

The Masonic Philatelist

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JANUARY 1952

BY THE SIGN OF THE GAVEL

May I take this opportunity to thank the many friends who sent Christmas greetings either to me personally or to the Club. These expressions of friendship seem to emphasize the fraternal tie that makes our Club so different from other Stamp Clubs.

We are facing a busy season and it is not too early to start preparing for some of the features. Think about it now, and concern about conflicting dates will not become a problem later. In particular, I hope you will all start thinking about our Annual Dinner on May 2nd. Last year for the first time we did not have an overflow attendance, and we would not like to see that occur again. Brother Sid Barrett is the chairman of the Dinner Committee which alone practically constitutes your guarantee that this affair will be an outstanding occasion. So mark that date on your calendar now and plan to be on hand to enjoy the evening.

Also bear in mind that Bros. George Camnitzer and Charles Brooks are planning our Annual Exhibition to be held on April 25 and need your cooperation. Start getting your exhibit ready. Note that April 25 is the correct date, not April 15 as was printed in the Program of Events last September.

ARTHUR I. HEIM

• Meetings •

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

- Jan. 25 Disquisition on 'MY FAVORITE STAMP'. Five minutes allotted to each member to root for his favorite stamp telling what and why. Dig'em up!
- Feb. 1 7:30 Board of Governors Meeting.
8:00 Philatelic Adventures. The Stamp Hunters.
Led by Herman Herst, Jr. Remember last year? Come out.
- Feb. 29 Past President's Night.

THE MASONIC PHILATELIST

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181 Claremont Ave.	New York 27, N.Y.

Sol Glass Is Named Historian for U.N.

Sol Glass, president of the Bureau Issues Association, and long identified with the study and research involved in the design of United States stamps, is the philatelic historian of the United Nations.

The appointment was announced following the first day ceremonies for the initial group of United Nations stamps late in October.

Mr. Glass, of Baltimore, is to record the history and backgrounds of the U. N. stamps as well as the U. N. postal services.

* * * * *

NEW MEMBER

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

Walter C. Lawrence
41-19 Gleane Street
Elmhurst, 73, N.Y.
Community Lodge #1028



(*) indicates deceased

Wm. Dabel, of San Francisco, Calif. is a Past Patron of an Eastern Star Lodge, and has a handy tuxedo ever ready for visitations. Past Patrons get escorted.

J. Edson Fifield, former New Yorker, is now operating "The Sea Grape" on North Ocean Blvd. Pompano Beach, Florida. Recent visitors, George Wray included, say this operation is a champion motel.

H. H. Harvey of Los Angeles likes to pay his dues well in advance, paying for 1952-1953-1954 and 1955 on the occasion of his last letter to the treasurer.

H.M.K.

OBITUARY NOTICE

Oh, lay it gently in its bed-
The Penny Postal Card is dead!
Through ages carried lover's goo
Or vacation notes from old Aunt Sue.
To many places by you and me
It carried news like old A.P.
Come ye, like me, and weep and mourn
The day that all of us were born
That we should live to see the day
Our one cent post card passed away!
January one of 'fifty two
Shares infamy, quite true.
Sweep up the bottles from this place,
Heap cracked ice upon thy face.
(Can't get it through my weary head
Our one cent postal card is dead!)

by R.A. Freed, Jr.
12-31-51



NASHUA, N. H.
'65 341861



DAYTON, OHIO
1879



HERMAN HERST, JR.

SHRUB OAK, N. Y.



to put it briefly . . .

I am enclosing herewith Bro. Ellis a little Masonic oddity that I came across in my own stock this morning. I have not any idea what it is, except that it is apparently from some New York Lodge or group. Perhaps if you illustrate it in the Masonic Philatelist, we might be able to get some information on it. I would appreciate your returning it to me when you have no further need for it as I want to put it in my own Masonic collection, With best regards, I am



Herman Herst, Jr.

This is a belated report of this meeting, some material was prepared for issue of the last month PHILATELIST but was not ready in time of publication.

An enjoyable and instructive evening was spent by 35 members at the meeting. Brother Phillips introduced the speaker of the evening, Miss Florence Palma, secretary of the Maximum Card Society of America. Miss Palma was assisted by Miss Agnes Burlingame, who in turn was in charge of the exhibits that were shown in the wall frames.

Miss Palma explained the meaning of this type of stamp collecting and gave demonstration by passing around a number of the cards.

Never was there a more attentive audience: she knew her subject and how to speak about it.

IN THE SPIRIT OF PAUL REVERE BUY DEFENSE BONDS



GREENFIELD, MASS.



WHAT AGAIN !!!!!!!



BRIDGEWATER, PA.



HERMAN HERST, JR.

SHRUB OAK, N. Y.

to put it briefly ...

