

The Masonic Philatelist

PUBLISHED BY THE MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK



VOL. V No. 1 May - June 1948

Beginning our fifth year



This issue begins the fifth year of publication of the Masonic Philatelist. Actually we began with with a mimeographed sheet in March 1944. April saw another mimeographed sheet. Then for May we adopted the photo-offset method and used the name MasonicPhilatelest, which was suggested by Carl Pelander.

Since that time we feel that we have made some progress. We haven't come out each month, much as we would like to. But for one reason or another, we managed to miss an issue here and there. On the whole, though, we have been rather consistent.

The fact that we have lasted as long as we have, is some indication that our efforts have been successful. This we attribute in a great measure to the constant guidance of Harry M. Konwiser, who, though his name does not appear on the masthead, is the real inspiration of the makers of the paper. We thank for his ready advice and assistance. To all those who have assisted with articles, stories, pictures, and news items, our gratitude and thanks. We hope many more join the ranks of contributors in future issues.

---Sam Brooks

• Meetings •

FIRST AND LAST FRIDAY EACH MONTH - COLLECTORS CLUB BLDG., 22 E. 35th Street

JUNE 25 ANNUAL MEETING

**Election of Board of Governors and Officers
Reports of Committees and Treasurer**

THE MASONIC PHILATELIST

COMMITTEES

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of
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New York 52, N. Y.

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Arthur W. Deas	1934-38	Carl Pelander	1941-43
Ralph A. Barry*	1938-39	George Camnitzer	1943-45
Henry W. Holcombe	1939-41	Sam Brooks	1945-46

(* deceased)

The photos on the opposite page were taken by Dr. George Camnitzer during our dinner on May 7th.

In the upper picture, reading from the left, we find-- Harry Lindquist, Past Grand Master Charles Johnson, Jacob Glaser, our guest of honor Theodore Steinway, Richard Bohn, Arthur Deas, And in the foreground, Frank Bruns.

In the second photo, Sam Brooks, Madame Litska, a guest, Bert Ehrenberg, and Richard Bohn.

Number three, facing the camera, Sam Brooks, Irwin Yarry, Carl Pelander, Clarence Brazier, and standing, Henry Friedman.

The lower picture, Sidney Barrett, Mr. Steinway, Ferrars Tows, Harry Lindquist, Charlie Johnson, and Jake Glaser.



MASONIC STAMP CLUB - May 7, 1948

HONG KONG USED IN TREATY PORTS

by Irwin M. Yarry

The study of postal markings has been receiving its due rewards to the followers of this cult. For the collector of mint stamps beauty is its own reward, but for the more adventurous, cancelled stamps reveal the living purpose for which stamps were actually invented.

Postmarks of Hong Kong supplies an interesting study; for their use outside the colony, puts them in a class with used abroads. From almost the time when the first postage stamp saw the light of day, the colony of Hong Kong was acquired. In 1842, by the Treaty of Nanking, other ports at Amoy, Canton, Foochow, Ningpo and Shanghai were opened for trade and consular offices were designated to each of these ports. The mail boats left from Hong Kong for Europe and all mail was sent from these offices to Hong Kong. On April 16, 1844 a government notice decreed that official postal agencies be opened at these above mentioned ports and the postal fees charged for transmission to Hong Kong. This was the stampless period of which several known marking, i.e. crown circle "Paid at Hong Kong"; circular date stamps "Hong Kong Paid", "Amoy Paid", "Shanghai Paid", "Canton Paid" and several seal types and others are known. All are in red.

Up to 1861, Hong Kong was only a military post office but with the addition of the Kowloon peninsula, it came under the colonial office. Postage stamps came into use on Dec. 8, 1862 by which time there were nine Treaty Port offices and an agency at Macao. All these, namely Amoy, Canton, Foochow, Shanghai, Swatow, Ningpo, Whampoa, Nagasaki and Yokohama used Hong Kong stamps which were cancelled on arrival in Hong Kong with B62 canceller. Since Amoy and Shanghai had cancellers, they were often "precanceled" at these ports and then cancelled again at Hong Kong. This method was unique if not costly to the government, tho the bags were sealed many letters arrived at ship time and remained loose and were pilfered. The Postmaster at Hong Kong

TREATY PORT CANCELLATIONS
ON HONG KONG STAMPS



CANTON



FOOCHOW



SWATOW



AMOY



SHANGHAI



YOKOHAMA



NINGPO



NAGASAKI



AMOY



HOI HOW
KIUNGCHOW



HANKOW



KOBE-HIOGA

requested of the General Post Office in London, a series of obliterations for each of the ports, which was later (1866) supplied for these offices together with a circular date stamp with name of treaty port. The obliterations were used to cancel the stamp, the date stamp was used on some other part of the letter. These obliterations or killers are recognized for each port as follows--A1 (Amoy) C1 (Canton); F1 (Foochow); S1 (Shanghai); S2 (Swatow); N1 (Ningpo); N2 (Nagasaki); Y1 (Yokohama); M1 (Macao) unknown.

