

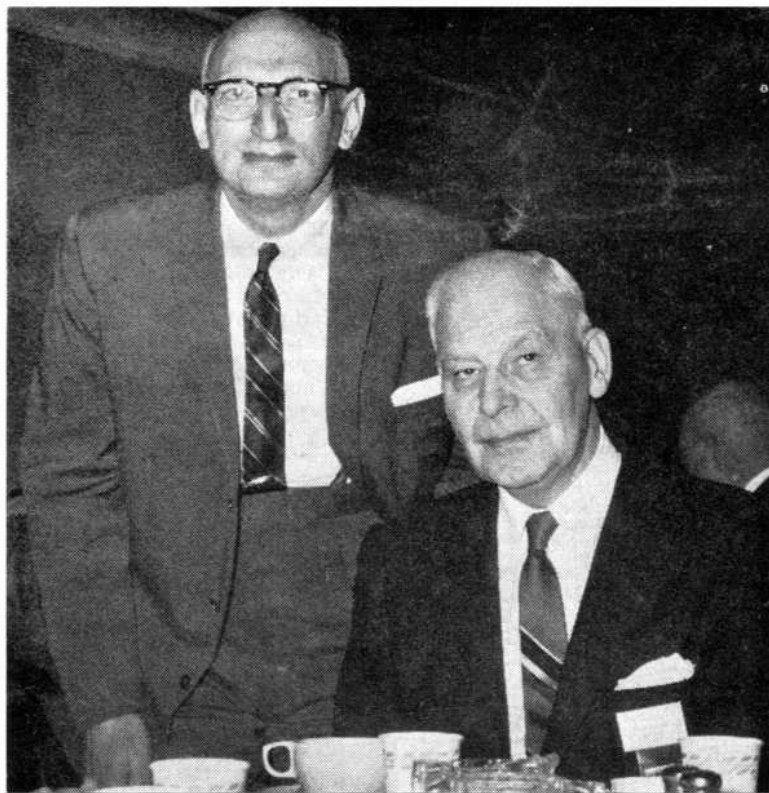


the Masonic Philatelist

VOL. 16

APRIL 1960

NO. 8



Bro. Emanuel M. Réggel, President of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York, shown with M.W. H. Lloyd Jones, Grand Master of Masons of the State of New York, at the luncheon held in connection with George Washington Masonic National Memorial at Alexandria, Virginia, February 22, 1960.

The MASONIC PHILATELIST

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M. S. C. Silver Anniversary

Published by
The Ralph A. Barry-Al Van Dahl
Publication Fund
of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York
22 East 35th St., New York 16, N. Y.



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BY THE SIGN OF THE GAVEL

A word of thanks to the brave souls who ventured outdoors to attend our March 5th meeting. (It was a hazardous night in New York!) Bro. Carl Pihl, one of our Past Presidents, reports on this meeting elsewhere in this issue.

To Bro. Pihl goes the club's thanks for his ever helping hand to us, in many ways.

Bro. Sanna gave the club some attractive paper napkins with stamps printed on them. We thank Bro. Charlie.

On March 10th Bro. Joe Munk, our treasurer, showed colored slides of stamps, "George Washington and His Masonic Compeers" to the Fellowcraft Club of Keystone Lodge #235 F. & A. M. These same slides were shown again, but this time by Bro. Leo Passon, our editor, on March 12th, to the Post Office Square Club #278. At both showings, they were received with a rising vote of thanks and much praise. These slides were loaned to Bro. Munk by Bro. John A. Mirt of Chicago, Ill., to whom all the credit must go for providing such excellent and instructive material.

Bro. Florus A. Bowman of Brockton, Mass. presented the club with a very beautiful gavel, decorated with a silver band, on which is engraved, "Presented to the Masonic Stamp Club of New York by Bro. F. A. Bowman." His kind thoughts and generosity in giving the club this gift are greatly appreciated. Many thanks to Bro. Bowman! The gavel will be a lasting memento and will be used by our future presidents.

Word comes from Bro. Gordon Cole Sr. from Cleveland, Ohio, that he and several other Brothers are interested in starting a chapter of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York. I believe that they are an enthusiastic stamp collecting group, and feel sure that they would derive much pleasure from a chapter there. More on this, I hope, in our next issue.

Our annual dinner will be held on May 20th. If out of town members are interested in attending this affair please write in for details.

