

The Masonic Philatelist

PUBLISHED BY THE MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK



VOL. VI No. 2 APRIL 1949



MASONIC SYMBOLS AND SYMBOLISM ON POSTAGE STAMPS

For sometime I have shown a collection of stamps and covers which I have called a "Demonstration Collection of Masonic Philately". This collection shows four methods of building a collection of Masonic significance. First, several pages of Masonic cancellations on stamps and on cover. Then you may collect Masonic corner-cards and covers addressed to Masonic Lodges. Some of the old Lodge covers showing "illuminated" corner-cards, are beautiful additions to any collection.

The third grouping, is Masonic biographies and Masonic events, shown on stamps. This is the easiest group to collect. Following this type of collection, try to obtain "free franks" of notable men who were Masons. These include Cabinet officers, Vice-presidents, Generals and Congressmen, who while not shown on stamps, had the privilege of franking their mail.

Now, Harry O. Henneman has shown us a new group of Masonic items on stamps. Harry has begun with the three Grecian columns. There must be other stamps showing Masonic symbols. It is a wide open field. You must know your Lodge work, and you must know stamps.

Go to it!

--S.B.

• Meetings •

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

April 29 Airmail Night
Visit by Aerophilatelists.

May 6 15th Anniversary Dinner

THE MASONIC PHILATELIST

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

EDITOR

Sam Brooks, 985 Anderson Ave.,
New York 52, N. Y.

MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK

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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		

Names marked with a star (*) indicates 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 & Exchange:</u>	Harry O. Henneman		

We announce in sorrow, the passing of one of our good friends and members,

Brother Peter V.O. Barkelew

who departed this life on March 10, 1949. We extend to his family and many friends, our sincerest sympathy.

May his soul rest in everlasting Peace.

AN ODE
to the
Masonic Stamp Club of New York

To the tune of
Yankee Doodle *)
Lyrics by
Harry O. Benneman

1. AT COCKTAIL
Give a toast to friends so dear
to Those who can't be here this year
we're Brothers all beneath the skin
in our Hearts they're always near.
2. BEFORE SOUP
Now before we eat the soup
Let us give a great big toot
For a guy that's on the job
Sam Brooks' the big galoot.
3. BEFORE MEAT
Texas has a lot of steer
One of which we eat right here
with Idaho spuds, the meal's the nuts
it Fills us with good cheer.
4. BEFORE COFFEE
Coffee's better than good tea
On this subject we'll agree
that This big feed, it can't be beat
let's ap-Plaud the committee.
5. AFTER MEAL
Now that this repast is o'er
And the next is one year more
come Thru the fence and meet your friends
on Thirty-fifth street first floor.

*) Note: Downbeat on each capital letter. H.O.H.

MEMBERS EXHIBITION IS GREAT SUCCESS

Judging by the comments of several member, the Annual Members Exhibition for 1948-1949, which was held on Friday evening March 25th, was one of the most interesting and diversified shows ever held by the Masonic Stamp Club. It was a real pleasure to have as our guest Brother Max Cohane, Secretary of the Philatelic Lodge of Melbourne, Australia. Those of our members who dined with Bro. Cohane prior to the meeting found him to be a most enjoyable companion and endowed with a rare sense of humor. It was also a pleasure to see our member, Bro. Paul W. Savage, of Worcester, Mass. present at this event.

Our meeting opened with the customary prayer, and following a very brief business session, the members turned their attention to the exhibits. Assisting Bro. Harry L. Lindquist as judges were Bro. Sidney F. Barrett and Bro. Paul W. Savage. They received the sincere thanks of the members for the excellent job that they did.

The award, Best in Exhibition, went to Bro. Carl E. Pelander for his matchless collection of Tonga. Carl very graciously requested that his prize be given to the winner of First Prize in the Open Group. This was Bro. George Camnitzer who showed his interesting collection of German Southwest Africa. Second Prize was awarded to Bro. Irwin Yarry for his Jamaica, Third Prize to Bro. Carl H. Pihl for his Swedish Cancellations and Fourth Prize to Bro. Sam Brooks for his famed collection, Masonic Philately. Honorable Mentions were given to Bro. Alexander T. Koomanoff (Olympic Games on Stamps), Bro. Arthur I. Heim (Congo Postal Cards) and Andrew P. Rasmussen (Design Sources of Stamps) The only disappointment of the evening was the lack of interest in the Novice Group. The lone entry, Bro. Harry Henneman, with his interesting showing of Information Philately, was given First Prize. This was richly deserved, incidentally.

