



the Masonic Philatelist

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NO. 7



The Menorah or Seven-Branded Candlestick, so well explained in the article by Bro. Luther Van Buskirk.

The MASONIC PHILATELIST

MARCH 1959
VOL. 15 NO. 7

M. S. C. Silver Anniversary



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THE COVER

Through the courtesy of Bro. Steinberg of the Israeli Philatelic Agency, we were supplied the picture of the 1,000 pruta stamp of Israel (Scott #55). The Menorah or Seven-Branded candlestick is the symbol of the State of Israel, and it appears on several of the stamps of this country. The three stamps in the set issued in 1949; the elaborate stamp issued in 1958 on the 10th Anniversary; and on others would help to illustrate the splendid story of Bro. Luther Van Buskirk, printed in this issue.

MEETINGS

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

PROGRAM 1959

March 6—Thomas Phillips-Sidney Barrett night.

March 27—Another Swap Night. Don't miss these enthusiastic, entertaining, informal get-togethers. Even if you have nothing to swap, you'll enjoy the fun. Same place: German Masonic Temple, 15th Street, N. Y. C., between 2nd and 3rd Ave. Time: 6:30-9:00 or later, if desired. No club business.

April 3—Ferrars H. Tows Night.

May 1—Harry A. Konwiser 80th Birthday Celebration.

June 5-7—Silver Anniversary Weekend. The Hotel Vanderbilt, Park Ave. at 34th St., N.Y.C., has been selected as the center of activities. Reception of guests at Hotel Vanderbilt, June 5, 6 & 7. Annual dinner (for the first time: women may attend) Saturday evening, June 6. Music, entertainment. Plans regarding the Master of Philately degree and the Picnic will be announced in our next issue, together with the specific details and the fees. Exhibits will be at the Collectors Club Building, each exhibitor limited to 12 pages. Be sure to prepare your exhibit NOW and contact the committee if you have any questions: Co-chairmen Carl Pelander and Dr. George Camnitzer. The various committees will soon be announced by the general chairman, Bro. Jake Glaser.

Bro. Benjamin Franklin was the only man to help write and to sign the four paramount documents of the Revolutionary Period, viz: The Declaration of Independence; the Treaty of Alliance with France, the Treaty of Peace with England, and the Constitution of the United States.—York Temple News, February 1959.

MSC Silver Anniversary Year

Past President's Night February 6, 1959

The corner stone of the Masonic Stamp Club was set in place in 1934 with the election of Bro. Arthur W. Deas, as our first president. From then on down through the years, many willing hands have assisted to spread the cement of philatelic endeavor, resulting in the constant growth of our knowledge in our chosen field with special emphasis on its relationship to our fraternity.

Tonight we are privileged to have with us the following past presidents:

Bro. Henry W. Holcombe 1939-1941
 Bro. Dr. Geo. Camnitzer 1943-1945
 Bro. Sam Brooks 1945-1946
 Bro. Russell Roane 1949-1951
 Bro. Dr. Irving M. Yarry 1957-

Again, as on occasions in the past, these brothers added to our philatelic knowledge in several interesting talks on their special philatelic interests.

Bro. Holcombe was called upon by Bro. Dr. S. Duffield Swan, program



H. W. Holcombe

chairman to open the discussions. A specialist in Match and Medicine stamps, he told of his research work in connection with material of the Watertown Match Co., of Watertown, N. Y., confirming the actual existence of that firm, despite the belief of some that it had never existed. The verification of the genuineness of certain material issued by the company followed. Bro. Holcombe also discussed an article which he wrote for the American Philatelist magazine, in which he discussed the material put out by the Excelsior Match Co.



Geo. Camnitzer

Bro. George Camnitzer exhibited interesting material of German East Africa, which bordered on the Indian Ocean. He described the postal history, explained the political changes in the locale and discussed various

stamp issues, noted that the color of the paper denoted the value. He exhibited considerable material, which he discussed in detail.

Bro. Sam Brooks, who has done much research work in the field of Masonic Philately, discussed the topic from many very interesting view points and suggested several specific fields in which one can specialize. He mentioned Masonic cancellations, Free Franks, Corner Cards among other types of material offering interesting study. Bro. Brooks paid tribute to Bro. Harry Konwiser for his work in this field. As usual, Bro. Brooks had much interesting material to display.

(The article by Bro. Brooks, to be found elsewhere in this issue, was part of this talk. Ed.)

Bro. Russell Roane opened his talk with some humorous stories for which he is well known after which he displayed Philippine varieties off and on covers, explaining perforation and printing oddities.

Bro. Dr. Irwin M. Yarry exhibited some interesting material of Tristan Da Cunha, a Dependency of British St. Helena. Bro. Yarry, after locating the area geographically, discussed its postal history and exhibited a number of covers dating during the period of World War I. He also discussed stamps of Ascension and St. Helena, the latter including several varieties of the Broken Mast, and Cleft in the Rocks items.

