



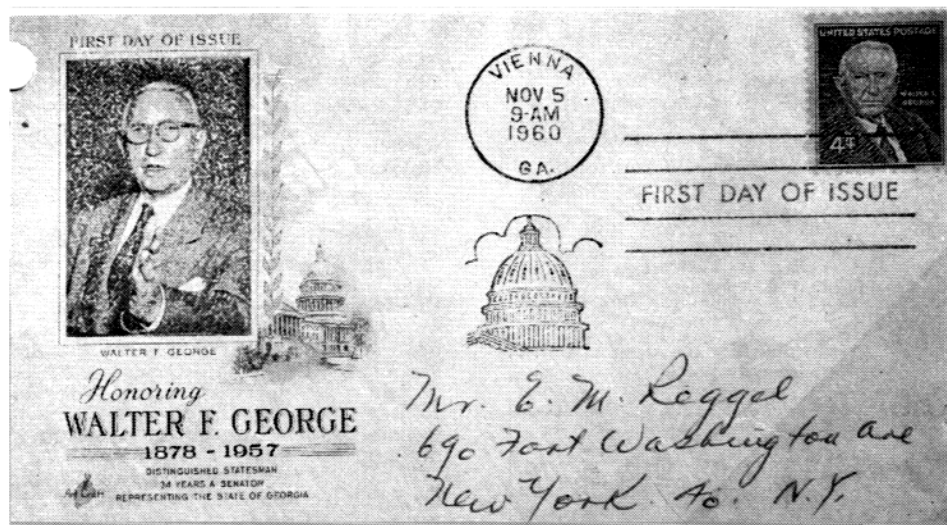
# *the Masonic Philatelist*

VOL. 17

DECEMBER 1960

NO. 4

## **Senator Walter F. George**



**This stamp honoring the late Senator Walter F. George had its first day sale on November 5, 1960 at Vienna, Georgia.**

# The MASONIC PHILATELIST

DECEMBER 1960  
VOL. 17 NO. 4

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## By the sign of the Gavel

Thanks to those members who exhibited at our last meeting for having contributed to a very interesting and enjoyable evening.

At our December 2nd meeting it will be our pleasure and privilege to listen to a guest speaker, Mr. John Britt, who will have for his subject—Airmails, Essays and Proofs.

Mr. Britt is distinguished in civic affairs as well as in philately, and is a past president of the Collectors Club and the Aero Philatelists. He has been a frequent visitor at our Club and is a

## ★ MEETINGS ★

First Friday of Each Month  
Collector Club Building  
22 East 35th Street, N. Y. C.  
4th Meeting — December 2nd, 19

## IN MEMORIAM

BRO. W. CARSON MITCHELL  
BRO. LOUIS K. SIEVERT  
May their souls find eternal rest.

most interesting speaker. It will be rewarding for any member to attend to hear such an eloquent speaker who is so well versed in the topic which he has selected.

The attention of our members is directed to the change in the amount and billing date for dues as explained elsewhere in this issue. The dues for the period from January 1, 1961 to June 30, 1961 are waived and dispensed with, and the next payment will be for the fiscal year starting July 1, 1961. This action was only taken after great deliberation and thought for the good of the Club.

As this will be the last notice before Christmas, on behalf of the Officers of the Club, including myself, I extend to each and every one of you best wishes for a very happy and healthy Holiday Season.

—Emanuel M. Reggel.

## IN AND AROUND THE CLUB

Congratulations to Bro. Gordon Cole who was recently elected president of the Cleveland Stamp Club.

We were glad to see Bros. Joseph Ferola and Russell Roane at our last gathering. Both had been under the weather, but now recovering. Also glad to hear that Treasurer Joseph Munk is now back on the job after an attack of la grippe.

Brother Alex Koomanoff writes that he is collecting flag cancellations; regrets inability to attend due to ill health, but sends best regards to all the members.