-- Carl H. Pihl

ANTI-MASONIC NATIONS' STAMPS

Should Masonic stamp collectors turn the other cheek? Should members of the Craft decry the stamps, sold to collectors, issued by The Soviet and its satellites?

Recently John E. Creamer, of Lowell, Mass., raised the question in his monthly philatelic periodical (Covers), and the response has been good; that is quite a number of readers agreed with his objective - to place an embargo on the importing of stamps from the Soviet and its satellites.

Members of the craft are well aware of the fact that Masonic meetings are not permitted in Soviet Russia, nor in any of the satellite lands. All non-Communist groups are illegal in these countries. Masons are of course expected to be law-abiding citizens, but being anti-Communitistic, in the stamp hobby field, is not likely to be condemned by any group of Masons, in any jurisdiction. Should we, as Masons, do something to thwart the countries which issue stamps, to acquire American dollars?

Mr. Creamer is now seeking Congressional action to forbid the importation of stamps issued by the countries decrying the peaceful non-aggressive policy of the United States. The United States has its Benedict Arnold, Norway had its Quisling. Are the stamp collectors of the United States on the side of defamers of the United States or true Americans doing "their bit" to thwart the destroyers of freedom? A few citizens of the United States, non-Masons no doubt, have the "inside" on the stamps issued to be sold to collectors from these countries.

Write to your Senator or Member of the House- if you believe in helping defeat the Soviet and its satellites, in a small way. Our Government requires the moral support of every citizen in these troublesome days. Stamp collectors should not help the enemies of the United States.

--H.M.K.



THE ABODE OF THE GODS

by Frank I. Morse

TIBET the loftiest known inhabited plateau in the world is a bleak, windswept plateau of extreme temperatures, extremely hot in summer and severely cold in winter. In winter the temperature seldom rises above zero and to protect themselves from such extreme cold, the natives cover themselves, that is their skins, with a coating of oil and put on all the clothes their bodies will carry. Such is the country in which the "Forbidden City" Lhasa lies. THE ABODE OF THE GODS, the mysterious, the forbidden, Lhasa, the capital of Tibet, is situated in a plain called "The Plain of Milk", surrounded by swamps and snow-capped mountains and its only approach a causeway built through the swamps. In its setting of snow capped mountains, it presents a picture of beauty and grandeur beyond description. After passing through the Pargo Kaling, main gate into Lhasa, you pause for a view of the Potala, the gilt-roofed Palace of the Dalai Lama, supreme head of the Buddhist faith. You are impressed with its stateliness and simplicity. It is a massive structure of sundried whitewashed brick. Having passed the Potala, the illusion like a mirage in the desert, disappears and you see a cluster of low, dirty, two-story hovels built of sun-dried brick, with here and there a temple predominating. That is Lhasa of today and in all probability, it has been the same for centuries.

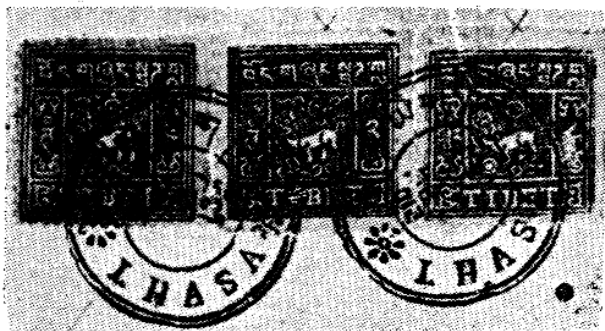
Colonel Younghusband at the head of the British expedition of 1904 gave Tibet and Lhasa its first Postal Service. This was the field Post Office with the expedition which used a Lhasa cancellation on its correspondence while at Lhasa

The Chinese government opened offices in Tibet in 1905, establishing courier service between Lhasa and Peking, now Peiping, China. They later opened Post Offices at Yatung, Gyantse, Phari Jong and Shigatse with the Indian Postal Service functioning at Gyantse, Phari Jong and Yatung.

