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No. 3

17th ANNUAL LINCOLN TOMB CEREMONY



(Story on Page Three)



In the Memorial Day Tradition . . .

GEN. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN'S GRAVE DECORATED

Shown above on Memorial Day is Dept. Commander John Junge of Ferd V. Dayton Camp No. 5 of Trenton, N. J. placing a flag on the resting place of Gen. George B. McClellan, Civil War military leader, in tranquil Riverview Cemetery, Trenton, overlooking the Delaware River a few miles south of Washington's Crossing and little more than a mile from where Gen. George Washington defeated the Hessians in the Battle of Trenton during the Revolutionary War.

McClellan's grave is one of more than 1,500 decorated by members of Dayton Camp each Memorial Day.

On the shaft of the imposing granite monument are inscribed the words—"Organizer and Commander of the Army of the Potomac and Commanding General of the Armies of the United States."

Gen. McClellan was a man of considerable administrative ability and of great personal charm. He was elevated practically overnight to the supreme command of a relatively new and largely undisciplined Union Army.

His Army of the Potomac rapidly became a military machine that was capable of sweeping Robert E. Lee's smaller, poorly equipped Army of Northern Virginia into a point of no retreat, but failed to do so. McClellan probably suffered more battle casualties because of his procrastination and indecisiveness than he would have suffered by plunging into the Confederate lines in the Peninsular Campaign of 1862 and taking Richmond. That he didn't so act may be largely attributed to his timidity and lack of competent military intelligence. However, no General in modern times was more loved and respected by his men than "Little Mac", as McClellan was called.

Born in Philadelphia in 1826 Gen. McClellan was educated at the University of Pennsylvania and West Point. After his defeat for the Presidency in 1864, he traveled extensively with his family in Europe. He was later elected Governor of the State of New Jersey serving from 1878 to 1881.

April 19, 1898 in Phoenix, Arizona . . .

G.A.R. REJOICED IN NATIONAL UNITY

At the annual encampment of the GAR at Tucson in 1898 the following resolutions were passed:

"We recommend the adoption of the following sentiments: Our department encampment recognizes the solemnity of the present national crisis. We are conscious that grave dangers threaten once more the firm establishment of the republican form of government, and that we are confronted with war. Again the so-called 'divine right' of the monarch attempts to degrade and enslave a race and we are compelled to reassert the principles of our holy Declaration of Independence. We faithfully pledge ourselves, under the circumstances, to support our country, our flag and our principles with our counsel, our property and our lives if need be.

"We rejoice that in our broad and thickly settled land all hearts beat as one with patriotic ardor; that though so short a time ago we were waging internecine strife, yet we are now a strongly cemented Union and an indissoluble nation.

"We applaud the fervid and astute patriotism displayed by that superb son of Virginia's grandest family, Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, and are proud of the laurels which he has so gallantly won for this nation. He has exhibited a noble manhood and has firmly established the belief, which we have long been pleased to entertain, that he and his former comrades have ever been actuated by the influence of principle. Chas. D. Belden, Chief Dep't. Commander, For the Committee."

(Printed in the Phoenix, Az Gazette, April 19, 1973)

GENERAL GRANT'S BIRTHDAY COMMEMORATED

The Camps and Auxiliaries of the Department of New York conducted services at the General Grant National Memorial, Riverside Drive, New York City on Sunday, April 29, in observance of the 151st birthday of General Ulysses S. Grant. Chester E. Hudson, presiding officer, was introduced by P.N.P. Edith M. Paulding. Greetings were extended by Commander-in-Chief John C. Yocum and National President Viola E. Bremme. The flag salute was led by National Patriotic Instructor Harry E. Gibbons, P.C.C. Norman R. Furman sang the Star Spangled Banner and other appropriate selections. Lawrence Isaacs recited the American's Creed. The invocation and benediction were offered by Dr. Daniel K. Poling, pastor of the Fort Washington Collegiate Church. Dept. Commander Earl S. Terry and Dept. President Beatrice Terry presented wreaths at the tombs of General and Mrs. Grant. A rifle salute and Taps by the Military Cadet Corps of New York concluded the program. Following the ceremonies a dinner arranged by Cecil M. Baer, Dept. Patriotic Instructor, was held at Stouffer's Restaurant on Fifth Avenue. The Departments of Connecticut, New Jersey and Pennsylvania were also represented at the program and dinner.

This country with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it . . . Why should there not be a patient confidence in the ultimate justice of the people? Is there any better or equal hope in the world? — Abraham Lincoln

PERMANENT FUND

Our Permanent Fund was authorized to unit 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 his name.

To — Chester S. Shriver, National Secretary Treasurer, P. O. Box 24, Gettysburg, Pa. 17325
Kindly enter the following Civil War record on the HONOR ROLL FUND.