And so closed another interesting evening. Surely each of us present must have heard something to be added to his storehouse of philatelic knowledge.

Alvin D. Lurch, Secy.

BANK AD USES STAMPS

A New York bank that has branches in 25 countries recently used colorful foreign stamps in advertising to emphasize its overseas services. Superimposed on a map of Europe are stamps of Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, France and The Vatican.

The Seven - Branched Candlestick or the Menorah

Paper Presented to October 31st Meeting Research Lodge of Colorado
By Brother Luther VanBuskirk

Most of us give but little thought to the origin or to the meaning or symbolism of much of the paraphernalia used in the conferring of degrees in either the York or the Scottish Rite. Possibly some of us have wondered at the great veneration shown by Zerubbabel, in the 15th degree of the latter Rite, when he beholds again the sacred articles which had so long since been removed from the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar.

The ceremony of extinguishing and re-lighting the symbolic lights in Scottish Rite Chapters at Easter time makes use of an emblematic receptacle for holding seven candles. This is called the "Seven-branched Candlestick" or the "Menorah." The center candle of this group, representing the Lord, is the one used by the Wise Master, thus accounting in some degree for the great veneration in which it is held by the Jews.

The origin of the Menorah was when God commanded Moses to construct a seven-place candlestick. This was during the time that the Jews were out of the Holy Land and were living in the wilderness. History does not record any reason given by the Lord for the designation of seven places in the candlestick, but the most popular belief of Jewish scholars is that the Menorah commemorates the seven days of the Creation.

When we study the Menorah and its relationship to the Hebrews, it takes on symbolism instead of being merely an emblem. Masonic students give many reasons for its having seven branches. Among the most common of these are: the ancients considered seven to be a Holy Number; there are the seven days of the week—six days of labor and one of rest; there are seven planets; seven colors of the rainbow; seven of each kind of animals were taken into the ark by Noah; Pythagoras called seven the "perfect" number because it comprised the two sides of his 47th Problem; It has been called the "virgin" number because it cannot be divided or arrived at by multiplication; seven years were required to build Solomon's Temple; Assyrian tablets 5000 years old have carved upon

them the sun, the moon, and seven stars; seven Masons comprise a "perfect" Lodge; there are the seven liberal arts and sciences; our Masonic Apron, with its four-sided square and triangular flap adds up to seven; and then there are the seven stars, shown in the 17th degree of the Scottish Rite, representing the seven churches of Asia.

In our Great Light, Chapter 1 of the Book of Revelations contains the message of Jesus sent by St. John to the seven churches of Asia, refers to the seven golden candlesticks, and is practically the same prayer that our Jewish brethren use in their Temples. Verse 11 of that Chapter names the seven churches of Asia. Those of us who have made a study of the Essenes and St. John as their Grand Master will get the Masonic connection as revealed in the Book of Revelations.

Inasmuch as the number seven was a Holy Number to the Priests of the Temple of Solomon, we will endeavor to explain just what the Menorah represented, and its connection with Masonry of today. To those Priests, and to Zerubbabel—who brought back the symbolical Menorah with other sacred vessels and articles from Babylon to the restored Jewish Temple in Jerusalem, it spelled out the philosophical tenets of their creed.

As stated above, the center candle of the seven represents the LORD, and was so called. The THREE center candles represent a sacred prayer of three words, which, when translated, mean "The Lord bless and keep thee." The FIVE center candles of the group also represent a five-word sacred prayer: "The Lord make His face to shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee." All seven branches represent the seven-word prayer: "The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace."

The writer of this paper is informed by a Jewish Brother, (Jack G. Shaffer of Columbine Lodge), that this total prayer of three, five and seven words of Hebrew emanates truly the most basic of all philosophies dealing with Brotherhood, and that is: "If one man will pray for another he will also love

him." It occurs to us that this three-five-seven prayer of the Menorah is very much a part of Masonry. We would again emphasize the fact that not only is the Menorah a pleasing piece of Masonic paraphernalia but it has a most beautiful, impressive and meaningful symbolism for every one of us.

So, in viewing this symbol may we be reminded of all that it stands for and venerate the Masonic philosophy expressed in those seven Hebrew words which mean: "The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace." (Numbers 6:26).

THANK YOU . . . WSC!!

As we go to press, we received the February 21 copy of the Western Stamp Collector with its editorial tribute to the Masonic Stamp Club on its 25th (Silver) Anniversary, written by William W. Wylie. For the several pages devoted to the history of our Club; to the various articles from our past issues; to Masonic Philately in general and to the MSC in particular, we are deeply grateful. To each of our members, a copy of this issue is being sent, and it is our fond hope that those members not already subscribers to this fine newspaper, will be impressed sufficiently to enter their subscriptions, soon.

