CIVIL WAR CENTENNIAL COMMISSION
700 JACKSON PLACE, N. W. WASHINGTON 6, D. C.
TELEPHONE EXECUTIVE 3-3300 EX. 641 or 642

MONTHLY CHRONOLOGY FOR 1861

Sept. 2—With the wily Confederate Raphael Semmes and his cruiser Sumter loose upon the waters, the Northern public awakens to the repeated blows he is making upon Union commerce. A disturbed reader writes the New York Times editor: "It is a lamentable fact that our Navy, hitherto the pride of the nation, has been unable to protect our commerce in our own waters."

Sept. 3—Considerable excitement is created in Washington by the sound of heavy cannonading across the Potomac and rumors of another great battle like that at Manassas. But later it is found the noise has been caused by practice with the Union's heavy guns in fortifications on the Virginia side.

Sept. 6—Reports say Union General Grant, with two regiments of infantry, one company of light artillery and two gunboats, has taken possession of Paducah, Ky.

Sept. 7—Union General McClellan, concerned over a better observance of the Sabbath by his soldiers, issues an order decreeing that all work shall be suspended on Sunday except in case of an attack by the enemy.

Sept. 7—Bothered by the accumulation of Confederate troops on the heights across the Potomac, McClellan makes a balloon ascension with Professor Lowe and spends two hours on a reconnoissance.

Sept. 10—Grant, backed by the U. S. gunboats at Paducah, Ky., goes into the Virginia side and starts down the Ohio River towards the Confederate battery of Charleston. The Confederate batteries at Charleston are silenced, and the river is clear to the mouth of the Ohio.

Sept. 11—Gen. Wm. F. Smith, commanding Union troops defending Washington, orders a reconnaissance on the Virginia side of Chain Bridge. Headed by Col. Isaac J. Stevens, New York, Vermont, and Indiana volunteers and several units of regulars push across. As they are returning, Confederates under the South's popular cavalry leader, Jeb Stuart, make a flank attack and kill and wound a number of the Federals.

Sept. 16—Secession members of the Maryland Legislature, on route to Frederick for a meeting of that body, are arrested at Baltimore in an effort to prevent a quorum at the session and thus keep the state in the Union.

Sept. 18—Northern newspapers publish long columns of news of severe fighting in West Virginia mountains around Carnifax Ferry.

Sept. 23—Newspapers report that Col. Mulligan and his entire force surrendered on the 20th at Lexington, Ky. The New York Herald announces: "The President and Cabinet members are amazed at the intelligence, in face of the fact that Gen. Fremont has had over 50,000 men under his command and could have easily reinforced Col. Mulligan at Lexington and saved the disaster."

Sept. 28—Cabinet at Washington goes into extraordinary session, with McClellan present. It remains behind closed doors for long hours, its activities kept secret.

THE NATIONAL COMMISSION recently received assurance that it is attaining to some degree its original goal of reaching every corner of America, of having each locality "plan and commemorate the chief events of its history during the great national crisis."

In a letter to the national chairman, Maj. Gen. U. S. Grant, 3rd, the editor of The Omak Chronicle at Omak, Wash., Bruce A. Wilson, gave a report on what is being done in that area almost the breadth of the nation from National Headquarters and the scene of many of the major battles of the war.

"I should imagine that when you accepted the chairmanship of the Civil War Centennial Commission," he wrote, "you had no idea that so many unexpected problems might arise. In the midst of these, perhaps this letter...will afford you a degree of satisfaction.

"The Commission has been successful in bringing the Civil War, and some of its basic meanings, to the attention of the public. Among those who listened was the staff of my weekly newspaper out here in North Central Washington state. We wished to contribute to the Centennial. Our effort is enclosed.

"It consists of a series of five articles we have just completed publishing. These articles attempt to tell the story of the Civil War as witnessed and lived by soldiers and civilians, both North and South, whose descendants now live in our home county, Okanogan County, Washington."