NOW SEE HERE



A room full of club members is expected when Bro. Pat again leads the Stamp Hunters on Feb. 1, 1952. If you are not present (out of towners excepted) then a hex will be on your perforations. Bro. Pat must dig himself out of the snow drifts in the primeval woods of Shrub Oak up in the wilds of Westchester to entertain us, then you match it with a ride on the subway or your car.

A LINE FROM MILLERSBURG

Because of the fact that so many fine people in the hobby have aided me in my enjoyment of collecting, I am now ready for another venture in issuing covers of my own, I now am the organizer and operator of "Millersburg Covers", an agency for the purpose of issuing Masonic covers. As there are over 100 of our American cities with names of stations, some are lodge officers, others are key words from lectures.

The cachet is a large Square and Compass, printed in blue. The cost of the covers is light as my aim is not to make money, just meet expenses. My deal is this: 15¢ per cover or 100 covers for \$10. The postmarks will tell the story and the cachets will be the same on all covers.

There will be no advertising of this cover deal except through our club or other Masonic stamp clubs, as I do not want the covers to fall into profane hands, nor do I want to be guilty of using the emblem or fraternity as a business card. In issuing these covers for members of our club I feel that I can do neither of these wrong things.

Should any of the brothers have any inquiries about these covers, have them drop a line to Millersburg Covers, Box 294, Millersburg, Ohio and I shall give all requested information. This should give you a fairly good idea of how many hours were spent using the U.S. Postal Guide and how many of the nation's cities I checked. In the future I plan other covers of Masonic interest, as well as this big series.

I am trying to locate any good Art Craft 1950 or 1951 issues, singles, as I am away behind due to teaching last year at a Navy School in Florida. Best wishes for all the Craft in the 12 months of 1952. --- R.A.Freed, Jr.



The net proceeds of the Auction held on January 4, 1952 was \$21.80. Bro. Heim did the honors and was the one who had the most money, so got some nice material to start an U.S. collection. Does some one want to buy a nice Belge-Congo collection?

WHAT I DO COLLECT

WM. DAFEL

I have my U.S. complete using the Poole Albums, need about six or seven high priced. Have the commemoratives from the Columbians to date mint. Feel that the money needed to buy those lacking are too high for one stamp rather get a lot and have fun sorting them over.

Have about 20,000 foreign but cannot get interested in any one country. Feel that most new issues are printed to bring money into that country's treasury and many look like trunk labels! Bought about 10,000 Great Britain Penny Reds and have all the plate numbers!

Started precancels many years ago and now that is my main endeavor. Have about 50,000 general but go mostly after types and towns. Have an almost complete collection of Hawaii precancels for which I received the bronze medal at the HAPEX, held in Honolulu last June. They cost me well over \$500. Have bought three large collections of them in the past few years. But for a collection 10,000 you pay about \$100.

For stamps missing in my Hawaii I would pay \$5 or more. That comes under the heading of supply and demand. I have advertised for them for over a year but without good answers. Seems that when you advertise "wants" everybody thinks that is a rare stamp, although I have taken stamps out of my collection and have given them gratis to a specialist of any certain state. I get a kick out of going through accumulations, hoping to find one to put in my general precancel collection.

Am going after foreign revenues for the same reason I go after precancels. For fun and relaxation. In my opinion most of the larger collections are sold on the East Coast. Every collector has an accumulation of precancels or foreign revenues and these I presume are sold by the dealer or at auction. If I were there I probably could contact many dealers for this material.

Two of the Hawaii collections came from the East Coast. (One was Bro. Tow's)

The dealers in San Francisco seem to buy from wholesalers, though occasionally a lot is turned up and they phone me.

Southern California has many prominent dealers and many prominent precancel collectors and no dealers in foreign revenues, so that leaves me out in the cold! 3182 Mission St. S.F. 10. Cal.

R. M. Needham

Richard M. Needham (32^o) was born in Chicago, Ill. on Dec. 4, 1917.

He received his primary education in various schools in Illinois, Michigan, Ohio and Kentucky, graduating from 8th grade at Kentucky Military Institute. He graduated from the Pataskala (Ohio) High school in 1936. He attended Bennett's Linotype school in Maumee, O., also in 1936 and in 1937 entered Ohio Wesleyan univ. in Delaware, O., (becoming a member of TKE and Pi Delta Epsilon national journalism honorary society) for 3 years, leaving Sept. 16, 1940 for 5 years in the Army (during World War II), serving in 37th Inf. Div., 30th Inf. Div. and overseas in Pacific theatre with 98th Sig. Bn. and the 43rd Inf. Div., being discharged Nov. 3, 1945 at Camp Atterbury, Ind.

On May 12, 1946, he was married to Ruth K. Poling of Logan in Mill's Memorial EUB church in Lancaster.