H. S. K.

WINTHROP SARGENT, A MASON



Depicted on the 3¢ Mississippi Territory commemorative issue of the U.S. of 1948 (Scott's #955, Minkus #CM297) is the likeness of Winthrop Sargent, first governor of the territory from 1798 to 1801.

Brother Sargent served with distinction in the Revolution under Washington. And it was during this time that he was raised in American Union (Military) Lodge in 1776. He was one of the charter members. In 1788, he

was one of a group (with Rufus Putnam, first Ohio Grand Master) which organized an expedition of pioneers to settle Ohio and the Northwest Territory. The first settlement in Ohio was at Marietta, where American Union Lodge was revived, and meetings were held in Sargent's home. As everyone should know, this Lodge is now #1 under the Grand Lodge of Ohio.

The Mississippi Territory was formed in 1798 and comprised what are now the states of Mississippi and Alabama. Sargent became the first governor. He brought a semblance of law and order to this frontier. The seeds of Masonry were also sown and in 1801 the Grand Lodge of Kentucky chartered Harmony Lodge #7 at Natchez, the first capital. Chief justice during this hectic period was Seth Lewis, first Master of Harmony Lodge, now #1 under Mississippi Grand Lodge.

Brother Sargent died at the age of 67 in 1820. And that is about all the info on the Masonic activities of this prominent Mason of the period.

GENERAL PERSHING COMMEMORATIVE?

From the desk of the Chairman, Pershing Stamp Committee of the Midwest Philatelic Society we have received a resolution drawn up by this society, and unanimously passed at one of its meetings that every effort be made to have a commemorative stamp issued on the 100th anniversary of his birth, which will be September 13, 1960. In view of the fact that the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee set forth a criteria that "no American citizen may be honored by a U. S. commemorative stamp until at least 25 years after his death," this move asks that an exception be made for several stated (and good) reasons. Because General John J. Pershing was a 33rd degree Mason, we are asked to assist in every way to have this commemorative stamp issued next year. You are advised that you may help by

Writing a letter immediately to Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield, c/o Post Office Department, Washington 25, D. C., requesting that he authorize issuance of this stamp;

Writing to senators and representatives, to your governor and to anyone of importance that you feel can help;

Writing on personal stationery, and on business and organizational stationery.

MASONIC PHILATELY

By Sam Brooks

In our introduction to the Collecting of "Masonic Philately," in the November 1958 "Masonic Philatelist," our first grouping was of Masonic cancellations. This is a "classic" in all of stamp collecting. Every collection of consequence, of United States stamps has a section of "Fancy Cancellations." Our Masonics are usually found in this group. This is the principal reason for the scarcity of these items, and their high prices.

The use of these cancellations was during the period 1857 to about 1880. Stamps were to be obliterated in any suitable manner and postmasters were permitted to use any device for this purpose. This led to the use of a wide variety of subjects, depending on the ingenuity and resourcefulness of the postal official or his clerks. Many of these devices were carved out of cork, or wood or metal. They were home-made or purchased from firms who made a business of supplying these "obliterators." One such firm was that of E. S. ZEVELLEY of Pleasant Grove, Maryland. Harry M. Konwiser in the November 1946 "Masonic Philatelist," wrote about Mr. Zevelley and his promotional methods for selling his devices.

Why the use of the Masonic emblem or symbol, is hard to say. That there was some connection of the user to the craft, seems possible. Our Vice-President, Dr. S. Duffield Swan, is in the forefront of researchers, to determine which of the Postmasters who used "Masonics," were Masons. His results to date, indicate that some were of the Craft. During 1945 and 1946, the "Masonic Philatelist" published a series of articles on Masonic Postmasters by Brother Frank I. Morse. This field of philatelic research, is wide open.

Masonic cancellations are found on several values of the 1857, 1861, 1869 and the later "Bank-Note" issues. By far the greater number are on the low values of these issues.

Now, what to look for. When attending shows check through dealers' stocks. Ask for "cancellations," not "Masonic Cancellations." Some-how or other, the magic word "Masonic" tends

to have an inflationary effect on the price asked. Now, if you find a nice "strike" of the Square and Compasses, don't hesitate to acquire it. Brother, this is one of the "Blue Chips" of philately. The value of these items has risen consistently, and they are eagerly sought for by experienced collectors. The wide dispersal of the Charles Gramm and Sid Barrett collections, has left the field almost entirely to Dr. Swan and one or two others. Most "Masonics" repose in general collections of Fancy Cancellations or in specialized collections of U.S. stamps.

For some time, we have maintained that a collection of Masonic cancellations may be assembled at a reasonable cost by the use of the information you have acquired about Masonic emblems and symbols. If necessary read up a bit on this subject. Examine closely pictures of old-time Masonic Aprons or "The Masters Carpet." Note the many different emblems depicted. See the various stars, crosses, anchors, numbers, as well as the Squares & Compasses, with and without the letter "G." Note the variety of emblems illustrating the degrees in the Scottish and York Rites. Add to these the Sun, the Moon, a trowel, the "All-seeing Eye," and you have a large variety of figures to look for, each one of which, has a meaning to the discerning Craftsman.