#2 Regular Lhasa Cancellation



With the uprising against the Chinese in 1911, the Chinese Post Offices were closed and the Tibetans inaugurated a service of their own. Stamps were issued and regular service established between Lhasa and Phari Jong, Yatung, Gyantse Shigatse and Gartok on the Chinese frontier. This service was opened in 1913 and has been functioning ever since. In 1933 a new issue was put out with a special cancellation, I was fortunate in having six covers at Lhasa when the issue appeared and secured six nice cancellations. The new cancellation was used only one month when it was replaced with the earlier cancellation. These covers now repose in the collection of Colonel Charles R. Morse, of Knoxville, Tenn.



Special Lhasa Cancel of 1933

MASONIC PRESIDENTS

Thirteen Presidents of the U.S. have been Freemasons. They are Washington, Buchanan, Garfield, Harding, Jackson, Johnson, McKinley, Monroe, Polk Theodore Roosevelt, F.D. Roosevelt, Taft, and Truman. Jefferson and Madison were possibly Freemasons, but the evidence is circumstantial, not direct.

Some of these were interested, ardent, working Freemasons. Jackson and Truman were Grand Masters the only Presidents with that distinction. Buchanan was Master of his Lodge (Lodge 43, Lancaster, Pa.--the lodge has no name), and later served as District Deputy Grand Master of three counties in his state.

Andrew Johnson was sufficiently interested in the Craft to become the first President to receive the degrees in the Scottish Rite. He participated in five Masonic cornerstone layings; as President, he gave leave to all Master Masons in government service in Washington, D.C. to attend the laying of the Masonic Temple cornerstone in 1868, and himself marched on foot in the Masonic parade. In Baltimore, laying the cornerstone of its Temple, he refused an offered chair, saying, "we all meet upon the level,"

Garfield was Chaplain of his lodge in Ohio for two years and a charter member of Pentalpha Lodge No. 23, of Washington, D.C., and became a Knight Templar.

Harding was the first President to be elected to receive the Thirty-third and Last Degree of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite. He died before that honor was conferred upon him. Truman is the first President to receive the Thirty-third Degree, having it conferred on him at the House of the Temple, A.A.S.R., S.J., in Washington, D.C., October, 1945. ---Los Angeles Scottish Rite Bulletin (April, 1948).

BROTHER BRUNS SHOWS HIS PANAMA

Before a rather select audience, in numbers that is, Brother Franklin R. Brunns provided a most entertaining philatelic treat to the members of the Masonic Stamp Club on Friday evening, April 1st at the Collectors Club, when he showed his interesting collection of Panama.

Brother Brunns, who had just returned from a visit to Liberia, prefaced this showing with a thrilling description of his trip by air and related his experiences in the African republic. His collection of Panama included numerous sketches of accepted and rejected designs, die proofs, color essays and numerous other items pertaining to each issue of stamps. Of course, there was a complete showing of the various postal issues themselves.

This excellent showing demonstrated to several members present the desirability of studying and collecting such material as well as the stamps. They make a fine showing.

The presentation of the program was preceded by a business session during which there developed a general discussion as to how we might improve the club programs and induce greater attendance at our meetings. The matter was referred to the Board of Governors for study. Any members having suggestions are urged to send them to the Secretary who will present them at the next meeting of the board.

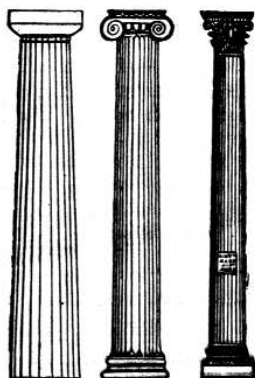
--Carl H. Pihl

We have just learned that the famous collections of the late Charles H. Johnson have been placed in the custody of Brother Carl E. Pelander for disposal. Carl advises us that he is now breaking the collections down into auction lots, and that the sale will be held late in September. This sale will be of interest to every member of the Club, and we have asked Carl to keep us posted.

GREEK ORDERS IN PHILATELY

by

Harry O. Henneman



Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian Columns.

Columns were originally used to support the roof of a building. Hence we find the column supporting a horizontal mass, technically called the entablature. Both the column and entablature are again divided into three distinct parts. The former consists of the base, the shaft and the capital. (Remember those three points). According to certain differences in the proportions and embellishments of the columns Grecian architecture was divided into three orders, respectively the Doric, Ionic and the Corinthian.

