

The **Banner**

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Number 2

'Sons' and Auxiliary Go Below Mason-Dixon Line in Their Patriotic Work

The North and the South joined hands in paying tribute to Abraham Lincoln at Fort Monroe, Virginia, January 19th, when a picture of Lincoln's visit to the Fort in 1862, was dedicated in the Casement Museum at the Fort.

At the same time, Commander-in-Chief U. S. Grant 3rd, presented a stand of colors to the museum, on behalf of the Sons of Union Veterans, and Mrs. Anna I. Stoudt of Reading, Pa., a member of National Council of the Auxiliary, presented one in the name of her organization. Mrs. Ellinore Konrad, National President of the Auxiliary, had planned to do the presenting, but was prevented from doing so because of illness. These flags now stand on either side of the Lincoln picture in the Museum Casemate, which is adjacent to the Jefferson Davis Casemate where the Confederate President was confined in chains, following his capture by the Union forces.

Lincoln visited Fort Monroe from May 5th to May 12th, 1862 to direct the battle against Norfolk which was successful. At the time, a picture was taken showing him in conference with his Secretary of War, Secretary of the Army and one of his Generals. It was from this picture, Mr. Jack W. Clifton, a brilliant artist of Norfolk, made the pen and ink sketch that was presented to the museum, funds for the picture having been raised by a committee of prominent citizens of Fort Monroe and Newport News.

Colonel C. LeRoy Stoudt, National Patriotic Instructor, and Mrs. Irene Murphy of Reading, accompanied Mrs. Stoudt to the Southern city, where they encountered the worst snow storm in the past three years. Past Commander-in-Chief John H. Runkle, National Chief-of-Staff, of Harrisburg, Pa., flew to Washington Tuesday evening, then accompanied General Grant on his flight to the Fort Wednesday morning. Due to the severe storm, their plane could not land at Newport News, but had to continue to Norfolk, from whence they had to return to Newport News by ferry, thus delaying the start of the ceremony.

Following the ceremony, the guests and the committee were entertained at a luncheon in the Officer's Club, by General and Mrs. John E. Dahlquist, the former being Commanding General of the Fort. After the luncheon, a WAC Sergeant and staff car were assigned to take the guests on a tour of the Fort and Museum, thus bringing to a close a most

(Continued on Next Page)



Principals who participated in a ceremony Jan. 19 dedicating a drawing to commemorate Abraham Lincoln's 1862 visit to Fort Monroe pose before the drawing which hangs in the Old Fort Monroe Room of Fort Monroe's historical museum. Left to right are Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Ulysses S. Grant, 3rd, now Commander-in-Chief of Sons of Union Veterans, Mrs. C. LeRoy Stoudt, representing the Auxiliary's national president, Jack Clifton, Hampton, Va., the artist who made the drawing, and Gen. John E. Dahlquist, Chief of Army Field Forces and Commanding General of Fort Monroe. In the ceremony, which was attended by military and civilian dignitaries from throughout the Virginia Peninsula, General Grant and Mrs. Stoudt presented the American flags draped on either side of the portrait in behalf of the Sons of Union Veterans and the Ladies Auxiliary Branch of the S. U. V., respectively, to General Dahlquist.

U. S. Army Photo

'SONS' AND AUXILIARY—(Cont. from Page 1) enjoyable visit of Brothers of the North and South.

The following is the program for the flag presentations:

Medley, Civil War Tunes, 50th Army Band.

Invocation, Chaplain Ernest E. Northen, Jr., (Fort Eustis, Virginia).

Introductions: Doctor Chester D. Bradley, Co-Chairman of the Committee for the Fort Monroe Casemate Museum.

Colonel Malcolm D. Jones, Deputy Post Commander, Fort Monroe, Virginia, and Co-Chairman of the Committee for the Fort Monroe Casemate Museum.

Presentations: Mrs. Anna I. Stoudt, Member of National Council, Ladies Auxiliary, Sons of Union Veterans. Major General U. S. Grant, 3rd, (USA-Ret.), Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Union Veterans.

Response: General John E. Dahlquist, Commanding General, Fort Monroe, Virginia, and Honorary Chairman, Museum Committee.

National Anthem, 50th Army Band.

NEXT NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

AUGUST 21-25, 1955

HOTEL NETHERLANDS PLAZA

CINCINNATI, OHIO

The whole Grand Army Family of affiliated organizations will hold a revival of the old Grand Army of the Republic CAMP FIRE jointly in the Taft Auditorium on the opening night, Sunday, August 21st. Senator Bricker will be the principal speaker on "Why All Good Patriots Should Support the Bricker Amendment." The historian of the National Park Service will outline "What the Federal Government is Doing to Preserve and Interpret the Battlefields and Monuments of the Civil War," illustrated with slides, followed by greetings from the National Presidents of the Four Allied Orders, meeting together again for the first time in five years.

