With best Wishes —
Sincerely Yours,
Harry I. Mees.

Rather a Curio!
The MASONIC PHILATELIST

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The Cover


Souvenir of the Transvaal, Coins of the South Africa Republic on card of the Orange River Colony. Top row of coins are the silver 1 crown, ½ crown, 2 shillings, 1 shilling, six pence, 3 pence or 1 tickey. Two coins on the left, 1 and a ½ sovereign gold. Large coin on the right, 1 penny.

By the Sign of the GAVEL

At the suggestion of several members two years ago the Masonic Stamp Club of New York inaugurated a system of exchange books for stamps. Under the able leadership of Bro. Robert M. Pech a large number of books containing a variety of stamps were made available to the members at our meetings. However, since the initial effort, very little new material has been forthcoming. Also, there has been apparently little interest shown by the members. We believe that this activity has much merit and deserves more support from the members. Bro. Pech works pretty hard keeping track of the exchange books but feels that the members are not exhibiting sufficient interest in this service. If you have a lot of duplicates or other material in which you are not interested, obtain a book from Bro. Pech and make this material available to your fellow members. And make it a habit to look over the books at each meeting. Let's show Bob that we want the exchange book service continued.

A new Membership List of the MSC is in preparation and will be sent to all members in the near future. A committee has been working diligently on this project all summer and the fruits of their labors will be forthcoming soon.

Everyone who has had the pleasure of hearing Bro. Herman Herst knows that he is most entertaining and interesting. Every member should make a point of being present on Nov. 5 when Pat will present Excerpts from "Herst's Outbursts." On this occasion each member should bring as a guest a prospective member, in any case, bring a guest.

And don't forget to assist Bro. Forrest Ellis, Editor of The Masonic Philatelist, by furnishing grist for his mill in the form of articles, short items, features, personal, etc. Each member should consider himself an assistant editor of this fine journal.

Carl H. Phil.

Meetings

First Friday of Each Month
Collectors Club Bldg., 22 E. 35th Street
October 1—Asia night—arranged by Russell B. Roane.
November 5—Excerpts from "Herst's Outbursts"—Herman Herst.

Back numbers of MASONRY ON POSTAGE STAMPS are available from May, 1952 at five copies for $1.00. Write John A. Mirt, 644 Melrose St., Chicago 13, Ill.
MRS. HERMAN HERST, JR.
(Special to The New York Times)
Shrub Oak, N. Y., Sept. 7—Mrs. Ingeborg Herst, wife of Herman Herst Jr., nationally known stamp dealer, died yesterday afternoon at her home here after a long illness. Her age was 39.

Our deepest sympathy and condolences are extended to Bro. Herman Herst, Jr. and family in this hour of mourning. May his departed companion, Ingeborg, find the peace of eternal rest. Her grace and charm will remain in the memory of all who met her, and endeared everlasting in the hearts of her many friends.

We hope and pray that our bereaved brother will find solace in knowing how much we share his loss.
(Members assembled at Masonic Stamp Club of N. Y. meeting, Sept. 10, 1954).

WESTWARD HO!
Westward Ho! is the title of the feature article in the current issue of the MACSA Journal. The migration to the West and the opening for settlement of this vast region is traced from the time that the Indians were undisputed masters west of the Mississippi to the fantastic days of the California Gold Rush. Daniel Boone, the settlement of the Northwest Territory, the Oregon Trail, the Tippecanoe incident, the Louis and Clark Expedition, the settlement of Utah, the Gadsden Purchase, the Conestoga Wagon, the settlement of Kansas City, all these and many more are highlighted on the hand of illustrated maximum cards. This is a real philatelic picture book of one of the world’s most important feats of exploration and settlement.

Request a free copy of this issue by writing (a post card will do) to the MACSA Journal, Cathedral Station, Box 193, New York 25, New York.

STAMPS FOR THE CHILDREN IN SHRINE HOSPITALS
Dear Western:
The beloved publisher of Western Stamp Collector passed to his reward quite a few months ago. At that time I noted his interest in the Shrine Crippled Children’s Hospitals.

