

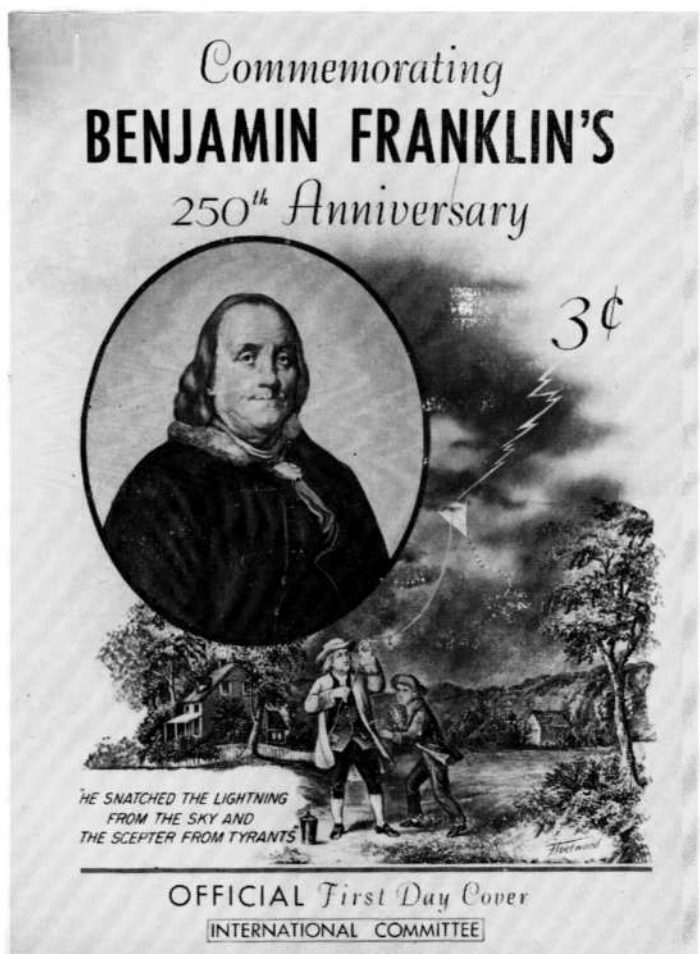


# *the* Masonic Philatelist

VOL. 12

FEBRUARY 1956

NO. 6



—Courtesy Brother Milnor E. Peck, Fleetwood  
Cover Service, Pleasantville, N. Y.

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Back Numbers Masonic  
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141-06 Glassboro Ave., Jamaica 4, N. Y.

## In and Around the Club

The evening of January 6 was devoted to Aero Philatelist Club. They certainly gave us a very interesting evening, under the leadership of John J. Britt who acted as Master of Ceremonies. John is an excellent speaker; his wit and congenial personality, together with his stamps of Lundy Island (which he showed) were most entertaining! Also displaying parts of their collections were:

Maurice Tripet — Switzerland Cantons Air Mail stamps, not cataloged—but mentioned by Sanabria.

Henry Kraemer—Stamps of Venezuela States, which are complete—A very remarkable showing!

Harry Holman — Austrian Stamps and Flights, an excellent display. We find that the hours go like minutes

## ★ MEETINGS ★

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

**Mar. 2nd**—Scandinavian Invasion—  
per Mr. Carl E. Pelander.

**Apr. 6th**—Master of Philately Degree and Turkey Hash.

when we have evenings like this, never  
enough time.

It is with great pride that we hear about Brother Elmer Magee. He is Past Grand Master of Lincoln, Nebraska and now has been bestowed the great honor of being elected a 33rd degree Mason. To you, Bro. Past Grand Master congratulations and good health for many years and best wishes from the club.

**Our Treasurer says:—**

It was his disagreeable duty to present the names of several brothers to the Board of Governors, at our January 6th meeting, for the purpose of dropping them for non-payment of dues. A word of warning to a few others that their carelessness in ignoring requests will soon place them in a like situation. And as after the rain the sun seems to shine brighter it is a most pleasant privilege to report tidings from Richard M. Needham, Gordon G. Johnson, Frederick Z. Bennett, Elmer E. Magee, F. T. Anderson, L. Van Buskirk, P. A. Wilde, Alfred Werfel, Dr. Rudolph Holz, Herman Poblner, George B. Johnston, Colonel Arthur W. Hodges, and Allen W. Lloyd. The treasurer is indeed grateful to these brothers for their thoughtful words and deeds.