The Commander-in-Chief counts on a great attendance and every member of the Commandery-in-Chief, who possibly can, being present for this first Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans as a Federal Corporation. On Wednesday, August 24, wreaths will be laid at the Lincoln Statue in Cincinnati and then the assemblage will go by bus to the birth place of General Grant at Point Pleasant, Ohio, which is preserved by the state as a National Shrine.

The Cincinnati Art Museum has extended an invitation to all convention delegates to visit its first-rank collections. Among the leading museums in the United States, it is noted for its new collection of Far and Near Eastern art, 18th and 19th century "period rooms," ancient musical instruments, superb sculpture hall and comprehensive painting and print collections. It is open for your convenience daily 10 to 5; Sundays and holidays, 2 to 5 (in summer months). Located in Eden Park, it is a fifteen minute trip from downtown via "Zoo-Eden" Bus 49, a ten minute drive by automobile via Gilbert Avenue. Admission is free.

ALBERT WOOLSON CELEBRATES 108 YEARS

The 108th birthday of Comrade Albert Woolson, the sole surviving veteran of the Civil War and the last member of the Grand Army of the Republic, was celebrated with outstanding ceremonies on February 11th at Duluth, Minn.

At the Duluth City Hall, with over 300 witnessing, the bust of Comrade Woolson which was presented to the City of Duluth by the National Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War at the National Encampment held in Duluth last August, was placed in the rotunda and dedicated. It was set on a beautiful marble pedestal, a gift of the Duluth Musicians Association. The inscription on the pedestal reads, "To The Last Man" and has the Grand Army of the Republic emblem. At the unveiling, Comrade Woolson commented, "He wasn't a bad looking fellow, was he?" Mayor George D. Johnson accepted for the City of Duluth.

National President Ellinore Konrad of the Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, interrupted a heavy schedule to attend these ceremonies, coming and going by plane. She extended the greetings from the Auxiliary and created much enthusiasm in the surprise announcement of the forthcoming presentation of a life-sized statue of Comrade Woolson in the Gettysburg Memorial Park in the near future.

Dewey B. Mead, national aide to Comrade Woolson, extended greetings in behalf of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

The unveiling was covered by several newspapers and wire services and some 16 television and newspaper camera men from Duluth and the Twin Cities. Both Comrade Woolson and National President Konrad were on television later in the evening.

Over 500 congratulatory telegrams were among the many messages received during the day. Some of the telegrams were from President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Commander-in-Chief U. S. Grant 3rd, and United States Senators Edward J. Thye and Hubert H. Humphrey.

Both Sister Konrad and Brother Mead were supper guests at the Woolson home following the city hall ceremonies. They gave Comrade Woolson boxes of cigars in behalf of Commander-in-Chief Grant, the National President and the Minnesota Department. Comrade Woolson says that he has enough cigars to smoke till h-ll freezes over.

The comrade is in remarkably good condition and declares that he will be around for a few more years.

The first occasion of the presentation of Medals of Honor to enlisted men in the Army of the Potomac, occurred September 15, 1864, when medals were presented to Sergeant John Shilling, Co. H, 3rd Delaware Regiment; Private T. C. Anderson, Co. H, 18th Massachusetts Regiment, and Private George H. Reed, Co. E, 11th Pennsylvania Volunteers.

The battle of Allatoona, Ga., October 5, 1864, is said to have been, for the number of troops engaged, the most terrific of the war.

MINUTES OF INCORPORATION MEETING COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

The first meeting of the incorporators of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, called in compliance with Section 2 of the Act approved by President Eisenhower on 20 August 1954 (Public Law 605—83rd Congress) was called to order at 3:00 P. M. on Wednesday, January 12, 1955 in the Board Room of the Government Services, Inc., 1135 21st St., N.W., Washington, D. C. by Gen. U. S. Grant 3rd. There were a total of 45 votes present in person and by proxy.

Brothers John Runkle, George Kimball and Karl Rothschild were appointed a committee to examine and approve proxies. Commander-in-Chief Grant assigned proxy votes equally to Brothers Albert C. Lambert, Richard F. Locke, and Frederick G. Bauer.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

1. To accept the Charter of Incorporation granted by Congress.

2. To accept transfer of the property of the Illinois Corporation known as the Commandery-in-Chief Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and to assume any trust upon which any of such property may be held; and to assume all debts and other obligations of said Illinois Corporation to the extent that the same are enforceable in a court of law or equity.