In 1879, four new killers, D27 (Amoy); D28 (Kiungchow); D29 (Hankow); D30 (Kobe, Hioga) were put in use. The D30 is extremely rare for in the same year all Japanese offices were closed and its short life accounts for its extreme rarity. All killers were discontinued in 1885. The early ones were cancelled with blue, later in black. The circular date stamp is always in black.

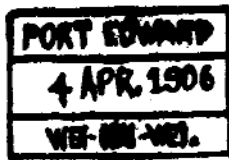
An unusual type is a rectangular rubber stamp in violet for Port Edward which was opened in Wei Hei Wei on Sept. 1, 1899. It's extremely scarce on Edward VII, but on Queen's heads it's of extreme rarity. The island of Liu Kung Tan also was opened for postal business at this time. These are in one area with two separate offices leased from China for 100 years.

From 1885 onwards we have the regular date stamp with name of port, used for cancelling the stamps and the types are too numerous to mention, altho they follow a set pattern of uniformity for each port. Some of the later offices were opened at Chefoo (1903); Tienstin (1906).

In 1917 the stamps sold in treaty ports were overprinted "China" and on November 30, 1922 all offices in China were closed with the exception of Wei Hei Wei which continued until 1930.

The stamps of Hong Kong are often found with other markings but these are all transit markings with the exception of Bangkok and Macao, which had a British port office up to 1885. They include French Paquetbots, Singapore, San Francisco, Manila, etc.

CONTINUED



TYPES OF DATE STAMPS FOUND ON
HONG KONG STAMPS USED IN TREATY PORTS.

In my own collection, I have examples of practically all these types and have found thru many years of intensive search, a vast field for further study of these interesting cancellations. There are no new types to befuddle and confuse, since all these offices are now a closed book and what new discoveries are made are all within the reach of those who are willing to search for them.

The relative scarcity of these cancellations can be worked out for different stamps issued at times when these cancellers came into use and their discontinuance, the amount of postal business transacted at each office, etc. Each stamp used is another variety and you can build up a collection to your own desires. Good hunting.

THE important role which Benjamin Franklin played during the American Revolution has at long last been recognized by the U. S. Government in the minting of the new fifty cent piece bearing the patriot's likeness.

It is altogether right and fitting that the patron-saint of this old Society should be brought out of honored retirement to play such a prominent part in the drama of everyday life. In addition to Franklin's wise and kindly features on the face of the coin, the reverse side contains an impressive representation of another "great" of American history — The Liberty Bell. Coinage of half dollars of the old design introduced in 1916 has been stopped at all mints.

Nellie Tayloe Ross, Director of the Mint, envisaged several years ago a new half dollar honoring Franklin and the Liberty Bell. The 1916 design became eligible for replacement in 1941, under the law authorizing changes in the design of a coin of regular issue not oftener than every 25 years. The late John R. Sinnock, Engraver of the Mint, was

the artist who gave the idea sculptural form.

For the obverse of the design Mr. Sinnock used a composite study of Franklin's face in full profile. The study was prepared from a variety of portraits of Franklin. It is a slight modification of a Franklin profile used for a medal issued by the Mint in 1933.

Franklin joins a very select company in that only four persons before him have had their portraits chosen for use on coins of regular issue of the Federal Government. Lincoln's head appears on the one cent piece of 1909, Jefferson's on the nickel of 1938, Washington's on the quarter of 1932 and Franklin D. Roosevelt's on the dime of 1946. Faces used on all other regular issue coins have been either portraits of Liberty or of the American Indian.

Ben Franklin was many things to many men, but he never lost an opportunity to preach the virtues of thrift. His face on the new half dollar serves as a potent reminder that thrifty financial management is as important to individuals and to society today as it was in Franklin's time.

More than 150 years ago, the father of thrift said, "A penny saved is a penny earned." Coins of small denomination played a far more significant role in colonial times. During the past few generations, the value of the penny has been constantly shrinking. Were Franklin alive today he would probably revise his maxim to read, "A dollar saved is a dollar earned."