Look for these figures or emblems on any kind of stamp or cover. Use your own judgement, as to the propriety of adding a given item to your collection. **If you think it looks Masonic, and can rationally explain its meaning,** then place it in your collection. You are the sole judge. And, Brother, with the proper write-up, you can make a collection you will be proud to display, at the Club, the Lodge or even at a Stamp Show.

If you are really interested in this subject, visit dealers, check with auction catalogues and ask everybody you know to be on the lookout for these stamps. Sometimes you can find something you can use in lots of 3¢ Greens or 2¢ Browns of the Bank-note period. They show up occasionally in dealers ads and at Stamp Show bourses. Keep hunting, and soon you will be successful.

If you have access to a Philatelic Library, examine a copy of the book published by our Brother Herman

(Continued on Page 11)

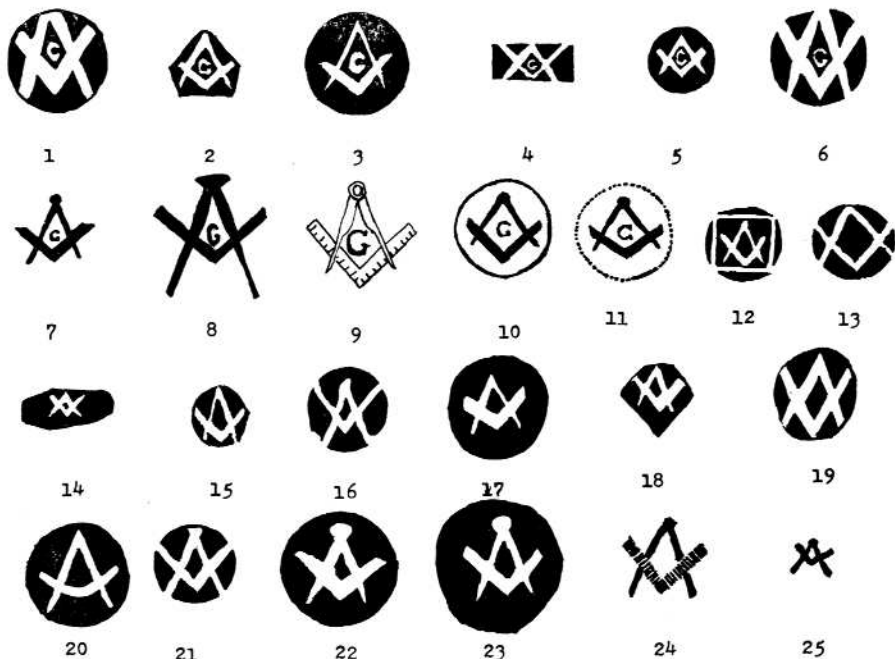
NEWLY DISCOVERED MASONIC CANCELLATIONS

By BRO. S. DUFFIELD SWAN

In "STAMPS" of April 8th, 1933, Dr. Wm. Evans began a listing with illustrations of Fraternal Cancellations. He stated that he had on record about sixty varieties. In 1940 Wm. W. Reynolds took over the cancellations column and by July 29th, 1944, when the column was discontinued, he had listed 153 cancellations, of which they identified the source of 80. Charles W. Gramm, in a series beginning in the September 1939 "Postal Markings," illustrated 36 new identified Masonic Cancellations, together with many which had been published in the "Stamps" series.

The author here presents tracings of about forty more cancellations with probable Masonic interest. He has about twenty more on record which at present are under study. The illustrated square and compasses have been reasonably authenticated, both as to source and interest.

The lesser insignia show reasonable Masonic intent. The "All-seeing Eye" from New York comes from the same postal station which was the source of the relatively common New York, square and compasses. Durgin Eastman in North Conway, N. H., issued several different Masonic Cancellers, which have been identified earlier. Henry C. Campbell, the postmaster of Centerville, Mich., was a Mason and Archibald Lybrand, Jr., was reputed to have been a member of the Craft.



