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THE CIVIL WAR CENTENNIAL HISTORY of the

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

Compiled by the National Grand Army Centennial and History Committee
of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Ernest G. Wells, Chairman

Introduction

100 Years Ago, in the midst of war, a dream of peace was born. Conceived in comradeship, on Sherman's "March to the Sea" in 1864, by an army surgeon and an army chaplain, B. F. Stephenson and W. J. Rutledge, the Grand Army of the Republic lives today not only in its descendants, but in many of its country's social institutions and patriotic societies.

A substantial percentage of the most virile and socially-conscious Union Veterans of the Civil War (soldiers, sailors and marines) created an organization that dominated the American scene for well over a generation.

There is a close relationship between war veterans that comes from living together, training together, playing together—and suffering together. Known in varying degrees by all servicemen, it is most deeply felt by combat veterans. Men who have faced violent death together, in the horror of war, have an extraordinary rapport—a rapport they have a strong urge to preserve.

Under the tent and at the bivouac Major Stephenson and Chaplain Rutledge discussed all this and wondered how such a powerful force could be channeled into public usefulness after the end of the fighting. Both idealistic men, they agreed upon a mutual aspiration toward a Brotherhood of Man under the Fatherhood of God.

Thousands of veterans found it increasingly harder to find work that had been taken by those who stayed home; the disabled and handicapped too often found it necessary to look for charity; widows and orphans learned about living in rags and on starvation diets, in spite of token efforts on their behalf by public officials. Such conditions are hard to picture in America—but 100 years ago it was a shocking reality. As shocking a reality in this "land of the free" as is racial prejudice today.

Less than a year after Appomattox, the first Post of the Grand Army of the Republic was formed at Decatur, Illinois, on April 6, 1866 (the anniversary of the Battle of Shiloh) by Dr. Stephenson—but, first, more about the details leading up to it.

Preface

The Grand Army of the Republic was a unique organization.

No child could be born into it. No proclamation of President or edict of King could command admission. No university or institution of learning could issue a diploma authorizing its holder to entrance. No act of Parliament or Congress secured recognition. The greatest of wealth could not purchase the position.

Its doors opened only on the presentation of a bit of parchment which certified to an honorable discharge from the

armies or navies of the Union during the Civil War, and, unlike any other organization, no new blood could come in.

There were no growing ranks from which recruits could be drawn into the Grand Army. With the consummation of peace through victory, its ranks were closed forever; its lines steadily grew thinner and the ceaseless tramp of its columns was with ever lessening tread. The gaps in the picket line grew wider every day. Details were made for the reserve summoned into the shadowy regions until at last only a solitary sentinel stood guard.

This was Albert Woolson, of Duluth, Minnesota, who served until at last the bugle call of the beyond mustered him out as the last Comrade of the Grand Army on August 2, 1956.

History

In 1889, a History of the Grand Army of the Republic was compiled by Past Commander-in-Chief Robert B. Beath and published by Bryan, Taylor & Company of New York. There has been no other. It's about time there was. There is much more to the story than has already been told.

The G.A.R. made provision for its remembrance by filing its Last Will and Testament in the Probate Court of the District of Columbia and naming, as its heir, the society it had founded and nurtured for so many years—The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Recognition of the "Sons" came from the Congress of the United States with the granting of a Federal Charter in 1954 (Public Law No. 605), which established a continuance of the aims and objects of the parent Order.

Upon the recommendation of its National Civil War Centennial Committee at the 1961 Encampment in Indianapolis, the Sons of Union Veterans undertook to determine the possibility of a complete and up-to-date History of the Grand Army of the Republic, with Past National Patriotic Instructor Ernest G. Wells, of Massachusetts, appointed as chairman.

A Generation of Heroes

The G.A.R. came into existence at the beginning of a cycle of radical social and political changes in our national life and took a very large part in their development. During this time, the Grand Army man, individually and collectively, could be said to have had a greater influence on the development of our national character than all other such movements combined. For nearly half a century he was a dominant force, and for another decade was certainly a compelling example. All his ninety years of existence he was a clear and shining arbiter of national patriotism.

(To Be Continued)

1865 - 1965 Appomattox Centennial

Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic

You, your family and friends, are cordially invited to come to Reading, Pennsylvania next April 3, to join in observing the Centennial of the close of the Civil War. This will be the principal observance north of the Mason-Dixon line. The program will start at 1:30 p.m. on the 3rd when the Scotland School Band and Cadets will stage a parade ceremony in Penn Square (1 block from Hotel Abraham Lincoln). This school was founded by the G.A.R. in 1895. At 2:00 p.m. there will be a huge parade containing thousands of people and many bands and floats. The United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps will lead the parade, which will also feature the famous Ferko String Band of Philadelphia, using their Blue and Gray theme. Governor King of New Hampshire is sending "Berdan's Sharpshooters" to represent that state. Twenty-four musical units will contend for \$3,800.00 in prize money.

