

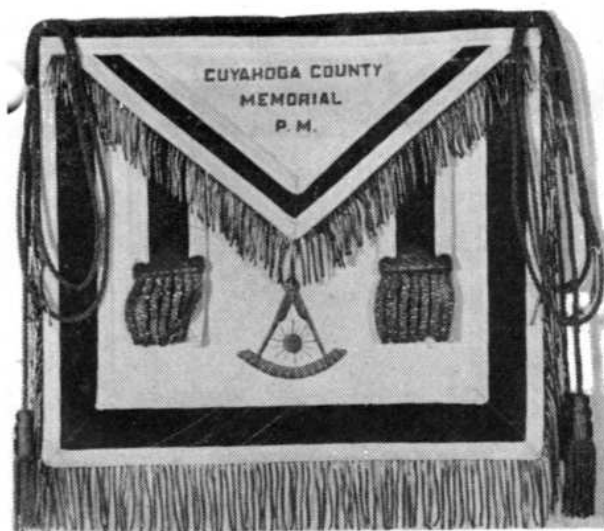


The Masonic Philatelist

VOL. 20

JANUARY 1964

NO. 5



PART OF THE NATHAN TUCKER MEMORIAL
In the Masonic Library, 3615 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio

The MASONIC PHILATELIST

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By the sign of the Gavel

Our Past Presidents showed their stuff at the December meeting, with considerable enthusiasm. At our January meeting, we will be privileged to hear Mr. Harrison D. S. Haverbeck, Past President of the Collectors' Club, who will show "British and Imperial Chinese Post Offices of Tibet."

No definite plans have been formulated as yet by our World's Fair Committee, pending some decisions from the Grand Lodge Committee.

Brothers Harbeson and Loke continue to supply us with interesting articles, for which many thanks. We also welcome a new contributor, Bro. Chas.

★ MEETINGS ★

First Friday of Each Month
Collectors Club Building

22 East 35th Street, N. Y. C.

Fifth Meeting—January 3, 1964

Harrison D. S. Haverbeck spoke
and showed "British and Imperial
Chinese Post Offices of Tibet"

A. Schuldt, P. O. Box 2284, San Antonio 6, Texas. Apart from being a very interesting article generally, it is a splendid example of what could be done perhaps in respect to each member's own Lodge, correlating specific facts regarding one's Lodge with matters of philatelic interest. Bro. Schuldt informs me that his address and exhibit aroused much interest at his meeting and that he was deluged with inquiries. Something like this would be a natural for an interesting Lodge program, and could be used to stimulate interest in Masonic Philately, as well as participation in our Club activities.

—Norman H. Sehlmeier

OUR COVER PAGE

The picture illustrated on the Cover Page of this issue is that of the late Wor. Bro. Nathan S. Tucker, and of his Past Master's Apron. These photos appear in a large frame on the wall of the Masonic Library at 3615 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, and form a part of the Nathan Tucker Memorial.

There is also a sign in front of the planter, which is visible from the Lobby of the Temple. The sign reads "In honor of Nathan S. Tucker, Worshipful Master of Cuyahoga Memorial Lodge—1957; President of Cleveland Masonic Library—1955; died October 20, 1961."

Bro. Tucker was one of the founders of the Lake Erie Chapter No. 2 of Masonic Stamp Club of New York. It is quite fitting that this memorial should be situated in the Masonic Library, as our Chapter meets there regularly.

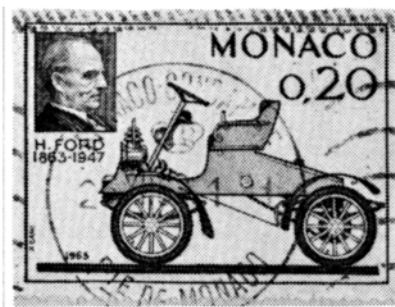
For the information of the new members, Bro. Tucker had been on hand to greet the visiting brethren from New York who presented our Charter and conferred the degree of Master of Philately on our group. During the course of the evening's ceremonies, Bro. Tucker suffered a fatal heart attack.

—Harry A. Pahl

Masons On Stamps—Henry Ford

By Walter Harbeson

The great American industrialist, Henry Ford, was finally honored philatelically by Monaco, which recently issued a stamp picturing him and his Model "A" Ford.



