frank Rizzo who could not be present because of illness.

National President Riddell presented the National Scholarship of the Auxiliary to Caroline Tauber, a student at Bucknell University.

Sister Thressa Moeckel, Personal Aide to the National President, was in charge of arrangements. The invocation was given by National Chaplain of the Auxiliary, Gertrude Deckenback; the benediction was given by P.D.C. Richard O. Partington of Pennsylvania.

The dinner program concluded with the traditional "Pennsylvania Closing" and was followed by the reception and dancing.

First come, first service: A surgeon, an architect, and a politician were arguing as to whose profession was the oldest.

Said the surgeon: "Eve was made from Adam's rib, and that surely was a surgical operation."

"Maybe," said the architect, "but prior to that, order was created out of chaos, and that was an architectural job."

"But," interrupted the politician, "somebody created the chaos first!"

— Kentucky Scrapper

THE BANNER

Published quarterly by the National Headquarters of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. This Order was founded in 1881 and is the only male organization recognized by the Grand Army of the Republic. A Congressional Charter has been granted to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

All items for publication must be received by the 15th day of December, March, June and September.

All members receive *The Banner* without charge. Other interested persons can subscribe at the rate of \$2.00 yearly. All subscriptions expire on the first day of each year.

Fred H. Combs Jr., Editor, P. O. Box 6193, Lawrenceville, N. J. 08618