3. To adopt as the Constitution and By-Laws of this Corporation the Constitution and Regulations of the Illinois Corporation now in force, so far as not inconsistent with the Congressional Charter.

4. Maj.-Gen. U. S. Grant, 3rd, U. S. A. Ret., was appointed as agent for the corporation in the District of Columbia.

5. That officers in the new corporation be the same as those prescribed in the Constitution and Regulations of the Illinois Corporation.

6. All officers of the Illinois Corporation were elected as officers of the new corporation to serve until August, 1955, or until their successors are duly chosen and installed.

7. That the new corporation adopt all honors and past rank conferred by the Illinois Corporation and continue same in force.

The matter of Associate Membership was discussed at some length, after which Commander-in-Chief Grant ruled that this terminology would be inconsistent with the provisions of our Federal Charter. He ruled that in the future this group would be known as Associates, and not Associate Members. No objection was made to this ruling.

After general discussion the meeting was adjourned by Commander-in-Chief Grant at 4:50 P. M.

ALBERT C. LAMBERT

National Secretary-Treasurer

ASSOCIATES

The following is the legislation adopted regarding Associates:

Section 3, Article 7 of the Constitution — Departments and Camps may establish Associates. Said

Associates must be ineligible for full membership due to lack of lineal descent from a Union Veteran of the Civil War. Said Associates shall not hold elective office, or be entitled to vote, but may serve as appointive officers or as members of a committee. The wearing of the membership badge is prohibited, except with some distinguishing mark, to be prescribed in Regulations. No camp shall, at any time, elect Associates when the number of Associates will exceed one-half the number of regular members at the time of such election.

Add new Article 8 of the Regulation, Page 18—All provisions of Article 2, "Membership," Sections 1, 2, 3, 4; and all provisions of Article 7 named "Finances" 1, 2 and 3 shall apply to Associates except that Camps shall report Associates under separate heading as "Associates."

Associate badges are now available from the National Secretary-Treasurer at \$1.25 each.

MESSAGE FROM NATIONAL PRESIDENT

It was my happy privilege to institute an Auxiliary in Detroit. Congratulations to the Michigan Department! Which Department will be the next to report a new Auxiliary? ORGANIZE NOW!

Plans are going forward for our National Encampment in a very efficient manner. I would advise you, upon receiving your reservation card, to fill it out and return it promptly so that you will be assured of a room at Headquarters Hotel.

Inasmuch as we are coming to the season of the year when everyone is reminded to do their part for the handicapped, I am very desirous of having the membership carry out to the fullest extent their Rehabilitation programs. THEY NEED OUR HELP.

Our National Patriotic Instructor, Isla M. Dow, is asking each Patriotic Instructor to raise \$3.50. Personal donations will also be appreciated. She asks that we also remember our National Holidays with programs in keeping with the day. Let our patriotism be vibrant, positive and dynamic for our beloved Organization.

Abraham Lincoln said, "If we do right, God will be with us, and if God is with us, we cannot fail."

Yours in F. C. & L.

ELLINORE L. KONRAD
National President

CINCINNATI HOTEL RATES

The Netherland Plaza Hotel will be hotel headquarters for the Sons of Union Veterans and Auxiliary during our National Encampments in Cincinnati, the week of August 21st. Following are the hotel rates that will prevail:

Single Room	-----	\$ 4.50 to \$11.00
Double Room for 2	-----	10.00 to 14.00
Twin Bedroom for 2	-----	11.50 to 17.00
Suites	-----	20.00 and up

All outside rooms with tub, shower and radio. Air conditioned.

Reservation cards are being enclosed with this issue of The Banner. To be assured of accommodations, please send these reservation cards promptly.

AN EASTER MESSAGE

All ancient peoples had their sacred festival of Spring and sung their songs of resurrection. Easter was first a purely natural and human festival. It told of new life rising out of old. The early fathers called Easter God's Day. Its more popular name is from the Saxon, Easter, "to rise." In the late autumn the flowers wither, the trees lose their leaves and in the winter all are enshrouded in sleet and snow and appear to be lifeless. But the voice of nature invites us to wait and watch and we shall see the shroud lifted and all these wooded back to life again.

So now as the soft warm winds blow over our land and the heat of the sun's rays penetrates the frozen earth, we see a new awakening in nature — crocuses, violets, daffodils, robins, bluebirds — springtime, the promise of summer. That is what Easter means to mankind everywhere.

But to millions of persons Easter means more than this. It means that Christ who was crucified, died and was buried arose from the tomb and for forty days mingled with His disciples and then ascended into Heaven; it means the celebration of the greatest festival of the Christian year.