Best Wishes to all members and their families for the coming Holidays!

—Emanuel M. Reggel.

Apr. 1—The Masonic Stamp Club New York meeting at 8:00 P.M., at the Collectors Club, 22 E. 35th St., New York City. Each member will speak for five minutes on "My Favorite Stamp." Visitors welcome.

ANNUAL DINNER

honoring

Brother Jacob S. Glaser

80th Birthday

Friday, May 20th, 1960

Please send all reservations with remittances of \$5.00 per person to:
Dr. Irwin M. Yarry, Dinner Chairman
35 East 35th Street
New York 16, N. Y.

PAST PRESIDENTS NIGHT

March 4, 1960

Well, they really separated the men from the boys on Past Presidents Night this year. On the day prior to the meeting Old Man Winter with his biting gasp, we hope, dropped 14 inches of snow on New York City and up to almost two feet on outlying areas. Besides, little flurries of snowflakes (corn flakes on TV, now that honesty is running rampant) continued to fall during most of Friday and into the evening.

Frankly, the situation did not look too good for a big turnout on one of the big nights of the year for the Masonic Stamp Club of New York. But we reckoned not with the determination, ruggedness and enthusiasm of many of our members who, like the loyal employees of the postal department, let nothing deter them from the accomplishment of their appointed tasks. Seventeen of our intrepid members braved the snowy gusts and drifts to attend this meeting on Friday evening, March 4th.

Just to emphasize how bad things were, it was reported in the press that three Eskimos were snowbound in West Virginia at the same time. Therefore, it is understandable that only four past presidents of the club were able to make it. Bro. Henry Holcombe was recovering from an injured leg and wisely did not venture out on the slippery streets. Bro. Carl Pelander is having trouble with an ulcer and the doctor restricted his evening activity for awhile, and Bro. George Camnitzer was recovering from the flu or some other fancy type of virus. Bro. Jacob Glaser, one of our more affluent past presidents, is spending the winter in Florida but sent a nice letter of greeting to all the members, giving us that malarkey about "how he wished he could be there." And, finally, there was Bro. Russell Roane, marooned in the snow at Miller Place, umpteen miles out on Long Island.

Well, what we lacked in quantity was more than offset by quality, with the exception of the undersigned who in the dark of the early morning hours picked up his son's album by mistake.

Leading off was Bro. Sam Brooks (president 1945-1946), one of the foremost students of Masonic Philately, who proceeded to give some valuable tips about the research, study and

methods of developing knowledge and facts about Masonry and philately. One aspect involves the collection, whenever possible, of old books, engravings, prints, etc., which provide much useful information to assist the student. In addition, the prints and engravings can be mounted as part of the collection whenever Masonic ties are determined for any person depicted on stamps. This facet of philately involves research at Masonic and other libraries and correspondence with other students, Masonic bodies throughout the world, and historical societies. It requires patience because sometimes it is months or years before all the pieces fit together. However, it is a fascinating hobby, and Bro. Brooks gave a most inspiring and enlightening insight of the pursuit of light in this field.

Next was Bro. Arthur Heim (president 1951-1953), one of the leading collectors of Belgian Congo of the world, who showed and discussed military covers and cancellations connected with the Congo, and explained some of the interesting and unique philatelic developments of this land. Those who paid close attention learned how important it is to study the postal history and postal markings of your specialty. Valuable "finds" can still be made if you know what to look for; this is more important than where you look. Bro. Heim has contributed a great deal of original data about Congo philately and his presentation was warmly received.

Bro. Carl Pihl (president 1953-1955), showed selected pages of U.S. commemoratives, the stamps being mounted with hand-drawn maps. For example, a page devoted to the 1940 Pony Express stamp included a map of the western United States that traced the route of the Pony Express riders, another page bore a map tracing the route of Coronado's expedition in the Southwest in the Sixteenth Century. Sometimes it is not easy to obtain the information enabling one to prepare an accurate map. Such maps may be purely decorative, such as with the U.S. territorial issues of 1937, or informative as with those described above. It provides an interesting change of pace in mounting your stamps.