Courtesy of

THE FRANKLIN SOCIETY
FOR HOME BUILDING AND SAVINGS
217 BROADWAY, NEW YORK 7, N. Y.



Obverse and reverse of the new Franklin coins.

Some information concerning the Anti-Masonic Party mentioned in the December "Philatelist."

by John A. Mirt

The following is an excerpt from my chapter on Andrew Jackson. (a Tennessee P.G.M.):

Jackson, by his outspoken opposition to protective tariff, became to be looked upon as a man of the people. He headed a Democratic movement and in 1828 was elected president through the combined support of the West and the South. Four years later he was re-elected by a greater majority. That victory was doubly pleasing to Masons. The Anti-Masonic Party, which had been growing in power, especially in New York, in a nominating convention in Philadelphia had named a candidate for the presidency. The Anti-Masonic candidate (William Wirt) received seven electoral votes to 219 Jackson. Sixty-two votes went to other candidates. The decisive defeat of the party ended its efforts to become a national influence and led to its gradual elimination in state politics.

All his life a fighter, Jackson in his administration of the presidency clashed frequently. This was explained by his firmness against the rise of moneyed interests. His hostility toward aristocracy gave rise to the term "Jacksonian Democracy." When he retired from the White House in 1837, his popularity was undiminished.

I might add to the foregoing that Anti-Masonic Party came into being in 1827, a year after the alleged William Morgan episode. Its object was opposition to the election of any Mason to office. It polled a strong vote in New York in 1830 and a year later the Philadelphia nominating convention was held.

After the party's defeat in the 1836 national election it continued to exercise some influence in state elections for about four years. Thereafter, it gradually disappeared from the picture.

While the Anti-Masonic Party as such gradually passed out of the political picture after the bad defeat of its presidential candidate in 1832 (Wirt incidentally was reported to have been a Mason at one time), some of its leaders continued in the limelight.

One of the most rabid "antis" was Thaddeus Stevens of Gettysburg, Pa., who led the movement in his home state. In one of his speeches he called the Grand Lodge "a chartered iniquity, within whose jaws are crushed the bones of immortal men, and whose mouth is continuously reeking with human blood, and spitting forth human gore." He called Masons a "feeble band of lonely reptiles" who shunned the light to perform their "blasphemies."

Stevens served in the Pennsylvania Legislature and in 1849 was elected to Congress for a four-year term. He was elected again in 1859 and served until his death in 1868.

Boss of the Republican House of Representatives, Stevens was a most bitter enemy of the beaten South. He demanded the South be carved up, land divided up and the leaders of the sedition movement punished mercilessly, this to include their families. Radical Republicans of the same mind swept into office in the Congressional elections of 1866.

When Masonic Andrew Johnson, who had become President on the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, attempted to carry out Lincoln's plan for restoration of the South, he ran into a hostile Congress. Johnson vetoed the first Reconstruction Act passed by Congress, but it was passed over his veto. He likewise vetoed other measures, including one which forbade him to dismiss his cabinet members, only to have the measures passed over his veto.

Notwithstanding the ban on dismissal, Johnson proceeded to oust Edwin Stanton, Secretary of War, who had been a virtual dictator following the death of Lincoln. This move was seized upon by Stevens, in the middle 70s and weak, to start

impeachment proceedings against the president. Following a trial marked by bitterness, Johnson was acquitted when his opponents fell one vote short of obtaining the necessary two-thirds for conviction.

Radical rule had hit its high water mark and thereafter more sanity developed. It also is noteworthy that the United States Supreme Court years later in another case upheld the right of a President to dismiss a cabinet member, thus vindicating the action of President Johnson.

The Tennessee-born Johnson, whose undying loyalty to the Union during the Civil War earned for him the honor of being running mate with Abraham Lincoln in the latter's campaign for re-election, never could show vindictiveness toward the South. This position, along with the fact that he was a Mason, drew the ire of the anti-Mason, Thaddeus Stevens.

Brazil in 1909 in commemoration of the Pan-American Congress issued a 200r deep blue stamp, picturing six outstanding "Liberators." Four of these were Masons: George Washington of the United States; Bernardo O'Higgins of Chile; Jose de San Martin of Argentina, and Simon Bolivar, whose leadership in a struggle against the Spaniards removed the yoke from five South American countries

--John A. Mirt

Ferrest L. Ellis sent a copy of the March-April issue to Brother George Weed, Secretary of Ansanatawae Lodge No. 89, Milford Conn. Under date of May 28th, Brother writes as follows:

" The Masonic Philatelist received and its contents are very interesting , but I do not beleive the post marking on the illustration on page 21 can be construed as being Masonic. In the years 1861-1866 Thomas Cornwall was Post-Master in Milford, and he was NOT a Mason. I think you will find that this is a letter C not a letter G. Never the less the whole thing proved very educational to me and I will pass the book on to another Brother who is a Philatelist."