### Change of Address

Gordon G. Johnson, R. D. 2, Tanton  
Hill Rd., Ridgefield, Conn.

Walter E. Koons, 4 Sound View  
Terrace, Greenwich, Conn.

Lt. Col. Arthur W. Hodges to Col.  
Arthur W. Hodges.

George V of Hanover, on many Hanover stamps, was initiated into Black Bear Lodge in Hanover in 1857 and became the first reingling monarch to join the order. George V reigned from 1851 to 1866 when Hanover became a province of Prussia.

Remember this, that very little is needed to make a Happy Life.



### BENJAMIN FRANKLIN A Mason

This 3¢ stamp commemorating the 250th anniversary of the birth of Benjamin Franklin which was placed on first day sale Jan. 17 in Philadelphia, Pa. The design, by Charles R. Chickering, reproduced from Benjamin West's painting "Franklin Taking Electricity From the Sky." The die was engraved by C. A. Brooks (picture) and John S. Edmondson (frame and lettering) of the staff of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

Born at Boston, Massachusetts—January 17, 1706.

Died at Philadelphia—April 17, 1790.

Franklin was made a Mason June 24, 1731 in St. John's Lodge of Philadelphia. He was elected Junior Warden June 24, 1731, Worshipful Master, June 5, 1732, and Provincial Grand Master in June 1734. In 1779, while in Paris, he was elected VENERABLE of the LOGE des IX SOEURS. It is said of Franklin that he "did more to establish Freemasonry in America, than any other man of his time."

Franklin excelled as a Statesman, Scientist, and Publisher. Early in life he learned the printer's trade and after moving to Philadelphia, he edited the "Pennsylvania Gazette," and "Poor Richard's Almanack." Among his inventions were the lightning rod, the

"Franklin Stove" and experiments in electricity. As early as 1753 he was Postmaster for the colonies. Later he was sent to London as agent for the Pennsylvania Colony. He was a member of the Continental Congress, and served on the committee to draft the Declaration of Independence. In 1776 he sailed for France, where he spent nine years pleading the cause of the new republic. His last service was as a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1787. He was considered one of the outstanding men of the eighteenth century.

Bro. Harry O. Henneman writes from Denver, Colorado, "The hour was one of the most delightful I ever spent with a stamp collector. He collects blocks of four of all music subjects. He has a marvelous memory of what he has and has not. Regards to the club." He sends along the following article:

Two men ride tandem on their common hobby horse. One of them is generally regarded as the world's greatest violinist. The second is a Denver piano salesman. The common interest of Jascha Heifetz, who will be soloist with the Denver Symphony Tuesday and Wednesday nights, and Harry O. Henneman of Knight-Campbell's is stamp collecting — with a musical tone.

Henneman possesses the world's most complete collection of stamps with musical motifs—portraits of composers and artists, pictures of musical instruments, bars from compositions. The Henneman collection has been exhibited widely.

Heifetz, whose hobby also is philately, heard of the collection and wrote Henneman from California recently asking to see the music-on-stamps albums when he came to Denver for the symphony concerts. An appointment was arranged for Monday.

Henneman has been collecting musical stamps for many years, and his collection now fills three large albums. He also is embarked on a 2-year project which will result in an encyclopedia of music on stamps, probably to be published in England.

Previously, Henneman authored the standard checklist on this philatelic specialty published by the American Topical Assn. He also wrote a booklet, "Stamps at the Keyboard." His collection recently was a featured exhibit at the National Philatelic Museum in Philadelphia.—From Rocky Mountain News, Denver, Colo.

## Franklin's 250th Anniversary Celebrated

Exactly two and one-half centuries ago, a child was born who rose to lofty eminence, respected and loved by people in every land. January 17 of this year marks the birth date of that great American, Benjamin Franklin, whose virtues and accomplishments have left an indelible imprint, accented, rather than diminished, by time.

Perhaps it would be fitting on this occasion to list highlights in his varied and colorful life.

1706—Born on Sunday, January 17 (new calendar), in Boston, eighth of ten children of Josiah and Abiah Franklin.

1714-1717—Received two years of formal schooling and at age ten assisted father who was a candle-stick maker.

1718-1724—Apprenticed as a printer to his brother, James. Named publisher when James was jailed for criticizing the authorities. Later after a difference with his brother, left Boston and traveled to Philadelphia where he obtained employment as a printer.

