

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XXVI, Number 7

Chicago, Illinois

March, 1966

'Pete' Long - Reappraisal of trans-Mississippi War - Thursday, March 10

Our own "Pete" (E.B.) Long is speaker at our 249th meeting on Thursday, March 10. Pete has been one of the most sought after speakers among all the Round Tables and has appeared before many of them. He is a member or honorary member of several, and holds the 1964 Harry S. Truman award of Kansas City CWRT. Pete has been a regular attendant at meetings and has participated in discussions, but this is his first formal speaking in some time.



E. B. (Pete) Long

The gathering is at a new place, the United States Naval armory, at the foot of East Randolph street and Lake Michigan. Cocktails and dinner will be in the officers wardroom. And, take note that the affair has been advanced a day to Thursday.

Pete is going to talk on "A Reappraisal of the Mississippi Valley Campaigns."

"This has evoked considerable discussion elsewhere and I am hoping I will get jumped on a little in Chicago," Pete says. "The emphasis is on the strategic importance of an event rather than the spectacular qualities or whether the casualty lists were large.

"It is an attempt to obtain a new focus on a well-known phase of the war. In doing this we try not just to be different, but to see if our previous appraisals have been correct. I don't think they have been, entirely. We must see history more on a day-to-day basis, and how these events affected the people then. Some of the events I will bring up are as colorful and as exciting as Shiloh or Vicksburg.

"I will also offer some thoughts on the over-all strategy of the war and the 'fortress besieged' theory.

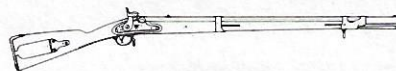
"I am most pleased to be asked to speak to the old campaigners."

Pete's record of participation in the affairs of the Civil War Round Table is almost endless. He was president in 1955-56 and secretary before that. He has served on the board of trustees and on committees.

His first two speaking appearances were with the late Dr. Otto Eisenschiml on "What Kind of Man was Edwin M. Stanton?" (Sept. 30, 1946) and "The Ifs of the Civil War" (Sept. 24, 1948). Pete spoke on "Ulysses S. Grant: The Man Behind the Memoirs" on April 11, 1952. On Feb. 19, 1954, he participated in a symposium as commentator on "Has the Lincoln Theme Been Exhausted? A Reappraisal."

Pete spoke on "Lincoln and Fort Sumter" on Feb. 18, 1957. He was moderator of a panel discussion of "The Importance of the Mississippi Valley in the Civil War" in 1958. He participated in a symposium, "Battlefields of Virginia," April 9, 1960. He was moderator of the "Antietam Free-for-All" on the 12th annual battlefield tour in April, 1962.

Pete is the country's most complete researcher of the



249th REGULAR MEETING

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E. B. (Pete) Long

on

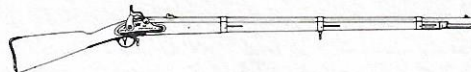
"A Reappraisal of the
Mississippi Valley Campaigns"

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THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1966

U. S. Naval Armory (Wardroom) Cocktails at 5:30

East Randolph at Lake Michigan Dinner at 6:30 p.m.



Civil War. As director of research for Bruce Catton's three-volume Centennial History of the Civil War, Pete collected and arranged more than nine million words of notes. Much of the material was obtained from original manuscripts, diaries, and records. Libraries, universities, and archives visited number more than 125. All major and many minor battlefields were explored.

Pete's published works include research for "The American Iliad" (1946), "As Luck Would Have It" (1947) with Eisenschiml; a new annotated one-volume edition of Grant's "Memoirs" (1952); "The Civil War" Vol. II, with Ralph Newman, later re-edited and issued as "The Civil War Digest" (1960); a new annotated edition of James Ford Rhodes' "The Civil War", and editing new editions of Henderson's "Stonewall Jackson" and DeLeon's "Four Years in Confederate Capitals." Pete has been historical consultant on a number of books and maps.

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While Pete is talking to the regular meeting, his wife, Barbara, will address a meeting of Unauthorized Personnel (heretofore known as Camp Followers) at the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop at 18 East Chestnut street, at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, March 10. Barbara will speak on "It Is No Dream: You and I in the Civil War." She is well qualified because she aided Pete in many of his research expeditions and has been mapmaker for some of his books and others. A buffet supper will be served by volunteers. To make known that you will be present, please call Betsy Davis, 944-5082.

