



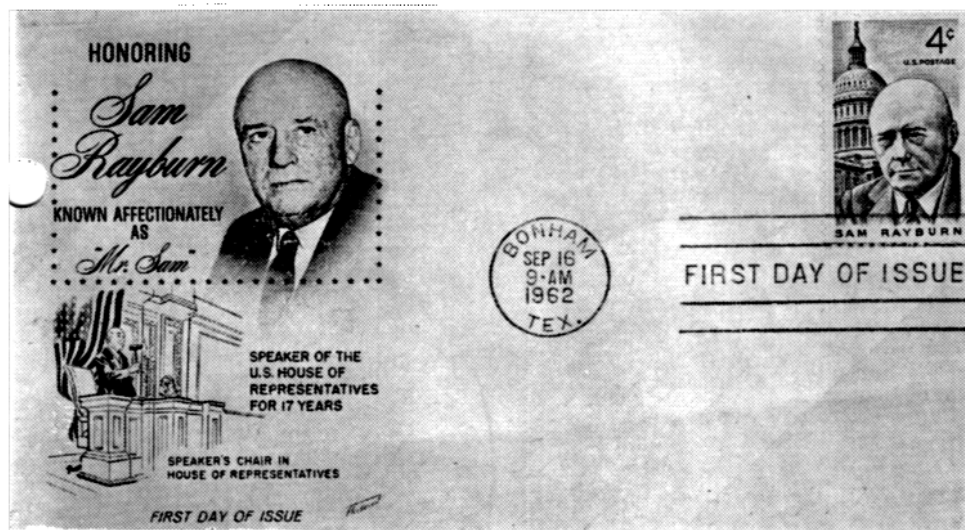
# The Masonic Philatelist

VOL. 19

OCTOBER 1962

NO. 2

## A Great American—Sam Rayburn



The United States Post Office Department issued this commemorative stamp on September 16, 1962, which date marks the 22nd anniversary of Sam Rayburn's election as Speaker of the House of Representatives. The stamp is already considered by many to be one of the most attractive issued in recent years.

Rayburn was born January 6, 1882 in Roane County, Tennessee. After graduation from East Texas College and University of Texas, he commenced the practice of law in Bonham, Texas. He was a member of the Texas lower house for 6 years and Speaker of same for 2 years. He served continuously in Congress since 1913 until his death on November 16, 1961. He was "Mr. Sam" to some 3,000 congressmen whom he saw come and go over the years. He received the Entered Apprentice degree only, August 7, 1922, in Constantine Lodge No. 13, Bonham, Texas.

# The MASONIC PHILATELIST

VOL. 19 NO. 2  
OCTOBER 1962

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## By the sign of the Gavel

I was gratified to see so many of our members in attendance at the first meeting of the season. I want to thank Bro. Fred Schwarzkopf of Bridgeport, Conn., for his presentation of the Gavel for the Club. It was also gratifying to see so many collections in the frames, and I wish to thank all the members for making my first meeting so enjoyable and interesting. It has come to my attention from our Treasurer that there are many members who have not paid their dues for the year. I extend to our Chapters in

## ★ MEETINGS ★

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

Washington, D.C. and Cleveland, Oh.  
our best wishes for a successful year.  
—Shelton W. Osterlund

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

HARRY T. BUCHANAN  
302 Bryant Avenue  
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REGINALD VICTOR DAVIES  
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121 Bell Court  
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HERBERT C. WALTON  
49 Kenwood Avenue  
Verona, New Jersey  
Cedar Lodge #272, Cedar Grove, N. Y.

## KNOW YOUR OFFICERS

Shelton W. Osterlund



Born and educated in Connecticut; started to work for the New York Telephone Co., and then transferred to Southern New England Telephone Co., from which he retired after thirty-eight years of service. He is a life

member of Telephone Pioneers of America.

During the last years of the depression he started a Development and Real Estate Company, and has a Broker's License for Connecticut and New Jersey.