1724-1731—Governor Keith, impressed by the youth's ability, promised to set him up in the printing business. After Franklin sailed abroad to purchase equipment, the promise proved to be an empty gesture. Stranded in London, he found work as a printer. Returned to Philadelphia and his job as printer. Married Deborah Read in 1730. Issued first edition of the *Pennsylvania Gazette* which he continued to publish until 1765. Founded first subscription library in America.

1732—Published first issue of *Poor Richard's Almanac* (for 1733) which continued for about 25 years. Started the first foreign language newspaper in America.

1733-1745—Appointed to first public office. Invented Franklin stove; still in use today. Became deputy postmaster of Philadelphia in 1737.

1746-1749—Began extensive experiments in electricity. Retired from active business in 1748 at age 42 to devote his life to the public good. Discovered principle of electro-magnet upon which is based today's telephone, electric motor and scores of other electronic devices. Helped to found a school which later became the University of Pennsylvania.

1750-1754—Helped to found America's first charity hospital; established first fire insurance company in Ameri-

ca; flew his famous kite; awarded degree of Master of Arts by Harvard and Yale. Published and probably drew first American cartoon.

1755-1772—Introduced street cleaning, lighting and paving in Philadelphia. His persuasive arguments in the House of Commons led to repeal of the hated Stamp Act. Offered to personally pay for the tea destroyed in Boston.

1775-1789—Elected to Second Continental Congress. Unanimously elected Postmaster General by Congress. Appointed to a committee to draft Declaration of Independence. Loaned personal funds to Congress to help finance American Revolution. Negotiated a preliminary treaty of peace with Great Britain. Fought for abolition of slavery.

1790—Died in the evening of April 17 as the new nation was taking its first faltering steps.

The above item is reproduced by the courtesy of Franklin Society Federal Savings and Loan Association, 217 Broadway, New York 7, N. Y.

### MASONS 175TH YEAR

(Courtesy The New York Times  
Jan. 15, 1956)

The state's Masons marked the first meeting of the Grand Lodge in New York City 175 years ago. British soldiers and American Indians were still on the streets of the British-occupied colonial city. The 30 members met under a charter granted Sept. 5, 1781, by the Duke of Atholl, Grand Master of the Ancient Grand Lodge of England. Although much was to happen before organization was complete, it was the beginning of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York.

Special ceremonies Jan. 23 were attended by many of the 307,000 Masons who are members of the 1064 Lodges in the Empire state. Wm. C. Ellis, Grand Master, presided at a reception in the Grand Lodge executive offices and this was followed by the opening of a commemorative exhibit in the Grand Lodge Library and Museum. The display included the original Provincial Warrant under which the Grand Lodge began operations; also a gallery of portraits of the Grand Masters from 1781 to 1956. The program began a round of celebrations to culminate in the 175th annual communication of the Grand Lodge next May

1. The first roll of donors to the Masonic Hall and Asylum Fund beginning in 1843 was exhibited; also a collection of books, aprons, jewels and memorabilia which go back to the Regius Manuscript in England in 1390 and the first book of constitutions in America, printed by Benjamin Franklin in 1734.

## Masonic Stamp Club

1934-1955

By W. SAMUEL BROOKS

Past Master, Vigilantia Lodge, 1108  
Past President, Masonic Stamp Club,  
New York

Forty Masons gathered in the Grand Lodge Library on Saturday, January 13, 1934. All had something besides their Masonry to bring them together. They were all stamp collectors. Presiding over this gathering was one of the "greats" of both Freemasonry and Philately, the late M. W. Charles H. Johnson. Of this original group, hardly a handful are left. Death took from our midst some of our most ardent workers, but it is interesting to note that of those who came soon after the founding of the club, most are still actively promoting its welfare.

It was not long before the original forty were joined by many who could not attend the first meeting, and soon there were more. Brother Arthur W. Deas was elected first President and retained that office for nearly five years. Under his direction the club thrived, and with the active help of Dr. Johnson, then our Grand Secretary, many Masonic Stamp Collectors joined our ranks.

The Temple was our home. For several years we met in the Grand Lodge Library on the first and last Friday of each month. What business there was, was attended to by a competent group of Governors. The meetings were primarily for the purpose of swapping stamps, looking at stamp collections and listening to talks on stamps by prominent members of the club.

From time to time, members' exhibitions were held. Prizes were awarded for the best showings, and it is worthy of note that during this formative period of the club, the groundwork was laid for some of the finer collections shown today. Most of the members were just plain stamp collectors, but in our midst were some recognized experts, and these were unfailing in their efforts

to assist the novices. It may be well at this time, to mention that the club then, as now, was open to every Matser Mason in good standing who had any interest in stamp collecting.

