CIVIL WAR CENTENNIAL COMMISSION
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SIGNIFICANT EVENTS AS WAR DEVELOPS

July 2 - Announces the New York Herald: "Our intelligence from Washington puts us in possession of the fact that the general movement of the whole Union army southward is decided to take place on the 4th of July."

July 4 - The Third U.S. Infantry, followed by three other regiments, marches over the Long Bridge into Virginia.

July 5 - Confederate and Union forces meet in a fierce engagement at Carthage, Mo.

July 8 - The press discounts possibility of attack by Confederate troops under Beauregard from direction of Manassas Junction, pointing out that the Rebels have been obstruction the roads to that point by felling trees across them.

July 10 - Troops under General McClellan, marching eastward from Ohio, engage Confederates on Rich Mountain in Western Virginia.

July 13 - Union troops rout Confederates at Carrick's Ford in Western Virginia, killing their leader, General Robert S. Garnett.

July 16 - Rebels under Beauregard, in the face of the invasion from Washington, fall back behind Bull Run near Manassas, Va.

July 18 - Federal troops, making a reconnaissance, are driven back in a hot skirmish at Blackburn's Ford on Bull Run.

July 19 - Union authorities learn that a Confederate army under General Joseph E. Johnston has eluded Federal General Patterson in the Shenandoah Valley and is arriving to reinforce Beauregard's line at Manassas.

July 21 - The New York Times correspondent reports from the Manassas battlefield at 2 p.m.: "The great battle occurred today, and the result is not certain at the moment I write. Both sides have fought with terrible tenacity. The battle has been hot and steady for three hours, and the loss must be heavy, certainly not under 1,000 on each side." Early reports reaching the capitol credit the Union with victory, but later it is announced: "The gallant army of the Union has been routed and put to flight by the Rebels."

July 24 - Editorial writers for Northern newspapers decide reports of the Manassas battle were so exaggerated that neither side could be said to have won a victory.

July 27 - General McClellan, preparing to take command of the Union Army, visits camps in Arlington on the Virginia side of Washington.

CHARGES OF WIDESPREAD COMMERCIALIZATION in connection with the Centennial observance are of such growing concern to the National Commission that they recently brought a response from its chairman, Maj. Gen. U.S. Grant, 3rd, who states they are unfounded.

While admitting that there may be more souvenir items than normal, he pointed out that the agency he heads has no control over such matters and that it has concentrated on using its influence to keep commercialization of the commemoration period at a minimum. Many of the souvenirs and relics now on the market, he reminded, have been available for years and have not been produced to capitalize on the attention drawn to the Civil War by the Centennial.

"While the sale of such articles does carry an unfortunate commercial flavor," he said, "it must be remembered that it also carries the remembrance of the Civil War story to a very wide public and especially to the young citizens of tomorrow upon whose wise patriotism our country must depend in the future. They draw inspiration from what they learn of the great deeds of Americans a hundred years ago."

The chairman stressed that the National Commission has never participated in any commercial effort, other than to advise state commissions and other groups where they could buy such items as uniforms and weapons for purposes of commemoration, nor has it shared in any profit from such an undertaking.

ONE OF THE FINEST REFLECTIONS of the active manner in which the Centennial has been launched is to be found in a stapled publication, "Blue and Gray Notes on the Land of Civil War History," published by the Potomac Edison Company's Area Development Department at Hagerstown, Md. It gives a report on developments and plans in a four-state area that includes Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia.
The 31-ton locomotive "General" that carried the Andrews Raiders on their historic ride through Georgia and Tennessee will travel the route again under its own steam on the anniversary of the dramatic episode next year.

Last month the engine was taken from the shed at Chattanooga where it has been on exhibition since 1891 and was taken to the Louisville & Nashville Railroad shops at Louisville, Ky., where it is being placed in condition to run under its own power.

