May 1 - Union Gen. U. S. Grant, with eight armies in the field, prepares to open an extensive and concerted campaign to crush the Confederacy within 90 days, launching a multi-prong attack under Sherman in the Deep South and Butler and Meade in Virginia.

May 4 - Three Union vessels support Federal troops in the capture of Tampa, Fla.

May 4 - The Army of the Potomac crosses the Rappahannock River in Virginia on the eve of the battle of the Wilderness.

May 5 - The C.S.S. Albemarle, captained by Commander James W. Cook, steams into Albermarle Sound and engages Union fleet of eight vessels in a battle halted by darkness after nearly three hours of intensive fighting. The Confederate ram is able to withdraw, its smokestack riddled with holes.

May 6 - The U.S.S. Commodore Jones, one of several Union vessels moving up the James River, is blown to bits by a torpedo.

May 7 - Confederates surprise and capture the U.S.S. Shawsheen, which had been dragging for torpedoes in the James River.

May 8 - Union Gen. James S. Wadsworth dies of wounds received two days earlier while leading the 4th Division, 5th Corps, in the battle of the Wilderness.

May 8 - Grant, after failing to defeat Lee in the Wilderness, orders his army southward, hoping to envelop the Confederate flank and advance toward Richmond, but Lee's troops frustrate his attempt with fierce fighting in the Spotsylvania campaign.

May 9 - Rear Admiral David Farragut again writes Union Navy Secretary Gideon Welles for torpedoes to be used in the reduction of Mobile Bay.

May 9 - Affable John Sedgwick, one of the Union's most competent generals, is killed by a Sharpsboomer while leading the 6th Corps at Spotsylvania.

May 10 - U.S. Army transport Harriet A. Weed is destroyed by a torpedo in the St. John's River, becoming the third victim of these lethal devices along this stream in less than three weeks.

May 11 - In a hot cavalry engagement at Yellow Tavern near Richmond, the South's beloved and colorful horseman, Gen. J.E.B. Stuart, is mortally wounded.

May 11 - Grant, after six days of heavy fighting near Fredericksburg, wires Secretary of War Stanton: "I propose to fight it out on this line if it takes all summer."

May 11 - Lt. Col. Joseph Bailey, in charge of efforts to extract Admiral David Porter's stranded fleet from the Red River, succeeds in constructing an emergency dam that raises the water level and enables the larger vessels to escape.

May 12 - Announces the Richmond Examiner: "The enemy have concentrated in Virginia. If beaten here, he is beaten everywhere. If he wins here, he wins everything. The war might continue, the Confederacy might possibly survive - but if Virginia is lost, the present Confederate organization will not probably survive. Heaven and earth now calls on the Government to bring up all the troops at its command."

May 13 - The Battle of Resaca, Ga., a part of Sherman's Atlanta campaign, opens.

May 15 - Union troops under Gen. Franz Sigel, moving up the Shenandoah Valley toward the rail line at Charlottesville, are stopped at New Market by Confederates under Gen. J. C. Breckinridge, 247 of them cadets from the Virginia Military Institute at Lexington, Va.

May 16 - Union Gen. Ben Butler fails in second attempt to capture the important defense point at Drewry's Bluff on the James River near Richmond.

May 18 - After much difficulty, Admiral Franklin Buchanan succeeds in floating the formidable Confederate ram Tennessee over Dog River Bar and into Mobile Bay, there to await the attack of the Federal fleet under Farragut.

May 23 - A resolution is introduced in the Federal Congress calling attention to the action of that body in declaring that the United States would not quietly submit to the establishment of a monarchy under Maximilian in Mexico.

May 25 - Federals fail in a carefully-planned attempt to destroy the Confederate ram Albemarle tied up in the Roanoke River at Plymouth, N. C.

May 26 - Admiral Porter returns to his headquarters at Cairo, Ill., officially ending the Red River campaign.

May 28 - Maximilian and Carlota disembark at Vera Cruz, Mexico, and proceed inland to Mexico City to claim the crown won by French bayonets in the invasion and conquest of Mexico.
ASSEMBLY HEADQUARTERS

The Atlanta Americana Motor Hotel, located in the heart of downtown Atlanta, will be headquarters for the Seventh National Assembly. In gleaming new decor, the Americana features fourteen meeting rooms, in-hotel garage, two lounges, restaurant, swimming pool, and accommodations for 700 persons. Hotel officials already report unusually heavy registration for this year's Assembly. All prospective delegates should immediately make their room reservations to insure obtaining desired accommodations.

FINAL PREPARATIONS FOR THE SEVENTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY are now being made. The program, as organized by National Commission officials, will be as follows:

TUESDAY, JUNE 9

5:00 p.m. - Press conference with National Commission leaders

7:30 - 9:30 p.m. - Registration, lobby of Atlanta Americana Motor Hotel

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10

8:00 - 9:30 a.m. - Registration, lobby of Atlanta Americana Motor Hotel

10:00 a.m. - Panel: "Atlanta, 1864"

Presiding: Beverly M. DuBose, Jr., Chairman, Georgia Civil War Centennial Commission
"Railroads and Transportation," Franklin Garrett, Public Relations Department, The Coca-Cola Company
"Postlude to Atlanta: Sherman's March to the Sea," Alexander A. Lawrence, Savannah, Ga., author of A Present for Mr. Lincoln

12:00 Noon - Luncheon and Opening Plenary Session - Congressman Fred Schwengel, Vice Chairman of the National Commission, Presiding
Address: Alan Nevins, Chairman of the National Commission

2:00 p.m. - Panel: "Centennial Films"

Presiding: Mary V. Darcy, Executive Secretary, Massachusetts Civil War Centennial Commission
"Stonewall Jackson's Way," courtesy of the Virginia Civil War Commission
"Indiana in the Civil War," courtesy of the Indiana Civil War Centennial Commission
"Gettysburg," courtesy of the National Park Service.