Almost from the beginning we sent gifts of stamps to less fortunate groups and were instrumental in aiding the children at the Home in Utica to learn something about this instructive hobby. Today, under the guidance of Brother Charles Knight, this project has flourished and there are several fine collectors among the children. We also used our stamp collecting activities to aid one of Brother Johnson's pet projects, the George Washington Shrine at Tappan.

Late in 1938, we petitioned President Franklin D. Roosevelt to issue a stamp to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the inauguration of George Washington as first President of the United States. We like to think that our efforts were successful, for on April 30, 1939, this stamp was issued. It is listed as No. 854 in Scott's catalogue. When it became known that the stamp would be available, we prepared a special envelope as a Masonic souvenir. The sale of these cacheted envelopes was really sensational. On the day of issue, we mailed nearly 10,000 to Masons all over the world, who paid 10 cents each for them. There was a modest profit, since all the work was performed by members of the club. Of the sum available, we presented \$400.00 to "Charlie" Johnson for use at Tappan. A bronze plaque there attests to our generosity. A few years later, the members of the club formed a collection of one of each available George Washington stamps and when suitably framed, it was presented to the Shrine.

During these years, the club flourished. We now numbered about 150, not only from the New York area, but all over the United States. We outgrew various meeting rooms at the Temple, until finally, on April 7, 1944, we had our first meeting at the Collectors Club at 22 East 35th Street. Through the courtesy of that club we have been there ever since.

Mention has been made that many fine collections were born during our formative years. Our members began to show at various exhibitions and they won prizes. Some became active in other philatelic organizations and the fame of the Masonic Stamp Club grew. About 1943, some of the members started a serious study of Masons on postage stamps, and thus grew the



name Masonic Philately. Collections of such stamps were formed, and in 1947, at the Centenary International Philatelic Exhibition held in the Grand Central Palace, one such collection was awarded a fourth prize. From this collection, a small booklet, "Masonic Philately," was compiled, by Bro. Sam Brooks, and we like to think that many Masonic collectors derived much pleasure from adding this phase to their regular activities.

During the Exhibition in 1947, the club had a lounge where we greeted Masonic visitors from all over the world. Quite a few were interested enough to join us, and today our membership of nearly 300 is scattered all over the United States, and in some foreign countries.

In March, 1944, under the leadership of Bro. Harry M. Konwiser, who is known as the Dean of Philatelic Writers, we started a small club newspaper. In the June issue of that year, it was named, "The Masonic Philatelist." This small paper has been eagerly sought for by Masons all over the world and has regularly appeared about ten times a year for over eleven years. It is interesting to note that the early issues have become collectors' items. One of the few complete sets is in our Grand Lodge Library.

In mentioning the Grand Lodge Library, we cannot fail to note that our members owe a debt of gratitude to Brothers Wendell Walker and Tom Robertson, librarians, for their valuable and courteous assistance at all times. The Library has been the beneficiary of some of our gifts. An ardent stamp collector often comes across many items of Masonic interest. Several of these have been turned over to the Library. Books, documents and even valuable correspondence have also found their way to the Library.

Our meetings are now held on the first Friday of each month at 8 P. M., and visitors are welcome. For the past year and a half, we have been fortunate in having Brother Carl Pihl as President. Under his guidance, the club has made steady progress and he will be pleased to greet you. Nearly each meeting is given over to some special branch of stamp collecting.

From time to time we have speakers on various philatelic subjects. Rarely do we have to go outside our own ranks to provide a pleasurable evening. Some of our real experts were novices not so long ago. The purpose of the club is not to make stamp collectors,

but to help all interested in stamps to improve their collections and spend pleasant evenings with their brothers.

## ANNIVERSARY CACHET FOR FIPEX

The Grand Lodge 175th Anniversary, May 1, 1956, will make philatelic as well as Masonic history. Masonic first-day covers will be available at Masonic Hall, 71 West 23rd street, New York City, and also at the brand new New York Coliseum at Columbus Circle. The Fifth International Philatelic Exhibition, April 28-May 6, will be the opening feature of the new Coliseum, and the Grand Lodge cachet and first day cover will be featured there by the Masonic Stamp Club of New York.

At Masonic Hall itself there will be a U. S. sub post office under the jurisdiction of the Hon. Robert H. Schaffer, Postmaster of the city of New York, open during the 175th Annual Communication, May 1-2. Letters mailed there during those two days will be postmarked with an exclusive Masonic cancellation honoring the 175th anniversary. This is being arranged by Brother H. L. Lindquist, the nationally known philatelic authority, with the cooperation of the United States Post Office Department in Washington.