Finally, there was Bro. (Dr.) Irwin Yarry (president 1957-1959), with his incomparable collection of Hong Kong

Treaty Ports, including stamps, covers and cancellations. Bro. Yarry is an authority and one of the leading collectors of this material. I don't believe there is anyone who knows more about his stamps and loves them more than he does. Again, it was evident that a thorough knowledge of postal history and postal markings is of inestimable value to the specialist, and it is surprising to learn that "hard-to-get" or valuable items can still be picked up almost anywhere. Bro. Yarry had several nice items from the collection of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who was also a collector of Hong Kong Treaty Ports, but

it is doubted that any of these items were picked for "peanuts." As always, Bro. Yarry gave a very interesting presentation that closed the program on a high note.

President Emanuel Reggel, in consideration of the inclement weather and hazards of travel, very thoughtfully furnished a "door prize" which was won by Bro. Eliot Nordheim, who journeyed in from the wilds of Brooklyn. Thus, in spite of the miserable weather and other handicaps, a most enjoyable evening was spent by all—honoring all past presidents of the club whether they were present or not.
—Carl H. Pihl.

Mt. Vernon Pilgrimage of the George Washington Chapter No. 1 and Sol Glass Bon Voyage

By Ralph C. Huntington, 1500 Kingsway Road, Baltimore 18, Md.
Photos by John A. Kelly, Jr., M. P.



Bob Fellers, Sol Glass and Mrs. Glass

The Annual Pilgrimage to Shrine of Bro. George Washington at Mt. Vernon was combined with a Bon Voyage Party for Sol Glass and his lovely

wife, Hortense, on Feb. 22, 1960.

A delegation from the MSC (NY), headed by President **Mannie Reggel** and consisting of Brothers **Munk**, **San-**

na, Ehrig and Kerstein, were taken in hand by Bro. "Bob" Fellers, who undertook to show them the top spots in the Nation's Capital, during the few hours before the formal ceremonies began.

At High Twelve, all members of the Chapter and their guests, including the ladies, sat down to a tasty luncheon with the National Conference of Grand Masters, in one of the dining rooms of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial at Alexandria, Va.

Thereafter, the regular meeting of the Chapter was called to order in one of the beautiful lodge rooms in the Memorial, with President Sol Glass in the chair. After the opening greetings and a special welcome to the New York delegation, he turned the proceedings over to Bro. Elmer R. Long, of Harrisburg, Pa., as Master Counselor. Assisting Bro. Long were J. W. Zollickoffer, Conductor; E. R. headed by President Mannie Reggel and consisting of Brothers Munk, San-

Clas, Sentinel; J. N. Wong, Junior Counselor; Carl E. Walk, Senior Counselor; Sol Glass, Secretary and R. E. Fellers, Orator.

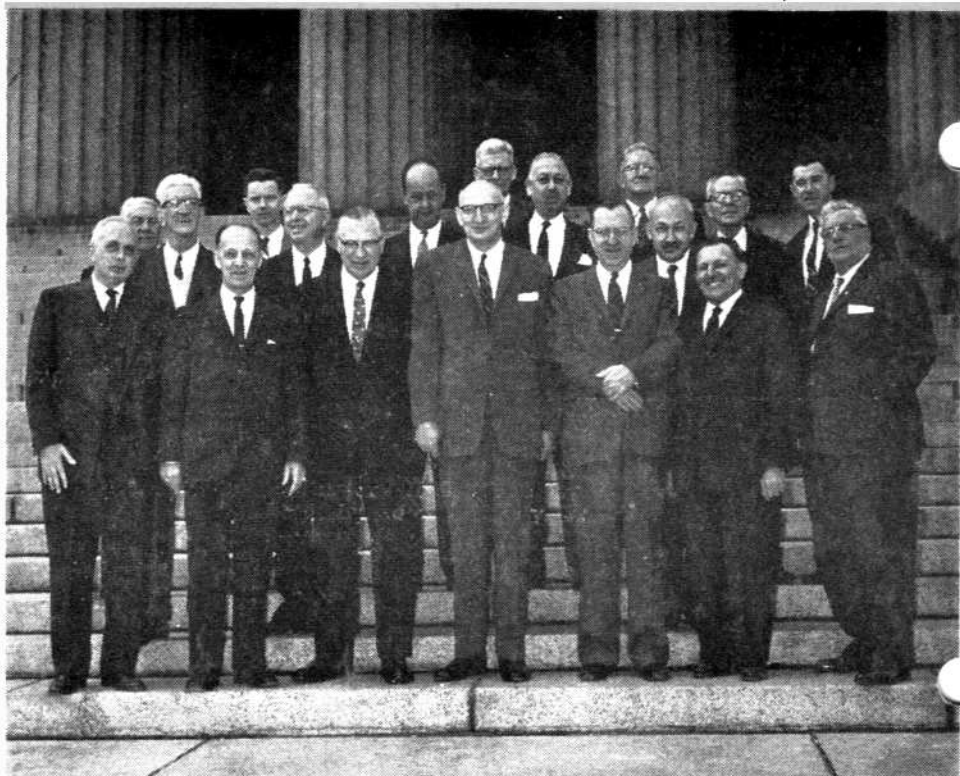
The Master of Philately Degree was conferred upon John A. Kelly, Jr., W. Whitridge Laudeman, Frederick T. Parnell, Wm. D. Plack and George N. Wendt.

