



the Banner

Published bi-monthly by the Commandery-in-Chief Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Organized 1881--the only male organization recognized by the Grand Army of the Republic

Volume 58

P. O. Box 457, Trenton 3, N. J. March-April, 1954

Number 2

ORIGINAL RILEY POEM TO SONS OF VETERANS

SONS OF VETERANS U.S.A.
 SONS of Veterans U.S.A.—
 Sons of soldiers passed away
 Even at the stroke of war
 From the land they battled for,—
 Sons of heroes, lift your eyes
 To the old flag in the skies
 Proudly, nobly, as ye may,
 Sons of Veterans U.S.A!

Sons of Veterans, forget
 Not the mothers mourning yet
 For the gallant victors who
 Marched to death and glory too!
 Through the mists of fancy see—
 Rank and file and paucely—
 The high hosts in grand array,
 Sons of Veterans U.S.A!

Sons of Veterans, the Lord
 Fashioned war of flame and sword
 That your sires might wield His wrath
 To smite error from His path;—
 Lent to them His thunders too—
 And his lightnings unto you,
 Dare the old wrongs rise today,
 Sons of Veterans U.S.A!

JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY, proclaimed as the poet laureate of his native Hoosier State was unable to accept an invitation to be one of the principal speakers at the Annual Encampment of the Sons of Vet-

Sons of Veterans, the might
 Of brave hearts is yours by right;
 By the right of houses benched,
 And of fortunes unretreved;
 By the right of graves unknown,
 O'erspread by deeds alone,
 Not this tear ye cannot stay,
 Sons of Veterans U.S.A!

Sons of Veterans! Behold!
 Yet are blessings manifold:—
 Peace for you on land and sea,
 Joy, content and harmony;
 Souls of hope, and hearts of love,
 Faith below and heaven above.
 So God keep us, let us pray,
 Sons of Veterans U.S.A!

James Whitcomb Riley

erans 63 years ago last July. An original poem was mailed by Riley at Warsaw, Indiana on July 16, 1890 addressed to the Encampment then holding its annual meeting in Evansville. The poem is now in possession of Paul E. Leffler, present judge of the Delaware Circuit Court. His father, the late Judge Leffler, at the time was Vice-Commander of the Indiana Sons of Veterans. Because of illness of the Department Commander it fell to the elder Judge Leffler to preside over the Evansville gathering and to read to the assemblage the communication.

FLASH! Congressional Charter Bill introduced in Congress -- Your letters will help--See page 4--Write your Congressmen. This means you! Do it NOW!

Climb Aboard For Duluth.



As announced in the January-February issue, a reserved coach will be available on the Burlington Lines leaving Chicago, Sunday, Aug. 8 and leaving Duluth Friday Aug. 13. The round-trip fare from Chicago to Duluth and return is \$23.64.

From the East—PRR Train 49 (both Pullman and reserved seats) leaving N. Y. Saturday, Aug. 7 and returning Saturday, Aug. 14 will make connections in Chicago without changing stations. Round-trip fares from N. Y. to Chicago and return are: Reserved seat, \$62.38 including tax and seat charge; Pullman \$109.83 including tax and lower berth.

Within a few weeks, each subscriber to The Banner will receive a communication from the Burlington Lines R.R. with detailed information and reservation forms.

Hotel Duluth reservation cards are being mailed with this issue of The Banner. Single rooms are available from \$4.75 to \$7.00 and double rooms from \$7.25 to \$13.50.

S. U. V. C. W. and Auxiliary

- Duluth, Minn. Tentative Convention Program 1954
- Sun. Aug. 8. Arrivals and Registration
 - Mon. Aug. 9. A.M. Committee meetings, Council meetings, Registration
 - A.M. Rehearsals, Nat'l Chaplains and Aux. Nat'l Chief of Staff
 - P.M. Afternoon bus trip. Courtesy of local committee
 - P.M. Evening. Public ceremony honoring Comrade Woolson
 - Tue. Aug. 10. 9 A.M. Opening sessions, each organization
 - 1:30 P.M. Business sessions, each organization
 - 4:00 P.M. Joint Memorial Services, SUVCW and Aux.
 - 5:30 P.M. Banquet, Past Comdrs-in-Chief—Past Nat'l Presidents (English room)
 - 8:00 P.M. Courtesy hour, Auxiliary
 - 9:30 P.M. Color and Sound movie of G. A. R. Highway (Route 6)
 - Wed. Aug. 11
 - 9:00 A.M. Business sessions, each organization
 - 1:30 P.M. Business sessions, each organization
 - Aux. Nat'l Patr. Instr. presentation
 - Greetings Committees received
 - 6:00 P.M. Banquet honoring Comdr-in-Chief and Nat'l President
 - 9:00 P.M. Reception and Dance honoring Com.-in-Chief and Nat'l President
 - Thu. Aug. 12 9:00 A.M. Business sessions, each organization
 - 12 noon Aux. Past Dep't Presidents Luncheon (Arrowhead Room)
 - 1:30 P.M. Concluding Business sessions, each organization
 - 7:00 P.M. Nat'l Council meetings
 - 8:00 P.M. Joint Installation of Officers
 - Fri. Aug. 13 Departures

All joint meetings and functions to be held in the Crystal Ballroom. All Aux. meetings to be held in the Crystal Ballroom. All SUVCW meetings to be held in the Moorish Room.

