Masonic Philatelist
Published by The Masonic Stamp Club of New York

Vol. V No. 3 October 1948

More Masonic Stamp Clubs

We welcome to the fold of Masonic Stamp Clubs, the new group formed in Denver, under the leadership of Brother Adams. This makes four now. New York, Milwaukee, Los Angeles, and now Denver.

And there should be more, lots more. Every large city in the United States could support such a club. Our own membership testifies to that fact. Almost half of our own group are outside metropolitan New York. We welcome all to our membership, but we realize that the greatest benefits of a stamp club are derived from active participation in all activities of a club meeting.

We try to remedy the lack of such contacts by publishing our little paper. That we have succeeded is evidenced by the fact that we are constantly adding to our membership, both city and out-of-town Masons.

But we would like to see more Clubs formed and perhaps an alliance of Masonic Stamp Clubs. Maybe our Brothers "down under" in Australia would join us. There is an active Masonic Philatelic Society of Victoria, as well as The Philatelic Lodge of Victoria. So again welcome to our Denver Brothers. We offer any assistance we can give. and if more local groups are formed, more power to them.

Meetings

First and last Friday each month - Collectors Club Bldg, 22 E. 35th Street

Oct 29  Competition - U.S. & Possess. (40 pages or 15 min.) Sidney Barrett - Protecting your investment in stamps.

Nov 5  Visit to St. Albans Naval Hospital, St. Albans, L.I.
THE MASONIC PHILATELIST

Published by
The Ralph A. Barry Publication Fund
of
The Masonic Stamp Club of New York

EDITOR
Sam Brooks, 959 Anderson Ave.,
New York 52, N.Y.

MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK

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The program for the current year is on the back page and was prepared by a committee headed by Carl H. Pihl chairman, with the assistance of George Camnitzer, Russell B. Roane, and Morris Strauss. They did a fine job and deserve the thanks of the entire membership.
Collector interest in Italian stamps seems centered mainly in the issue of the Old Italian States, to the neglect of the really interesting period of unification, roughly 1860 to the end of the reign of Victor Emanuel II, 1878. The catalog listings give little hint of the variety and interest of these Unification Period issues.

First comes the last issue of Sardinia, which was continued as the first issue of Italy though not so catalogued. Stamps and covers showing use after unification, March 17 1861, and in places outside the former Kingdom of Sardinia, are plentiful and need only be assembled with appropriate write-up to make an interesting showing.

The special issue in old Neapolitan currency, which is listed under "Two Sicilies" was the first actual postal issue of unified Italy. These stamps were for use in what had been the Kingdom of Naples and found rare limited use in Sicily.

A new value in the Sardinia last issue type, the 15c blue, and the 10c, 20c, 40c and 80c of the Sardinia type issued perforated are the next additions. Combination covers of Sardinians, 15c and perfs, are not excessively scarce, and most interesting.

The unembossed 15c of 1863, Scott No. 23, lends itself to high specialization. Two distinct types exist, representing lithographic stones from original litho, and from altered master drawing. Almost every position of the sheet, in the second set of stones, has some special feature.

The 1863-77 issues lend themselves to differentiation of the printings. The first printings were in London, and later ones in Turin. On most values, color differences, which can readily be verified by postmark dates on covers and even on loose stamps, serve readily to separate the printings. This information has long since been
in print, in Hanciuau's book and in the Kohl Hand-
book section on Italy.

The many essays submitted with bids for the 1863
issue, the adopted and rejected arms type of that
year, and the "Saggio" surcharged imperfs of the
issued stamps, used on placards announcing the
new issue in all post offices, all lend variety
to the period.

The official stamps, the officials converted to
newspaper rates, the early due stamps, and so
forth, all lend interest.

Here is a little-cultivated field, with few high-
priced items, material available in good quantity,
and the information for working it up requiring
only to be hunted out where it is on record.

SOME NOTES BY JOHN A. MIRT

Sweden on June 16 issued a series of three semi-
postals to commemorate the 90th birthday anniver-
sary of King Gustavus V, who ascended the throne
Dec. 8, 1907. The King has been Grand Master of
the Masonic Order in Sweden since 1927 and earli-
er this year the rank of Past Grand Master was
conferred on him by the Grand Lodge of England.
The new stamps are of 10, 20 and 50 ore denomin-
ations, with a 10 ore surtax additional in each
case. The surtax will be used by the King's
Foundation to promote voluntary idealistic activ-
ities among Swedish youth.