"As one American, I warmly compliment you and other members of the Centennial staff for your successful efforts to commemorate our nation's most critical internal experience."
This splendid example of modern architecture on the right will be opened to the public by the Virginia Civil War Commission with appropriate ceremonies October 1.

Designed for practical service to visitors, the center will be operated seven days a week to give them an overall conception of the campaigns that took place in Virginia and to acquaint them with the battlefields, museums, and other Civil War sites to be seen throughout the state. This will be done by three-dimensional exhibits, some of them animated and including sound tracts, and a 32-minute color motion picture narrated by Movie Actor Joseph Cotten, a native of Petersburg, Va.

In the inset looking over architectural plans are Arthur C. Worley, general contractor, (left) and James J. Geary, executive director of the Commission. Movies will be projected from the tower at the left.

A CENSUS BUREAU PICTURE OF WHAT THE NATION WAS LIKE on the eve of the Civil War is to be added to the contributions growing out of the present Centennial commemoration.

The picture is supplied in a manuscript prepared by Census Bureau editors and statisticians on a basis of the 1960 census, and will be published in booklet form by the National Centennial Commission in cooperation with the Bureau. Included will be illustrations, maps, and statistics on such subjects as population, diseases, industrial products, agriculture, real estate, railroads, and banks and insurance. It will be distributed by the Government Printing Office.

MANASSAS SOUVENIRS ARE STILL AVAILABLE. Money realized from their sale will be applied toward the cost of the recent reenactment, one goal of which is to help mount the batteries at the park to aid in interpreting the famous artillery duel that highlighted the battle a century ago.

Chief of the souvenirs is a 64-page, four-color booklet entitled "First Manassas and the War Around it," an account of the action that took place in the area during the war period. In its pages are to be found articles by a group of Civil War authors never before represented between the covers of a single publication. Included are James Warner Bellah, Bruce Catton, Virgil Carrington Jones, Scott Hart, Burke Davis, Dr. Francis Lord, Joseph B. Mitchell, and others. Copies at $2 each may be obtained from Cooper-Trent Lithograph Corp., 2025 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, Va.

Other souvenir items are a fingertip booklet in which are given essential details and statistics of the battle, priced at 25 cents each, and a special First Manassas edition of the CIVIL WAR TIMES, 50 cents each. These may be obtained from the Manassas National Battlefield Park, Manassas, Va.

THE CIVIL WAR CENTENNIAL was the theme recently of annual memorial ceremonies sponsored by the American Association of the Philippines and other American civic and military organizations at the U.S. Military Cemetery at Fort William J. McKinley at Makati. Guest speaker was the Hon. John D. Hickerson, U. S. Ambassador to the Philippines.

SEPTEMBER WAS A MONTH OF SLACK FIGHTING in the war areas of the nation a century ago, with some of the most important action at Lewinsville, Va., near Washington, D. C., and Lucas Bend on the Mississippi. This comparative inactivity will not be reflected in the Centennial program, however. Two important ceremonies are scheduled for this month.

At Hagerstown on Sept. 3, the National Commission will present its highest accolade, the Centennial Gold Medallion, to its first honorary chairman, former President Eisenhower. The same award will be made to the people of Arkansas at Little Rock Sept. 12.

Both ceremonies will have special commemorative features. At Hagerstown, a Confederate cemetery will be rededicated and, at Little Rock, markers calling attention to Civil War sites in the city will be unveiled.
THE GRAVES OF 80 UNKNOWN CONFEDERATE DEAD buried in the cemetery at St. Paul's Church at Haymarket, Va., near the site of the first battle of Manassas, were marked during the recent centennial of that engagement. A marble memorial table furnished by the U. S. Government was unveiled at commemorative services conducted there by the District of Columbia Division of the U. D. C.

BEAN SOUP MEMORIAL. That's the story at McClure, Pa., where annually the public sits down to servings of the soup advertised to have a Civil War flavor. It dates back to 1891 when the members of Company G, 147th Pennsylvania Volunteers, held a reunion in the form of a camp fire over which they cooked bean soup the way they had during the war. This became an annual custom, and now their descendants are carrying it on. This year, from September 13-16, portions will be served to the public at 30 cents each, with profits devoted to public benefits. An article in the September issue of FORD TIMES tells about it.

