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SIGNIFICANT EVENTS AS WAR CONTINUES

June 3 — In one of the deadlest onslaughts of the Richmond campaign, Grant loses 5,000 men in an hour's fighting at Cold Harbor. Realizing the strength of the Confederate position, Union officers and men at the front ignore an order from headquarters to renew the attack.

June 3 — A Confederate boat expedition, made up of 130 officers and men, surprises and captures the U.S.S. Water Witch in an early-morning raid in pitch darkness off Ossabaw Island, Georgia. The leader, Lt. Thos. P. Pelot, is killed.

June 3 — Under the heading "The Mourning," the New York Times reports: "As Lee in the East is drawing in to his main army all the outlying forces, such as Breckinridge and Beauregard, so in the West Johnston has drawn the outlying forces of Polk, Forrest & Co. At this moment, the two great Rebel armies comprise nearly all the available graybacks of the Southern Confederacy."

June 5 — Confederate Gen. Wm. E. Jones is mortally wounded near Piedmont while attempting to rally his troops in an effort to check Union Gen. David Hunter's march up the Shenandoah Valley, a part of Grant's campaign against Richmond.

June 6 — Grant, deciding to abandon his operations around Cold Harbor and to cross the James River for an attack on Petersburg, orders Sheridan to undertake a cavalry diversion toward Charlottesville.

June 8 — The National Union Convention, assembled in Baltimore, unanimously renominates Lincoln for the Presidency, with Andrew Johnson as Vice President.

June 8 — As Grant closes on Richmond, the Northern press reports that foreign critics are saying that "the fall of Richmond will never bring the Northern army one step nearer the conquest of the South."

June 9 — Troops sent by Union Gen. Ben Butler to capture Petersburg in the assault on Richmond fail, following a misunderstanding of orders, and are forced to withdraw.

June 10 — A force of more than 8,000 Federals under Gen. S. D. Sturgis, sent to destroy Bedford Forrest's cavalry taking part in the Atlanta campaign, is routed at Brice's Cross Roads by half as many Confederates, with severe losses of men, guns, vehicles, hores, rations and ammunition.

June 11 — Captain Raphael Semmes takes his C.S.S. Alabama into the port of Cherbourg, France, for repairs, drawing protest over the use of the French port from the U.S. Minister to France.

June 11 — Copperheads criticize the platform adopted at the National Union Convention because it fails to touch on the question of reconstruction.

June 12 — Sheridan is repulsed near Trevilian Station by Confederate troops under Gen. Wade Hampton in an engagement in which the Southern cavalrmen get down from their horses and fight like infantrymen, and the diversion in the direction of Charlottesville is abandoned.

June 12 — Maximilian and Carlota enter Mexico City under the protection of the Imperial troops of Napoleon III and seek to assert their rights to a throne created in the new world by European bayonets.


June 14 — Confederate Gen. Leonidas Polk, Episcopal bishop, is killed in action at Pine Mountain in the Atlanta campaign.

June 15 — Northern newspapers report that the Confederate Congress has adjourned without a serious attempt to relieve the financial embarrassment of the government. Secretary Memorial is said to have made a public statement that he has no money in the treasury to pay the soldiers.

June 15 — More than 16,000 Federal and cavalry open new attack on Petersburg that ends in a stalemate after four days of fighting, and Grant abandons his attempt to take the town by direct assault.

June 18 — Confederate Gen. Jubal Early, rushed up by train with troops from the Richmond lines, repulses Hunter at Lynchburg, forcing him to return to Harpers Ferry by a roundabout route through West Virginia.

June 19 — While a large crown watches from shore, the Alabama and Kearsarge meet in battle off the coast of France and, after little more than an hour of fighting, the Confederate ship has to be abandoned. The English yacht Deerhound captures Semmes from the sea and carries him to Southampton. His ship, during her career had destroyed United merchantmen valued at more than $3,000,000.

June 22 — Union Gen. J. H. Wilson, with two divisions, starts on a raid aimed at the Southside Railway that results in the destruction of a part of this important communications link with Lee's army, but the raiders lose 1,500 men, their trains and guns when they are forced to flee from Confederate cavalry.

June 24 — Union Lt. Wm. Cushing successfully completes an expedition up the Cape Fear River to within three miles of Wilmington, N.C., gaining valuable intelligence regarding river obstructions and fortifications.

June 24 — U.S.S. Queen City, lying at anchor off Clarendon in the White River, is attacked before dawn by two regiments of Confederate cavalry, supported by artillery, and is captured and later blown up by her captors.

June 27 — In the hardest fight of the Atlanta campaign up to this date, Sherman's army is stopped at Kenesaw Mountain in an assault along a 10-mile battle line with a loss of 3,000 men, compared to 630 for the Confederates.