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

18 East Chestnut Street,
Chicago 11, Illinois
Phone: Whitehall 4-3085

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BATTLEFIELD TOUR COMMITTEE: Co-Chairmen: Wilson Smith and Ver Lynn Sprague; Assistant: Charles V. Falkenberg, Jr.; Washington Co-Chairmen: Edward Waterbury and Claire Graham; Assisted by Col. J. Gay Seabourne and Elden E. (Josh) Billings. Liaison Member: Ralph G. Newman. Senior Marshal: Allen Meyer; Assistants Lester Joseph, Richard Cohen, Pete Johnson. Tour Bulletin: Gilbert Twiss. Book List: E. B. (Pete) Long.



ALBERT W. BANTON, who was historian at Vicksburg National Military Park at the time of our visits there has been promoted to superintendent of the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial at Lincoln City, Ind. The memorial has been in the national park system only two years and Al reports that there is a lot of construction - new Visitor Center, exhibit shelter near the Thomas Lincoln cabin site, two new residences, and a new utility area.

CARL LANDRUM, a co-founder and past president of Tri-State CWRT, Quincy, is preparing for publication a book on "Quincy in the Civil War." Next to Cairo, Quincy was Illinois' most important war base, since it was the jumping off place for service in strife-torn Missouri.

Ver Lynn Sprague has been appointed executive director of the Illinois Sesquicentennial Commission to plan and organize the celebration of our state's 150th anniversary of statehood in 1968. He will welcome the suggestions and cooperation of his fellow Round Table members.

The annual Bronze Plaque award of the Lincoln-Civil War Society of Philadelphia went to Dr. Frederick Tilberg, speaker to the group on February 12. The meeting was held at the Ben Franklin hotel, a site Lincoln visited on Feb. 21, 1861.

*from the
Editor's pen*



"I am a Civil War buff just like you are," J. Ambler Johnston told the 81 members and guests at the meeting February 10, then he began a comparison of Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee.

"Grant never left navigable water, thus he had a great advantage over Lee," Ambler said. "Lee and Grant respected each other, they read each other's minds. For 11 months the two great minds were pitted against each other. They were never more than 5 to 25 miles apart.

"Grant had overwhelming force. He had to have to overcome the defense. He had to have more men and he had to lose more men.

"Both Grant and Lee were humble men. Both were noncontentious, but mistreatment of a horse would anger them. The press handled Grant terribly, but he was indifferent to public acclaim. Lee was born to a higher social scale, but not to a higher character. Both had honesty and humility and at heart both were the same.

"Grant's personality turned the victory at Fort Donelson. From the Wilderness to Appomattox the common soldier worshipped Lee. It was not so with the Army of the Potomac and Grant, but it was admitted 'Ulysses doesn't scare worth a damn.

"Lee guessed Grant's movements, but Lee never before had been on the defensive. Not so with Grant. It is hard to see how Lee held out as long as he did. The public has never given Grant full credit for the fact that there was no exultation after the surrender."

When the discussion period was opened, Lloyd Miller said, "That was the greatest eulogy of Grant we have heard."

Ambler's free hand map, from the Rapidan to the James, had been printed by the Louisville CWRT which made copies available to our group to follow the speaker's remarks.

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Ambler presented to Chicago CWRT a tape recording of Dr. Douglas Southall Freeman's address at the McLean House dedication, Appomattox, Va., on April 16, 1950, a narration of Lee's retreat from Petersburg thru the surrender.

Ambler also presented to President Brooks Davis a copy of "Richmond Occupied: Entry of the United States Forces into Richmond, Va., April 3, 1865, calling together of the Virginia Legislature and Revocation of the Same, by (Maj. Gen.) Godfrey Weitzel, edited with an introduction by Louis H. Manarin. The booklet is the last of 21 publications by the Richmond Civil War Centennial Committee, of which Ambler was chairman. He noted that "Like Grant took Richmond," is incorrect, and that Lincoln told Weitzel, the occupier, "Be easy on them."

On the 1963 battlefield tour to Richmond, Chicago CWRT gave \$150 toward restoration of Parker's battery. The "seed money" has grown, Ambler reported. The National Park Service has spent more than \$5,000 on the battery. "You can drive to it now," he said.