It was Easter that sent the disciples forth with a message and a mission to the world unlike anything the world had known before. It was Easter that gave them courage and patience to do and endure, to suffer and die when necessary. It is Easter alone that today can save Christianity from annihilation by the forces of materialism. The central teaching of the Christian church is that it was the living Christ who changed the murderous Saul into the missionary Paul; who today, as nineteen hundred years ago, can lift the souls of men out of death into life and fill them with His own gentleness, His own fearlessness, His own genuine love for all mankind. The Christian Easter gives us all that we seek from religion; forgiveness for our sins; light for our darkness; strength for our work; comfort for our sorrow and life eternal.

HERMON L. BROCKWAY,
National Chaplain, S. U. V. C. W.

DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENTS — 1955

California and Pacific—Santa Barbara—Apr. 24-27.
Colorado and Wyoming—Manitou Springs—Jun. 5-7.
Connecticut—New Haven—May 14-15.
Illinois—Springfield—Jun. 3-5.
Indiana—Indianapolis—Jun. 10-12.
Iowa—Mason City—Jun. 10-12.
Kansas—Topeka—May 1-3.
Maine—Bangor—Jun. 10-11.
Maryland—Hagerstown—May 13-14.
Massachusetts—Boston—Apr. 29-May 1.
Michigan—Lansing—Jun. 15-17.
Minnesota—St. Paul—May 14-15.
New Hampshire—Concord—Apr. 22-23.
New Jersey—Asbury Park—Jun. 17-18.
New York—Rochester—Jun. 22-24.
Ohio—Cleveland—Jun. 23-26.
Oregon and Washington—Portland—Wk. of Jun. 20.
Pennsylvania—Lancaster—Jun. 23-25.
Rhode Island—Providence—Apr. 15-16.
Vermont—Montpelier—Jun. 23-25.
Wisconsin—Fond Du Lac—Jun. 17-19.

APPOMATTOX

Appomattox: The very mention of this word brings back a flood of memories to the elder generation of the Sons of Union Veterans. Many of us will remember that the 9th of April, the anniversary date, was observed by the Grand Army posts with banquets and speeches. Many times there were comrades who had been present at the surrender of General Lee to General Grant. They gave reminiscences and were listened to with rapt attention.

This, however, is 1955 and the question may be asked why should camps of the Sons of Union Veterans mark the occasion with dinners and programs. Because of the striking significance of Appomattox. (1) The surrender marked the end of the slaughter of previous young lives, both blue and gray. (2) It meant the failure of the attempt to destroy our Constitutional Union which in the early years of the war had all but succeeded. (3) It strengthened the abolition of slavery. (4) General Grant set an example for all time when he treated his surrendered foes with kindness and consideration. You will recall how he told the Confederates to go home and take with them their horses and mules that they might till the soil and obtain support for their impoverished and hungry families. (5) As the Union soldier stood shoulder to shoulder despite wounds and hardships to achieve the final great victory at Appomattox, so must we, whether Catholic, Protestant or Jewish, Republican or Democrat, Sons of Union Veterans or Sons of Confederate Veterans, stand together to fight the strong menace of Communism that today would destroy our Constitution and government and the American way of life.

Both Union and Confederate soldiers were very largely men who revered God. Communists, on the contrary, live without and against God. Our lives are determined by morality; theirs by expediency; ours by belief in the higher destiny of the human being; theirs by contempt of his limitations; ours by faith and hope; theirs by material gain and human greed; ours by trust; theirs by cunning. The Red horde is on the move. Time is running out fast. If we do not win this conflict, nothing will matter. Sons of Union Veterans, let's take the banner and lead the fight until the forces of evil surrender.

NEIL D. CRANMER,
Past Commander-in-Chief

Sons of Union Veterans
Commemorate Lincoln's Birth

In near zero weather the Sons of Union Veterans took place in the wreath laying ceremonies held under the auspices of the Loyal Legion at Lincoln Memorial on February 12. A color guard under the command of Past Commander-in-Chief John H. Runkle and composed of members of Camp 15, Harrisburg, were part of the colorful pageant that was headed by Commander-in-Chief, General U. S. Grant, 3rd. The thanks of the entire organization go to the men who made the journey to Washington to take part in this celebration.

Company H, 4th Wisconsin, numbering nearly two hundred men, served for five years, and only lost three men by disease.

Department
News

CALIFORNIA—Joint installation of officers of the Camp 10 and Auxiliary 20 took place in Veterans Memorial Building . . . Gen. W. S. Rosencrans Auxiliary 2, met recently at Patriotic Hall with Mary Story presiding . . . Gen. Phil Kearney Camp and Auxiliary held their joint installation recently . . . Joint installation of Fresno Camp No. 17 and Auxiliary No. 6 was held Jan. 4th in the Veterans Memorial Hall, Fresno. Installing officers were Vernon Cheney and Mrs. Ann Cheney. Guests were present from Oakland and San Jose.