Modest V. Pres. S. Duffield Sw made no mention of the fact at our meeting, but we just learn from Bro. Harry Lindquist's column in "Stamps" that "Doc" was awarded a bronze medal at the recent Sojex Exhibition for his display of Masonic Cancellations. Congratulations!

Bro. Dave Schwarz requests us to thank Bros. Fred Wendel of New York and John Snow of Willowdale, Ontario, for their contributions of stamps. Dave

reports having sent packets of stamps to Troop 9 Boy Scouts, Scarsdale, N.Y., Boy Scouts, Westport, Conn., and to Don Campbell, Carl Wendel, Neil Starky and Bruce Mello for further distribution.

## FERNANDO FIGUEREDO SOCARRAS



Cuba in 1952 re-issued its type A159 stamps with overprinted values for regular, air and special delivery mail. This created another addition to a Masonic collection because the stamps carry the portrait of a distinguished American and Cuban Mason, Fernando Figueredo Socarras. No. 474 is illustrated above.

We are indebted to Wor. Bro. F. Enriquez, Master of Logia Cuba, Habana, for the following biographical information:

Bro. Fernando Figueredo was born in Camaguey, Cuba, Feb. 9, 1846. He entered Troy Polytechnic Academy in 1864 and while there organized a patriotic club with about 60 Cuban students to assist in a revolution for the independence of Cuba. He was raised in King Solomon's Lodge, Troy, New York, in Jan. 1868, following which he sailed for his native land with Carlos Manuel de Cespedes, "Father of Cuba" and a Mason (also honored on Cuban stamps). Figueredo became Lieutenant in the Cuban army, and he served his country in various positions.

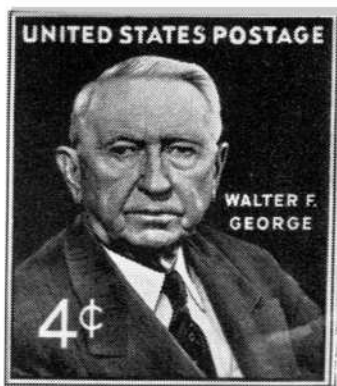
He went to the Dominican Republic where he became orator and senior warden of Restauracion Lodge at Puer to Plata. Later, he settled in Key West, Florida, and became an American citizen and was given a position in the Customs House. He joined Dr. Felix Varela Lodge No. 64 in Key West and served as its Master for several years.

In 1885, he was elected to the House of Representatives. He settled in Tampa, Fla., where he again became interested in a movement to free Cuba from Spanish rule.

With other Cuban emigrants, he founded the City of West Tampa and became its Mayor. He was one of the charter members of Francisco Vicente Aguilera Lodge, named after the Cuban patriot, and served as its Master from 1894 to 1898. He assisted in raising funds for the fight for Cuban independence and when the island was taken over by the United States after the war with Spain, Figueredo returned to his native land. On Sept. 18, 1899, he was made Sovereign Prince of Rose Croix in Humildad Chapter, Cienfuegos.

In 1900, General Leonard Wood, Governor of the island under American occupation and a Mason, appointed Figueredo as Secretary of the Interior and State. On April 29, 1900 he and other patriots were granted a charter for Logia Cuba. He served as Master in 1901-1906 and 1909-1920. He also was Most Wise Master of Amor Fraternal Chapter of Rose Croix in Habana for several years. Entering the Grand Lodge line, he became Grand Master in 1907 and Grand Treasurer in 1910, serving in the latter capacity until 1926. He was active in the Scottish Rite and served as Grand Master of Ceremony of the Supreme Council, Southern Jurisdiction, in 1909. He served his country in various capacities. Bro. Figueredo died April 13, 1929.—From: "Masonry on Postage Stamps" by John A. Mirt.

## Walter Franklin George



January 29, 1878, a son was born to a farming family who were sharecropping land near Preston, Georgia.