Post Office	Stamp	Postmaster	Mason	Type
1. Norwich, Conn.	26	Capt. Henry B. Tracy	M	I
2. Middlebury, Vt.	65	John Cobb	M	I
3. Shenandoah, Va.	114			I
4. Salem, Mass.	158	Geo. H. Pierson		I
5. Augusta, Me.	185	Horace Hamlin		I
6. Holly Springs, Miss.	184	Solomon Baer		I
7. Chelsea, Vt.	114	John B. Bacon		I
8. Douglas, Kan.	145	J. B. Ives		II
9. Ed. Ky.	(1930)			II
10. Kopperl, Tex.	184	Rice Maxey		III
11. Blairstown, N. J.	184	James D. Vail		III
12. Putney, Vt.	65	Alexis B. Hewett		IV
13. Brookline, Mass.	88	Cyrus W. Ruggles		IV
14. Watertown, Mass.	114	Archibald Mc Masters		IV
15. Mystic Bridge, Conn.	114	John A. Rathbun		IV
16. Whitehall, N. Y.	114	Horatio N. Parke		IV
17. Newton, Kan.	145	Alvarado C. Frederick		IV
18. McConnelsville, Vt.	147			IV
19. Grinnell, Ia.	156	Wm. S. Leisure		IV
20. Boston, Mass.	184	Wm. Lathrop Burt		IV
21. Hailey, Idaho	205	Henry Bews	M	IV
22. Elmer, N. J.	212	Mrs. Eliza Smith		IV
23. Atlanta, Ga.	212			IV
24. Norfolk, Va.	65	Elijah W. Whipple		V
25. Warren, N. H.	65			V

MSC Silver Anniversary Year

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

To all and sundry who wrote in about the articles that **did not** appear in the last issue, we hope that we have explained it under "ERRATA," to be found elsewhere in this issue (we think). Like the woman who lived in a shoe and had so many children she did not know what to do; well we had so much material, we did not know where to put it, and it all came back from the publisher. Elsewhere in this issue you will find the stories left out! About Bro. **Tamotsu Murayama**; the other splendid article by Bro. **Herman J. Lichty**. Thanks to the several brothers who have written in about how much they enjoyed the two articles by Bro. **Sam Brooks**: "Liberty Hyde Bailey" and "Stephen Douglas, The Little Giant" . . . Brother sun-dodgers in Florida or California and brothers who are complaining about the weather . . . hear this: Bro. **George W. Starling** of Timmins, Ont., Canada, writes "So far this winter we have had 55 inches of snow and it is still with us, with temperatures way down below zero since before Christmas. Had to write to let you know how much I appreciate the good job you do with the Masonic Philatelist and often wish it was a weekly publication . . . Enjoy the write up on meetings, and altho I will never be able to attend, can still use my imagination. Would like to correspond with other members, for time is the only commodity I have plenty of." (Bro. Starling is a shut-in, and we hope you can find time to write to him. Ed.) . . . Bro. **Herbert A. Fish**, a new member, of 279 Palmer St., New Bedford, Mass., sends the following interesting offer: "I have spent most of the past 17 years in the Arctic. Each year the ship I am on, receives many covers to be stamped by the ship and mailed from the Arctic. If any of the club members would like covers, I will be leaving again sometime in April for another 8 or 9 months. I will be glad to take them and mail them. Covers can also be mailed with Greenland stamps and sent by S.A.S. (Scandinavian Air Lines) over the Pole. I am a member of the Arctic Circle, and also the Top of the World Clubs." . . . "Greetings from the youngest and largest state in the union," writes Bro. **Hubert M.**

Wellons, from Wrangell, Alaska, "and we will need all the help we can get in advice and moral support for our labor will be hard, but I hope rewarding. One nice thing is that our brethren are here in possibly greater numbers in relation to the others than in your own state." . . . Among our new members we find that Bro. **Alan E. Eichman** of Detroit, Mich., is a corresponding member of some 12 lodges and organizations interested in Masonic research; that Bro. **Elatius G. Loomis** of Lakewood, Ohio, has been a Master Mason for nearly 52 years; that Bro. **D. Reed Kneppshield** of Meyersdale, Penna., is presently representative in the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania; that Bro. **Joe Padawar** of New York City, has just been elected Chief Rabban of Mecca Temple. And from our "old timers" we learn that our hard working Treasurer, **Carl Pihl**, has become a grandfather . . . best wishes for daughter, Mrs. Paul Hayes and new son, Charles Eric; that "**Uncle Jake**" Glaser, writes that fishing is fair, but he doesn't have time to loaf . . . in his spare time he paints. Picasso, watch your laurels . . . Bro. **Russell L. Floyd** of Waynoka, Okla., thinks he has a problem. He asks "Kindly inform me when my subscription to the Masonic Philatelist expired, as I am quite sure the thing has run out." (No, Brother, the MP is free with your membership. Ed.) . . . "I sure enjoy the Masonic paper that I receive each month. It has a lot of good reading and information. Keep the good work up," writes Bro. **Charles R. Gaines** of Chicago, Ill. . . . When sending in his dues, Bro. **William A. Parks**, of Massena, N. Y., states "This is the best money I ever spent, receiving so very much in return not only material-wise, but enjoyable satisfaction-wise. There are others in this area that are becoming interested and perhaps before long there will be a group of us. Just keep the Masonic Philatelist coming." Will do. From Bro. **Marshall S. Loke** of Rochester, N.Y. and from at least three other sources (not our MSC members) we have received letters and petitions to aid in the issuance of a commemorative stamp for Brother **John J. Pershing**, 33rd, on the 100th anniversary of his birth. Elsewhere we print how you might help secure this commemorative stamp; Bro. **Walter R. Harbeson** of

