

The Banner

Published bi-monthly 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

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No. 1

Take Part In Remembrance Day Rites

GETTYSBURG, PENNA., NOVEMBER 21, 1959



Wreaths were placed by national and state heads of the GAR-affiliated organizations at a Remembrance Day program honoring the "Grand Army" at the Woolson statue in Ziegler's Grove. Shown are some of the participants in the program. In the foreground are national officers who spoke and the principal speaker of the day. The second row are local SUVCW members who carried the National Commandery colors and in the background may be seen the Woolson-GAR memorial.

Those shown include Mrs. Beatrice S. Riggs, Upland, Calif., national president of the auxiliary of the SUVCW; Harold E. Arnold, Coventry, R. I., commander-in-chief of the SUVCW; Maj. Gen. Anthony J. Drexel Biddle, adjutant general of Pennsylvania and the principal speaker; Miss Josephine E. Parkhurst, Pulaski, N. Y., national president of the Woman's Relief Corps; Miss Bertha M. Robbins, Mishawaka, Ind., national president of the Daughters of Union Veterans, and Mrs. Edna S. Lindsey, Portland, Ore., national president of the Ladies of the GAR. In uniform are Paul Snyder, Arthur Warman, John Stark and David Tawney, of the local SUVCW. (Times Photo)

"To Americans and to peoples of the other nations of the world," General Biddle said, "the Grand Army of the Republic symbolizes the patriotism of our country, and the great struggle for liberty and

union by the American Army of 1861-1865. "Today the Sons of Union Veterans and other distinguished allied orders have a rich heritage to maintain. They are the heirs to an ideal that inspired hundreds of
(Continued on Next Page)

thousands of men to don the Union Blue and fight on this and other battlefields to preserve the Union. "It was to honor the known and unknown martyrs, both of the Blue and of the Gray Armies, who lie enshrined beneath these green acres, that President Lincoln consecrated this battlefield in his deeply meaningful address."

Albert C. Lambert, Trenton, N. J., Nat'l. Secy-Treas. SUVCW, was master of ceremonies at the program held at the statue depicting Albert Woolson, last survivor of the Union Army. Praise for the G.A.R. was given by the national heads of the five organizations as well as the state heads, Edwin K. Kramer, Harrisburg, SUVCW; Mrs. Helen Hall, Darby, Aux. SUVCW; Mrs. Anna Miller, Harrisburg, Ladies of the G.A.R.; Mrs. Bess Kapp, Gettysburg, DUVCW; and Mrs. Helen Bittenbender, Hazleton, W.R.C. The national and state heads then placed wreaths before the Woolson statue.

Following General Biddle's talk, Gettysburg Camp 112, SUVCW presented a pageant of tribute; the New Oxford SUV Reserve under command of 1st Lt. Arthur L. Weaver fired the volley. Edward Hughes sounded "taps." Rev. Dr. W. R. Sammel gave the invocation and benediction. Music of the Civil War period resounded again during the program.

On the evening of the same day, the 29th Annual Banquet of the Past Commanders and Past Presidents Assoc. was held at the Hotel Gettysburg to commemorate the Dedication of the National Cemetery, at which time Hon. James M. Quigley, Congressman of the 19th District of Penna. was the principal speaker. Greetings were extended by the National and Department heads of all of the Allied Orders of the G.A.R.

These events climaxed a three day observance in Gettysburg, which was sponsored jointly by the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania and Camp 112, Sons of Union Veterans. Gettysburg lead the nation on November 19th in the 96th anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address and of the close of the Lincoln Sesquicentennial year. Highlighting the events were a Lincoln Fellowship luncheon at noon and exercises at 2:30 P. M. at the National Monument in the Gettysburg National Cemetery.

by the 70 piece U. S. Army Band, and Memorial wreaths were laid by Mr. Sandburg and by William S. Henry of our Order. The master of ceremonies was Dr. Frederick Tilberg, President of the Lincoln Fellowship. Our own Chester S. Shriver is the newly elected President of the Lincoln Fellowship.



Come to the LAND OF LINCOLN

NATIONAL
ENCAMPMENT

Springfield, Illinois
August 21-25, 1960

What to see . . . where to go

PLACES OF INTEREST ASSOCIATED WITH ABRAHAM LINCOLN . . .

- Lincoln's Home—Eighth and Jackson Streets. Free to the public. State operated. The only home Mr. Lincoln ever owned. Open daily and Sunday.
- Old State Capitol—Lincoln Square, downtown. Now the Sangamon County Court House. More than 100 years old. Many Lincoln connections. Open during office hours.
- Lincoln Tomb and Monument—In Oak Ridge Cemetery, North part of city. State maintained and operated. Free admission. Open daily and Sunday.

PLACES MARKED WITH BRONZE TABLETS . . .

