

# Obituaries

## EZRA JOSEPH WARNER III

Ezra Joseph Warner III, investment broker and biographer of Civil War generals, was born on Independence Day, July 4, 1910, in Lake Forest, Illinois. His parents were Ezra Joseph and Marion Aline (Hall) Warner. For preparatory school Warner went to Hotchkiss, graduating with the Class of 1928. He thereupon went to Yale with the Class of 1932, but did not graduate.

After college Warner entered business and his business life took him eventually across the country. For a time he was a banker in Chicago. Later he became a rancher in New Mexico and Arizona. When he reported for his twentieth-anniversary book at Yale, he was president of International Investment Co., Inc., of Douglas, Arizona. Five years later, for the twenty-fifth year directory, he noted that he was a representative for the brokerage house of Shearson, Hammill & Co. in La Jolla, California. He retired from active participation in business in 1968.

There was a scholarly side to Warner as well, one that caused him to delve deeply into the primary and secondary sources relating to the American Civil War. Such a topic of interest certainly befitted the descendant of a general on the Union Side of that conflict (General James Meech Warner), but it was on the lives of the Confederate generals that Warner initially focused his attention. Reading Douglas Southall Freeman's *Lee's Lieutenants* first stimulated his interest. After some desultory research, Warner was struck by the paucity and unreliability of much of the biographical information on the southern commanders. Ralph Newman, the Chicago book dealer and appraiser and a personal friend,

encouraged him in his work and he began it in earnest in 1951.

The major result of these labors was a book published by the Louisiana State University Press in 1959, *Generals in Gray: Lives of the Confederate Commanders*. The book was a biographical directory of the 425 officers who held brigade rank or better in the army of the Confederacy. In addition to bringing together from many different sources vital facts on the lives of the generals concisely and accurately, the author performed a great service by finding and including in virtually every case a photographic portrait of the subject.

Warner's *Generals in Blue: Lives of the Union Commanders* followed six years after the Confederate volume and included sketches of 583 Union generals. Warner also contributed numerous articles on Civil War subjects to magazines and newspapers and was a collaborator on a biographical register of the Confederate congressmen, to be published.

Warner was elected to membership in the American Antiquarian Society at the April 1965 meeting. His second cousin, Paris Fletcher of Worcester, had become a member three years before. Warner never attended any meetings of the Society, but did contribute money and advice on prospective members.

Ezra Joseph Warner III died in Solana Beach, California, on May 30, 1974. He is survived by his second wife, Dorothy Purviance Warner, whom he married in 1938 (having been divorced from his first wife, the former Rosamond Moore), a son Ezra Joseph Warner IV, and two grandchildren.

John B. Hench

#### HENRY JOEL CADBURY

Henry Joel Cadbury, biblical scholar, Quaker historian, and, on behalf of the American Friends Service Committee, recipient of the 1947 Nobel Peace Prize, was born December 1,

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