Name of Veteran
Company & Regiment
Enclosed find (\$10.00 or more) donation to the HONOR ROLL FUND from
Name
Address
(Donations, legacies, and bequests to this fund are welcome and will be preserved.)
(Contributions are deductible for Income Tax purposes — Section 170 of the Code of 1954)

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

- From Nelson Page Aspen, M.D., West Chester, Pa. In memory of Sgt. Thomas Aspen, Co. G, 60th Regt., 2nd Pa. Cavalry \$10.00
- From C.W.O. John F. McDonald, 302 Newfield Road, S.W., Glen Burnie, Md.
- In memory of Cpt. Michael McDonald, 3rd., Potomac Home Brig., Md. Infantry \$10.00

108th Anniversary of the . . . DEATH OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN COMMEMORATED



On Palm Sunday morning, April 15, representatives of some 73 patriotic, veterans, and historical heritage groups gathered at the Lincoln Tomb in Springfield, Illinois, to honor Abraham Lincoln on the 108th anniversary of his tragic death. (Shown above at left is Thomas L. W. Johnson, P.D.C. of Wisconsin, as he opened the ceremony.) The rites in Oakridge Cemetery marked the seventeenth observance of this annual event sponsored by the National Organization of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War assisted by the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States.

Representing John C. Yocum, Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans, was George L. Cashman, a past Commander-in-Chief, co-chairman of the ceremony committee, and veteran curator of the shrine maintained by the State of Illinois. CDR. William C. Duval, USNR (ret), a past Commander-in-Chief of the Loyal Legion and a founder of the ceremony, represented his chief, LTC Brooke M. Lessig. (Assembled in the Burial Chamber and standing left to right in photo at top right are: George L. Cashman, P.C-in-C, SUVCW and ceremony committee co-chairman; Col. Henry K. McHarg, editor of the Loyal Legion Historical Journal; Dr. Wayne C. Temple, committee co-chairman; Lloyd Ostendorf, artist and luncheon speaker; the Rev. Arthur M. Smith, First Presbyterian Church of Springfield; CDR. William C. Duval, USNR (ret), P.C-in-C, Mollus; and Thomas L. W. Johnson, committee co-chairman.)

At the luncheon following the ceremony, Lloyd Ostendorf of Dayton, Ohio, noted artist, illustrator, and Lincoln authority, played a return engagement this year and conducted an illustrated lecture in which he depicted the gradual aging of Mr. Lincoln's facial features.

Elements of several reactivated regiments under the command of Brig-Gen. Julius L. Weiss of Springfield served as a ceremonial of Brig-Gen. Julius L. Weiss of Springfield served as a ceremonial of honor guard and provided escorts for the wreath-bearers. (See photo of wreath-bearers assembled before entrance to Tomb at close of ceremony — page one at top.) The 114th Regiment, Ill. close of ceremony — page one at top.) The 114th Regiment, Ill. close of ceremony — page one at top.) The 114th Regiment, Ill. close of ceremony — page one at top.)

Mrs. Margaret Orr of Ohio, national president of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, represented her organization; Mrs. Hazel Moushey of Missouri, a past national president of the Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War represented Miss Viola Bremme; and Mrs. Filbert Oakford of Pennsylvania, national chaplain of the Dames of the Loyal Legion of the USA, represented Mrs. Samuel Copp McCluney.

Miss Helen Leale Harper of New York, a granddaughter of Dr. Charles A. Leale, the young military surgeon who first attended the dying President on the night of April 14, 1865, was present for the ceremony and was introduced at the luncheon.

The Illinois Commandery of the Loyal Legion presented each luncheon guest with a copy of a handsome booklet which discussed Mr. Lincoln's association with the men and events of the Chicago of his day.

Despite some logistical problems occasioned by the fact that the ceremony date fell on a Sunday, the weatherman cooperated to produce a pleasant, spring-like day for the outdoor rites.

Departments and/or Auxiliaries of the Sons of Union Veterans represented were Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

Commanderies of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion represented were Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Pennsylvania.

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 \$1.00 yearly. All subscriptions expire on the first day of each year.