COLORADO—Our new Auxiliary Elijah Barrett No. 8 held installation Jan. 6th, with Past Dept. Pres. May Levine the installing officer. Mrs. Myrtle Hunt was installed as president. On Jan. 10th Aux. No. 5 of Colorado Springs held joint installation with Camp No. 5. The Dept. Commander J. W. Burke installed the Camp officers and Miss Louella V. Holmes Dept. president, installed the Auxiliary officers. Mr. Louis Kent, was installed Commander and Mrs. Idell Fischer Aux. President. On Jan. 11th two car loads from Colorado Springs accompanied the Dept. President to Denver and assisted in installing the officers of Camp No. 1 and their Aux. with Mr. A. G. Myers Past Dept. Commander installing the Camp officers. Mr. Chester McDonold Commander, and Mrs. May Reed, Aux. President. Jan. 15th the Dept. Pres. installed the officers of her own Aux., Pueblo No. 7, Mrs. Edna Meeker as President.

We are proud to have a new Auxiliary and are looking forward to a prosperous year.

INDIANA—Eli Thornburg Camp 20 of Muncie met in regular session at their hall on Monday evening, Jan. 10 and installed their officers for 1955. The following officers were installed by State Installing Officer Alva Reef:

Commander, Alva Reef; Sr. Vice Commander, Raleigh O. Yingst; Council No. 1, Orville Swearinger; Secretary-Treasurer, Ernest A. Houk; Color Bearer, Orville Swearinger.

Members of our Auxiliary were present.

MASSACHUSETTS—L. A. Tift Camp held its Lincoln Day Dinner Saturday, Feb. 19, at Springfield, Mass. . . . The fall meeting of the New England Association was held at Bellevue Falls, Vt. . . . The Valley Association of Western Mass held a Dedication program in Holyoke, Mass. P. C.-in-C. Charles H. E. Moran was chairman. Plans were started to have this an annual affair. . . . Saturday, Feb. 12, the Massachusetts Department held a Lincoln Day celebration at the Lincoln Monument, Park Square, Boston. The City of Boston co-operated in the exercises, placing wreaths for the services. Although the weather was very cold there was a large number present. . . . The South Shore Past Pres. Club held a banquet on Feb. 26. . . . The New England Regional meeting will be held on March 19 and 20 at

the Hotel Bradford, Boston. . . . Sister Marguerite Mitcheson, Dept. Pres. is visiting Aux. 127 of Westboro on March 10. This is the Auxiliary's 36th anniversary. . . . The Dept. Survey and Planning Board Meeting will be held in Westboro on April 14.

Two outstanding social events were held in February: The annual banquet of the Plymouth County Association, S. U. V. held at Rockland and the annual banquet of the Massachusetts Dept. Past Commanders' Association held at Roxbury. Both these events brought many members of the G. A. R. family and friends together.

It is pleasing to note that Dept. Treasurer (Mass.) George E. Hunt, P. D. C., is slowly regaining his health. Faithful to every trust, George has been missed from our gatherings for many months.

Saturday, Feb. 20, the Massachusetts Dept. Past Commanders and Past Presidents' Association held their annual banquet at Roxbury. A varied entertainment was enjoyed.

William J. W. Findlay, Commander of Camp 24, U. S. W. V. and Sr. Vice Commander of Camp 81, S. U. V., Chelsea, died suddenly and was accorded a full military funeral.

National Council member, George W. Kimball was chosen by Camp 24, U. S. W. V. of Chelsea to serve as Toastmaster at their 54th annual banquet and get-together held January 22nd.

Champ 81, Chelsea, took in nine more members during the last quarter. The Camp will assist its Auxiliary 38 in fittingly observing its 50th anniversary in May.

Ralph P. Bickmore, Camp 34, Wakefield, who has served in many department offices, is doing much to properly advertise the Massachusetts Dept. and his newly enlarged paper is receiving favorable comments.

MICHIGAN—Camp No. 1, Detroit: Two more applications for membership presented Feb. 21 at monthly meeting at Veterans Memorial Building.

Camp No. 4, Detroit: On Feb. 7, officers and members of Thomas Barker Camp, about twelve of them, gathered at the home of Thomas Irwin Starr, 15400 Artesian Avenue, a collector of Lincolnia of outstanding note, and looked over his collection of over 3,000 books and pamphlets on Lincoln. Commander George Raub is very interested in this kind of work, since he, himself, has a somewhat limited collection of Civil War material.