The Philippine Republic on June 19 released a 2¢
green stamp and 2¢ red postal card showing the
portrait of Dr. José Rizal, native patriot. Dr.
Rizal, born at Calamba, Laguna, P. I., June 19,
1861, served as Venerable Master of Lakandola
Lodge of Perfection, Scottish Rite, at Manila.
Accused of treason by the Spanish, he was publicly
executed by a firing squad at Bagumbayam, Manila,
Dec. 30, 1896. His memory is honored by the
observance of the anniversary of his death as a
national holiday. His home in exile is a national
shrine; a province and three cities bear his name.
Here's an announcement that we feel you'll be interested in—

In July of this year a number of philatelists in Denver banded together and decided that there was enough interest in stamp collecting among Masons to warrant a "Denver Masonic Stamp Club".

With this in mind, the name was adopted and a constitution and by-laws were drawn up and the club was organized.

The club started out with 11 charter members and has now grown to some 18-20 members in just a matter of two months.

We meet on the last Monday of each month in the various members homes, and an evening usually consists of a short business meeting after which there is a short talk on various subjects connected with stamp collecting and Masonry, then a general get together and showing of their collections.

The club has gained considerable momentum and has many big plans for the coming year, already in addition to an opening and closing ceremony we have an initiation ceremony that is both interesting and adds to the interest of the club, and I might say that it is very much like the work put on by the Masonic club of Milwaukee.

Any one desiring to attend one of our meetings is cordially invited, the qualification being that you must be a Master Mason and a stamp collector.

Should you or any of your members be in Denver on our meeting night we'd certainly enjoy having you visit us -- information regarding our meeting place can always be obtained from our secretary.

If possible, plan to visit us real soon.

James N. Adams President
MASSONRY BEHIND THE NEW U.S. STAMPS

by John A. Mirt.

(The following items are protected by copyright, 1948, by John A. Mirt. Permission for their proper use will be given gladly upon application.)

INDIAN CENTENNIAL STAMP.

Indians have made zealous and trust Masons. Bro. Okah Tubbee, a Choctaw, addressed the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire in 1848 and led a discussion on establishing Masonic Lodges among the tribes "now located in the Indian Territory." The Grand Master of Arkansas in 1856 reported a "flourishing" condition among "red Brethren" in the Indian Territory. "It is taking deep hold and now embraces a goodly number of Lodges and Brethren," he said. Gen. Ely S. Parker, Five Nations chief, was Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Illinois in 1861. John Ross, Cherokee chief, was buried with Masonic honors in 1866.

ROUGH RIDERS STAMP.

Col. Theodore Roosevelt, who organized a volunteer cavalry regiment known as the Rough Riders and led it to undying fame in the Spanish-American War, was a member of Matinecock Lodge No. 806, Oyster Bay, N.Y. As President of the United States, he appeared publicly in Masonic garb on several occasions. Speaking before the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania he said he hailed the chance to become a Mason because it "lived up to what we, as a government, are pledged to -- the treating of each man on his merits and as a man." He saw in Masonry the Democracy of which he was such an ardent champion.

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GETTYSBURG ADDRESS STAMP

The cornerstone of the Gettysburg National Cemetery Monument was laid with Masonic ceremonies by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on July 4, 1865. The President of the Soldiers' National Cemetery had requested the Fraternity "to lay in due and ancient form the foundation stone." The Grand Master, in his address, said: "Let us here, on the birthday of our nation, pay merited honor to the memories of those citizens who have given up their lives in defense of those principles which test true patriotism."

WILL ROGERS STAMP

Will Rogers was made a Mason in Claremore (Okla.) Lodge No. 53, March 13, 1906, and remained a zealous Mason until his tragic death in an airplane crash in 1935. He put Masonic principles into practice. He also was a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies in McAlester; Akdar Shrine Temple, Tulsa, and Bedouin Shrine Temple, Muskogee (honorary). He attended a Shrine ceremonial in Fairbanks, Alaska, just prior to his death. The Rogers Memorial in Claremore exhibits his Masonic petition and the Bible on which he took his obligation.

(Editor's note: The foregoing items are being used in special Masonic cachets on envelopes to bear the appropriate stamp.)
Our first meeting on Sept. 24th, proved to be a fine curtain-raiser for what may well be a banner season. The usual group of steady customers were there, with a few newcomers. Carl Pihl presented his new program for the season (see elsewhere in this issue) and it was accepted with a spirited discussion.