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

10:00 a.m. - Panel: "The Confederate Home Front"

Presiding: Bell I. Wiley, Emory University, and chairman of the National Commission's Executive Committee

(more)
ONE OF NATURE'S WONDERS

The climax of this year's Seventh National Assembly will occur Friday evening, June 12, when Assembly delegates and members of Civil War Round Tables from across the nation will gather at Stone Mountain for sightseeing, a band concert, a barbecue dinner, and an address by Georgia Governor Carl Sanders. Stone Mountain, the world's largest granite monolith, is part of a new 3,000-acre state park sixteen miles east of Atlanta on US 78. Two cable cars, recently installed, make the half-mile trip to the mountaintop in about five minutes. Few spots in the East afford so sweeping a view as is available from atop the mountain.

"Refugee Life," Mary Elizabeth Massey, Winthrop College
"Archival Aspects," Mary Givens Bryan, Director, Georgia Department of Archives and History
"Economics and Politics," Rembert W. Patrick, University of Florida
"Women behind the Lines," Spencer King, Jr., Mercer University

2:00 p.m. - Panel: "Problems of the Civil War"

Presiding: David C. Mearns, Chief of Manuscripts, Library of Congress, and member of the National Commission
"Internal Problems," A. B. Moore, Executive Director, Alabama Civil War Centennial Commission
"Personnel Problems of the Army, Then and Now," Roy K. Davenport, Special Assistant to the Under Secretary of the Army and member of the National Commission
"Confederate Military Leadership," Charles P. Roland, Tulane University

6:30 p.m. - Banquet - Allan Nevins, Presiding

Address: Hon. Ralph Yarborough, United States Senator from Texas

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

10:00 a.m. - Panel: "After the Centennial--What?"

A FRIEND OF HISTORY

One of the most beloved and respected figures in Centennial circles is Dr. A. B. Moore, Professor Emeritus of History at the University of Alabama and Executive Director of that state's CWCC. "AB" has been a leading force in the collaborative efforts to publish the annotated letters of Jefferson Davis, and his interest in all Centennial affairs is deep and active. His classic study, Conscription and Conflict in the Confederacy (now in a new edition) more than qualifies him to speak on "Confederate Internal Problems" at one of the five Seventh National Assembly panels.
Historical coincidences, especially in the Centennial, are many and sometimes delightful. Such is the case with the Georgeson family of Cicero, Ill. When Pete, a Chicagoan, took to wife a Georgia girl, he resolved to continue striving for sectional impartiality. The birth of twins on December 20, 1960—the centennial of South Carolina's secession—afforded the opportunity to further such harmony. The two boys were christened Lee and Grant. Appropriately garbed, they maintain the balance between North and South in the sublimely peaceful Georgeson household.

Presiding: Norman FitzGerald, Jr., founder of the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table and member of the National Commission

"What Is Still Needed in Scholarly Writings," Daniel W. Hollis, University of South Carolina


"Lasting Contributions State Commissions Can Make," Elaine V. Johnson, Secretary-Treasurer, Louisiana Civil War Centennial Commission

"Will the Centennial Kill the Civil War?" Gilbert E. Govan, Librarian, University of Chattanooga

12:00 Noon - Luncheon and Closing Plenary Session - Allan Nevins, Presiding

Tribute-Address on Gens. W. H. T. Walker and James B. McPherson: Hon. Ivan Allen, Jr., Mayor of Atlanta

1:30 p.m. - Buses depart from Americana Hotel for Stone Mountain, via Cyclorama and other historic sites in Atlanta

6:30 p.m. - Concert atop Stone Mountain: 26th North Carolina Band

7:15 p.m. - Barbecue banquet

Address: Hon. Carl Sanders, Governor of Georgia

9:30 p.m. - Seventh National Assembly officially adjourned

ENCLOSED WITH THIS ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER is card which all persons who plan to attend the Seventh National Assembly are urged to fill out and return at once to National Commission headquarters. The information requested is needed for arranging the several function meals. Since these cards will be treated as reservation requests, it is imperative that they be completed promptly and accurately.

NEW HISTORICAL MARKER

Shown in the accompanying photograph are (left to right): J. E. Swann, Rev. Reuel B. Pritchett, and Harold Ellison, all of Dandridge, Tenn. These gentlemen were the leading spirits in obtaining a new marker noting the December 24, 1863, engagement at Hays' Ferry, near Dandridge, between a portion of Longstreet's command and elements of the Army of the Cumberland. The marker is situated on the Courthouse lawn in downtown Dandridge.