

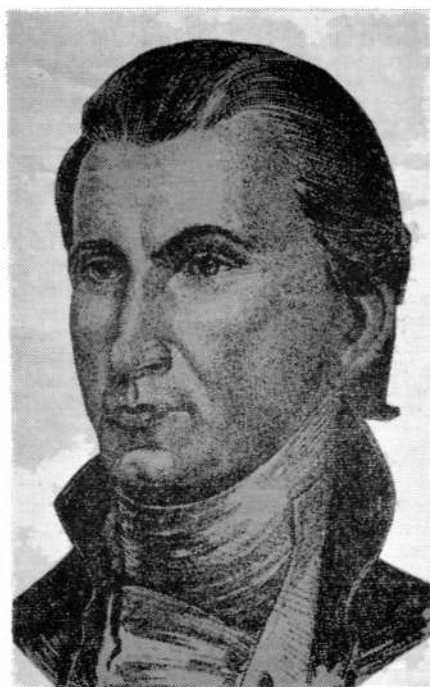


the Masonic Philatelist

VOL. 14

MAY 1958

NO. 9



Bro. James Monroe, 5th President
of the U.S.A. and fourth Masonic
president of the United States.

The MASONIC PHILATELIST

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THE COVER

The new 3¢ commemorative stamp issued April 28 at Montross, Virginia honors Bro. James Monroe. The early records of Williamsburg Lodge #6, Williamsburg, Va., according to a minute of Nov. 6, 1775, states that he was "recommended as a fit person to be admitted a member of this lodge and the motion recorded." According to the MASONIC WORLD, issue of April 1935, it was recorded on Nov. 9, 1775, "he was preferred, received and balloted for, passed, accepted and entered as an apprentice." He was not quite seventeen years and six months at the time, which is most unusual, since even Lewis members who are so common among British Masons, must be 18 years old before gaining admission.

His dues were paid through October, 1780, but no record shown as to when he was raised. Tradition states that he received the Master's degree in a military lodge during the revolution, and also credits him with membership in Kilwinning Cross Lodge No. 2, of Port Royal, Virginia. He is known to have visited Cumberland Lodge No. 8, at a meeting especially called to receive him at Nashville, Tenn., June 8, 1819.

Bro. Monroe died at the age of 73 in New York City, July 4, 1831.

MEETING: APRIL 11, 1958

Our regular meeting, scheduled for April 4, was postponed until the second Friday in the month since both Good Friday and Passover fell upon the first Friday in April. So far as the weather was concerned, it may well have been postponed again, for it was a cold, rainy, blustery evening that kept many of the members away. We met in the spacious library of the Collectors Club, and considering the change of date and the frenzied elements, a fair sized group assembled, including the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. R. W. Harry Ostrov, representing M. W. Nathan Turk, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York received a check from Bro. Irwin Yarry, representing part of the proceeds realized from the sale of the Lafayette cachets. In his acceptance talk, R. W. Ostrov described the various charities covered by the Brotherhood Fund, into which this money would be placed. He recognized



R. W. Harry Ostrov receiving check from Bro. Irwin Yarry.

the work that the MSC is doing and its several charitable contributions, and looked forward to receiving additional contributions from the Club when it was explained to him that the issuance of Masonic cachets would take place at regular intervals.

Bro. E. Milnor Peck was accorded much praise for the tireless work that he puts into the issuance of our beautiful cachets, resulting in the charitable contributions by the MSC as well as helping to increase the building fund.

HERSTS ESCAPE INJURY IN CRASH OF HELICOPTER

(Reprinted from the Western Stamp Collector, April 5, 1958.)

The European buying trip of Herman Herst Jr., Shrub Oak, N. Y., almost ended in disaster March 11 when the Sabena airlines helicopter in which he and Mrs. Herst were traveling from Cologne to Brussels struck a mountain in heavy fog near the village of Hurth in Germany.

Mr. Herst suffered back injuries which were treated at the Institute Medicale in Brussels while Mrs. Herst suffered a sprained ankle. Other passengers in the helicopter were not as fortunate. One suffered a broken back and was reported near death in a Cologne hospital.