STAMPS AT AUCTION

by Harry M. Konwiser

Supplementing the notes on Auctions, by Dr. Irwin Yarry, in *The Masonic Philatelist*, December 1945, it might be said that "condition" was not important in the 1870's when the late John W Scott (Father of American Philately) originated the auction route for selling stamps to collectors.

According to Walter S. Scott, son of the first Scott in stamps, who came to this country of opportunity, during the Civil War period, bringing his stamp collection and his stock of stamps, John Walter Scott started his business in Liberty Street, near the New York Post Office. The idea of holding public auctions occurred about 1870, but as the New York market was "thin" Scott decided to assemble a collection and offer same at London. (See Yarry story for details).

In the early days collectors were not much concerned about condition and words and terms used today, such as "fine," "very fine," "original gum," "centering," "thin spot," "cut into at right," etc., were not considered of sufficient importance to warrant mentioning. The auction catalogs of the period were hastily prepared, according to modern standards, and the descriptions were meagre.

Walter S. Scott, now retired from active participation in the stamp field, told this writer, some time ago, that the first really important collection to come on the American market was in 1893, at which time Francis De Coppet decided to sell his world-famous collection of the stamps of the western hemisphere.

The De Coppet sale realized more than \$20,000, and (according to Walter Scott) the amount realized was converted into a seat on the New York Stock Exchange for his son, Casimir De Coppet. Among the items sold was a copy of the British Guiana 2-cent rose which brought \$1,010. The same stamp, offered ten years later brought \$1,700.

The stamp auction business was brought to a high

standard of ethical conduct by the late Julius C. Morgenthau. All who knew the late J. C. agree that his auction practices - over a 25-year period--did a great deal to make American Philately what it is today. -----

An interesting letter from Brother J. ALLEN CABANISS, Grand Historian of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi about John Mirt's article on the new Mississippi stamp.

I have your letter and enclosure of April 28, 1948. It was very pleasant to hear from you about the Masonic Stamp Club -- thank you very much. I am grateful for your kind remark about my article in the Transactions of the American Lodge of Research. In regard to my lack of reference to Governor Sargent in connection with Freemasonry in Mississippi, I may make the following statement. First, the Lodge was established after Governor Sargent had been superseded by Governor Claiborne. The authorization for the Lodge came in October 1801, but the first meeting was not held until March 1802. Secondly, Governor Sargent was not liked by the people and apparently made no attempt to make himself popular. On the other hand, Governor Claiborne did the opposite. For instance, Governor Claiborne made frequent visits to the Lodge during the period I was dealing with, while there is no reference to Sargent's having visited even once. So I came to the conclusion that Sargent had no hand in "The Beginnings of Masonry in Mississippi."

As you will note, I am now Associate Professor of History at the University of Mississippi. I am in the process of finishing a history of the University for our forth-coming centennial celebration. It may interest you to know that our seal is the emblem of the All-seeing Eye and was probably suggested by Grand Master John A. Quitman.

Brother Francis A. Coleman has moved to Flushing. He regrets his inability to attend meetings but sends kindest thoughts and best wishes to all. Brother Coleman writes: "I enjoy reading the issues of the Masonic Philatelist. Much thanks is due for the untiring efforts of those who contribute their time and knowledge to make the issues what they are..Grand!" Thank you, Francis.

Last summer, Bro. Curran, publisher of the Collector's Bulletin, printed a notice that the Masonic Stamp Club was interested in information about early Pacific-coast Postmasters who were Freemasons. We received several interesting letters, from one of which we quote.

This was written by Mrs. Lorna Smith of Glendale, California, who's father, George Dyart, was a Mason for over 55 years in Washington State, a 32nd degree Mason and a Shriner.

Thank you, Mrs. Smith. Perhaps some of our members can elaborate on the above information.

"I read the notice in the July-August Collector's Bulletin, and went down to the Los Angeles Public Library, yesterday, to find out what I could for you.

