



# *the Masonic Philatelist*

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NO. 8



1894—Masonic Temple, Chicago

# The MASONIC PHILATELIST

VOL. 10 NO. 8

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Santa Rosa Lodge #57 Santa Rosa, Calif.  
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Demise of Bro. Geo. R. White at the Masonic  
Home in Utica.

## ● Meetings ●

First Friday of Each Month  
Collectors Club Bldg., 22 E. 35th Street

**March 5, 1954**—Report from the  
Niagara Frontier—Charles A.  
Lott.

**April 2, 1954**—Master of Philately  
Degree—followed by "Turkey  
Hash." Not something to eat,  
just bring in some odds and  
ends that you might have  
laying around and show  
them to the boys.

## The Cover

Corner card of the Grand Lodge Sec-  
retary of Illinois (1894), featuring the  
Masonic Temple in Chicago. The wood  
cut engraving of the Temple was done  
by Jacob Manz of Chicago.

The Temple not only contained Ma-  
sonic Lodge activities but also had of-  
fices for many business firms, and the  
Temple being so well known a letter to  
any of these firms with the address  
"The Temple, Chicago" thereon would  
guarantee a correct delivery.

## By the Sign of the GAVEL

Plans are coming along very nicely  
for the 20th Annual Dinner of the  
Masonic Stamp Club of New York—  
and it is not too early to begin think-  
ing about it, and making your plans to  
attend. This event, always the high-  
light of the club season, will be held  
Friday evening May 21, 1954 at the  
Masonic Club in the Masonic Hall at  
71 West 23rd street in New York City.  
Your committee in charge of arrange-  
ments has some novel ideas and prom-  
ises an affair equal to the best held in  
the past.

Last year, for example, we had the  
privilege of greeting at the dinner Bro.  
Max Kohane, representing the Masonic  
Philatelic Society of Victoria (Austra-  
lia), who presented the club with sev-  
eral fraternal tokens and gave a most  
inspiring talk. Also present last year  
was Bro. Al Van Dahl, publisher of the  
"Western Stamp Collector," who also  
generously prints "The Masonic Philat-  
elist." These events were, of course,  
dividends as the principal speaker  
was Bro. Henry W. Holcombe who, as  
usual, had a sparkling message that  
was thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

Each year at the annual dinner we  
are pleased to see a number of mem-  
bers from out of town, as well as many  
members from the Metropolitan area  
who find it difficult to attend very  
many of our regular meetings. I would  
like to make a special plea to out-of-  
town members to plan to attend the  
dinner this year. If business or other  
reasons make a trip to New York  
likely this spring, try to schedule it  
around May 21st. I am certain the  
effort will prove well worthwhile. It  
is difficult to convey by mere words,  
eloquent or otherwise, the great spirit  
of friendliness and fraternal regard  
that have always characterized these  
annual affairs.

We shall be looking forward to

greeting many of the brethren—from near and far—at the 20th Annual Dinner this year. Additional details about the dinner will appear in the next issue of "The Masonic Philatelist"—look for it.

Bro. Forrest L. Ellis continues to do an outstanding job as editor of "The Masonic Philatelist," each succeeding issue is an improvement over the previous one. If you agree, why don't you drop Bro. Ellis a line and tell him so? Better still, prepare an article—long or short—or send him some news item or other grist for his mill. I know what his problems are as I am editor of another philatelic club journal. Stories of your adventures in hunting stamps or old covers—in stamp shops, antique shops or Aunt Philomena's attic—would make very interesting reading. Or you could describe your stamp collecting activities. Comments or suggestions on "The Masonic Philatelist" would also be welcomed by Bro. Ellis.

Attendance at our monthly meetings has been excellent, even in November when the heavy snowstorm struck on our meeting night twelve hardy members were present. I ought to remind members residing in the metropolitan area that they are missing a lot if they don't attend the club meetings on the first Friday of each month.

—CARL H. PIHL.

### In and Around the Club —

By EMANUEL M. REGGEL  
690 Fort Washington Avenue  
New York 33, N. Y.