- Lincoln Circuit Marker—Northeast Corner Lincoln Square.
- 116 North Sixth Street—Second story room in which Mr. Lincoln received word of his nomination for the presidency.
- Southwest Corner, Sixth and Adams Streets. Original building, on third floor of which was law office of Lincoln and Logan.
- 528 East Adams Street. The original building in which Lincoln wrote his first Inaugural Address.
- Southwest Corner Fifth and Washington Streets—Offices of Lincoln and Herndon; the Speed store above which Lincoln and Speed lived for several months.
- 109 North Fifth Street. Original building, remodeled, in which was office of Lincoln and Stuart.
- 315 East Adams Street. The Globe Tavern, in which the Lincolns lived for some time.
- Seventh and Capitol Avenue. First Presbyterian Church, in which is the original church pew occupied by the Lincolns.
- Tenth and Monroe Streets. Site of railroad station where Lincoln said farewell to Springfield. Complete Farewell Address on tablet.

THE BANNER

Published bi-monthly by 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 25th day of December, February, April, June, August, and October. Subscription \$1.00 yearly—all subscriptions expire on the first day of each year.

Albert C. Lambert, P. O. Box 457, Trenton 3, N. J.



Pictured left to right: Carl Sandburg, Congressman Fred Schwengle of Iowa, and Chester S. Shriver, Major S.V.R., Master of Ceremonies at the National Cemetery exercises.

Sandburg, renowned Lincoln biographer attended the luncheon and spoke at the National Cemetery. The Dedication Day address at the cemetery was delivered by Dr. Arthur S. Flemming, secretary of health, education and welfare in President Eisenhower's cabinet. The National Anthem was played

Patriotic Instructor's Message

Once again we are faced with the dawn of a new year. Our hearts are brightened with the Holiday Season bringing joy to the world, and our thoughts are of those New Year resolutions. Perhaps we could resolve for 1960, that as a member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, we think, talk and take an active part in more patriotic work for our beloved Order.

The next five years presents a challenge. We must place our name before the public and be seen taking an active part in all patriotic events.

On February 12th in Washington, D. C. at 11 A. M. the Sons of Union Veterans will join the Military Order of the Loyal Legion for their annual services at the Lincoln Monument. It will be pageantry at its finest, commemorating our Great President. The U. S. Marine Band along with Honor Units of each of the Armed Forces will form the background. The Commandery-in-Chief Colors will be carried by the Pennsylvania Brigade, S.V.R. Reserve. Why not play now to attend.

Recently it was my pleasure to be in the presence of Carl Sandburg. Discussing the life of Lincoln, he remarked that despite his trials and tribulations, he prepared himself by reading books, and regretted that modern living does not permit of very much such reading.

Cliff Arquette (Charlie Weaver of T.V.) recently announced in Hollywood that anyone wishing to contribute to the Battlefields Preservation Fund could do so. Contributions of over \$15,000 were received in the first few days. These funds will be used to purchase land adjacent to Battlefields at Vicksburg, Antietam and Gettysburg to curb commercialization of these shrines.

Remember your annual contribution to the G.A.R. Memorial Fund.

CHESTER S. SHRIVER,
National Patriotic Instructor.

ADIEU

Walter Williams, honored as the last surviving veteran of the Civil War, died in Houston, Texas on December 19, 1959. Death came to the old Confederate—he gave his age as 117—when he simply stopped breathing, worn out after a fourth attack of pneumonia since June. Gen. U. S. Grant III, Civil War centennial chairman said Williams' death is an occasion for nation-wide mourning. Natl. Chaplain Leonard sent a telegram of condolence to his family.

Williams first laid official claim to service with the Confederates when he applied for a state Civil War pension in 1932. Texas authorities investigated his application and determined that his claim to service was authentic. They granted him a pension. At that time he would have been in his late 80s, and a few variations between the facts he gave then and his later stories could be laid to his elderly state. One newspaperman, Lowell K. Bridwell of the Scripps-Howard group, investigated the records and questioned that Williams served in the Civil War. By the time the questions arose, the frail, silver-haired Williams was ill and could offer no rebuttal.

But Texas Gov. Price Daniel, congressmen and descendants rallied to support Williams' claims. Original records bearing on his service were lost or destroyed when the South crumbled.

The Blue and the Gray now rest together as Americans in honored glory. An era has ended.

Centennial Meeting In St. Louis

A third national assembly of people from all organizations and agencies interested in the forthcoming Civil War Centennial has been scheduled to be held at St. Louis next May 5-6.

In announcing plans for the meeting, Congressman Wint Smith of Kansas, chairman of the National Civil War Centennial Commission's Executive Committee, pointed out that it will convene less than nine months before the official start of the nationwide program of observances, including reenactments, now projected.

The major purpose of the gathering will be to discuss and add final touches to state program planning, reenactments and educational features. All sessions will be held at the historic Sheraton-Jefferson Hotel, situated on a site where Union General Grant once sold cordwood from his farm on Gravois Road, now the Busch estate.

Congressman Smith reported that much thought had gone into the selection of a meeting site.

"Our first assembly was held in Washington, D.C.," he recalled, "and our second last spring at Richmond, Va., thus taking us to both of the capitals involved in the Civil War. Now members of my committee feel we should go to the mid-West. Our fourth and perhaps final meeting we hope to hold in the deep South, where much of the war was fought."

Maj. Gen. U. S. Grant, III, chairman of the National Commission, said he was highly pleased with the choice.

"This mid-Western meeting," he added, "presents an excellent opportunity for us to bring the story of the Centennial to the direct attention of those areas which supplied the troops for the Western armies. We feel that every state will want to commemorate the great events in which those military units took part."