The Doric order came from the Dorians who derived the name from Dorus, the Ionic order came from the Ionians who derived the name from Ion, both of whom descended from the patriarch Hellen, the Greeks called their land Hellas, and themselves Hellenes.

The Doric order is the most ancient. It is simple, massive and majestic. It is noted by the absence of a base, by the thickness and rapid diminution of the shaft and by the simplicity and massiveness of the capital.

The Ionic order is noted by simple gracefulness, and by a much richer style of ornament than the Doric. The shaft is much more slender, and rests upon a base, while the capital is adorned by spiral volutes (volute, a spiral scroll).

The Corinthian order is only a later form of the Ionic. It is especially characterized by its beautiful capital which is adorned by the leaves of an acanthus. (The plant bears bryony or brankursine). The earliest use throughout a building is in the monument of Lysicrates, commonly called the Lantern of Demosthenes, which was built in B.C. 335.

On stamps of Greece we find these three orders used in the frames. The Doric on (A), the Ionic on (B), and the Corinthian on (C). Also to be noted is the Doric order on the stamps (D) showing the ruins of the Temple of Olympian Jove at Athens, which took 650 years to build, (E) showing the Acropolis and Parthenon, and (F) showing the Temple of Apollo, the Ionic order is shown on the Erechtheum on (G), and the Temple of Nike Apteros (Wingless Victory) on (H).

In our fraternity we find that some of our Lodges have been named after these three Greek orders of architecture.



Doric Architecture.

A



Ionic Architecture.
From the Erechtheum.

B



C



Temple of the
Olympian Zeus,
Athens

D



The
Erechtheum

G



Temple
of
Nike Apteros

H



Acropolis,
Athens

E



Temple of Apollo, Corinth

F

[illegible]

"Mother is a different person to-day than she was a few months ago."

"Mother lives with us, as you all know, and has always been a wonderful help in looking after the children and helping around the house and we all love her dearly, ofcourse. But until recently she was something of a burden to Bill and me in many little ways. It was hard to keep her entertained and contented and she naturally expected to be included in our fun and was hurt when we couldn't include her. But she disapproved of some of the things we like to do and many of her ways are different than ours. She and I didn't always agree on what is best for the children and how the house should be run. You know....'Too many cooks spoil the broth'....and, 'No house is big enough for 2 families'....and all that."

"I suppose any hobby that really interested her would have been just as effective as stamp collecting. But stamps, besides all the fun and other benefits mother derives from them, have some value. Her collection can some day be sold

for a good part of what she paid for it. So, in stamp collecting you can sort of eat your cake and have it, too, as it were. Whereas many other more expensive forms of entertainment merely fritter money away with nothing to show for it afterwards."

"I hope that when I'm a grandmother I'll be able to get really interested in some hobby. It's made all the difference in the world to mother and has apparently made it easy for her to adopt a 'hands-off' policy where Bill and the children and the running of the house are concerned. She's a much happier person than she was six months ago and all of us are happier, too."

"Do any of you happen to know where I can buy some Columbian stamps?.....whatever they are. The other day she said she didn't have any in her collection and wants some. Bill and I would like to give her some Columbian stamps for her next birthday. She's such a perfect person to have around now, we want to do everything we can to please her."

Adapted from real life by

Mrs. Philip L. Corson
Plymouth Meeting, Pa.

Haiti in a recently issued 5c bicolored stamp in honor of the "three first presidents of the Western Hemisphere" paid homage to two Masons, George Washington and Simon Bolivar, the latter known as the "Liberator of South America." -- Mirt.

Sultan Ibrahim of Johore, who is shown on the stamps of that country since the year of his coronation in 1896, served as Master of Johore Royal Lodge No. 3946 in 1922 and 1923. That is the longest incumbency possible under the English constitution. -- Mirt.

Brother John A. Fox has presented to the Club a collection of ribbon badges of Knight Templar and other Masonic organizations. After proper mounting, these badges will be presented to some Masonic organization.

Fred Hill, of Religion on Stamps fame, is visiting in Fort Worth, with Mrs. Hill. Fred is having a fine time but will be back with us at the next meeting.



COMMUNISTS PAY HONOR TO THREE MASONS!

