



the Masonic Philatelist

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MAY 1957

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BROTHER ROBERT E. FELLERS
Director of the Division of Philately
U. S. Post Office Department.

The MASONIC PHILATELIST

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DELEGATES TO TEL AVIV

Announcement is made on behalf of the American Philatelic Society that three United States philatelic authorities have been appointed to play active roles at an international stamp exhibition to be held at Tel Aviv, Israel, on Sept. 17-23. We are pleased that our own Harry Lindquist has been asked to be the American member of the jury. Jacques Minkus head of Gimbels Stamp Department will be the U. S. Commissioner. Bernard L. Davis, head of the National Philatelic Museum, Philadelphia will represent the A.P.S.

WELCOME

We welcome our newest member:

JOHN C. GIBSON
Box 202 Ocean Falls
British Columbia, Canada
LODGE: Mount Caro Marion #140,
Ocean Falls.

MEETINGS

First Friday of Each Month
Collectors Club Building
22 East 35th St., N.Y.C.

Final Meeting of Season
June 7 — Annual Meeting and
Election of Officers.
PLEASE ATTEND!!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

Could you possibly supply me with the addresses of all foreign members of the M.S.C. of New York and also any foreign Philatelic Lodges that you know of that I may visit. I expect to go on a around-the-world Vagabond cruise, visting Europe, So. Africa, Australia, New Zealand and Asia, leaving about July 1st. If there is any philatelic matter, you or any of the lodge members should want sent from any foreign country that I visit, please have them contact me at Box 1325, 579 Calle Abroña, Palm Springs, Calif. This will be my address up to July 1st, after which it will be for one year from July 1st: 2072 Wheeler Drive, Monterey Park, California.

I look forward to hearing from the various members.

George E. Dodd

Dear Editor:

Please be advised that effective May 15, 1957, my address will change to:

MSgt Aaron Glasser RA31362747
U.S. Army Element, SHAPE
APO 55, New York, N. Y.

I had hoped that I would be able to attend the May meeting of the MSC, but preparations for my overseas assignment has consumed more time than I had counted on. As my tour will be for a minimum of three years, I don't believe that I will be in a position to attend a meeting until the fall of 1960. In the meantime I shall look forward to receiving the Masonic Philatelist.

With warm fraternal and philatelic greeting to all.

Aaron Glasser

(Ed. The best of luck Aaron and let us hear from you from time to time. We hope that members will make note of pour new address and correspond with you).

'Famous Philatelist'

ROBERT E. FELLERS

On our cover you will see the smiling face of Brother Robert E. Fellers, Director of the division of Philately, U. S. Post Office Department, Washington, D. C. With all the work that Brother Bob has on his hands, he still finds time to attend and direct the meetings of the Washington Chapter of the MSC as its first President.

Born February 24, 1892 at Martinsburg, West Virginia, Mr. Fellers then resided at Brunswick, Maryland, where he graduated from High School, and then attended Columbia College, at Hagerstown, Md., and Wood's College at Washington, D. C. He also completed an extensive accountancy course at Southeastern University and has studied Economics, Organization, Banking and Finance and he made a special research into Income Taxation. With this background and with his complete knowledge of governmental accounting and fiscal methods, it is little wonder then that he was able to greatly assist the General Accounting Office in the installation of the first uniform disbursing office accounting system in the Post Office Department.

Brother Fellers entered the government service in 1914 and was appointed head of the Division of Philately in 1933, where he is still serving in that capacity.

Among the philatelic fraternity, Bob Fellers is well known and very popular. A Life member of the American Stamp Dealers Association, the Bureau Issues Society and the Society of Philatelic Americans. He was awarded a gold medallion by the American Air Mail Society in appreciation of his services to aero-philately. In 1953 he was selected to receive the National Philatelic Museum annual award for distinguished philatelic services. He is the first and incumbent president of the Washington Chapter of the N. Y. Masonic Stamp Club. He is a member of the Washington Centennial Masonic Lodge #14 of Washington, D. C.

CHARLES A. LINDBERGH A MASON

Depicted on the 10¢ airmail stamp of 1927 of the United States is the likeness of a Ryan monoplane, named "The Spirit of St. Louis" which now hangs on display in the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, D. C.