An outstanding program is being planned for the public ceremony honoring Comrade Woolson on the evening of Aug. 9th. Details will be in next issue.

Headstone Memorials

We are confident in the opinion that our veterans' graves are being well cared for in nearly every city and town, village and hamlet, by Camps of our Order or by community minded patriotic citizens' groups, insofar as the actual decorating with flags and flowers is concerned. What we are not at all confident in, is whether every veteran's grave has been marked with a headstone of one kind or another, bearing his name. We are sure that some are not.

Now, this is what we are primarily interested in having accomplished. It requires only a little honest effort on the part of our Camps' committees on Grave Marking. Only they can do it. Only they know the location, the name, and the information required.

Applications for Federal headstones may be had by writing to the office of the Nat'l Graves Registration Officer. Camp Commanders or Secretaries are authorized to sign applications for headstones in the name of the Camp. Federal headstones are delivered F.O.B. to your railroad station. Surely there is some member of your Camp who has a pickup truck. A spade, a pailful of cement, and a couple pair of willing hands combined with loyal hearts, and the headstone is set. There it stands, a memorial to a hero of 1861-1865 for the coming generations to see and to know the great debt of gratitude a nation undivided must owe its defenders. Camps, Attention! Are you with us?

WHERE IS THIS GRAVE?
 JOHN ROBINSON, a Union Veteran of the Civil War, who served in a Federal regiment from W. Virginia, and who died Apr. 5, 1888 at the age of 70 in Greenbrier Co., near Clintonsville, W. Virginia, is buried somewhere in that locality. Anyone having any knowledge concerning the location of this veteran's grave is requested to immediately communicate with Nat'l Graves Registration Officer B. O. DeForest, Sr., 27 Homestead Ave., Derby, Conn.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION (Duluth News Tribune)
 Afternoon coffee hour was one of the highlights of the 107th birthday celebration of Comrade Albert Woolson and his granddaughter, Frances Anne Kobus. Included in the thousands of greetings received was one from President Eisenhower, sent at the request of Commander-in-Chief Grant.

Phonograph Recordings Available For Programs

Carrying out his suggestion made last year that our organization should do what it could to create a library of historical and program recordings, P. C. in C. Frederick K. Davis has presented to the Order as a nucleus of such a library a number of recordings that he was able to locate and assemble.

These recordings will be kept permanently at Nat'l Headquarters, but duplicates are available to Camps and Dep'ts. It is hoped that our members everywhere will join in this quest and effort. In addition to programs featuring Union Veterans, other recorded programs of significance to our type of organization are desired. Recordings that are suitable for programs, or that can be arranged and adapted for such purpose, would be exceptionally useful.

For the present, at least, duplicates of these master records will have to be made individually, and not on a quantity basis, hence will be relatively costly.

Orders for records will be filled in the order in which they are received. Sufficient advance notice should be given to secure recordings for a desired date.

The records provided by Mr. Davis have been edited and arranged by him, with clarifying comment where applicable, so that each record is a complete, self-explanatory program unit, requiring only to be played for an audience. Some records are a combination into one record of several original recordings. These master records are all of the longplay type, speed 33 1/3 revolutions a minute. Duplicates will be of the same type. To play one of these at 78 revolutions is not feasible and would seriously damage it. Playing with a worn needle will also seriously damage the record.

For good hearing by an audience, particularly as the records have voices of different pitch, a good phonograph is advisable that permits of some tone control of voices and music. For a large banquet, or hall of the ballroom size, a loudspeaker system would be desirable to pick up and carry the recording to all parts of the room. It would also be well for the operator to play the recording privately in advance, so that he will be familiar with its characteristics. Mr. Davis has found that playing one of these records adds interest to a program and is a publicity feature.

Tape transcriptions will be furnished, when preferred, instead of flat-type records. For reproduction of such tape, which will have a speed of 7 1/2 inches per second, a high-grade tape recorder should be used, such as RCA, Revere, Web-Cor, etc. The tape will be recorded to play only in one direction, for program convenience. For shorter records, a 5 inch reel will be used; for the longer records, the reels will be 7 inch.

Record Numbers and Description

D-1 Playing time 15 1/2 minutes. Five interviews with Albert Woolson, 1st Union Veteran of the Civil War. A fine combination into one record of discussions at different times by Mr. Woolson of seeing Abraham Lincoln in Albany, N. Y., in 1859 and his views on longevity, motherhood, politics, our relation with Russia, etc. A very superior program of broad historical and general interest. Price: Record \$6.00 Tape \$4.00.

D-2 Playing time 38 minutes. Featuring Theodore A. Penland, last Commander-in-Chief, Grand Army of the Republic, and Gen. James W. Moore, last Commander-in-Chief, United Confederate Veterans. Selected material (no commercials) from a nation-wide broadcast in 1949, "This Is Your Life" with Ralph Edwards as Master of Ceremonies. This is a tremendously interesting program of great historical significance. A real thriller. Price: Record \$9.50, Tape \$5.00. Record uses two sides.