The entire group then drove along the banks of the Potomac River to Mt. Vernon, where they toured the historic grounds and buildings, including the honored tomb of Bro. Washington. In the crisp, clear sunshine, the view for miles both up and down the majestic river from the front porch of Mt. Vernon was fabulous.

Returning up the river, under a brilliant sunset, the group assembled at the famous Water Gate Inn, just in the shadow of the Lincoln Memorial. Here, Herman Lichty and his cohorts, had turned a private dining room into a gala scene with foreign travel posters, model air liners and a sea of multicolored table flags bear-



J. N. Wong, Mrs. Elmer R. Long and Mr. Long



Group on Steps of Memorial

ing the greeting, 'Happy Landings, Sol.'

Our own 'Bob' Fellers was the perfect Toastmaster, and limited each speaker to one minute. Most of the fifty odd present thus had the opportunity to say a few words, interspersed railery, humor and mystery by Bob.

Among those present were the Hon. Roger C. Clark, Postmaster of Alexandria, Va., Franklin R. Bruns, President Mannie Reggel and Jacques Minkus, who, with Mrs. Minkus, had made a special trip to wish Sol Glass 'Godspeed.'

Brother Charles Sanna presented the Chapter with two of his beautiful, hand made vignettes, portraying the Tall Cedars and the Twelve Tribes of Israel.

The evening was topped off by Bro. Herman Kerstein, who gave his lecture on Bro. George Washington and his history as illustrated on colored slides which was furnished by Bro. John Mirt of Chicago. He held his audience in rapt attention.

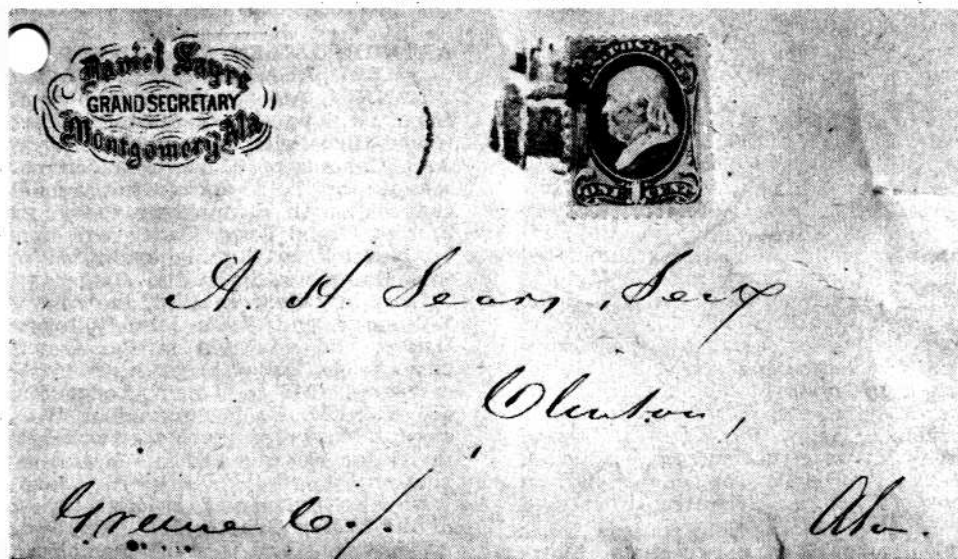
If Sol and his wife realize just half the good wishes that were expressed, on their Trip Around the 'World,' beginning March 10th, they will have an experience long to be remembered.

It was a full day of truly Masonic fellowship, educational, interesting and cordial and we of the Chapter, extend a hearty invitation to all members of the Masonic Stamp Club to plan on joining with us next February 22nd.

