

# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XXXIV, Number 1

Chicago, Illinois

September, 1973

## FRANK E. VANDIVER ON JEFFERSON DAVIS



Frank E. Vandiver

Opening our fall season is a speaker who, in the traditional words of introducers "needs no introduction" to the Civil War Round Table. Frank E. Vandiver, our annals record, addressed us December 10, 1946, on "Josiah Gorgas," and at that time he was a very young historian, indeed. We have observed his progress since, recalling Otto Eisenschiml's assessment, "This boy is a comer," and hope we have given him a bit of encouragement along the way, until he has become one of the country's leading Civil War historians and provost of Rice University, Houston, Texas. His subject is

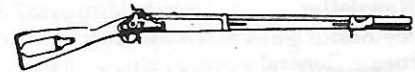
Jefferson Davis at the meeting of Friday, September 14, 1973, at the Chicago Bar Association. We are happy to be able to present a brief biography and bibliography.

Frank Everson Vandiver was born December 9, 1925, in Austin, Texas, the son of Harry Schultz Vandiver, a mathematician, and Maude Everson Vandiver. He was educated at the University of Texas, M.A., 1949; Tulane University, Ph.D., 1951; and Oxford University, Honorary M.A., 1963. He was married to Susie Smith, and they have three children, Nita, Nancy, and Frank Alexander. Their home is at 6134 Chevy Chase, Houston.

He was U.S. Civil Service historian, San Antonio, Tex., 1944-45; Air Force Historian, Montgomery, Ala., 1951-52; instructor of history, Washington University, St. Louis, 1952-53; assistant professor, 1953-55. In 1955 he became assistant professor at Rice University; associate professor, in 1956, and professor of history, 1958. He was Harnsworth Professor of American History at Oxford University, 1963-64, and was named Harris Masterson, Jr. Professor of History at Rice University in 1965; Master of Margaret Root Brown College, 1965-66; Chairman of the Department of History, 1962, 1968-69; acting president of Rice University, 1969-70, and provost since 1970.

He was awarded the Carr P. Collins Prize of Texas Institute of Letters for "Mighty Stonewall," 1958; Harry S. Truman Award, 1966; Jefferson Davis Award of the Confederate Memorial Literary Society, and the Fletcher Pratt Award of the New York Civil War Round Table, both for "Their Tattered Flags," in 1971.

He has been counselor and president of the Texas Institute  
*(continued on page 4)*



323rd REGULAR MEETING

\* \* \*

Frank E. Vandiver  
Rice University, Houston, Texas

on  
Jefferson Davis

\* \* \*

Friday, September 14, 1973

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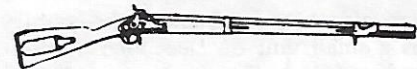
Chicago Bar Association  
29 South LaSalle Street

Cocktails at 5:30 p.m.

Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

\* \* \*

FALL TOUR, to Springfield, Illinois, October 12, 13, and 14.



SEND IN YOUR RESERVATION. The "pay-later" postcards that we have used so long seem to get through the mail at ox-team speed, so we are trying a new system. This time you get an envelope. Insert your reservation, put on a stamp, and send it along NOW by first class mail.

### LINCOLN COUNTRY TOUR

A weekend tour of the Lincoln Country of the Land of Lincoln is scheduled by the Civil War Round Table for  
*(continued on page 4)*



# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

18 East Chestnut Street,  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
Phone: Whitehall 4-3085

## OFFICERS

President	Gordon Whitney
Senior Vice President	Ward Smidl
Vice President	Donald E. Jensen
Vice President	Francis R. Geigle
Secretary	Terry Carr
Treasurer	Gerald Edelstein
Assistant Secretary	Daniel Vetter
Assistant Treasurer	Glen Wiche
Editor of Newsletter	Don Russell
Contributing Editor	Dick Clark
Judge Advocate General	Philip R. Davis
Quizmaster	Marshall Krolick
House Committee	Ray Jankovich and William Sullivan

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES (Executive Committee)

Terms expiring in 1974: Elmer Pendarvis, Edward Johnson, Norman Toberman.

Terms expiring in 1975: Burton Rovens, Robert H. Franke, Myron Cohn.

Founding Newsletter Editor: Gil Twiss, 1954-1968.

## COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Battlefield Tour	Warren Reeder and Gerald Edelstein
Membership and Hospitality	Donald Sikorski, Brooks Davis, Marshall Krolick, Ward Smidl, Dan Vetter
Fellowship	Arnold Alexander, Lloyd Miller
Fall Tour	Arnold Alexander

Membership requirement is an interest in the Civil War and its era. For information address Donald Sikorski, 41 W. 55th Place, Westmont, Ill. 60559, phone 312 WO9-5604.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ours is the oldest Round Table in the country. Like others, it started as a small unit on December 3, 1940, when Ralph Newman and a few buffs sat down and started what was eventually known as the Civil War Round Table of Chicago.

Much has happened through the years and with outstanding leadership, we have achieved the position of No. 1 Round Table.

Different activities have been formulated. The Battlefield Tour became an annual pilgrimage to some famous Civil War conflict. Each year it grows in interest and attendance and this past year we completed our 23rd with our largest crowd of more than 100.

We were the first group to grant college scholarships for outstanding students in American History.

We have not only furthered and established a greater interest in "Our" war, but have created an air of comradeship and fellowship.

*from the  
Editor's pen*



The 322nd regular meeting of June 8, concluding the season, was a special event to which ladies were invited and the annual awards meeting and installation of officers. Past President Dan Lapinski was installation officer as Charles V. Falkenberg, Jr., presented the gavel of office to Gordon Whitney, and other officers, having been duly elected, were introduced. A special award, a plaque depicting the Chicago Zouaves, was sent to J. Ambler Johnston, whose rapid recovery from recent illness had been reported. Ward Smidl and Marshall Krolick received recognition for their superior guidance of the Battlefield Tour. The first annual CWRT award was given to George B. Hartzog, Jr. and at the conclusion of his talk he was presented by Ralph G. Newman with an original letter by General John Charles Fremont, suitably mounted.

Mr. Hartzog's talk on "An Endangered Species: Our Civil War National Parks" pointed to increasing urbanization as the major threat. There are 16 battlefield parks and 20 others related to the Civil War, an example of which is Ford's Theatre. Hartzog credited Ralph Newman with taking a major part in the restoration of the theatre where Lincoln was shot. At the time the battlefield parks were first established no effort was made to obtain more than points of major interest. In most cases the surrounding countryside was much as it had been during the Civil War. But as population has spread out into many of these areas, historic points can no longer be recognized. Stones River, acquired in the 1920s, has been engulfed by urban sprawl; the Wilderness, Fredericksburg, Richmond, Petersburg, Chancellorsville, and Antietam are other examples. Chickamauga is still fairly intact, but Chattanooga has been subject to rapid growth. Gettysburg is subject to many noisy intrusions and unsightly development, including the controversial tower. Hartzog, former director of the National Park Service, noted that no money would be available for purchase of land under present budget procedure until 1974, and then it may be too late—and much more expensive. Dependence has been placed since 1950 on local zoning, but that is no longer adequate and subject to much pressure.

Mr. Hartzog refused reimbursement for expenses, and asked that the sum be considered a contribution to CWRT. It is hoped that a complete text of Mr. Hartzog's talk can be made available to members.



I would like to extend to those members who have not been in attendance lately, a most warm welcome to join us again. An interesting year is planned with two excellent tours scheduled.

I urge all members to look around their communities for new recruits, without which this organization cannot survive. So much depends upon our willingness to bring the work of the Round Table to the attention of others.

Membership applications are available from Don Sikorski, 41 W. 55th Place, Westmont, Ill. WO9-5604 or Gerry Edelstein, 44 Barton, Evanston, Ill. 254-6000 or the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop.

Become involved and support your Round Table. An organization is only as strong as its members.

Gordon Whitney



## JULY 4 IN CENTENNIAL PARK

Newspaper reports covering Independence Day activities in the area failed to mention the picnic in (and around) Centennial Park. The program started at 12 p.m. with a toast to the day. Round Table members Ralph Newman, Arnold Alexander, Dan Weinberg, Brooks Davis; Camp Followers Pat Newman and Betsy Davis; and guests were present. A gourmet picnic followed.

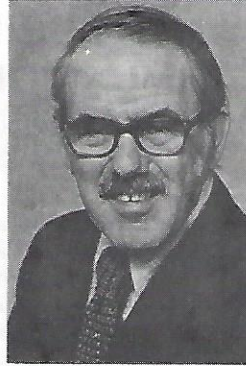
Park size American flags were distributed and the toasts continued. The need for a bit of exercise became apparent, so Betsy Davis led a nature tour of the park, to the amazement of the other eleven in attendance. Brooks Davis then put the day in historical perspective by reading the Gil Twiss account of the formal dedication of the park, October 6, 1965. The immortal ballad "The Biggest Little Park in the World—(Centennial Park on Chestnut Street)", words and music by the likewise immortal Win Stracke was sung to the amazement of pigeons and passersby.