Henry Ford, born 1863 on a Michigan farm, the son of an Irish immigrant, became the principal individual personality of the world's industrial civilization, one of the richest men in an era of giant fortunes. He left school at 16 to learn the machinist trade, became a stationary engineer and in the early nineties was attracted by the idea of the "horseless carriage." He made one, a two-cylinder affair which annoyed his Detroit neighbors. It was the forerunner of millions of cheap automobiles which jammed the highways twenty years later.

Early in his career, Ford conceived the idea of producing a standardized car at a price low enough to attract the vast purchasing power of America's middle classes. The notion captured his generation and to meet the demand for his famous model "T" (planetary transmission) his factories mushroomed into enormous proportions in the decade 1910-1920. At the outset, his partners in the Ford Motor Company included James Couzens (later U.S. Senator), Horace E. Dodge, John F. Dodge and John S. Gray. Years afterwards, Henry Ford bought back their original shares at fabulous prices, leaving him and his son, Edsel sole owners at the time of the billion dollar enterprise.

The parent Ford Plant on the River Rouge, Detroit, and other assembling plants in the U.S., Canada and England, developed the moving-belt process of mass production by which all the operations of car fabrication were effected along a single belt system until

the finished automobile rolled down an incline ready to be driven away.

Ford pioneered a \$5 a day minimum wage rate in 1914 and was a firm proponent of the economic concept that high wages make good business. He once was reported to have \$500,000,000 on deposit in banks.

Besides making automobiles, Ford was a pioneer in commercial aviation, developing airplanes and landing fields; owned and operated the Detroit, Toledo and Ironton Railroad; operated coke industries and coal mines. He died on April 7, 1947.

Henry Ford was raised in Palestine Lodge No. 357, Detroit, Michigan on November 28, 1894. The degree team was composed of men in overalls with whom he worked at the Edison plant. On March 7, 1935 he was made a life member of his Lodge and was presented with a testimonial plaque commemorating his 75th birthday. On November 21, 1928 he was made an honorary member of Zion Lodge No. 1 (Michigan's oldest Lodge). He was coronated a 33° AASR (NJ) in September 1940 on which occasion he is reported to have said "Masonry is the best balance wheel the United States has, for Masons know what to teach their children." His son, Edsel, was not a Mason, but two of his grandsons, Benson and William, are.

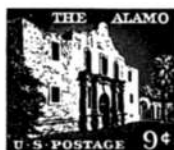
Masonic Coin Club Of New York

Our active member, Brother Philip Rosenbaum, 1544 Walton Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10052, announces the formation of a new Club, open to Masonic Brothers and Sisters. The first organizational meeting will be held on Friday, March 13, 1964 in the Crystal Room of the Henry Hudson Hotel, 353 West 57th Street, New York, N.Y.

Bro. Phil has been very active in the numismatic field for many years and is currently Chairman of New York City Coin Convention. He has been endeavoring for a long time to have the Masonic Stamp Club of New York expand its activities to the coin field. Our Board of Directors have, however, consistently decided not to enlarge our scope beyond philately. Hence the formation of this new group, which has our blessing.

Those of our local members who are also interested in collecting coins are urged to attend the first meeting of the new organization. Bro. Rosenbaum will welcome inquiries from those who may be interested but unable to attend. Details as to dues, etc. have not yet been announced.

MASONIC PHILATELY AND ALAMO LODGE #44 A.F. & A.M. SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS



(From an address delivered before Alamo Lodge #44, San Antonio, Texas, on January 23, 1963, at the 115th anniversary of the date of their Charter, by Bro. Chas. A. Schuldt, member of Alamo Lodge, San Antonio Philatelic Association, Texas Philatelic Association, Masonic Stamp Club of New York, and Past President of Laredo Stamp Club.)

Masonic Philately is a topical collection of various postage stamps, assembled according to the Masonic subjects illustrated on such stamps.

While following this particular hobby, several interesting coincidences between philatelic facts and the history of Alamo Lodge #44 were noticed. The several stamps, covers and data are herewith presented.

Stamp No. One (Scott #1)—This is the listing as stamp #1 in the Scott U.S. catalogue. It was issued by the U.S. Postal Department in 1847, the year Alamo #44 was organized. It bears the likeness of Benjamin Franklin, who as most of us know, was an ardent Mason. He was a member of St. John's Lodge in Philadelphia, and was Worshipful Master in 1732. He became Provincial Grand Master of Pennsylvania in 1734.