D-3 Playing time 14 1/2 minutes. Interview with John S. Dumser, age 94, of Oakland, Cal., Commander-in-Chief, G.A.R., 1942-43. Mr. Dumser gives an absorbing account of his experiences as a soldier under Gen. Sherman, describes a soldier's equipment, rations, loading and firing his .58 caliber rifle, and sings "Rally Round The Flag". A very fine program, bright and brisk. Price: Record \$6.00 Tape \$4.00

D-4 Playing time 12 1/2 minutes. Combined interviews with Robert M. Round, Ripley, N. Y., a Commander-in-Chief, G.A.R.; James A. Hord, oldest Union Veteran of Rochester, N. Y.; Mr. Hord's granddaughter, Lola Ecksten. A real treat and privilege to listen in on this conversation. Of special interest to N. Y. and adjoining States. Price: Record \$6.00 Tape \$4.00.

D-5 Playing time 14 minutes. Interviews with three G.A.R. men at Grand Rapids in 1948—John H. Grate, 103, Ohio, P. C. in C.; Theodore A. Penland, 100, Ore., who became last C. in C., William H. Osborn, 105, Jr. Vice C. in C. Grate tells of Gen. Sheridan, Penland of seeing Lincoln, Osborn of his military service. A historical record of great interest. Price: Record \$6.00 Tape \$4.00

D-6 Playing time 15 minutes. A 3-way chat by James A. Hard, 110, Ralph Knox, and Fred E. Colwell, P.D.C. of N. Y. SUVCW. A most entertaining conversation. Mr. Hard discusses various aspects of his remarkable life, describes shaking hands with Abraham Lincoln, etc. Price: Record \$6.00 Tape \$4.00

D-7 Playing time 25 minutes. Memorial program for Comrade James A. Hard, March 1953. A masterful arrangement of material from interviews, recollections by Mr. Hard's associates, and tributes by several persons including Gen. Eisenhower. Utilizes some material from record No. D-6. An impressive program. Record uses two sides. Price: Record \$9.00 Tape \$5.00

D-8 Playing time 9 minutes. Tribute to James A. Hard, oldest Union Veteran, by Fred E. Colwell, P.D.C. of N. Y., Aug. 23, 1953 at Buffalo. A very eloquent tribute and biographical sketch. Price: Record \$5.00 Tape \$4.00

D-9 Playing time 26 minutes. Funeral service for James P. Martin, 101, Iowa's last Union Veteran, Sept. 23, 1949. Many dignitaries from State attended, including the Governor. A truly historical funeral. Price: Record \$9.00 Tape \$5.00

Cooperating in this project, Nat'l Sec'y Lambert has edited and presented the following programs to the Order. He has several other programs that will be released in the near future.

L-1 Playing time 15 minutes. Presentation of engraved resolution making Comrade Woolson a Past C. in C. of our Order, Oct. 17, 1953, by Sr. Vice C. in C. Dewey Mead. Comrade Woolson's response in which he repeats his invitation to hold Encampment in Duluth in 1954 and expresses appreciation. He also recites a poem and expresses his admiration for Gen. Grant. Price: Record \$6.00 Tape \$4.00

L-2 Playing time 25 minutes. Taken from radio broadcast during the final encampment of the G.A.R. in Indianapolis in 1949. Contains a splendid historical presentation of the G. A. R. and stimulating Civil War music. Concludes with a personal message from Comrade Albert Woolson, sole survivor of the Union Army. Price: Record \$9.00 Tape \$5.00

Any Camp or Dep't wishing to use a record or tape on a rental basis, and returns same in good condition within three weeks of the time it leaves Nat'l Headquarters will receive a refund of one-half the cost. The record or tape must be returned, carefully packed, prepaid and insured.

It is recommended that Camps and Dep'ts retain these records, however, as they will become "collectors items", suitable for use at meetings, banquets, civic organizations, schools, etc.

\$10 for Permanent Honor Roll

The G. A. R. Permanent Honor Roll Fund received \$10 recently which sent the total to \$845.00.

The contribution came from Mrs. Edna C. Hicks of Danville, N. H., in honor of her father, A. Otis Chamberlain of Co. B, 23rd Massachusetts Infantry.



**General Order No. 4
Series 1953-1954**

Headquarters
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF
Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War

1135 21st Street, N. W.,
Washington 6, D. C.

March 1, 1954

1. Brothers George W. Kimball of Mass. and A. Waller Lewis of Rhode Island are appointed as Nat'l Aides for outstanding work in securing new members. They are authorized to wear the national gold ribbon during my term of office.
2. Invitations to hold the 1955 Nat'l Encampment in your locality will be welcomed. Favorable inducements should be enumerated. Send invitations to the Nat'l Secretary-Treasurer.
3. Nat'l Patriotic Instructor Harold Arnold will solicit your support of the G.A.R. Memorial Fund by enclosing a subscription blank in the next issue of The Banner. Dep'ts, Camps, and members are requested to cooperate with him in this worthy project.
4. The Burlington Lines R.R. will soon communicate with every subscriber giving complete travel information for the trip to Duluth.
5. Roster changes—Ladies of the G. A. R.
Nat'l President: Mrs. Mabel Taylor,
8 Mt. Vernon St., Providence, R. I.
Nat'l Secretary: Gladys Newton,
334 Montrose Dr., So. Charlestown,
West Virginia
Dep't Comdr., N.Y.: John G. Kernan,
272 State St., Albany, N. Y.

Your Attention, Please!

Col. Bauer and I represented our organization at the annual meeting of the American Coalition in Washington on Feb. 4th and served on the resolutions committee. Resolutions were adopted on the following subjects: "Preservation of Constitutional Liberties", "The Immigration and Nationality Law", and "National Defense and Economy".