Pat Newman informed the group of the news of a smaller park, but this challenge was quickly refuted by Mr. Newman. Betsy Davis then presented a Perryville award to Mrs. Newman anyway. Mr. Newman gave the patriotic address of the day, somewhat paraphrasing Mr. Lincoln's remarks about Mr. Washington. The group, emotionally overcome, retreated to the Book and Bottle for a game of pool. Said game continued for some time until the participants determined that the sun simply was not going to set and that we had best light sparklers anyway. Toasts were quickly produced and the day's observance was concluded.

### Dr. Mulrooney Recuperating

Dr. Raymond E. Mulrooney, who apparently suffered a stroke, followed by cardiac arrest while on the battlefield tour, is now recuperating at home. Heroic action by Dr. John Margreiter of St. Louis and the CWRT president, Gordon Whitney, saved his life. Surgery was performed at the Hershey Medical Center, when it was discovered that Dr. Mulrooney's illness was caused by pressure on the brain due to a bilateral subdural hematoma. The paralysis which existed is almost entirely gone now and a complete recovery is predicted.

## TO THE CAMP FOLLOWERS (LADIES)



John P. Hunter

One of the most interesting stories of the Civil War will come to light Friday evening September 14th when JOHN PATRICK HUNTER of Madison, Wisconsin, brings to life the famous Frank A. Haskell and his memorable account of the Battle of Gettysburg.

JOHN HUNTER, associate editor of the Madison Capital Times, is one of Wisconsin's best-known reporters and political writers. A World War II war correspondent, Hunter has been a member of the Madison daily since 1951. He has covered Wisconsin politics for more than two decades. A well-known student of the American Civil War, John has served twice as president of the Civil War Round Table of Madison.

This is to be a very, special evening and a program that the women would especially appreciate and enjoy. We would like to see a lot of old and new faces and we're sure you won't be disappointed.

This first meeting of the year will be held at Stauffers Restaurant, 35 East Randolph at Wabash at 5:30 P.M. Call or write to Margaret April 787-1860 or 17 East Chestnut St., 60611. Reservations have to be made by September 5th.

**GETTYSBURG TOUR GROUP AT CARLISLE.** The 23rd Annual Battlefield Tour, designated the Gen. Schimmelfennig Memorial Tour spent three days visiting Gettysburg Battlefield, then took off for Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and the U.S. Army War College. This group lined up in front of a building identified as the Hessian Guard House Museum.

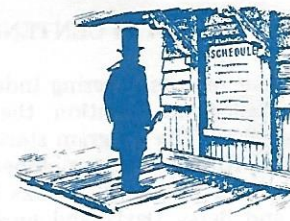






## ORDERS AND AMMUNITION

## BULLETIN BOARD



(continued from page 1)

of Letters; president of the Jefferson Davis Association and chief advisory editor for "The Papers of Jefferson Davis;" and member of the Advisory Council, Department of the Army, Office of the Chief of Military History; and of the American Committee on the History of the Second World War; and Chairman, The U.S. Army Military History Research Collection Advisory Committee.

*WRITINGS: Ploughshares into Swords: Josiah Gorgas and Confederate Ordnance*, University of Texas Press, 1952; *Rebel Brass: The Confederate Command System*, Louisiana State University Press, 1956; *Mighty Stonewall*, McGraw, 1957; *Jubal's Raid: General Early's Famous Attack on Washington in 1864*, McGraw, 1960; *Fields of Glory: A Pictorial Narrative Confederacy*, Van Nostrand, 1962; *John J. Pershing*, *Illustrious Americans Series*, Silver Burdett Company, 1967; *Their Tattered Flags: The Epic of the Confederacy*, Harper's Magazine Press, 1970.

*The First Public War, 1861-65*, Public Relations Foundation Lecture, Houston, 1961; *The Making of a President: Jefferson Davis, 1861*, Centennial Lecture, Virginia Civil War Centennial Commission, Richmond, 1962; *John J. Pershing and the Anatomy of Leadership*, Harmon Memorial Lecture, United States Air Force Academy, 1963; *Jefferson Davis and the Confederate State*, Clarendon Press, 1964; *In Praise of Folly: Oxbridge Against the Brainpickers*, The Philosophical Society of Texas, Dallas, 1966; *The Civil War as an Institutionalizing Force*, (first Walter Prescott Webb Lecture) University of Texas at Arlington, 1966; *That Elusive Civil War* (Keese Lecture) University of Chattanooga, 1967.