Bro. Osterlund is a member of the Temple Lodge #65 A. F. and A. M., and the Fellowcraft Club of Westport, Conn. Also Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite and Pyramid Temple A.O.N.M.S. of Bridgeport, Conn.; Omas Shrine Club of Norwalk, Conn.; Greenfield Grange #133 and Fairfield County Pomona Grange #9, Greenfield Hill, Conn.

His philatelic memberships also include Collectors' Club of New York, Connecticut Philatelic Society and one time president of the Bridgeport Philatelic Club which is one of the oldest in the U.S. (1888).

Full of vigor and determination, Bro. Shelton will furnish inspiring leadership in continuing the good work of our Club.

#### OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING

Bro. Glaser reported that Bro. Sam Brooks had undergone surgery and is coming along well. A number of other members reported that they also had visited Sam and that he was quite cheerful. It is doubtful however that he will be able to give the scheduled lecture on Oct. 10, 1962 at Albion Lodge No. 26, as announced in our preceding lecture. Any member who had expected to attend should first check with Eliot Nordheim or one of the officers.

Bro. Yarry reported that Bro. Carl Pelander was now back at his office after a prolonged illness.

Bro. Schwartzkopf of the Bridgeport Philatelic Society, as well as being one of our own members, was welcomed. In honor of Pres. Osterlund's long association with the Bridgeport group, he presented a handmade gavel, made by himself, which was decorated by three U.S. Flag Stamps. The gavel was put to immediate use.

Bro. Swan donated to our library two volumes on philately, viz. "Alopedia of U.S. Postmarks and Postal History" and "Billig's Philatelic Handbook Vol. 2," as well as a copy of the issue of Life Magazine which contained a comprehensive article about Masonry.

The program was devoted to "Summer Acquisitions." Bro. Glaser started the display part by showing a number of hand-painted album pages which he had made for a member in Canada.

Bro. Harold Gunter showed stamps from new independent Jamaica and commented on the implications of the new regime. Bro. Nordheim displayed some artistic Japanese presentation folders with 1st day cancellations on the mounted stamps. Bro. Swan showed some gems—covers bearing Masonic cancellations, which he had recently acquired also an almost complete collection of tracings of U.S. Masonic cancellations.

Bro. Reggel displayed his virtually complete collection of the recently issued Malaria stamps, as sponsored by the U.N. In discussing these, he rued the fact that a number of them sold shortly after issue at highly inflated prices, and cited a number of countries participating in this otherwise commendable idea, whose contributions to date to the U.N. Fund were ridiculously out of proportion. This led to a general discussion, in which we all deplored the recent trends toward so many new issues seemingly being issued mainly for sale at fancy, inflated prices to collectors. We heartily endorsed the practice of the American Philatelic Society, in their Journal of placing "Black Blots" and "Big Q" ratings on certain stamps and souvenir sheets.

Bro. Sehlmeier followed up this line of reasoning by showing a number of interesting Canadian first flight covers which he had acquired during the summer at nominal prices, and stressed the philatelic pleasure which could be derived from inexpensive items.

Bro. Yarry discussed the use of Fiji Islands stamps on Tonga covers and showed two very rare covers to illustrate his topic. He also showed a rare Fiji stamp he had discovered among his duplicates, and urged all the brothers to be alert to oddities and rarities that are sometimes found in collections of duplicates or discards.

Bro. Salomon displayed used airmail plate blocks and special flight covers of the same stamps. Among the group was a cover cancelled in Tokio Bay at the surrender of Japan. Bro. Greck showed a large number of aerograms and air letter sheets of the World, many of them addressed to him. Bro. Wendell showed and spoke on his extensive group of "Famous Americans."

—Stanley A. Salomon

Whenever an individual or a business decides that success has been attained, progress stops. — Thomas J. Watson.

## MASONRY ON POSTAGE STAMPS

By John A. Mirt

We are indebted to Wor. Bro. Douglas Murison of Temperley, Argentina, for the following interesting and enlightening information pointing out the differences in symbolism in rituals in various parts of the world. It is based on a 3d stamp of Great Britain's "Peace and Reconstruction" issue of 1946.