Another month has rolled around. The meeting of February 5th was "Past President's Night" and one hundred percent of them showed up. Brother George B. Wray was in charge of the entertainment committee. He turned the meeting over to Brother Arthur I. Heim who was master of ceremonies. He showed some unusual covers of the Belgian Congo. Brother Henry Holcombe spoke about his Match and Medicine Stamps, telling us interesting stories. Brother Carl Pelander showed stamps and envelopes bearing Masonic cancellations. Brother George Camnitzer showed some unusual covers and stamps from German West Africa. Brother Ferrars H. Tows reminisced about his collection. Brother Sam Brooks showed his stamps of Greek Occupied Islands. Brother Rus-

sell B. Roane showed Japanese Occupation stamps of the Philippines. Brother Jake Glasser showed several frames of fine stamps from Colombia.

Attention was called to the fact that Brother Harry M. Konwiser should have been a Past President. The many times he had been offered the presidency, each time he refused it. Brother Harry has done so much, in the past years, for the club, that he can never be forgotten for his untiring efforts and work. He was called upon to say a few words. This he did by saying, "It's an honor and a privilege and I'm happy to be with you." Brother Harry is a man of few words, but he's a grand gentleman. This meeting was a real success.

We understand that Dr. S. Duffield Swan and Brother Carl Pelander have today, the most rare and outstanding collections in the United States, of Masonic cancellations and corner cards. I have been promised that in the near future, a series of articles will be written by them, for our Masonic Philatelist. That's worth looking forward to!

Brother Jake Glasser showed me the following Masonic label and asked if I knew what it was. I didn't, nor does he. Can anyone of you Brothers give him any information on it?



Many nice notes have been written to our treasurer by some of the Brothers remitting their 1954 dues. All sent good wishes to club members. A few who wrote details of their activities are: Brothers Frank Z. Bennett, Naumee, Ohio; J. Gordon Rossen, New York City; Ray. W. Head, Chico, California; Harrold Matters, St. Petersburg, Fla.; Alexander Richards, Springfield, Mass.; L. Norman Williams, Hartford, Conn.; Wm. Dahel, San Francisco, Calif.; N. L. Shepard, Glendora, Cal.; George A. Urlaub, Queens Village, L. I.; Fred Wendel, New York City.

### MASTER OF PHILATELY DEGREE

On April 2nd, the ritual committee, headed by our Junior Past President, Bro. Arthur I. Heim, will be ready to receive candidates for the degree of Master of Philately.

Since this degree was inaugurated during the CIPEX show, on May 19th, 1947, seventy-three members have been awarded the coveted certificate, suitable for framing, as a token of the occasion.

Any member is eligible. Bro. Wm. Dabel, of San Francisco, Calif., writes: "I intend to come to New York on April 2nd. My prime motive is to receive the Degree of Philately."

If you have not received this degree, all you have to do is to be present on Friday, April 2nd, 1954, the Collectors Club, at 8:00 P. M.

### NEW SLOGAN RECORDS

U. S. postal slogan cancels have been in use in one or more cities since 1897 except 1898 and 1910, according to Moe Luff in an annual review.

During 1953, 128 different slogans were in use in various cities and this was 17 more than the next highest year, 1923 in which 111 slogans were used. 1952 with 110 bettered 1922 with 105. 1950 and 1951 were fairly close to each other with 95 and 85, respectively. Other years were as follows:

1921	- 46	1931, 39	- 12
1920	- 44	1914, 32	- 11
1924	- 30	1940, 43, 45	- 10
1948	- 28	1918, 41, 44	- 9
1947	- 22	1900, 13, 15, 16, 42	- 8
1925	- 19	1899	- 6
1938	- 18	1901, 12	- 5
1917	- 17	1902, 11	- 3
1929, 35, 36, 46	- 16	1904, 09	
1926, 28, 33	- 15	1897, 1903, 5, 6, 7, 8	- 1
1919, 27, 34, 37	- 14		
1930	- 13	1898, 1910	- 0

Postal regulations pertaining to the method to be pursued by persons or organizations seeking to sponsor U. S. Slogan Cancellations provide that these special slogans can only be permitted where the event to be advertised is for some national purpose for which Congress has made an appropriation; and second, where the event to be advertised is of general public interest and importance and is to endure for a definite period of time and is not to be conducted for private gain or profit. The permit for the use of the special cancellation die cannot be for a period longer than six months and the duration of the event to be advertised. No postal funds can be ex-

pended for the purchase of these special cancelling stamps or postmarking dies. All expenses involved must be taken care of by the person or group sponsoring same.