At 6:30 that day, the 33rd Annual Appomattox Banquet will be held in the Hotel Abraham Lincoln. There will be a delicious dinner, a good speaker, a fine favor, an outstanding floor show and dancing. Honored guests will be General Ulysses S. Grant III, Commander-in-Chief Joseph S. Rippey, and Col. John A. May of Aiken, S. C., the Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Ladies are urged to wear dresses of the Civil War Era. The floor show is scheduled for 10 p.m. and the Grand March at 11 p.m. Dancing will continue to 1 a.m. There will be a cocktail hour in the ballroom starting at 5:30 p.m.

Cost of the dinner and program is only \$5.00, including gratuity. Remittance is required with reservations, and tickets will be mailed to the person making reservations. THE DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS MARCH 1, after which time remaining tickets will be released to the public. Tables will be reserved for parties of 6-8-10-12, provided you furnish the names of each one in your party. Those with less than 6 will be kept together, and placed with others whom we think they know. Make reservations to Mrs. Annamie D. Berhalter, 1416 Old Wyomissing Road, Reading, Pa. 19610.

Sunday morning at 9:15 we will attend Divine Services at Christ Episcopal Church, one half block from the hotel. This will be a Civil War Commemorative Service, so the ladies will again wear their period dresses, and the men their uniforms, just as was done 100 years ago. Room rates at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel are: Single, \$7.00; Double, \$11.00; Twin, \$12.00.

C. Leroy Stoudt, Chairman

Battle of Westport

The Centennial Banquet of the Centennial Observance of the Battle of Westport was held in the Hotel Muehleback, Kansas City, Missouri on October 2. Dr. E. B. Long, Oak Park, Illinois, researcher for Bruce Catton's Centennial History of the Civil War, spoke on "War Beyond the River—Our Civil War and the Uncivil West." Among the 350 persons in attendance was Mr. and Mrs. Glen L. Whitaker. Mr. Whitaker, a Kansas City attorney, who is a member of Dayton Camp No. 5 of New Jersey, is working hard to institute a new Camp in Kansas City.

On October 3, Commemorative Services of the Battle of Westport were held at Loose Park, on the battlefield itself. Governor John M. Dalton of Missouri delivered the address, and two bronze plaques, one for the Union and one for the Confederacy were unveiled. This was followed by visits to the Union and Confederate gravesites at the Union Cemetery and the Forest Hills Cemetery, where floral wreaths were placed.

All mankind is divided into three classes: Those that are immovable, those that are movable and those that move.

Live and let live is not enough; live and help live is not too much.

A Buffalo Civil War Hero's 100th Anniversary



(Buffalo Evening News Photo)

At the Colonial Circle monument to Brig. Gen. Daniel Davidson Bidwell, ceremonies on October 18 marked the 100th anniversary of his death in the Battle of Cedar Creek, Va., October 19, 1864. Placing wreath at right are Joseph D. Hillery and Norman R. Furman, members of Chaplain Cook Camp 223, Buffalo, N. Y. Also participating, from left, 100th Eagle Regiment's Col. Frank C. Bellinger, Thomas Tompkins, Dannie Hartel, Michael Jenkins and David Horn, and bugler John Sisti of Seneca Vocational High.

From Your Patriotic Instructor

In reading reports in Proceedings of the G.A.R. Encampments, I found that invariably the National Patriotic Instructor spoke of the duty to promote Patriotism and instruct the school children.

This brings to mind the testimony of an undercover agent for the F.B.I. in a recent hearing before the Federal Courts—"at several of the meetings of the Communist Party, we were told that the Party has prepared a long range program to infiltrate the schools with teachers who were members of the Party, to use their position to further the Communist cause."

We, as members of the finest Patriotic Organization in the U.S.A. should alert ourselves to this menace, and report to the proper authorities, any suspicion of these activities. But more important—strike the first blow by teaching our children the true value of Americanism.

Don't forget your donation to the G.A.R. Memorial Fund.

Eastern States Special Tour to the 1965 National Encampment

I have again been asked to arrange a special party to the National Encampment to be held in Richmond, Va. this year. My plans are to arrange a package deal that will include your hotel room, transportation, and luggage transfer. Circulars announcing rates and schedules will be sent all those who have been on previous tours shortly after the New Year. I would appreciate hearing from anyone interested.

HENRY S. BOWEN, Jr.
8 Judson Street
Beverly, Massachusetts

National President Honored



Shown left to right: Alice Harwood, National Senior Vice President Ladies of the G.A.R.; Gladys Lawton, Auxiliary National Council Member; Frances Abare, Auxiliary Department President of N. H.; Salvatore Grasso, Selectman of Milford; Rev. Ray Rowe, Interim Pastor, Milford Baptist Church; Kenneth Wheeler, P.D.C.; National President Mrs. Emma Wheeler; P. C. in C. Cleon Heald; and Commander-in-Chief Joseph S. Rippey.

