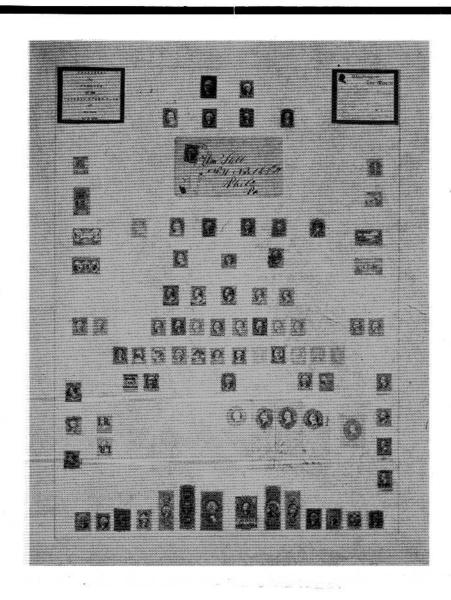


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The MASONIC PHILATELIST

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The Cover TRIBUTE TO WASHINGTON

Our cover represents a photograph of a frame of stamps which was presented by the Masonic Stamp Club to the George Washington Masonic Shrine at Tappan, N. Y. in April, 1946. These are all United States stamps with George Washington on them.

WASHINGTON . . . The Mason

Born February 22nd, 1732.

INITIATED: November 4th, 1752Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4, Virginia. PASSED: March 3rd, 1753.
HONORED: June 24th, 1784 was designated Honorary Member.
MASTER: April 28th, 1788 became

Worshipful Master.

DEATH: December 18th, 1799 was buried Masonically, at Mount Vernon Virginia.

MEETINGS

First Friday of Each Month Collectors Club Building 22 East 35th street

OCT. 7-Dr. S. Duffield Swan on Masonic Cancellations.

In Memoriam BRO, IRL O. HAMMONDS

May his soul find eternal rest.

By the Sign of the GAVEL

It was with great pleasure that we were able to greet so many of the faithful at our opening meeting last month and their presence was greatly appreciated. For our next meeting we are to be honored with a dissertation upon and a showing of Masonic cancellations by our brother Dr. S. Duffield Swan, who maintains one of the best, if not the leading collection of these most interesting items. It is to be regretted that within the past few years some remarkable Masonic cancellations collections have been broken up and passed into the hands of the general public. However, it speaks well for the effort expended by members of the fraternity over the past years in awakening an interest in what we know became an integral part of our history since the introduction of postage stamps. Come and enjoy an evening of relaxation and association with the brethren as well as obtaining further light upon a subject which seems to be rapidly passing be-yond our reach, The Masonic Cancellation.

When the details have been further cleared there will be furnished each of the far-flung membership an opportunity to supply a short biographical sketch for publication in the Masonic Philatelist from time to time in order that we may become better acquainted, one with another, rather than just a name upon a roster.

It has been suggested that the meetings of the Board of Governors be held far enough prior to the regular meeting that the business of the club may be transacted and the pleasure of the promptly evening begin at eight The suggestion is sound and o'clock. the Board of Governors is requested to assemble at 7:30 each meeting night so that we can start to enjoy the fare which Brother Wray has provided for our entertainment and instruction.

LIBANUS LIBAN LEBANON

Arthur E. Ludwig 32° in calling attention to an article in the December number of the National Geographic Magazine wrote "you may have noted the picture (on p. 890) of the flag of the Republic of Lebanon, with its cedar tree. Some of the boys who regularly put on or see our 22nd degree may not realize that Libanus is not mythical but is actually what we in English know as Lebanon. As a matter of fact, the formal name is

By way of documentation, Arthur attached a current Libanese postage stamp.



The country is situated on the west coast of Asia at the east end of the Mediterranean Sea, was formerly a part of the Syrian Province of Turkey which was mandated to France following World War I, was declared an independent state in 1920 and operates under French influence.

In point of fact, however, the area has a closer connection with New York

Masonry than is indicated above.

There are nine Lodges in the area, all warranted by the Grand Lodge of New York. These constitute our District of Syria-Lebanon of which R. W. Khalid E. Tabet, 219 Rue Georges Picot, Beirut, Lebanon, is the present District Deputy Grand Master. The nine Lodges with their names and locations are as follows:

Syrio-American No. 1, New York No. 2 and Fakhr ud Deen No. 3 all in Beirut, Lebanon.

Ibrahim El Khalil No. 4, Damascus, Syria.

Suleiman No. 5, Amioun, Koura, Lebanon.

Chouf No. 6, Baakline, Lebanon. El Ber Downie No. 7, Zahleh, Lebanon.

El Merj No. 8, Merdjoun, Lebanon. Turbol No. 9, Tripoli, Lebanon. The stamp pictured is the recent

2½ piaster air stamp for Arab League countries.