Karl S. Betts, executive director of the National Commission, said he anticipated attendance from state Centennial groups, Advisory Council members and Civil War buffs in every section of the country.

"This assembly should be our largest and our most fruitful," he predicted. "Last spring at Richmond, we had more than 300 delegates from 32 states and 116 organizations. The Centennial now is so close upon us that I am sure we shall have a much larger attendance."

Tribute To Arnold

Harold E. Arnold, Coventry, R. I., Commander-in-Chief SUVCW was honored at a banquet and reception on December 5 in the Sheraton Biltmore Hotel, Providence, by 172 of his friends and relatives. The testimonial was arranged by members of the Sons and Auxiliary of the Rhode Island Department with George Strait as Chairman and Mrs. Laura I. Smith as Co-Chairlady.

Guests at the head table included Natl. Pres. Aux. Mrs. Beatrice Riggs, Calif.; Natl. Pres. W.R.C. Josephine Parkhurst, Pulaski, N. Y.; Mrs. Alice Harwood, Mass., representing Natl. Pres. Ladies of the G.A.R.; Mrs. Eva Hawkins, Dept. Pres. Aux. Rhode Island; Wilfred Jones, District Governor Lions Club; Col. Wolfe, Military Aide to the Governor of Rhode Island; Nathan Arnold, Chaplain; Joseph G. Randall, Dept. Commander of Rhode Island; and Past Commander-in-Chief, C. Leroy Stoudt, Penna., Master of Ceremonies. Piano selections during the banquet were played by Prof. Livingston Peck. Immediately following the banquet, dancing was enjoyed by all.

National Officers attending included Jr. Vice C. in C. Charles Messer, New York; P. C. in C. John Runkle, Penna.; Natl. Patr. Instr. Chester Shriver, Penna.; National Historian Allen F. Spink, Conn.; Chief of Staff C. Leroy Stoudt, Penna.; Personal Aide George A. Strait, Rhode Island; and William O. Fuller, Sr., Mass. Civil War Centennial Commission.

Auxiliary National Officers attending were Vice-Pres. Mrs. Emma Wheeler, New Hamp.; P.N.P. Ursula W. Shepardson, Mass., Council Member; Mrs. Mary Buchanan, Conn., Council Member; Natl. Secy. Mrs. Anna Stoudt, Penna.; Chief of Staff Miss Flora D. Bates, Mass.

Friends of Duke, including many Past National Officers, were present from New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Penna., and California.



**General Order No. 2
Series 1959-1960**

Headquarters
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF
Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War
P. O. Box 41
Coventry, R. I.

1. Greetings and best wishes for a Very Happy and Prosperous New Year to all of our members, and to our ever loyal and efficient Auxiliary. May each Department and Camp find a way to make 1960 our most successful year.
2. Special greetings and good wishes from all of us to our Allied Organizations, and to their National Presidents.
3. Additional appointments to the Legislative Committee:

Willard B. Stephan, New York
Richard F. Locke, Illinois
Cleon E. Heald, New Hampshire
Frederick K. Davis, Oregon

4. Commander John Stark of Camp 112, Gettysburg, Pa. is hereby appointed a National Aide for securing five new members in his Camp, and a Citation with a National Ribbon has been presented to him. Who will duplicate Commander Stark's activity?

5. All Department Commanders are hereby requested to appoint a Department Civil War Centennial Committee to cooperate with our National Committee. Please send the names and addresses of all appointees to the National Chairman, William O. Fuller, Sr., 104 Middle St., New Bedford, Mass. This is essential for successful planning of the Centennial years.

6. As soon as possible, Department Commanders shall notify the Commander-in-Chief and the National Secretary, of the date and place of their Department Encampments, in order that these dates can be published in the March issue of THE BANNER.

By order of
HAROLD E. ARNOLD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Too many fellows are ready to reach for the stool when there is a piano to be moved.

FACTS ABOUT THE CIVIL WAR

This convenient handbook of information on the Civil War is enclosed with this issue of THE BANNER. The pertinent facts contained therein has been completed by the National Civil War Centennial Commission, and had been checked for accuracy by several governmental agencies.

Additional copies can be secured by writing to Natl. Secy. Albert C. Lambert, P. O. Box 457, Trenton 3, N. J. Price for single copy is 25¢ or six copies for \$1.00.

Mr. Lincoln's General

One reason for the mounting floodtide of books on the Civil War is the recently created Civil War Centennial Commission. Launched almost two years ago by Congress, the commission is headed by Past Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Grant 3rd, Maj. Gen. U.S.A., Ret., whose celebrated grandfather has figured in so many Civil War books. One would suppose that Gen. Grant 3rd (pictured at right) might be ill received in the South because of grandpa (left). Not at all. General Grant 3rd (who was graduated sixth in the 1903 West Point class which was headed by Gen. Douglas MacArthur) has had extraordinary tributes below the Mason-Dixon line. The southern states are deeply interested in the Centennial, and plan active participation in the events to be commemorated from 1961 to 1965.