Young Walter helped his father on the land and later worked at all kinds of odd jobs which helped to pay his way through High School. Then, on to Mercer University, a Baptist institution near Macon. He graduated in 1901, after which he began study of the Law. That year, he was elected to his first political job, Solicitor of the City Court of Vienna, where he made his home.

From that time to his reelection to the U.S. Senate in 1950, he never lost an election. Perhaps it was because of that feat, that he was dissuaded from seeking reelection in 1956. His opponent was Herman Talmadge, whose star then, was in the ascendancy in Georgia politics, and who was given a better than even chance to beat the old campaigner.

Walter George rose from one post to a higher one each time he ran for office. He was Solicitor General of the Cordele Judiciary Circuit from 1907 to 1912. Judge of the Georgia Superior Court to 1917. Judge of the Court of Appeals from January 1917 to October 1917, when he resigned to become Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court. In 1922 he resigned to go on to the United States Senate, for the first term of five, which he served with such honor. In 1940 he became Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He gave up this post for a time, to take over the Chairmanship of the Finance Committee. His influence, in both these powerful Committees, made him one of the most powerful figures in the Senate.

During the Eisenhower administration he worked very closely with Secretary of State John Foster Dulles. He exerted a great influence in Foreign policy and his knowledge of finance and taxation caused him to fight against excessive spending and high taxes.

Although a great friend and admirer of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, he opposed him strenuously in his attempt to "pack" The Supreme Court. One of his last acts while in the Senate, was his sponsorship of the plan by which totally disabled workers could collect Social Security benefits at age 50.

His Senate duties behind him, he accepted an appointment from President Eisenhower as a Special assistant on the general development of a bipartisan foreign policy, and as a Special Ambassador to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, "NATO."

During the summer of 1957, he became ill and on August 4th of that

year, he died, at his home in Vienna, Ga., at the age of 79.

Two days later he was buried from the Vienna Baptist Church. His funeral was attended by Henry Cabot Lodge, as personal representative of President Eisenhower; by 25 Senators who came from Washington; by the Governor of Georgia and the highest State officials. At the request of the President, flags across the Nation and on ships at sea, were flown at half-staff, during the funeral.

Brother Walter F. George received his degrees in Vienna Lodge No. 324, F.A.M., Vienna, Ga. He was initiated Feb. 25, 1903, Passed April 22, 1903, and Raised May 13, 1903. Thus, at the time of his death, he had been a member of the Craft for 54 years. He was also a member of WOLIHIN CHAPTER NO. 130, Vienna, Ga., from June 1914 to December 1930, when he DEMITTED. He reaffiliated in October 1933. He joined CYRENE COMMANDERY NO. 13, Cordele, Ga., December 4, 1914 and remained a member, to his death.

The 4¢ Memorial stamp in his honor was issued November 5, 1960, at Vienna, Ga. The portrait was based on a photograph by Hank Walker of the Washington Bureau of Life Magazine.

NOTE: Much of the information in this article is from the files of the New York Times. The Masonic history is from R.W. Daniel W. Locklin, Grand secretary of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia, F.&A.M., who kindly furnished the information, through Brother Morton Deutsch of Savannah, Ga. My thanks also, as usual, to Brothers Wendell Walker and Tom Robertson of our Grand Lodge Library.

—Samuel Brooks.

## JAMES McHENRY



Every American has heard the story of how the "Star Spangled Banner" came to be written and of the man who wrote it. He may have learned to associate the origin of our national anthem with the bombardment of Fort McHenry by the British fleet on the night of September 13, 1814.

Fort McHenry appears on the Francis Scott Key commemorative stamp of 1948 (U.S. #962), but what of the man whose name the historic fort bears?

Dr. James McHenry, Secretary of War in President Washington's cabinet, formerly served in the Maryland Senate, the Continental Congress and in the Constitutional Convention.