As you may know, Los Angeles now has a very beautiful, a very practical, a very fine Shrine Crippled Children’s Hospital. There are similar hospitals in other cities as for example, in Salt Lake, Utah. Your paper has done much to encourage collectors to send some of their duplicate stamps to the Veterans Hospitals. That is commendable. Those stamps do aid in the recoveries of many disabled veterans. Every doctor will tell you something you already know, namely, that collecting stamps provides a non-strenuous activity that proves to be very relaxing, and takes the mind off of the ailments of those who are afflicted. The same benefit accrues to those kids in our Shrine Children’s Hospital. Many of those kids are becoming ardent stamp collectors.

Here in Los Angeles, one of your subscribers, Harry Caldwell, an active member of Al Malakiah, and one or two others have for a long time now been gathering stamps which they distribute to those unfortunate children, and then they spend countless hours teaching those children how to take care of their stamps.

One of your advertisers, a fellow Shriner, has not only supplied some stamps but also has supplied, on a reasonable price basis or gratuitously, small albums, hinges, and other stamp accessories. I am referring now to the Superior Stamp Company of Los Angeles, and their contribution is certainly appreciated by the Shrine, by the Trustees of the hospital, but mostly by the kids.

I think it might be well for you to give credit for that service in your paper, and also to remind others of the benefits that follow and which aid in the recovery of those children by getting them interested in stamps so that more collectors, especially Masons and Shriners, will aid in that effort. The influence of your paper would be most useful and you will be carrying out, I believe, something that will commemorate an activity that your departed fellow worker constantly had in his mind, and it will be a tribute to his memory.

POSTMASTER PROVISIONALS
Mountain Lakes, N. J.
Dear Bro. Ellis:
In gathering material for our U. S. Masonic Collection, I wonder if we remember the stamps that appeared before our regular issues. I refer to the Provisional Stamps that bear the faces of Washington and Franklin. A word about these:

The government, being unwilling, prior to 1845, to undertake the expense of a general issue of postage stamps, permitted the postmasters of certain towns and cities to issue stamps at
their own expense and for their own convenience. The postmasters of Alexandria, Va., Brattleboro, Vt., Baltimore, Md., New Haven, Conn., New York, N. Y., Providence, R. I., Millbury, Mass., St. Louis, Mo., and others, adopted the plan with such success that the government undertook, in 1847, a general issue.

These provisional stamps represent the earliest official attempts to meet the requirements of the public and showed the way to proper government adhesive stamps to expedite mail service.

Books on this subject, by John N. Luff and Hugh M. Clark and others are available.


The Millbury stamp was printed from a wood cut, on a hand press.

The New York stamp was from an engraved plate of 40, by Rawdon, Wright and Hatch. The die for the head of Washington, on the then current bank notes was used for the central portion of the stamp.

There are several Carrier Stamps, notably the Franklin Carrier of 1851 and others issued from 1842 to 1846, which we can mention: Scott’s No. 6LB1, the first adhesive stamp used in the U. S., issued by the City Dispatch Post, on Feb. 15, 1842.

There were also several Carriers issued by the United States City Dispatch Post and its successor, City Dispatch.

Most of these stamps command fabulous prices. However, I see no objection to mounting pictures of these as a matter of record.

Confederate stamps bear the portraits of Andrew Jackson and Thomas Jefferson, who are thought to have been Masons, and George Washington.

Does anyone know if John C. Calhoun and Jefferson Davis were Masons?

Yours Fraternally,

Harry L. Kinne.

SYMBOLISM EXAMPLE ON NEW CANADIAN STAMP

Bro. W. Huxel of Montreal, Canada, sends a new 15c Canadian stamp showing the seven-starred “Big Dipper,” the guide to Polaris, or North Star, together with the information that seven stars adorn the ceiling of Quebec lodges.

To this might be added the information that the North Star, with seven small stars surrounding it, is represented in the north of a chapter of the 12th degree of the Scottish Rite. This signifies that as the North Star is a sure guide to mariners, so should virtue be the guiding light of every Grand Master Architect who has attained to the 12th degree.

In the lecture of the Third Degree, seven stars are included in the various objects displayed while meditating on “the All-Seeing Eye, whom the sun, moon and stars obey.”

“The Big Dipper” and Polaris also will be found on a Japanese 10-yen stamp (No. 553) issued in 1952 and on a more recent 10-yen stamp, possibly on others as well.—From Mirt’s “Masonry on Postage Stamps.”

CHARLES LOTT COLLECTION

Owner of one of the finest collections of United States 19th and 20th century stamps in this area, Charles Lott, this city, got a valuable addition to his albums when friends honored him at a Hotel Niagara Dinner.

