The first meeting of the National Centennial Commission since August will be held here in Washington at the Congressional Hotel December 4. It is expected to be an important session from the standpoint of future activities, and all members have been urged to attend.

On the day preceding the meeting, the Executive Committee will assemble to prepare recommendations for consideration by the full Commission.

One of the principal items of business will be plans for the fourth annual assembly of the Commission to be held at Columbus, Ohio, next May. Another will be a report from an ad hoc committee named during the August meeting.

In announcing plans for the forthcoming session, Congressman Fred Schwengel, vice-chairman, said a busy agenda has been prepared for it.

"The National Centennial Commission, now conducting one of the most important anniversary observances in the history of this nation, in a few more days will close out its fourth year," he reminded. "During its existence, it has had important meetings, but none that will compare with the forthcoming session. At that time we expect to select a new chairman and to perfect the machinery for a new and better balanced program designed to generate genuine interest in history and to bring greater and more general recognition to the real meaning of the Civil War."

The Navy Department's Naval History Division now is preparing a complete chronology of naval action during the Civil War. As explained by Rear Admiral E. M. Eller, USN (Ret.), director of naval history, the aim is "to aid in a clearer understanding of the dominant part played by sea power's relentless pressure," which resulted in stifling the Southern economy. Also clocked are the efforts of the Confederacy, without a navy, to strike back through commerce raiders, swift blockade runners, powerful ironclads, submarines, torpedo boats, and ingenious torpedoes.

The chronology will be released in yearly sections as finished. That for 1861 already is available and can be purchased through the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D.C., at 25 cents per copy. The 1962 section is expected to be ready early next year.
ENGLAND OBSERVES OUR CENTENNIAL

Seventy-seven thousand persons are reported to have visited a massive exhibit of the American Civil War opened this year in Liverpool, England.

Shown at the right, in a Liverpool Museum photograph reproduced by permission of the Liverpool Libraries, Museums and Arts Committee, is one section of the exhibit.

Included in the representations were causes of the war, events leading up to it, flags, leaders, uniforms, weapons, battle scenes and campaigns, and naval incidents, especially the Trent affair in which the capture on the high seas by a Union vessel of Confederate Commissioners Mason and Slidell almost brought England into the conflict.

COMMITTEES ARE BUSILY AT WORK NOW on plans for the reenactment of the battle of Antietam next year. It will be one of the outstanding events on the Centennial program for 1962.

The reenactment will be combined with the bicentennial commemoration of the founding of Hagerstown, Md. The program will begin there with pageantry on Aug. 31 and will extend through Sept. 17.

Certain phases of the battle will be reenacted on the last two days of the 18-day commemoration. Other events will include a 31-mile motorized parade, rededication of battle monuments, dedication of the reconstructed Dunkard Church, and the dedication of a Clara Barton memorial.

PORTLAND STATE COLLEGE in Oregon has just completed a two-week Centennial program that included a play, band concert, moving pictures, lectures with lantern slides, and an open discussion of "The Civil War Amendments" and "Strategy of Desegregation." The principal speaker in the college auditorium on the closing day was the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

FREDERICKSBURG, Va., the only community in America around which were fought four major battles of the Civil War, is setting an example for individual community activity. It is planning no reenactments, but a continuing program of exhibits, ceremonies and similar events to call attention to the war. On December 13, the 99th anniversary of the battle of Fredericksburg, it will stage a dinner at which awards will be presented to organizations, institutions and persons contributing most toward a proper observance of the Centennial in Virginia. Dr. Raiford Sumner, chairman of the local committee, said this will be done each year -- "bringing recognition to those who contribute over and beyond what would be normally expected."

ANDREWS RAID COMMENORATION COMMITTEE PLANS are reported by the Georgia Commission to be well advanced. The observance is scheduled for next April 12-14. The "General," the locomotive involved in the famous chase in which the raiders were overtaken by the handful of determined Southerners, now is being restored in the L. & N. Railroad shops for actual participation in the Centennial program.

Announcement recently was made that Wilbur G. Kurtz, Sr., chief advisor in the filming of "Gone with the Wind" and of "The Great Locomotive Chase," has been named chief advisor and honorary chairman of the Commemoration Committee.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., reports a lively Centennial program. A parade held there recently featured 600 costumed participants, 200 of them in authentic uniforms; a 200-piece orchestra, with 50 authentic Civil War brass instruments; a 100-voice choir, and pantomime reenactments of war scenes on five different stages. Several markers were unveiled. More than two years of work went into the effort.

WHEELING, W. Va., has reorganized its historical group and formally named it the Wheeling Area Historical Society. Purpose of the change was to make it so that members from the upper Panhandle counties of the state and those of Eastern Ohio could be admitted.

A busy program of activities is planned. Projects include a slide talk on historic sites, tour maps of the area, and the marking and restoration of historic buildings.