Camp No. 5, Detroit: On Saturday, Jan. 15, nearly 100 members of the Sons and Auxiliaries and Dept. and National representatives of the Allied Orders of the G. A. R. and Dept. Commanders representatives of the V. F. W., the American Legion, and the U. S. W. V., along with Michigan's Governor Williams, gathered at American Hall, 9950 Mack Avenue, to have a 6:30 P. M. dinner and to witness the instituting and the installing ceremonies of Michigan's new Auxiliary No. 16, to Gen. U. S. Grant Camp No. 5, administered by our very able National President Ellinore L. Konrad, and Michigan's Dept. Pres. Isabel Durand. Past Natl. Pres. Gladys Sallman, also assisted. Partial list of officers are: Past President, Alice P. Cowdin; President, Vallie Morehead; Vice President, Leah B. Dexter, P. P.; Secre-

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Instituting of the new Auxiliary No. 16, to Gen. U. S. Grant Camp No. 5, Saturday, Jan. 15, at American Hall, 9950 Mack Avenue, Detroit, Michigan. Front row, seated, left to right, are: Thomas L. Wilson, Dept. Commander; Charles F. Dexter, National Personal Aide; Elsie Cleaver, Aux. Secretary; Vallie Morehead, Aux. President; Isabel Durand, Dept. President; Ellinore L. Konrad, National President; Leah B. Dexter, P. P., Aux. Vice President; Leona D. Engel, Aux. Chaplain; Mary Gayer, Aux. Patriotic Instructor; and Milo C. Newer, Sr., Dept. Sr. Vice Commander and Commander of Camp No. 5.

Department News (Continued) tary, Elsie Cleaver; Treasurer, Dorothea Davis; Patriotic Instructor, Mary Gayer; Chaplain, Leona D. Engel; and Counselor, Charles F. Dexter, PDC. Charter date has been extended to March 18th.

Camp No. 14, Grand Rapids: Held monthly meeting, which had very good attendance. Dinner 6:30 P. M., was attended by about 50 Sons and Auxiliary members as well as Dept. Commanders. The dinner was such a sumptuous one that there was undeclared limits to the calories. The Detroit visitors said they were coming back soon for another dinner.

The luncheon and reception at noon at the Pantlind Hotel was well attended by the Sons Dept. Officers. Bro. Charles F. Dexter, Natl. Personal Aide, extended the warm and special greeting from Gen. Grant, 3rd, Commander-in-Chief, to Natl. Pres. Nellie D. Howe, of the Ladies of the G. A. R.

Central Region Conference: The first "get-together" in behalf of the Central Region Conference, which is to be held in Detroit in October, was held at the Veterans Memorial Building, Feb. 21st, with Region Commander, Charles R. Cowdin officiating.

MINNESOTA—Dewey B. Mead, Dept. Sec.-Treas., recently visited Comrade Albert Woolson at his home in Duluth. He found our Comrade in good health and good spirit.

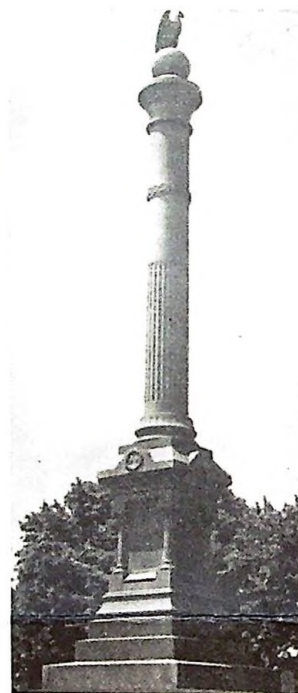
Camp 8, Minneapolis, David A. Phelps, Dept. Commander, recently had an operation and was hospitalized for some time. He is recovering and is back at his work.

William A. Anderson dies.—Camp 8 suffered the loss of a very able member in the death of Brother William A. Anderson who joined Minneapolis Camp No. 8 in 1935. Brother Anderson was a former mayor of Minneapolis, former Assistant Attorney General of North Dakota, and served many years as a judge of the courts in Minneapolis. He was one of the incorporators for the Congressional Charter which recently became a law.

The Minnesota Department and Duluth Auxiliary suffered a severe loss in the death of Mrs. Milie Robinson, Past Department President. After a short illness, she passed away Feb. 5. Sister Robinson was a most faithful member of the Auxiliary and was always ready to do her full share of the work. The

surviving family and the Duluth Auxiliary are accorded the most sincere sympathy.

NEW JERSEY — Monument to Gen. Geo. B. McClellan which is located in Riverview Cemetery in Trenton, N. J. This cemetery has over 1,200 veterans graves, including 800 Civil War veterans. It is decorated each year by members of Ferd V. Dayton Camp No. 5 of Trenton.