Irish-born November 16, 1753, and educated in Dublin, James McHenry came to Philadelphia at the age of 17 where he studied medicine under one of the leading doctors of the time.

He became a lifelong close friend and advisor of George Washington and, in 1775, accompanied Washington to Cambridge when the latter took command of the army (U.S. #617). Dr. McHenry served the army as surgeon in the Revolutionary War. He was private secretary to Washington from 1778 to 1780, and for the remainder of the war was on Lafayette's staff.

Brother McHenry was a member of Spiritual Lodge No. 23 of Baltimore, Maryland.

He lived to see the fort named in his honor, successfully defended against the British attack in 1814, and died July 3, 1816.

Marshall S. Loke.

### DUES

At the Special Meeting held on November 4, 1960, the proposed amendments to the By-laws, as set forth in the Notice which appeared on page 7 of the October 1960 Masonic Philatelist, were approved by the members. Consequently, Sec. 4 of the By-laws, as amended, now reads:

"Sec. 4. INITIATION FEES AND DUES. An initiation fee of one dollar (\$1.00) and dues for the first year of three dollars (\$3.00) must accompany each application. Dues of three dollars (\$3.00) annually are payable in advance on the first day of July. Dues for the period from January 1, 1961 to June 30, 1961 shall be remitted, and all dues paid in advance on the date of the approval of this resolution shall be credited as full payment for the years for which dues were paid. At the first meeting of the Board of Governors in January, the Treasurer shall submit a list of names of all members who are delinquent in payment of dues for one year. Delinquent members shall be dropped from the rolls at this meeting. A member who has been dropped for non-payment of dues may be restored by payment of dues in arrears, together with a restoration fee of one dollar (\$1.00)."

In view of the foregoing, membership cards showing dues paid to December 31, 1960 are automatically valid to June 30, 1961. Instead of sending out bills in December as heretofore, our Treasurer will now do so in June 1961 at the new rate of \$3.00 per year. This will conform the billing period to the fiscal year basis on which the accounts are maintained.

As a result of further action taken at the aforesaid Special Meeting, please note that Sec. 11 of the By-laws, as amended, now reads:

"Sec. 11. CHAPTERS: Chapters of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York may be formed upon written application to the Board of Governors by five (5) or more members in good standing. No chapter may be formed within a radius of fifty (50) miles of the headquarters of the Club in New York City, N.Y.

Chapters may write their own by-laws subject to the approval of the Board of Governors. Only members of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York may be members of, or hold office in, any chapter. Chapters may collect such dues as their by-laws permit, but such dues shall be in addition to the dues of each member to the Masonic Stamp Club of New York.

Chapters may be dissolved at their own request, or, after due notice, by the Board of Governors for cause, or because the membership in the chapter has become less than five members."

### OUR NOVEMBER MEETING

The invocation was given by Bro. Samuel Brooks.

Bro. Fred J. Gommo, Secretary, was absent due to pressure of business. Norman Sehlmeier was appointed Acting Secretary.

Bro. David Schwarz introduced a visitor, Bro. Herbert Aaron.

Pres. Reggel greeted Bro. Joseph Ferola, who was now recovering after hospitalization; also greetings to Bro. Osterlund, Bro. Roane and others present. Read letters from Dr. Paul Norris expressing regrets at being unable to attend.

Congratulations were given to Bro. Stanley Salomon for his splendid work on publicity; to Bro. Joseph Munk for his handling of fiscal matters and to Bro. Harold Gunter for his untiring work in getting out the local notices.

Bro. Sehlmeier advised the receipt of numerous letters regarding "The Masonic Philatelist," and thanked all for the interest shown.

Letter from Bro. Harbeson was read,

recommending that the Club join in the efforts to get a commemorative stamp issued honoring General Pershing. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was resolved that a committee be appointed to prepare appropriate resolution to be sent to Postmaster-General Summerfield by our Secretary.