The Constitutional Liberties resolution reads as follows:

RESOLVED, (a) That the American Coalition of Patriotic Societies, in Annual Convention assembled, affirms its support of the effort to insure by Constitutional Amendment that no treaty or international agreement shall infringe on the rights and liberties contained in our Bill of Rights, including those reserved by it to the States or the people; (b) that no Executive Agreement or understanding, formal or informal, shall take effect until promulgated by Presidential proclamation or communication to Congress, and shall not become effective as part of the internal law of the United States until implemented by an Act of Congress; (c) that we urge upon our representatives in the Congress and in the United Nations to prevent any amendments to the structure or covenant of the United Nations which shall in any way effect the govern-

ment or independence of the United States or the liberties contained in our Constitution or laws, or shall subject our country or its citizens to any super-government of whatever form, or subject its citizens to trial by any tribunal not established by the laws of the United States or of one of its States, or where the fundamental rights established by our laws for an accused person do not exist; (d) that we appeal to Congress to withhold appropriations for any agency, international or foreign, which teaches, supports, or inculcates an ideology contrary to the ideals of true, sincere, and unhyphenated Americanism, and to forbid the display in schools, churches, or other public places of the flag of any government or institution which does not admit the supremacy within this country of the Constitution and government of the United States over any other sovereignty whatsoever.

U. S. Grant 3rd

Congressional Charter

Sen. Dirksen of Ill., and Cong. Keating of N. Y., have introduced identical bills (S 2924 & H.R. 8034) to incorporate our Order by Congressional Charter. Each Camp and each Dep't should pass a resolution endorsing this legislation and petition their Senators and Representatives to help get favorable consideration. Its passage is of greatest importance to our Order. Letters from individual members should also be sent.

The 107 years of the last survivor of the Grand Army of the Republic makes it most urgent for us to have a Congressional Charter and pick up the torch when it drops from his hands. Camps should hold special meetings, where necessary, to pass resolutions petitioning their Senators and Congressmen to help this legislation.

The Judiciary Committees that will consider the bills are as follows:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	SENATE
Chauncey Reed, Chairman, Ill.	William Langer, No. Dakota
Louis E. Graham, Penna.	Alexander Wiley, Wisc.
Kenneth B. Keating, N. Y.	Wm. E. Jenner, Ind.
Wm. M. McCullach, Ohio	Arthur V. Watkins, Mich.
Edgar A. Jones, Ill.	Robt. C. Hendrickson, N. J.
Ruth Thompson, Mich.	Everett Dirksen, Ill.
Patrick J. Hillings, Calif.	Herman Walker, Idaho
Shepard Crumpacker, Jr., Ind.	John N. Butler, Maryland
Wm. E. Miller, N. Y.	Pat. McCarran, Nev.
Denn P. Taylor, N. Y.	Harley Kilgore, W. Va.
Usher L. Burdick, No. Dakota	James Eastland, Miss.
George Meader, Mich.	Estes Keefauver, Tenn.
Laurence Curtis, Mass.	Willis Smith, No. Car.
John M. Robison, Jr. Ky.	Olin D. Johnston, So. Car.
DeWitt S. Hyde, Maryland	Thos. C. Hemings, Jr., Missouri

U. S. Grant, 3rd.,
Commander-in-Chief
Attest: Albert C. Lambert,
Nat'l Sec'y-Treas.

ment or independence of the United States or the liberties contained in our Constitution or laws, or shall subject our country or its citizens to any super-government of whatever form, or subject its citizens to trial by any tribunal not established by the laws of the United States or of one of its States, or where the fundamental rights established by our laws for an accused person do not exist; (d) that we appeal to Congress to withhold appropriations for any agency, international or foreign, which teaches, supports, or inculcates an ideology contrary to the ideals of true, sincere, and unhyphenated Americanism, and to forbid the display in schools, churches, or other public places of the flag of any government or institution which does not admit the supremacy within this country of the Constitution and government of the United States over any other sovereignty whatsoever.

Department Encampments

- California and Pacific San Jose May 2-5
- Colorado and Wyoming Manitou Springs, Cliff House June 6-8
- Connecticut New Haven, Hotel Garde May 1-2
- Illinois Chicago, Hotel Morrison June 11-13
- Indiana Indianapolis, Hotel Severin June 11-13
- Iowa Des Moines, Savery Hotel June 20-23
- Kansas Saline, Hotel Lamer May 2-4
- Maine Portland, Falmouth Hotel June 11-12
- Maryland Baltimore, Lord Baltimore Hotel May 11-15
- Massachusetts Boston, Sheraton Plaza Hotel April 9-10
- Michigan Grand Rapids, Pantlind Hotel June 16-18

(continued on page 5)

Lincoln Ceremonies

Outstanding in the thousands of Lincoln ceremonies held throughout the country were those held at Lincoln's Tomb in Springfield, Ill., and at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D. C.