They have volumes listing the early Postmaster, but whether or not they are Masons is a problem rather beyond me, unless I know the names of early Masons. I found the names of a few early Masons, in various volumes on Freemasonry, in the California History Dept. These rare old volumes had some interesting stories and tributes to Masonry.

I found an interesting biography on Col. Geary. I am wondering if you know all of this, or if this is the sort of material you wish.

JOHN WHITE GEARY--Born in Westmoreland County, Pa. (1819--1873) Taught school to support his widow mother. Specialized in mathematics in college, became Civil engineer. Capt. in "American Highlanders" in 2nd Rennysylvania Regiment. Almost unanimously elected Lt. Col. on death of Col. Roberts, Geary elected by more than 2/3 majority to Colonel. Wounded at Chapultepec. Marched with whole regiment 3000 miles from Mexico City to Pittsburgh, at close of war.

Appointed by President Polk to be Postmaster of San Francisco, "with powers to create post offices appoint post-masters, establish mail routes, and

make contracts for carrying the mails throughout California." The first postoffice, on corner of Montgomery and Washington Sts. was an 8 x 10 room-No boxes. Lines drawn on floor. Assistants received \$16 a day. Not long until postal arrangements were very complete. On appointment of Col. Bryan as Postmaster, Col. Geary stepped out at once. Was elected first Mayor of San Francisco. Established or helped establish Masonic Society--of which he was Jr. Warden, Oct. 1849. President of both City and State Boards of Health because of his work in improving health conditions in San Francisco.

On his way to San Francisco after his appointment by President Polk, he was delayed 26 days at City of Panama. Found people there dejected and conditions bad. Organized first Masonic Society and presided over it while waiting for his boat.

Notes from ANNALS OF SAN FRANCISCO by
Frank Soule, John H. Gehon, M.D. and
James Nisbet.

This volume published MDCCCLV--(I believe that is 1855)

There are interesting and touching stories in rare old volumes, on the part Freemasonry played in the settlement of California, in the California History Dept. of the L.A. Public Library.

Colonel Benedict was Postmaster of the Centralia Washington Postoffice in my early childhood, until President Wilson was elected. Col. Benedict a Mason, was wounded in Civil War. His son, John Benedict lives in Centralia, Washington, and could give you data about him, but of course that is not prior to 1865 as you requested."

Brother William C. Workman of Vacouver, B.C. sends heartiest wishes for the continued success of the Club. He adds that he is contemplating moving to the sunny clime of California.

Paul Jensen of Aruba N.W.I. sends his regards to all the members of the Club. We miss you, Paul. When do you get your next leave?

DINNER IS HUGE SUCCESS

Without any doubt whatsoever the 14th Anniversary Dinner of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York, held on Friday evening May 7, 1948 at the Masonic Club, 23rd Street and Sixth Avenue, New York City, was the best ever. This was the Consensus of all those present, among whom were a very large number of charter members and other members of long standing. Several of the brothers who have been coming to these dinners for many years were most enthusiastic and added that there have been some real good dinners in the past, too.

We were honored by the presence of M.W. Charles H. Johnson, Secretary-Emeritus of the Grand Lodge of The State of New York, who has received many Masonic and civic honors during an active career in addition to being an enthusiastic collector and long-standing officer of the club. Other distinguished members present were R.W. Ferrars H. Tows, R. W. Henry W. Holcombe, past president of the Masonic Stamp Club, and Bro. Harry L. Lindquist, publisher of Stamps, president of CIPEX last year and a luminary in the philatelic world.

Theodore E. Steinway, one of the world's outstanding philatelists, was the guest speaker and entertained the members in his own inimitable manner.

Bro. Franklin R. Bruns Jr., active member of the club and Stamp Editor of The New York Sun, had as his guests several visitors from Gramatan Lodge No. 927. These gentlemen were W. Lester Stoothoff, W. Mont Mathes, former president of the Mount Vernon Stamp Club, and Bro. Arthur Zimmerman.

Our President, Jacob Glaser, was master of ceremonies and presided over the festivities in his usual jovial manner. In addition, the following past presidents enlivened the party with their presence: Brothers Arthur W. Deas, George Camnitzer, Carl E. Pelander and Sam Brooks as well as Henry Holcombe, mentioned previously.