Bro. Jose Rueff advised that he is now affiliated with Cornucopia Lodge #563, having previously been a member of Acacia Lodge #68, Curacao, N. W. I.

#### PROGRAM

As this Meeting preceded by a few days the national elections, it was appropriately designated by our Program Chairman, Dr. S. Duffield Swan, as "Politics—Members' Exhibit," and most of the items exhibited had some political connotation, such as Kings, Queens, Presidents, Dictators, etc.

Dr. Swan conducted the program and started off with an exhibit entrusted to him by Bro. Wm. Huxsel of Montreal, consisting of innumerable combinations of pairs, blox and strips of the 1957 Canada Outdoor Recreation stamps, Nos. 365/368, which had been printed se-tenant.

Bro. Jose Rueff displayed Latin-American Politics—Pan Amer. Conference 1956, various President, Dictators such as Batista, etc. (No Castros).

Bro. Sehlmeier showed recent West German, Saar and Berlin first-day covers, including the recent commemorative for General Marshall.

Bro. Shoop exhibited a large group of German Inflation stamps with appropriate remarks as to the effect of cheap money and subsequent rampant inflation on the economy in general and the postal administration in particular.

Bro. Mannie Reggel showed British Politics; Great Britain 1935 and 1938—Jubilees, George V, Coronations, George VI, etc.—also the U.S. Farleys which had stirred such political furor until the private printing was released for public sale; Seaways cover with combination of U.S. and Canadian stamps.

Our visitor, Bro. Herb Aaron displayed an extensive group of recent used U.S. stamps, blox and plate blox built around the illustrations taken from the U.S. Dept. of Publications releases concerning new issues of U.S.

Bro. Harold Gunter then exhibited his marvelous collection of Jamaica, virtually complete. His albums contained pictures of the British Rulers, local officials, pineapples, sugar cane, tobacco, etc., in addition to the classics and the modern issues. Bro. Gunter

is a Jamaican by ancestry and highlighted his talk with reminiscences of his childhood and youth and other interesting data concerning this country. His interest in the hobby indeed keeps him young in spirit, as well as in health. Although more than four score years of age, he rarely misses the opportunity of contributing something of value to our meetings.

Bro. Doc. Swan concluded the exhibits with important showings from one of his specialties, viz. Czechoslovakian Army Field Posts.

After due deliberation, the Committee awarded prizes as follows: first prize, Harold Gunter; second prize, William Huxsel; third prize, Jose Rueff.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

#### LETTERS FROM OUR MEMBERS

Our Cleveland barrister member, Bro. Mark G. Snow 33°, writes:

"In answer to your inquiry, I confirm that Senator Robert A. Taft, for whom a commemorative stamp was issued on October 10, 1960, was not a member of the craft. Incidentally, I knew one of our Ill. Brethren (now deceased), who was present when President William Howard Taft was made a "Mason at sight" and he described the whole affair to me. It took place in Kilwinning Lodge #356, F. & A. M., Cincinnati, Ohio, on February 18, 1909 before a packed crowd of Masonic dignitaries.

As Historian of the Scottish Rite bodies of the Valley of Cleveland, I have been busy for several years writing up their history, plus a biography of all the presiding officers of the four bodies. The Lodge of Perfection and Council, Princes of Jerusalem were 100 years old last year and the Chapter of Rose Croix is 100 this year. Consequently, I have not had much spare time, but perhaps in the near future I can find time for an article of Masonic interest.

With best wishes to all of the members."

Bro. William A. G. Huxsel, of Montreal, Canada, during a visit to New York attended a recent meeting, now sends us the following observations:

"Once upon a time there was a little pup without a pedigree, who decided to roam from home, and landed on a foreign soil, but lo and behold when he crossed the boundary line which is shown on maps only, but not in the minds of men or Masons, who refer to it as the imaginary line, yet when the Customs get hold of this



little pup, they called him a foreigner, but finding him quite harmless allowed him to pass on.