Mr. Lott president of the Niagara Frontier Stamp Club for the last three years and retired consulting engineer for the American Brake Shoe Co., has what is considered by experts one of the best sets of United States air mail stamps including a complete set of plate numbers of the Graf Zeppelin. However, friends learned that he lacked the set of first day covers so they presented them to him.

Two leading stamp collectors were here to congratulate Mr. Lott. They were H. L. Lindquist, New York, editor and publisher of Stamps magazine, and Jacob S. Glaser, Brooklyn, past president and director of the Collectors Club of New York and a member of 24 philatelic organizations.

Signatures Included

Mr. Lindquist declared that Mr. Lott probably has the finest collections of U. S. stamps of the two centuries in Western New York. Interspersed in his albums are signatures of most of the presidents of the United States — including Washington, Jefferson and Jackson—and a letter signed by James Madison.

Mr. Lott, who plans to move to New York City next month, recently served as a consultant on the Toronto subway and since 1912 worked in that capacity for his company on the subways of New York City. For many years he served as district engineer for his company.

The two experts in stamp collecting
had some hints to pass along to both children and oysters who might benefit by the hobby.

While the hobby has many valuable assets, getting rich on a single find is the most remote. Chances in finding a fortune in stamps are as slim as collecting on the Irish Sweepstakes, according to Mr. Lindquist.

Can Be Worthwhile

Stamp collecting can be instructive, character building and worthwhile as an investment, he said. In some countries the practice is obligatory because it develops powers of concentration, observation, neatness and systematizing.

"In this country where it is not required, it can still foster these traits and is recognized for this by schools, banks and even insurance companies," he asserted.

Mr. Lindquist, who started collecting when he was in the third grade, has owned some 20 outstanding collections. One special collection on Norway was sold for a small fortune.

He estimates that from 12 to 15 million Americans collect stamps and said it was learned from a survey that 23 per cent of United States school children collect. "Educators encourage the hobby. Why? Because it serves as a key which opens the way to keener interest in countries where the stamps are issued."

Likewise, teachers of foreign immigrants who are being admitted to the country encourage stamp study, he said. Aliens recognize their national leaders and institutions on stamps. They then transfer this interest to United States stamps.

Hobby Is Valued

"Insurance companies value the collectors' hobby, as do other hobbies, as an expander of life expectancy. Bankers encourage the practice in their employees because the traits of concentration, close study of colors and details, make their workers more observant. Likewise, stamp study develops a keener sense for discrimination of colors in people who work at such professions as dress designing," he said.

Mr. Glaser suggested starting children early in the interest with an inexpensive album and package of stamps. He advised stamps with pictures of birds and animals at the start. For adults just starting he recommended one of the recognized books on the hobby. Mr. Glaser speaks from the experience of 62 years of stamp collecting. — (Niagara Falls Gazette, May 24, 1954).

A MASON'S POEM

Submitted by Richard M. Needham, 32° K. T.

This poem that was read in open lodge somewhere in Florida and a brother, Judson W. Holbrook of New Port Richey, Fla., got a copy of it and sent it to me.

This coming Saturday, my wife and I will be on our way to the Sunshine state for a much needed two weeks vacation. Haven't made any definite plans as to where we'll end up down in Florida, but possibly it'll be on the west coast; who knows, maybe we'll stop at the Van Dyke Colony on Treasure Isl. near Sarasota, but that's not certain. Time will tell.

Last night I knelt where Hiram knelt
And took an obligation.
Today I'm closer to my God
And I'm a Master Mason,
Though heretofore my fellow man
Seemed each one like the other—
Today I search each one apart;
I'm looking for my Brother.

And when I feel his friendly grip
It fills my heart with pride—
For I know that while I'm on the square
That he is by my side.
His steps will on my errands go
If I should so require.
His prayers will plead in my behalf
If I should so desire.

My words are safe within his breast
As though within my own.
His hand forever at my back
To guard me safely home.
He whispers good council in my ear
To guard me 'gainst all danger.
A Square and Compass Brother now—
Who once would call me Stranger.

I might have lived a moral life
And have risen to distinction
Without my Brother's helping hand
Or fellowship of Masons;
But God who knows how hard it is
To resist life's temptations
Knows I knelt where Hiram knelt—
And took that Obligation.