THE FIRST CONFEDERATE OFFICER FROM FLORIDA KILLED IN THE WAR will receive two forms of memorial recognition from his native state as a part of its Centennial commemoration. He was Captain Richard G. Bradford, slain in the fighting on Santa Rosa Island near Pensacola on October 9, 1891. In his memory, three markers have been erected by the Florida Board of Parks and Historic Memorials, and the State legislature has voted to change the name of his home country from New River to Bradford.

LEE CHAPEL on the campus of Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Va., in which lies buried the body of Robert E. Lee, is to be restored. The work is to be done at a cost of more than a third of a million dollars through a grant from the Ford Motor Company. In this building was held on January 8 of this year the ceremony that paired with that at Grant's Tomb in New York to open the national Centennial officially.

NEW MEXICO'S CENTENNIAL COMMISSION is busy with commemorative plans, its chairman, R. F. Deacon Arledge, reports. A round table supper was held at La Mesilla to commemorate the anniversary of the fall of Old Fort Fillmore and the surrender of a body of troops at St. Augustine Springs in the opening period of the war. Markers have been erected at each site. Other programs have called attention to the Confederate invasion of New Mexico and the establishment of the Confederate capital for the State of Arizona at Mesilla.

FOR THE AID OF THOSE PLANNING REENACTMENTS AND CEREMONIES, Smithsonian Institution has published a document listing uniforms and insignia of the Civil War. Copies are available at $1 each through: Editorial and Publications Division, Smithsonian Institution, Washington 25, D. C.

A BOOKLET ON ARMY RATIONS prepared during the war by Eben Norton Horsford, food technologist, has been reprinted by the U. S. Army. In presenting it, Walter L. Becker, chief of the Library Branch of the Quartermaster Food and Container Institute for the Armed Forces, commented that, while its descriptions bring a vivid account of a past situation, "it is a sobering thought that the problems are basically identical with those we face today."

CLEVELAND, OHIO, recently marked the first Centennial commemoration in its area by rededicating the Grand Army of the Republic Highway. The ceremony was in memory of all Ohio Civil War dead and was sponsored by the 103rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry Association, formed shortly after the war and identified as the oldest active group of its kind in the nation.

GEORGIA is concentrating on the preservation of Civil War monuments, graves, relics and ruins. A letter from its Centennial Commission chairman, Peter Zack Geer, recently reminded every local committee to "assure proper care and maintenance of them."

A DIORAMA OF THE MERRIMACK-MONITOR FIGHT will be a feature of a new wing of the Mariners Museum at Newport News, Va., to be devoted exclusively to exhibits showing sea power in that war a century ago. The three-dimensional scenes, costing $12,000 and requiring more than a year to prepare, is sponsored by the Virginia Civil War Commission and was unveiled recently by its assistant director, Lyon G. Tyler.

A SPECIAL BIBLIOGRAPHY of books and articles on Louisiana's part in the war has been prepared by the Centennial Commission of that state as a part of its commemoration and is now available. Copies may be obtained by writing the Commission at the Old State Capitol, Baton Rouge. All books listed, except a few that are rare or out of print, may be obtained through inter-library loan.

MISSISSIPPI, the state that contributed more than 80,000 men to the Southern army out of a population of white males of military age of only 70,295 -- showing that one Mississippi soldier out of every eight was an old man or a boy -- has asked each community to schedule rededication ceremonies, with proper commemorative programs, during 1962.