Pictures by Bro. John A. Kelly, Jr.

A wonderful invitation has been extended to the members of the Masonic Stamp Club by Bro. Fred Hoodless of Kitchener, Ontario, to come to Kitchener for the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada Convention on April 28, 29 and 30, at the Granite Club. It is the Silver Anniversary Year of the Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society.

**RIGHT WORSHIPFUL BROTHER DANIEL SAYRE
GRAND SECRETARY, GRAND LODGE OF F. & A. M. OF ALABAMA
1857 to 1888**



Throw a stone into the water and watch the ever widening circles that it touches and makes! A postal cover bearing the name of Grand Secretary of Montgomery, our own Sam Brooks, a wonderful person named Arthur Dailey of Alabama and presto! chango! we have a wonderful article!

With the passing of Right Worshipful Brother Daniel Sayre in Montgomery, Alabama on April 7, 1888, the sun of life went down for one of the greatest personalities and one of the most outstanding Masons in the history of Freemasonry in Alabama. He was well-known in many other jurisdictions and to the Masons of the state of Alabama, his name was as familiar as a household word. He had a devoted love for Masonry and for the principles it inculcates. He not only taught those principles but practiced them as well. He had a large capacity for labor and an outstanding, intelligent knowledge as to how it should be done. As pointed out by Past Grand Master C. Tompkins in his report to the Grand Lodge of Alabama on Brother Sayre's death, his qualities "must necessarily have made him what it did make him—a model Grand Secretary."

Brother Sayre was born of New Jersey parents in Franklin, Warren County, Ohio, on January 13, 1808. In 1820, as a lad of twelve, he moved to Mont-

gomery, Alabama, then a little hamlet. He married Miss Musidora Morgan on November 25, 1835 in what was then Benton, now Calhoun County, Alabama.

In 1844, Bro. Sayre moved to Talladega, Alabama, where he edited a Whig newspaper called "The Watchtower," until 1850, when he moved to Tuskegee, Ala. Here he edited another paper of the same political faith, the "Macon Republican," until 1857, when he was appointed Grand Secretary to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Bro. Amand P. Pfister. Bro. Sayre was then elected to the office of Grand Secretary at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Alabama held in Montgomery the following December. From that time, he was annually re-elected, very seldom, if ever, having an opponent. It was said, after his death, that, "No higher tribute could have been paid to his merits, and no higher testimony of the love and confidence of his brethren could have been given than is found in his annual re-election, almost without opposition, through a period

of over thirty years, to a position to which is attached the highest honor, and which has been, for this country, since the war, considered even lucrative."

In addition to being Grand Secretary longer than any one else in the state of Alabama, Bro. Sayre held other important Masonic offices. He was Grand Secretary of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Alabama for almost thirty-one years. He was Chairman of the Grand Lodge Committee on Correspondence from December, 1850 to December, 1855, a job he did unusually well. He also accumulated many books, from which Masonic knowledge could be obtained, for the Grand Lodge library.

In 1860, Bro. Sayre boldly and fearlessly edited a Bell and Everett campaign paper in Montgomery. He was never deterred from proclaiming those principles which his heart and mind told him were just and true, although he might be in the minority. This was also true in his fraternal dealings.

In spite of the tempestuous times during the War Between the States and during the period of Reconstruction, the Grand Lodge of Alabama prospered and showed progress under the capable leadership of Bro. Sayre and other outstanding Masons. It was not until 1875 that there began a decline and this was due to a severe nation wide business depression that left its mark everywhere.

Brother Sayre was also honored, loved and respected in his private life. He left behind him legions of friends, both in and out of the Fraternity.

NOTE: I became interested in R. W. Bro. Daniel Sayre through a fellow club member, Bro. Sam Brooks of New York City. He sent me a photograph of a cover bearing Bro. Sayre's corner card, from his collection, and suggested I might be able to obtain information of interest. Although the archives of the Grand Lodge of Alabama have been searched, very little factual information has been uncovered. For instance, I learned he had children, but not how many or what their names were. It will be greatly appreciated if anyone having such information, or knowing the address of any of Bro. Sayre's descendants, will write me at 907-13th Street North, Lanette, Alabama.

—Arthur H. Dailey.

Now, just WHO is Arthur Dailey? Read what the Columbus Enquirer of Columbus, Georgia, had to say about our Brother Masonic Stamp Club member and feel good again!