It was in this plane that Lt. Charles Augustus Lindbergh on the morning of May 20, 1927 at 7:52 a.m., took off

on the first non-stop flight from west to east across the Atlantic ocean to Paris, France. He left from Roosevelt Field, L. I. via Newfoundland, Ireland and England to Paris where at 10:12 p. m. on May 21, 1927, he glided his plane down on LeBourget Field, covering a distance of 3,600 miles in 33½ hours.

In making this flight Brother Lindbergh was competing for the Raymond B. Orteig Prize of \$25,000 offered to the first pilot to make a New York to Paris non-stop flight. Securing St. Louis backers (reason plane was named as such), Brother Lindbergh ordered his plane with a Wright whirlwind motor in Feb. 1927. In completing his feat, he was the recipient of the Hubbard Medal (Nat'l Geographic Society), Langley Medal (Smithsonian Institution), and on Aug. 15, 1931, was decorated with his country's highest award, the Congressional Medal of Honor. President Coolidge also promoted him to a full Colonel in the airforce.

Charles A. Lindbergh was born at Detroit, Mich., Feb. 4, 1902, the son of Charles Augustus Lindbergh, Congressman from Minnesota. He attended the elementary schools in the Nation's capital, and was graduated from the High School at Little Falls, Minn. in 1918, and studied mechanical engineering at Wisconsin University 1920-2. He then enrolled in the flying school at Lincoln, Nebr. He enlisted in the U. S. Air Service at Brooks Field, San Antonio, Tex., in 1924, and was commissioned second lieutenant in 1925. In November that same year, he joined the 110th Squadron, 25th Div., Missouri National Guard as a first lieutenant and became a captain in 1926.

He entered the U. S. Air Mail Service and piloted his first mail plane from Chicago to St. Louis on April 15, 1926. And it was while flying this route that he decided to compete for the \$25,000 cash prize.

Companion Lindbergh was initiated July 9, 1926 in Keystone Lodge #243, F. & A.M., St. Louis, Mo.; passed Oct. 20, 1926; and raised Dec. 15, 1926. He became exalted in St. Louis Chapter #22, R.A.M. at a later date.

This airmail stamp was the first stamp released by the United States in honor of a living American citizen, even if it didn't have his portrait. (Portrait stamps being reserved for those who have been called by the Grand Architect of the Universe).

—R. M. NEEDHAM

The Annual Members' Exhibition

MEETING OF MAY 3

In a well attended meeting, only two displays were in the frames when the meeting started, but one by one the brothers began showing some interesting items and collections until the meeting ran beyond the allotted time and could have continued well beyond midnight. It was necessary to curtain some of the showings and we regret that some members were left at the post. Why the early reluctance, we'll never know, for each offering was enthusiastically received and all were of a high calibre. We will try to explain, briefly, the exhibits and talks in the order in which they were given:

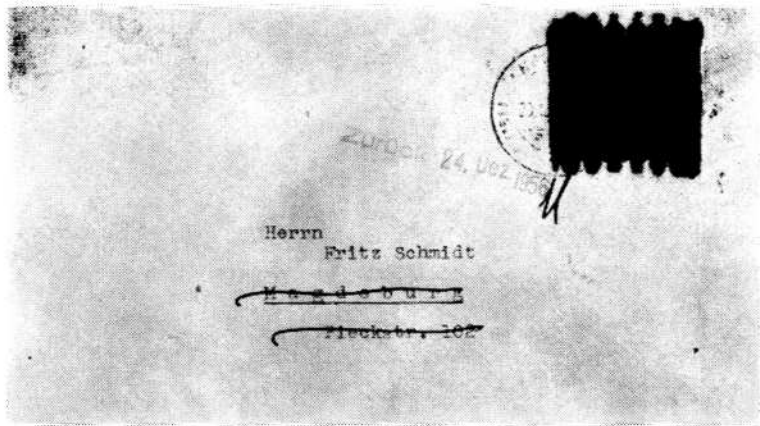
HERMAN S. KERSTEIN: Displayed three very large stamps of China, one supposedly the largest stamp existent; the other two, a Silver Jubilee and a Gold Jubilee stamp.

WILLIS H. BARDWELL: One of our newer members, exhibited a very nice collection of early cancellations.

