

# *The 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.

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## *• Meetings •*

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

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- 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

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of  
The Masonic Stamp Club of New York

## EDITOR

Sam Brooks, 905 Anderson Ave.,  
New York 52, N. Y.

## MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK

### OFFICERS 1948-1949

Ferrars H. Tows	President
Charles H. Johnson	President Emeritus
Russel B. Roane	1st Vice President
Arthur I. Heim	2nd Vice President
Dr. Irwin M. Yarry	Secretary
61-23 Roosevelt Ave. Woodside, N.Y.	
Harry M. Konwiser	Treasurer
181 Claremont Ave. New York, 27, N.Y.	

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS

<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Bert Ehrenberg	Richard S. Bohn	Forrest S. Ellis
Harrold Matters	Harry M. Konwiser	Carl H. Pihl
Russel B. Roane	Ferrars H. Tows	Morris Strauss

### PAST PRESIDENTS

Arthur W. Deas	1934-38	George Camnitzer	1943-45
Ralph A. Barry*	1938-39	Sam Brooks	1945-46
Henry W. Holcombe	1939-41	Jacob S. Glaser	1946-48
Carl E. Pelander	1941-43	(* deceased)	

### COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

<u>Membership</u> : Carl E. Pelander	<u>Exhibition</u> : Dr. George Camnitzer
<u>Program</u> : Carl H. Pihl	<u>Entertainment</u> : Harrold Matters
<u>Publicity</u> : Arthur I. Heim	<u>Auction</u> : Henry M. Friedman
<u>Correspondence &amp; Exchange</u> : Harry O. Henneman	

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.



## UNIFICATION PERIOD OF ITALY

By Stephen G. Rich

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 Hanciau's book and in the Kohl Handbook 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.

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#### SOME NOTES BY JOHN A. MIRT

Sweden on June 16 issued a series of three semi-postals to commemorate the 90th birthday anniversary 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 earlier 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 30 ore denominations, with a 10 ore surtax additional in each case. The surtax will be used by the King's Foundation to promote voluntary idealistic activities 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.

## NEW MASONIC STAMP CLUB

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

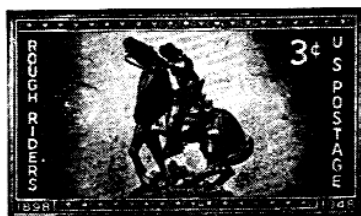
## MASONRY BEHIND THE NEW U.S. STAMPS

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 Choctow, 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.

## 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.)

## MEETING NOTES

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.

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

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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.

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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 Childrens 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 "prograss" 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 demanstration collection to the delight of a large group of members and visitors. Come again soon, Harry.

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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.

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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.

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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 reliable information."

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

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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 friend 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.

# ADDITIONS AND CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS ON MEMBERSHIP LIST

## NEW MEMBERS

Fred Barovick  
951 Carroll St.  
Brooklyn, 25, N.Y.

Haroon J. Grossman  
76 Avenue C,  
Bayonne, N.J.

Lt. Col. Arthur W. Hodges  
2012 K St., N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

H. Holbrook Harvey  
Main P.O. Box 1145  
Los Angeles, 53, Calif.

Norman R. Hoover  
39 Union Square West  
New York, 3, N.Y.

Irl C. Hammonds  
1501 Cascade Drive  
Youngstown, 2, Ohio.

Creighton H. Maker  
48 Stockton St.  
Dorchester, 24, Mass.

Jewell I. Potter  
356 Lake St.  
Oneida, N.Y.

George W. Rumsey, Jr.  
109 Elizabeth St.  
Dover, N.J.

George M. Schau  
616 Oakmont Ave.  
Erie, Penna.

A.S. Thompson  
168 Stuyvesant Ave.  
Newark, 6, N.J.

## CORRECT NAME OR ADDRESS

Otto Bernscheim  
612 Argyle Road  
Brooklyn, 30, N.Y.

Forest A. Black  
74 Arlington St.  
Leominster, Mass.

David M. Bull  
39 Magnolia Ave.  
Garden City, N.Y.

Arthur F. Kirk  
228 Berkeley Ave.  
Bloomfield, N.J.

Elmer E. Magee  
2928 Woodadale Blvd.  
Lincoln, Nebr.

Clinton N. Overton  
Monticello, N.Y.

Peter Panagidton  
522 Main St.  
Athol, Mass.

William H. Workman  
1334 Dogwood Ave.  
Vancouver, B.C. Canada

Eric A. Young  
106-16 215th St.  
Bellaire, N.Y.

A. Wesley Zollers  
Trappe,  
Collegeville, Penna.

Alfred L. Freden  
Saddle River, N.J.

### NEW ADDRESS

Louis W. Bobel  
30 Stockman Place  
Irvington, N.J.

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

Frank Glanz  
1860 Broadway  
c/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  
1080 Bush St.  
San Francisco, Calif.

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

### DECEASED

James B. Green  
100 Chatham St  
Worcester, Mass.

### Resigned

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

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

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

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### COLLECTIN' STAMPS

By Silas Weatherby

A feller isn't thinkin' mean,  
Collectin' stamps;  
His tho'ts are mostly good and  
clean  
Collectin' stamps;  
He doesn'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 creed 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 BARRETT-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 EHRENBURG - 20th Century stamps.
- May 6** CHARLES JOHNSON NIGHT- 15th Anniversary Dinner.
- 27** Competition -Entire World except U.S. and Gt. Brit.  
CLARENCE BRAZER - Proofs and Essays.
- June 3** Master of Philately Degree
- 24** ANNUAL MEETING - Election of Board of Governors  
Committee and Officers Reports.