—Author Unknown.

The Postal Bulletin of August 31, 1954 informs us that after October 1, 1954 stamped envelopes will be issued through the post office in a new single quality. The new envelopes will be sold at the price of the old standard quality. The extra quality paper envelope will be discontinued.
FROM NEEDHAM'S TRESTLE BOARD —

NATHAN HALE, A MASON

Depicted on the 3½¢ issue of 1925 of the United States (Scott’s #551) is a likeness of Nathan Hale, source of design similar to regular issue of 1922-23, of which this stamp is now considered a part. The postal service act approved Feb. 28, 1925, increasing the rates of postage effective April 15, 1925, made it necessary to issue a new 1½¢ stamp. First day of sale was April 4, 1925 at New Haven, Conn., and Washington, D. C.

Nathan Hale was born at Coventry, Conn. on June 6, 1755. Graduating from Yale College with high honors in 1773, he became a teacher. At the outbreak of the revolution he enlisted in the army, and in 1776 was commissioned a captain. In Sept. of that same year he volunteered to obtain needed information along the enemy lines and disguised as a Dutch schoolmaster, he succeeded in his mission; but was captured by the British before he could return, was condemned and hanged as a spy at New York City on Sept. 22, 1776. His last words have never been forgotten: “I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country.”

As to his Masonic affiliations there seems to be some confusion as to which lodge, where located, that he was made a Mason in. One source states St. John’s Lodge of New York (presumably #1); another source has two conflicting possibilities: St. John’s Lodge #1, Portsmouth, R. I. and a military lodge just prior to his death. “You pays your money and take your pick.”

WARREN G. HARDING, A MASON

Depicted on the 1½¢ 1925 issue of the United States (Scott’s #553) is a likeness of Warren G. Harding, 29th President of the U. S. (1921-1923). Design is similar to issue of 1922-23 of which this stamp is now considered a part. The only difference is in the triangular designs in upper corners. The postal service act approved Feb. 28, 1925, increasing the rates of postage effective April 15, 1925, made it necessary to issue a new 1½¢ stamp. First day of sale was March 19, 1925 at Washington, D.C. However, this design wasn’t first time used.

Depicted on the 2½¢ 1923 issue of the U. S. (Scott’s #610) as a fitting tribute to the memory of the late president the P.O.D. issued for a limited period, a special memorial stamp, printed in black ink. The stamp is the same shape and design of the 2½¢ stamp of the 1922-23 regular series with the exception instead of triangle designs in upper corners, the dates “1905” and “1929,” years of Harding’s birth and death are placed. The portrait is from an etching made from a photograph. First day of sale was at Marion, Ohio and Washington, D. C. on Sept. 1, 1923. They were discontinued on Feb. 27, 1924. The Harding memorial stamp was also released unperforated (Scott’s #611) from the Philatelic Agency, first day of Nov. 15, 1923.

Brother Harding was born in Corsica, Morrow county, Ohio on Nov. 2, 1865 and died at the Palace hotel in San Francisco, Calif. on Aug. 2, 1923. He was made a Mason in Marion lodge #78, Marion, Ohio; initiated June 28, 1901; passed Aug. 13, 1920; raised Aug. 27, 1920. Was elected honorary member of Albert Pike lodge #36, Washington, D. C. for life, April 4, 1921. He was a member of Marion chapter #24, Marion, Ohio; Marion Council #22, Marion, Ohio; elected to, but did not receive the degrees before his death; Marion Commandery #36, Marion, Ohio, March 1, 1921. On Jan. 5, 1921, received all the degrees of the Scottish Rite, Valley of Columbus, O. Was elected to receive the 33rd degree on Sept. 22, 1921 but was deferred by wife’s illness and died before the session of 1923.

Brother Harding also was a Noble of Aladdin Temple Shrine, becoming the first president of the United States to be a Shriner, on Jan. 7, 1921. Was made an honorary member of Almas Temple, Washington, D. C. on March 21, 1921. Was elected an associate honorary member of the Imperial Council, Mystic Shrine in June, 1923. Was made a life member of the Kallipolis Grotto, MOVPER, Washington, D. C. on May 11, 1921. On June 6, 1923 was made a member of Evergreen Forest #49, Tall Cedars of Lebanon of Milford, Del. And May 28, 1923 was presented a gold membership badge of the Washington Chapter, #3, Sojourners Club of Washington, D. C.