On Saturday, October 31, some 200 members and friends honored National President Mrs. Emma Wheeler at a testimonial dinner at The Wayfarer, Manchester, N. H., sponsored by Thomas M. Carr Auxiliary No. 7.

Others seated at the head table were: W.R.C. National President Florence Bruce of Massachusetts; Mrs. Ruby Eastman, representing the National President DUVCW; Mrs. Betty Johnson of Wisconsin, National Vice-President; Mrs. Anita Stephan of New York, National Treasurer; Mrs. Eileen Coombs of Rhode Island, National Chaplain; Mrs. Emma Hughes of New York, National Press Correspondent; Mrs. Ethelyn Tucker, Counselor; Mrs. Jacquelyn Johnston, Personal Aide; George Strait of Rhode Island, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief; John Yocum of Pennsylvania, National Chaplain; Henry Bowen, Jr., of Massachusetts, National Patriotic Instructor; Robert Lawrence of Boscawen, National Council; Fred Howe of New York, Personal Aide; and Fletcher Griffin, Department Commander of New Hampshire.

There were National and Department Officers present from all six New England states, Wisconsin, New York and Pennsylvania. Also from all the Allied Orders, as well as from the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion Auxiliary.

Past National Presidents and Commanders present included, Mary Stapleton, Ethelyn Tucker, Ellinore Konrad, Ursula Shephardson, Edith Pauiding, Fred Howe, Harold Arnold and Cleon Heald.

Entertainment was furnished by the Westminster Bell Ringers from Bristol, and the Village Singers from Bristol.

Annual SUVCW Memorial Ceremony Will Mark The 100th Anniversary of President Lincoln's Death

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

Thursday, April 15, 1965

The annual memorial ceremony commemorating President 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 a.m. on April 15, 1965 at the Lincoln Tomb, Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Ill. Headquarters will be at the Hotel Leland, Springfield. In charge of arrangements are George L. Cashman and Thomas L. W. Johnson.

The observance marks the 100th Anniversary of the death of our sixteenth President. For this historic occasion President Lyndon B. Johnson has been invited to deliver an address as a part of the ceremony at the Tomb. The governors of the three "Lincoln States," Otto Kerner of Illinois, Edward T. Breathitt of Kentucky, and Roger D. Branigan of Indiana have also been invited to participate in the program.

A chartered bus will transport participants from the Hotel Leland to the Tomb and back after the ceremony. Reservations for seats on the bus, for which there is no charge, should

be made with Thomas L. W. Johnson, 165 New Administration Building, 750 University Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin 53706.

At 12:30 p.m. a luncheon will be held at the Hotel Leland at which a noted Civil War authority will speak. The cost of the luncheon will be \$4.00. Reservations for the luncheon, accompanied by a check made payable to "Lincoln Luncheon," should be made with Brother Johnson at the address shown above at the earliest possible moment. Each check should cover the number of luncheon reservations requested. PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH.

Because of the special significance which is attached to this occasion, all Departments and Auxiliaries are invited and urged to send wreaths and/or representatives and to observe the following procedure:

(a) In order to insure proper listing in the printed souvenir program, notify Brother Johnson at the address shown above of your intention so that he will receive your letter NO LATER THAN MONDAY, MARCH 15.

(b) Even though a Department or Auxiliary is unable to have a representative present, a wreath will be welcome. To simplify matters, wreaths should be ordered through your local florists with instructions that they be delivered to George L. Cashman, Curator, Lincoln Tomb, Springfield, Illinois no later than 9 a.m. on Thursday, April 15.

God grant me the serenity to accept things I cannot change, courage to change things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.

Be ready to accept wealth or position without arrogance—and be ready to give it up.

Central Region

A very successful and constructive Central Region Conference was held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on October 10th and 11th at the Hotel Pfister, under the leadership of Regional Commander, Thomas L. W. Johnson, of Madison, Wisconsin.

The theme for the Conference was "The Challenge of Patriotism." The topics were: Our Patriotic Heritage, Patriotism and Education, Patriotism and the Public News Media, Patriotism and Government, Historical Civil War Brochure.

Round table discussion groups were part of the sessions held Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning.

The Conference was very well attended by delegates from the States of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin. The Conference was also honored by the presence of Commander-in-Chief Joseph S. Rippey and National President, Emma Wheeler. Other National Officers from the Central Region were also in attendance.

The banquet in the evening left nothing to be desired. The speaker, the Honorable John R. Moses, Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Madison, Wisconsin, gave a very interesting talk and the entertainment that followed was very outstanding.

Bessie Goodermont, Illinois, is the new Commander. Other officers elected were Senior Vice Thomas J. Lock, Indiana; Junior Vice Dora Johnston, Michigan; Secretary Ellinore L. Konrad, Wisconsin; Treasurer Gladys B. Sallman, Illinois; Patriotic Instructor Anita Selby, Ohio; Chaplain George Powers, Wisconsin; and Guide Herman Black, Wisconsin.

Betty Johnson, Chairlady, and her committee are to be commended for arrangements and entertainment furnished. The 1965 Conference will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, October 9-10.