There were a surprising number of members from out-of-town including Brothers Marcus H. White (Worcester, Mass.), Lucius H. Williams (Hartford, Conn.), Richard Dehlem (Dover, N. J.), Louis F. Biehle (Norristown, Pa.), A. Wesley Zollers (Collegeville, Pa.), Herman Hirst (Shrub Oak, NY), J.E. Stockton Jr. (Philadelphia, Pa.), William Schumacher (Nyack, N. Y.), H. L. DeVall (New Brunswick, N. J.) and Charles H Copestake (Schenectady, N. Y.) Bro. Copestake presented everyone with an attractive cacheted cover commemorating the Centenary of Schenectady. It was sponsored by the Women's Stamp Club of Schenectady and in honor of our 14th Anniversary Dinner it bore a neat Masonic cancellation. It is a very nice cover and our appreciation was given to Bro. Copestake by President Glaser.

By a happy coincidence May 7 was Bro. Bert Ehrenberg's birthday so quite appropriately a cake, replete with lighted candles and all, was presented to him to his obvious surprise and pleasure. Bert was 66 years old (at least that is what he said). May you have many more happy birthdays, Bert.

Highlight of the evening was the superb entertainment furnished by Madame Litska Raymond. This attractive and versatile young lady was a prestidigitator (magician to you, bub) and an accomplished musician. First, she completely fooled several of the brothers with her magic and then soothed them with excellent renditions of several types of harps.

The Committee who had charge of the arrangements for the dinner and the entertainment, are due a large bunch of orchids for the excellent job they did. The dinner was splendid, the souvenirs were very handsome and useful and the program left nothing to be desired. All in all, it was a memorable night and a credit to the Masonic Stamp Club.

-- Carl Pihl

~~THE REVUE REPORTER~~ at our Dinner---

GEORGE WRAY busy making new contacts for additions to his U.S. cancellation collection. Hope you get some new ones.

CHARLES E. FISH met some old friends and had a good time before, during and after the dinner.

LOUIS F. BIEHL and A. WESLEY ZOLLERS, both Pennsylvanians, made the long trip to the big city and had a great time visiting with us. Hope to meet you at a meeting sometime, Boys.

JOHN FOX of Floral Park and Nassau Street, was much in evidence. This popular gentleman has a host of friends and made a welcome addition to several conversation groups.

FRED KOHN told us he liked the coffee. No wonder. Fred is president of the Old Dutch Coffee Company and supplies all the coffee served at the Masonic Club.

For a good story at any time, listen to SIDNEY BARRETT. He managed to keep his end of the table in good spirits the entire evening. It's to see Sidney at meetings or at social affairs.

Speaking of stories-- RICHARD BOHN, one of our Governors who also doubles as president of the Collectors Club, told a few tall ones that were beauties. Dick is right at home when with us, and he is easy to listen to.

MARCUS WHITE of Worcester, made the dinner on his way to Havana for a well earned rest. Both he and LUCIUS WILLIAMS of Hartford had a ride in the subway on the way to the Masonic Club, as guests of CARL PELANDER, for the nickel ride. They said they liked it. Carl loves to show the town to the "Visiting Firemen".

BOB PECH was telling various groups about our annual Picnic in August. He'll write you soon and tell you all about it.

FRANK BRUNS, Stamp Editor of the New York Sun, brought guests from his home-town Lodge. Frank is working hard preparing to grace the East very soon. We'll be there, Frank.

One of our new members, ASHER KLEINMAN, has not attended a meeting as yet, but we have no doubt he'll be with us soon. He said he had a fine time.

Several D.D.S.'s were in evidence. HARRY POPKIN, GEORGE CAMNITZER, and OSCAR WINKELSTEIN, didn't have a chance to discuss molars or plates. They were too busy enjoying themselves. Especially Dr. Camnitzer, who kept busy snapping pictures of various groups.

Cops: missed IRWIN YARRY in the Dentists group. Our busy Secretary was pinch-hitting for HARROLD MATTERS who left early because of a death in his family. Harold did everything possible to assure the success of the dinner. Our sympathy goes out to you and your family, Harold.

We finally had the pleasure of meeting H.L. DeVALL of New Brunswick. Brother DeVall would like to visit us oftener, but in his home town they take in the sidewalks early, and he can't make train or bus connections.

Daddy RICHARD POLLICK was with us and reported that the new Baby is a dear. You ought to see that big smile when you ask him about Junior.

HENRY WEIDEMAN of Lenox, Mass., couldn't miss the dinner. Henry gave up the dust of the city recently, and now operates a Motel near Lenox. Look him up if you're up that way.

CHARLES COPESTAKE came all the way from Schenectady and had some gifts for us all. He presented cacheted covers of the Schenectady Centennial. It was nice to meet you, Charles, and we hope to see you again soon.