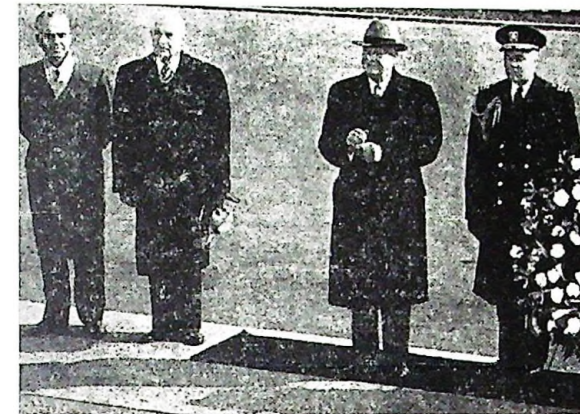


Photo by Abbie Rowe--Courtesy Nat'l Park Service

Shown above (left to right) Assistant Secretary of Interior Orme Lewis, C. in C. U. S. Grant 3rd, President Dwight D. Eisenhower and the President's Naval Aide, as the President arrived for the ceremony.



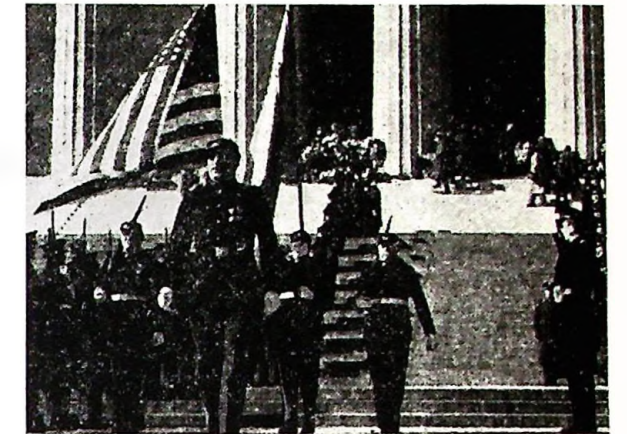
Photo by Abbie Rowe--Courtesy Nat'l Park Service

Pictured above are C. in C. Grant shaking hands with Col. John M. Virden who represented the Sons of Confederate Veterans who were represented for the first time in history, at the invitation of C. in C. Grant. Mr. Lincoln, sitting in stone, gazing with sad, thoughtful eyes over the scene, might well have been pleased if he could have been consciously present. So might the original Gen. Grant, who sent the defeated Confederate cavalry home with their horses because they might need them for the Spring plowing, and who refused to take Gen. Lee's sword.

At Springfield, Past Commanders-in-Chief Allan S. Holbrook and Richard F. Locke represented the Commandery-in-Chief at which time Bro. Holbrook placed a wreath at the Lincoln Tomb.

Shown in the following picture (next column) are our Commandery-in-Chief Colors retiring from the Lincoln Memorial in Washington under command of Nat'l Chief of Staff John H. Runkle following the

placing of our wreath.



Times-Herald Photo

Department Encampments continued

- Minnesota Duluth, Hotel Spaulding May 15-16
- Missouri
- New Hampshire Concord, Eagle Hotel April 23-24
- New Jersey Asbury Park, Kingsley Arms Hotel June 18-19
- New York Albany, Ten Eyck Hotel June 13-16
- Ohio Columbus, Deshler-Wallick Hotel June 13-17
- Oregon & Washington Salem, Hotel Senator May 24-25
- Pennsylvania Bethlehem, Hotel Bethlehem Week of June 27
- Rhode Island Providence, The Arsenal, April 16-17
- Vermont Bellows Falls, Windham Hotel June 24-26
- Wisconsin Beloit, Lorlen Hotel June 25-27

New England Regional

A fine meeting was held in the State Capitol Building in Augusta, Me. Speakers included Gov. Burton M. Cross. The meeting was followed by a banquet at which Mayor Frank Babbitt welcomed the delegation. Pictured below are (l to r) Henry J. Patten, P. D. C., Mrs. Mildred Webster, Nat'l Pres., and Gov. Cross.



The next meeting of the Assoc. will be held in The Arsenal at Providence, R. I., on March 13-14. The committee expects to have Gov. Dennis J. Roberts address the meeting. Invitations have been extended to C. in C. Grant and Nat'l Pres. Mrs. Webster to attend.

Grand Army of the Republic Highway

U. S. Route No. 6, Coast to Coast

News concerning G. A. R. Highway matters is brief in this issue. Your Nat'l Chairman has been busy contacting Dep't chairmen and State Officials and can report from replies received so far that, in general, the Highway is being maintained in a condition for safe touring, is adequately marked with official G. A. R. Markers, in most cases such markers being furnished and maintained by state authorization.

No Dep't, other than Illinois has yet reported survey made by SUVCW members, (next page)

G. A. R. Highway, continued

but we anticipate, now that travel will soon be free of weather hazards, that reports will cover that feature. Some state officials have reported that their own survey has found now and then a sign missing because of vandalism, wear, or need of refurbishing, but that this was being remedied. New signs were being made, and old ones repainted. In every case where we have contacted state officials, we have found them cooperative and in sympathy with the desire of our Order to make Route 6—the Grand Army of the Republic Highway—the most traveled and most popular east and west route.

We have broached the matter of certain spots along the route to be locally selected, equipped, and beautified, for the accommodation of tourists, such spots to be named for some local patriot or veteran. Who will be first to report such?

