



# The Masonic Philatelist

VOL. 24

NOVEMBER 1967

NO. 3

## A.S.D.A. SHOW COVERS



Masonic Cachets Prepared by Fleetwood, full details will be sent to all members by Bro. Peck soon, and remember to visit our booth at the ASDA show, November 17-19, at the Armory, Park Avenue and 34th Street in New York City, N.Y.

# The MASONIC PHILATELIST

NOVEMBER 1967  
VOL. 24 No. 3

★ ★ ★ ★

Published by  
The Ralph A. Barry - Al Van Dahl  
PUBLICATION FUND

of Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc.  
22 East 35th St., New York, N. Y. 10016

★ ★ ★ ★

DUDLEY HILBORN  
Editor

★ ★ ★ ★

## OFFICERS 1967-1968

President ..... Joseph Munk  
1st Vice-President ..... Peter I. Lee  
2nd Vice-President ..... Louis Bernstein  
Secretary ..... Milton C. Tunick  
Treasurer ..... Dudley Hilborn  
Chaplain ..... Stanley A. Salomon  
Curator of Archives ..... G. H. Wettach

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ONE YEAR —  
Louis Bernstein, Dudley Hilborn, H. C. Walton  
TWO YEARS —  
E. R. Reggle, I. M. Yarry, E. Milnor Peck  
THREE YEARS —  
Jos. N. Kane, Jos. H. Levinsohn, W. Arnold  
Sinder

## COMMITTEES

Membership ..... Peter I. Lee  
Publication — S. Duffield Swan, Irwin M. Yarry,  
Dudley Hilborn  
Financial — M. C. Tunick, Norman Sehlmeier,  
D. Hilborn  
Ritual — Irwin M. Yarry, Emanuel Reggel, Nor-  
man Sehlmeier  
Exhibition ..... George H. Wettach, L. Bernstein  
Photography ..... I. Bernstein  
Cachet ..... E. M. Peck  
Dinner ..... Irwin M. Yarry, E. M. Reggel  
Publicity ..... Joseph H. Levinsohn

## BY THE SIGN OF THE GAVEL

At our next meeting we will have our favorite Page Night. I am sure that many brethren have some unusual philatelic item they want to display and share the pleasure with others.

Please start getting together lots for our White Elephant night. We would like this one to be the biggest yet. Announcement will be made at a later date with regard to the location where the event will take place.

I mentioned in the October issue that we will have a lounge at the A.S.D.A. show, and hope to greet and welcome many brethren who will visit the event.

The Thanksgiving holiday is on the way and I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a very

## ★ MEETINGS ★

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

festive and happy occasion. Let us give thanks on this appropriate holiday for the privilege of enjoying life in our country. Let us give thanks that we can bring up our children in freedom from fear and persecution, and in freedom in the pursuit of happiness.

—Joseph Munk

## LET'S MAKE A DATE IN '68

Wednesday, January 3, sail with the Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officers of New York State and other notables of the United States to sun lanes of the Caribbean. Receptions for all—one class no matter what price you pay, special gifts for the ladies, best Broadway entertainment, no other cruise like this cruise for Masons and all their friends. Return to New York, Tuesday, January 16. The best Ports will be made including: Panama, Caracas, Venezuela.

Write immediately for rates and information to:

**Empire State Mason Cruise Committee**  
71 West 23rd Street  
New York City, New York 10010  
or call  
ORegion 5-3720 — Extension 40

Peter I. Lee receives his 50-year pin from the Grand Lodge, on Nov. 10, 1967 at Sunset Lodge, Bay Ridge Masonic Temple, 257 Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, New York.

Westminster Abbey appears on the New Zealand 8d stamp of the 1953 coronation set. Also called the Collegiate Church of St. Peter, in it has been consecrated many Masonic bishops and many of its deans have been Masons. Two kings, who were Masons, were crowned in the Abbey. It is the resting place of others.

Swiss Mason Jean Henri Dunant founded the Red Cross—he appears on many, many stamps.

Back numbers of the Philatelist are available for 25¢ from Peter I. Lee, 1235 Grand Concourse, New York City, New York 10452.

# Search for Masonic Stamps

Marshall S. Loke

Although Masonic philately ranks high in popularity and has helped many collectors get more enjoyment from postage stamps, there are a great many of them, members of the Craft, who have not yet entered this field.

Whatever one's major philatelic efforts may be, it is suggested that a trial accumulation of Masonry on stamps can offer a refreshing diversion. It can be started in most cases from surplus stock on hand.

The general collector should find among his unmounted duplicates a whole array of stamps of the world with which to begin and from that beginning build an outstanding topical collection.

Portraits of famous men who were Masons are definitely acceptable, especially when accompanied by appropriate write-up. Stamps that are tied in some way with some aspect of Freemasonry are good material.

Several countries picture the Holy Bible to which a page can be devoted. The great cathedrals of Europe are illustrative of operational masonry, and the cedars of Lebanon are well represented on the Lebanese issues.

The square and compasses, trowel and other tools, as well as the numerous symbols of Masonry, are to be found on stamps of many countries. Honduras, Cuba, and Surinam are some which show Masonic Temples.

More than a dozen of our Presidents (Washington through Truman) were Masons. Naval heroes from John Paul Jones to Admiral Byrd, and army men from Greene and Putnam to Pershing and Marshall were likewise.