The basic design of the preliminary sketch of the anniversary cachet, shown above, is by Brother Jacob Simon Glaser, Past President of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York, and for fifty-two years a member of Cornerstone Lodge, 367, Brooklyn. Masons will recognize in the design an idealized representation of the Daniel D. Tompkins Memorial Chapel, Masonic Home, Utica, on the left, and an artist's conception of the new Masonic Medical Research Laboratory on the right. The finished drawing of this inspiring design will be engraved to make a cachet of real beauty and distinction.

The special Masonic postal cancellation will be approved in time for showing in the next issue of the Empire State Mason.

Covers (one dollar for a set of three) can be ordered in advance and further information can be obtained directly from the Masonic Stamp Club (att: J. S. Glaser), 22 East 35th Street, New York 16, New York.

If a little knowledge is dangerous, where is the man that hath so much as to be out of danger.

# **MASONIC CANCELLATIONS ON EARLY U. S. STAMPS**

By DR. S. DUFFIELD SWAN

## **Part 4.**

The following listing of Post Offices known to have issued Masonic cancellations shows the stamp used, Postmaster, if he has been established as a Mason, the Swan Classification of cancellation type, and the Rarity Scale:

Post Office	Stamp	Post Master	Mason	Class	Rarity
Abington, Pa.	114	Harry Vasey		IV	1
Alleghaney, Pa.	158	—		IV	1
Alliance, Ohio	65	Humphrey Hoover		IV	1
Arlington, Mass.	65	Frederick E. Fowle.		V	1
Arlington, Vt.	114	Samuel M. West		V	1
Asbury Park, N. J.	213	Alfred R. Toland	M.	VIB	1
Ashland, O.	65	A. G. Beer		IV	1
Atlanta, Ga.	210	X		IV	1
Austin, Tex.	65	Wm. P. DeNormandie		V	2
Augusta, Me.	147	—		I	1
Baltimore, Md.	114	X		IV	1
Bangor, Me.	210	A. B. Farnham		XIII	4
Bangor, Wis.	210	John S. Houser		III	2
Barnstead, N. H.	114	Cyrus Blanchard		IV	3
Bartow, Fla.	U311	D. W. Stanley		V	1
Bellefonte, Pa.	114	John F. Johnston		IVB	2
Bethel, Me.	(PC)	—		IV	2
Bethel, Vt.	114	Joseph G. Sargent		III & V	2
Blairstown, N. J.	184	Jas. D. Vail		III	1
Boston, Mass.	65	Wm. Lothrop Burt		IV	4
Brattleboro, Vt.	65	Daniel Kellogg, Sr.	M.	I	5
Bridgeton, N. J.	147	—		V	1
Bridgewater, Mass.	(Env.)	Lewis Holmes		IB	2
Bridgewater, Pa.	114	Sarah S. Swain		XV	1
Brookfield, Mass.	114	John L. Ainsworth		—	1
Brookline, Mass.	88	Cyrus W. Ruggles		IV	2
Brookville, Pa.	65	—		I	1
Brunswick, Me.	147	George C. Crawford	M.	IV	2
Burlington, Vt.	158	B. J. Derby		V	2
Cadiz, N. H.	114	—		II	1
Cambridge, O.	65	C. L. Madison	M.	III	1
Canon City, Colo.	158	Capt. B. F. Rockafellow		IV	1
Canton, Mass.	65	—Rufus C. Wood		1B	2
Center Barnstead, N. H.	158	—		V	1
Centerville, Mich.	114	Henry C. Campbell	M.	XIV	2
Chariton, Ia.	158	X		IV	1
Charlestown, N. H.	65	Charles C. Kimball	M.	III	5
Chelsea, Vt.	114	John B. Bacon		II	2
Chicago, Ill.	158	X		VIB	2
Chicopee, Mass.	27	Capt. Andrew S. Hunter	M.	III	5
Columbus, O.	158	James M. Comly		IV	2
Copake Iron Works, N. Y.	65	Lemuel Pomeroy	M.	III	2
Cornish, Me.	65	Horace Pike	M.	III	2
Cornwall Bridge, Conn.	184	—		XIV	1
Dayton, Ohio	184	X		IV	1
Deerfield, Mass.	114	Charles Williams	M.	XV	1
Delaware, Ohio	147	Archibald Lybrand, Jr.		VI	1
Denmark, Me.	65	Joseph Bennett	M.	IV	1
Denver, Colo.	184	Edward C. Sumner		IV	1
Derby, Conn.	65	Robert C. Naramora		1V	1
Douglas, Kan.	145	J. B. Ives		V	1
East Eddington, Me.	65	Wm. H. Johnson		II	1
East Nantmeal, Pa.	(Env.)	—		IV	1
East Woodstock, Vt.	65	—		IV	1
Ed, Ky.	(1930)	—		II	5
Elmer, N. J.	210	Mrs. Eliza Smith		I	1
Frankfort Springs, Pa.	114	Jas. Mcutchen		IV	1
Franklin, Ind.	114	Ephraim Jeffry		IV	1