So, in closing, it seems that death cut very short, the Masonic activities of a man who might have gone further, had he been able to live longer.

President and Mrs. Warren G. Harding are both interred in the Harding Memorial corner of Delaware ave., at Vernon Heights Blvd. at the southern edge of the city of Marion, Ohio. It can be seen from U. S. #23. It is a cir-
cular, pillared monument of white Georgian marble and resembles a Grecian temple. The President Harding home and museum, 380 Mount Vernon avenue, in which are found many of the original furnishings and mementoes, is open weekdays 10 to 5, Sundays 1 to 7. There is a small admission charge. Details can be found in the AAA travel book.

JAMES MONROE, A MASON

Depicted on the 3¢ 1904 issue of the United States (Scotts #325) is the likeness of the fifth president of the U.S.A., James Monroe, from a portrait by J. Vanderlyn, now hanging in the New York City Hall. This stamp was printed from plates #2101, 2, 3, 4 by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The number issued was 4,542,500. According to Max Johl, there was little need for this value on domestic mail of the period, and as most of the copies used were in addition to the 2¢ Jefferson of the same issue or 2¢ regular series of the period, for foreign bound mail, the 3¢ value is as desirable cancelled as in mint condition. With the exception of the 10¢ Map stamp, there were fewer copies of this value issued than any of the others.

Brother Monroe, 5th president of the United States, was born on April 28, 1758 in Westmoreland County, Virginia. He died in New York City on July 4, 1831. From the original records of Williamsburg Lodge #6, Williamsburg, Va., it appears that: “Nov. 6, 1775, he was recommended as a fit person to be admitted a member of this Lodge, and the motion recorded.” Nov. 9, 1775 he was “prefer’d, received, and balloted for, passed and entered an apprentice.” (And he was not yet 18 years of age!). Where his other Degrees were given is not clear put as there is an old tradition oft repeated of him taking degrees in an Army Lodge that may account for them. However the records show that he paid his dues from Jan. 2, 1776 thru Oct. 1780.

He also is credited of being a member of Kilwinning Cross Lodge #2, Port Royal, Va., so said G. W. Baird, PGM, on page 25, Masonry in the Formation of Our Government, by Philip A. Roth. The lodge records show this fact.

Bro. W. L. Boyden uncovered the fact that the records of Cumberland Lodge #8, Nashville, Tenn., had a reception in honor of Bro. Monroe while he was still the president on June 8, 1819, as a “Brother of the Craft.”

Sometime after his death, July 5, 1858, his remains were removed to Richmond, Va. to Hollywood Cemetery and interred there.

NEW YORK BOLIVAR STATUE ON POSTAGE STAMPS

Some 30 years ago, Venezuela presented to the United States a bronze statue of Simon Bolivar (1783-1830), who liberated South American countries from Spanish rule. The statue was placed in Central Park, New York. In 1931, it was relocated in the park. To commemorate the rededication, Venezuela issued a series of seven regular (Nos. 457-63) and eight airmail (Nos. C322-29) stamps. The stamps bear the inscription: “transference of the statue of the liberator in New York” in Spanish.

Bolivar in 20 years of warfare liberated what are now Venezuela, Colombia, Equador, Peru and Bolivia, all ruled by Spain. All five republics have honored him postally. Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, Haiti, Honduras, Panama and Salvador also have issued stamps in his honor.

Bolivar joined Freemasonry in Cadiz, Spain, and received the 32nd degree in Paris. He was knighted in a Commandery in France in 1807. While on a diplomatic mission in London England, in 1810, Bolivar was active in Freemasonry there. He founded and was Master of “Protectora de las Vertudes” Lodge No. 1 in Venezuela and founded “Lodge Order and Liberty” No. 2 in Peru, the latter in 1824. In 1828, when an anti-Masonic wave was sweeping over the world, Bolivar forbade meetings of Masons in Venezuela. His Scottish Rite collar and apron are among the exhibits in the Grand Lodge of New York Museum.

Catholic born, he broke away from the church when in his liberation movement he found that among his chief opponents were clerics who ruled with an iron hand under Spanish administration. On his death bed in 1830, he returned to the priests for spiritual aid. Nevertheless, it was while a Mason that he performed the deeds which established him as one of the unforgettable liberators of mankind.—Mirt.