Further information and possibly a copy of the prevailing instructions can be obtained from the Assistant Postmaster General, Bureau of Finance, Washington, D. C.

### JOHN PHILIP SOUSA A MASON

John Philip Sousa (1854-1932), shown on the 2¢ composer issue of the Famous Americans series of 1940 (No. 880) was a Mason. The "March King" was raised in Hiram Lodge No. 10, Washington, D. C., Nov. 18, 1881. He also was a member of Lafayette Chapter No. 4, Royal Arch Masons, and Columbia Commandery, Knights Templar, both of Washington.

### U. S. NOTES

After Postmaster General Summerfield had the original design of the trucking stamp changed, due to not favoring any particular make of auto truck, the plate numbers of the stamp printing plates were changed.

Stamps of October 17, 1953 quoted the PMG—"Fortunately the engraving plates had not been completed, so it was a simple matter to alter the design so that no one model would be represented and it would be a composite."

The P. O. Information Service publicity release #1038 of October 15, 1953 gave the numbers assigned to the Trucking Postage stamp plates during the month of September as 24861 to 24866.

When the stamps were issued on their first day, October 27, 1953, the plate numbers available were none of the above numbers. Numbers 24867 and 24868 were used on first day covers. Perhaps other numbers, after these two numbers, were also available.

Publicity release #2012, December 31, 1953 gave the information that new plate numbers had been assigned in October for the Trucking stamp and that these numbers were 24867 to 24872.

If the first engraving was altered only, why did the plate numbers have to be changed?

Whether you collect precancels or not should not stop the collector of U. S. material in ordering a copy of "U. S. Bureau Precancels" published by George Klein, Casselberry, Fern Park, Florida.

This fine booklet, priced at only 10 cents, is the neatest approach to this type of stamp collecting that the editor has ever seen.

Step by step explanation of the various type and classifications are illustrated with ample text.

The booklet is not a catalogue but a real handbook regarding precancels.

### **MASONRY ON STAMPS AS I SEE IT**

By F. T. ANDERSON

It has been quite some time since your humble writer has contributed anything to this publication but hope to again be able to do a few articles. As mentioned before, my writing is a way of telling what I have put into my Masonic stamp albums. Undoubtedly most of the readers are better authorities on either Masonry or stamps than I am, but if each one will come up with some thoughts based on what they are doing with their collections, I am sure we will all be helped.

In previous articles, I wrote about Masonic emblems that are found on stamps. We do not claim these are on stamps because they are Masonic emblems or symbols. They are recognized by non-Masons also in many cases.

In this article, I would like to refer to some of the virtues we are admonished to practice in Masonry. In the Entered Apprentice Degree, our monitor tells us "The three great tenets of The Masonic Profession are Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth." I have used one page for each of these tenets and quoted the monitor in each case.

**BROTHERLY LOVE:** "By the exercise of brotherly love we are taught to regard the whole human species as one family, the high and the low, the rich and the poor; who, as created by one Almighty Parent, and inhabitants of the same planet, are to aid, support and protect each other. On this principle, Masonry unites men of every country, sect and opinion, and conciliates true friendship among those who might otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance."

To illustrate Brotherly Love, I have used two stamps, one from Belgium and one from Saar, picturing the Good Samaritan. Surely, no better illustration of this virtue could be found. The Italian stamps honoring St. Francis of Assisi are also very appropriate as are many others, one of which is Belgium B419, "Comforting the Leper."

**RELIEF:** "To relieve the distressed

is a duty incumbent on all men, but particularly on Masons, who are linked together by an indissoluble chain of sincere affection. To soothe the unhappy, to sympathize with their misfortunes, to compassionate their miseries, and to restore peace to their troubled minds, is the grand aim we have in view. On this basis we form our friendships, and establish our connections."