(TO BE CONTINUED)

# FIFTH INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION



## MORE NEWS ABOUT FIFTH INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

### A Date Worthwhile Keeping JURY FOR FIPEX

New York—Distinguished philatelists from 15 foreign countries as well as the United States have been named to serve on the jury for the Fifth International Philatelic Exhibition (FIPEX), it was announced by Richard S. Bohn, FIPEX Chairman. There will be a total of 51 jurors, 19 of whom are from outside the United States. Chairman of the jury will be Theodore E. Steinway, outstanding American philatelist.

Members of the jury from abroad are: J. R. W. Purves of Australia; E. Corbisier de Meaultsart of Belgium; Hugo Fraccaroli of Brazil; Vincent G. Greene and C. M. Jephcott of Canada; Alvaro Bonilla Lara of Chile; Rafael Oriol of Cuba; Eigil Rathje of Denmark; Thomas Allen, H. R. Holmes and Sir John Wilson of England; Lucien Berthelot of France; Hellmuth Kricheldorf of Germany; W. S. Wolff de Beer of Holland; R. Garcia Larranaga of Mexico; Abraham Odjell of Norway; Georg Menzinsky and Nils Strandell of Sweden; and Jos. Buhler of Switzerland.

Jurors from the United States are: Henry E. Abt of New York, N. Y.; Fred N. Billingsley of New Orleans, La.; Winthrop S. Boggs of New York, N. Y.; John R. Boker of New York, N. Y.; Harold C. Brooks of Marshall, Mich.; Franklin R. Bruns, Jr. of Tacoma Park, Md.; Harry M. Buten of Merion, Pa.; Joseph M. Clary of San Francisco, Calif.; Louise Boyd Dale of

New York, N. Y.; C. W. Degler of Milwaukee, Wis.; George H. Deuble of Canton, Ohio; Vincent Domanski, Jr. of Philadelphia, Pa.; L. B. Gatchell of Upper Montclair, N. J.; Sol Glass of Baltimore, Md.; Henry M. Goodkind of New York, N. Y.; and H. D. S. Haverbeck of Summit, N. J.

Also, Edgar B. Jessup of Piedmont, Calif.; Max G. Johl of Groton, Conn.; Malcolm Johnson of Princeton, N. J.; Emmerson C. Krug of Birmingham, Ala.; C. Turner Nearing of Decatur, Ill.; Thomas D. Perry of Moorestown, N. J.; Stanley R. Rice of New York, N. Y.; Stephen G. Rich of Verona, N. J.; William H. Schulze of Chicago, Ill.; Lawrence L. Shenfield of Bronxville, N. Y.; L. D. Shoemaker of Sarasota, Fla.; Theodore E. Steinway of New York, N. Y.; William Stericker of Upper Darby, Pa.; George T. Turner of Jackson Heights, N. Y.; General C. W. Wickersham of New York, N. Y.; and Svend Yort of Chevy Chase, Md.

This is the jury that will select the exhibits at FIPEX that will receive the elegant prizes being furnished by Cartier of New York, London and Paris. These prizes will cost approximately \$20,000 and it is believed they will be the most attractive ever offered for an international stamp exhibition.

FIPEX—the Fifth International Philatelic Exhibition—will be held in the New York Coliseum from April 28 to May 6, 1956. FIPEX, together with the International Motor Sports Show and the National Photographic Show, will be the opening events in the mammoth \$35,000,000 exhibition hall. The stamp show will occupy the two top floors of the New York Coliseum, while the other two shows will have one floor each.

It was announced on January 6, 1956 that the deadline for the receipt of entries for exhibits at FIPEX had been extended from January 15 to February 15, 1956. This was done primarily to enable the entry of several fine collections from overseas as well as to permit tardy American collectors to submit applications. It was pointed out, however, that February 15, 1956 is the final deadline, and that no further extensions would be granted.