Stamp No. Two (Scott #776)—This is a stamp issued by the Post Office Department in 1936, commemorating the centennial of Texas Independence. It shows a picture of the Alamo, where this Lodge was originally organized by personnel of U.S. troops stationed there, on their return from the Mexican War. Major James H. Ralston of the Illinois

Dragoons became the first Worshipful Master. It also has the likeness of Sam Houston, and Stephen F. Austin. Sam Houston, as many of us know, was also a Mason, a member of Cumberland Lodge #8 in Nashville, Tennessee. He was president of the first Masonic Convention in Houston, to form the Grand Lodge of Texas in 1837. He served as President of the Republic of Texas, also Governor of Texas after it joined the Union. Stephen F. Austin became a member of Louisiana Lodge #109 St. Genevieve, Terr. of Louisiana, and afterwards affiliated with St. Louis Lodge #3. In 1938 he organized the Lodge of Union, in Texas, but unfortunately was unable to get a charter. He lost his life in the battle of the Alamo, as we all know.

Stamp No. Three (Scott #932) This is one of four stamps issued in tribute to Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1945. He was President of the United States when Stamp No. two above was issued. He, too, was a Mason; a member of Holland Lodge #8 of New York City. Many other countries have issued stamps in his honor.

Stamp No. Four (Scott #816)—This is an eleven cent stamp of the Presidential Series of 1938, issued by the U.S. Post Office. It has the likeness of our 11th President, James K. Polk. He was President when our first stamp was issued. He, too, was a Mason, a member of Columbia Lodge #31, Columbia, Tennessee. Incidentally, he laid the cornerstone of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, with Masonic ceremonies on May 5, 1847.

Stamp No. Five (Scott #948)—This is, but is not—really a stamp. It is a

souvenir sheet, issued by the Post Office Department, commemorating the Centennial of the U.S. Postage Stamp, also complimenting the Centenary International Philatelic Exhibition (CIPEX) in New York City, May 1947. It bears fascimilies of the first stamp with the likeness of Benjamin Franklin, and also the second stamp, issued at the same time, for ten cents, with the picture of George Washington. Of course, we all know (or should know) that George Washington was our First President, also an ardent Mason, a Worshipful Master of Fredericksburg Lodge #22 of Virginia. He took his oath of office on the bible of St. John's Lodge #1, New York. He took part in the laying of the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol in Masonic ceremonies September 18, 1893. His picture appears on many stamps, not only of the United States but many foreign countries.

Stamp No. Six—(Scott #947)—This is a commemorative stamp for the same purpose as the Stamp No. Five above. It, too, bears the likeness of Benjamin Franklin and George Washington.

Shortly after the issuance of the above two centennial items, Alamo Lodge celebrated its centennial by ceremonies, and the placing of a bronze tablet on a wall north and adjacent to the Alamo, where it is viewed by the hundreds who visit the shrine almost daily.

Stamp No. Seven—(Scott #673)—This is a postage stamp issued by Brazil in 1947 to commemorate the visit of President Harry Truman to that country in September 1947. Bro. Truman was President at the time the Souvenir sheet (Stamp No. Five above) and Stamp No. Six commemorating the Centenary of U.S. postage were issued. (There is as yet no picture of Bro. Truman on any U.S. Stamp, as he is still living). He was initiated in Belton Lodge #450, and became Worshipful Master of Grandview Lodge #618 in Missouri, which he helped to organize. He became Grand Master of Missouri in 1940.

Stamp No. Eight—(Scott #1043)—This is the nine cent stamp of the Liberty Series, which notes several patriotic shrines in the United States. It bears a picture of the Alamo, and the first day of issue was here in San Antonio, June 14, 1956, Flag Day; also the 120th anniversary of Texas Independence.

The page following, of what I am exhibiting here tonight, holds three

covers, "First Days," which are favored items among some Philatelists. They are envelopes, bearing certain stamps, cancelled at some predesignated location, on the first day of use, often the only place for that date. The first one is of the 1936 Alamo stamp (Scott #776), cancelled at the official first day city of Gonzales, Texas on March 2, 1936.

The one following, has the souvenir sheet (Scott #948), which had its first day on May 19, 1947, and was issued and cancelled only at the special Post Office at CIPEX in New York City.

The third cover (Scott #1043) is that with the Alamo stamp mailed at the Alamo June, 14, 1956.

MASONS BUILD WORLD'S FAIR CENTER ON TICKET SALE

Masons of New York State will have their Center dedicated to Brotherhood completed for the opening day of the World's Fair, April 22nd. It will be the only pavilion erected by a fraternal order and in the view of many represents the greatest achievement of the Masonic Fraternity in recent years.