OMNIBUS

THE CIVIL WAR TIMES is a non-partisan magazine devoted to America's most exciting and crucial period. The subscription rate is \$3.50 a year for 10 issues. Subscriptions should be sent to Civil War Times, 114 N. Stratton St., Gettysburg, Pa.

CONTRACTS LET FOR PARK CENTER AT GETTYSBURG—Sen. Hugh Scott (R., Pa.) recently disclosed that the National Park Service had awarded contracts valued at \$895,805 to four Pennsylvania firms, two located in Philadelphia, for completion of a unique visitor center and cyclorama building at Gettysburg National Military Park.

AMERICAN COALITION OF PATRIOTIC SOCIETIES annual luncheon meeting will be held February 4 at the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D. C. These meetings are always followed by sessions of the Women's Patriotic Conference on National Defense which opens with a banquet at the Mayflower Hotel the same night.

SUVCW is the approved abbreviation of our name, as adopted by the 78th National Encampment at Long Beach, Cal. The resolution prepared by P.D.C. Fred Colwell provides that the five initials of the basic words of our organizational name shall be used en bloc, with no periods or other marks or spaces between the five letters.

COMMEMORATION vs. Celebration—Webster defines the word celebration as a season of "hilarious jollification," which clearly cannot be used in referring to the Civil War, which was exactly what General Sherman so tersely and emphatically said it was. The resolution prepared by P.D.C. Fred Colwell and adopted at the Long Beach Encampment said in part "We therefore most earnestly and respectfully ask and request the news gathering fraternity of our land, the Press, TV and Radio, to delete the word celebration for the period of the Civil War Centennial, using the word Commemoration in its stead.

It's awfully hard to dislike a fellow that really likes you.

**New England Conference of Civil War
Centennial Commissions**

The names of those in attendance at the recent New England Conference of Civil War Centennial Commissions read like a "Who's Who" of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in New England: William O. Fuller, John Day, and Harold Drown of Massachusetts; Cleon Heald of New Hampshire; Maurice Warner of Maine; Thomas Chadwick of Vermont; James Ledwith of Connecticut; and particularly our Commander in Chief Harold Arnold of Rhode Island.

This all-day session took place in the Gardner Auditorium of the State House in Boston, Massachusetts and took the form of Workshops under the various Committees of the Massachusetts Civil War Centennial Commission.

The planning of this spirited and productive meeting is credited to the efficiency and hard work of a Conference Committee under the Chairmanship of Massachusetts Past Department Commander John L. Day. Indeed, subtract the efforts and ideas of the Sons of Union Veterans involved—and there probably would have been no Conference at this time at all.

The overall result was an injection of enthusiastic fervor into the three State Commissions already functioning and the gift of purpose and direction to the two new State Commissions just formed.

Every Son of a Union Veteran, wherever he may be, is urged to promote the formation and operation of a local Civil War Centennial Committee. There are few better ways for him to carry out the vows taken at the time of his initiation, than for him to help to activate programs that will once again bring to life to all our people—the deeds and ideals of the Grand Army of the Republic.

ERNEST G. WELLS.

Message from the National President

Election and installation of Auxiliary Officers with their respective Camps in most Departments are now completed. To the newly installed Officers, I wish to extend my best wishes for a most successful year. May I urge you to strive for new members, keeping the ones we now have, treasuring them as jewels, but being on the alert for new members, bringing new ideas to our organization. Under your leadership may we grow in interest and number.

My visit to the Central Regional Conference was most rewarding, with a good representation and much interest in programs for the Centennial. Your National President has been honored in the Department of Oregon and Washington on my recent visit there where I was made a member of the Mystic Order of the Rose and presented with a beautiful bouquet of two dozen roses. In Ohio, Alliance, the City of Carnations, I was presented with a beautiful bouquet of Carnations by the President of the Chamber of Commerce.

May God bless each of you with his richest blessings throughout the New Year.

Sincerely,

BEATRICE S. RIGGS,
National President.

WHEN ORDERING SUPPLIES

1. Order on official requisition blank—Form No. 1.
2. No orders will be filled unless accompanied by remittance.
3. Anticipate your needs, thereby avoiding last minute rush orders and disappointments.
4. All supplies to be ordered from Natl. Secy-Treas. A. C. Lambert, P. O. Box 457, Trenton 3, N. J.

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—Albert C. Lambert, National Secretary-Treasurer,
P. O. Box 457, Trenton 3, N. J.
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 1954)

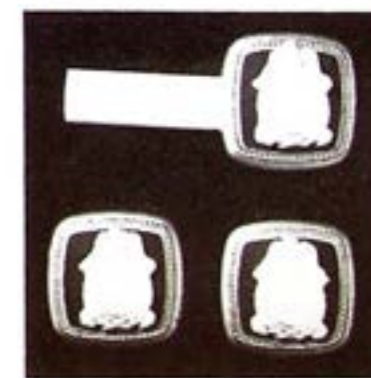
The following contributions have been received since the last issue of THE BANNER.

- Ira Buxton, Andover, Mass. \$10.00 (donation)
- Grove McClellan, Old Fort Niagara, N. Y. \$10.00 (In memory of his father, Andrew I. McClellan, Company K, 93rd N. Y. Inf.)
- Lester F. Stewart, Lt. Col. AUS-Ret., Normal, Ill. \$10.00 (In memory of his father, Orloff A. T. Stewart, Company E, 26th Illinois Vol. Inf.)