We urge every Dep't Committee member to become active on behalf of the most worth-while project the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War ever sponsored; and don't forget to contact your Nat'l Chairman to report your activities

A. S. Holbrook, Dwight, Illinois



Department

News



California & Pacific—Sheridan Camp of San Jose chartered a bus to attend the Dist. Meeting at Oakland in Jan. Nine from our Camp attended Lincoln banquet and mid-winter meeting in Los Angeles in Feb. Mar. 12 our Camp will be hosts to Nat'l Pres. Mildred Webster and her husband. All units of the G. A. R. family are planning for the Encampment in San Jose. J. Manning Green is general chairman. Rosecrans Camp of Los Angeles had over 200 at the Lincoln banquet which was followed the next day by a record turnout for the mid winter meeting in Patriotic Hall. GAR Highway monument and highway markings were given special attention. Our Camp and Aux. gave a reception honoring the official visit of Nat'l Pres. Mildred Webster on Mar. 9. Next meeting of the Past Camp Comdrs. Ass'n of So. Calif. will be held in Inglewood with Stanton Camp as host. Both Camp and Aux. are active in securing new members. Frank Woerner reports progress in the booklet honoring some Comrade or other person, same to be placed in the G.A.R. Highway Memorial at Long Beach. Burlingame Camp and Aux. of Pasadena report many activities and increase in membership. Santa Ana Camp and Aux. started the new year with renewed activity and are getting things done. We regret to report no improvement in the health of Dr. Ralph Barrett who is still in the hospital. A joint meeting of Baker Camp and Aux. was held Jan. 25 when Officers were installed. Dep't Pres. Pearl Freeman installed the Aux. officers. Aux. 30 gave a reception to Dep't Chaplain Winifred Hansen recently in Moose Hall. She was presented with a corsage of money—this in the form of a valentine heart. Guests included Nat'l and Dep't officers of the Sons and Aux. as well as Dep't Presidents of Allied Orders. At the Lincoln banquet in East Los Angeles three flags were presented to Boy Scout Troops. At the mid-winter meeting the program included a mem-

orial to P. C. in C. Wm. L. Anderson. Aux. 2 is making arrangements for a reception for Dep't President in March, also for a reception for the Nat'l President on March 9.

Connecticut—Conklin Aux. 20 presented an American Flag to the Cub Scouts on Nov. 30 at the new Memorial School. P. D. P. Margaret Plasted made the presentation at a fine program at which 150 persons were present. A distinguished member of the Connecticut Dep't was buried recently in Arlington Cemetery. He was Maj-Gen. Kenneth F. Cramer, Commanding Officer of the U. S. Southern Command in Germany at the time of his death on Feb. 20. Gen. Cramer was a Past Comdr. of Hartford Camp 50 and twice served as a member of the Council-in-Chief. He was the son of Benjamin Cramer who served with the 97th N.Y. Regiment in the Civil War.

Colorado & Wyoming—Installation of officers of the Denver Camp and Aux. took place on Feb. 9 following their annual Lincoln and Washington Birthday Dinner. Camp 5 Colorado Springs installed officers jointly with the Aux. They held a Washington-Lincoln program on Feb. 22nd.

Indiana—Muncie Camp 20 mourns the loss of Brother Clayton Smeltzer, age 79, who died on Dec. 24. Brother Smeltzer had been an active Camp worker for many years.

Iowa—Dep't Sr. Vice Comdr. Lawrence Boutin is general chairman of the 71st Dep't Encampment which is to be held in Des Moines starting June 20.

Maine—Installation of officers of Hyde Camp and Aux. took place following a turkey supper recently. Charles Osborne was installed as Comdr. along with a fine staff of officers. Motion pictures of the ceremony were taken by Dep't Comdr. Hooker.

Massachusetts—Camp 9, Jamaica Plain, entertained the No. Met. Dist. Ass'n on Jan. 6. Ralph Bickmore, President of the Ass'n presided. There were five P.D.C.'s present. Sister Nora Robinson of Aux. 78 and Sister Pam Elder spoke of the wonderful work being done at the various Veteran Hospitals. A donation of \$10 was collected to help with the cigaret fund for the patients. Bro. John Day spoke of the Past Camp Comdrs. dinner in honor of Abraham Lincoln on Feb. 6. P. D. C. Carder Perkins requested cooperation of all members at the Geo. Washington ceremony in Room 27, State House on Feb. 22 at which time Gov. Herter will be present. The next meeting of the North Met. Ass'n to be held at Saugus at a date to be announced.



Pictured above (left to right) Dep't Comdr. Harold Shepardson, Dep't Pres. Marilla W. Haskins, Dorothy Humes, Pres. of the Past Presidents Ass'n, and John Day, Pres. of the Camp Comdrs. Ass'n as they attended the Lincoln and Washington Banquet in Roxbury. P.D.C. Wm. Fuller acted as (continued next page)

Dep't News, continued

toastmaster. Among the large group attending were many Dep't and Nat'l officers and Past officers. In Springfield, L. A. Tift Camp held a Lincoln-Washington celebration in place of their regular Feb. meeting. Motion pictures, "Lincoln at Gettysburg" and "Washington at Mt. Vernon" were shown. Plymouth Co. Ass'n held their annual banquet and entertainment at G.A.R. Hall, Rockland with a capacity audience Feb. 13. Camp 81, Chelsea distributed several hundred American Creed Cards in the public and parochial schools. Camp 62 Everett, has increased membership 25% under leadership of Comdr. Emerson Whitman. The Camp meets in the City Hall Annex where historic relics of the G.A.R. are displayed. The No. Met. Dist. Ass'n will hold their 28th annual banquet at Malden Mar. 27 with Lt. Gov. Sumner G. Whittier as guest speaker. A 30-page program will be distributed, one page of which is given in recognition of Comrade Albert Woolson. Geo. Hunt, Dep't Treas. is slowly gaining health after many weeks of illness. The Ancient Order of the Button continues to thrive bringing many members to the Rockland G. A. R. Hall to take the three degrees.

