

THIS WAS THE CIVIL WAR



HEAVY CASUALTIES — On Sept. 19-20, 1863, pushed back to Chattanooga. Yet it was to be a two tough Western armies fought one of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War—the battle of Chickamauga. It was a confused and bitter fight with heavy casualties on both sides. It ended in a defeat for the North with its arms

The Battle of Chickamauga

By MERTON T. AKERS
UPI Correspondent

Two tough western armies fought one of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War on Sept. 19-20, 1863, along Chickamauga Creek, which the Cherokee Indians called "The River of Death."

It was a confused and bitter fight, this battle of Chickamauga, fought south of Chattanooga, Tenn., in the northern Georgia hills on wooded land broken here and there by farm clearings. The fighting was fierce, casualties heavy. There was gallantry enough for all.

Often it has been called "the soldiers' battle" because it was fought piecemeal in the woods where frequently captains and lieutenants were giving the orders and commanders more often than not were unaware of the position of their own or the enemy's units.

After two days of fighting Chickamauga Creek was indeed "The River of Death."

The battle had its paradox, too.

The Union hero was a Virginian in blue, Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas who had cast his lot with the North at the war's start. The Confederate hero was an Ohioan in gray, Brig. Gen. Bushrod R. Johnson, who had chosen the South.

The battle had been brewing for weeks.

Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans' Federal Army of the Cumberland had maneuvered Gen. Braxton Bragg's Army of Tennessee out of Chattanooga.

Rosecrans nearly had ended up disastrously before Chickamauga by dispersing his force and pursuing a "retreating" Confederate army that wasn't retreating.

On Sept. 18 the armies were poised for battle, the Federals on the west side of Chickamauga Creek, the Confederates on the east.

Figures differ but Bragg outnumbered Rosecrans, one of the few times in the war when the South went into battle with superior numbers. The most authoritative counts give Rosecrans 58,222 effective troops and Bragg 66,526. Part of Bragg's troops came from the Army of Northern Virginia and was commanded by Lt. Gen. James Longstreet, senior corps commander of Gen. Robert E. Lee. Bragg's margin of victory was Longstreet and his troops although only about 5,000 had arrived in time for the battle.

Preliminary fighting began on Sept. 18 when Bragg started pushing his army across the bridges of Chickamauga Creek which was too deep to ford in most places. Federal cavalry opposed the crossings. It was late in the afternoon when the Confederates finally forced Reed's Bridge. Bluecoated cavalrymen repulsed the Confederates at Alexander's Bridge and dismantled it, forcing Bragg's men to use a ford.

The fighting on the 18th was brisk but merely a curtain raiser for the bloody two days to come.

Both sides spent the night of Sept. 18-19 shifting troops. Rosecrans extended his line to the left until it overlapped the Confederate right but neither commander knew the exact po-

sitions of the other's troops. The battle lines were about six miles long.

No Escape From Cove
Bragg's plan was to strike the Federal left wing, roll it back on the center and right, thereby driving the Union army into McLemore's Cove, a valley between Missionary Ridge and Pigeon Mountain. There was no escape from McLemore's Cove. If penned there Rosecrans' army would have to surrender or die.

But on the 19th the Federals attacked first. Thomas, commanding the Union left, early in the morning sent a division to reconnoiter toward Chickamauga Creek where a Confederate brigade was reported to be isolated. First they encountered Gray cavalry fighting dismounted, then infantry.

Instead of a brigade that was supposed to be isolated it turned out to be a division. The Federals hit it on the flank and broke it. The Confederates brought up more men and flanked and broke the Federals in turn.

Rosecrans committed more divisions from the center and right as the pressure increased and the fighting spread along the lines.

By dark every division of the three-corps Federal army had been in the fight. Only two Confederate divisions were not engaged. Two-thirds of Rosecrans' army now had come under the command of Thomas.

The Confederates made some gains that day but took a mauling.

Night came on — an eerie night from eyewitness accounts, with squads tramping in the woods looking for water or wounded comrades. Only starlight came through the holes in the battle smoke and the occasional flash of a gun lighted a clearing fleetingly.

Tomorrow would tell the tale, soldiers told one another as they bedded down. Thomas with an oak tree root for a pillow.

Plans Laid for Fight
About midnight Longstreet arrived and woke up Bragg. They laid plans for the next day's fight. Longstreet would command the left, Lt. Gen. Leonidas Polk, an Episcopal bishop, the right.

The dawn was foggy, some of it battle smoke, some morning mist.

Bragg attacked from his right to left starting about 9 a.m. that Sunday morning.

The first assault hit Thomas. His troops stood and fought but were pressed. He called for more men. Rosecrans ordered up reinforcements.