June 27 — Jubal Early, at Staunton, reorganizes his 10,000 men into two corps and starts down the Shenandoah Valley on a raid toward Washington.
SENATOR JOHN G. TOWER OF TEXAS, a member of the National Commission, has expressed his intentions of attending the Seventh National Assembly in Atlanta, June 10-12. Unless congressional schedules conflict, Sen. Tower will join his legislative colleagues, Sen. Ralph Yarborough, Cong. Fred Schwengel, and Cong. George A. Goodling at the Atlanta meeting. In another last-minute development, Clyde C. Walton of the Illinois State Library agreed to substitute for panelist Daniel Hollis, who was forced to bow out owing to summer school commitments. Mr. Walton will speak on "What Is Still Needed in Scholarly Writings" about the Civil War.

THE CALIFORNIA CWCC was instrumental in the recent return to California of the remains of John A. Sutter, Jr. Son of the founder of Sacramento, young Sutter served as U. S. Consul at Acapulco during the Civil War. On one occasion he persuaded a French fleet commander to cease a bombardment of the Acapulco port. Sutter's remains, first interred in Mexico, were returned to Sacramento this spring and re-interred with impressive ceremonies. This project was a part of the California Commission's aim to "commemorate the restoration of constitutional government in the Republic of Mexico." Col. William L. Shaw, Chairman of the California CWCC, is also a member of the John A. Sutter, Jr., Memorial Committee of Sacramento.

BEDFORD FORREST'S DECISIVE VICTORY at Brice's Crossroads, Miss., will be centennially noted June 5-7 by a reenactment, infantry demonstration and "Confederate Ball." The site of this June 10, 1864, engagement lies six miles west of Baldwyn, Miss.

GOVERNOR ELBERT N. CARVEL OF DELAWARE was principal speaker May 30 at Antietam when the Delaware CWCC dedicated monuments to the 2nd and 3rd Delaware Regiments. Descendants of soldiers in each regiment unveiled the monuments, and state flags were placed on the graves of 28 Delaware soldiers buried in Antietam National Cemetery.

TWO CENTENNIAL CEREMONIES are forthcoming under the auspices of the Oklahoma CWCC. On June 15 the Commission will hold a program at Tamaha commemorating what apparently was "the most inland operation of the Civil War involving a naval vessel" -- the capture of the Union steamboat, J. R. Williams, by Confederate under Col. Stand Watie. The boat was proceeding up the Arkansas River toward Fort Gibson when Confederate artillery fire drove it aground. On June 23, 1965, the Oklahoma Commission will end its Centennial observances with a program marking the surrender of Stand Watie and his followers at Fort Towson.

PICTURED ABOVE are three of the featured panelists at this month's Seventh National Assembly. The Hon. Roy K. Davenport (left), Deputy Secretary of the Army and a member of the National Commission, will compare army personnel problems of the 1860's and 1960's in a panel discussion on "Problems of the Civil War." At the fifth and final forum of this year's convention, Ralph G. Newman (center) will speak on what the general public still wishes to read in the field of Civil War history. Mr. Newman is owner of Chicago's Abraham Lincoln Book Shop and a leading spirit on the Illinois CWCC. One of his fellow panelists will be Gilbert E. Govan (right), member of the Tennessee CWCC and Librarian Emeritus at the University of Chattanooga. Dr. Govan will offer provocative observations on the question, "Will the Centennial Kill the Civil War?"
THE PUBLICATION OF SEVERAL NEW PAMPHLETS on various aspects of the Civil War promise to make valuable contributions to a better understanding of that conflict. Volume IV of "Massachusetts in the Civil War," a series of the Massachusetts CWCC, contains the address of National Commission member Bruce Catton last May in commemoration of Col. Robert Gould Shaw and the 54th Massachusetts. . . . A series of 15 pamphlets on the history of Fort Monroe in the Civil War is available for one dollar from the Fort Monroe Casemate Museum, Fort Monroe, Va. The set includes 68 pages of text and 92 illustrations. . . . The Richmond CWCC has just released a 40-page publication, "Confederate Military Hospitals in Richmond." That agency's executive secretary, Robert W. Waitt, Jr., is the author of a splendid reference guide to the appearance, location, and history of Richmond's many wartime hospitals. . . . From the Buncombe County (N.C.) Confederate Centennial Committee has come a short summary of the April 3, 1865, battle of Asheville. Copies -- at fifty cents each -- may be ordered from Col. Paul A. Rockwell, 142 Hillside Street, Asheville, N. C. . . . The Connecticut CWCC has just published a 48-page biographical sketch of Commodore Andrew Hull Foote. Noted writer Allan Keller compiled this brief but interesting study.

THE BUTTERNUT RIDGE MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION of Lorain, Ohio, sponsored a May 24 program in honor of the Grand Army of the Republic. This affair was the fifth such annual ceremony sponsored on behalf of the Centennial by the Buckeye group. President of the Butternut Association is Harlan T. Chapman of Elyria, Ohio.