Michigan—Camp 1, Detroit, the oldest Camp in Mich. also boasts the oldest member, P.D.C. Chas. R. Cowdin who joined in 1885. Bro. Cowdin and Sister Cowdin are both active in the Detroit Memorial Day Ass'n Camp 4 Detroit, the youngest Mich. Camp will be represented at the dinner of Veterans Council by Comdr. Stanley Barker. Camp 7, Jackson, and Aux. held a Lincoln Day banquet at which a talk was given by Bro. Cloy Smith on the boyhood days of Lincoln. He also showed slides of his recent trip to Fla. The Camp with the Aux. and Daughters Tent recently presented a flag to one of the schools. Feb. 20 they entertained Dep't officers and wives at their annual Regional. 80 persons attended from all over the State. Camp 8, Detroit, both P.D.C. James Davey and wife are in Lincoln Hospital. Camp 14 Grand Rapids, assisted in presenting three flags to Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Youth Commonwealth. P.D.C. Chas. F. Dexter announces plans completed for the visit of C. in C. Grant at Detroit, Apr. 24 when another new Camp will be instituted at Y.W.C.A. with dinner at 6:30 and institution at 8:00. The Camp will be known as Gen. U.S. Grant Camp 5.

New Jersey—Outstanding Lincoln Banquets were held in Trenton and Newark, with Gov. Robt. Meyner, the Mayor of Newark and the Congressman from the 10th Dist. being present at the Newark celebration. The semi-annual State Camp dinner meeting will be held in Trenton on April 24 with Rev. Joseph MacCarroll as the principal speaker. Rev. MacCarroll is Chaplain of the N. J. Dep't American Legion and a member of our State Camp. Sympathy of the Dep't is extended to P.D.P. Ruth Daly and P.D.P. Irene Archer, both of whom were saddened by the death of their husbands, and to P.D.P. Henrietta Satterthwaite who lost a brother by death. We regret to report the death on Mar. 2 of Parker P. Nichols, Jr. Vice Dep't Commander.

New York—The annual Lincoln Dinner of Erie Co. G. A. R. Memorial Ass'n was held in Buffalo Feb. 13 with Nat'l Pres. Mildred Webster heading a distinguished group of guests. Rev. Henry Rasmus, a student of Lincoln spoke on "Lincoln, the Man of Destiny". The following day a Joint Dist. Meeting was held at the home of Bro. and Sister G. Elliot Sanford. the annual Din-

ner of the Lincoln Ass'n of Rochester was held at the Seneca Hotel on Feb. 12 with Jr. Vice C. in C. Brockway as principal speaker. He called upon members for a rededication to the heritage of liberty in America. "Only we can save our country", he declared. Many Nat'l and Dep't officers were present including Nat'l Pres Mildred Webster, Dep't Comdr. John Kernan, and Dep't Pres. Florence Parsons. The 64th annual Lincoln Dinner of Lafayette Camp was held on Feb. 8 at which time 50-year badges were presented to Gustav Zimmelman, Xavier Z. Niess, and Andrew H. A. Thompson. Ten Eyck Camp of Albany is sponsoring a bus trip to Gettysburg on June 18 with return on June 20. Cook Camp 223 of Buffalo mourns the death of one of its oldest members, Walter A. Schaffer. Harold L. Wilson was recently installed as Comdr. along with a fine staff of officers. P. C. in C. Neil Cranmer has returned from St. Joseph's Hospital, Elmira, and is able to be around on crutches. Past Pres. Club of Greater New York tendered a banquet and reception to Dep't officers on Jan. 30th. Aux. 30, 48, and 57 tendered a similar dinner and reception to Dep't officers in Troy on Feb. 20. Dep't Sec'y-Treas. Isaacs represented our Order at the 128th Anniversary Ball of the Old Guard of N. Y. C. at the Hotel Commodore on Jan. 29. Dep't Pres. Parsons represented the Aux. Oliver Tilden Camp 26 and Lafayette Camp 140 attended ceremonies at Lincoln Statue in Union Square on Feb. 12. These Camps also were represented on Feb. 14 at services for the dead of the U.S.S. Maine in 12th Regiment Armory, and at Columbus Circle. District Meetings were held recently in Rochester with Marshall Hope presiding and in Buffalo with Mathew Green in charge. Mid-winter meeting of N. Y. State held in Yonkers was well attended by Sons and Aux. Aux. 1 and 23 had open house at the Seneca Hotel when our Nat'l Pres. and Dep't Pres. were present on Feb. 11. Aux. 12 in a joint installation with Camp 40 made Helen Smith their Pres. with Mary Mandeville as Installing officer. The meeting followed a dinner. Aux. 49, Florence Wright, 1953 Pres. is recovering from an auto accident. Jr. Vice C. in C. Brockway spoke at Lincoln Dinner. Oliver Tilden Aux. 31 installed officers Jan. 23 with Marion Werner as Installing officer and many distinguished guests present. The annual exercises at Grant's Tomb in N.Y.C. will be held on Apr. 25 under auspices of the Camps and Aux's of Greater New York.