One is prompted to the conclusion that a Freemason designed the stamp, bristling as it is with Masonic symbols, but investigation reveals that this is not true. The similarity is coincidental. Freemasonry takes many of its symbols from the tools of construction.

Yet, further contemplation of this stamp, so full of Masonic interest, makes one incline toward making use of the Square, the Compasses, the Trowel, the Dove, and the other symbolisms to convey a spiritual message.

The message of Peace is conveyed through the Dove, which is found in English and Scottish Freemasonry. The



Dove is found on the Deacon's rods in English lodges. It also is a symbol in Royal Ark Mariners, a "side" degree in English and Scottish Freemasonry.

The inclusion of the Trowel in the design of the stamp is a happy one, although under the English Constitution it is only reminiscent of the Royal Arch Degree. The Trowel, now practically alien to the English Craft Freemason, is deserving of special consideration, particularly as it is used in many jurisdictions and possesses deep esoteric meaning.

In the United States, the Trowel is by the lesson it teaches, deservedly the principal working tool of the 3°. In New Zealand and Scotland, it is the jewel of the Junior Deacon. It is used in certain additional degrees and in some English Craft lodges that still work their own ritual.

Outside the ritual, though, the Trowel comes into its own among Freemasons during the ceremonies of cornerstone laying. Bro. Murison laments the fact, however, that such



an implement, typical of the layer as distinct from the hewer of stones, should have been dropped from the English ritual, especially when it is remembered that monarchs have not thought it derogatory to their dignity to exchange the Scepter for the Trowel.

In times gone by, the Inner Tiler in English lodges, now known as Inner Guard, used a pointed trowel in lieu of the sword with which Masons of today are so well acquainted. In Irish lodges, an Entered Apprentice is requested to deposit his gift to Masonic charity on the flat of a Trowel.

It was customary after ancient initiations to invite the neophyte to emblematically use the Trowel to stop up all interstices in the Lodge so that not a sound should escape from within nor an eye pry from without.

In the United States, a Master Mason is informed that as the Trowel spreads the cement which binds and perfects the building, so should all Freemasons unite into one sacred band of society of friends and brothers among whom no contention should ever exist.

The Square and Compass, supreme furnishings of a Lodge, are even to the profane, symbolically of Freemasonry and too familiar to all Masons to warrant any further comment—other than to draw attention to the significant fact that on the stamp they are shown in the Fellowcraft's Degree.

Another item of consideration is the small piece of brickwork portrayed in the lower lefthand corner of the stamp. We can look upon this as the Mark Master Mason's working plan, or the Trestleboard found in American Lodges. It is the plan to which we must conform our work, even our spiritual work.

Likewise, the companion 2½d stamp, with its drawings, also may be reminding of the designs of the Trestleboard.

The last communication of His Late Majesty, King George VI, shown on both stamps, of which the Craft has knowledge, contained these words:

"The world today does require spiritual and moral regeneration. I have no doubt, after many years as a member of our Order, that Freemasonry can play a most important part in this vital need."

That is the message a Masonic philatelist gets from this particular stamp. (Reprinted from "The Freemason," Toronto, Ont., Canada)

## MUSINGS OF AN OLD "HAS BEEN" INTRODUCTION:

What happens to old Stamp Collectors?

"Old soldiers never die; they just fade away."

One of our ditinguished brothers is an Old Stamp Collector, both in respect to age and his interest in stamps. As age presses on, he is going through a metamorphosis, proving that stamp collectors are not soldiers, but maybe he is a "cicada." His stamp activity is changing,—some say that it is improving,—anyway he has proposed to add a few lines, from time to time, to our publication under the heading "Musings of an Old Has Been."

As such you will find that they, the musings, are the rambling thoughts of some one looking back at a life that has included wearing of the purple of the fraternity, high offices in national and local stamp clubs, as well as prominence in his major field of endeavor. Some of his ideas will have fraternal import, but most will be general about our hobby. The first lines will appear next month.