ARTHUR DAILEY OF LANETT HEAD ALABAMA MASONS

LANETT, Ala.—Arthur H. Dailey of Lanett will be elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Alabama at ceremonies to be held during the annual convocation in Birmingham today. At present Grand King, Dailey will thus be elevated to the highest office of this Masonic body in the state.

Born in Lanett in 1919, the son of William T. and Willie John Holloway Dailey, and educated in the Lanett city schools, Dailey began his Masonic career in 1946 in Lanett Lodge No. 656, F.&A.M. He has served as Worshipful Master of the lodge, was secretary for 10 years and is a life member.

He also has served as High Priest of the Valley Chapter No. 132, Royal Arch Masons and is a life member of this chapter; thrice Illustrious Master and charter member of Chattahoochee Council No. 83, R.&S.M., and now serving his sixth year as recorder, being a life member; Eminent Commander for three years of Opelika Commandery No. 28, K. T., thus having presided over all four of the York Rite bodies of Freemasonry.

His honorary degrees include: Holy Order of High Priesthood, Order of Silver Trowel, Knight of the York Cross of Honor, the highest honorary degree in York Rite Masonry; and he was the first Royal Arch Mason in Alabama to receive the General Grand Chapter Bronze Star Medal Award for outstanding service, which was presented during ceremonies in Tuscaloosa, Feb., 1953.

Dailey received the 32nd degree of Scottish Rite Masonry in 1959. He is a member of Vashti Chapter No. 431, Order of Eastern Star, and is a charter member and president of the C. Low Twelve Club. He is also an honorary life member of Camberwell Chapter No. 64, R.A.M., Camberwell, Victoria, Australia, and of Jasper Chapter No. 118, R.A.M., Jasper, Ala.

Dailey is also grand representative of the Supreme Grand Chapter, R. A. M., Victoria, Australia, to Alabama; Grand Council R.&S.M., of Michigan

to Alabama; and Grand Commandery, K.T., of Nebraska to Alabama.

In 1935 Dailey began working with the Lanett Mill division of West Point Manufacturing Co., and since then has been employed as clerk and general clerk for the Chattahoochee Valley Railway, and as assistant traffic manager of West Point Manufacturing Co., the position he now holds. He will receive his 25-year service pin with the West Point company next fall.

During World War II, Dailey served in the infantry of the U.S. Army for more than three years, two years of which were in the Pacific Theater. He received the following decorations and awards: Bronze Star Medal, American Theater Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Theater Medal, Good Conduct Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Expert Infantryman Badge, Combat Infantryman Badge, Philippine Liberation Medal with two bronze stars. After the war he served for more than six years as reserve officer in the Transportation Corps of Army, attaining the rank of captain.

Dailey is a member of the Lanett Congregational Church, and has served as chairman of the board of trustees, superintendent of the Sunday School, and president of the Men's Fellowship.

He is a member of Chattahoochee Valley Post No. 67 of the American Legion; charter member and president-elect of the Chattahoochee Philatelic Society; member of the American Philatelic Society, and of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York, having received the Master of Philately degree from this club in 1959.

Dailey is married to the former Robbie Jean Latimer, West Point. They have two daughters, Jane and Dorothy, and one son, Jonathan.—The Columbus Enquirer.

Our Secretary has written a very warm "Thank You" letter to Bro. F. A. Bowman of 208 Menlo Street, Brockton, Mass., for that wonderful bowl of ebony presented as a gift to the club by Bro. Bowman. The expressions of pleasure and gratitude for this beautifully executed piece of work were a delight to the President and we were only sorry that Bro. Bowman was not present in person to accept our heartfelt thanks for a beautiful piece of handicraft. May you continue to live for many years, sir, and make many more works of art



**Hon. Roger C. Clark and Wife
Franklin R. Bruns**

such as the one you gave the Masonic Stamp Club. Again, lots of healthy and happy years to you!

Al. G. Smith of Ardmore has put into a poem the plea of our worthy Treasurer:

Forget the slander you have heard,
Forget the hasty unkind word,
Forget the quarrel and the cause,
Forgetting is the only way.

Forget the trials you have had,
Forget the weather, if it's bad,
Forget the knocker, he's a freak,
Forget him seven days a week.

Forget the gray lines in your hair,
Forget you're not a millionaire,
Forget the coffee when it's cold,
Forget to knock, forget to cold,
Forget to even get the blues
But don't forget to PAY YOUR DUES!