Columbus, Ohio, continues his most interesting correspondence and wants us to know how very much he enjoyed the Liberty Hyde Bailey article by Bro. **Sam Brooks**. He also enjoyed the article on Washington Monument by Bro. **Herman J. Lichty**, to which he has added so much material, that we will, at the first opportunity, print his letter in full. . . . On a letterhead bearing "One Hundredth Anniversary Year," we learn this from Bro. **Forest A. Black** of Leominster, Mass.: "While our Lodge is far from being one of the oldest, we do feel it has some excellent background in many ways. Aurora Lodge was chartered here in 1801, and when it was transferred to Fitchburg, Mass., my Lodge, Wilder Lodge was formed. It met in the Kendall Tavern located on the 5th Massachusetts Turnpike, an old stagecoach route and the present Route 2 from Boston to Albany, N.Y. The Kendall Tavern was built in 1793, three stories high, and still stands, but is now a residence. However, many of the original parts are still with the building. The third story was used for dances, etc., and it is where the Lodge met. There are sliding shutters of wood to cover the windows, in case of an attack by the Indians." Seems like this is the year of anniversaries for Bro. **John Ullock** of Newcastle, New Brunswick, writes: "On October 21, 1958, Landmark Lodge, Boiestown, Northumberland County, New Brunswick, was dedicated and consecrated. It has been over 100 years since a Lodge has been dedicated and consecrated in Northumberland County (the largest county in NB and the best salmon fishing area in the world) and I arranged to have 25 covers cancelled. I understand from the Postmaster these were the only covers cancelled. I am enclosing one for you . . ." (As luck would have it, this letter was addressed to Bro. **Harold Gunter** from whom I have been trying to pry this cover, without any luck whatsoever. Ed.)

BRO. JOSEPH MUNK, STAMP PHILANTHROPIST

If one receives a certain amount of pleasure and satisfaction in collecting stamps, imagine the warm feeling he must receive when he knows that by giving his "extras" that he has brought happiness to others, especially those

shut-ins to whom stamp collecting has a high degree of therapeutic value. Not only does Bro. Joe Munk send along all his extras to those who can best use them, but he gathers them from others, and what a source of real and deep joy he must have when receiving acknowledgements from the Grand Street Boys Association, who sponsor Philatelic Hobbies for the Wounded; or a letter such as this from the American National Red Cross: "On behalf of the Commanding Officer, patients and the Red Cross staff of the U.S. Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, Virginia, we would like to thank you for your generous donation of stamps. Stamp collecting is becoming very popular among the patients here and we never seem to have an adequate supply on hand. Your donation will greatly help to meet this need." And from the Veterans Administration Hospital, Salt Lake City, Utah, and equally appreciative letter, which we quote in part: ". . . As in the past, these stamps contribute a great deal to the success of our stamp club activity." Truly, a worthwhile endeavor, and we sincerely hope that we have among our members, many stamp philanthropists like Bro. Joe Munk.

81 TURNED 18

So excited was our octogenarian friend, Bro. **Harold E. Gunter**, that instead of showing his age he acted like a frisky 18 year older. And wouldn't you? You will remember that we wrote of his fine work and inventions in the weaving craft, and of his teaching? Aside from his avid interest in philately, Bro. Gunter finds time for this other hobby and so proficient is he that he made 5 entries at the Mineola, Long Island, N. Y. Fair last September. In the Hobby Show, his collection of Flower Stamps took a First Prize and his Cat Scrap Book a Third. In the Weaving Show his 5 entries rated 3 FIRSTS and 2 SECONDS, and with an average of 96% he received the Sweepstakes Prize, as the competitor winning the highest amount of prizes. A truly remarkable man of 81 and, for you younger members, Bro. Gunter attends most meetings (weather permitting) and he has to travel many miles to do so.

The George Washington Chapter 1

President's Report

We welcome the following new members to our Chapter: Brothers Nelson J. Briggs, John H. Eisman, Lennox F. Kanzler and John A. Kelly, Jr. With the President as the ex-officio chairman, the 1958-1959 Roster will get under way March 1 and will be completed by May 15. (Not to be confused with the Roster of the MSC, the Roster referred to will be of the Chapter, itself. Ed.) Bro. A. R. Merz is appointed chairman; Bro. Herman J. Lichty, business manager; and Bro. R. C. Huntington, treasurer. Additional members will be called upon to assist. The two Washington commemorative covers will be the only ones the Chapter will issue this year with all profits from this operation to be used for the Washington Day Program and for the Roster. Plans for the two remaining meetings of the Chapter will be held as scheduled.