HERMAN HERST the Squire of Shrub Oak, was around with his big smile. Say Pat, Why do they call you Pat?

CARL PIHL and ARTHUR HEIM represented that thriving community of Albertson, N.Y. Always meant to ask where that town is.

One end of the Guest's table was graced by that gentleman of philately, the Founder of the Club and our first president, ARTHUR DEAS. Arthur doesn't get around much these days, but he keeps very busy at home. His present project is a collection of Washingtoniana on picture post-cards. He'll present it to the George Washington Shrine at Tappan, when completed.

BERT EHRENBERG was surprised with a nice birthday cake. He also assisted Madame Liska, the magician, with several tricks Good Luck: Bert.

ROGER SEEBE the envelope collector had a real nice chat with Marcus White. Two good Boys in their line or any line.

Another envelope collector present was **FORREST ELLIS** who just completed a fine study of the U.S. Columbian envelopes. This article has just been published as the feature article of the new "Stamp Specialist" by **HARRY LINDQUIST**. Harry, by the way, made a plea for support of the stamp club at the Masonic Home, Utica, N.Y. This project deserves the support of all of us.

CLARENCE BRAZER of our Club and "Who's Who", was busy getting delegates to the convention of the Essay Proof Society.

In the past-presidents corner was **HENRY HOLCOMBE**. We don't see enough of this amiable fellow, but he's a real busy man. Hope to see you at our Annual Meeting, Henry. **AND YOU TOO.**

A fellow by the name of **KONWISER**, HMK to you, was busy greeting the out-of towners. What a lot of friends this fellow has. Bet his stamp bill keeps the P.O. Dept in the black. He knows everyone in the stamp field.

HENRY FRIEDMAN of Seychelles fame was an early arrival and had a good chin-fest with a lot of the Boys.

FERRARS TOWS was assisting Past Grand Master **CHARLES JOHNSON** in shaping up his speech of the evening. These two 33rd degree gentlemen are grand to have at a party. Both loyal members are with us at every opportunity.

MORRIS STRAUSS was asking for an introduction to the guest of honor, Mr. Theodore Steinway, so that he could his collection of music stamps.

EMMANUEL REGGEL was showing a new acquisition. He had a first edition volume of a Dickens book. Manny collects them as well as stamps. Expensive hobby, isn't it?

CHARLES BROOKS is in training to audit the Treasurers books for the annual report. You're looking fine Charles.

RICHARD DAHLEM of Dover, N.J. made this his first visit since Cipex. We miss you Dick.

E. MILNOR PECK the Fleetwood cover man, made the dinner in spite of chasing all over the Country servicing first days.

ELLIOT NORDHEIM left a lot of unfinished work at the Police laboratory to keep his date with us . This young man is becoming a real collector.

We met ARLE H. GOODE, CHARLES CAMPBELL , BENJAMIN GROSSMAN, ARTHUR SANFORD, SYLVESTER SIGLER and several others we don't see so often. We do hope you'll be with us at the next meet.

JAMES STOCKTON came all the way from Philadelphia. This is true Brotherly Love coming from the city of the same name.

Another long-distance visitor was WILLIAM SCHUMACHER of Nyack

DIEGO QUINTERO works late these days but he couldnt miss us.

That young stalwart CHARLES CARPENTER couldnt be kept away. Charlie was real sick recently and we all rejoice that he is well again.

Our president Jake Glaser was beaming all over throughout the proceedings. It was a grand party Jake, and you should be proud of its sucess.

The tall fellow down at the end of the table is RUSSEL ROANE. Cant leave you out Rus.

At this point our memory fails us. If you've been left out, drop us a note and we'll fix things up. We had a fine time too.

----SAM BROOKS

France issued two commemorative stamps in 1927 in connection with the American Legion convention held in Paris. One was a 90c dull red and the other a 1.50 fr. deep blue. The stamps have a particular appeal to Masonic philatelists because they each have medallions of Washington and Lafayette, two Masons. In the background appears the Statue of Liberty, designed and erected by a French Mason, Frederic A. Bartholdi. Also in the background is an airplane similar to "The Spirit of St. Louis," flown across the Atlantic a few months previous to the issue by Charles A. Lindbergh a Mason. I had the pleasure of visiting Lindbergh's Lodge in St. Louis about 17 years ago.

--John A. Mirt

NOTES IN PASSING -- John A. Mirt

The Hungarian 100th anniversary commemoratives (set of four--1f blue 2f reddish brown, 3f green and 4f red) issued March 15 are of Masonic significance. The outstanding leader of the Revolution was Louis Kossuth, who was named provisional governor of Hungary after that country declared its independence from Austria in 1848.