In and Around the Club

The meeting September 9th was a success and nice get-together. Bro. Irwin M. Yarry showed stamps, cancellations and covers of Fiji. Now that the hot summer which we experienced here in New York is over and our season is just starting according to the program furnished, it looks like we will have a banner year.

We are sorry to hear that Bro. Dr. Clarence Hennan of Chicago, Ill. is in hospital; our thoughts are with him, and we all wish him well.

During the summer we learn that Bro. Carl E. Pelander moved his home from Long Island to Brooklyn, N. Y. We wish him and his charming wife many years of happiness there. Dare you to write an article for the M. P., Carl!

You will note Bro. R. M. Needham, our associate editor, moved this summer to a new address. We wish him happiness there, and now that he is settled, we can expect to get an article each month.

POSTPONED FIPEX OPENING

April 28, 1956 is now announced as the opening date for the Fifth International Philatelic Exhibition (Fipex) according to the bulletin of the American Stamp Dealers Association.

Delays in the construction schedule of the New York Coliseum, where the show will be held, are responsible for the postponement of the show from the early March dates previously nounced.

According to present plans Fipex will open April 28 and will continue

through May 6.
Fipex will be the opening event in the New York Coliseum, which is now under construction. Several weeks ago

two floors of the structure collapsed and it is this accident, it is understood, which is delaying completion of the Coliseum, necessitating postponement of the stamp show.

MASONIC STAMP CLUB PROGRAM FOR 1955-56

Sept. 9th—Get Together Meeting for the New Year. Oct. 7th—Dr. S. Duffield Swan on

Masonic Cancellations.

Nov. 4th—Mr. Herman Herst—The Balloon Posts Siege of Paris 1871.

Dec. 2nd-Mr. Eddie Elkins, Pres. of Collectors Clubs their activities.

Jan. 6th—Aero Philatelists.

Feb. 3rd-Past Presidents Night-Mr. Carl H. Pihl.

Mar. 2nd—Scandinavian Invasion—per

Mr. Carl E. Pelander.

Apr. 6th-Master of Philately Degree and Turkey Hash.

4th—Fipex Doings—at Fipex— Open House to all Masons.

May 18th—22nd Annual Dinner.

June lst-Annual Meeting and Election of Officers.

Pres. Major Thomas Phillips George B. Wray Program Committee.

OUR VETERAN ROTARIAN

George B. Wray, a veteran Rotarian who helped organize the first Rotary Club in Indianapolis, Indiana, 42 years ago, was the guest speaker for Pearl River Rotary Club some months ago.

Mr. Wray was a close friend of Paul Harris, the founder of Rotary, and also an associate of Charles Perry, who worked very hard for the organization in its early days, and helped put the 'polish" on Rotary back around 1910.

The speaker said that Mr. Perry steered Rotary on the right course, and that it was fortunate for the or-

ganization that he possessed so much common sense and good judgment.

Perry's motto was "I expect to pass through this world but once and if there is anything good I can do let me do it now because I will not pass this way again."

Mr. Wray said that Messrs, Harris and Perry helped him organize a club in Indianapolis in 1913, with 66 members. The club has grown to include a present day membership of 400, and has always been very active in community affairs.

The speaker noted that Rotary has done many praiseworthy things for

the communities, the country, and the world. One of the most outstanding present day undertakings is sponsoring of the exchange student program to help promote international good will. -From Orangetown Telegram, Pearl River, N. Y.

PUZZLERS FOR PHILATELISTS

As we have nothing in prizes to offer at present, this column will mention the winners. Your comments are welcome.—Irwin M. Yarry, Sec'y.

When is a stamp like an egg?

2. If I were hammered of purest gold my worth to you would never hold.

 Postal paper becomes of worth unlike an insect you crush in earth.

Unscramble Words Found on Stamps (These are not easy.)

1. ACCEFIILOOROR (2 words)

2. GEEROSIVER (2 words)

3. ACCELNNOOOSTV (2 words)

Double Acrostic

Word I—A Famous English artist. Word II-Always associated with the above name by philatelists.

1. A city in Australia.

2. Can be seen on early Mexican stamps.

3. Islands off the North Siberian

4. A city in Italy.

5. A postal district in N. E. France.

6. Seen on a recent U.S. commem. 7. The ruination of stamp collectors.

8. A U. S. commemorative stamp. Answers in the next issue of the Masonic Philatelist.

Example of a Double Acrostic

Word I—Brothers

Word II-What we collect.

1. MisS—A young girl

2. ArT—Beauty

3. SofA—A couch
4. OhM—Electric measure
5. NeaP—Not far

6. SignS-Omens

John Philip Sousa (1854-1932), shown on the 2c 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 ington, 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.