If you want to make people believe what they otherwise wouldn't believe, just whisper it.

To entertain some people, all you have to do is to sit and listen.

The only people to get even with are those who have helped you.



**ONYX EFFECT
TIE CLIP and
CUFF LINKS**

- * Alligator grip, easy to put on, will not damage shirt or tie.
- * Ideal for slim or wide neckties.
- * Emblem in rich gold plate attractively set on an onyx-effect background.

Tie clip \$2.00 each. Matching cuff links \$4.00 per pair.

Order from
Natl. Secy.-Treas. A. C. Lambert,
P. O. Box 457, Trenton 3, N. J.

ALLOW ONE MONTH FOR DELIVERY



Department News



CALIFORNIA

A reception was held November 28 in the new Pioneer Hall, San Jose, for Dept. Commdr. Vernon Cheney and Dept. Pres. Margaret Hixson and their staffs. Very fine and original entertainment was enjoyed.

We mourn the passing of William Ashworth on November 3. Better known as "Billy," he was Chaplain of Phil Sheridan Camp 4 and knew the entire ritual from memory. He was respected and loved by all.

CONNECTICUT

G. Leon Lewis, P.D.C. of West Hartford died October 23 suddenly. He was commander of Stedman Camp 6, and of the Hartford Civil War Round Table. Bro. Lewis has always been active in Department affairs as well as in the New England Regional Assoc.

On December 18 a dinner and reception was held in New Britain honoring Natl. Pres. Beatrice Riggs of California. Also in attendance was Commander-in-Chief Arnold. A good attendance was on hand for a most enjoyable evening.

On December 12 Dept. Jr. Vice Comm. Ellery Linnell installed the officers of Camp 31, Bristol. Guests included Dept. Comm. Harold Scott, members of Aux. 12 and representatives from Barracks 777, Veterans of World War I.

ILLINOIS

We regret to report the deaths of John D. Black and Robert J. Branson, both of whom were prominent attorneys.

INDIANA

Bro. Alva Reef of Muncie is the Department Grave Registration Officer and in this capacity has visited 448 cemeteries in 56 Counties, resulting in the marking of 13,000 graves. This important project, done on his own and expense demonstrates his loyalty and devotion.

IOWA

Department Commander Charles P. Lowe has been forced to resign his office because of poor health. Jr. Vice Department Commander Vinton Jones is the acting Department Commander temporarily, as the Senior Vice Commander was not in a position to assume the office.

Tuttle Camp and Aux. 16 entertained Department Officers at a dinner in October at the home of Mr. & Mrs. William Sheehan. There were 53 present, including Dept. Pres. Erma Wood and several Department Officers of the SUVCW and Aux.

Aux. 8 of Des Moines entertained Dept. Commander Charles Lowe and Dept. Pres. Irma Woods and their staffs at dinner recently at the Uptown Terrace Restaurant.

Members of the Camp and Aux. at Iowa Falls held their annual Christmas Party on December 6 at the home of their President, Mrs. Ruby Kay. A family pot luck dinner was served and the afternoon spent in games.

The Camp and Aux. of Waterloo has a family Christmas dinner and party in Memorial Hall. Patr. Instr. Ethel Snodgrass was in charge of the program. Mrs. Nick Karris accompanied community singing. Waterloo Aux. 2 recently presented a flag to the Boy Scouts and also to a Brownie Troop at Proctor Home.

KANSAS

Members throughout Kansas honored Natl. Pres. Beatrice Riggs on her visit there recently, with a dinner at the Casa Bonita Cafe. Mrs. Verne Nesmith, Department President, escorted Mrs. Riggs on a tour of the city. She was also honored by members of Aux. 45 at the home of Mrs. Jay Trax. Several Department Officers of the SUVCW and Aux. were present.

MAINE

On November 7 Hyde Camp and Aux. held a joint inspection at which time a mother and four daughters held office at one time.

We regret to report the death of P.D.C. Wm. H. Cressey. He was Department Commander in 1909, and for 44 years delivered the Gettysburg Address at Memorial Day exercises at Riverbank Park.

A meeting of the State of Maine Civil War Centennial Commission was held at Augusta on December 9.

Maurice J. Warner has recently been elected as chairman of the executive committee planning the State of Maine's observance of the Civil War Centennial. The executive committee and full commission will meet on January 13.

We regret to report the death of three Past Department Commanders. John C. Howes of Augusta who served in 1916 died on November 21st. Wm. H. Cressey of Westbrook who served in 1909 died on December 3, and Clarence P. Renell of Portland who served in 1947 and again in 1958 died on December 9th. At the time of death Bro. Renell was a member of the Department Council.

MASSACHUSETTS



50 YEAR MEDALS PRESENTED. Presentation of 50 year medals featured the installation of officers of Grover Camp 17 of Brockton in November. Shown above left to right: William W. Haskell, Commander of the Brockton Camp; Clark W. Mellor of Worcester, Department Commander; Thomas L. Crawford, 82, and Fred W. Dunbar, 76, the two recipients. Crawford is a Past New England Regional Commander, and a Past Department Commander.