"Little Mac" was Commander-in-Chief of the Union Forces from November, 1861 to March, 1862, following which he became Commander of the Army of the Potomac. He served as Governor of New Jersey, 1878 to 1881.

NEW YORK—The newly elected officers of the Monroe County Council are: Commander, Allen M. Church; Vice Commander, Francis Culhane; Secretary-Treasurer, Fred E. Colwell; Chaplain William A. Halleck . . . Lafayette Camp 140 held its annual Lincoln Dinner Feb. 8, at Rosoff's Restaurant, New York City . . . Oliver Tilden Camp No. 26 was represented at the Old Guard Ball on January 28 by Brothers Bert Sack, Bertam Isaacs and Lawrence Isaacs. These members along with P. D. C. Leslie W. More were the guests of Dept. Com. William F. Bruckel. They participated in the Grand March in the uniform of the Civil War period. The uniform attracted quite some interest and several inquiries were made about our organization.

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84th CONGRESS
1st Session

H. J. RES. 53

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 5, 1956

Mr. KEATING introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

JOINT RESOLUTION

Designating November 19, the anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, as Dedication Day.

Whereas the Gettysburg Address of President Abraham Lincoln is an outstanding classic and will touch the hearts of men and inspire them with faith in our matchless Republic as long as time endures; and

Whereas in that address Mr. Lincoln adjured his fellow countrymen to dedicate themselves to the principles of democracy in order that government "of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the earth": Therefore be it

- 1 Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives
- 2 of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 That November 19, the anniversary of the delivery of the

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Department News (Continued)

The annual joint installation of officers of Diven Camp 77 and Aux. 49 of Elmira was held on Jan. 25. . . . The passing of P. D. C. Dr. A. George Courtney of Syracuse, was a severe blow to our organization. He was our senior ranking P. D. C., having served in 1896. He was National Councillor during the administration of the late William Alan Dyer. He had not missed attending a Department Encampment in many years. . . . The Past Presidents Club of Greater New York entertained Dept. Pres. Myrtle More and staff and Dept. Com. William F. Bruckel and staff at a dinner dance, Saturday Feb. 5, at Rosoff's Victory Room, New York City. . . . The G. A. R. Memorial Association of Erie County held its annual Lincoln Dinner, Friday, Feb. 11, at the Park Lane Restaurant, Buffalo.

Howland Camp 127 of Beacon has elected John L. Roberts as Commander, and re-elected Col. Jonathan G. Huston as Secretary-Treasurer. . . . Dept. Com. William F. Bruckel presided at the mid-winter meeting of the Department at Elmira, Jan. 15. Following the meeting a reception was held for Commander Bruckel and Dept. Pres. Myrtle M. More. . . . Mrs. Elizabeth McGarry is the new president of Tibbetts Auxiliary, Troy. . . . Mrs. Beatrice Terry is the new president of Ovid Auxiliary No. 72.

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- 1 Gettysburg Address, be, and hereby is, designated in our
- 2 calendar of special days as Dedication Day.
- 3 That the President of the United States is requested to
- 4 proclaim November 19 as Dedication Day and to suggest
- 5 that the address be read on that day in schools and public
- 6 assemblages throughout the United States and its possessions,
- 7 on our ships at sea and wherever the American flag flies.

84th CONGRESS
1st Session
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 By Mr. KEATING
 January 5, 1956
 Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

All members are urged to contact their representatives in Washington and urge the passage of this bill.

F. E. COLWELL, Chairman,
Legislative Committee.

RHODE ISLAND—The Department Observed Lincoln's birthday at a banquet on Feb. 13, in Providence. They presented the LaSalle School with a parade flag. . . . The annual Christmas party was held on Sunday, Dec. 19. . . . Several Auxiliaries have held their instalations and congratulations are bestowed on the incoming officers.

WASHINGTON and OREGON—Owen Summers and Auxiliary of Portland installed their officers in a joint ceremony on Monday, Jan. 3. . . . Mrs. Lois Huddleston, Department Inspector was a recent guest of Hiram Gale Auxiliary of Seattle. A luncheon preceded the meeting. . . . Auxiliary No. 9 of Eugene, Oregon, has had several interesting meetings recently. They made over \$100 on recent money making events.

The Ringgold Light Battery of Reading, Pennsylvania, claim to have been the first military organization to prepare for the war, and the first to tender their services to General Scott for the defense of the National Capitol.

The 60th New York and the 111th Pennsylvania Regiments are entitled to the credit of first raising the stars and stripes over the Court House at Atlanta, Georgia, when General Sherman captured the city, September 1, 1864.