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It was announced that August Payne, tape recording librarian, has tapes of meetings ready for lending.

NOTABLE ARTICLES in the February issue of Civil War Times Illustrated are one on the Battle of Perryville by Stanley F. Horn and one on "The Galvanized Yankees" by D. Alexander Brown. Promised for April are a revealing conversation Robert E. Lee had with a Washington College professor and an article on "The Andrews Railroad Raid" by Wilbur G. Kurtz.

Looking Ahead

Arrangements for the 250th regular meeting, April 6, at which Sir Denis Brogan will speak, are steadily going forward. Mal Hoffmann, chairman of the special events committee, announces that the dinner preceding the meeting will be in the Beaubien room of Stouffers' restaurant in Prudential Plaza. Ladies are invited to the dinner and meeting. Cocktails will be at 5:30 and dinner at 6:30 p.m. That will give ample time to reach Chicago Public Library, only a block away, for the speaking at 8. President Brooks Davis announces that Chicago area members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States will be invited to the meeting, though not in co-sponsorship. Tours of the Grand Army of the Republic memorial hall can be made before or after the meeting and afterward the library staff will provide light refreshments. There is ample parking in the neighborhood, in the Grant Park garage and elsewhere, and the library is the hub of all Chicago bus transportation.

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AUCTION DAY for the benefit of the Fellowship Award fund is Saturday, April 30. Co-chairmen Marshall Krolick and Joe Eisendrath announce that the affair will be held in the Furniture Club, on the 17th floor of the Furniture Mart at 666 N. Lake Shore Drive. Ladies are invited, cocktails will be at 6, and dinner at 7 p.m. Then an auctioneer will take over for the evening. There may be some special entertainment.

Members can begin right now planning their donations of books, relics, swords, weapons, minie balls, artifacts and documents of the Civil War. Persons who wish to do so may bring their items to the March meeting and turn them over to Krolick. The Abraham Lincoln Book Shop, 18 East Chestnut Street, also is a depository. In some cases, arrangements will be made for pickups. Informative details will be issued between now and the day of the auction.

From the sale price of every item donated, the Fellowship award fund will get half and the donor half, unless he wants to contribute the whole sum. The sums are tax deductible.

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PLANS for the 16th Annual Battlefield Tour, May 26 to 30, already are well under way in the hands of Co-Chairmen Wilson Smith and Ver Lynn Sprague and Washington Co-Chairmen Ed Waterbury and Claire Graham. Fredericksburg has been dropped from the itinerary and will be given full treatment at a later date.

Wilson Smith has been able to charter the White Sox DC-7 plane. Under the banner of Gen. Abner Doubleday, it will leave Midway airport at 9 a.m. on Thursday, May 26, landing at National airport, Washington, D.C., about 12:30 p.m. The tour will begin immediately with a lunch and then to the battlefields of Balls Bluff, Chantilly, and Leesburg. Dinner will be at the Marriott Twin Bridges motor hotel, headquarters for the tour, and there will be a talk on "Washington in Civil War Time."

For Friday, May 27, Ralph Newman is arranging for a V.I.P. tour of the White House. Then there will be a ceremony at the John A. Rawlins statue, which, believe it or not, has never been dedicated. Lunch is planned in the Senate dining room. The afternoon's tour is of Civil War Washington - the central city, Old Prison museum, the site of Lincoln conspirators' execution, and the Library of Congress. Dinner will be at the Naval museum with a talk on Civil War Arlington and the cemetery.

Saturday, May 28, will be given over to a tour of outlying Washington, the ring of forts, Rock Creek cemetery, and the Soldiers' home, with lunch near that place. There will be a list of side trips and activities for ladies on the tour. Saturday will be a free night for visiting.

Sunday, May 29, 10 a.m., the tour will follow John Wilkes Booth's escape route and an Eastern Shore lunch



Our member Frank Palumbo displaying some items (on table) that he has added to his collection of Civil War artifacts which is on loan to Carthage College, Kenosha, Wis.