Your Editor is certain that all of the other members join with him in eagerly looking forward to reading these learned observations.

### Bro. Walter R. Harbeson writes:

We were delighted to have received recently the following letter from ailing Bro. Harbeson, and to learn of his steady improvement, as well as of his continuing interest in our work.

"Here is some interesting information on the Temple of Heaven shown on China stamps 131-133 and 270-273, which I think will be of interest to our readers.

"Bro. Loke received an inquiry on it and wrote to me to see if I had any information. Ill. Bro. H. M. Chen, 33°, who was born here in Columbus, Ohio, and who is Deputy of the Supreme Council in the Orient of Taiwan, has kindly furnished me with the story which I show below.

"I am making progress. I get around fairly well with the walker. Have been out to eat several times, also to church.

Am looking forward now to when I can go again with a cane. However, it will be some time yet before I can get back home to work on stamps and some more articles for the Masonic Philatelist. Regards to all the brothers."

## THE TEMPLE OF HEAVEN

"This temple, known as "The Temple of Heaven," is one of the most famous in Peking and I have visited it many many times years ago. In my younger days, more than a quarter of a century ago, I was an experienced airline pilot, and I used to fly the Shanghai-Peking route for nearly two years prior to the Japanese taking over this beautiful and fabulous city during the Sino-Japanese War. Under the Southern Jurisdiction of the Supreme Council, there were two Masonic Groups, Shanghai and Peking, established in China during the old days long before I became a Mason. The Peking Bodies at that time had membership composed chiefly of U.S. Marines of the 4th Division who were stationed in that City. They did not have a temple of their own, so the degrees were all conducted in the Temple of Heaven. I heard this from many old timers and this was verified to me recently when I ran across an old U.S. Army Colonel, a Scottish Rite Mason, now stationed in Taiwan. So this information is now factual."

## ADDRESS DELIVERED AT OUR ANNUAL DINNER

By Rt. Wor. Wendell K. Walker  
Part 2

"Brethren who knew something about stamps admired the little collection and were soon advancing enthusiastic ideas for its growth. Bro. Edgar F. Donner, of Keystone Lodge No. 235, II Manhattan, was one of the first, and it was he who said the Museum ought to contain a copy of every stamp of Masonic interest which has ever been issued. Thanks to the generosity of Bro. Donner and others, the stamps began to come in almost too fast to be displayed. They came in ones and twos and complete sets, and one Brother even presented his entire collection which he had spent years accumulating.

"The result of this enthusiastic co-operation among the Brethren is a stamp collection of which Grand Lodge may well be proud. There is a complete set of airmail covers from the famous Washington Bicentennial Airplane Flight; similar sets from Mt. Vernon and Alexandria, Virginia, and

from Washington, D.C., on Inauguration Day 1933.

"The collection is attractively displayed in folders constructed for the purpose, and special thanks should go to Bro. William E. Irons, of Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 585, I Kings, for expert help in arranging the exhibit. Bro. Irons is also the donor of many of the most valuable stamps."

Brother Donner's periodic donations of U.S. commemoratives continue to this day. Brother Iron's exhibits, unfortunately, have not been so well kept up, since he himself is long gone and no one has appeared to take his place.

Members of the Club, especially Wor. Samuel Brooks, have given much to the Grand Lodge library and Museum throughout the years. Manny Reggel has recently prevailed upon the Scott people to keep us reasonably up to date (only one year removed) in catalogues, and there are some other useful books (again thanks in large part to Sam Brooks) in the stamp section of the Library shelves. We owe a lot to Past President Jake Glaser, Fred Wendel, Carl Pelander, Frank Vanderbeck, and many others including of course your Past President, Dr. Swan, and Past Secretary, Dr. Yarry.