Here "Old Ross" made a mistake that was to be fatal. Mistakenly, he ordered a brigade commanded by Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood to support another on the left.

He misnamed the brigade to be supported. Wood, taking the order at face value, pulled his brigade out of the line and moved toward the position indicated.

That left a hole in the line. Purely by chance Longstreet chose that moment to attack and at exactly the point vacated by Wood.

Bushrod Johnson led Longstreet's troops in the attack. He found no opposition and broke through. The drive cut the

Army of the Cumberland in two, the right from the left flank.

The Federal right broke and streamed back, the panic snowballing. The Confederates poured in more troops and the Federals on that flank headed back for Chattanooga. That left Thomas isolated on the left and fighting for his life. The breakthrough occurred about noon.

Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger, commanding a small Federal corps held in reserve, heard the firing and concluded Thomas needed help. He marched to the sound of the guns without specific orders and reached the embattled Thomas in the nick of time.

All afternoon Thomas fought off attack after attack — upwards of 25 first and last — with his own troops, Granger's and as many fugitives as he could corral.

Began Orderly Retreat
As the sun was setting he began an orderly retreat back through Rossville Gap and to Chattanooga.

Rosecrans lost control of his army at the breakthrough and rode back to Chattanooga with the fugitives, dazed and defeated, an act that had much to do with his eventually being relieved.

His chief of staff, Maj. Gen. James A. Garfield, a future President, rode back to Thomas after the disaster with Rosecrans' order to withdraw.

Garfield messaged back to Rosecrans.

"Thomas standing like a rock."

Thereafter "Old Pap" Thomas was the "Rock of Chickamauga."

Now that Rosecrans' army was defeated but saved from complete rout by Thomas, Bragg wasted the next day getting reports and salvaging war material.

That delay enabled the Federals to pull into Chattanooga and to strengthen its defenses.

The price of Bragg's victory and Rosecrans' defeat was high. Union casualties were: Killed, 1,657; wounded, 9,976; missing, 4,757; total 16,170. Confederate: Killed, 2,312; wounded, 14,674; missing, 1,468; total 18,454.

Deputy Kills Man To Protect Officer

SEATTLE (UPI)—A King county deputy sheriff shot and killed Robert H. Meligan, 51, Kenmore, with a shotgun Sunday after Meligan drew a bead with a loaded rifle on another deputy.

Officers gave this account of the shooting:

Meligan struck his wife and knocked her unconscious in a garage back of her home, then told his 16-year-old daughter to call the sheriff's office and tell them he had just killed his wife.

The girl did as she was told. Deputies William Jones and Frank Bly answered the call and found Meligan sitting on a bench outside the home. Meligan loaded and cocked his rifle, then advanced toward the two officers.

Meligan forced the two deputies to retreat down the driveway, threatening them with his rifle and swearing. Jones, who had taken cover beside a parked sheriff's car, fired as Meligan raised the rifle to his shoulder and drew a bead on Bly.

Mrs. Meligan, who regained consciousness before the shooting, told officers her husband had been drinking steadily since Friday.

Republican Governors Hold First Meeting

DENVER (UPI)—The Republican Governors Association, a new group dedicated to defeating the Democrats, held its first meeting Saturday with some obvious overtones of presidential politics.

Gov. Nelson Rockefeller of New York was one of the 12 governors attending, and Gov. Paul Fannin of Arizona, a vigorous supporter of Sen. Barry Goldwater, (R-Ariz.), also was there.

MADRID (UPI)—Large sections of Spain's northeast and northwest coasts today cleaned up after a week end of heavy storms that took at least six lives.

Krishna Menon's Return To Oratory Not Impressive

NEW DELHI, India (UPI)—V. K. Krishna Menon, whose sharp tongue once claimed a worldwide audience, came out of enforced obscurity recently to defend his now-tarnished record before Parliament.

He was applauded mildly by his own ruling Congress party, but he was booed by the non-Communist opposition.

The oratory which formerly swayed debates on international issues in the United Nations now made little impact in his own national legislature.

The speech was Menon's first major address before Parliament in nine months — since

he was sacked as defense minister for failing to prepare India against Communist Chinese aggression.

Shrunk in Stature
During those nine months, the veteran, 66-year-old politician and diplomat has shrunk from the strong right-hand of Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru to a small voice on the left in Nehru's Congress party.

The acid phrases which reverberated across the world for years from the United Nations rostrum now are heard mostly at neighborhood political meetings. The ambition which long ago aimed at succeeding

Nehru as prime minister now is reduced to fighting local pre-election elections.