Fred H. Combs Jr., Editor
P. O. Box 193, Lawrenceville, N. J. 08648

**General Order No. 4****Series 1972-73**

Headquarters

COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF

Sons of Union Veterans

of the Civil War

32 E. Greenwood Avenue

Lansdowne, Penna. 19050

Phone: (215) 623-1237

- As this is my final General Order, may I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks for the honor conveyed upon me to serve as your Commander-in-Chief. The spirit in which I have been received has been most outstanding and has proven to me the meaning of the ideals and principles that our Order stands for; namely, FRATERNITY, CHARITY and LOYALTY. I trust that I have merited the confidence that each and everyone placed in me and that our association with each other will always be pleasant.
- May I extend my congratulations to the newly-elected officers of the Departments. I trust that all of your efforts in trying to build up our Order will be realized. You can do it if you try. Just remember that each one of you has a busy year ahead.
- The 92nd National Encampment will convene in Palm Springs, California, Sunday, August 5th through Thursday, August 9th, 1973 at the Riviera Hotel and Country Club, which will be the headquarters and the location for all activities. It would be a very great pleasure to greet many members of our Order at Palm Springs, and I am sure that your officers will appreciate a large attendance.
- Each National Officer, both elective and appointed, and each Committee Chairman are requested to make a written report and submit it at the Encampment at Palm Springs. Committees and appointed floor officers will be announced at the opening session of the Encampment.
- To all Departments, Camps and Brothers, who have not yet responded to the request of our National Patriotic Instructor, Brother Harry Gibbons, for donations to the G.A.R. Memorial Fund, I urge you to do so promptly. We can all help no matter how large or how small our donations may be.
- In recognition of recruitment of new members for our Order, it has been my privilege since the last issue of The Banner, to designate as National Aides: Brother G. Edward Coldrin, Department of Illinois; Brother Joseph X. Young, Jr., Department of New Jersey; and Brother Alfred J. Durocher, Sr., Department of Massachusetts. Thank you Brothers for your efforts and hard work.
- I wish to express my appreciation to Sister Viola Bremme, National President of the Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War; to Sister Margaret Orr, National President Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic; Sister Harriette Gould, National President, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865; and Mrs. Josephine Kuba, National President, Women's Relief Corps, for all the fellowship, courtesies, cooperation and thoughtfulness. It has indeed been a wonderful experience working with such dedicated women. My one wish and prayer is that each of these wonderful ladies has an enjoyable, harmonious and constructive Encampment.

8. May I, as so many of those who have served our Order before me as Commander-in-Chief, just say a very plain "thank you Brothers". It has indeed been my pleasure, and I do trust that I may serve our Organization for many years to come. Bless you, one and all.

JOHN C. YOCUM
Commander-in-Chief

92nd NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT**Palm Springs, Calif.****August 5-9, 1973****TENTATIVE PROGRAM****SUNDAY, AUGUST 5**

Morning Worship — Church of your choice
12:00 Noon — Registration (Foyer)
12:30 P.M. — Meeting of All Department Commanders or Representatives with National Chaplains to Practice for Memorial Service — Normandy Room
1:15 P.M. — Council of Administration Meeting — Headquarters Room
3:00 P.M. — Joint Memorial Services (Sons and Auxiliary) — Normandy Room
4:00 P.M. — Meeting of all National Officers and Past Commanders-in-Chief with Chief of Staff — Normandy Room
7:30 P.M. — Band Concert — Force Troops, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific Band 29 Palms
8:00 P.M. — Campfire — Allied Orders

MONDAY, AUGUST 6

8:00 A.M. — Registration — Credentials Committee
9:30 A.M. — Joint Opening — Sons and Auxiliary — Normandy Room
10:30 A.M. — Business Session
1:30 P.M. — Business Session
6:00 P.M. — Banquet — Past Commanders-in-Chief and Past National Presidents
7:00 P.M. — Exemplification of Ritual
9:00 P.M. — Joint Courtesy Hour — National Chief of Staff of Auxiliary in Charge

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7

7:00 A.M. — Department Commanders meet with Commander-in-Chief for Courtesy Breakfast (Place to be announced)
9:00 A.M. — Business Session
1:30 P.M. — Business Session — Greetings Received
6:30 P.M. — Banquet honoring National Officers — Sons and Auxiliary

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8

Free Day — No Business Sessions
8:00 P.M. — Floor Show — Normandy Room

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9

9:00 A.M. — Business Session — Installation of Officers
1:30 P.M. — Council of Administration Meeting — Headquarters Room

Final Reminder . . .**NATIONAL G.A.R. FUND**

Have you remembered to make your donation to the National G.A.R. Fund? If not, please send your contribution in the form of a check or money order made out to the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, no later than July 15th, to:

Harry E. Gibbons
National Patriotic Instructor
551 LaSalle Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14215

Donations, large or small, will help to carry on several significant patriotic activities and programs of our National Organization in memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and to enhance our national image as an organization.

YOUR COOPERATION AND SUPPORT WILL BE SINCERELY APPRECIATED.

Also, the National Patriotic Instructor urges each of you to demonstrate your patriotic support by flying the Stars and Stripes each national holiday and by exemplifying your love of our great Nation and loyalty to its Constitution and democratic principles each day of the year.