Herman Herst, Jr., "Old Faithful" Herst as he is known in these parts, sends a fine article along that he read in the Royal Arch Mason. Man's ascent into the sky, his subsequent mastery of flight is always a story of human interest. It has always been the Editor's amazement to turn a

MASONIC AERONAUTS!

On the afternoon of November 21, 1783, two Frenchmen sailed over Paris in a Montgolfier balloon for a 25-minute flight and became the first human beings to sever earth's gravitational strings.

For centuries man had dreamed of flying. Leonardo da Vinci made elaborate sketches of wings to be strapped to a man's arm. Emanuel Swedenborg,* the Swedish inventor and religious philosopher also pondered aerostatic devices.

masons, carried his spirit of the "New Jerusalem" doctrines into Masonry, and that Swedenborg had no connection with the Craft.

Calling on his brother, Etienne, for assistance, they constructed a linen and paper balloon and were ready for their first public demonstration on June 5, 1783, at Annonay. It was a huge success, the balloon, filled with hot air, staying aloft for ten minutes.

Today, we fear the radiation belt surrounding the earth. At that time it was thought the upper air might be poisonous, so in a test flight the balloon carried a sheep, a cock and a duck.

Etienne, who was living in Paris and practicing as an architect, was raised in the Lodge of the Nine Sisters by the architect, Jacques Germain Soufflot, designer of the Pantheon, Paris and the Cathedral in Amiens. Etienne first appears on the list of members in 1784. After a brief career in Paris, he was called to Annonay by his father to assist in the manufacture of paper. Joseph appeared on the lodge membership list in 1806.

Following the flight of November 5, Etienne was presented to the king and received the Cordon of St. Michel; a pension was allotted to Joseph and letters of nobility granted to their old father. The Academy of Science bestowed the title of "Corresponding Member" upon the two brothers, who continued to work together. In 1792 they invented a hydraulic ram and later introduced numerous improvements in the fabrication of paper. A monument has been erected in their honor at Annonay.

In April, 1784, a Montgolfier balloon called La Gustave, in honor of King Gustav III of Sweden rose at Lyon with the first woman passenger in history—a Mme. Thible. Gustav, who gave Swedish Freemasonry the particular form which it has always preserved and was Vicarius Salominis (protector) of Swedish Freemasonry, was present on this occasion.

The era of aeronauts descended upon Europe with the fervency of the modern "hula-hoop." Duels were fought in balloons, lovers eloped in them, marriages were performed, and the daring literally and figuratively broke their necks to set new records and "firsts." Masonically speaking, the most ridiculous flight was on August 23, 1879, when Lodge No. 239 held a meeting in a balloon high over Paris and a brother was "raised" on the occasion. "You will observe," wrote Dr. Samuel Johnson* "that the balloon engages all mankind."

*Johnson, the great English lexicographer and conversationalist, is thought to have been raised on July 9, 1767 in Old Dundee Lodge No. 18 (formerly 9) of London.

Much to the glee of the French, the English were slow in getting off the ground. It was not until September 15, 1784, that the first flight was made in England—not by an Englishman, but by an Italian, Vincent Lunardi,

a dashing young secretary of the Neapolitan Embassy at London. Lunardi rose from the Artillery Ground at London and floated 24 miles in about two hours. His fellow passengers were a pigeon, a cat and a dog. The pigeon flew off; the cat jumped out, but man's faithful friend stayed with him until the end. Dr. Johnson viewed the flight with a jaundiced eye: "The vehicles can serve no use till we can guide them. I had rather now find a medicine that can ease an asthma!"

Although Lunardi was a Freemason, we can find no trace of his lodge membership. The minutes of St. Andrew's Lodge of Edinburgh, Scotland, for October 14, 1785, record that among the visitors was "the renowned Brother Vincent Lunardi, Esquire, the first aerial navigator that has appeared in this city." On December 15 of the same year, he was a visitor to Roman Eagle Lodge No. 160, Edinburgh, being in that city in connection with the first balloon ascent made in Scotland (from a field at Restalrig). Lunardi was lionized by the English ladies; Lunardi bonnets, even Lunardi garters were the rage.