*Editor: The Civil War Diary of General Josiah Gorgas*, University of Alabama Press, 1947; *Confederate Blockade-Running Through Bermuda, 1861-1865*, University of Texas Press, 1947; *Proceedings of the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, three volumes, Virginia Historical Society, 1953, 1959; Joseph E. Johnston, *Narrative of Military Operations*, Indiana University Press, 1959; Jubal A. Early, *War Memoirs*, Indiana University Press, 1960; *The Idea of the South*, University of Chicago Press, 1964.

*Contributor: The American Tragedy: The Civil War in Retrospect*, Hampden-Sydney College Press, 1959; *Lincoln for the Ages*, edited by R. G. Newman, Doubleday, 1960. Contributor of articles on the Confederacy and military leaders to *American People's Encyclopedia*, 1952; *Encyclopedia Americana*, 1960, 1963, 1967; *World Book*, 1961; *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 1963; *Encyclopedia of World Biography*, 1972; *Dictionary of American Biography*, 1972. Contributor of more than fifty other articles to historical journals and of more than one hundred book reviews to *New York Times*, *New York Herald Tribune*, *Saturday Review of Literature*, and historical journals. Associate editor, *Journal of Southern History*, 1959-62.

*Work in progress: A biography of General John J. Pershing*, McGraw-Hill; *Battle of the Meuse-Argonne* for the "Great Battles of the World" series, Hanson Baldwin, ed., Lippencott; Editor and the contributor, "Great Wars of History" series, Atheneum Publishers; *The South: An Historiography*, Bobbs-Merrill.

## FUTURE MEETINGS

Regular meetings are held at the Chicago Bar Association, 29 South LaSalle, second Friday in each month except as noted.

September 14: Frank A. Vandiver on Jefferson Davis.

October 12, 13, and 14: Fall tour to Springfield, Illinois.

October 19: Dr. Gerhard Clausius on General Hurlbut.

November 9: Dr. Frank Klement on Copperheadism in the Midwest.

December 14: Phil Hohlweck on Berdan's Sharpshooters.

January 11: Dr. Albert Castel on Guerrilla Warfare in the West.

February 8: Ladies Night, Richard Blake program, "A Look at Lincoln."

March 8: Marshall Krolick on Lee and Longstreet.

April 12: Robert Womack on the Battle of Murfreesboro (not confirmed)

May 2, 3, 4, and 5: Annual Battlefield Tour to Chattanooga and Chickamauga.

May 10: To be scheduled.

June 14: Annual Award Dinner and Installation of Officers; program details to be announced.

Every Monday: Informal noon luncheon meetings at LaSalle Hotel coffee shop; all members invited.

## NEW MEMBERS

Lumir F. Buresh

4817 W. 69th St.

Prairie Village, Kans. 66208

Marvin Sanderman

211 Timberhill Rd.

Buffalo Grove, Ill. 60090

Robert W. Holland

1015 Wilmette Ave.

Wilmette, Ill. 60091

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October 12 to 14, 1973, open to members, their families, and friends. Included will be tours of Lincoln College, Camp Butler, Lincoln's home in Springfield, the Lincoln tomb, the Old State Capitol, Lincoln's Law Office, the Illinois State Historical Library, and New Salem State Park.

The weekend tour opens Friday, October 12, with a cocktail reception hosted by J. Richard Stoltz, president of Lincoln College, Lincoln, Illinois, followed by a Civil War Round Table dinner featuring as speaker Paul Simon, former lieutenant governor.

A tour of Lincoln College on Saturday will be followed by visits to the library, Lincoln Museum and Performing Arts Center, and the site of Camp Butler. Lunch will be at the Mansion View Motel, Springfield, followed by a tour including the Old State Capitol, and Illinois State Historical Library; Lincoln's home; and the Lincoln Law Office. Dinner will be at the Sangamo Club.

On Sunday, after a visit to Lincoln's tomb, there will be a tour of the reconstructed village of New Salem, including a special buffet lunch in the park vicinity. Cost of the tour, including motels, all meals except breakfasts, registration and gratuities is \$50 a person for double occupancy; \$15 additional for single occupancy; \$20 additional for each child under 14 occupying same room. Send in your reservation NOW to Margaret April, phone 787-1860.