THE LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Eighteen States have now taken action to return the observance of Veterans Day to November 11. They are Alaska, Arizona, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wyoming. In addition, Arizona, Nebraska, New Hampshire, and New Mexico have returned the observance of Memorial Day to May 30. In Washington State and Wisconsin legislation is pending on the subject.

The Missouri General Assembly on May 15 passed and sent to Gov. Bond a measure to make May 8, the late Harry S. Truman's birthday, a State holiday in Missouri.

On May 21 the U. S. Supreme Court agreed to rule on the constitutionality of a Massachusetts statute prohibiting contemptuous treatment of the Flag. The case involves a young man who had had Old Glory sewn to the seat of his pants.

The U. S. House of Representatives on May 11 voted 219 to 188 to deny President Nixon's request for authority to transfer \$430 million from other defense accounts to support the continuing air warfare in Cambodia. The House also adopted an amendment that would prohibit any funds in a supplemental appropriations bill from being used for combat activities "in, over or from the shores of Cambodia." Those votes marked the first time in which the Lower Chamber refused to back Administration requests for financial support for military operations in Indochina. Then on May 15 the Senate Appropriations Committee voted unanimously to cut off funds for further military action in either Cambodia or Laos.

(Editor's Note: On May 31 the Senate upheld the action of the Appropriations Committee by voting 63-19 to shut off all funds for bombing of Cambodia.)

The Congress is apparently turning away from the Administration position that the bombing is necessary in an effort to force North Vietnam to respect the peace accords agreed to in January. This attitude, when contrasted with continued bombing operations, could bring about a classic confrontation between the Executive and Legislative branches over the proper exercise and limitation of the war power.

Rep. Steven Symms, an energetic, first-term member from Idaho, has introduced H. R. 6595 which prohibits the United States from furnishing any economic assistance to North Vietnam. To date the President has not asked Congress for authority or funds to assist in the rebuilding of North Vietnam's economy. But on May 10 during consideration of a supplemental appropriations bill, the House agreed to an amendment that would prohibit the use of funds under the measure for the reconstruction of that country.

THOMAS L. W. JOHNSON
Chairman

AS SEEN FROM HERE

Relatively small membership notwithstanding, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War as a national organization has strong potential for being a constructive and wholesome influence for the greater development of patriotism, loyalty to Constitution, and respect for Flag, nationally and locally in the respective communities in which Camps exist. Each of us as a member of the Sons of Union Veterans has a responsibility to make known the precepts and principles of our Order and to take positive steps through local Camp activities to encourage others by our example to fully support and respect the United States and its Flag, to support its Constitution and to strive constructively to better our communities and our Nation. It behooves us not to shirk this responsibility.

Although we should support the premise that no individual should be deprived of his Constitutional rights, we have a right to insist that making a mockery of the Constitution, making a shambles of all authority and casting disrespect upon the Nation and its Flag, as a minority is prone to do, cannot be tolerated. On the other hand, we should not impede, but we should encourage, those who seek to improve, strengthen, and bring about constructive change within the framework of the Law and the Constitution. The very liberties and freedoms we enjoy today as Americans had their birth many years ago in the early days of this great Democracy as a result of similar efforts of many

**Surrender at Appomatox Observed at . . .****40TH ANNUAL BANQUET IN READING, PA.**

Shown above is P.C.C. Chester S. Shriver, toastmaster, greeting Commander-in-Chief John C. Yocum and National President of the Auxiliary Viola C. Bremme at the 40th annual Appomatox Banquet sponsored by the Allied Orders of the G.A.R. at the Hotel Abraham Lincoln in Reading, Pa. on April 7th.

The affair, commemorating the 108th anniversary of the surrender of General Robert E. Lee's forces at Appomatox in 1865, was attended by 170 persons, including representatives from the Departments of Maryland-Delaware and New Jersey.

Peter Yonavich, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Berks County, and Mrs. Irene K. Murphy, Banquet Committee Chairman, welcomed those present.

Greetings were extended by Commander-in-Chief Yocum, National President Bremme, the Department Presidents of each of the Allied Orders, and the Past Commander of the Combined Veterans Council of Berks County.

The program concluded with the singing of the Pennsylvania closing, a moment of silence in remembrance of the Men in Blue, and an impressive rendition of Taps by Machinist Mate 3rd Class Ivan E. Frantz, Jr., who was on leave from Navy duty. Entertainment which followed included several selections by a woman's vocal group and dance numbers by Michele Pompiano.

who lived in those times. The foundation of our Nation is laid upon those efforts and the resulting accomplishments. The strength of this foundation must be maintained and preserved.