We can never forget the commemorative covers of Grand Lodge interest which have been sponsored by the Club, to say nothing of the substantial contributions to the Masonic Brotherhood Fund which have resulted from their sale. The outstanding event of this kind, of course, was the Stamp Club participation in the Grand Lodge 175th Anniversary Celebration in 1956. Not only were there three great covers for first-day-of-Grand Lodge issue; there was an official U.S. Post Office substation ("Masonic Hall Station") set up and operating in the Library and Museum.

Now we have come pretty far from the universal fraternal interests of the Club to the particular applications here, and I have touched hardly at all on the important subjects which Mannie Reggel, Norman Sehlmeier and Dr. Yarry requested and which I should like to discuss, but I have used up my time, and I have also used too much of yours. But I have enjoyed it.

Thank you, Brother Toastmaster, President, and Brother Members, for your invitation and for your attention. I wish you a good evening during the time which remains for your meeting, and I wish your future meetings and your future years to be as fruitful for the Club and for Masonry as the first

years have indicated they should be.

(Editor's Note:—We were indeed pleased to greet Rt. Wor. Bro. Wendell K. Walker at our last Annual Banquet. He is a very active Mason and a valued friend of our Club. It is interesting to note some of his affiliation.—Past Master Independent Royal Arch Lodge #2; Past Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Argentine Masonry; Past District Deputy Grand Master of the First Manhattan District; Past Master of The American Lodge of Research; Director Grand Lodge Library and Museum; Asst. Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York; Royal Arch; Royal and Select Masters; Knights Templar; Scottish Rite; Kismet Temple (Shrine); Lt. Col. U.S. Army Reserve.

Out-of-town members visiting New York, are urged to include the Grand Lodge Library and Museum on their list of "must.")

## LAKE ERIE CHAPTER #2

Lake Erie Chapter has met regularly during the summer months with interesting programs and displays. A good attendance was had at each meeting. Many members attended the "dutch treat" before the meeting to talk philately over a cup of coffee.

The regular Sept. meeting was opened at 8:00 P.M. by our Pres. Bro. Richard Yaeger on Wed. the 19th.

Excerpts from Linn's weekly, pertaining to the Club and to the stamp clubs at the Childrens Hospitals were read to the members. Lake Erie Chapter was given credit for being one of the longest supporters of this project.

The treasurer reported no change in Club finances.

The nominating committee for a slate of officers for next year was appointed to report at our next meeting.

Oct. 17th will be the anniversary meeting of the Nate Tucker Class "Master of Philately." At this meeting a short memorial service will be conducted. We will also exemplify the Degree of Master of Philately. Plans are to exemplify this degree once a year.

Behind the scenes working of our Masonic Library was explained to us. We have many good volumes on Masonry and allied subjects, also many magazines and periodicals which are there for the use of all Masons. The Library is not being used to its fullest extent.

Our regular auction was held with Bro. James Lambert acting as auctioneer, assisted by Bro. Pesek. Many



bargains are offered at these sales.

The entertainment for the evening was supplied as follows.

Bro. Wm. Dyer spoke for 5 minutes on "The Allamo and Masonry."

Bro. Pesek continued on the theme last month's talk by giving us more information on the preparation, mounting and displaying of show material. All questions were then duly answered.

—Harry A. Pahl.

Corresponding Secy.

### **SAM RAYBURN**

Our cover page depicts stamp issued in honor of a Great American. Sam Rayburn was a Mason, having taken his Entered Apprentice Degree in Constantine Lodge No. 13, A.F. & A.M., Bonham, Texas, on August 7, 1922. This stamp belongs in every collection of Americana and Masonic items.

Our Cachet Committee had carefully considered the advisability of sponsoring our own cacheted first-day cover for this event. But the decision was against doing so, on the basis that he had not attained the degree of Master Mason. It has been our cachet policy to adhere to items featuring Master Masons, or truly Masonic Events. In answer to many inquiries regarding future first-day covers, please be advised that the pending change in postal rates will result in new stamps which will doubtless justify our official sponsorship. This should be forthcoming within a few months.