Jake Glaser reported on a competition held by five Study-Groups of the Collectors Club on September 15th. We managed to take third prize.

A discussion was held on the proposition that we make plans to work the Master of Philately Degree. It was accepted enthusiastically with a "Thank You" to The Temple Stamp Club of Milwaukee, for their permission to use their ritual. A committee will soon report on the time and place for the first session.

At our annual dinner last Spring, Brother Harry Lindquist suggested that the Club sponsor a trip to the Masonic Home at Utica, to offer first-hand assistance to the Children's Stamp Club there. Sam Brooks brought up the subject again and after discussion it was decided to plan for this trip. Morris Strauss was appointed Chairman and it is hoped that he will have the active cooperation of Brother Copestake of Schenectady.

Altogether it was a very pleasant evening.

October 1st
Harry L. Lindquist the guest speaker for this meeting. First, a short business session where we heard some "progress" reports by several committee chairman. Sorry to hear that our President Ferrars Tows was ill. We do hope that he is well now and will be with us on October 29th.

In spite of the fact that Harry Lindquist is one of the organizers of the Club and is with us in all our activities, we see very little of this busy stampman. I think we can safely call Harry, MISTER STAMP MAN. Busy at all times talking stamp
collecting all over the country, at Club meetings
radio broadcasts, exhibitions and of course in his
magazine "Stamps", Harry spares us very little
time. But we're content to see him every once
in a while, and as usual, it is pleasant listening
to him. He showed parts of his demonstration
collection to the delight of a large group of
members and visitors. Come again soon, Harry.

We had the pleasure of a visit from Brother Leon
Lambert of the Temple Stamp Club. Leon is a
pleasant person and a fine representative of a
fine Club. We met quite a few of the Milwaukee
boys at the show last year, and we liked what we
saw. Who knows, someday we may return the visit.

If you are interested in first day covers with a
Masonic slant, get in touch with John A. Mirt of
Chicago. John is writing a short Masonic tie-up
with the new stamps and is printing covers with
the story. A worth while addition to your cover
collection.

From Leon O. Whitsell, Chairman of the Grand Lodge
of California Committee on Masonic History, I get:
"We have not been able to find any Masonic angle
to Mt. Palomar. The members of the Fraternity
at San Diego have been unable to dig up any re-
liable information."

William Allen White, a Congregationalist, belonged
to no fraternal organization excepting a college
fraternity during his years at the University of
Kansas.

Bro. Elbert Bede, Editor of the "Oregon Mason," in
answer to a query concerning the status of John
McLoughlin and Jason Lee, pictured on the Oregon
Territory centennial stamp, says: "No record that
either was a Freemason. McLoughlin, while a frien-
of those of all faiths, died a member of the Roman
Church." Nevertheless, the development of Oregon
and Masonry there went hand-in-hand. J.A.M.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEW MEMBERS</th>
<th>CORRECT NAME OR ADDRESS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fred Barovick</td>
<td>Otto Bernshein</td>
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<tr>
<td>951 Carroll St.</td>
<td>612 Argyle Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brooklyn, 25, N.Y.</td>
<td>Brooklyn, 30, N.Y.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aaron J. Grossman</td>
<td>Forest A. Black</td>
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<tr>
<td>76 Avenue C,</td>
<td>74 Arlington St.</td>
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<td>Lt. Col. Arthur W. Hodges</td>
<td>David M. Bull</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012 K St., N.W.</td>
<td>39 Magnolia Ave.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
<td>Garden City, N.Y.</td>
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<tr>
<td>R. Holbrook Harvey</td>
<td>Arthur F. Kirk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Main P.O. Box 1145</td>
<td>223 Berkeley Ave.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Los Angeles, 53, Calif.</td>
<td>Bloomfield, N.J.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norman R. Hoover</td>
<td>Elmer E. Magee</td>
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<tr>
<td>39 Union Square West</td>
<td>2928 Woodsdale Blvd.</td>
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<td>New York, 3, N.Y.</td>
<td>Lincoln, Nebr.</td>
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<td>Irl C. Hammonds</td>
<td>Clinton N. Cleerton</td>
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<tr>
<td>1501 Cascade Drive</td>
<td>Monticello, N.Y.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youngstown, 2, Ohio.</td>
<td>Peter Panagiotou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creighton H. Maker</td>
<td>522 Main St.</td>
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<tr>
<td>48 Stockton St.</td>
<td>Athol, Mass.</td>
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<td>Dorchester, 24, Mass.</td>
<td>William H. Workman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jewell I. Potter</td>
<td>1334 Dogwood Ave.</td>
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<tr>
<td>356 Lake St.</td>
<td>Vancouver, B.C. Canada</td>
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<td>Oneida, N.Y.</td>
<td>Eric A. Young</td>
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<tr>
<td>George W. Rumsey, Jr.</td>
<td>106-16 215th St.</td>
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<tr>
<td>109 Elizabeth St.</td>
<td>Bellaire, N.Y.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dover, N.J.</td>
<td>A. Wesley Zollers</td>
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<tr>
<td>George W. Schau</td>
<td>Trappe,</td>
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<tr>
<td>616 Oakmont Ave.</td>
<td>Collegeville, Penna.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erie, Penna.</td>
<td>Alfred L. Freden</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. S. Thompson</td>
<td>Saddle River, N.J.</td>
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<tr>
<td>168 Stuyvesant Ave.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newark, 6, N.J.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
NEW ADDRESS
Louis W. Bobel
30 Stockman Place
Irvington, N.J.