We know all too well, however, that in some circles it is fashionable to run down our Country in loud and inflammatory terms for all sorts of real and imaginary evils and problems. However, those loud and vocal peddlers of dissension among us, who so actively try to cultivate divisiveness, defeat, despair and disruption of our democratic way of life and government, which has been our heritage for almost two centuries, fail to understand, or perhaps choose not to, that solutions to problems which faced our Nation in the past were sought and found by our forefathers and that solutions to the urgent problems facing the Nation today will also be found, but only by sincerity of purpose and by proper and lawful means. Only by this process will all the citizens of America be able to build upon the record of, and enhance the image of, our great Democracy that has stood out for so long as a lighthouse to all the world.

Let's be interested enough, patriotic enough, and courageous enough to stand up in support of our constitutional government and the great record it has established during the last two hundred years and to encourage others to do the same. A loud chorus of patriotic voices can't help but muffle the melancholy whining and whimpering of those whose purpose it appears to be to destroy the virtues, values, and principles so precious to the vast majority of us.



FIFE AND DRUM MUSIC STILL RESOUNDS

Organization of fife and drum corps units became popular with the founding of the G.A.R. So inspired was Mackinlay Kantor, renowned author, who attended a number of G.A.R. Encampments and enjoyed the music of the fifes and drums, that he wrote the article, "Of Fifes and Drums and the Grand Old Men," which was later published in the June 1967 Readers Digest and reprinted in the Grand Army Yank for Sept.-Dec. 1968.

The fife and drum tradition has been continued by various units of the SVR, such as the Oregon Blues Brigade (shown above), which began in 1963 as a part of Owen Summers Camp No. 4 of Oregon and of which Jerry Heermans is the Chief Musician. Fife and drum corps units were also organized in Harrisburg, Penna. and Mount Vernon, Ohio and more recently, also in Penna., the Lancaster Fencibles and the 11th Vol. Inf. Fife and Drum Corps came into being.

WAS MAN WHO KILLED LINCOLN CAPTURED?

"Sic semper tyrannis!"

With the utterance of these words there was thus symbolized the end of an era and the beginning of a legend.

The time: 10:30 in the evening, on April 14, 1865. The Confederacy had been defeated. Washington was in a state of celebration. The President and Mrs. Lincoln, accompanied by a Miss Clara Harris and a Major Rathbone, were attending a performance of "Our American Cousin" at the Ford Theater in Washington, D. C.

No one in the capacity audience observed the dark shadow as it reflected progressively on the wall of the passageway to the Presidential box. No one in the box was aware of anything being wrong until the fatal shot rang out.

Even then, it took precious moments for the stunned people at Ford's Theater that night to realize just what had happened. And in those few moments, John Wilkes Booth, a handsome and successful actor, climbed over the rail of the flag-draped box and plunged to the stage, crying as he jumped, the motto of the State of Virginia — "Sic semper tyrannis!"

Booth made good his escape. Lincoln was gently carried from the theater to a private residence directly across the street where he died without regaining consciousness at 22 minutes past 7 o'clock the following morning. Now he belonged to the ages, and the legend of Abraham Lincoln, 16th President of the United States, began.

CAPTURED IN BARN

But what of Booth, who had severely injured his leg in the drop from the box to the stage. Hunted as perhaps no man has ever been, before or since, the misguided actor, accompanied by a fellow conspirator named Herold, succeeded, momentarily, in eluding his pursuers and escaped to Virginia.

There a crack detail of soldiers, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel E. J. Conger, traced the fugitives to an isolated farmhouse in Virginia. In the dead of night, the almost completely exhausted, hard-riding troopers surrounded an old weather-beaten barn behind the farm dwelling.

"You must surrender inside there," Conger's second in command, Lieutenant I. B. Baker, ordered.

"Who are you and what do you want?" a clear voice from within the besieged structure inquired.

"We want you to deliver up your arms and become our prisoners," Baker promptly replied.

After some haggling, Herold surrendered, but Booth elected to remain within the barn, leaving the soldiers no alternative but to fire the building, which they did.

SERGEANT DISOBEYED ORDER

It is quite likely that Booth could have been taken alive, since, eventually he would have been unable to stand the intense heat of the rapidly spreading fire and would have been forced to come out. However, a disobedient sergeant changed the course of history when he fired at Booth through a crack in the building.

At first, it was thought that the Presidential assassin had shot himself, for he was well armed. Quickly, he was carried from the burning barn and removed to a place on the farmhouse porch, where he died shortly thereafter.

"Useless, useless," were the last words he uttered. And thus began another legend.

The Secret Service was responsible for the disposition of Booth's body. But was the man who was taken from the barn in Virginia John Wilkes Booth? Some historians say it was not. And what was done with the body of the man supposed to be Booth?

HISTORIANS DIFFER

Four prominent men of the time had four different answers to the question.

"He (John Wilkes Booth) was buried near the old jail and a battery of artillery drawn over his grave to obliterate all trace of it," said General David D. Dana.