CHARTER MEMBERS HONORED BY HANSON AUXILIARY. Fifty year pins were presented at the installation of officers in November to Mrs. Blanche F. Crocker, Mrs. Jennie M. Thurston, Mrs. Mary L. Simmons, and Mrs. Kate C. Burgess. The meeting was held in Grand Army Hall with P.D.P. Mrs. Blanche Crocker as Installing Officer. Mrs. Lorraine E. Best is the new Auxiliary President.

C. in C. Arnold attended installations in Worcester, New Bedford and Brockton. He was also present in Malden for annual banquet of the G.A.R. affiliates. Two hundred and fifty assembled for this fine affair. Dept. Commdr. Mellor attended all of the above functions.

P.D.C.s Atwood, Drown, Winchell, Haskell, Howland and Davis all had ritual parts on staff of P.D.C. Hooper who installed Col. Theo. Winthrop Camp 81, Chelsea. P.D.C. Quinn was "M.C." and Dept. Commdr. Mellor was present as chief guest.

Our order lost a fine friend in the recent death of Lawrence J. Weidmann. Much of prominence we obtained when Gen. MacArthur visited the Hall of Flags in 1951 was due to his efforts.

Brockton has officially recognized the observance of the Centennial and appointed a committee with P.D.C. Wm. W. Haskell as Chairman. P.N.P. Maude B. Warren is also a member of the committee. Bro. Haskell represented the G.A.R. on the Marshall's Staff in the Armistice Day parade. The Historical Society will be the chief sponsor for the Centennial in the Town of Stoughton, which is rich in Civil War memorabilia.

P.D.C.s Atwood, Hooper and Quinn installed most of the Camps in the Department. The Plymouth County Assoc.

degree staff was present for installations at Dorchester and Chelsea. Couden Camp, Cambridge is well prepared for the Centennial having the following as dual members: Ernest G. Wells, John L. Day, Louis E. Winchell Sr., and Harold M. Drown.

Charles Russell Lowell Camp 9, Roxbury—George L. Nichols, 16, who was initiated at last April's Department Encampment is the newly elected Camp Jr. Vice Commander. He has been instrumental in having his father, Charles L. Nichols, and a friend, Robert L. Smith, 17, join the Camp on Dec. 15. George also holds dual membership in Couden-Higginson Camp 56, Cambridge, where he recently was installed as Guard. We welcome these young, enthusiastic members. Wm. Randolph Cohen is the Camp Press Correspondent.

MISSOURI

Mrs. Elizabeth Quick of St. Louis who organized the Cape Girardeau Auxiliary thirty years ago, was one of the principal guests at a meeting recently held in the home of Mrs. Fred McGowan. The other guest was Department President Mrs. Paul Doyle of St. Louis, but a member of the Cape Girardeau Auxiliary. The meeting began with a covered dish noon luncheon. At the session which followed, Mrs. Quick and Mrs. Doyle were escorted in by Miss Irene Ochs, guide, and Mrs. Helena Rau, assistant guide, and the color guards, Mrs. Betty Rhodes and Mrs. Laura Schultz. Both spoke and both received a gift from the auxiliary, with Miss Ora Burch, president, making the presentations.

NEW JERSEY



GIFTS FOR HOSPITAL—A Christmas gift in the form of table and chairs, a table radio and two rockers were presented to Trenton Orthopaedic Children's Hospital by the New Jersey Dept. Aux. Mrs. Anna M. Clayton (right) Dept. Pres., made the presentation, and receiving the equipment is Mrs. Marie Francico (left), director of nurses and Edward P. Farage, hospital administrator. Children pictured are Clarrissa Priolean, Harry Hutton Jr., Phillip Iskra and Beretha Kelly.

Aux. 9, Orange, is cooperating with the American Cancer Society in making pads for cancer patients. Nineteen members recently met at the home of Katherine Sharkey and worked on the project.

The Department mid-year meeting of SUVCW on December 6 was an outstanding success with a fine attendance. A feature was the showing of the Centennial Commission film. Supper was served following the meeting by members of Aux. No. 5, Trenton.

We deeply regret to announce the death of Sr. Vice Department Commander Edward J. Bolan who died suddenly on December 31st. Services were conducted by Department Officers and Past Department Commanders. Condolences are extended to his wife Genevieve, and his daughters Pat and Gail. Also to the members of Camp 11, Atlantic City and the family of P.D.C. Harry E. Pennell who died in November.

NEW YORK

Diven Camp 77, Elmira, sponsored a program on November 24 in commemoration of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address in the Y.M.C.A. building, which was preceded by a tureen supper. Several members of the Ovid Camp and Auxiliary attended.

A Testimonial Lincoln Dinner was held in Albany, November 14 with P.D.C. John Kiernan as Toastmaster. Also a reception to Charles Messer, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief given by Ten Eyck Camp 154, Albany. Speakers were Dept. Commdr. Joseph Rippey; Dept. Pres. Edith Snider; National Chaplain Florence Parsons; Edw. Delehanty of the American Legion; and John Boos, a devotee of Abraham Lincoln.

Progress is being made in the formation of Rochester's Centennial Committee. Appointments will be announced by the Mayor in January.