Because of the accident Mr. Herst was unable to attend the International bourse in Brussels. However, he was able to attend the Stampex show in London and the bourse held in connection with that event.

The Sabena helicopter which crashed was making a flight which had twice been postponed on account of bad weather. It was trying to make a landing in the fog when it struck the mountain top. The helicopter was almost completely destroyed in the crash. Mr. and Mrs. Herst were taken to Brussels in a taxicab after the crash.

(We are glad to report that Bro. and Mrs. Herst have returned to the U.S.A.)

THE ROBERT E. FELLERS TESTIMONIAL DINNER

From all indications, as the MP goes to press, the largest group to ever attend our annual dinner, will gather at the Vanderbilt Hotel in NYC, on the evening of May 16, to do honor to Bro. Robert E. Fellers. This year, our annual affair is called "The Testimonial Dinner to Robert E. Fellers" for the committee long ago, set aside

this date so that we might best be able to pay our respects to our brother member who served so long, and so well, as the Director of the Philatelic Division of the U. S. Post Office. And befitting it is that the present incumbent, Bro. Franklin R. Bruns will pay tribute to him. Bro. Harry L. Lindquist will hold down the job of M.C., which he does so well.

Our members have already received notices and details of this event, which is open to members and their friends (male), and reservations are literally pouring in. The response has been most unusual, and we hope that those who plan to attend, will contact the chairman of the committee AT ONCE, for there is the possibility of a "sell-out." For our members who cannot attend, we will have a complete story and pictures in the next issues of this paper, and to whet your appetite and emotions, we are sending each of you a copy of the souvenir program and menu.

But to you who are planning to attend, telephone or write

Jacob S. Glaser, Chairman
845 East 13th Street
Brooklyn, New York

To expedite matters: Send a check or money order for \$6.00 for each reservation and be sure to make them payable to Jacob S. Glaser, Chairman.

4-H FOUNDER

Our thanks to Bro. Walter Harbeson for sending along a large newspaper picture of Albert B. Graham, founder of the 4-H Club movement (for which a commemorative stamp, Scott #1005, was issued in 1952) the occasion being the 90th birthday of this grand old man.

Bro. Graham, according to John A. Mirt, is a member of Social Lodge No. 217, Lena, Ohio. He was born on a farm near St. Paris, Champaign County, Ohio in 1868. He received his teacher's certificate at the age of 16 and in 1888 he was graduated with a BS degree from the National Normal School at Lebanon. At that time, Bro. Graham said "I made up my mind I would give my life to rural people." In 1902, with 35 volunteers from 17 schools, he started the Boys and Girls Agricultural Club. There now are 4-H Clubs throughout the world.

Gov. O'Neil of Ohio, declared March 19 (his birthday) as "A. B. Graham Day" in recognition of his pioneer efforts in agricultural education.

Costa Rica Freemasonry Has Unique Start

By JOHN A. MIRT

The Grand Orient and Supreme Council of New Granada (now the Republic of Colombia) was formed in June 1833. It was recognized by the Supreme Council 33 degree, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U.S.A. in 1853. A few years later, the Grand Orient assumed jurisdiction over the Masonically unoccupied territory of Central America.

It might come as a surprise to many that Freemasonry in Costa Rica was established by a Jesuit priest, Francisco Calvo, canon of San Jose Cathedral. Father Calvo obtained a charter in 1867 from the Grand Orient of Spain, then operating in Colombia. Out of that Lodge developed the Supreme Council, 33 degree, Scottish Rite of Central America, which covers five republics, and which chartered lodges of its own until the turn of the century.

The priest became the first Sovereign Grand Commander. Other founders were Dr. Jose Maria Castro (1818-1892), president of the Republic in 1847-9 and 1866-8, and founder and rector of Santo Tomas University, as Grand Chancellor; Dr. Lorenzo Montufar (1823-1898), rector of Santo Tomas University lawyer, historian, as Grand Minister of State; and Francisco Peralto Alvarado, banker, teacher and benefactor of San Juan de Dios Hospital, as First Grand Representative.