"Booth was buried under the brick pavement in a room of the old penitentiary building of Washington," wrote General Lew Wallace.

"The remains of Booth were carried on a gunboat about 10 miles down the Potomac, where the body was sunk in the river," according to Captain E. W. Hillard.

"The body of Booth was placed on a boat by Captain Baker and his nephew, a Lieutenant in the New York 71st Volunteers, carried to an island 27 miles from Washington and secretly buried there," said Colonel William P. Wood.

WAS HE EVER CAPTURED?

Now how about those who say that Booth was never captured? Perhaps he wasn't. There are contentions that he escaped to the South, whereas other stories have him turning up in the far West at a much later date.

It is just possible that the military, hard pressed by an irate populace, staged a fake capture in order to take off the pressure,

(Continued on Page Eight)



Department News



CALIFORNIA AND PACIFIC

The Department was saddened by the death of P.D.C. Ernest Schoonover as a result of an automobile accident on May 2. Bro. Schoonover's lengthy membership in the Son's Organization and his faithful service will remain a cherished memory for a long time to come.

At the 87th Encampment held in April, the Department's Americanism plaque was awarded to Archie Moore, former boxer, for his untiring effort in helping young people through the "Any Boy Can (A.B.C.)" Organization.

COLORADO AND WYOMING

The Department was honored by the presence of Commander-in-Chief John C. Yocum and National Presidents Miss Viola Bremme (Auxiliary to SUVCW), Mrs. Margaret Orr (Ladies of the G.A.R.), and Mrs. Josephine Kuba (Women's Relief Corps) at the 1973 Encampment held at Manitou Springs, Colorado.

Camp 5 of Colorado Springs was pleased in February to welcome back to membership Bro. Harry Adams, who originally joined the Camp as a charter member in 1929 and now is the only charter member active in the Camp. Bro. Adams' father, Timothy G. Adams, who served in the 27th Regt. Iowa Vol. Inf. during the Civil War, was a member of G.A.R. Post No. 22 of Colorado Springs.

ILLINOIS

On April 7, members of the Sons of Union Veterans, Auxiliary to the Sons, Ladies of the G.A.R., Daughters of Union Veterans and Women's Relief Corps joined in placing a wreath at the base of Gen John A. Logan's statue in Grant Park, Chicago in memory of the Grand Army of the Republic. Later that day, the Sons and Daughters Banquet Assn. of Cook County held a luncheon in the English Room of Marshall Field and Co., commemorating the 107th anniversary of the founding of the G.A.R. Bro. Robert M. Craig, IV, of Camp No. 1 spoke on incidents in the life of General Logan.

On June 10, as a part of the 91st annual Encampment in Moline, a tour of the Rock Island Arsenal, conducted by Bro. Dorrell E. Garrison, Curator of the Museum, was enjoyed by many members.

Clyde F. Davis, Jr. of Camp 61-65 and Florence H. Forbey of Auxiliary 11 were elected to serve as Department Commander and Department President for 1973-1974.

We regret to announce the death of Capitola Rehrman, P.D.P. and Past National Secretary of the Auxiliary, on February 19 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

MAINE

Members of Garfield Camp and its Auxiliary attended Memorial Sunday services at the Universalist Unitarian Church in Waterville on May 27 and participated in the parade in Winslow the following day. During memorial services conducted at the St. John's Grotto in Winslow by Rev. Antonio Girardin, a wreath was placed at the monument by the Auxiliary president. In Waterville later, flowers were strewn from the bridge at Messalonskee Stream and wreaths were placed in the cemetery and at the monument in Waterville Coburn Park. Department Commander Lester D. Nadeau served as general chairman of the Memorial Day activities.

In the early Spring, Shepley Camp, Sons of Union Veterans, and its Auxiliary celebrated the 90th and 85th anniversaries of their founding, respectively. Appropriate joint celebrations were held in Portland.

MASSACHUSETTS

Received too late for publication in the April issue of the Banner was the news that Edwin J. Lennon, Commander of Bay State Camp, has retired from the New England Merchants National Bank and Hon. Frank J. Donahue, Senior Past Commander of Bay State Camp and Senior Past Department Commander of Massachusetts, has retired as the Senior Justice of the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Judge Donohue has been succeeded by his son Roger.

MARYLAND

At the 79th annual Encampment of the Sons and Auxiliary (Md.-Del.) held in Frederick, Md. May 4-5, Frank Heacock, Department Commander (Sons), and A. Gladys Grove, Dept. Patriotic Instructor (Auxiliary), presented monetary gifts to the United Volunteer Fire Company of Frederick, an organization which has been in existence since 1845. The presentation was in keeping with the custom of making donations to a worthy cause each year in the city hosting the Encampment. National Secretary Caroline Riddell, assisted by Edith Chase, Penna. Dept. President, and several members of Auxiliary #1 of Penna., installed newly-elected Department President of the Auxiliary Eleanor Dickenson and her staff of officers for 1973-74.