THE LITTLE CHURCH WHERE CLARA BARTON, founder of the American Red Cross, nursed wounded and dying soldiers following the battle of Second Manassas and the engagement at Chantilly has now been properly identified. A brass plaque with a legend recalling the incident was recently presented to St. Mary's Catholic Church at Fairfax Station, Va., by the Fairfax County Chapter of the Red Cross. A roadside marker was erected there last May.
THE CIVIL WAR BOOK SHELF
(A Quarterly List of New Titles)

Prepared for the Civil War Centennial Commission
by
James I. Robertson, Jr., Editor

Civil War History
University of Iowa, Iowa City

GENERAL AND SPECIFIC STUDIES

Barker, Alan, The Civil War in America (Doubleday)
Braun, Peter A., The Organization of the Confederate Post Office Department in 1861 at Montgomery, Alabama (Peter Brannon)
"Civil War Railroads" — Civil War History (University of Iowa)
Coulter, E. Merwin, Travels in the Confederate States (New edition: University of Oklahoma)
Donald, David, An Excess of Democracy (Oxford)
Hesseltine, W. B., and Woll, Hazel C., The Blue and the Gray on the Nile (University of Chicago)
Henderson, Lindsey P., Jr., The Oglethorpe Light Infantry (Savannah Civil War Centennial Commission)
Higginbotham, S. W., et al., Pennsylvania and the Civil War: A Handbook (Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission)
Mansker, Harold R., Maryland in the Civil War (Maryland Historical Society)
Mihollon, H. D., and Johnson, J. R., Best Photos of the Civil War (Fawcett)
Millard, Joseph, ed., Civil War Stories (True Magazine)
Niven, Alexander C., Civil War Day-by-Day (Berkeley)
Overy, David H., Wisconsin Carpetbaggers in Dixie (State Historical Society of Wisconsin)
Rhodes, James Ford, History of the Civil War, 1861—1865 (University of Iowa)
Robertson, James L., Jr., Virginia, 1861—1865: Iron Gate to the Confederacy (Virginia Civil War Commission)
Ruby, James S., ed., Blue and Gray: Georgetown University and the Civil War (Georgetown University Alumni Association)
Stackpole, Edward J., Sheridan in the Shenandoah (Stackpole)
Struggle for Survival, The (Collier's Encyclopedia)
Taylor, Willard, Cavalier and Yankee: The Old South and American National Character (Braziller)
Uniform Regulations for the Army of the United States, 1861 (Smithsonian Institute)
Webb, Willard, Critical Moments of the Civil War (Fountainhead)
Whan, Vorin E., Jr., Fiasco at Fredericksburg (Pennsylvania State University)

BIOGRAPHIES

McKinney, Francis F., Education in Violence: The Life of George H. Thomas and the Army of the Cumberland (Wayne State University)
Shepperdson, Wilbur S., Samuel Roberts: A Welsh Coloniser in Civil War Tennessee (University of Tennessee)
Sievers, Harry J., Benjamin Harrison: Hoosier Warrior (New edition: University Publishers)

PERSONAL MEMOIRS, LETTERS, ETC.

Berkley, Henry R., Four Years in the Confederate Artillery (Virginia Historical Society)
Chesnutt, Mary B., A Diary from Dixie. Edited by Ben Ames Williams. (Two new editions: Houghton Mifflin)
Giles, Val C., Rags and Hope. Edited by Harry Lasswell. (Coward-McCann)
Head, Thomas A., Campaigns and Battles of the Sixteenth Regiment, Tennessee Volunteers. Edited by Stanley F. Horn. (Womack Printing Co.)
Laugel, Auguste, The United States during the Civil War. Edited by Allan Nevins. (Indiana University)
Noel, Théophileus, A Campaign from Sante Fe to the Mississippi: Being a History of the Old Sibley Brigade. Edited by Neal Austria. (Charles R. Sanders, Jr.)
Porter, Horace, Campaigning with Grant. Edited by Wayne C. Temple. (Indiana University)
Strong, Robert H., A Yankee Private's Civil War. Edited by Ashley Halsey. (Henry Regnery)

LINCOLNIANA

Carpester, Francis B., Six Months in the White House with Lincoln (New edition: Century House)
Donald, David, Lincoln Reconsidered. (New edition: Random House)
Horgan, Paul, Citizen of New Salem (Farrar)
Lewis, Lloyd, Myths after Lincoln (New edition: Grosset)

FICTION

Ward, Larry, Thy Brother's War (Cowan)