This Union, Must and Shall Be Preserved APRIL ANNIVERSARY

The month of April brings the anniversary of many events that have had far reaching effects on the history of our nation, but most vital of them all was that April day in 1865 which marked the close of the long, bitter struggle of America's Civil War.

Not only had the most heart-rending war in history, with its four long years of terror and hell, come to a close, but above the smoke and ruins of the smoldering battlefields the proven truth that all men are created free and equal was floating over the earth with its spirit of hope.

Yet there was no universal cry of wild rejoicing, no shouts of victory over the oppressed, merely silent thanks to Almighty God that the end had come. At Appomattox Court House in Virginia the same feeling of sadness marked the formal surrender of the Confederate Forces. There was no theatrical display, troops were not paraded with bands playing and banners flying, before whose lines the Confederates must march and stack their arms.

General Grant did not demand the sword of General Lee, but actually apologized to him for not having his own, saying that it had been left behind in the wagon. In speaking of the surrender later, General Lee told his friends in Richmond, "No man who could have behaved better than General Grant did under the circumstances. He did not even touch my sword." Neither did the Union Chief enter the Southern lines to show himself, or to parade his victory, but mounted his horse and with his staff started back for Washington.

One by one the embers of the camp fires of the Civil War turned to ashes, and the Blue and the Gray started their journey homeward. The Union had been preserved, the Dignity of the Southland maintained, and a new hope for freedom had been born on earth. Yes, the long dark night was over, and an April sun rose on Old Glory floating in the morning breeze, bringing to a war-torn South, tranquility to an anxious North and freedom to a weary world.

How proud can you be of your birth right? What limits could you place on the heritage which is yours as a descendant of a Veteran of the Civil War? Show your colors. Once again we are threatened by the forces of treason. Let us show our kinship to the men who wore the Union Blue, and let us shout as they did nearly a century ago, "This Union Must and Shall Be Preserved."

A. WALLER LEWIS, JR.
Chairman, Americanism Committee

CIVIL WAR CALENDAR

March:

4, 1862. The Monitor, a Federal Ironclad, forced the Confederate Merrimac to retire in Hampton Roads.

9, 1864. Ulysses S. Grant named lieutenant-general in command of the Union Forces.

20, 1863. Federal Forces defeated Confederate Calvary in the battle of Vaught's Hill, near Milton, Tenn.

21, 1865. Generals Slocum and Kilpatrick commanded Federal Forces which defeated Generals

BIBLE, FLAG AND ALTAR

It was long ago that I heard for the first time the solemn words of the Chaplain, "You are now at the altar of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War for obligation." At those words, "You are now at the altar," I felt an added glow of pleasure because I stood at an altar, which was evidence that I was joining an organization that loved not only flag and country but God as well. And there flashed through my mind the story of Noah — how his first act, when he and his family survived the flood and emerged from the ark, was to build "an altar unto the Lord."

As my initiation proceeded to conclusion I received various instructions. I was instructed in certain camp procedures and regulations. I heard a Flag Charge that brought Civil War history back to life. I heard the significance of the badge described. I learned the meanings to be drawn from the ribbon. But after the ceremonies were completed I found my thought going back to the altar and the objects there. It was the central station around which the ritualistic services revolved, but no particular instruction as to its significance had been given.

Later, when I attended camp meetings, the same thought would recur. "Would not one be inclined to assume," I thought, "that the central station would provide a prominent theme of the initiation ceremony. The station is treated with reverence, but nothing is taught about it." When I mentioned this to other I was informed, "Oh, we Sons derive our central station and its objects from the Grand Army of the Republic." So, from time to time as opportunity offered, I directed further inquiry to the Grand Army and slowly assembled an understanding that brought me, at least, much satisfaction. Briefly, this was the information acquired.

When the Grand Army was organized and the post ritual was being gradually developed and perfected, discussions among the leaders took the following course: "This fraternity that we have created is designed to be strongly Christian in spirit and objectives. The ceremonies of the post must give conspicuous evidence of our belief in God, our worshipful relationship to Him, and our purpose to show our dependence on His continuing favor toward our activities and our country. Therefore, the most prominent station in the post must be God's station, a station dedicated to God, an altar. This shall be at the center of the ritualistic ceremonies. And to signify our intent that the channel of God's guidance be kept open from the altar to the commander, there shall be no passing between the altar and him except as the ceremonies require.

(Continueud Next Issue)

Johnston and Hampton and the Confederates at Bentonville, N. C.

April:

3, 1865. Petersburg and Richmond, Va., were taken by Gen. U. S. Grant and his U. S. Army.

5, 1862. The seige of Yorktown, Va., by the Army of the Potomac, commanded by General McClellan, began.

9, 1865 General Robert E. Lee surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia to General Grant at Appomattox, Va.