Relief is closely related to brotherly love and here again we have a wide choice of stamps to use to illustrate this virtue. Any of the Red Cross stamps would be appropriate. I have also added a page at this point with stamps honoring Florence Nightingale because she exemplified this virtue and also because she was honored by having a Lodge in Great Britain named after her.

**TRUTH:** "Truth is a divine attribute, and the foundation of every virtue. To be good and true is the first lesson we are taught in Masonry. On this theme, we contemplate, and by its dictates endeavor to regulate our conduct; hence, while influenced by this principle, hypocrisy and deceit are unknown among us, and the heart and tongue join in promoting each other's welfare, and rejoicing in each other's prosperity."

Nothing could be used to illustrate truth better than the Bible. Many of the stamps picturing the Bible have been used in that part of my album in which The Great Lights are shown. But there are many more that can be used to depict truth. My favorite is the Bounty Bible stamp of Pitcairn Islands. Anyone who has read Nordhoff and Hall's thrilling story of how Alexander Smith brought the lonely community from despair and shambles to peace and tranquility will appreciate this stamp. Our own Gutenberg stamp and Brazil's #716 showing The Open Bible are very appropriate.

### **NEW ZEALAND STAMP**

The Duke of Edinburgh, a Mason, is pictured on a 4d New Zealand stamp issued December 9, 1953, in connection with the Royal Visit to that country.

Slogans to be, send self-addressed stamped envelopes to the postmaster of each town for these cancellations: "Centennial Celebration" Emory University, Georgia.

"County Centennial" Algona, Iowa.  
"275th Anniversary" Trenton, New Jersey."

# FROM NEEDHAM'S LINOTYPE—

## DAVID G. FARRAGUT, A MASON

Depicted on the \$1 1903 issue of the United States (Scott's #311) is the portrait of David Glasgow Farragut, first full admiral of the United States Navy, from a picture with source unknown to the writer.

Farragut was born near Knoxville, Tenn. on July 5, 1801. He died on August 14, 1870 at Portsmouth, N. H., where he was buried with Masonic honors. Later his body was removed to Woodlawn Cemetery in Brooklyn.

He entered the Navy at the age of nine years, became a Midshipman at 12 and studied under Chaplain Charles Folsom on board the U.S.S. Washington while serving in the Mediterranean. Returning to the States in 1820, he passed his Navy exams and served the mosquito fleet against the pirates in the Caribbean Sea. In 1825 he was promoted to Lieutenant; in September 1841, to commander; and in September 1855, to Captain. In 1858 he took command of the U.S.S. Brooklyn and at the outbreak of hostilities in 1861 was awaiting orders at Norfolk, Virginia.

Farragut was one of the great geniuses of the Civil War. He was not only a fearless man, but knew a good risk and had the courage of his convictions. Other naval officers thought it impossible to run a fleet up the Mississippi river past all the forts, but Farragut headed not. He used new tactics. Instead of heading up the center of the river channel, he ran his ships so close to Fort Jackson that the yard arms touched the parapets, and while this fort fired over the ships the one on the opposite shore fired short.

When his fleet had laid New Orleans under its guns, Congress created the rank of commodore for Farragut. Knowles, the old signal quartermaster on the U.S.S. Hartford, took a blue flag, a "number" from the signal chest, stitched a star on it, and it was flown, the first commodore's flag in our navy. When Farragut was promoted to rear admiral, a grade created for him, Knowles stitched a second star and when Farragut was made vice-admiral, and later admiral, Knowles added the necessary stars to the same old flag.

While Farragut's Masonic connection is beyond doubt, his mother lodge seems to be unknown. One source states he was made a Mason on the island of Malta (which historians will know was the last ancient headquarters of the Knights Templar). Naval

lodge #87 was instituted at Vallejo, opposite the Navy Yard at Mare Island, and in 1920 there were members thereof still living who greeted the admiral when he visited there. Surgeon General John Mills Browne of the Navy, who was Grand Master of Masons of California, as well as Master of Naval lodge, and also an active 33 degree, was intimate with the admiral in California, and recalled him as a Mason and a promoter of Masonry. Brother Browne didn't recall the name of the admiral's lodge.