The cost of \$350,000 will be financed by the sale of World's Fair tickets to members and others. At this date 250,000 tickets have been sold and it is confidently expected that each of the 300,000 members of Masonry in the state will have purchased two tickets by the termination of the sale on February 29.

Mass meetings were held last week and this, upstate, and some two thousand of the leaders will gather on Wednesday, January 29, at the Masonic Hall in New York City to promote the sale. Mass meetings in Buffalo and Albany will conclude with a rally in Syracuse on Friday February 1.

The beautifully designed pavilion with its oval reflecting pool and bridge will be dominated by a five-story Square and Compasses. At the entrance of the exhibition hall will be the original model of an eleven foot statue of America's greatest Mason, George Washington, in Masonic regalia, by the renowned sculptor, Donald De Lue. To the rear of the statue will be two dioramas depicting Washington and Lafayette at Valley Forge, and Washington taking the oath of office as President. Bryant Baker's celebrated figure of Admiral Richard E. Byrd, and his busts of other famous Masons—General John J. Pershing and comedian Will Rogers—will be on display.

Exhibits will show the contributions of Masons from the 13th century to

the present: the cathedral builders of Europe; the British, French and American revolutionary leaders; the father of the public school system, Gov. DeWitt Clinton; the fourteen Presidents of the United States who were Masons, and international leaders in Britain, Germany, Italy and India.

Members of Masonic Stamp Club of New York who belong to New York Lodge are urged to purchase tickets through their respective Lodge Secretary.

Members of our Club who belong to Lodges other than in New York State are urged to send their orders to our Club Secretary, Bro. Stanley A. Salomon, 1200 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10029. The tickets are valid for the two-year period in which the Fair will be open. The price for General Admission ticket for adult is 2.00.

NEWS FROM THE UNITED NATIONS



The United Nations Postal Administration advises that the 50¢ regular stamp which has been on sale since November 16, 1951 will be replaced by a new design on March 6, 1964. This date will also be the last day of sale of the original 50¢ stamp.

There will be an initial printing of 1,500,000. The stamp was designed by Hatim El Mekki (Tunisia) and has the same basic design which has already appeared on the 5¢ printed envelope, this being an elongated globe with a stylized weather vane on top. The background color is bluish-grey, and the globe is divided into blocks of color (green, yellow, red, blue, orange, grey, purple and maroon). The language border is in the five official languages of the United Nations—English, French, Spanish, Russian and Chinese. The stamps will be printed in photogravure by Courvoisier, S. A. of Switzerland and will measure 33.4 mm. horizontally x 28 mm vertically, perforation to perforation.

Four marginal inscriptions will appear on each sheet—two on the left and two on the right—and will consist of the UN seal with "1964" beneath it.

When the Human Rights stamp was issued on December 10, 1963, 567,900 covers received first day cancellation.

The 30¢ regular stamp which was initially printed in a quantity of 1,250,000 and issued on June 5, 1961, was reprinted in March 1962 in a quantity of 400,000, and a further 1,000,000 were printed in August 1963.

The Memorial stamp, which was issued on September 17, 1962, in denominations of 5¢, and 15¢, will be withdrawn from sale on March 17, 1964.

MOSES' BURNING BUSH

One of the most remarkable plants in the world is the so-called "Burning Bush," or *Dictamnus Fraxinella*. The species is a native of Western Asia, although it is not uncommon to find it growing in many gardens in the temperate regions of America.

Most people who grow the plant are unaware of its strange habits. The *Dictamnus* secretes a fragrant oil in great abundance. The flower stems in particular produce great quantities of oil, which in warm weather volatilizes and impregnates the surrounding air. This vapor is highly inflammable, and if a naked flame is brought near the plant, the fumes at once ignite with an amazing result. The whole plant is surrounded with crackling, shooting flames, reddish in color, which leaves a highly aromatic odor behind them.

The "Burning Bush" is not injured in any way by the fire, for the flames do not actually come in contact with the plant itself. For a successful experiment with the plant, several conditions should prevail. First, it is essential that the air should be dry and warm and there should be practically no wind. Second, the best effects are secured just after the opening of the flowers.

It is interesting to note that the *Dictamnus Fraxinella* is common in the region where the incident of Moses and the Burning Bush is said to have occurred.

—ROYAL ARCH MASON magazine, Sept. 1949 Vol. III, Number 3, Page 90.

"And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him (Moses) in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned

with fire, and the bush was not consumed."—Exodus 3:2.