Oregon & Washington—On Nov. the bronze likeness (below) of Comrade Hiram R. Gale (by Mr. James A. Wehn, Sculptor) was unveiled (continued next page)



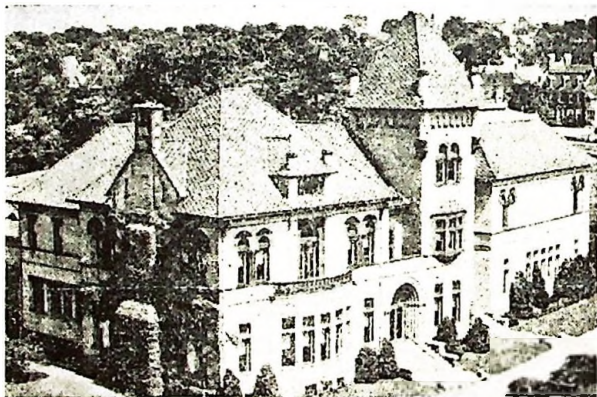
Dep't News, continued

at Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, Washelli, Washington. Shown placing flowers is Bro. Edgar L. Gale, his son. This project was sponsored by Hiram Gale Aux. of Seattle at a cost of \$600. Comrade Gale was the last surviving member of the G.A.R. in the State of Wash. The Eugene Camp reports holding regular monthly business meetings, and another session each month with their Aux. in a potluck dinner and entertainment.

Ohio-Aux. 48 installed officers at a joint meeting with the Camp. Mrs. John Haviland installed Myrtle Sharp as President. . . Aux. 91 and Camp attended a reception honoring Dep't Pres. Jennie Getz and staff. Among the guests was Mrs. Kuntz, a charter member with 52 years membership.

Pennsylvania-Meade Camp and Allied Orders of the G. A. R. will hold their annual Appomattox Dinner-Dance at the Hotel Abraham Lincoln in Reading on April 3rd. . . Aux. 6 installed officers jointly with Camp. Nat'l Chief of Staff Anna Stoudt installed Pres. Betty Bryan and staff.

Rhode Island-looks forward to the visit of C. in C. Grant in Westerly on May 22. He will be greeted by Town officials and members of the R. I. Nat'l Guard. Following a street parade in the afternoon a banquet and reception will be held Saturday evening in the R. I. State Armory. On the following morning a memorial service to the Soldier and Sailor dead will be held in the First Hopkinton Seventh Day Baptist Church. Massed at the Altar will be as many of the flags of the R. I. Grand Posts as can be located, including one carried by the Westerly Rifle Company in the Battle of Bull Run. Following the service a Memorial will be dedicated at the First Hopkinton Cemetery.



Pictured above is the Westerly Memorial Building which houses the Public Library. This building was built and dedicated to the memory of the men who wore the Union Blue. The library holds a wealth of Civil War Treasures including unpublished notes and articles written by the Rev. Frederick Dennison, on the battlefields of the Civil War. The building contains a room where Budlong Post held their meetings, and which contains their furniture, stations, and flags. One of these flags was carried in six battles of the Civil War. In this room is a table that was used by General Meade in his headquarters at the Battle of Gettysburg.

Vermont-Dep't has arranged for a Vermont Dep't News Bulletin to contain news of Camps and Aux's. . . the first issue to be available on Feb. 15. This should

prove a fine method for exchange of news and information. . . The State Camp held a successful meeting on Feb. 13 taking in five new members. Thomas Chadrick of Saxton River was installed as Comdr. by P. D. C. Homer Atkins.

SUVCW Dep't Press Corres.—news for the May-June issue must reach The Banner by April 20.

Aux. Dep't Press Corres.—news for the May-June issue must reach Nat'l Press Corres. Wilhelmina Tagart, 1157 S. Clinton Ave., Rochester, N. Y., by April 20th. Please do NOT send news direct to The Banner.

From the Nat'l President

Dear Sisters: Your Nat'l President wishes a happy and prosperous year to all Auxiliaries, their officers, and members. I hope the members will join with the officers, and make this year the best ever.

To those who have brought in new members, I sincerely thank you. We need all the members we can get to keep our organization one of the best to commemorate the memory of all Veterans of the War of '61-'65. We have rehabilitation work that is needed badly, and I ask all members to make an effort to do their part for this worthy cause. Do not forget the fund for the Nat'l Chief of Staff and Nat'l Patriotic Instructor. Help them reach their goal.

Let us keep our Order before the public, for in that way we are sure to gain new members. With love and best wishes to each and every member of our beloved Order, I remain sincerely,

Your Nat'l President, Mildred R. Webster

Attention Camps!

Supplies can now be ordered direct from Nat'l Headquarters. Price lists and order forms have been sent to each Camp.

Those numerals to be attached to badge indicating years of service 30-35-40-45-55-60-65 are now in stock. They are in addition to 25 year bars and 50 year badges.

Attention is called to the "Keep America American" pamphlets, the G. A. R. Route 6 Highway Maps, and the Decals for window display. Consult your price list for cost.

THE BANNER—Many Camps are subscribing for their entire membership. Several Camps have subscribed for their public libraries and for Veterans Hospitals in their area.

Use the material that has been prepared for you—these are membership builders—use them!

You never "find" time for anything. If you want time you must make it.

If you're in the right you can afford to keep your temper—if not, you cannot afford to lose it.