NEW JERSEY

The skies drizzled and poured most of the Memorial Day weekend, but the people who know what it is all about did not call a rain date. The rain did not stop the rifle salutes, the sound of "taps" and the ceremonies. In addition to grave decorating, Camps in Trenton and Bloomfield took leading parts in ceremonies, with talks being given by Edward Vay, Ira Boughton, Daniel George, Frank Daubert, Walter Williams, Fred Combs, Jr., John Junge, Kenneth Ekstrand, Robert Gerke, Jr., and Dept. Aux. Pres. Mrs. Jean Kandrac. Chauncey McKnight of Dayton Camp 5, Trenton sounded "taps" following a rifle salute in Riverview Cemetery. Similar services were held in Greenwood Cemetery by Garfield Camp 4.

An enjoyable and constructive Dept. Encampment was held June 14-16 at Point Pleasant with several out-of-state visitors, including Commander-in-Chief John Yocum, National President Viola Bremme, Lou and Hazel Moushey, and Agnes Davis, in attendance. Our 1973 Good Citizen Award was presented to Mr. Meredith Havens, Commander of Camp 4, for outstanding public service for many years. John Junge was reelected to the office of Department Commander. Marion Combs is the newly-elected Department President of the Auxiliary.

A testimonial Dinner honoring Department President Marion Combs will be held on September 29th at Nassau Inn, Princeton.

The Autumn Dinner Meeting of the New Jersey State Camp will be held at Nassau Inn, Princeton, on October 27th.

NEW YORK

Past Commander-in-Chief Chester S. Shriver of Gettysburg, Pa. was made an honorary Mayor and Citizen of the City of Tonawanda during its 70th Corporate Birthday Celebration May 26-27. Four hundred Reactivated Civil War Troops participated in honoring the Civil War dead. Activities included a motorcade to Buffalo for a combined Memorial service at the G.A.R. Memorial in Forest Lawn Cemetery. Other events of the three-day celebration included a Blue-Gray Ball, an art show, a Civil War and Revolutionary War Camps demonstration and a parade.

On May 24th, flags were placed on 800 graves around the G.A.R. Memorial in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo by the History Club of Seneca Vocational High School of Buffalo. During the decoration of the graves of Civil War veterans, appropriate band music of the Civil War era was played.

About 100 representatives from Camps and Auxiliaries of the New York Department were guests of H. H. Winebell Auxiliary 15 and Camp 43 on April 7 at the Ramada Inn, New Harford. Emma Hughes, P.D.P., presided over ceremonies honoring Department Commander Earl Terry and Department President Beatrice Terry and members of their staffs.

An official of the City of Utica was the guest speaker. Greetings were extended and interesting remarks made by the Dept. Commander, Dept. President, six Past Dept. Commanders, and five Past Dept. Presidents.

The Department was saddened on March 20 by the death of Past Dept. Pres. Carrie Lent. Previously a member of Auxiliary 12 in which she had served in several offices, Sister Lent was at the time of her passing away a member of Auxiliary 72. She served as Dept. President in 1965. The memory of her loyal service will be cherished.

OREGON-WASHINGTON

Sadness fell upon the Department upon the passing of Past National Chaplain Spencer Leonard on June 8 after three years of illness. Bro. Leonard was a former Dept. Commander (1954-56) and had also served as Department Secy.-Treas. for a number of years.

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OREGON-WASHINGTON . . .

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Harold Slayton of Eugene and Orris Fentress, also of Eugene, were elected Dept. Commander and Dept. President respectively at the recent Encampment. Music at the annual Dept. Banquet was provided by the Oregon Blue Brigade.

On Memorial Day Wesley R. Ross read Gen. John A Logan's Gen. Order No. 11 at services held at Willamette National Cemetery, where the Oregon Blue Brigade presented the colors, and at Grand Army Cemetery, where a rifle salute was fired by members of the Brigade.

PENNSYLVANIA

Camp 200 has again requested one of our local elementary schools to write on the Civil War. Last year, five Certificates of Merit were given along with \$5.00 each to those selected by the History Department as presenting the best papers.

This year, the William Cramp School was selected and once more five awards were given along with the money prizes; also, another school was added, Friends Community School in West Chester. The fifth grade submitted essays on the Civil War after completing their course. The Certificate of Merit was awarded to Miss Tina Brown along with a \$5.00 prize. Special mention was given to Amy Hemphill and Wayne Zuken who received small bronze tokens with Lincoln's bust. It is planned that this will continue yearly on an ever-increasing basis.