THE BANNER

Published quarterly 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 15th day of December, March, June and September.

Subscription \$1.00 yearly—all subscriptions expire on the first day of each year.

Albert C. Lambert, Editor, P. O. Box 457, Trenton, N. J. 08603.



General Order No. 2 Series 1964-1965

Headquarters COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War 165 Linden Street Rochester, N. Y. 14620

January 1, 1965

1. The new calendar year now begins, which will contain the important closing events of the five year Civil War Centennial period, and which to us will cause extra inspiration to reach our goals, namely, to double our membership in each Camp, to organize at least one new Camp in each Department and at least one new Camp-at-large, and that each of our members will himself enlist in our Order at least one new member.

The "patriotic appeal" of SUVCW has a greater potential, especially in times like these, than we may realize. If we give our Order's exalted aims greater exposure through a "Keep U.S.A. First" Campaign and our other inspiring activities, we will attract dedicated men; men of integrity, men with the will to keep our Nation great, sovereign and proud! We need these men.

There is a growing interest in us among professional men and men of all walks of life predicated upon prestige of membership. To merit this in large measure our outlook must approach a loftier plane.

My request is that each Camp plan now to have an enthusiastic and spirited membership campaign this Spring, and that each Camp Commander promptly appoint himself or another able man to chairman it. After the organizational work is completed and not later than April 1st, please write your Department Commander, with a copy of your letter to me, stating an outline of how you will work and giving your timetable. Then after the campaign is over and not later than May 1st, please write your Department Commander again, with copy of your letter to me, giving your results and your recommendations for future and better campaigns. The National Organization will wholeheartedly cooperate in these drives. Remember that the National Ribbon will be awarded to each of our members who obtains five or more new members for our Order. Remember further that if each of our members enlists one new member, our membership in each Camp will automatically double. And remember that we can have Associate Members, and by grant of the Commander-in-Chief in exceptional cases Honorary Members.

I shall prize each letter received. May I hear from you promptly as to this?

2. Attendance at each Camp meeting is of utmost importance to the welfare of our Order. I am aware that with many, their attendance record has been

perfect, or nearly so. I request that each of you who has not been attending write a letter to your Department Commander, with a copy of it to me, and tell of any specific reason why you have not been attending, either irregularly or infrequently. I desire to see if I can discern any pattern for non-attendance and to try to take whatever steps may be necessary to insure the best attendance possible.

I shall read with great interest each letter received. May I hear from you promptly as to this?

3. In accordance with our theme of prestige of membership, and to align ourselves with contemporary organizations of our stature, as well as to assure ourselves ample means for our necessary patriotic activities and for our future, it is urged by your Commander-in-Chief upon the Departments that the dues of all new Camps hereafter chartered be \$10.00 per year to include a subscription to the Banner, and that the initiation fee be \$15.00 to include the membership badge; and it is urged by your Commander-in-Chief that all present Camps increase their dues to \$10.00 per year or as near thereto as is feasible and this to include a subscription to the Banner, and establish their initiation fee at \$15.00 to include the membership badge.

4. The Banner is your official publication. It should be received and read in full by all of us. The new subscription year begins January 1st. The cost of \$1.00 should be sent now by each member to the Editor, Past Commander-in-Chief Albert C. Lambert, P. O. Box 457, Trenton, N. J. 08603. Camp Commanders will please contact their members in regard to this.

5. Forward all news pertaining to our Order to the Editor of the Banner, and all pertinent information to the respective committee chairmen.

6. I ask each of you that you support your Camp with prompt payment of dues, and your Department and National Patriotic Instructors with your contributions.

7. Camps and Departments are reminded of the necessity of filing quarterly reports promptly.

8. The following additional committee appointment is made to the G.A.R. Centennial and History Committee: Percy C. Davenport, 39 Edgewood Road, Bloomfield, N. J. 07003.

9. Your Commander-in-Chief would like to visit all Departments. It is suggested that Department authorized officials consult with him as to their proposed Department Encampment dates, to avoid conflict of dates and permit visitations to all. Department Commanders please notify me of the inclusive dates and place of your Department Encampment as soon as they are determined.

10. All members of the Uniformed Reserve Component of our Order and those having any connection therewith are requested to review and become familiar with the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the National Organization and the governing regu-

lations of the Military District of which they are a part.

11. Let us all resolve to be a little better Son of Union Veteran of the Civil War in this year 1965.

12. At this time of year it is especially appropriate and a great privilege to express sincere good will to those whose friendship means so much.

In this spirit this warm hearted fraternal greeting is given by your Commander-in-Chief to extend the Season's Best Wishes with the hope that the coming year will bring good health, prosperity and happiness.

Joseph S. Rippey, Commander-in-Chief

General Staff Sons of Veterans Reserve



Left to right: Col. O. G. MacPherson, Commander; Col. E. Young, Deputy Commander and C. O. of 1st Military District; Lt. Col. Chester S. Shriver, Inspector General; Lt. Col. William S. Brucker, Surgeon General; Lt. Col. Flora D. Bates, Coordinator WAC; and Maj. E. G. Wells, Public Information Officer.