San Juan de Dios L. Montufar

The priest served as Master of his Lodge, and as Grand Commander until his death. The Masonic Temple in San Jose has on display the gavel he used.

In 1875, owing chiefly to clerical antagonism, the Grand Orient and Supreme Council of Central America, and all its Lodges in Costa Rica became dormant. The Grand Orient was revived in 1883 and four years later, moved its headquarters to Guatemala. As soon as Grand Lodges were formed in the five Central American republics,

jurisdictions over the Symbolic degrees was relinquished and work confined to the 4th to 33rd degrees of the Scottish Rite.

The Grand Lodge of Costa Rica was founded in San Jose, Dec. 7, 1899, by four existing Lodges. In subsequent years, 10 other Lodges were chartered. Some failed to survive. Today, there are 8 Lodges in Costa Rica with a combined membership of more than 500. La Luz Lodge #3, San Jose, works in English, according to the ritual of Ancient Craft Masonry, while the others work in Spanish, using the ritual of the Scottish Rite. The Grand Lodge is recognized by all of the English-speaking Grand Lodges. (Your Editor, while serving with the U. S. Engineers (civilian) was raised in La Luz Lodge #3, and his good friend, Bro. Alexander Murray, a member of La Luz Lodge, was M. W. Grand Master in 1957.)

"AL FIN," THE NEW ROSTER

"Al Fin" is not the name of a new member, just an old Spanish expression uttered by your editor when he sent the corrected proof and the dummy copy of the new 30 page roster to the Van Dahl Publications for a speedy printing. It simply meant "at last" or "finally" and after many months of compilation from the blue questionnaires, the records of the secretary and other sources, we think we have a fairly accurate listing of our members (to Feb. 1, 1958), their addresses, Blue Lodge affiliations and their stamp collecting activities. Recognizing all the possibilities of errors, we respectfully request that any such errors be noted and your editor advised, so that when the first list of additions, changes and corrections is issued, all such errors will be cleared. Your comments and suggestions will also be appreciated, since we hope to make this roster a perpetual handbook, with periodic lists to enable it to remain an up-to-date record.

In 1951 Denmark issued a 50 ore stamp bearing the portrait of Hans Christian Oersted (1777-1851), a Mason recognized as the founder of science of electro magnetism.

Masons On Stamps—Great Britain and Colonies

The following is a continuance of check lists submitted by Brother Elmer Edens. This time we give you Famous Englishmen and/or English Colonists, all Masons honored on stamps:

Sir Francis Bacon, Newfoundland 92, 92a, 98.

Edmund Barton, Australia #240.

Richard Bedford Bennett, Canada #357.

Sir McKenzie Bowell, Canada #350.

Robert Burns, Russia #1859.

Lord Carrington, New South Wales #86, 88, 031, 033.

Winston Churchill, Colombia #520, #522; Nicaragua #696, 698/699, C272, C274/5.

Duke of Connaught, Newfoundland #113.

Capt. James Cook, Aitutaki #1, 28, 30, 34; Cook Islands 61, 63, 72, 78/9, 84/5, 91/2, 116/7, 132, 138; New South Wales 79, 104b, 113, 125, 026; New Zealand, 70, 83, 98, 99b, 102, 104, 107, 120, 124, 189, 197, 207, 215, 230, 017, 023, 030, 065, 071, 077; Niue, #3, 6, 35, 37, 41, 53/4, 60/1, 77/8; Penryn Islands, #1, 5, 25, 27, 33.

Duke of Edinburgh, Australia 267, 269; Canada 276, 315, 374; New Zealand #287; Kenya & Uganda 94/5.

Edward Hammond Hargraves, Australia #244.

John Alexander MacDonald, Canada 141, 147.

Lord Horatio Nelson, Antigua #73/6; Barbados 102/8, 219.

Khediva Ismail Pasha, Egypt #177/90; 253, 287.