Camp 200 has begun a new policy of speaking on some part of the Civil War at each meeting. Some of the speakers have discussed battles or skirmishes while others have done personal profiles or illustrated drill techniques, etc.

P.C.C. Chester S. Shriver served as chairman of the Committee which planned the 106th annual Memorial Day Exercises held in Gettysburg on May 28. Col. William G. Weaver (Ret.), Mayor of Gettysburg, was master of ceremonies at a program held at the National Cemetery following an impressive parade. Memorial wreaths were placed by Commander-in-Chief John C. Yocum, on behalf of the Sons of Union Veterans, and by representatives of other veterans organizations. Gettysburg Camp 112 of the Sons was among the sponsoring and participating organizations. School children, Girl Scouts, Brownies, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Explorer Scouts strew flowers on the graves of the dead.

RHODE ISLAND

The 86th Department Encampment was held on April 13-14 in the Colonial Hilton Inn, Cranston. On Friday evening at a joint affair of the Sons and Auxiliary, eighteen American and State Flags were presented to Boy and Girl Scout troops and to civic and church organizations. The Business session was held on Saturday with Department Sr. Vice Commander Frank Luth presiding. New officers were installed by Commander-in-Chief Yocum, assisted by National Historian John Davis as Chaplain, and P.C. in C. William B. Haskell as Guide. The annual dinner honoring the Past Department Commander and President was held on Saturday evening. P. C. in C. Harold Arnold was toastmaster. Following the dinner an American Flag was presented to the Inn by the Department.

Zenas R. Bliss Camp #12 conducted memorial services at the Oakland Cemetery in Cranston on May 28 with several members of the Camp and its Auxiliary present. Dept. Commander Frank Luth presided and P.D.C. Dexter Coombs, Camp Commander and a 50-year member of the Sons, although confined to a wheelchair, served as Chairman as he has done for many years. Charles Woolley, P.D.C. of the American Legion, was the principal speaker. The invocation and benediction were offered by Rev. Valley Anderson, a long-time participant in these annual services. Flags were placed on the graves of all veterans in the cemetery by members of Richard J. Dennis Post #23, American Legion. Robert Whalen, Post Commander and the President of the Post Auxiliary also participated in the program.

SMILE AWHILE

Push-buttons have taken the place of all kinds of cranks except human ones.

The computer is a great invention. There are just as many mistakes as ever but they are nobody's fault.

An old-timer says that things were so tough during the depression that when someone in his family threw the dog a bone, the dog had to signal for a fair catch.

Psychiatrists say that, in the process of thinking, blood is drawn from the feet to the brain. This may explain why, if we think very long about doing something, we get cold feet.

**PROUD GRANDSON PRESENTS
CIVIL WAR DIARY**

Shown above are James J. Elliott, a member of Dayton Camp No. 5, Trenton, N. J., presenting a copy of his grandfather's Civil War Diary to P.C. in C. Fred H. Combs, Jr. The presentation took place at the Spring dinner meeting of the N. J. State Camp in Princeton. This diary, written by Sgt. Fergus Elliott and copyrighted in 1972, is not merely a recollection of the war. It was written every night, many times by campfire. Bro. Combs is a Trustee of the Trenton Civil War Museum, where the diary will be permanently available for examination and study by Civil War Buffs.

JOHN WILKES BOOTH . . .

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although this is highly unlikely. For one thing, Booth was badly injured, and therefore could not have traveled far, even though he did manage to secure some medical attention from a Maryland physician named Mudd. He also was a celebrity, and his face was known to thousands.

Admitting the fact that certain Southern die-hards would have offered him some help, it must be acknowledged that most persons in the ill-fated Confederacy were shocked by the audacity of the assassin. They would hardly have risked harbouring a so-badly-wanted fugitive, for revenge being the keynote of the North, woe betide anyone who even admitted admiration for Booth's dastardly act.

BOOTH MAY HAVE LEFT DIARY

Many years have passed since that eventful April night so long ago. If Booth was captured and subsequently died of his self-inflicted wounds, then there's little left to be said. On the other hand, if he did escape to live elsewhere for any length of time, then there may still be another intriguing chapter to the Lincoln assassin story.

Perhaps in some musty attic in your town there lies an old diary — its pages yellowed with age, but its hasp still firmly closing off from prying eyes, the story of a man — or woman — who might have befriended or loved John Wilkes Booth long after he was pronounced legally dead. The diary may even have been written by Booth himself in the lonely years that would have followed his possible escape.

One thing is certain. John Wilkes Booth was a great actor and, as such, he could have successfully assumed a new identity. Whether he did or not may possibly never be known.

MEREDITH HAVENS
Commander
Gen. Jas. A. Garfield Camp 4
Trenton, N. J.

All free governments are managed by the combined wisdom and jolly of the people. — James Abram Garfield