He was buried on August 17, 1870 by St. John's lodge #1, Portsmouth, N. H., with Masonic honors.

## FIRST DAY COVERS

The first day cover fan had real field days here in New York for both the N. Y. C. 300th year and the Columbia University stamps. For the N. Y. C. covers a hand stamp and a machine cancel at the A.S.D.A. show, a hand stamp and a machine cancel at the General Post Office, the 300th anniversary slogan from five different postal stations and cancels from each and every post office station in the Bronx and Manhattan, some 72 offices, could be possible.

For the Columbia University covers, a hand stamp and machine cancel at the Bicentennial station at Columbia, a hand stamp and a machine cancel at the General Post Office and cancels from all 72 postal stations.

## SYMBOLISMS ON STAMPS

Israel in December issued four additional stamps in the coinage series. The 100 pruta stamp is of particular interest to the Royal Arch Mason collector as it shows the Temple at Jerusalem with the Ark of the Covenant.

Symbolisms to be found on recently issued stamps include the following: Planting a sprig is shown on Korean 1 and 10 hwan (Nos. 190 and 193); beehive on a 25 lire Italian stamp; triangle on a Korean 10 weun; a new definitive series issued by Lebanon shows the familiar "Cedars of Lebanon design; Greece issued a national products series, including drs. 1,300 wine (of refreshment) and drs. 1,000 olive oil (of joy) issues.

Send to postmaster of Evansville, Indiana for "A Century Of Service, Evansville College" and to Aspen, Colorado for the "National Ski Championship" slogan cancellations.

## From Mirt's Back Porch

### TWO MEMBERS OF LODGE HONORED ON STAMPS

Two members of St. John's Lodge No. 1, Portsmouth, N. H., have been honored philatelically. One was Major Gen. John Sullivan, the other Major Gen. Henry Dearborn.

Gen. Sullivan, pictured on a 2¢ stamp issued in 1929 (No. 657), had both an illustrious war record and history of Masonic activity. He was a delegate from New Hampshire to the



Major Gen. John Sullivan

Continental Congress in 1774. A year later, he was appointed a brigadier general in the New Hampshire troops, and in 1776 he was promoted to major general in Washington's Army and assigned to duty on Long Island. He was captured in the battle of Long Island Aug. 27, 1776, but was exchanged. He served gallantly throughout the war, suffering with Washington and his men at Valley Forge. When the Six Nations Indians in northern New York became a menace in 1779, Gen. Sullivan led an expedition to subdue them. The move resulted in a complete rout of the enemy; the Sullivan stamp commemorates the victory.

Gen. Sullivan was raised in St. John's Lodge on Dec. 12, 1768. He served as Master in 1789, and became the first Grand Master when the Grand

Lodge of New Hampshire was organized in 1790. He served his state in many capacities, including that of governor. He died in 1795 at the age of 55 and was buried with Masonic rites.

Gen. Dearborn, likewise, had a distinguished military record. He was a practicing physician in Nottingham, N. H., when word came of the stand made by the Americans against the British at Lexington, Mass., April 4, 1775, (commemorated by Lexington-Concord series of 1925, Nos. 617-619). He organized a company of 60 men and marched to join the patriots. As a captain in Stark's Brigade, he participated in the battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775. He was taken prisoner in the Canadian campaign, but was exchanged. He accompanied Gen. Sullivan in the expedition against the Indians.

He served two terms in Congress and for eight years as secretary of war. When a defense post was established at Chicago during his term, Fort Dearborn was selected as the name. (A reproduction of the fort is shown on a 1¢ stamp issued in 1933—No. 728). At the outbreak of the War of 1812, he was appointed major general and he served as senior officer throughout the campaign.

Gen. Dearborn was raised in St. John's Lodge in 1777. He died in 1829 at the age of 78. Fort Dearborn, only a block house amid savage wilderness, is gone, but where it stood there is today the second largest city in the United States.

Another illustrious member of St. John's Lodge, with distinguished service in the War of the Revolution was Lieut. Elijah Hall, raised June 26, 1777. He was second in command to Capt. John Paul Jones, also a Mason, in the naval battle between the Bonhomme Richard (pictured on the 1¢ stamp of the Navy series of 1936—No. 790) and the Serapis off Flamborough Head in 1779.

