MONTHLY CHRONOLOGY FOR 1862

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS AS WAR DEVELOPS

Aug. 1 - Confederate Batteries at Coggins' Point on the James River fire on Union forces, sinking two Army transports.

Aug. 3 - Union General Pope, enthusiastically received by his Army of Virginia, reports no enemy in force between Culpeper and Gordonsville.

Aug. 5 - Union War Department orders an immediate draft of 300,000 militia, to serve for nine months unless discharged sooner.

Aug. 6 - The Confederate ironclad Arkansas, disabled by engine failure while advancing to support an attack on Union-held Baton Rouge, is engaged by the U.S.S. Essex and destroyed by her own crew to prevent her capture.

Aug. 10 - Rear Admiral Farragut reports that he has partially destroyed Donaldsonville, La., in reprisal for the firing on his steamers by guerrillas.

Aug. 11 - Confederate General Stonewall Jackson, reporting on the battle of Cedar Mountain, writes: "On the evening of the 9th instant, God blessed our arms with another victory."

Aug. 12 - General Pope telegraphs that Jackson has retreated under cover of night toward Orange Court House, with Union Cavalry and artillery in pursuit.

Aug. 18 - Union naval forces bombard Corpus Christi, Texas, and land a party of sailors, but Confederate cavalry drive them back.

Aug. 18 - President Davis delivers a message to the Confederate Congress in which he says the South's finances are good and criticises the U.S. for unwarlike hostilities committed by its troops.

Aug. 22 - Withdrawal northward by water of McClellan's Army of the Potomac brings to an end the Peninsula Campaign.

Aug. 23 - Raphael Semmes takes command of the C.S.S. Alabama at sea off the island of Terceira, Azores, ready to resume his storied career as a raider.

Aug. 25 - It is rumored that, when the armies of McClellan and Pope are combined, Chief of Staff Halleck will take the field as general-in-chief.

Aug. 26 - Stonewall Jackson, stealing behind Pope's army on a fast-marching sweep through Thoroughfare Gap, burns the Union supply base at Manassas Junction.

Aug. 28 - Union troops, still uncertain as to what has happened, meet Jackson's forces on the Brawner Farm preliminary to the second battle of Manassas.

Aug. 30 - The third day of fighting in the Grove-Ion area around Manassas ends with Pope's army in retreat toward Washington.

THE NATIONAL COMMISSION'S NEWSLETTER, '100 YEARS AFTER,' beginning with the September issue, will appear in a new format and in a standard four-page edition.

The change has been considered advisable in order to provide greater service for its readers and give better assistance to the various State Commissions in their activities, James I. Robertson, Jr., executive director, reported.

In a letter to the state agencies, the director said he had felt for some time that the newsletter as it now appears was "insufficient in scope" to do full justice to the Centennial program throughout the nation.

"Under Public Law 85-305, which established this Commission," he wrote, "one of our primary duties is to advise, assist and coordinate the various and varied activities of all state and local Centennial Commissions. The most consistent way we can do this, and at the same time call maximum attention to regional projects, is through our monthly newsletter."

The letter was accompanied by a questionnaire asking information about commemorative ceremonies, newsworthy items, and publications planned in the various localities, as well as individual problems which might be solved through mention in 100 YEARS AFTER.

"To meet obvious deadlines," the director added, "we will always want specific news items well in advance. It is better to announce what is to be than to report what has been. We hope, too, that henceforth you will alert us to all events in your region as soon as you formulate or determine them."

He also announced that the Commission invites all readers to submit at any time suggestions which might improve the letter.
DAVIS-GRANT PAPERS TO BE EDITED

The correspondence of two of the major figures in the war of the Sixties, Confederate President Jefferson Davis and Union General-in-Chief Ulysses S. Grant, at last is scheduled for editing and publication. The twin projects, well organized and staffed, are expected to fill an important gap in the information sought by students of this vital period in American history.

The Davis papers will be edited by Dr. Frank Vandiver of Rice University, well known author and history teacher on the subject of the Civil War. He will have two assistants.

A non-profit organization, the U.S. Grant Association, Inc., will have charge of the Grant papers. It will be steered by a 12-member board of directors, and will have an editorial board, with Dr. Allan Nevins, chairman of the National Centennial Commission, as chairman. Headquarters will be at Columbus, Ohio.

THE ARMED FORCES INSTITUTE OF PATHOLOGY, founded in 1862 to collect and display specimens of war wounds and diseases as a means of training military surgeons and reducing mortality and suffering, will enlarge the Civil War exhibit it opened here two years ago.

Now moving into new quarters at Seventh Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., the expanded exhibit will be formally opened with a commemorative program there the evening of Nov. 13. The main address will be delivered by a prominent speaker in the field of military medicine.

TWENTY-SIX MARKERS THAT TELL THE STORY of Grant's march through Louisiana in the spring of 1863 during his advance on Vicksburg have been unveiled with formal dedication by the Louisiana Centennial Commission. A covering pamphlet, including both map and legend, also was published to aid tourists in locating the markers.

LIFE IN WASHINGTON, D. C., from 1860 to 1865 will be told in detail in a 70-page booklet soon to be published by the District of Columbia Centennial Commission.

Entitled "The Symbol and the Sword," the publication will have both pictures and maps. Paul J. Sedgwick, chairman, said 50,000 copies will be included in the original printing. Of these, 34,000 will be distributed without charge to public, private and parochial schools of the high school level, libraries, State Centennial Commissions, historical societies, and Civil War Round Tables.


Gen. Eisenhower also was presented one of the silver medals created to commemorate the anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg. Similar souvenirs now are available to the public in silver and in bronze.

WHAT WAS THE EXACT DESIGN OF THE UNOFFICIAL MARYLAND STATE FLAG during the Civil War period? That's the question Samuel E. Pruett, 2217 Cloverleaf Road, Hagerstown, Md., is trying to answer. He also would like to know whether the flags carried by Maryland Union and Confederate units differed.

A $5,000 LITERARY AWARD CONTEST involving manuscripts of 75,000 or more words on a historical, non-fictional subject relating to the Civil War period has been sponsored by the War Library and Museum and the Pennsylvania Commander of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, 1805 Pine Street, Philadelphia. The award is expected to be made at Gettysburg July 3 of next year.

SPECIAL VISITOR AT CENTENNIAL CENTER

A Richmond police officer, asked for directions, steered the R.B. Van Slyke family of Tampa, Fla., into a whirlwind reception at the Virginia Civil War Centennial Center a few days ago.

Leading his family, Mr. Van Slyke stepped through a door at the Center and was immediately bedecked with a ribbon that identified him as the 100,000th visitor. Later, with his wife and two sons, he visited Governor Albertis S. Harrison, Jr., at the Capitol and was entertained at lunch at a local hotel.

Here at the right the family receives a welcome, accompanied by an armful of gifts, from James J. Geary, executive director of the Virginia Civil War Commission.