

The Masonic Philatelist

PUBLISHED BY THE MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK



Vol. VII No. 10 Apr-May-June 1951

• Meetings



JUNE 22nd

A very important meeting has been called for this evening. This was an open date on our programme, and our new President Arthur I. Heim, would like to greet as many of you as possible

Our new officers will all be there to greet you, so come early

The order of business will include the following:

Programme for 1951-1952

Picnic

Masonic Philatelist

Meetings (see back page)

The meeting will be turned over to Tom Phillips, our Program Chairman, who has promised us a surprise.

Let's start the new administration off with a BANG!

This issue of the Masonic Philatelist rounds out seven years of continuous publication. As most of you no doubt know, the paper will appear in the fall with a new editor at the helm. During these seven years it has been a distinct pleasure to me to greet you through these pages and bring you the news of the Club. However, for nearly a year, conditions have made it rather difficult to do a good job, and I have finally decided to give it up.

I cannot close without mentioning the assistance given by many of you, for which I thank you. I am especially grateful to Harry M. Konwiser and Irwin Yarry for seeing to it that the paper was mailed. And to John Mirt of Chicago, words fail me. Without his fine articles on Masonic Philately, the paper would be drab indeed. Thanks, John. I do hope you will continue to send your work to the new editor.

Sam Brooks

MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK
OFFICERS 1951-1952

Arthur I. Heim President
Carl H. Pihl 1st V-Pres
Thomas Phillips 2nd V-Pres

Dr. Irwin M. Yarry, Secretary
31-12 54th Street
Woodside, Long Island, N.Y.

Harry M. Konwiser, Treasurer
181 Claremont Ave.
New York, 27, N.Y.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

1952 Arthur I. Heim
Harold Matters
Russell B. Roane

1953 Richard S. Bohn
Harry O. Henneman
George B. Wray

1954 Fred C. Hill
Carl H. Pihl
Morris Strauss

Past Presidents

Arthur W. Deas* 1934-1938
Ralph A. Barry* 1938-1939
Henry W. Holcombe 1939-1941
Carl E. Pelander 1941-1943
George Camnitzer 1943-1945
Sam Brooks 1945-1946
Jacob S. Glaser 1946-1948
Ferrars H. Tows 1948-1949
Russell B. Roane 1949-1951

(*) indicates deceased

Meetings are held the first
and last Friday each month at
the COLLECTORS CLUB building
22 East 35th St. New York City

***Farewell To The
Brethren***

Adieu! a heart-warm, fond
adieu!
Dear brothers of the mystic tie!
Ye favoured, ye enlightened
few,
Companions of my social joy!
Tho' I to foreign lands must
hie,
Pursuing Fortune's slippery
ba',
With melting heart and brimful
eye
I'll mind you still, tho' far awa'.

Oft have I met your social
Band,
And spent the cheerful, festive
night,
Oft, honour'd with supreme
command,
Presided o'er the sons of light;
And by that heiroglyphic
bright,
Which none but craftsmen ever
saw!
Strong mem'ry on my heart
shall write
Those happy scenes when far
awa'.

—Robert Burns.

Wisconsin Freemason

The Canadian International Stamp Ex-
hibition is to be held in the Automotive
Building, in Toronto, from September 21-
29, 1951.

**Members of the Masonic Stamp
Club we are actively identifying
with the show, include
Harry L. Lindquist, Honorary
Vice-President; Dr. Clarence
Hennan and Richard S. Bohn on
the International Jury; and
Harry M. Konwiser will be in
charge of the Bin Room.
Many of our members expect to
visit the show.**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In its eighteen years of existence, our Club has had nine presidents, of which the majority, like myself, were not charter members of the Club. However, when I consider the distinguished philatelists who are my predecessors, I am keenly appreciative of the honor you have conferred on me. Also I am well aware of some of the responsibilities that go with the honor of being your president.

Your most recent expresident, Russell Roane, has been somewhat troubled throughout the entire two years he served you so well, by the feeling that perhaps there was something fundamentally wrong in the way the Club functioned. As far as I know, he has not been able to isolate the trouble (if there really is a trouble), and in all probability I can't, but I have a few theories.