On April 12, 1962, reports Stanley Rowland Smith, staff director of the Georgia Centennial Commission, the locomotive will be unveiled, probably in a commemorative program in Atlanta. Then it will proceed to Kingston, Kennesaw and Ringgold, Ga., hailed at each place by a brief program, after which it will be taken to Chattanooga for a massive ceremony, including a banquet.

DUNKER CHURCH, a focal point in the battle of Antietam and blown down by a severe windstorm nearly 40 years ago, is to be restored. Groundbreaking ceremonies were held recently to start a project that will be financed jointly by Maryland and the National Park Service.

MASSACHUSETTS recently observed its Bunker Hill Day, June 17, 1861, by raising a flag to the top of Bunker Hill Monument, the same procedure followed a century ago when Governor John A. Andrew delivered an address to stir people into a patriotic fervor.

OHIO'S HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES has formally commended by resolution the survivors of the 103rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry who have formed an association to call attention to the memory of this outstanding unit and who are furthering the Centennial program in that state.

ARIZONA'S CENTENNIAL COMMISSION, preparing soon to publish a booklet on that state's part in the Civil War, has mapped out a Centennial program that extends into 1965. Some of its events will be the occasion for issuing special commemorative covers, the first of them a reenactment of the Cross-Mowry duel at Tubac by Tubac Scouts on July 4. Another will be a program scheduled for August 1, at which time Confederate flags will be flown on the State Capitol and on public buildings within the area that comprised the Confederate Territory of Arizona established by Colonel John R. Baylor's proclamation on that date 100 years ago.

Other programs for this year, but unaccompanied by commemorative covers, will include a special summer course and lecture series on the Civil War at the University of Arizona, a ceremony by the Pimeria Alta Historical Society July 21 calling attention to the burning of Fort Buchanan at Patagonia, joint services with the New Mexico Civil War Centennial Commission July 27 to note the battle of Mesilla and the fall of Fort Fillmore, and the reenactment in August of the Arizona Secession Convention at Old Tucson to note the election of a delegate to the Confederate Congress.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL LAKE GEORGE INVITATIONAL NORTH-SOUTH SKIRMISH, dedicated to the soldiers who fought in the Civil War, will be held at Lake George, N. Y., August 11-13. The Old Dominion Dragoons of Hampton, Va., again will be the host organization.

FR. LADISLAS J. SIEKANIEC, O. F. M., assistant editor of Polish American Studies and member of the National Commission's Advisory Council, will be the guest speaker at a luncheon of the national convention of the American Council of Polish Cultural Clubs at Youngstown, Ohio, August 24. His topic will be "Poles in the Union and Confederate Armies During the Civil War."

ARMY INFORMATION DIGEST, official magazine of the U. S. Army, will publish a special Civil War issue on August 1. An initial order of 25,000 copies for public sale has been placed by the Superintendent of Public Documents.

VIRGINIA'S CIVIL WAR COMMISSION has erected 180 roadside markers throughout the state to guide and inform motorists interested in her historic sites. They are a circle of blue with white lettering and are identical with the agency's official emblem. For purposes of safety, a warning sign has been erected ahead of each marker which reads "Civil War Historical Marker 500 Feet Ahead."

THE CIVIL WAR ASSOCIATION OF LONG ISLAND, which recently presented at Elmont a special program entitled "New York in the Civil War," is offering to prepare and map tours of battle sites in the South, no matter how long or short, all for a "nominal donation of your choosing" to its Activity Fund.

AN ILLUSTRATED, 61-PAGE BOOKLET on "Uniform Regulations for the Army of the United States 1861" has just been published by Smithsonian Institution, Washington 25, D. C. Containing many contemporary official War Department photographs, it is available at $1 per copy.
FIRST MANASSAS DRAWS NEAR

Around this monument erected to the memory of Stonewall Jackson in the 1930's, people from all over the world will gather to see reenacted before them the artillery duel that occurred there 100 years ago July 21, 1861, when the crux of the battle recognized as the first major engagement of the Civil War took place.