Lord Baden Powell, US 995; Australia 216, 249; Belgium 455/6; Brazil C87; Canada 356; Cape of Good Hope 179/80; China 1165/7; Cuba 535, 565, C152; Japan 467; Korea 245/6; Lichtenstein 270/3, 316; Luxembourg 324/5; New Zealand B43; Nicaragua 778/82, C377/86; Philippines 528/9; Roumania B26/36, 44/54, 63/65.

Cecil Rhodes, No. Rhodesia 54/9; So. Rhodesia 56/63, 76, 83; Nyasaland Protect. #95.

Robert Falcon Scott, New Zealand #L2.

Ernest Henry Shackleton, New Zealand #L2.

James Wolfe, Canada #100.

Sir James Brooke, Sarawak #1, 20, 155/8.

Daniel O'Connell, Ireland #80/2.

Sultan Ibrahim, Johore #37/127; 130/44, 149/53, 155.

We have not listed King Edward VII, King Edward VIII, King George VI because the lists for these kings are most extensive. However, if there are enough requests, lists will be shown in later issues of the MP.

THE CHOSEN PEOPLE A UNIQUE WITNESS

Mr. Fred E. Taylor, a Christian layman of Portland, Ore., was recently honored at a testimonial banquet sponsored by the Jewish National Fund of Portland, Ore. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor are Bible-believing Christians to whom the Lord has given a deep love for the Jewish people. His hobby is philately. He is an ardent stamp collector and has used this as a means to demonstrate this effectively to the Jews of the world.

During the past twenty years Mr. Taylor has built up a collection of 17 volumes of Palestinian and Israeli stamps. His collection includes covers that show the postal markings of Turkish post offices in what was later Palestine and is now Israel. It also includes stamps of the British mandate and all of the issues of the state of Israel to date. Every page of the 17 albums is copiously annotated and illustrated.

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have another hobby. They are students of the prophetic Scriptures. Since many, if not most of the stamps issued by the Israeli government have a Biblical basis, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have judiciously brought out the Messianic import of these Scriptures. There is a definite Christian testimony evident throughout the entire collection.

This collection with its definite gospel witness will be displayed throughout the large cities of the U.S. before going to the Jewish National Headquarters in Jerusalem. There it will be displayed in the room next to where Theodore Herzl is honored.

—Sent in by Bro. Walter R. Harbeson, Columbus, Ohio.

Franklin R. Bruns attended the first day ceremonies of the Paul Revere stamp which were held at the Old North Church in Boston, Mass., April 17.

Editor's Notebook: 'LETTERS-We Get Letters!'

From **Lorne Lyle Allmon**, Riverside, Cal., we learn that he is a member of the U. S. Air Force, a reserve captain on extended active duty. "I am expanding my FDR collection into a Masonic Presidents topical; and here is a chance to correspond with **Edward Webster Thomas, Jr.**, Abington, Maryland, who writes, "I have been a Mason now about a year. It has given me a new outlook upon life. I am a widower with two children to raise. Corresponding with some others in other parts of the world, is a pastime that helps one to forget the past and it is a help toward the future. This can be done through philately and good fellowship." We learn from **Bro. Porter Lewis Ranck** (who authored "Hawaiian King" article in April MP) that he had just been appointed an aide to the committee on Masonic Culture of the Grand Lodge of Penna. Our congratulations!! One of our new members, **Joel S. Goldsmith**, P. O. Box 5308, Pawaa Sta., Honolulu, Hawaii, lists his collection activity to "Giving stamps to Veterans Hospitals." Every philatelist has "extra" stamps lying around, and we hope Bro. Goldsmith is on the receiving end of a new supply.