In response to our inquiry as to why Sam Rayburn had not pursued his Masonic work, Wor. Bro. W. A. Barr, Secretary of Constantine Lodge No. 13, wrote to us as follows:

"I had known Brother Rayburn since I was a small boy, and was a Mason at the time he took the first degree. But I was not a member of Constantine Lodge No. 13, at the time he was made a Mason. Being a very busy man, and like so many others, he put his work and duty before every thing else, and just never found time to finish his Masonic work."

### **GEORGE WASHINGTON CHAPTER NO. 2**

We are happy to report a successful 1961-1962 year with the addition of 14 new members.

We are starting the 1962-63 year off by mailing out membership cards which were prepared thru the kindness of Bro. Munk and the Western Stamp Collector. Our meetings for the year will be regularly reported in the Masonic Philatelist and we hope you

will be able to attend some of them.

The meeting dates are:

September 23, 1962.

November 18, 1962.

April 14, 1963.

June 9, 1963.

These are all on Sunday at 2:00 P.M. at Week's Stamp Shop, 815 17th Street, in downtown Washington, D.C. Check by telephone for last minute changes. No further notice of these meetings will be sent to members. Watch The Masonic Philatelist for notices of special meetings.

On behalf of the Chapter, let me again thank you for your patience and contributions in the rebuilding of this Chapter.

—James N. Wong, President  
Box 406  
Washington 4, D. C.

### **MASONIC CACHETS**

Caldwell Lodge #59 F. & A.M., in Caldwell, New Jersey, recently issued a cacheted cover in honor of its Centennial. These are available at 25¢ each by writing National Masonic Hobby Club, P.O. Box 2, Caldwell, New Jersey.

Covers of the Pusan Masonic Club honoring the tenth anniversary of the Pusan Children's Charity Hospital are available by sending \$1. to the Friends of Pusan Children's Charity Hospital, Inc., 203 C Street Northeast, Washington 2, D.C. These are unique covers as they are Masonic covers from Korea honoring an American Masonic endeavor.

Ivanhoe Commandery #8 K. T. has printed a cover to mark its 75th anniversary on Sept. 29, 1962, and the Greensboro Masonic Museum and Library has prepared a blue cachet cover "Cup of Masonic Good Will." These are presently available at 10¢ each by writing Bro. Earley W. Bridges, % Library, P.O. Box 1043, Greensboro, North Carolina.

Bro. Walter J. Kirby, 2204 Summit Avenue, Little Rock, Arkansas has prepared an interesting title page for his own Masonic albums. In order to pay the artist and the printer something for their work, he is offering these to other persons at 35¢ each.

Keder Khan Grotto M.O.V.P.E.R., Syracuse, N. Y. is sponsoring a two-color cachet on the occasion of the 36th Annual Convention of the Empire State Grotto Association on Sept. 20-22 in Syracuse. Covers may be ordered from Freddie Scholl, 309 Montgomery Street, Syracuse, N. Y. Cost is 15¢ each, two for 25¢.

### AMONG OUR MEMBERS

In response to many inquiries as to the present whereabouts of Past President Dr. GEORGE CAMNITZER, we are pleased to advise that he can be reached at P.O. Box 8275, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. George is enjoying retirement, but can't keep away from stamps;—in fact he is conducting a part-time business as Seminole Stamp Co.

Kiwanis Club of Midwood, Brooklyn are holding their annual dinner dance on December 1st at Tappans Restaurant, with honored member—"Man of the year"—none other than our own "Uncle Jake" Glaser.

At the recent International Stamp Exhibition held in Prague, among the

many exhibits was the official United Nations display, brought over by SOL GLASS.

In "Stamps" report on the Leo and Samuel August Award Dinner held in connection with the meeting of the First Day Cover Society in New York on Sept. 21st, NORMAN H. LEE was credited with a large share of the leadership and inspiration which has resulted in the splendid progress made by this Society since its formation seven years ago.

At SOJEX to be held at Atlantic City commencing Oct. 12th, the judges include CARL PELANDER and HARRY LINQUIST. Awards will be made at the banquet, with FRANKLIN R. BRUNS as M. C.

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