"CENTER OF CONFLICT" is the title given a factual story of the war in Western Kentucky and Tennessee recently published by the Paducah Sun-Democrat. Its author, Hall Allen, says it was brought out in paper-back form only to keep the price at $3 and to stimulate wider distribution. The 179-page booklet has numerous photographs and illustrations and is endorsed by the Kentucky Civil War Centennial Commission.
BALL'S BLUFF, one of the most unusual and talked-about battles of the Civil War -- and also one of the most ignored -- is to be championed by the Centennial Association of Loudoun County, Va. An 80-page booklet entitled "Loudoun County and the Civil War," with maps, photographs and illustrations, has just been published, all profits to be used for improvement of the battle site. Copies -- paperbound at $1.50 and cloth-bound at $3 each -- can be obtained from the County Clerk, Leesburg, Va.

RELIH HUNTERS struck it rich near Kinston, N. C., recently. In the mudflats of the Neuse River was uncovered the bow of an old Confederate ram. Shovelers began digging, and in a short while they had brought up 70 shells, so dangerous in appearance that Marine experts were called on to deactivate them.

ILLINOIS now offers what its Rock Island County Centennial Commission believes is an authenticated case of the only woman soldier who enlisted as a man and went through the Civil War without her sex being discovered. She was Jennie Hodgers, an 18-year old Irish girl at the time of her enlistment. She served in Company G of the 95th Illinois Infantry as Albert E. J. Cashier, trained at Rockford, and was remembered as an especially good soldier. Her true identity was learned after the war when she was admitted to the Quincy Soldiers and Sailors Home with a broken leg.

EFFORTS TO RAISE THE CAIRO CONTINUE down on the Yazoo River near Vicksburg. Divers hope within the next few weeks to make their way into the hull of the Union ironclad sunk Dec. 12, 1862, by a crude water mine during the campaign to take the Mississippi.

THE ALABAMA CENTENNIAL COMMISSION has reproduced for wide distribution a booklet listing military incidents in that state and a map showing sites where they took place. This appeared originally in the spring issue of the Alabama Historical Quarterly, published by the State Department of Archives and History.

ONE OF THE MOST ACTIVE GROUPS in behalf of stronger friendship between the North and South is the Civil War Centennial Commission of the Tonawandas at Tonawanda, N. Y. Under the direction of Frank C. Bellinger, it has presented a shell to North Carolina's Governor, placed flowers at the tomb of General Robert E. Lee, and sent a delegation to visit appropriate monuments in Washington.

OKLAHOMANS should have no trouble learning of their state's part in the Civil War. George Shirk, president of the Oklahoma Historical Society, prepares a daily paragraph telling the story, and 91 newspapers, according to last report, are publishing these items.

TRAINEES AT HARLINGEN AIR FORCE BASE in Texas had new cause to reflect on the Civil War recently when one of them was assigned to the Command and Staff School near Montgomery, Ala., the Confederacy's first capital. He is Captain John W. Dinsmoor, identified as the youngest living son of a Civil War veteran in Kansas and possibly in the nation. He is 33.

HOW DOES A STATE CENTENNIAL CHAIRMAN FIND TIME to meet with all his committees? Floyd J. Haight, chairman of the Michigan Commission, solved the problem by setting up a workshop at which committees confer with him instead of waiting for him to come to them.

THE CIVIL WAR CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE at Richmond, Va., has just published two pamphlets as a part of its observance of the war as fought at the Confederate capital. One of these is a narrative account adapted from a talk delivered by the Hon. C. Hobson Goddin, vice-chairman, at the 100th anniversary program of the moving of the Confederacy's seat of government to that city. The other is a listing of all business firms, societies, organizations and churches whose length of service dates back to the war or beyond.

"Many tributes have gone forth; many books have been written (more than 18,000) about The War," the Committee says in a foreword. "Largely, however, these have dealt with the military or political aspects. Too few have taken more than a passing notice of the great contribution by the business, social, philanthropic and religious worlds. We pause here to pay our respects to them."

THE TRENT AFFAIR, the incident that might have brought England into the war, is to be observed in Massachusetts, according to present plans.

It was on January 1, 1861, that an American vessel steamed into Provincetown, Mass., and unloaded Confederate Commissioners Mason and Slidell, taken from the H. M. S. Trent on November 8. There they were transferred to another British ship and resumed their journey to posts overseas.

This event in January Massachusetts is planning to observe in some appropriate manner. Descendants of the two commissioners may be among those who take part.

NEW JERSEY is planning its first history workshop, a day-long affair scheduled to be held at Princeton Dec. 9.