Twelve rare items which Frank Palumbo has added to his collection at Carthage College are a Civil War amputation set of surgical instruments, battlefield bleeder tool, U. S. Navy copy powder flask made in 1845, Blakelley quickloader cartridge box for Spencer carbine, a print of the painting "Leaving Home" by the artist Gilbert Gaul, Gen. U. S. Grant-for-President campaign ribbon, cavalry officer's kepi (cap), official war medal presented to a soldier in the 2d Infantry regiment of West Virginia, Pennsylvania volunteers' medal (1863), copper penny minted in 1847, 3-cent silver piece minted in 1851, and fractional currency (10, 15, and 25 cents) used during Civil War. Palumbo spoke at a dinner of the Racine (Wis.) Historical Society on February 10. The Palumbo collection is displayed in the library of Carthage College's new lakeside campus at Kenosha.

NEW YORK CWRT presented its Benjamin Barondess award, for the outstanding contribution to the field of Lincolniana, to Della Crowder Miller for her three-volume "Abraham Lincoln, A Biographic Trilogy in Sonnet Sequence" (Christopher Pub. House). The award is a copy of the Leonard Volk bust of Lincoln and \$100. Honor mention was given to Edward J. Kempf for his three-volume study, "Abraham Lincoln's Philosophy of Common Sense" (N.Y. Academy of Sciences) and to Dorothy Meserve Kunhardt and Philip B. Kunhardt Jr. for their "Twenty Days" (Harper & Row).

C. NORTON OWEN, a CWRT founder, had an exhibit of his collection of historical documents in the rare book room of the library at the University of Illinois, Chicago Circle campus. Owen is a U. of I. graduate. Among items displayed were a letter sent by President Andrew Jackson about a dispute he was having with members of his cabinet, a signed copy of Gen. Robert E. Lee's General Order No. 9 - his farewell to the Confederate army, a piece of the pillow on which President Lincoln died, and a letter written by a Union general as the guns fired on Vicksburg.

in Maryland. Sunday night will be fun night with entertainment.

Monday, May 30, the tour will attend the Memorial Day ceremonies in Arlington Cemetery and then our own ceremony at the grave of Gen. Manus McCloskey. The return flight will depart at 3 p.m. under the banner of Gen. John A. Logan.

In Washington, Jay Seabourne and Col. Josh Billings will be tour guides and aids.

THE NEW BOOKS



LINCOLN'S PREPARATION FOR GREATNESS: The Illinois Legislative Years, by Paul Simon (Oklahoma, 335pp, \$6.95). Lincoln's four terms in the Illinois House. Senator Simon gave an outline of the book in an address to our CWRT's 228th meeting on Feb. 7, 1964.

ZEB VANCE, Champion of Personal Freedom, by Glenn Tucker (Bobbs-Merrill, 564pp, \$8.50). Vance, the wartime governor of North Carolina.

HISTORICAL REGISTER AND DICTIONARY OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY, by Francis B. Heitman (U. of Illinois, 2 Vols, \$20). Register of the army from September, 1799, to March, 1903, reprinted.

BILLY YANK, Soldier of the North, by Howard K. Hayden, illus., by Daniel I. Hennessey (Company of Military Historians, Long Branch, N.J., 52 pp, \$3.95). Basic equipment illustrated and discussed for younger readers.

A WEBFOOT VOLUNTEER: The Diary of William M. Hilleary 1864-1866, edited by Herbert B. Nelson and Preston E. Onstad (Oregon State, Corvallis, \$6). Life in the 1st Oregon Volunteer Infantry and in the Pacific Northwest.

GUNBOATS DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI, by John D. Milligan (United States Naval Institute, Annapolis, Md., 217 pp, \$7.50).

MISSOURI SKETCH BOOK, A Collection of Words and Pictures of the Civil War, compiled, edited and written by Clifton C. Edom (Lucas Bros., Columbia, Mo., 163pp, \$6.95).

AN EPITOME OF MY LIFE, by Major Buck Walton (Friends of the Austin Public Library, Box 2287, Austin, Tex., 78767, 99pp \$5). Tales of the 21st Texas Cavalry.

THE CSS FLORIDA: Her Building and Operations, by Frank Lawrence Owsley, Jr. (U. of Pennsylvania, 208 pp, \$6).

THE NEGRO'S CIVIL WAR: How American Negroes Felt and Acted During the War for the Union, edited by James M. Mc Pherson (Pantheon, 358pp, \$6.95).

SLAVE SONGS OF THE UNITED STATES, edited by Irving Schlein (Oak Publications, New York, 176pp, \$5.95).