Bro. **Gene Penkos**, of Forest Hills, N. Y., is trying to find as many unlisted US imperforate plate numbers of "which there must be hundreds Scott #314-771" and he welcomes hearing from anyone who has them, mint or used, blocks, strips, pairs or singles. We learn that Bro. **Charles William Mitchell LeBeau**, Excelsior, Minnesota, is compiling a Masonic Stamp Collection for his Lodge, Educational #1002, Excelsior. Bro. **Walter R. Harbeson** of Columbus, Ohio, whom we had the pleasure of meeting at the Master of Philately degree night, last year, has been a very steady correspondent and he must often wonder why we haven't published some of the fine material that he has sent in. We are trying to "spot," for it surely will be used, just as we have printed in this issue "THE CHOSEN PEOPLE; A UNIQUE WITNESS." Here is another of his interesting items of news: "Have a letter from Major General Norman D. Cote regarding the Army Stamp (Scott #934). He states 'Yes, you are right. I was in command of the troops' (28th Div.) which marched through Paris, a

picture of which was used on the U.S. stamp showing troops passing the Arch of Triumph, Paris. Generals Bradley, De Gaulle and Patton with others, reviewed the march that day. It might interest you to know that the troops passed through Paris in battle formation and made contact with the enemy outside Paris that afternoon." Genl. Cote is a member of Chelsea, Mass., Lodge and A.A.S.R. Gen. Bradley a member of West Point Lodge #877, New York." Many thanks, Bro. Harbeson, and we welcome more of your very interesting material.

Some time ago, Bro. **Theodore R. Lockwood** (formerly Mayor of Newton, Mass.) of Jaffrey Center, New Hampshire, wrote a most interesting appraisal of our modest publication: "The features that appeal to me as a non-resident member are many. Few Masonic groups hold the richness of lore contained in the Club publication, reflecting not only valuable historical references as to Masonic philately, but countless stories from wide geographical sources. These illustrate the world wide interest in the craft and in the collection of stamps. Readers can hardly find all this material of interest unless they are what you and I call 'good Masons'." Thank you for those kind and encouraging words, Mr. Mayor. (The world is truly small, for your editor was a resident of Newton, Mass., when Bro. Lockwood was its Mayor.—Ed.)

Addresses of members have not been included because they would take too much space. The roster, soon to be issued, will give full and up-to-date addresses.

LINE ENGRAVING

(Brother Charles W. Brooks advises us that the following material was "lifted" verbatim from various published articles by our late Brother Clarence W. Brazier.)

Philadelphia was the mother of line engraving and until the last half of the nineteenth century most of the best engravers of the country worked there and resided nearby.

All of the Philadelphia bank note engraving firms consolidated into the American Bank Note Company in 1858 with the partial exception of Tappan, Carpenter & Company and these two firms were the only bank note engravers listed in the directories for several years.

The American Bank Note Company

articles of association are dated, in effect, May 1, 1858, but Nathaniel Jocelyn and the Philadelphia firm of Draper, Welsh & Company first used the name of American Bank Note Company as early as April, 1854 and continued it thereafter for four years prior to 1858.

Nathaniel Jocelyn is credited with the idea of consolidating into the American Bank Note Company (not then incorporated) all of the strongest bank note engraving partnerships in New York and Philadelphia, with their branches in other cities.

The seven partnerships which consolidated into the company incorporated as the "American Bank Note Company" were:

Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson
Toppan, Carpenter & Company
Danforth, Perkins & Company
Bald, Cousland & Company
Jocelyn, Draper, Welsh & Company
Wellstood, Hay & Whiting
John E. Gavitt

The American Bank Note Company was no sooner comfortably established than its first serious competitor, the National Bank Note Company was founded in November, 1859. But by the spring of 1861 the outbreak of the Civil War required so much government engraving of bonds, paper money and postage stamps, that there was a profitable business for both of these firms.

The Continental Bank Note Company was founded in January, 1863, by some New York men who employed the remaining independent engravers and it obtained the postage stamp contract on January 25, 1873.

On December 27, 1878 these three companies signed an agreement to consolidate and on February 4, 1879 were incorporated under the name American Bank Note Company.

PERSONALS

We are so sorry to learn of the serious illness of our old stand-bys Brother Sidney Barrett, who is now at the New York Hospital, 525 East 68th St., N.Y.C., Room 1301. We are certain that he would like to hear from his many friends.