At a November meeting of the National Military Affairs Committee, the General Staff of the Sons of Veterans Reserve considered many of the problems inherent in a developing movement. The overall reports were of progress and optimism.

Captain Ernest G. Wells, Adjutant-General of the 1st Military District, was promoted to Public Information Officer with the rank of Major.

Colonel O. G. MacPherson was guest of honor on the reviewing stand at the Battle of Nashville Centennial in Tennessee on December 12-13.

Sophistication is not mature.

G.A.R. JOURNALS NEEDED

To complete a file of Grand Army of the Republic Proceedings, the following years are needed:

- 1866 1867 1868 1869 1871 1885 1902 1903 1906

Anyone that would care to supply any or all of these issues are requested to communicate with Ernest G. Wells, 12 1/2 Tufts St., Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139.

Cold Harbor

Where some 7,000 Union Soldiers fell in 30 minutes and where the course of the war in the East changed.



GENERAL MAP—This map, from Department of the Army ROTC Manual 145-20, portrays the Wilderness-Spotsylvania-Cold Harbor-Petersburg Campaign of 1864. It shows how Grant's army side-slipped successively to the left flank as he was held up by Lee's defenses.

This important, but oft neglected battle, the last of Grant's Wilderness Campaign in 1864, was fought 10 miles Northeast of Richmond. It is but one of many points of interest available to our members while attending the 1965 National Encampment in Richmond.

Minds are like parachutes—they only function when open.

Liberty is the only thing you cannot have unless you are willing to give it to others.

He has a right to criticize who has a heart to help.

Don't get up from the feast of life without paying for your share of it.



Department News



CALIFORNIA



(Herald Examiner Photo)

CITIZENSHIP AWARD—Ralphs Grocery Co. of Los Angeles received the First Annual Americanism Award presented by the California-Pacific Department SUVCW at a meeting in Patriotic Hall in November. Some 150 members watched Eugene McCoy present the award to Richard E. Ralphs, executive vice president of the company. Department Commander McCoy said the award was presented to the company for its "efforts in promoting good citizenship through company publications, bulletin boards and posters." The speaker of the evening was Dr. John R. Lechner, Executive Director of the American Educational League, who spoke on Patriotism and the evils of Communism.

Roy Pennington, our Junior Vice Department Commander and Press Correspondent has just completed rewriting of the great Isaac Pennington's **FUNDAMENTAL, RIGHT, SAFETY AND LIBERTY OF THE PEOPLE**, which points out the importance of honesty, justice and righteousness in government. The book, which is getting good reviews is now at the printers.

COLORADO & WYOMING

Department President Barbara Rodgers of Colorado Springs, made her official visit to Auxiliary No. 8 of Denver on September 19 at the home of Sister May Levin. She was accompanied by Brother Rodgers, Sisters Pearl Haye and Leora Burt. Brother and Sister Wilson Savage, Louella V. Holmes, and a guest, Mae Nelan, Auxiliary President, presided, and one new member was taken in. There were 26 members and visitors present.

The beautiful afghan awarded by National Patriotic Instructor Golda Hall was won by Sister Louella Holmes. It was a pleasant surprise when Brother and Sister Savage phoned her about it.

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO—Custer Auxiliary No. 30 initiated Elizabeth R. Davis at its August meeting. She is the wife of Department Commander John Brooks Davis. At the September meeting a farewell party was held for P.D.P. Lovina Lorah and her husband, Carl, who have moved to Phoenix, Arizona. Helen S. Brady presented a new blue altar cloth to Camp 1 in Decem-

ber and Grace N. Wolf is giving Auxiliary No. 30 a new tri-color altar cloth. On October 4 a ceremony was conducted at the General Philip Sheridan monument commemorating his services to the Nation in time of war, and also to the City of Chicago as Provost Marshal at the time of the Great Fire of 1871. In charge was the 1st Illinois Vol. Art. (Reactivated) assisted by the 104th Illinois Vol. Inf. (Reactivated), the 2nd Wisconsin Inf. (Reactivated), a bugler from the 5th U. S. Army Band, and an officer from the Chicago Fire Department. Additional speakers included: Department Commander John Brooks Davis, P.D.C. Charles A. Brady, Jr.; P.D.C. James M. Blackman; and Vlad Jedlicka. John K. Broezell commanded the uniformed units, and Commanders David and Brady offered wreaths on behalf of the SUVCW and the Illinois Commandery MOLLUS.

Many members of the Department were among 91 guests attending a luncheon given October 25 at Nielsen's Restaurant, Chicago, by Ellsworth Tent No. 5 DUVCW in honor of Sister Hazel L. Kurtz, Department President. A surprise birthday cake was presented to PNP Hazel Riley.