### SAFETY PROJECT OF CHICAGO MASON RECOGNIZED

The 3¢ stamp (No. 1007) issued in 1952 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the American Automobile Association shows a school safety patrolman guarding two girls at a street crossing. This important life saving and accident prevention movement, which not only is nationwide but which has been taken up in 15 for-



eign countries, was fathered by a Chicago Mason.

In 1922, while president of the Chicago Motor Club, Ill., Charles M. Hayes, 33 degree, interested Illinois and Indiana public and parochial schools in the project. Volunteers were assigned to direct pupils at street crossings while they were going to and from school. The resultant reduction in deaths and injuries was followed by an adoption of the plan throughout the nation and in leading foreign countries.

Bro. Hayes was raised in Alpha Lodge No. 155, Galesburg, Ill., in 1904. He took his Royal Arch, Knights Templar and Scottish Rite degrees there that year. Moving to Chicago, he transferred his membership to Dearborn Lodge No. 310; Chicago Chapter No. 127, R.A.M., and Englewood Commandery No. 59, K.T. He also is a Shriner, being a member of Medinah Temple, to which this writer also belongs. Last fall, he was made an honorary 33 degree member of the Scottish Rite Supreme Council for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. Bro. Hayes is rounding out 40 years as president of the Chicago Motor Club, a unit of the American Automobile Association.

The stamp is another example of the recognition given to the outstanding public services of Masons.

### CHRISTMAS FLOWER NAMED AFTER MASON

The Christmas season has passed, but the beauty and cheer provided by the beautiful poinsettia, traditional flower of the American yuletide, still are with us. Few, however, are aware that the flower is named after a prominent Mason, Joel R. Poinsett.

Poinsett was born in 1779 in Charleston, S. C., and studied in England and Scotland, taking up law and military science. After many years of travel in Europe, he returned to the United States. He was appointed to a South American mission to promote a good-neighbor policy. Later, he was made minister to Mexico. While there in 1825, he established three lodges under charters from the Grand Lodge of New York. These lodges subsequently established the Grand Lodge of Mexico. He also fathered Royal Arch Masonry in Mexico.

He was a member of Solomon's Lodge No. 1, Charleston, served as Deputy Grand Master in South Caro-

lina in 1821, and was elected Grand Master but owing to his appointment as Secretary of War could not accept that office. He also was Deputy Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons. Upon the revival of Greenville (S. C.) Lodge No. 3 in 1849, he became its Master despite his age. He died in 1851.

During the gloomy period in the early 1830's when anti-Masonry was hovering like a fearful incubus over the Craft and when to defend the institution and publicly support its principles was to hazard character and popularity, Poinsett nobly stood forth as its champion.

In my personal library is a mildewed copy of the official proceedings of the "Anti-Masonry Republican Convention of Massachusetts," held in Boston in 1833. In that convention, Poinsett was bitterly attacked for having said that persons who had organized themselves into an opposition to Freemasonry were "anti-moral, anti-charitable, anti-Christian and anti-republican."

Interested in amateur horticulture, he cultivated and developed the colorful poinsettia. Two years ago, Cuba issued 1c and 2c stamps (Nos. 469-470), picturing the flower. This year, the 175th anniversary of the birth of Poinsett, would be a fitting time for the United States to issue a poinsettia stamp for next Christmas—a symbol of goodwill.—John A. Mirt in "Masonry on Postage Stamps."

### ROYAL VISIT STAMPS

The visit of Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh to British colonies will provide new stamps for a Masonic collection. The Duke, who is a Mason, will be portrayed on some of the commemorative issues. Australia on February 2 put out three stamps, two of which—7½d and 2sh.—picture both the Queen and the Duke.

Italian Somaliland is a little late—only four years with a three-stamp set commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Universal Postal Union. However, the stamps are an addition to a Masonic collection because the "father" of U.P.U. was a German Mason, Heinrich von Stephan.

The first International postal congress was held in Berne, Switzerland, in 1874 with delegates from 22 nations attending.