Rehearsals for the historical spectacle are being held with regularity as the event nears. A recent development in its behalf occurred in the passage of a bill (S. 1342) by Congress permitting members of the National Guard who participate to get credit for full time training duty.

The reenactment will be repeated on successive days, July 22 and 23. Exhibits will open daily at 10 a.m. At 10:30 the demonstrations, including a parade by representative groups from each of the 23 states with troops participating in the original battle, will take place. At noon there will be a recess for lunch, followed at 1 p.m. by the restaging of the battle, estimated to take from two to two and a half hours.

The photograph on the right was taken by the nationally-recognized Civil War photographer, A. Aubrey Bodine of Baltimore, Md.

FRIENDS OF THE CHARLES WHITNEY BROWN FAMILY, 5521 Fiesta Drive, Memphis, Tenn., this month will receive a greeting card signed by Battle Manassas Brown, II. And therein the Browns will be carrying on a tradition.

When the news of the Confederate victory at Manassas reached Memphis 100 years ago, a newly-born male child lay there awaiting a name. Two of his uncles had fought in the battle, so the infant was given the sword-rattling name of Battle Manassas Bull Run Brown. He became a prominent citizen and businessman of Memphis. Six years ago he died, and his name was passed onto a great-grandson, now four years old.

"It matters not now," concludes the message on the card, "whether you be Rebel or Yankee. This greeting is extended to both with equal sincerity."

THE FIRST REGULAR U.S. ARMY OFFICER KILLED IN BATTLE during the Civil War has been memorialized with a plaque dedicated at Fort Monroe, Va., recently. He was Lieutenant John Trout Greble, an artillery officer killed during the battle of Big Bethel June 10, 1861.

Sponsors of the plaque were local area graduates of the U.S. Military Academy. Among those who took part in the dedication was Colonel Llewelyn B. Griffith of Falls Church, Va., a grandson of Lieutenant Greble.

GEORGIA, while busy with an ambitious series of Centennial programs, is watching with special interest a project to raise the old Confederate gunboat Chattahoochee, a sort of hardluck boat that sank in the Chattahoochee River below Columbus in May, 1863. She has been found reasonably intact, covered by both water and an earthen levee in the Fort Benning reservation. If recovered in suitable condition, she will be taken to Columbus, placed on a plot of land deeded to the state, and will become the nucleus of a Confederate Naval Museum to be operated by the Georgia Historical Commission.

DR. DAVID C. MEARNS, member of the National Commission and a nationally recognized Lincoln scholar, recently was awarded the Lincoln Diploma of Honor by Lincoln Memorial University at Harrogate, Tenn., the highest such honor given by that institution.

THE ILLINOIS CENTENNIAL COMMISSION reports a busy series of Centennial programs during the last few months. First major observance marked the 100th anniversary of the arrival at Cairo of the first volunteers from that state. This was followed by a two-day Civil War symposium at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. Shortly afterward came a joint legislative session of the General Assembly to commemorate the centennial of Stephen A. Douglas' plea for the preservation of the Union, held at the Sangamon County Court House, and the U.S. Grant Boy Scout pilgrimage. More recently, attention was called to the anniversary of Douglas' death.

TENNESSEE, the state that declared its independence before joining the Confederacy, has started off its Centennial observance with programs affecting most of the state. At Nashville, a luncheon attended by Tennessee Commission members and others from all over the state was held. V. C. "Pat" Jones, liaison officer of the National Commission, was the principal speaker. That afternoon a ceremony was staged in front of the Capitol commemorating the raising of the Confederate flag over the building exactly 100 years prior.