NEW COMMISSION PUBLICATION

The National Commission, in continuing its series of informative booklets on the Civil War, announces the publication of The United States on the Eve of the Civil War, As Described in the 1860 Census. Joseph C. G. Kennedy, who ranked as one of the most distinguished statisticians of the 19th century, was chief compiler for this last national census before the outbreak of hostilities. Included in the 73-page work are Kennedy's elaborate report on "all the great elements of a nation's prosperity," 13 tables of statistics, and numerous illustrations of the period. The National Commission produced a new edition of this rare work with the assistance of the U. S. Bureau of the Census. Copies are available at thirty-five cents each from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. (Zip Code 20402).

FORT WARD, one of the three largest of sixty-eight Federal forts circling the Washington area, has been partially restored through the efforts of historically minded citizens of Alexandria, Va. The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers reconstructed the northwest face of the fort to the extent of restoring earthworks, filling rooms, parapets, moat, and gun emplacements with Civil War field pieces. Dedication services were held May 30 at the new, city-maintained park. National Commission director James Robertson was principal speaker. Fort Ward is in the western suburbs of Alexandria, near the famed Virginia Episcopal Seminary. The original fort, completed in 1864, had a perimeter of 818 yards and contained 36 guns.

PLANS CONTINUE TO PROGRESS SATISFACTORILY for the centennial observance of the battle of Franklin, Tenn. Multi-stage ceremonies will be held in November at the battlefield, which lies a few miles south of Nashville. Students of the western theater have long maintained that the Confederate assault and casualties at this battle far exceed in importance the more noted charge at Gettysburg by Pickett's men.

THREE NATIONAL COMMISSION OFFICIALS will be on the visiting professor circuit in coming months. Chairman Allan Nevins will lecture as Harmsworth Professor of History at Oxford University during the 1964-65 academic year. Executive Committee Chairman Bell I. Wiley will join the history staff at the University of Colorado for the summer session. Commission director James Robertson will be visiting professor of history this summer at the University of Maryland.
IDENTITY OF THE DEAD

On June 7, 1964, trustees of Washington Cemetery in Hagerstown, Md., will unveil a memorial tablet showing the names and burial sites of 346 of 2,468 Confederate dead interred there after the 1862 Maryland Campaign. The plaque is a reproduction of a relatively unknown cemetery map (left photograph) prepared in 1888. The forthcoming ceremonies will take place in the cemetery near Maryland’s monument to the slain Confederates (right photograph).

Featured on the program will be Mrs. Edith Jarvis, a direct descendant of Francis Scott Key, and Dabney Watts, Chairman of the Shenandoah Valley CWCC. Washington Cemetery was incorporated by the State of Maryland in 1870. Gen. Fitzhugh Lee first dedicated the resting place of Civil War dead; three years ago, Pres. Dwight Eisenhower participated in rededication ceremonies. Samuel E. Pruett, a member of the Trustees, is currently preparing a detailed history of known troops buried in Washington Cemetery. Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Pruett, 2217 Cloverleaf Road, Hagerstown, Md.

DAYTON KELLEY, Director of the Journalism and Publicity Departments at Mary Hardin-Baylor College, Belton, Texas, needs help. Fire recently destroyed the College's administration building, including Mr. Kelley's large collection of Civil War reference material. State commissions and Round Tables are asked to supply as complete a set as possible of their publications to replace those lost in the flames.

THE ORIGINS OF THE FIRST "MEMORIAL DAY" are many-rooted and sometimes controversial. One person seeking to resolve the conflicting facts and testimony surrounding Memorial Day is V. V. Headland of the Rock Island (Ill.) Argus Round-up. Any persons having specific information on the subject should contact Mr. Headland.

ON SUNDAY, MAY 17, the Civil War Memorial Committee of the Bronx held its annual memorial services and parade in honor of veterans of four wars who are buried in the West Farms Soldier Cemetery of the Bronx. An estimated 500 persons attended the program.

THE CARTER HOUSE ASSOCIATION of Franklin, Tenn., still has for sale a few copies of The Reminiscences of Newton Cannon. These recollections were written by a young Confederate who served three years in the 11th Tennessee Cavalry. Copies, priced at $2.50 postpaid, may be ordered from the Association.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS PRESS will publish in book form the papers presented at the National Commission’s January symposium on Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address. Authors of the papers are: John Dos Passos, Arthur Lehman Goodhart, Paul H. Douglas, Reinhold Niebuhr, and Robert Lowell. No publication date has yet been established.

OWING TO A COMMITMENT to the New York World’s Fair, the Louisville & Nashville Railroad will not be able to display "The General" in Atlanta during the Seventh National Assembly. The L & N regretfully announced this decision after a careful study of the famed locomotive’s itinerary.