Department Commander John Brooks Davis and Department President Viola Hartwig were guests at a November 1 luncheon sponsored by General Custer Camp No. 1 and Auxiliary No. 30 in Chicago's Country Club Hotel. The featured speaker was Royal Schmidt, Professor of History and Political Science at Elmhurst College, who described "Chicago's Contribution to the Civil War."

The annual Department Mid-Winter Encampment was held December 5 in Aurora. Officers reported orally on their activities during the past six months, future plans were discussed. Our part in marking the Centennial of the Founding of the G.A.R. received considerable attention. Following the business meeting, P. D. C. Myron E. Goodermont conducted the visitors on a tour of the city's G.A.R. Memorial Hall, which has been preserved and rehabilitated by a foundation set up for that purpose; the Department is proud to have been one of the many contributors providing the necessary funds. The Auxiliary, which met at the same time, joined the Department at a dinner that evening.

The Department takes pride and pleasure in extending hearty greetings to new members: Eldon J. Waldschmidt, Robert R. Anderson, Robert Marion Craig, 4th, Kenneth G. Viani, Robert G. Walter, Alan C. Aimonc, David Bruce Rietz, James Washburn and William V. Nokes.

TAPS—AUGUSTUS L. BERING, Camp No. 1, Chicago. A prominent Chicago hotel man and former president of the Sherman and Ambassador Hotels. **CHARLES D. JACKSON**, Illinois member at large. **MARTIN M. JONES**, Camp No. 14, Decatur. **DEWEY POSTON**, Camp No. 48, Prophetstown. **WILLIAM SMITH**, Camp No. 21, Aurora. **CARL G. HODGES**, Camp No. 4, Springfield—Brother Hodges was formerly head of the Illinois State Information Service and a well known author.

INDIANA

The Indiana Civil War Commission has erected a historical marker at 622 Main Street, Lafayette, in honor of General Joseph J. Reynolds, a West Point graduate who was commandant of Camp Morton, appointed chief of staff by General William S. Rosecrans, participated in the Chattanooga campaign, was in command of the defenses of New Orleans and commanded the 19th Army Corps. The new marker replaces a marker, removed in 1955, which for about 45 years gave some substance to the story that General Grant's Civil War career began while he was in Lafayette visiting his West Point classmate. The original marker, now in the Tippecanoe County Historical Museum, was created by Colonel David N. Foster, former owner of the property on which the Reynolds house stood. It states: "Early in April, 1861, General U. S. Grant while visiting his former West Point classmate, General Joseph Reynolds . . . was tendered and accepted his first military command during the Civil War. The appointment was as Colonel of the 21st Illinois Infantry and was tendered him by Governor Richard Yates of that state." (Historians have not utilized this incident—apparently it was not substantiated.)

MAINE

We regret to report the passing of Brother Leslie A. Hall in September. Brother Hall was the husband of last year's National Patriotic Instructor, Mrs. Golda Hall. To her, her family, and to his Camp we extend sincere condolences from their many friends.

MASSACHUSETTS

Commander Alfred M. Bowen Jr. was feted during October in G.A.R. Hall, Springfield. P.D.C. Harold Shepardson was in charge, assisted by Al Durocher, Tift Camp commander. Many National and Department Officers attended including Department President Minnie Madeiros; Junior Vice C. in C. George Strait; Henry S. Bowen, National Patriotic Instructor; National President Emma Wheeler; and representatives of the Allied Orders. The week previous, Hawes Auxiliary, New Bedford, tendered a reception to Department President Minnie E. Madeiros. Guests included Department Commander Bowen; National President Emma Wheeler; Junior Vice C. in C. Strait; P. C. in C. Arnold; P.N.P. Mary Stapleton; and National Patriotic Instructor Henry S. Bowen Jr.

Holyoke sponsored an outstanding observance of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address in November. William C. Rule, Alfred J. Durocher and Herbert W. Bogue arranged the dinner and program. Included in guests present were National President Emma Wheeler; W.R.C. National President Florence M. Bruce; Senior Vice President Ladies of the G.A.R. Alice F. Harwood; Department Commander Bowen; Department President Minnie Madeiros; and Past National Presidents Mary Stapleton and Ursula Shepardson.

P.D.C. William O. Fuller has answered his Last Roll Call. "Bill" gave over 50 years of constant service to our Order. Ritual service was conducted by William W. Haskell, Millard F. Brown, Harold M. Drown, Roy C. Call and Everett M. Atwood. Over thirty Past Department Commanders were present, including Junior Vice C. in C. Strait, P. C. in C. Arnold, Dexter Coombs, Chester W. Adshad and Louis E. Winchell.

Lou Winchell with wife, Hattie, recently observed their 60th wedding anniversary. Many among the several hundred guests were members of the G.A.R. family.

Battery B, 10th Artillery of Chelsea announces the following promotions: 2nd Lt. Warren A. Trimble, S.F.C. Leslie E. Covey Jr.; Sergeant and Battery Clerk Dana E. Lincoln.