Robert E. Flinn
423 North 6th St.
Albuquerque, N.M.

Frank Glass
1860 Broadway
e/o Preferred Utilities
New York, N.Y.

Charles H. Johnson
10 Park Ave.
New York, 16, N.Y.

Sidney Maranov
18 Marvin Ave.
Rockville Centre, N.Y.

Diego Quintero
575 East 42nd St.
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Dr. S. Duffield Swan
c/o Dentists Supply Co.
York, Penna.

Thomas J. Ward
1060 Bush St.
San Francisco, Calif.

Edward J. Whiting
126 Woodland Ave.
Kalverne, Penna.

Resigned
Samuel Edlin
4707 41st St.
Sunnyside, 4, N.Y.

C. D. Hansen
Lake Arrowhead
Denville, N.J.

Ernest L. Schuster
215 La Salle Ave.
Kenmore, N.Y.

* * * * * * * * * * *

COLLECTIN' STAMPS
By Silas Weatherby

A feller isn't thinkin' mean,
Collectin' stamps;
His tho'ts are mostly good and clean
Collectin' stamps;
He don't knock his fellow-men,
Or harbor any grudges then;
A feller's at his finest when
He's collectin' stamps.

The rich are comrades to the poor,
Collectin' stamps;
All brothers of a common lure,
Collectin' stamps;
The boy—the joy the reprints bring,
Can chum with millionaire and king
Vain pride is a forgotten thing
Collectin' stamps.

A feller isn't plottin' schemes
Collectin' stamps;
He's only busy with his dreams,
Collectin' stamps;
His livery is a benzine pan
His cred to do the best he can,
A feller's always mostly man,
Collectin' stamps.

(This poem appeared in the NEW YORK TIMES several years ago in answer to a query and was furnished by our late Brother Victor Weisskopf.)

CHARLES W. BROOKS
PROGRAM FOR 1948-1949

Oct 1  Harry L. Lindquist, Demonstration Collection

29  Competition- U.S. and Possess. (40 pages or 15 min)
    SIDNEY BARRATT- Protecting your investment in stamps

Nov 5  Visit to St. Albans Naval Hospital, St. Albans, L.I

26  Novice Competition- Any country-(40 pages - 15 min)
    Open to those who have never won a prize.
    CARL PELANDER- How to appraise a stamp collection.

Dec 3  Master of Philately Degree

Jan 7  Spot auction sale
    HARRY M. KONWISER- Postal History & the Stampless
    period.

28  Past Presidents Night
    ARTHUR DEAS- George Washington Postal Cards.

Feb 4  Competition- Gt. Britain & Col. (40 pges or 15 min)
    CHARLES BROOKS- 19th Century U.S. stamps.

25  VISIT by Scandinavian Collectors Club.
    IRWIN M. YARRY- Postmarks

Mar 4  Masonic Philately
    SAM BROOKS - Masonry on stamps.

25  FRANKLIN R. BRUNS, Jr.  Panama

Apr 1  ANNUAL MEMBERS EXHIBITION
    32 pages or 2 frames, plus 5 minutes.

29  Airmail Night
    BERT EHRENBERG - 20th Century stamps.

May 6  CHARLES JOHNSON NIGHT- 15th Anniversary Dinner.

    CLARENCE BRAZER - Proofs and Essays.

June 3  Master of Philately Degree

24  ANNUAL MEETING - Election of Board of Governors
    Committee and Officers Reports.