Dr. Bell I. Wiley, professor of history at Emory University, Atlanta, Ga., will be the principal speaker at a dinner that night. It is expected that the moderator will be Congressman Fred Schwengel, vice-chairman of the National Centennial Commission.
General and Specific Studies

Abdill, George, Civil War Railroads (Superior Publishing Co.)
Allen, Hall, Center of Conflict (Pudach Sun-Democrat)
Aphelker, Herbert, The American Civil War (International Publishers)
A Bibliography of Louisiana in the Civil War (Louisiana Civil War Centennial Commission)
Buchanan, Hamori, The Confederacy (Reprint: Crow)
Cubley, Kenneth, Minnesota in the Civil War (Ross & Haines)
Catton, Bruce, America Goes to War (Reprint: Hill & Wang)
The Centennial History of the Civil War: The Coming Fury (Doubleday)
Churchill, Sir Winston, The American Civil War (Dodd, Mead)
Cleaves, George H., North Carolina Troops in the Great War, 1861-1865 (Franklinville Store, Inc.)
Criswell, G. C., New Standard Reference Catalogue on Confederate and Southern States Currency (Criswell)
Dunond, Dwight, Antislavery : The Crusade for Freedom in America (Un. of Michigan)
Eaton, Clement, The Growth of Southern Civilization (Hapen)
Franklin, John Hope, Reconstruction after the Civil War (Un. of Chicago)
Fricker, W. E. B., The Civil War As They Knew It (Bantam)
Gordon, Thomas C., Civil War Panorama (Huntington Fish Museum)
Graebner, Norman, et al., Politics and the Crisis of 1860 (Un. of Illinois)
Hemlock, Mrs. Elizabeth: The Story of the 1st Arkansas Regiment (Pioneer Press)
Index to Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies in the War of the Rebellion. Ed. Philip Van Doren Stern (Reprint: Barnes & Noble)

Biographies

Breihan, Carl, Younger Brothers (Naylor)
Bridges, Hal, Lee's Maverick General: Daniel Harvey Hill (McGraw-Hill)
Dyer, John P., From Shiloh to San Juan: The Life of 'Fightin' Joe Wheeler' (New edition: Louisiana State Un.)
Frantz, Mabel G., Full Many A Name: The Story of Sam Davis (Confederate House)
Freeman, Douglas S., Lee, Ed. by Richard Harwell (Schirner's)
Miers, Earl S., Robert E. Lee: A Great Life in Brief (Vantage)
Shattuck, Daniel, Richard Henry Dana, 1815-1882 (Michigan State Un.)
Wayland, John W., John Kagi and John Brown (Shenandoah Publishing House)
Wise, Winold F., Lincoln's Secret Weapon: Anna E. Emmett (Chilton)

Personal Memoirs, Letters, etc.

Clemence, Florida, A Rebel Came Home. Ed. by C. M. Mcgee and Ed. M. Land (Un. of South Carolina)
Currie, George E., Warfare along the Mississippi. Ed. by Norman E. Clarke (Central Michigan Un.)
Custer, George, My Life on the Plains. Ed. by Milo M. Quaife (Reprint: Citadel)
Fischer, Horace N., A Staff Officer's Story. Ed. by Horace Cecil Fisher (Privately printed)
Galway, Thomas F., The Valiant Hours. Ed. by W. S. Nye (Stackpole)
Giraud, Charles, A Visit to the Confederate States of America in 1863. Ed. by William Stanley Hoole (Confederate Publishing Co.)
Newton, James K., A Wisconsin Boy in Dixie. Ed. by Stephen E. Ambrose (Un. of Wisconsin)
Nicholas, W. L., With Story of His Regiment (Reprint: Continental)
Noel, Theophilus, A Campaign from Santa Fe to the Mississippi. Ed. by Martin H. Hall and Edwin A. Davis (Stagecoach Press)
Rennolds, Edwin H., A History of the Henry County Commandos (Reprint: Continental)
Rothschild, Salomon de, A Casual View of America. Ed. by Sigmund Diamond (Stacked Un.)
Shroes, David H., A Virginia Yankee in the Civil War. Ed. by Cecil D. Eby, Jr. (Un. of North Carolina)
War Was the Plan: A Centennial Celebration of Confederate Soldier Letters (Chattookee Valley Historical Society)
Watson, William, Letters of a Civil War Surgeon. Ed. by Paul Fatour (Putnam Un.)
Wilson, Suzanne C., (ed.) Column South: With the 15th Pennsylvania Cavalry (J. F. Colton)

Lincoliniana

Frank, John P., Lincoln as a Lawyer (Un. of Illslois)
McClure, A. K., Lincoln and Men of War-Times. Ed. by E. S. Miers (Rolley & Reynolds)
Segal, Charles P., Conversations with Lincoln (Putnam)
Three Distinguished Plays about Lincoln (Washington Square)

Fiction

Cochran, Hamilton, The Drum Tree (Bobbs-Merrill)
Warren, Kittrell J., The Life and Public Services of an Army Straggler (Un. of Georgia)
Warren, Robert Penn, Wilderness (Random House)
Wollond, Nelson and Shirley, The Southern Blade (Morrow-Jefferson)

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