MICHIGAN



Pictured is the flag presented recently to the Grand Rapids Osteopathic Hospital by Robert Finch Camp 14 and Auxiliary 9. The flag was presented by Homer R. Savage of the Camp and Mrs. Walter C. Brooks of the Auxiliary. P. C. in C. Mr. U. W. Mackey gave the tribute to the flag. Mr. Philip Vicari the Hospital Administrator accepted for the hospital.

The Michigan Department is pleased to report the institution of a new Camp at Sandusky on October 24th. An Auxiliary is being formed and will be instituted in the near future.

DETROIT—Stanley Cline Barker reports the death of P.D.C. Charles F. Dexter on September 10. To his wife, Leah, his

family and Camp we extend deep sympathy. Camp 4 will be known as Thomas Barker-Arthur MacArthur Camp 4 in the future.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Department Commander Fletcher Giffin of Penacook was honored with a reception on October 24 in the Grange Hall. Heading a large group of officers present were: Mrs. Frances Abare, Department President; National President Mrs. Emma Wheeler; P.D.C. Kenneth Wheeler; Robert Lawrence, National Council Member; and William Wilson, Department Commander of Vermont. P.D.C. Orion Hardy was master of ceremonies. The Concordettes provided the entertainment for the evening. Refreshments were in charge of Mrs. Iyla Bartlett, Mrs. Mildred Pluma, and Mrs. Elsie Previe.

P. C. in C. Cleon Heald was reelected in the November elections as a Representative to the General Court of New Hampshire. He has also been reappointed to a five year term as Justice of the Peace—his fifth five year appointment. The third issue of "New Hampshire and the Civil War" has been published. The fourth and final issue will be published in May 1965. Anyone interested may receive a copy by addressing: Cleon E. Heald, Executive Director, N. H. Civil War Centennial Commission, 38 Howard Street, Keene, New Hampshire.

NEW JERSEY



On October 27, Mrs. Joan Clark, Department Patriotic Instructor (shown at right), presented a 50 star American Flag to Mr. Lloyd Newbaker, principal of the Bear Tavern School of Hopewell Township. Looking on is Department President Miss Helen Loll. The unusual part of the presentation is the fact that this flag had been flown over the U. S. Capitol in Washington. Congressman Frank Thompson Jr. (4th District N. J.), furnished a certificate to that effect.

Another project completed in December by Mrs. Clark was the presentation of clothing and toys to the children of the Union Industrial Home of Trenton. These items were donated by members of Auxiliary 5. A Christmas gift was also sent to a Mrs. Hoag, a Civil War widow residing in the Veterans Home at Vineland. Bloctonfield Auxiliary 7 donated, wrapped and presented gifts to patients of the Essex County Tubercular Hospital in time for Christmas distribution.

Professor William L. Stuck of Rider College was the principal speaker at the Autumn meeting of the State Camp in Princeton on October 31, giving an enlightening and extremely interesting lecture on events of 100 years ago, just prior to the end of the Civil War. The Spring dinner meeting of the State Camp will be held on April 10 at Nassau Inn, Princeton, at which time the 100th anniversary of the end of the Civil War will be observed. This affair will also be a Ladies Night, and all members of all Camps and Auxiliaries will be welcome to attend.

Senior Vice Commander Frank L. Clark presided at the Department Mid-Winter meeting held December 6 in G.A.R. Hall, in the absence of Department Commander William

Wharton who is hospitalized in the East Orange Veterans Administration Hospital. A new Altar Cloth was presented to the Department by P. C. in C. Lambert. Brother Clark presented a 50 star American Flag to P.D.C. Fred Combs Jr., superintendent of the Lawrence Township School System.

Over 100 members and friends were present at a Testimonial Dinner at Geneva Inn, Trenton, on November 14 honoring Department President Miss Helen Loll and Department Commander Wharton. Out of state visitors included National President Emma Wheeler; P.D.C. Kenneth Wheeler; Department Commander and Mrs. Clarence Riddell of Pennsylvania; P. C. in C. Roy and P.N.P. Anna Stoudt; and other members from Philadelphia and Reading.

NEW YORK

Diven Camp 77, Elmira, celebrated its 70th Anniversary November 28 with a banquet at the Mark Twain Hotel. P. C. in C. Neil Cranmer gave an historical address, and was presented with a 50 year membership badge by Commander-in-Chief Joseph Rippey. Other speakers included Department Commander Horbelt; Senior Vice Department Commander Furman; Auxiliary President Cuyler; DUVCW Department President Green; Auxiliary National Press Correspondent Hughes; and Family Court Judge Daniel Donahue of the local Camp. Truman Vincent and Lottie Terwilliger were co-chairmen. P.D.C. Charles Bradshaw was toastmaster.