Kossuth, however, was forced to flee and in 1851 he came to the United States where he was received with open arms. He was made a Mason in Cincinnati Lodge No. 133, on February 20, 1852.

In the Freemasonry Monthly Magazine of June, 1852, I came across an account of his visit to a meeting of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in Boston, May 10, 1852. More than 400 were present and hundreds were turned away.

"Could the doors of the Grand Lodge have been thrown open, and the public found space to hear his remarks, they would have seen that the oracles of Ancient Craft Masonry at all times and in all places, wherever uttered, breathe only the freedom of man, attachment to good order, and love of virtue," said the magazine. "The Great Magyar only spoke, in his own eloquent way, the true principles of the Institution."

The magazine quoted Kossuth as saying: "Masonry has never flourished where a country is ruled by despotism." That statement made nearly 100 years ago, holds true today.

The May, 1852, issue of the same magazine carried an account of his visit to Centre Lodge No. 23, at Indianapolis, Ind. At that time, he said: "The Masonic Brotherhood is one which tends to better the conditions of mankind." Without a country or a home, "dependent upon the hospitality of strangers for life and protection," he found that a great substitute "is to be surrounded by Brethren of the Masonic Order."

More "NOTES IN PASSING" from John A. Mirt:

I get the following from R. Baker Harris, Librarian of the Library of the Supreme Council, Scottish Rite, S.J.: "According to our Boyden Index, Joel Chandler Harris (1848-1908) was not a Mason."

I had also asked concerning the status of Dr. Manasseh Cutler (Northwest Ordinance issue of 1937), and reply was: "There is no information at all concerning the possible Masonic membership of Dr. Mannasseh Cutler. In the latter case, of course, this is not conclusive, as the American records of Masonic membership in the 18th century are fragmentary."

Rufus Putnam, on the same stamp, as you know, became a Master Mason in American Union Military Lodge in 1779, and served as its Master for several terms after American Union Lodge No. 1 became permanently established in Marietta, Ohio. In 1808, he was elected the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, but he never served because of ill health.

Here is an angle in connection with the new Cuba 2 centavos stamp issued April 19 to commemorate the International Leprosy Congress, held there in April. (The stamp has a portrait of Gerhard Henrik Armauer Hansen (1841-1912) Norwegian physician who specialized in leprosy and discovered the lepra bacillus in 1872.)

An American leprosy foundation is the Leonard Wood Memorial, 1 Madison Ave. New York. The memorial grew out of the interest shown by General Wood in the treatment of leprosy while he was Governor General of the Philippine Islands, where there were then about 15,000 lepers.

General Wood was a member of Anglo Saxon Lodge No. 137, Brooklyn; the Scottish Rite Bodies in Brooklyn; Norma 1 Park Chapter No. 210 and Englewood Commandery No. 50, Chicago; and Medinah Shrine Temple, Chicago.

A MASONIC BILL

Collectors of Philatelic Masonry don't have the opportunity to wander far from their field too often, but for those that do, a ten cent bill from Civil War days was recently noted by the writer which is of definite Masonic interest.

During the Civil War, "hard money" in the form of coins was out of circulation, hoarded by people who feared depreciation of paper. To enable business to continue, business houses, individuals, cities and towns and banks issued "scrip" in all forms and different denominations, and although strictly unacceptable as legal tender, they did pass for the greater period of the war as money.

The Catskill Bank of Catskill, N.Y. issued a ten cent note of which the Masonic connotation is unquestionable. Bearing not only the Seeing Eye in the corner, under it was a Square and Compasses, with the Working Tools in customary relation to each other.

The wording of the bill was as follows:

CATSKILL BANK

Pay the bearer ten cents on demand when presented in sums of 5 dollars in current bank bills.

Catskill Sept. 29 1862
Meech & Bayley (signed)

It is unfortunate that the bill is not available for photographing, but it was stuck down in a collection of Civil War memorabilia that was not in the writer's possession very long

---Herman Herst, Jr.

With considerable regret, we announce the passing to the Great Beyond, on May 11th

Brother James B. Green
Worcester, Mass.

We best remember Jimmie Green for his activities on behalf of the Club at the 1947 Cipex. Brother Green, with boundless enthusiasm, did everything possible to make our booth at the Show, a huge success. He spent hours there each day and to him it was a labor of love. We hoped to see him at a meeting but it was not to be. We will remember him always and we will miss him.