The first American to get into the act was Dr. John Jeffries (1745-1819), a physician of Boston, Mass., who became a member of St. Andrew's Lodge of Boston in 1770. He was charter junior warden of Massachusetts Lodge, of that city in 1770 and served as master of same for two years (1773-75). Jeffries had financed the most noted of all aeronauts, Jean-Pierre Blanchard, for a cross-channel flight to the tune of \$3,500. The first crossing of the English channel on January 7, 1785 had all the overtones of a comic opera. Jeffries, having footed the bill, naturally assumed he was to go on the flight. Blanchard, a small, disagreeable glory-seeker, had other plans. He weighted himself down with lead, attempting to prove the balloon would not lift them both, but Jeffries appealed to the governor of Dover Castle and finally got the lead out of his partner's pants. They ran into trouble over the channel and started throwing everything overboard—oars, flags, anchors, brandy, and their coats. Just before reaching the French shore, off came their pants. As a last resort Jeffries suggested that both relieve their bladders. "This," the good doctor later reporter, "I have reason to believe, was of real utility to us, in our

then situation."

It was Blanchard who later made the first successful balloon flight in America. In 1793 he rose from Philadelphia and floated 46 minutes, landing near the village of Woodbury, N.J. some 15 miles away. On hand was none other than George Washington, who presented Blanchard with a passport which he might show to the natives in case he lit in a remote area. Also present was most of the Cabinet, the French minister and many Congressmen.

It appears that Benjamin Franklin was one of the first to visualize the embryonic military potential of aeronautics. He wrote a friend in Vienna: "Convincing sovereigns of the folly of wars may perhaps be one effect of the discovery. Where is the prince who can afford to so cover his country with troops for its defence, as that ten thousand men descending from the clouds, might not in many places do an infinite deal of mischief, before a force could be brought together to repel them?"

Horace Walpole,* the caustic English correspondent of the period, whose letters covered many subjects, including Freemasonry, wrote: "I hope that these new mechanic meteorers will prove only playthings for the learned and the idle, and not be converted into new engines of destruction to the human race, as is so often the case of refinements or discoveries in science."

*Walpole, writing to Sir Horace Mann on May 4, 1743, said: "The Freemasons are in so low repute now in England, that one has scarce heard the proceedings at Vienna against them mentioned. I believe nothing but a persecution could bring them into vogue here again. You know as great as our follies are, we even grow tired of them, and are always changing."

It was for Napoleon Bonaparte, who reorganized the Grand Orient of France in 1804, became its protector and named his brother Joseph as grand master, to make the first military use of balloons. His armies contained two companies of aerostiers who acted as observers in captive balloons to direct artillery fire. In our own Civil War the Union Army made limited use of balloons for the same purpose.

It was Jules F. C. Ferry (1832-1893), then prefect of Paris, and later Prime

Minister of France, who during the siege of Paris by the Prussians in 1870-71, conceived the idea of getting mail out of the city by balloons. Ferry lifted nine tons of mail in 65 balloons, thus becoming the "father of the 'Air Mail.'" Ferry was a member of Lodge Alsace-Lorraine under the jurisdiction of the Grand Orient of France. As Prime Minister, he broke the rule of the Jesuits in 1879, and in 1882 was instrumental in the passage of a law which made primary education free, compulsory and non-clerical.

Ferry's balloons not only carried mail, but transported more than a hundred French leaders — including Premier Leon Gambetta — out of the besieged city. Gambetta was initiated at a lodge at Bordeaux, France and on July 8, 1875, affiliated with the lodge La Clemente Amitie at Paris. He amassed effective opposition to the restoration of the Pope's temporal power.

Thus passed the first phase of man's attempt to leave the earth. The 120 year period was between November 21, 1783 and December 17, 1903. On the latter date the Wright brothers made the first heavier-than-air flight. The rocket age arrived in 1957 with the first man-made satellite orbiting the earth, and the moon was reached only last September.

FREDERICK VIII OF DENMARK (Denmark #72-#78)

In 1870 he was initiated in the Lodge Zerabbabel and Frederick zur gekroneten Hoffnung, Copenhagen. He later became Protector of the Danish Craft.

Indians hunting buffalo appears on the 4¢ Trans-Mississippi commemorative of 1898.

Maryse Bastie 1955 France 50f air-mail now catalogs at six times face.

French Colonial UPU set of 1949 rises slow but surely in catalog price.

The U.S. Trans-Pacific stamps of 1935-37 introduced the new Pacific air mail service made by the "China Clippers."

An albino is a colorless embossed envelope stamp accidentally impressed without ink.