At Chattanooga, a week-long observance was highlighted by the dedication of historic Mocassin Bend for institutional and park uses. Dr. Bell I. Wiley, professor of history at Emory University, was the speaker at a dinner following the ceremony.
CLARA BARTON'S ACTIVITIES during the battle of Antietam have been reenacted and filmed through the joint sponsorship of the Washington County (Md.) Chapter of the American Red Cross and the Maryland Civil War Centennial Commission. The premiere showing of the video tape recording was held at Hagerstown recently during a program attended by representatives of the National Red Cross and high ranking officers of the United States Army.

THE U. S. FRIGATE CONSTELLATION will be dedicated as a national shrine at special 4th of July ceremonies at Pier 4, Pratt Street, Baltimore, at 11 a.m. The Honorable Paul B. Fay, Jr., Under Secretary of the Navy will deliver the main address.

Two U. S. Navy destroyers, the English and the Hank, will also take part in the ceremonies. The Navy Band and marching units, as well as color guards, will be part of the program.

MISSISSIPPI'S CENTENNIAL COMMISSION, among many other activities, has published 10,000 copies of its manual, "Mississippi's Greatest Hour"; 20,000 copies of "Join the Mississippi Greys," a guide for the organization of units of the Mississippi Centennial Military Force in Memoriam; 10,000 copies of "Mississippi in the War Between the States," a facts booklet, and 110,000 copies of its calendar of Civil War Centennial events in the state in 1961, with a 1962 edition to follow.

DEADLINE FOR THE ONE-ACT PLAY-WRITING CONTEST on the theme of the Civil War conducted by the District of Columbia Recreation Department is September 1. A play-reading committee will be set up to read all entries and to select three or four to be presented, as well as several runners-up. Both professional and amateur writers are eligible to enter.

THE WINCHESTER, ILL., MAYOR, Horace Walmsley, who some time back was puzzled to find that hotel personnel at Alexandria, Va., was ignorant about details for the reenactment of the first battle of Manassas, has found that he hit upon the right procedure. He wrote to his friend, National Commission Advisory Council Member Herman Blum of Philadelphia an inquiring letter. Back came the information he desired. The mayor now has a grandstand seat for the opening day, has made a contribution to the First Manassas Corporation to help finance the event, and has received a sponsorship certificate which he will frame and place on the wall of the rotunda in the Scott County Courthouse among other mementoes of the Civil War.

COLONEL JAMES CAMERON, member of the 79th New York, killed in the first battle of Manassas, will be memorialized in twin ceremonies on July 21. At 11:45 a.m. that day, wreaths will be placed on the monuments to his memory on the Manassas Battlefield Park and at Sunbury, Pa. Brief addresses will be delivered in each instance.

RICHMOND IN TIME OF WAR is the title of a booklet newly published as the fifth in the Houghton Mifflin Research Series. Edited by William J. Kimball of Mary Baldwin College, Staunton, Va., it is a collection of selections from books, newspapers, periodicals, diaries and official records describing the city during the period of the Civil War.

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON is the latest to form a Centennial commission of its own and to start active plans for observances. With that of the District of Columbia, this now makes 45 individual groups of this sort throughout the nation. States still without commissions, some, however, with such legislation pending, include Idaho, Nevada, North Dakota, Utah, Hawaii and Alaska.

THE TWO-DAY SYMPOSIUM OHIO IS PLANNING at the University of Cincinnati will be held October 19-20 of next year instead of this year, as announced in the last issue of this letter. It will be sponsored by the Cincinnati Civil War Round Table and other groups.

PHILOMONT, VA., population 150, wants to make sure proper attention is called to the battle staged there on November 1, 1862, between forces under Union General Alfred Pleasanton and Confederate General Jeb Stuart. To that end, it has named its own Civil War Centennial Committee and is making plans to start its publicity on the event.

On next November 1 an exhibit of pictures and documents on the engagement will be opened at the Philomont fire house. These will concern various phases of the village's role in the war, including the activities of the Confederacy's "Gray Ghost," Colonel John S. Mosby, whose guerrillas frequently rode through the community in their raids on the invading Federals.