LINCOLN'S SECRETARY GOES WEST: Two Reports by John G. Nicolay on Frontier Indian Troubles, 1862, edited by Theodore C. Blegan (Sumac Press, LaCrosse, Wis., 69pp, \$3).

THE KU KLUX KLAN, A Century of Infamy, by William Peirce Randel (Chilton, 300pp, \$5.95).

LINCOLN'S FIRESIDE READING: The Books that Made the Man, by Jack H. Lang (World, \$2.75).

A TREASURY OF LINCOLN QUOTATIONS, compiled by Fred Kerner (Doubleday, \$4.95).

MR. LINCOLN'S WIFE, by Ann Graf Colver (Holt, Rinehart & Winston, \$5.95).

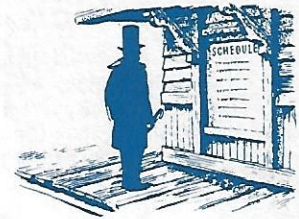
LOUISIANA PAPERBACKS: Origins of the New South, by C. Vann Woodward, \$3.25; **Romance and Realism in Southern Politics**, by T. Harry Williams, \$1.25; **Edmund Ruffin, Southerner, A Study in Secession**, by Avery O. Craven; **Southern Legacy**, by Hodding Carter, \$1.50.

NEW ORLEANS AND THE RAILROADS: The Struggle for Commercial Empire 1830-1860, by Merl E. Reed (Louisiana, 200pp, \$5).

RICHMOND OCCUPIED, by Maj. Gen. Godfrey Weitzel, edited and foreword by Louis H. Manarin (Richmond Civil War Centennial Committee).

CWRT of Colorado (Denver) reports that a Pikes Peak CWRT has been formed in the Colorado Springs area

BULLETIN BOARD



Many National Park Service personnel - superintendents, historians, etc. - are on our mailing list. Sometimes we do not learn of transfers. We will be pleased to hear from any who are transferred and wish to continue receiving the newsletter.

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NEW MEMBERS: George Elrick, 1345 W. Argyle St., Chicago 60640; Edward C. Johnson, 813 Diversey Pkwy., Chicago 60614; Roland D. Persenico, Box 54A, Route 1, Addison, Ill. 60101.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Wednesday, April 6 - Sir Denis Brogan; Program at Chicago Public Library observing Centennial of Grand Army of the Republic.

Saturday, April 30 - Auction of Civil War books and relics, Dinner, Ladies Invited, at Furniture Club.

Friday, May 20 - Robert W. Johannsen, "Stephen A. Douglas and the South."

May 26-30 - CWRT 16th Annual Battlefield Tour, to Washington, Fredericksburg, Va., and Booth's escape route in Maryland.

Friday, June 10 - Frank Vandiver.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Friday, March 25 - Salt Creek CWRT, Glen Ellyn Public library, Ralph G. Newman, "Reading, Writing, and Rebellion."

April 15-16 - Decatur, Ill., Centennial of the founding of the Grand Army of the Republic.

May 13-15 - Illinois State Historical Society at Carmi, Ill.

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AVAILABLE at meetings: Gold filled lapel pin, \$1; Cloth patch of emblem, 50¢; Muster Roll program of 25th Anniversary meeting, \$2 (also by mail).



COL. ALLEN P. (NED) JULIAN of Atlanta joined the CWRT Thursday luncheon group at the Chicago Press Club on February 3 (Joe E. Johnston's birthday). Ned was on his way to speak at the university at Salt Lake City, then to San Francisco and Los Angeles. He will speak on Margaret Mitchell to Madison (Wis.) CWRT on June 16 and the next night to the High Twelve group at the Oak Park Arms in Oak Park.

ELMER BRINKMAN, director of the CWRT Speakers Bureau, reports that information regarding speakers has been sent to all city and county historical societies in Illinois and Michigan. Miner Coburn spoke to a meeting of the New Trier CWRT on February 22. Dr. G. P. Clausius spoke at the Hinsdale Kiwanis Club on February 15. Brinkman addressed the Illinois section of the American Society of Civil Engineers in Chicago on February 11. More dossiers are needed from speaker volunteers. Please send them to the Civil War Round Table, 18 East Chestnut St., Chicago, Ill. 60611.

HARTFORD (Conn.) CWRT changed its lineup of officers to: Company Commander, 1st Lieutenant, and Finance Officer and Adjutant.