Thank goodness for that, because he really found out it was only an imaginary line. First he met such nice people, who not only stuffed him with good food, etc., and then would not even let him pay for it, but would not even let him walk the two blocks to the Club. Boy, oh Boy, what a Club! I would suggest that all visitors, especially Canadian, who visit New York, should not miss visiting the Collectors Club. What a sight! There he had the good fortune of meeting the World Famous Uncle Jake. What a man—so far the whole trip was worth this. Uncle Jake escorted me through the entire building and that is indeed something worth seeing.

Then we attended the regular meeting of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York, which was very much appreciated by myself, having looked forward to this occasion for several years, this being a different Stamp Club from any that I ever belonged to, especially when nearly all the subjects refer to Masonry, which of course is so dear to me. The members present all exhibited some Masonic items with reference to Masonry.

Now when this little pup got back home, he thought about his pedigree and this is what he found. He first saw the Light in 1935 in Lakeshore Lodge No. 105, Valois, P. Q., becoming its Master in 1946, and a member of Grand Lodge, as a Steward, in 1951 with the title of Very. After getting out of the chair of King Solomon, he applied for admission to a R.A.M. Chapter, Mount Horeb No. 6 where he advanced quickly to the position of J.W. Then taking his demit, he concentrated mostly on Blue Lodge work. In 1936 became very much interested in the Masonic Study Club, which he has attended ever since, becoming its President in 1957. Also became a member of the New South Shore Masonic Forum, which is located in St. Lambert Masonic Temple, and is on the Advisory Committee of both clubs, attending all their meetings. He has been working since April 5 years in forming a new R.A.M. chapter along the Lakeshore District, which he is happy to report will be ready for the signing of the petition on Nov. 22nd, and he believes they will offer him the position of J.W. (he hopes). This will mean more trips to the Lakeshore; it takes me two hours every time I go to the committee meetings of both Lodges; also I attend both Lodge Meetings. (Masonry sure appeals

to me to spend two hours each way four times each month by tramways and buses.)

Have also been Secretary for three years of the Past Masters Association. In the month of November each year, I usually assist a number of lodges as Scrutineer and in December assist these same lodges by installing their officers. I also represent my Lodge on the Board of Masonic Relief.

Now for my hobby, which is collecting Canadian plate blocks; also Masonry on Postage Stamps (just started trying to secure the different copies from all the World, having most of the USA). Have also made a number of typed sheets from books by Mirt, Brooks, Clarke and Clausen, using Scott Cat. Nos., showing both mint and used prices from 1955. This is a check list of all known Masons or Masonic emblems. Cost to me for typist and paper @ \$.50 each; will enclose a copy to Mannie.

Next, I also collect thematics, butterflies, birds, flowers, fish, cotton, sugar, coffee, tea, cocoa—this should keep me busy. However, I hope that you lose this pedigree, as it doesn't mean anything. I believe in the Man and what he can do for others. Well, it's been lots of fun, and I shall always remember my trip to New York which I have made for the seventh year, mostly at Easter time (too bad that you are closed then) but I live in hopes that I may again sometime have the pleasure and privilege of seeing you all. With best wishes to all for the coming Holidays."

(Editor's Note—a man with such a record should cease referring to himself as a "pup without a pedigree.")

A new member, Bro. Lloyd Ellison, informs us:

"I hold membership in St. John's Lodge No. 41, F. & A. M., located in Springfield, Vermont. I am very interested in your Club as I have had a most active Masonic career and have long been interested in philatelic work and last year started to combine the two and build up a specialized Masonic Stamp collection.

My residence is in Springfield, Massachusetts, although my work takes me to Vermont for two or three days each week and I am active in both York Rite and in Scottish Rite in both states. This year I am Master in the A.A.S.R. Lodge of Perfection in Brattleboro, Vermont, and also Master in the York Royal and Select Master Council in Springfield, Vermont, along with nineteen other Masonic jobs, including be-

ing editor of Vermont Scottish Rite News and editor for the York Rite Masonic News of Springfield & Bellows Falls, Vermont, as well as Recorder-Treasurer for St. Matthew's Conclave, Springfield, Mass. Red Cross of Constantine and appendant orders."