JOSE RUEFF: His prize CANAL ZONE exhibit was shown, to which he has added some interesting new items, including a sheet with the over-print "CANAL ZONE" but with one of the stamps in the sheet having only the word "ZONE" where the word "CANAL" appears on the other stamps.

HAROLD E. GUNTER: Showed an interesting panel of "FAMOUS FIRSTS" from the One Penny Black of Gt. Britain 1840 down through the 2½pence of 1870. He also included the smallest square stamp of 1851 and the first triangular stamp of 1853, the four pence blue, Cape of Good Hope.

FRED WENDEL: Had splendid frames of Egyptian stamps from the Turkish rule through the British domination, to Independence, then to date. It was a well assembled exhibit and showed much effort had been put into it. Later in the evening Bro. Wendel showed a different type of collection: cancellations of the Liberty stamp from every state and US territory and other



DR. GEORGE CAMNITZER: And speaking of "old pros," the good doctor showed but one item, which we illustrate here: An envelope showing how East Germany suppresses any possibility of her peoples from even thinking of freedom. The stamp, which is shown in mint form, was completely blacked out.

The stamp depicts the expulsion of the German people from E. Germany in 1943.



such interesting items that he claimed anyone could assemble by fishing them out of the post office waste baskets.

DR. S. D. SWAN: Presented an unusual and splendid air mail collection.

MARTE PREVITI: Showed and spoke about a very fine collection of Korean stamps together with a collection of cancellations. Bro. Previti is a new member and we look forward to having more of the newer members show, with less dependence on the "old pros."

ROGER A. SEEBE: Had a fine collection of post cards, the complete U. S. issuance from 1873 to date.

EMANUEL REGGEL: As fine a set of matched corners of all the United Nation issuances as we have seen. He also displayed some very interesting U. N. cachets, which he stated that he, too, had "scrounged" from the U. N. wastebaskets, but which we sincerely doubt.

DR. IRWIN YARRY: And coming up at the end of the meeting, we were again pleased to see some of the HONG KONG collection that brought a bronze CIPEX medal to the doctor. From the enthusiasm shown, the members would like to see this collection when more time permitted.

POLISH MASON HONORED

Poland on November 30, 1954, issued three stamps to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Polish Revolution, led by Tadeuz Kosciuszko (1746-1817). The denominations were 40g, 60g and 1.40g. Kosciuszko, a Mason who aided the Americans in their war for independence, also is pictured on U. S. No. 734, Poland No. 267 (with two other Masons, George Washington and Casimir Pulaski); Poland Nos. 319, 329, 342, 358 and 366, and Central Lithuania No. 42.

—Mirt

EIFFEL TOWER ON NEW FRENCH STAMP

On April 18, France is to issue a 15f stamp honoring the French television industry. The design includes the Eiffel Tower, which was built by Gustav Eiffel, a Mason. The tower is pictured on other French stamps, one of the best illustrations being on a 90c plus 50c issue of 1939 (No. B85).

—Mirt

MASTER OF PHILATELY DEGREE CONFERRED ON SEVEN MEMBERS

At our April 5 Meeting, an impressive degree team conferred the degree of MASTER OF PHILATELY on the following members of the Mason Stamp Club of New York:

HAROLD L. DECKER
WARREN EHRIG
WALTER R. HARBESON
RAYMOND W. HOUGHTON
HERMAN S. KERSTEIN
YALE J. SHAPIRO
SIDNEY M. SOLOMON



CARL H. PIHL

The degree team worked smoothly under the guidance of Bro. Carl Pihl, and the work was climaxed with a well delivered talk by Bro. Al Lurch. The degree team comprised of the following members:

CONDUCTOR, SAM BROOKS, JR.
COUNCELLOR, EMANUEL REGGEL;
SR. COUNCELLOR, MORRIS STRAUSS; MASTER COUNCELLOR, CARL PIHL; ORATOR, ALVIN D. LURCH.

Bro. Harbeson came all the way from Columbus, Ohio to attend this meeting and obtain the degree and Bro. Ray Houghton, from Scotia, New York brought with him a most impressive folding card case containing membership cards, both active and honorary, of his many Masonic and Philatelic associations. So interesting was this list that we plan to print this list as soon as we receive some detailed explanations and remarks from Bro. Ray.