Your President wishes to thank all those who contributed to the success of the George Washington Day Program; especially the officers and members of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York; Masonic and philatelic personalities from near and far; the philatelic and Masonic press; Messrs. Buckmaster and Schondeau of the G. W. National Masonic Memorial; Bro. Herman J. Lichty, chairman of the W. D. Program; Bro. R. C. Huntington, chairman of the MP Degree Team; the management of the Peking Cafe; and the guests and families of our members.

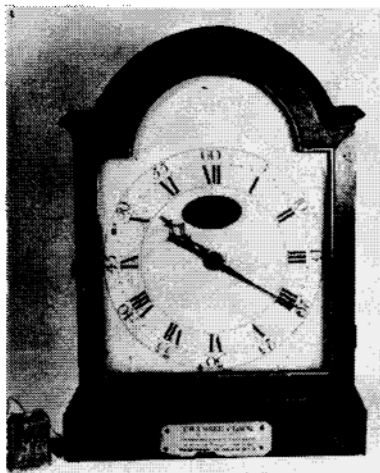
(We will have a full report of the Washington Day Program in the next issue.)

THE STOPPED CLOCK

By Herman J. Lichty

The old clock, shown on cover, was the bedchamber clock of General George Washington. On the death of Washington, Doctor Elisha Cullen Dick, who followed Washington as Master of No. 22, and one of the attending physicians at his death, cut the pendulum cord and stopped the old time-piece at twenty minutes past ten P.M.

After the funeral, Mrs. Washington presented the clock to Doctor Dick for the Lodge. It is said to be the only piece of furniture in the room at the time of his death which has not been



restored to its former place. The pendulum with the catgut cord attached is shown to the left of the clock.

"Its work is done, but the hands still point to the minute and hour that marks the close of the greatest life in history."

The original clock can be seen at the museum of the George Washington National Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, Va. A duplicate of the original can be seen in the bedroom at Mt. Vernon, Va.

Washington Aprons

By Herman J. Lichty

George Washington kept two Masonic Aprons in his library at Mt. Vernon. In the past there has been some controversy as to which apron Washington wore while Master of his lodge and at important public ceremonies.

The apron worn by Washington at the cornerstone laying of the Nation's Capitol is better known as the Watson and Cassoul apron. It was presented to George Washington by Watson and Cassoul of Nantes, France, in 1782, and to Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 Lawrence Lewis, nephew of Washington, in 1812.

The apron is of cream-colored satin, heavily fringed and embroidered in gold, with the French and American flags entwined. A beehive and fairies



adorn the center. The apron has been seldom worn since the death of Washington, among the few occasions being by General Lafayette in the Lodge, February 21, 1825; at the laying of the cornerstone of the Washington Monument in 1848; at the laying of the cornerstone of the Yorktown Monument by Grand Master Coles, 1881, and to confer the M.M. Degree of Lawrence Washington, February 22, 1910, by Illinois delegation.

The other Masonic apron kept in his library at Mt. Vernon is known as the Lafayette apron. This apron was made by Madame Lafayette and was presented to Washington in the summer of 1784 during a visit to Mt. Vernon. This apron is on exhibit at the Grand Lodge Headquarters in Philadelphia, Pa.

The most famous single public event in the history of American Masonry was Washington's laying of the cornerstone of the National Capitol on September 18, 1793. While laying the cornerstone of the Capitol extension on July 4, 1851, B. B. French, Grand Master of the District of Columbia, wore the Watson and Cassoul apron. He stated explicitly that Washington had worn it in 1793. George Washington Parke Custis examined the apron while French was wearing it, and declared it to be the Watson and Cassoul apron.

The Watson and Cassoul apron was presented to Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 on June 3, 1812, by Major Lawrence Lewis, a nephew of Washington, on behalf of his son, Master Lorenzo Lewis. Washington's legatees

gave the Lafayette apron to the Washington Benevolent Society, October 26, 1816; this society presented the apron to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, July 3, 1829. Lafayette visited Alexandria in 1825, at which time the Lafayette apron was in the keeping of the Benevolent Society. This means of the two aprons made famous by Washington's ownership of them, Lafayette gave the one, and wore the other.

The Watson and Cassoul apron can be seen at the George Washington National Masonic Memorial at Alexandria, Va.

ERRATA

In the February issue, we failed to realize how much could be crammed into 12 pages, and as a result we found that, for the first time in a long, long while, we had more material than we could use in one issue. Carelessly, we referred to an article about Bro. Tomatsu Murayama (which did not appear); about two articles by Bro. Herman J. Lichty, when only one was printed, so if you will try again, we hope that you may find the aforementioned articles in this issue. As for the article about the picture of the Queen on the Canadian money, sent in by Bro. Walter Harbeson, we postpone until we receive a better picture.