First of all, I am not too worried by the generally small attendance at our meetings as long as the interest in the Club is maintained. Every organization, even our Lodges, here in New York City is apt to be faced with the same problem, which basically seems to be that there is just too many things going on and you can just spread yourselves so thin. The wonderful showing we had at our recent annual members' exhibition is proof enough for me that the interest is still there. So I think that really puts it squarely up to the Program Committee to continue the fine type of programs that have up to now been available to our members. Certainly it may be assumed that if the program is interesting enough to warrant passing up conflicting activities, we'll get the attendance.

Now, as I said before, I was not a charter member of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York. When I joined the Club it was in its fourth year, and it was a flourishing club in every sense of the word. I am coming to realize that there is one essential difference between the Club as it was then and as it is now. I ask you to give very serious consideration to the difference. Originally the Club was formed of a group of Masons with widely divergent philatelic interests to meet in an atmosphere of good fellowship and to mutually improve their philatelic knowledge. Today, partially because we meet at the Collectors Club and enjoy

(see next page)

(message continued)

the generous extention of its fine facilities, we are labeled a Study Group of Masonic Philately. I have nothing against Masonic philately, it is a fascinating field. But it is also a very narrow one, with material extremely hard to locate. I would hazard a guess that practically every member of the Club would like to have a Masonic collection to augment his other philatelic activities, but I doubt if more than half a dozen or so have done much about it. Yet our publication, the Philatelist, is devoted almost exclusively to Masonic philately. Perhaps this is what you want, and if it is there can be no objection, but if it is not what you want, your Board of Governors would like to know about it, to get your views.

I have a pet project that I propose to explore this year. I believe that we are the Masonic Stamp Club of New York, meaning the State and not the City. I would like to see Chapters of the Club set up in every community in the State outside of the metropolitan area of New York City that can muster four or more members. How do our out-of-town members feel about this?

You have elected me to administer the affairs of the Club through your Board of Governors for the coming year. The Board is really the group that runs the Club. Therefore I propose, and I will try to follow through on this, that if we continue with two meetings a month, the second of the two meetings, i. e. the first Friday of each month, will be a Board of Governors meeting with all members of the Club invited to be present, and I hope our members will take full advantage of the opportunity to present their ideas to the Board. Of course this will impose somewhat of an obligation on the Board members to attend these meetings because, of course, a quorum will be needed.

If any of this has sounded gloomy it was only partially intentional. However I did want to bring home to you individually and collectively my ideas of what some of our problems are. With your help, both officers and members, I hope for a fine year ahead of us.

Arthur I. Heim

Regretfully we announce the deaths of our Brothers

CHRISTIAN F. ZOYLNER

ABRAHAM S. ARNOLD

May their souls rest in eternal peace.

JULES FERRY STAMP HONORS A MASON

A recently issued 15-franc stamp of France honors Jules Ferry, who was active in the establishment of the Republic. It also pays homage to a Mason, because Ferry was a member of Lodge Alsace-Lorraine,



which was installed at Paris in September 1872 under the jurisdiction of the Grand Orient. Born at Saint Die, in the Vosges, in 1832, he was admitted to the bar in 1851. He immediately took an interest in politics, becoming an active opponent of the party of Louis Napoleon. Although he was opposed to the war with Germany, Ferry as central prefect of Paris performed outstanding service during the siege of Paris. He gained fame for himself while serving as minister of public instruction. Through his efforts,

the rule of the Jesuits was broken in 1879, and in 1882 he was instrumental in the passage of a law which made primary education free, compulsory and non-clerical.

It also is as an empire builder that he is remembered today. He was Prime Minister in 1880 and in 1883-5, during which time he directed the acquisition of colonies in Africa and Asia, which today make up the bulk of the French territorial empire. His name is inscribed on the Colonial Exposition commemorative stamps issued by 25 colonies in 1931. He was a candidate for the presidency in 1893, the year of his death.

Postal history enthusiasts also will find in the Ferry stamp an excellent addition to their collection. He was serving as prefect during the Franco-Prussian War when the famous balloon post covers were flown out of Paris, the first regular air mail flights. Another attempt to get the mail through involved the use of hollow iron balls. Filled with mail, these were allowed to roll along the river bottom to be picked up downstream. The project was a failure. -- John A. Mirt, Chicago.