THE STAMP POST

By Alvin D. Lurch



ROTARY ON STAMPS

So long as stamps are issued to commemorate high purposes, the hobby will gain adherents. By the same token, the significance of stamps as a medium to draw attention to these purposes will gain fuller recognition throughout the world.

A quote by Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield about stamps is appropriate here: "They are ambassadors of good will and understanding between the peoples of the world."

The issuance of commemorative stamps for the Golden Anniversary of Rotary in 1955 was a splendid example of these facts. Thirty nations issued stamps or special cancellations for the occasion. The motto of Rotary points to the high purpose, "Service Above Self."

Prior to 1955, three nations had commemorated the holding of Rotary conventions in their countries by stamp issues, namely, Austria, 1931; Cuba, 1940; and Brazil, 1948.

On February 23, 1955, Rotary's Golden Anniversary was celebrated at Chicago, the birthplace of the organization. On that date, the U. S. issued an 8¢ commemorative stamp, the universal rate for international mail. A blue stamp, it pictures a torch, globe, and Rotary emblem.

In all, there were 79 stamps, not including a number of imperforates, a number of souvenir sheets, and two special cancellations issued to honor Rotary.

The largest set came from Nica-

ragua, totaling 15 stamps, air mail and regular postage, and two souvenir sheets. Honduras issued a set of 10 overprinted stamps, the overprint including the Rotary emblem on stamps of 1953 which had been issued to honor the United Nations. Three of the stamps in addition to the overprint were surcharged with new values.

Many attractive stamps resulted from the Rotary issues, including those of the U. S., Belgium, Australia, and Colombia, to name a few. Luxembourg issued a neat folder with cancellations. Several nice first day covers have also been seen, including one from French West Africa.

Two of the issues caught some collectors off balance, as a result of sharp rises in price shortly after release. This was due to small printings of certain denominations, namely the Honduras and Panama sets.

THOMAS JONATHAN JACKSON A MASON

Depicted on the 4¢ Army issue of the United States of 1937 is the likeness of General Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson, from a photograph by Rontzohn Galleries, Winchester, Va.

Gen. Jackson was born at Clarksburg, W. Va. on Jan. 21, 1824. He graduated from West Point in 1846, and served as a lieutenant in the Mexican War. At the start of the Civil War, he joined the Confederate Army and at the first battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861, he served as a brigadier general. At this battle is where he earned his nickname of "Stonewall." After the battle, he was promoted to the rank of major general. At Fredericksburg, Dec. 13, 1862, he held the rank of a lieutenant general. On May 2, 1863, in the campaign at Chancellorsville, is where he received the wound in his left arm (which was amputated) which eventually killed him, just eight days later, May 10, 1863.

Gen. Jackson's lodge is not known and where or when he was raised is unknown. However, Brother Bauling, in his Anthology, states: "Simon Wolf, a Mason, in his book **Presidents I Have Known**, claims when he (Wolf) was captured by the Confederates with a wagon load of supplies for the Union Army, asked to see the C. O., he was conducted to "Stonewall" Jackson, to whom he gave the sign of distress. Jackson answered and set him free, even seeing to it that he was safe across the Union lines."

—R. M. NEEDHAM

Confederates?

By HERMAN HERST

The name Sperati will no doubt command respect, of a sort, as long as stamps are collected. He was probably the greatest faker of rare stamps of all time, and while the number of his emissions probably will not surpass his predecessor, Fournier, in total damage done the hobby the results of his swindling have been enormous.

Sperati is still alive, but thanks to the British Philatelic Association (with an assist to declining eyesight), he has been bought off, and sold all his stock to the Association who will of course see that it is kept off the market.

On our last trip to London we had the opportunity to examine the work of this so-called "master faker." The title is in quotes, for we feel it is an undeserved appellation. It was bestowed upon Sperati by the Saturday Evening Post a few years ago, in an article that shook the very foundations of stamp collecting. To those who did not know better, Sperati had baffled every philatelic expert who ever lived, and because of his machinations, the value of rare stamps was about to tumble to nothing.

Happily, neither of these dire statements was true.