Since being discharged he was a member of the staff of the Standard Publishing Co., publishers of **The Pataskala Standard**, a weekly newspaper, and conducted a stamp column under the name of "Phil Ately." Since October 1949, he has been, and is, the printing Instructor at the Ohio Boys' Industrial School. In October this year, he began operating his part-time dealership under MAHDEEN Cover Service, BIS Box 134, Lancaster, Ohio. The principal product is a line of Masonic cacheted US FDC's (By "Mahdeen"), for those of the Craft; and for anyone else interested, who prepare their own FDC's. They are now being printed on ARTCRAFT watermarked rag envelopes. In addition, he offers the Scott, Elbe, and White Ace lines of albums and accessories. US stamps, past & present, are available. New issues of Canada, Canal Zone, and Philippines are available upon request. His own collecting interests are: U. S. (Canal Zone, Cuba, Guam, Hawaii, and the Philippine Commonwealth); B. N. A.; Philippine Republic: singles, FDC's & plate number bloc; also covers with Masonic corner cards.

Mr. Needham is a member of: American Philatelic Society; National Philatelic Society (life member No. 50); Society of Philatelic Americans; Masonic Stamp Club of N. Y.; Columbus (Ohio) Philatelic Club; Ohio Civil Service Employees' Ass'n; 37th Div. Veterans Ass'n; National Rifle Ass'n; Pataskala Lodge, No. 404, F. & A. M.; Life Member Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Columbus, O.; Wahneta Chapter, No. 235, O. E. S.; Fairfield County Auto Club; and he is an Associate Editor of Weekly Philatelic Gossip of Holton, Kans. He was a member of Pataskala Post No. 107, American Legion and Mound-builders' Post No. 1060, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Newark, Ohio. He has also newly affiliated with First Methodist church in Lancaster.

On April 26, 1950, with 7 other men, he helped form and organize the Fairfield County Philatelic Club and served as first secretary. He was re-elected to this office at the first Annual Meeting, held last April 18, 1951. He also has been doing the printing for the club.

MAHDEEN COVER SERVICE will service cacheted First Day of Rate cancellation from Lancaster, O. of new 2c government postal card at 10c each. Will service also a few Last Day of Use cacheted 1c gov't postal cards from Lancaster, O. at 5c each. In addition, will have FD envelopes for all the 1952 five commems already announced by the POD. Four will have Masonic backgrounds—Betsy Ross will not.

Well, the POD really pulled a "Quickie" on us stamp collectors last month with that new variety of an old design 20c special delivery stamp (Scott's E14). You would have thought the design would have been changed, too.

The new 2c Franklin postal card is a welcome change from the 1c Jefferson, in spite of the increase in cost. Perhaps there'll be other changes, too. Our 2c postal reply card (Geo. and Martha Washington) will have to be upped to 4c. Wonder what designs will be used for this one?

Now that all the 1951 commems have been issued, it is time to take a poll and find out the consensus of opinion on which was the most attractive U. S. stamp of the year, which was the ugliest and which was least necessary. Turn in all votes to the sec'y this coming meeting. My votes for these are: most attractive, Nevada; ugliest, Colorado; least necessary, Battle of Brooklyn. In point of attractiveness, I rate all six stamps in order, following the Nevada stamp as number one: UCV, 2d; ACS, 3d; Detroit, 4th; 5th, Colorado; and 6th, BOB.

FROM MIRT'S BACK PORCH

UNITED CONFEDERATE VETERAN STAMP

"The 3¢ postage stamp issued May 30, 1951, to com-



memorate the final encampment of the United Confederate Veterans reminds me that the teachings of Freemasonry transcend personal differences men may have. Hundreds of incidences are re-

corded where the hand of Brotherly Love was stretched out during the war of the States when the sign of a Mason was recognized between foes. The solicitude shown by Union Masons for wounded Confederate Masons induced the highly religious William McKinley, a Union officer and later President of the United States, to become a Mason in a Southern Lodge, Hiram No. 21, at Winchester, Va., in 1865. A Confederate chaplain was the Master and conferred the degrees. -- John A. Mirt, Chicago."

As in the case of the G. A. R. stamp, which was of Masonic interest because of the part Masons played in its formation (see Masonic Philatelist, November 1949), the U. C. V. stamp has several features of Masonic symbolism. It pictures an hour-glass.

"Behold, how swiftly the sands run, and how rapidly our lives are drawing to a close! We cannot, without astonishment, behold the little particles which are contained in this machine, how they pass away almost imperceptibly, and yet, to our surprise, in the short space of an hour, they are exhausted. Thus wastes man! Today he puts forth the tender leaves of hope; tomorrow blossoms, and bears his blushing honors thick upon him; the next day comes a frost, which nips the shoot, and when he thinks his greatness is still aspiring he falls, like autumn leaves, to enrich our mother earth."

The stamp portrays youth and age, which likewise have allusions. -- Mirt.