Glidden Camp and Aux. will hold their Lincoln Dinner with the Allied Orders of the G.A.R. on February 13 in Rochester. Reservations are being placed with Marjorie Tagart.

The G.A.R. Memorial Assoc. of Buffalo will hold its annual Lincoln Dinner in Hotel Stuyvesant, February 14.

Grover C. Scott, Civil War Publicist will be chairman of the annual patriotic ceremony to be held in Ben Franklin School, Rochester, February 21 in cooperation with the Board of Education and school authorities. A pageant and the transfer of flags from 1959 standard bearers to the new 1960 standard bearers will take place, and medals presented by the Bausch & Lomb Optical Co. in honor of Capt. Henry Lomb, for whom Lomb Camp and Lomb Circle, Ladies of the G.A.R. were named. Mr. Carl S. Hallauer, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Bausch & Lomb and a member of the Camp has accepted the post of Honorary Chairman of the Rochester Civil War Centennial Committee.

The first annual dinner of the 108th N. Y. Vol. Inf. Regiment was held December 12 with over a hundred guests and members present. Grover C. Scott was the guest of honor. The 108th will put on precision drills and show pictures with lectures before the P.T.A. Assoc. February 16 in School 43.

John Berry, will be the guest of honor at a reception and banquet in Niagara Falls on January 16 at the Plantation Restaurant. Dept. Commander Joseph Rippey will share honors.

Oliver Tilden Camp 26, New York City conducted a very successful Veteran and Dedication Night ceremony on November 13. Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Messer, P.D.C. Maples and P.D.C. Kernan helped initiate a new member. Our friends in the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the North-South Skirmish Group were also present.

OHIO

The Alliance Aux. was honored with an official visit from Natl. Pres. Mrs. Beatrice S. Riggs, who installed the officers at a meeting in Haggart Hall. Prior to the meeting Natl. Pres. Riggs was honored with a dinner at the Chicken Manor. On arriving at Haggart Hall she was presented an arm bouquet of red carnations by Glen Allen, executive secretary of the Alliance Chamber of Commerce. P.D.C. Robert Austin installed the officers for McClellan Camp 91. Mrs. William Headley is the new Aux. President, and T. D. Stewart the new Camp Commander. Following the meeting guests were introduced by P.N.P. Edith Nile.

Lookout Camp of Cleveland is organizing a military unit to participate in the Centennial. Dick Mullaly has been commissioned Captain by Lt. Col. Daniel Clancy. The new unit will be known as "The Cleveland Light Guard," the name taken from Company A, 7th Ohio Regiment. John Decker has recently been installed Commander with Dick Mullaly reelected Secretary-Treasurer.

PENNSYLVANIA

Gen. Ord Camp 54 of Mahanoy City will install officers on January 13 with George P. Becker as the new Camp Commander. The Camp is planning to participate in the coming observance of the centennial of Mahanoy City, and also plans a class initiation for the near future.

Ellis Camp 9, Phila., held a class initiation on October 23 at which time eight new members were inducted by Dept. Commander Edwin K. Kramer of Harrisburg. The Camp is putting on a sustained membership drive in connection with the Civil War Centennial.

Davis Star Camp of Pittsburgh congratulates two of its distinguished members. Judge Robert Van der Voort was

elected to a full ten year term on the Common Pleas Court of Allegheny County, and David B. Roberts was reelected Prothonotary of the same Court at the November election.

OREGON & WASHINGTON

Natl. Pres. Mrs. Beatrice S. Riggs along with P. C. in C. Earl Riggs visited Portland during October at which time they attended a reception honoring Natl. Pres. Mrs. Benjamin H. Lindsey of the Ladies of the G.A.R. The reception was given by Theodore A. Penland Circle 38, Ladies of the G.A.R. in the Pompeian Room of the Congress Hotel. Sharing honors were Mrs. Spencer Leonard, Natl. Secy. Ladies of the G.A.R.; Mrs. Earl Lawhead, DUVCW National Council Member; and Spencer Leonard, Natl. Chaplain SUVCW.

VERMONT

The annual picnic of the Winooski Valley District was held in Peacham at the home of Lewis and Sue Abbott on August 9. The Fall meeting was held in Chelsea. The annual State picnic was held August 16 at Lymehurst Pond in Williamstown, where the 1960 picnic will also be held.

Dept. Pres. Catherine Lackey and Dept. Inspector Bessie

LINCOLN'S LAST FOURTH OF JULY

During the Independence Day season in 1863 with the Gettysburg battle won and Vicksburg surrendered to the Union, the prospects for a speedy conclusion of the war seemed probable. It was the most glorious Fourth of July the nation had experienced since 1776. But on July 4, 1864 Confederate General Early was marching on the capital city and Washington within a week was to be under siege for the first time during hostilities. The nation had also reached a financial crisis and one writer called those early July days "the darkest hours of the war."