Oliver Tilden Camp 26 celebrated its 80th Anniversary November 7 with a dinner held in the 7th Regiment Armory, with Past Commander Lawrence Isaacs as Master of Ceremonies. Others on the program included Commander Walter Owens, Rev. Howard Asbury, George Farman Jr. Guests were present from U. S. Grant Camp and Auxiliary, Lafayette Camp, Tilden Auxiliary and American Legion Post 9. Associate medals were presented to several.

OVID—About ninety members and guests attended a reception and dinner recently honoring Department President Virginia Cuyler and Department Commander Franklin Horbelt. Commander-in-Chief Rippey lead an impressive list of guests present.

SCHENECTADY—Auxiliary 45 also honored our Department President and Department Commander with about 50 persons at the dinner and reception. Commander-in-Chief Rippey spoke about his goals for the Order.

UTICA—Winchell Auxiliary 15 presented two American Flags on December 1 in memory of Civil War Veterans. One was to a Girl Scout Camp and another to a Boy Scout Troop. Mrs. Marjorie Woolheater made the presentation, escorted by Mrs. Emma E. Hughes.

ALBANY—Dedication Day was observed November 14 by Camp 154 with dinner and reception to National and Department Officers. John Kernan was chairman of the event.

ROCHESTER—The January meeting of Glidden, Pierce, Lomb Camp 6 will be featured by program by Patriotic Instructor Grover C. Scott on "Civil War Prisoners, North and South," an essay which was delivered at the Round Table. Plans are under way for the annual ceremony of the "Transfer of Flags" on February 14 in cooperation with the public schools. Commander-in-Chief Rippey will give the charge to the 208 pupil Standard Bearers and Guardians of the Flag, to be followed by presentation of medals in honor of Captain Henry Lomb, by Mr. Carl Hallauer. The principal address will be given by Frank Silby, Harvard Master of History and Political Science.

OREGON & WASHINGTON

One of the most impressive of the flag ceremonies which are being held on Sunday afternoons at the Portland Memorial, was one held October 18 honoring the memory of Theodore A. Penland, last Commander-in-Chief of the G.A.R. Commander Penland had lived in Portland for 71 years, before his death at the age of 101. The local Camp and Auxiliary led by Commander George Harriman, and Adjutant Spencer Leonard were in charge. A Color Guard of the Oregon Blues Brigade also took part.

PENNSYLVANIA

A DATE TO REMEMBER—Saturday, February 13, 1965—97th Annual Philadelphia Lincoln Dinner at Beck's, Rising Sun Avenue and Roosevelt Boulevard. David P. Buckson, Attorney-General of the State of Delaware will be the speaker.

National and Department Officers will be present. Following the dinner, Camp 200 will hold their reception for Department Commander Clarence J. Riddell. Reservations to Frank Heacock, 2311 Concord Pike, Fairfax, Wilmington, Delaware 19803.

Anna M. Ross Auxiliary 1 celebrated their 75th anniversary at Beck's on October 10. The ladies were dressed in gowns worn in 1889. Department President Mrs. B. Werkheiser of Hellertown and Department Commander were among many guests. Others were from Reading, Allentown, Bethlehem, Harrisburg, Wilkes-Barre, Massachusetts and New York.

RHODE ISLAND


Flag Poles Dedicated

On November 11th, the two aluminum flag poles, with suitable plaques were dedicated at the Rhode Island Veterans' Home in Bristol by Gladys V. Lawton, National Council member. These handsome flag poles which were the project of National Patriotic Instructor Golda Hall and authorized by the 1964 National Encampment held in Providence were accepted by Mr. Louis P. Alfano Jr., Commandant of the Veterans Home. Others taking part in the ceremony were Junior Vice C, in C. George Strait, and Eileen Coombs, National Chaplain.

The presentation was a feature of the annual Armistice Day program which started with a Memorial Mass in the Veterans' Home Chapel.

VETERANS DAY was celebrated in Westerly starting with a four division parade, led by Perley C. Wallace, Commander of Camp 6 and also Department Commander. The Color Guard and members of Company A, 7th Infantry Battalion and five members of the SVRWAC led the second division, commanded by Major Dexter Coombs. After the parade a luncheon was served at the China Village Restaurant, and in the evening Camp 7 and Aux. 11 hosted a dinner at the same restaurant.

The Flag Speaks



"A great host of heroes, with the help of God, have kept me gallantly flying in the face of every threat and challenge to the democratic way of life which I represent. The blood spilled at Valley Forge, Gettysburg, San Juan Hill, Chateau Thierry, Bataan, and in all other great battles for freedom on land, sea, and in the air, is in my red stripes. The shining light of sunshine penetrating the blackest night is in my white stripes, which in the nation's darkest hours are radiant with eternal hope. The vast infinity of the heavens is in my stars, inspiring mankind to continue climbing courageously up the spiral staircase of history to a world of gleaming promise. I am the emblem of man's finest dream. I am the standard of the last hope of earth. I am the AMERICAN FLAG."

Come to Richmond

84TH NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

AUGUST 15-19, 1965

HOTEL JOHN MARSHALL
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Reservation cards will be enclosed in our next issue