And when did you last write to Bro. Harry Konwiser, Masonic Home, Utica, New York? Brother Harry, the dean of Masonic Philately, was always ready to offer a helping hand, and his advice guided many a successful philatelist,

dealer, author and/or beginner. When such a member enjoys and appreciates the mail he receives, isn't it just about time you dropped him a line of good cheer? Harry is bed-ridden and his eyesight is not too good, so even if he does not send an answer, you can be sure you made him happy.

WELCOME . . . NEW MEMBERS:

RUSSELL D. BAILEY
100 Church Ave., Ballston Spa, N.Y.
Franklin #90, Ballston Spa
ALFRED C. BUCK
McDonald 1, Kansas
McDonald Lodge #83
JOSEPH CARNERO
176 Warren St., Brooklyn, N.Y.
GERALD C. CARR
9243 Warwick Ave., Detroit, Mich.
Loyalty Lodge #488, Detroit
JULES CASS
34 Crestwood Lane, Valley Stream, N.Y., Amity Lodge #323, New York
WILLIS J. DALTON
661 Gerard Ave., Long Branch, N.J.
Long Branch #78
JOHN N. FINDLAY
16-17th, Jamestown, N.Y.
Mt. Moriah #145, Jamestown
WALLACE M. GAGE
9 Prospect Place, New Canaan, Conn.
Mineola #985, Mineola, N. Y.
DR. OSCAR GLUECK
61 Nelson Ave., Bluepoint, N.Y.
South Side Lodge, Patchogue, N.Y.
AUGUST GUSTAVE HUXEL-WILLY
2701 DeBeavrivage St., Montreal
Lakeside #105, Valois, Que., Canada
MARVIN L. JOHNSON
2545 No. Parkway Dr., El Monte, Cal.
Nodaway #470, Maryville, Mo.
CHARLES W. M. LeBEAU
130 Lake St., Excelsior, Minn.
Excelsior #113
CHARLES C. McCANN
732 W. Lycoming St., Phila., Pa.
Geo. W. Kendrick, Jr., #690, Phila.
SUMMERFIELD, J. McCARTENEY
211 N. Greenbrier St., Arlington, Va.
Dawson Lodge #16, Wash., D.C.
ALBERT R. MERZ
5116 Chevy Chase Pkwy., Wash. 8
Albert Pike #36, Washington, D. C.
GENE PENKOS
250 Greenwood No., Forest Hills, N.Y.
Tall Cedars of Lebanon #1017, N.Y.
MINOO P. POLSON
23, Colaba Chambers, Colaba, Bombay 5, India. Imperial Brotherhood #1041, Bombay, India.
CHARLES H. PUTNEY
East Andover, New Hampshire



The three outstanding Masonic Covers of interest to all Masons are being distributed. The above illustrations show two of the covers, the third being a printed cachet showing a picture of the Chair used by Bro. George Washington when he was Master of his Lodge in Virginia. The cover was cancelled at the Masonic Museum at Arlington, Virginia, on Washington's Birthday.

The Paul Revere cachet was released First Day of Issue, April 18 at Boston, Massachusetts, with the famed North Church shown in the cancellation as an innovation. Brother Paul Revere was one of the great Masons of Early Colonial Days. A card giving an interesting history is enclosed with the cover.

Brother James Monroe, whose picture is shown on the cover of this issue, was made a Mason during the "Troubled Times" of our early history, and he distinguished himself as a diplomat with unusual qualities. He was the author of the Monroe Doctrine, and held many important offices in the Government, serving two terms as president.

Because of a limited number of Birthday cachets, and because the denomination of the Revere stamp being 25¢, your cachet committee has issued a limited number of sets, most of which have already been sold. While there are some remaining, we urge you to send in your order . . . AT ONCE . . . The three covers for only \$1.00; 6 sets for \$5.00, only as long as the supply lasts.

Last Call for Three Masonic Cachets !!
Masonic Cachets
Pleasantville, New York