Masonic Philately

(Continued from Page 6)

(Pat) Herst Jr. Ask for the "Herst-Zareski Book on Fancy Cancellations." You will learn much from this and other books on cancellations. And Brother, read a good book on Masonic Symbols. It helps, in so many ways.

"Russian diplomacy could never boast of a greater and more fatal victory, than it had right to boast, would it succeed to persuade the United States not to care about her . . . Russia, accomplishing her aim to become the ruling power in Europe, the ruling power in Asia, the ruling power in the Mediterranean Sea." (Salem, Mass., May 6, 1852.)

"They (Russia) will, they must do everything to check your glorious progress. Be sure, as soon as they command the forces to the continent, they will marshal them against you." (Salem, Mass., May 6, 1852.)

Welcome New Members!

DONALD WARREN BRADLEY
15th Recon Tech Square, March A. F.
Base, California
Lebanon #831, Augsburg, Germany

SYDNEY G. BROOKS
143 W. Market St., Cadiz, Ohio
Harrison #219, Cadiz

WALTER S. COMMERDINGER, JR.
Audubon St., Nesconset, New York
Star of Hope #430, Brooklyn, N.Y.

HARRY C. COOLEY
138 Cricket Ave., Ardmore, Pa.
Continental #76, Waterbury, Conn.

DONALD E. DANNER
13440 Courtland, Cleveland 11, Ohio
North Star #447, Estherville, Iowa

A. EDGELL DUFFY
169 Congdon St., Providence, R. I.
St. Johns Lodge #1, Providence

ARTHUR A. DUKE
Thayer, Missouri
Clifton Lodge #463, Thayer

HERBERT A. FISH
279 Palmer St., New Bedford, Mass.
St. Andrews #1139, St. John's, New-
foundland

J. BRADLEY FULLER
154 Pitman Ave., Pitman, N. J.
Pitman Lodge #197, Pitman

OTTO C. GRUNOW
1304 Pennoyer, Grand Haven, Mich.
Grand Haven Lodge #139

PHILIP HAYES
178 High Rock St., Needham, Mass.
Ebenezer Fuller Lodge, Brighton,
Mass.

ANTON HYDEN
461 Boyce Greeley, Sioux Falls, S. D.
Alcester #115, Alcester, S. Dakota

MILTON HAROLD LIPSCHITZ
27 Pelton St., Yonkers, N. Y.
Webotuck #480, Millerton, N. Y.

ELATUS G. LOOMIS
1319 W. 111th St., Cleveland 2, Ohio
Lakewood #601, Lakewood, Ohio

DARRELL E. MATTSON
2796 So. 9th St., Omaha 8, Nebraska
Covert #11, Omaha

ERICK L. MOBERG
27 High St., Jamestown, Rh. Island
Washington #5, N. Kingston, R. I.

BENJAMIN M. NASE
Box #52, Old Morris Rd., Lederach,
Pennsylvania
Warren #310, Collegeville, Pa.

JOE PADAWER
132 Nassau St., New York 38, N. Y.
Mt. Moriah #27, N. Y. C.

EDWARD L. REIGART
309 E. Ridley Ave., Ridley Pk., Pa.
Prospect #578, Prospect Pk., Pa.

FLOYD H. SCOTT
2225 Edwin St., Ft. Worth 10, Texas
Uncas #949, Syracuse, N. Y.

MYRON E. WILKES
201 Sawyer St., Rochester 19, N. Y.
Rochester Lodge #660

WELCOME: BRO. TOMATSU MURAYAMA

With almost every list of new members, we are honored with Masons who hold high Masonic positions or high public positions, but we seldom extend special greetings for as Masons we meet, act and part on the same level. But we are certain that our brothers would like to know more about our new member, for he is our first one in Japan and his positions in Masonry and in public, are most interesting. We hope that in a short time we may have a story from Bro. Murayama, himself, but for the moment we will try to outline this most interesting person.

Worshipful Brother Tomatsu Murayama Past Master of Kanto Lodge #142, under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines, is the first Japanese to be made a Master Mason in Japan. This we learn from M.W. Michael Goldenberg, PGM of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines, who raised him in 1950 in Tokyo Masonic Lodge #125. Br. Murayama has written a book, and we are deeply grateful to Mr. W. Arthur McKinney for sending us one of his copies, in which he pays honor to Count Tadasu Hayaishi, the "GREAT JAPANESE MASON," who was the first Japanese Mason in the history of Freemasonry, and who was Ambassador to the Court of St. James. Though his subject was the first Japanese to become a Mason (while in England); Bro. Murayama is the first Japanese to become a Master Mason in Japan. Incidentally, in the introduction of this book, Bro. Murayama expresses his appreciation for assistance given him by our own Bro. John A. Mirt.

Bro. Murayama is a graduate of the University of California, and was City Editor of the Nippon News in Tokyo, but is now Public Relations Officer of the same paper. We are indeed happy to have Bro. Murayama as a member of MSC.