Poland, which in 1938 summarily closed all Masonic lodges and confiscated all Masonic property, recently paid tribute philatelically to three Masons for their contribution to the "ideals of liberty, humanity and democracy." So honored were the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt and two heroes of the American Revolutionary War, Gen. Tadeusz Kosciuszko and Gen. Casimir Pulaski.

The Polish issue consists of two sets of three airmail commemoratives. Roosevelt is pictured on two 80z stamps (ultramarine and grey); Pulaski on two 100z (carmine and violet), and Kosciuszko on two 120z (green and blue). The grey, violet and blue are issued as single stamps and on souvenir sheets of 16 stamps. The ultramarine, carmine and green appear on a souvenir sheet which pictures each of the stamps.

This set is no cheap addition to a collection. To get the complete issue -- single stamps and sheets means an outlay of about \$50. It is a worthwhile possession if for no other reason than to show that when a Communist government which had suppressed Freemasonry came to honor men for their service to humanity it unwittingly selected three Masons. -- John A. Mirt.

AUSTRALIAN BROTHER VISISTS CLUB

At our meeting on March 25th, we had the pleasure of a visit from Brother Max Kohane of Melbourne, Australia. Brother Kohane is Junior Warden of The Philatelic Lodge No. 552 A.F. & A.M, and is a member of the Masonic Philatelic Society of Victoria, Australia.

In responding to greetings from the Chair, Brother Kohane thanked the members for their cordial reception and pleaded with us for closer relations with our Brothers of The Philatelic Lodge. He was very pleased with his visit and although he had intended to return to Australia by way of London and India, he has changed his plans and will return to New York after his trip to London.

In a conversation we had with him just before he left, Brother Kohane said he was overwhelmed with the courtesies shown him by persons, who previous to his visit, were total strangers. He was taking back to Australia some very pleasant memories and as he put it, "I'm going to advertise New York, to the Australians".

We found our good Brother a very affable person and are looking forward to his next visit with us.

--S. B.

BIG SHOW IS COMING

One of the most entertaining evenings of the year is in store for Friday, April 29th when we celebrate Air Mail Night with a visit by the Aero Philatelists. Those who were present on this occasion last year will recall the good fellowship and the fine showings that we enjoyed. John J. Britt, President of the Aero Philatelists, promises an even more entertaining evening this year. Don't miss it! Time is 8 P.M., place is the Collectors Club. Better get there early and be sure to get a seat.

Program Committee

WE ARE FIFTEEN YEARS OLD!

To prove this statement, we show a photograph of the first pages in the original Minute Book of the Club. Unfortunately, many of our old friends have gone from this world. Many others have dropped out for some reason or other.

We are fortunate indeed, however, to have quite a few of the founders of this Club, still with us. Heading this list is our first President, Arthur W. Deas.

Arthur, was Raised in Richmond Lodge No. 66, Port Richmond, Staten Island, in 1892. He was Worshipful Master in 1901, and has been honored by Grand Lodge with the Fifty Year Medal, plus a 5 year bar.

Brother Deas has had an active career of collecting activities in both the stamp and coin fields. He has been President of the New York Numismatic Society and the Bronx Coin Club. In philately, besides being a Founder and First President of the Masonic Stamp Club, Arthur was a member of the Board of Governors of the Collectors Club and also served as Secretary and President. In appreciation of his services the Collectors Club has named him Honorary Life Governor. The presentation of a Scroll was made to him before a large gathering of his friends, including about 25 members of the Masonic Stamp Club.

We are celebrating our 15th anniversary and we hope and pray that Arthur will help us celebrate many, many, more.

--S.B.

Brother Allison Severe of Baltimore was the gold medal winner with Luxembourg, at the recent exhibition of the Baltimore Philatelic Society. Congratulations.

Bet he was coached by that other Baltimorian, Brother Sol Glass.

The inaugural Meeting of the Masonic
Stamp Club was held in the Grand Lodge
Library on Saturday afternoon January
13th 1934 at 2 o'clock p.m.

Present:

Dr Charles H. Johnson, in the Chair.