The stamps shown us in London were those of the Confederate States of America. And they were excellently done, too, insofar as their fooling someone who had no experience with them was concerned, but to be forewarned is to be forearmed. But the point of this piece is simply to show how Sperati "master faker," slipped up in his swindle by not taking the trouble to learn a little about the product he was making.

On one of his stamps, the lovely convincing Richmond postmark carried the date May 10, 1865. Had Sperati consulted a history book he would have learned that on that day the Confederate post office had ceased to exist, and that Richmond itself was of course in Northern Hands.

But this wasn't all. Another Confederate stamp carried a postmark of Middlebury, Vermont, also of May 10, 1865. The Confederacy did invade the North early in the war, for a matter of about 50 miles, but never did they get as far as the extreme northern state of Vermont! Nor did Sperati's need for a history lesson end with that bloomer. Other Confederate stamps bore lovely postmarks of such places

as Cincinnati, Ohio, and believe it or not, Detroit, Michigan!

Maybe it's for the best that even "master fakers" don't know the obvious. It makes it a little easier for the rest of us.

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 foreign countries, was fathered by a Chicago Mason.

In 1922, while president of the Chicago Motor Club, Ill. Charles M. Hayes, 33°, 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 memberships 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° 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.

—Mirt

JUDGES AT S.P.A. MEETING

The Society of Philatelic Americans held their Third Mid-Year meeting at Dayton, Ohio on May 4th. Stephen Rich, Verona, N.J. was Chairman of the Judges. Brother Richard Needham assisted in the judging.

Short supply of the 10¢ Famous Americans of 1940 is reported, particularly the 10¢ Poets.

Masonry On Stamps

This is a second of a series of "MASONRY ON STAMPS" showing a check list compiled by Bro. Clarence W. Beltman, a member of the MSC of NY, which appeared in TOPICAL

TIMES, the publication of the American Topical Association. It is through the kind permission of Bro. Beltman and the publishers of ATA that we bring this series of checklists:

Australia

Edward Hammond Hargraves #244
Edmund Barton #240

Belgium

Pierre L. L. Benoit #B151
Charles de Coster #B517
King Leopold I #218

Canada

John Alexander MacDonald #147
Richard Bedford Bennett 1955 Issue
Sir McKenzie Bowell 1955 Issue

Czechoslovakia

Edward Benes #318

Germany

Frederick The Great #355
Ludwig Von Beethoven #357
Gotthold E. Lessing #10N205
Johann Fichte 1953
Dr. Samuel Hahnemann 1955
Johann Von Schiller N119
Wolfgang Von Mozart B200
Heinrich Von Stephen #578
William I #64

Denmark

King Christian X #100
King Frederick VIII #72
Hans Christian Oersted #329

France

Jules Ferry #644
General LaFayette #243
Marshall Joseph Joffe #B97
Voltaire #B239
Hector Berloiz #B50-6
Gustav Eiffel #671
Louis Napoleon III #29
Jean Pierre De Florian

Great Britain

King Edward VII' #127
King Edward VIII #230
King George VI #241
Duke of Connaught #113 New.
Duke of Edinburgh-New Zea. #287
King William IV-St. Hel. #69
Winston Churchill-
Lord Horatio Nelson-Bar. #102

Greece

King George I #418
Constantine I #389
King George II #391
Eleftherios Venizelos #391

Norway

King Oscar I #2
King Oscar II #32

Founder of Gold in South Wales
Prime Minister

Composer, Director, Antwerp Conserv.
Writer
King of Belgium

Lawyer, Statesman
Prime Minister 1930-35
Prime Minister 1894-96, Journalist

President

Emperor
Composer
Dramatist, Critic
Philosopher
Physician
Poet, Dramatist, Historian
Composer
Father of U. P. U.
First German Emperor 1863-88

King 1912-1947
King 1906-1912
Founder Science of Electro-Mag.

Prime Minister 1880
Soldier
Soldier
Writer, Philosopher
Composer
Built Eiffel Tower
Emperor 1852-1870
French Fabulist

King 1901-1910
King 1936
King 1936-1952
Brother of King Edward VII
Husband of Queen Elizabeth II
King 1830-1837
Prime Minister
British Admiral of Navy

King 1863-1913
King 1913-1917
King 1922-1923
Statesman World War II

King of Norway 1844
King of Norway 1872-1905