OUR ANNUAL DINNER-

was the usual success thanks to George Wray. Too bad more of you did not come out. Note the smiling faces on the photo on page 7. These pictures were taken by our new Prexy, Arthur Heim, shown in the upper right corner. In the upper left, Chairman George Wray. Below him, Harry Lindquist and Asher Kleinman. Center, Harry Konwiser, Frank Bruns, Carl Pelander Sam Brooks(standing), Russell Roane, and Carl Pihl. Below that, Doc Koomanoff, Forrest Ellis and Andy Rasmussen. On the bottom, two Past Presidents, Jake Glaser and George Camnitzer.

CONGRATULATIONS TO-

Henry Holcombe, who has been elected POTENTATE of Mecca Temple

Sidney Barrett, who has severed his connection with the Economist Stamp Co. and is now trading under his own name at 87 Nassau St. New York City.

Ferrars Tows, Who is rapidly recovering from a serious illness.

Fred Hill, who won the third prize trophy at the second Topical Stamp Exhibition, Philadelphia.

Mrs. Herman Herst, Jr., who is home from the hospital and is now on the way to good health.

Mrs. Carl Pelander, who is also home from the hospital very much improved.

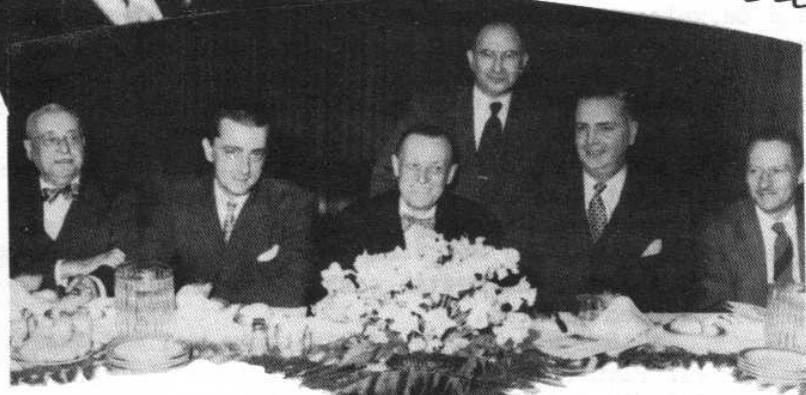
E. Milnor Peck on his forthcoming marriage to Miss Travilla Ioor, of Indianapolis.

Henry M. Friedman, who has just started on his fifth year as editor of the "British Empire Chatter" in "Linns Stamp News"

Harry O. Henneman addressed the Denver Stamp Club on May 9, speaking on "Music on Stamps". Hary puts on a good show in his speciality. We miss you, Harry.

Louis Bobel of Irvington, N.J., recently showed his "Philatelic Sidelines" at the South Orange Stamp Club. Lou recently showed us a strange array of some of his collections.

Brother P.A. Wilde of Cardiff, Wales will address the Club in September on his way to the CAPEX at Toronto.



WHAT IS YOUR OPINION?

Response to the recent questionnaire mailed to many members was very good and is sincerely appreciated by your Board of Governors. With regard to the question of our meeting night schedule, unfortunately, no clearcut deductions could be made.

Therefore, we are setting forth, herewith, a revised set of questions regarding this important matter and would like the opinion of those members who reside within 50 miles of New York City. It was felt that these are the members most directly concerned with our meeting arrangements. If you find a post card in this issue of The Masonic Philatelist, please fill it out (vote for one choice only) and mail it. Naturally, the opinion of members residing in far places would be welcome so please feel free to write about this subject to our newly-elected president, Arthur I. Heim, 91 Amherst Road, Albertson, New York. (Before making your decision, read Bro. Heim's message elsewhere in this issue)

Plan A - To continue to conduct two meetings each month (except July and August) with a planned program for each meeting, on the first and last Friday.

Plan B - To conduct one meeting only each month, with a planned program.

(If Plan B is selected, please indicate whether the first OR the last Friday is preferred)

Plan C - To conduct one meeting each month devoted entirely to a scheduled program (no business conducted); keeping the other date open for business meetings, Board of Governors meetings, conferring of degrees, swap sessions and other events.

(The planned or scheduled program would include guest speakers, showing by members, visits by other clubs, exhibitions, etc)

(If Plan C is selected, please indicate whether the first OR the last Friday is preferred for the planned or scheduled program.)

July 11-13 Shrine Convention in New York City.
Open house at the Collectors Club.
Help welcome Philatelic Shriners.