The burning bush appears on a 1959 stamp of Brazil, Scott No. 902, 3.30 cruzeiros.



—Submitted by Marshall S. Loke.

LAKE ERIE CHAPTER NO. 2

The regular Third Wednesday of the Month meeting of Lake Erie Chapter #2 of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York was held at the Masonic Temple, 3615 Euclid, on December 18th, 1963.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 P.M. by our Vice President, Bro. Edgar Kroehle 33° with eleven members and one visitor present. Five members were present before the meeting for the Dutch Treat dinner at the Masonic Temple dining room.

After all business was taken care of, our visitor told of his experiences during the last war. This experience included being arrested and condemned to death, his activities in the underground and the time when all Masons were arrested.

Bro. Harry Bollbach gave another of his humorous "Minutes of Mirth" which was enjoyed by all.

Bro. James Lambert then showed part of his fine collection of Christmas Seals, with a very good description and pointing out the variations in same and also the position and mark of the printer.

All interested Masons are invited to our meetings. Come and join us in our fine hobby. — Harry A. Pahl, Corresponding Secy.

OUR DECEMBER MEETING

Our December 6, 1963 meeting was called to order at the Collectors' Club at 8:00 P.M. by President Sehlmeier. The invocation was given by Bro. Sam Brooks.

Bro. Bill Landgraff, the Mayor of Island Park, announced that he will be installed next month as Master of his Lodge for the fourth time. In addition

to this signal achievement, his installation will come exactly fifty years after his first installation as Master. Details to be advised at our next meeting and it is expected that a large group of our members will be present to assist in honoring Bill.

Two new members were present and greeted, namely Bros. Lorenzo and Blow. Also greeted was Mrs. Virginia Hickey, a visitor.

Bro. Shelton Osterlund reported that a total of about 150 guests had signed our register at the recent ASDA Show and that our endeavor there was an outstanding success. A rousing vote of thanks was given to the Committee and all who helped to make this such a success.

Bro. Peter Lee, Chairman of the Membership Committee, reported that since the fall he has had 43 membership applications completed and he has an additional 13 for which he is awaiting certification.

Bro. Sam Brooks reported on the turnout for Bro. "Uncle Jake" Glaser's 60 year Palm Presentation at Corner Stone Lodge. There were 13 brothers who attended despite it having been one of the rainiest nights of the year. It was reported that Bro. Harry Lindquist who met the group for dinner, had cut his vacation trip to Palm Springs, Calif. short in order to return here to assist in honoring Uncle Jake. Bro. Brooks mentioned that we now have three 60 year palm holders in our Club.

Uncle Jake reported that he and his beloved wife had celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary last week.

Bro. Yarry reported that he was still trying to get a stamp issued for the World's Fair. He reported that he will definitely have a special cachet. He also stated that the weekend, as planned at the Fair is being pursued quite strongly; also the work on the planning for our 30th Anniversary Dinner.

Bro. Peck reported that the response to the offering of the new Masonic Cachets has been exceedingly good.

Bro. Rosenbaum stated that his recent coin show had been a big success, and that he had reserved a table for us there.

Bro. Salomon next introduced the Past Presidents who all brought something from their collections. Bro. Glaser displayed some rare and early airmail covers from Colombia. His material included covers carried by Knox Martin and other well-known flyers of the day. His talk and descriptions of his material were, as usual, outstanding.

Bro. Sam Brooks showed part of his Masonic demonstration collection. His talk was instructive and very educational. Incidentally, one of the stamps used to illustrate Bro. Washington is one of the finest copies of U.S. #2 that there is to be seen.

Bro. Yarry showed a very detailed group from his large collection of the one penny blues of Great Britain. He demonstrated the plating of this interesting stamp and told how to identify the different plates. He also explained the different cancellations and how to identify most of the crosses, which were used as cancellers.

Bro. Reggel filled two frames from his complete collection of United Nations. His particularly fine showing of

tab singles was quite an eye-opener. His copy of the 1½¢ pre-cancel on official U.N. stationery is also a coveted item.

Bro. Swan showed selections from his large Masonic Collection. His group consisted mainly of postcards and covers showing Masonic corner cards.

Bro. Sehlmeier displayed his collection of the new Red Cross Centennial stamps that are now being issued. He also showed some covers which he had purchased at the ASDA Show, the most interesting one being a postcard flown at an early flight at Garden City, New York in 1911.

After exchange of felicitations of the season, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.—Stanley A. Salomon, Secretary.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

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Glenarm, Maryland 21057
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