There were no dramatic episodes on July 4, 1864 comparable to those a year earlier. Some incidents of importance did occur, however, which made Lincoln's last Independence Day a memorable one. Lincoln was a consistent reader of the *Daily Morning Chronicle* published at Washington and we may assume that at breakfast, or soon after, the paper was in his hands. The leading editorial was captioned, "The Anniversary." Apparently the President would be put in the proper frame of mind for the festivities by these editorial suggestions:

"A year ago today, and the smoke was covering the hills around Gettysburg . . . To us it was the most sublime of anniversaries for on that day—so dear to every American—we had shown to the world that we knew our power and how to make it triumphant. Therefore, this Fourth day of July is to us a new Anniversary—a new Sabbath. The memories of the olden time, the dear records and traditions of our struggle for Independence are interwoven with the grander and more magnificent deeds now transpiring . . . We begin the new year with confidence and hope." The implication that the American New Year's Day was July 4, the birthday of the nation, would please the President. In the same editorial this passage referred to the chief executive: "It will probably be the last year of the war. Having given Mr. Lincoln a term of strife and probation and tearing down, we shall give to him before a new anniversary comes to us again a term of peace and experience and building up."

One of the casualties occurring on the Fourth of July about which Lincoln learned was the injury of Secretary of State William Seward. The news dispatch stated: "About dusk Monday evening, while the secretary was riding along the avenue in his carriage, a rocket carelessly fired, struck him over the right eye, but fortunately did not injure him seriously. The escape from the loss of his eye was a narrow one."

A brief endorsement bearing the date July 4, 1864 is a grim reminder of the fact that this was Abraham Lincoln's last Fourth of July. The writing virtually dismissed his police protection as he states, "I believe I need no escort and unless the secretary of war directs, none need attend me."

Possibly the most important conference in which Lincoln was engaged during the day was one with William Pitt Fessenden who succeeded Salmon Portland Chase. The ap-

pointment was made on July 1 but Fessenden immediately remonstrated and on July 2 prepared a letter of refusal from which the following excerpt is made: "After much anxious, not to say painful reflection I feel compelled to decline the appointment of Secretary of the Treasury conferred upon me yesterday." Fessenden then set forth his reason for rejecting the offer, based primarily on his poor health.

He took the letter in person to deliver to the President but its contents were anticipated and Fessenden gives us the President's reaction in these words: "If it was a letter declining to accept the Treasury, he would not receive it." The President finally persuaded Fessenden to withhold the letter until after Congress adjourned. Friends immediately began to bring pressure to bear on Fessenden and Secretary Stanton's viewpoint is typical of many other persuasive comments. Fessenden told Stanton that because of impaired physical condition the task "would kill me." Stanton replied, "Very well, you cannot die better than in trying to save your country." The nation at that very time was on the verge of financial collapse.

Fessenden was back at the White House on Independence Day for another conference with the President and accepted the portfolio. Lincoln prepared a little known memorandum dated July 4, 1864 which he handed to Fessenden. It was a sort of gentlemen's agreement as to working relations between the chief executive and the new cabinet member. The introductory sentence opened, "I have today said to Hon. W. P. Fessenden, on his assuming the office of Secretary of the Treasury, that I will keep no person in office in his department against his expressed will, etc." Also in the memorandum the President expresses a desire with respect to the secretary to make his position agreeable to him." Possibly this diplomatic victory of Lincoln on July 4, 1864 by securing the services of the well qualified Fessenden was as important in the area of financial circles as was the Gettysburg and Vicksburg victory in the field of military effort during the previous Fourth of July season.

The first session of the Thirty-eighth Congress closed about noon on this eighty-eighth anniversary of the nation's natal day. This fact brought to the attention of the President many last moment duties including the signing of several bills and the vetoing of others. Especially the act of Congress which he approved on this last day which gave the President power to call out additional troops was acted upon immediately by issuing a Proclamation. Before the Congress adjourned a resolution was passed requesting the President to appoint a day of fasting and prayer. This was done on July 7, setting apart the first Thursday of August for that purpose. Lincoln also must have been putting the finishing touches on his Proclamation suspending the Writ of Habeas Corpus which was issued the following day. There is no indication that Lincoln made any public address on the glorious fourth although he was the presidential nominee for the new Union Party.

Persons have visited Auxiliaries throughout the state. The mid-year Department Conference was held in Rutland on October 24.

P.D.C. Thos. Chadwick installed officers at Brattleboro on December 5th assisted by Dept. Commdr. Arthur Ballou. Walter Lackey is the new Commander, while Archie Aldrich continues as Secretary-Treasurer. Prior to the installation, three new members were initiated into the Camp.

Our best wishes go to Henry Bell and the former Helen Aldrich who were married November 28th. They are both good members, sincere and dependable.

Green Mountain State Camp No. 1 held its fourth quarterly meeting December 5 at Morrisville. The meeting was well attended, with many coming a great distance. Samuel Bradford of Rutland is the new Commander, and Arthur Ballou, the Secretary-Treasurer. Brother Bradford has been a member for 70 years and has served well and faithfully. P.D.C. Homer Atkins was the installing officer.

Officers of our newest Camp, Camp 93 of Brandon, were installed December 11 by P.D.C. A. G. Nichols assisted by Thos. Chadwick and A. C. Aldrich. Brother Herbert Clark is starting his third term as Commander. After the formal ceremonies a Christmas Party was enjoyed by all present.

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(Lincoln Lore, July, 1954)