Frank E. Forshaw Jr.
Ernest Hoffmann
Alex. S. Cohan
Andrew P. Rasmussen
Joseph Feiser
Wm. E. Irons.
Thos. C. Alderhoff
Joseph L. Baumann
Edgar J. Donner.
Robert M. Dech
F. J. Vander Beek, Jr.
Chandler Sloan
C. E. Highman
Manuel F. Lozano
J. Gordon Rosser
George A. Camp
Arthur W. Deas
Karl M. Kirsch
H. W. Labaschin
Wm. Strohman
Henry W. Holcombe
H. L. Lindquist
R. A. Barry
Arthur Chayes
W. E. Schauer
Harold V. B. Voorhis.
Fred M. Reinitz
B. Solomon
Theodore M. Newman
Louis Weiller
A. A. Brown
Frank J. Altmann
Max. Lewy

Theodore Kemm
Daniel A. Bengel
A. P. Bassi
Frank L. Wilson
Copeland S. Southall
Wm. Staucker

and Herbert Walwyn
Secretary. pro tem.

The question of the formation of the Club
was fully discussed.

Brothers:-

Arthur W Deas,
H. L. Lindquist,
R. A. Barry,
A. S. Cohan,

Spoke at some length and outlined the
aims and objects. After a general
discussion it was agreed:-

"That a Committee of five be
appointed to formulate a plan
of organization and report to
the Meeting to be held on
Saturday afternoon January
27th 1934 at 2 o'clock pm."

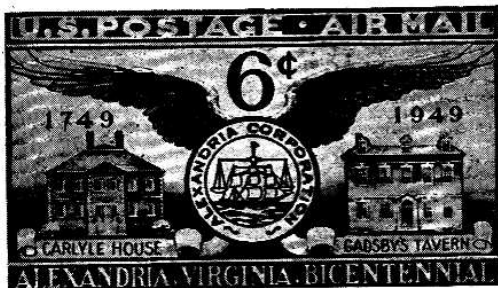
It was further agreed

"That Brothers
R. A. Barry
A. S. Cohan
A. W. Deas
Theodore Kemm
H. L. Lindquist

be appointed Members
of said Committee, Dr Charles H. Johnson
to be ex-officio Member."

The Meeting closed, with a vote of
thanks to Mr O'Donnell and his staff for
making arrangements, at 4.15 o'clock pm

Chairman



Shown on this page are the proposed Alexandria, Va. stamp, and a reproduction of the beautiful engraved cachet sponsored by the Masonic Stamp Club.

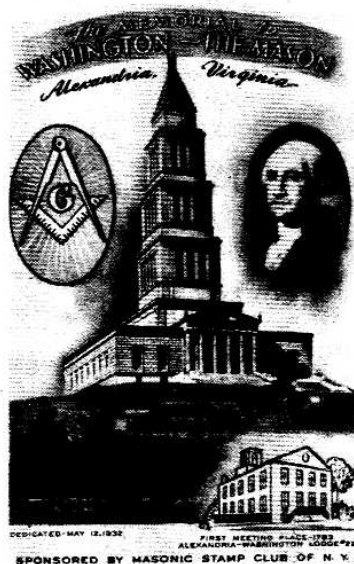
Design of 6c Alexandria Airmail Commemorative

We are indebted to Brother E. Milnor Peck for doing all the work on this project. All we ask is that you help by sending your orders for covers at once. This is a 6 cent air-mail, and the price of 25 cents each, or five for one dollar, is very low. However, Milnor says the Club can derive a substantial sum for our Masonic activities if you will help. Get your Lodge Brothers and stamp-collecting friends to purchase these covers.

Send all orders with remittance, to

MASONIC CACHET
PLEASANTVILLE, N. Y.

DO IT NOW !!



L A S T C A L L T O D I N N E R !

To: ALL MEMBERS - LOCAL and OUT-OF-TOWN

From: HAROLD MATTERS, Chairman,
Entertainment Committee

Subject: 15th ANNIVERSARY DINNER - -
FRIDAY EVENING - MAY 6, 1949

Our recent Dinner Announcement has brought forth the usual response from our enthusiastic members for tickets to our Anniversary Dinner. It was indeed gratifying and indicates that lastminute requests will very likely be met with the S.R.O. Sign. It is suggested you act at once and secure your tickets from Brother Harry O. Henneman, 28 East 31st Street, New York, 16, N. Y.

The Dinner will be served at 7 P. M. Sharp.

It is suggested you be on hand at 6:30 P. M. to allow opportunity for a get-together in the Club Lounge.

LAST CALL TO DINNER