The steep and rapid decline has been a humbling experience for the former international figure who, aloof and proud, snapped at his critics and newsmen and defied American and other Western leaders. Since his decline, Menon has tried to win friends in hopes of organizing the Congress party's left-wing into a potent political force.

Inadequate Military Leader
The immediate reason for Menon's downfall was his in-

adequacy as leader of India's military machine, a position he held for five years. He left his country so vulnerable to attack that Red Chinese troops were able to penetrate far into Indian-claimed territory last fall, creating one of India's gravest crises. The Chinese offensive showed India's armed forces to be ill-equipped and poorly-trained.

Despite a friendship of nearly three decades, Nehru found it necessary to fire Menon last November because of mounting criticism.

Menon fell even more swiftly than he rose. Where he former-

ly commanded attention in the highest circles, his main platform now is his seat in Parliament. He has represented a North Bombay constituency for the last six years.

FASTEST BEER DRINKERS
Baldock, England (UPI)—Mr. and Mrs. Brian Robinson are the fastest beer drinking couple in North Hertfordshire. Robinson won the men's division of a charity beer drinking contest Sunday when he downed three pints in 28 seconds. His wife won the women's division by finishing off a pint in 16 seconds.

Look at these terrific values during SAFEWAY'S First of the week's buys!

<h3 style="margin: 0;">KITCHEN CRAFT FLOUR</h3> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">All-purpose baking flour. The finest! 25-lb. bag.</p> <h1 style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">\$1.79</h1>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">WESSON OIL</h3> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Never covers the flavor of food. So truly light! 38-oz. bottle.</p> <h1 style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">55^c</h1>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">IVORY SOAP</h3> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Pure, mild, personal size Ivory. Baby safe.</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">LIMIT 10</p> <h1 style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">5^c</h1> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Ea.</p>
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Cheese

Safeway. Individually wrapped slices. Swiss, American. 8-oz.

3 FOR \$1

Lunch Bags

Kitchen Craft. So many uses. Pkg. of 50.

2 FOR 49^c

Dry Beans

Great Northern. Let's have baked beans! 4-lb. pkg.

69^c

Coffee

Hills, Folgers, M.J.B.

49^c

SAVE AT SAFEWAY

Biscuits Ballard and Pillsbury 8-oz. Pkg. **2 for 25c**

Margarine Parkay. Spreads smoothly. 1-lb. **29c**

Bleach Snowy, powdered. 16-oz. pkg. **83c**

Bleach Snowy, powdered. 16-oz. Pkg. **59c**

Cat Food Figaro. Red meat tuna. 6-oz. Can **7 for \$1**

Safeway's Own Mild Cure

CORNERED PICNICS

Cry-o-Vac wrapped to protect delicate flavor. Par-boil and bake like ham. Complete instructions on label.

lb. 29^c

Turkey Drumsticks

Plump, meaty. Grade "A"

lb. 39^c

Link Sausage

Pure pork links. Safeway fresh.

lb. 69^c

Boiling Beef

Plate. Full beef nutrition for economy dinner.

lb. 19^c

Short Ribs

Lean beef short ribs. Bake or braise.

lb. 29^c

Cabbage 9^c

Mild flavored cabbage, perfect for slaw.

each

Turkey Drumsticks

Plump, meaty. Grade "A"

lb. 39^c

Link Sausage

Pure pork links. Safeway fresh.

lb. 69^c

Boiling Beef

Plate. Full beef nutrition for economy dinner.

lb. 19^c

Short Ribs

Lean beef short ribs. Bake or braise.

lb. 29^c

Red Delicious Apples

Fancy crisp

5 lbs. \$1

Seedless Grapes

Thompson Sweet

5 lbs. \$1

Romaine Lettuce

or Red. Fresh!

each 10c

SAFEWAY

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SAVE MONEY, BY SAVING GOLD BOND STAMPS

Science Shrinks Piles New Way Without Surgery Stops Itch—Relieves Pain

New York, N. Y. (Special)—For the first time science has found a new healing substance with the astonishing ability to shrink hemorrhoids, stop itching, and relieve pain—without surgery. It was late in the afternoon when the Confederates finally forced Reed's Bridge. Bluecoated cavalrymen repulsed the Confederates at Alexander's Bridge and dismantled it, forcing Bragg's men to use a ford.

The fighting on the 18th was brisk but merely a curtain raiser for the bloody two days to come. Both sides spent the night of Sept. 18-19 shifting troops. Rosecrans extended his line to the left until it overlapped the Confederate right but neither commander knew the exact po-

so through that suffers made astonishing statements like "Piles have ceased to be a problem!" The secret is a new healing substance (Bio-Dyne)—discovery of a world-famous research institute. This substance is now available in suppository or ointment form under the name Preparation 279. At all drug counters.