(Editor's Reply—"Dear Bro. Ellison: Thanks for this information. In your spare time, why not prepare a philatelic article for The Masonic Philatelist?")

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DISTAFF SIDE

Dear Brother Munk,

It has been my custom to give members of my family their respective due cards for Christmas gifts. Now I read that the Masonic Stamp Club of New York plans to make some changes both as to the amount and date of their fiscal year.

I am enclosing check for \$4.00 for dues for my husband

Karl William Schumacher

P. O. Box 32, Nyack, New York.

Please may I have some sort of note showing how far his dues are paid that I may give to him at Christmas. Thanks!

I enjoy very much reading the Masonic Philatelist too, especially the writeup of the previous meeting.

Last year our O.E.S. District Deputy used a poem taken from a past Masonic Philatelist — "I knelt where Hiram knelt." She read this at our meeting honoring Master Masons, and you could just feel how the Brothers were listening to and enjoying this.

My husband would like to attend meetings, but he is on an early shift at work and can't take late hours at night.

Good luck! I know the work involved for you officers of the Club, as I have been for twenty-three years Secretary of Rockland County Chapter No. 371 O.E.S.

Fraternally,

Bertha R. Schumacher.

Editor's Comment — Thanks Sister Schumacher for your nice communication. We are always delighted to hear from the fair sex. We have taken the liberty of printing this as it furnishes an example of the application of the new provision in the by-laws regarding payment of dues. Since your remittance was received by Treasurer Munk prior to November 4th, the dues for Brother Karl are now paid up to June 30, 1963. Any member remitting after November 4th must pay \$3.00 per year, the first payment of that amount however constituting payment of dues to June 30,

1962. Also, we think that your practice in respect to Christmas gifts is a splendid, if not novel, one. Needless to say, the welcome mat is always out for Brother Karl, if work permits him to attend.

The first Masonic monument in the United States was erected at Bunker Hill, December 2, 1794, to the memory of Major General Joseph Warren. The monument is believed to be on the very spot where General Warren died. It is a Tuscan pillar, eighteen feet high on a platform two feet high and eight feet square, later increased to eight feet high. On the top of the pillar was placed a gilt urn with the initials and age of Joseph Warren enclosed in the square and compasses. The inscription reads: Erected A.D. 1794, by King Solomon's Lodge of Freemasons, constituted at Charlestown, 1783, in memory of Major General Joseph Warren and his associates who were slain on this memorable spot, June 17, 1775. Several years after its erection, the Lodge presented the land and monument to the newly formed Bunker Hill Monument Association.—W.R.H.—From "Masonic World."

## FROM ROYAL ARCH MASON

The following items of interest are from the Royal Arch Mason magazine.

General Nicholas Bravo, head of the Mexican Scottish Rite, executed General Vincent Guererro, head of the York Rite. Note: the meeting of Guererro and Iturbide is shown on Mexican stamp Scott's #632.

England's first postage stamp, the famous "Penny Black," issued in 1840, was engraved by American born Jacob Perkins, a member of St. Peter's Lodge and Newburyport Commandery K. T., Newburyport, Mass.

President Harding's last address to the American people was delivered by his secretary, Sir Knight George B. Christian, before Hollywood Commandery #56 K. T. in Hollywood, Calif., on August 2, 1923. Harding, who had intended to deliver it personally, died that day. — Submitted by Walter Harbeson.

What could be more Masonic than the words on the Francis Scott Key American Credo stamp (U.S. #1142): "And this be our Motto, in GOD is our TRUST?" This stamp belongs in every collection of Masonry on Stamps. — M.S.L.