Bro. Asher Kleinman received his fifty year Grand Lodge Service Award June 3, 1954, presented by R. W. David C. Bedfield, District Deputy Grand Master at Scotia Lodge No. 634 Masonic Temple, New York City.
STATUE OF LIBERTY STAMP
The post office department has issued a new 3¢ stamp to replace the present ordinary issue. It was put out June 24 at Albany N.Y., in connection with the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the first American Congress. The stamp is of Masonic interest both because of the design and for the occasion of issuance. In design, the ordinary stamp is similar to the recently issued 8¢ value, with its Statue of Liberty central motif.

The first American Congress met in Albany in 1754 to confer with the Indian chiefs of the Six Nations and to obtain help against the French. Benjamin Franklin, a Past Grand Master of Masons, attended as a representative for Pennsylvania. It was he who presented the "Plan for a Union of the English Colonies in America." The plan was approved by Congress but was rejected in London.

Franklin was made a Mason in St. John's Lodge, Philadelphia, in 1731; served as Grand Master of his Lodge and of Pennsylvania in 1734; was Secretary of St. John's Lodge, 1735-38; served as Provincial Grand Master in 1749, and again in 1760. While in Paris as representative to the court of Louis XVI shortly after the outbreak of the Revolution he affiliated with a French Lodge and later as a member of the Lodge of Nine Muses assisted in the initiation of Voltaire. He served as Master of the Lodge in 1779. He died in 1790 with a record of about 60 years of service in Freemasonry—a career in itself.—From Mirt’s "Masonry on Postage Stamps."

OPERATIVE MASONRY ON STAMPS
Masonry may be considered in a twofold aspect, operative and speculative. Operative masonry had its origin in the physical wants of man—the need for shelter. Speculative masonry originated in his moral wants. In enforcing these moral lessons upon the mind, emblems have been borrowed from the operative art. Thus, the various instruments of the builder are the symbols of Freemasonry, as we know it today.

We are indebted to Wor. Bro. Douglas Murison (recently installed as Master of St. Andrew’s Lodge No. 3706, Buenos Aires) for calling attention to several stamps which are illustrative of operative masonry.

In 1941, Switzerland issued a 10c stamp (No. 280) to commemorate the 750th anniversary of the founding of Berne—a truly Masonic issue. Stones are in the course of preparation or finishing, and these are being fixed on their proper bases with the aid of a plumbline (which admonishes the Mason to walk uprightly before God and man). A knight makes the stamp of further interest to Templars.

Germany in 1919 issued 25 and 30pf stamps (Nos. 107-108) showing a Mason holding aloft a tray of bricks. Much in evidence is a trowel, which we as Masons are taught to use for the noble and glorious purpose of spreading the cement of brotherly love and affection. Incidentally, a companion 15pf stamp (No. 106) shows new shots from an old stump, and is reminiscent of a prayer used in the M. M. Degree in the United States, which includes: "For there is hope of a tree if it be cut down that it will sprout again."

Another German issue, a 5 plus 2pf charity stamp of 1934 (No. B61) shows a Mason and trowel. The provincial occupations series of Italy in 1950 produces a 2-lire issue (No. 551) of interest especially to Royal Arch Masons and to Mark Master Masons. An operative Mason is shown lifting a keystone into an arch.—From Mirt's "Masonry on Postage Stamps."

BASEBALL HALL OF FAME
In 1939, the United States issued a 3¢ stamp (No. 855) to commemorate the centennial of baseball. The stamp was placed on first day sale at Cooperstown, N.Y., where is located the Baseball Hall of Fame. A "Do You Know" feature in a recent issue of Royal Arch Mason points out that the Hall displays the statues of 11 Masons who won fame in the sport of baseball. They were Ty Cobb, Christy Mathewson, Tris Speaker, "Pie" Traynor, "Mickey" Cochrane, Eddie Collins, Jimmie Foxx, "Lefty" Grove, Walter Johnson, Herb Pennock and Rogers Hornsby.—Mirt

STAMPS IN CORNERSTONE
Among the items placed in the cornerstone of the town hall of Barrington, R.I., when the Grand Master of Rhode Island laid the cornerstone with Masonic ceremonies on Sept. 24, 1887, were "specimens of U. S. postage stamps; specimen U. S. postal cards; specimen U. S. letter sheet envelope."

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