Names like Franklin, Revere, Lewis and Clark, Houston, Clemens, Burbank, Sousa, Rogers, Gompers, Mayo, which appear on stamps, certainly are desirable in a Masonic collection—not to overlook Lafayette and the Champions of Liberty, San Martin, Bolivar, Kosuth and Garibaldi.

Freemasonry, being worldwide, leaves a vast range in which to work. Masonic royalty is represented by such as Haakon VII of Norway, Oscar II, Gustavus V and Gustaf VI of Sweden, Frederick VIII, and Christian X of Denmark, George II of Greece, Frederick the Great of Prussia, and Edward VII, George VI and Edward VIII of England.

Other well known British Freemasons include Burns, Raffles, Rhodes, Scott,

Shackleton, and Churchill.

Among Masonic personalities on Continental stamps, good examples are Czech President Benes; Mozart and Haydn, Austria; Liszt and Kossuth, Hungary; Lessing and Goethe, Germany; Sibelius, Finland; Voltaire, France; and so on, over the civilized globe.

To make an intelligible presentation, a brief write-up about the person(s) shown is in order. No matter how renowned his name, a few words about his connection with the Fraternity will establish his eligibility to a place in a Masonic stamp collection and at the same time make the display understandable to a less informed viewer.

If one cares to add covers of Masonic interest, they, too, are desirable whether they be of centennials or of such events as the laying of cornerstones, the dedication of new Masonic Temples or to honor a prominent brother.

Some collectors save "corner cards," i.e., the return address on the upper left corner of envelopes from Masonic organizations wherever they exist. Others go for covers with Masonic cancellations, and some acquire the postmarks of post offices with names peculiar to Masonry.

With so many philatelists now enjoying this highly specialized hobby, large numbers of them have taken advantage of membership in Masonic stamp clubs. Some clubs publish a monthly periodical which goes to all members.

Cities where Masonic stamp clubs are located include Cleveland, Ohio; Denver, Colo.; New York, N.Y.; New Orleans, La.; Philadelphia, Pa.; Rochester, N.Y.; St. Louis, Mo., and Washington, D.C. to list a few.

Occasional Masonic biographies appear in "Topical Time" magazine, and Handbooks No. 29 and 43 on "Masonic Stamps of the World" are available from the ATA, 3306 N. 50 St., Milwaukee, Wis. 53216.

Questions on the subject, along with a stamped reply envelope, may be addressed to the writer or to ATA's Topical Information Service.

Robert Falcon Scott of London was a member of Drury Lane Lodge. He reached the South Pole five weeks after its discovery by Amundsen in 1912.

## The Man of Destiny

If it be true that a "dreamer" has been responsible for most of the progressive movements in history, then it can truly be said that the dream of Oliver Hudson Kelley played a large part in the great fraternity that has so richly blessed the rural life of USA under the name of the "Patrons of Husbandry" — better known as the GRANGE, the "family organization."

In a little cottage on a quaint Boston street Kelley first saw the light of day—in 1826. He inherited those qualities of love, of liberty, independence and progress typical of early New England. He soon caught the spirit of the westward movement.

### Ohio Played a Role

When 23, Kelley married Lucy Earle of Chillicothe, Ohio, but fate was unkind—she died two years later, leaving an infant daughter. Later he married Temperance Lane of Boston who became a powerful factor in his service to Rural America. They had four daughters.

Father Kelley, as Patrons know him today, was an Episcopalian and a Republican, but more of a humanitarian philosopher than either a sectarian or a partisan.

Kelley went to Chicago as a reporter; then to Peoria, Illinois, where he is credited with being the first telegraph operator to read messages by sound instead of from the tape. Later he took up a claim at Itasca, Minnesota, on the Mississippi. He owned and operated the first reaping machine in the state and built the first frame barn. Also was the first person initiated into the Masonic fraternity. The farm is now a historical site—those attending the 100th session of National Grange in November will visit it.

Oliver Hudson Kelley wrote many articles for farm papers which were so widely read that the Department of Agriculture gave him a clerkship in 1864. Later President Andrew Jackson used Kelley to make a survey of agricultural conditions in the South to hasten rehabilitation after the Civil War. This trip intensified his conception of a nation-wide organization of farmers, but not merely a loosely bound group. Instead the vision of a rural fraternity took shape and he was determined to make it a reality, with an aim to educate and elevate the American farmer. Whether or not the farmer really wanted to be educated and elevated to the extent Kelly was



planning may have been in doubt; but this aggressive "dreamer" believed that farmers could be shown, and show them he would!

Thus Father Kelley became a crusader with a burning purpose, and no one could deter him!

### The Seven Founders

No man ever attains great accomplishments alone. The greatest of all Teachers needed 12 disciples. Every leader must have faithful workers in the execution of well-thought-out plans. So Kelley had the assistance of fellow associates in government, generally referred to, along with Kelley, as the "Seven Founders of the Grange." These were men of faith in the idea which mounted almost to inspiration. As they met, idea after idea was advanced, only to be cast aside in the consuming furnace of constructive criticism. Gradually there emerged a well-balanced scheme of organization—different from any rural organization that has since appeared or is now existing in USA or in the world.

It was the first farm-rural fraternity with a constitution and ritualism drawing inspiration from Nature and Nature's God, with a social and educational program seeking to elevate its membership, rural life and mankind; with a public program striving for equality for agriculture, a square deal for rural life; with a service program for economic improvement and community betterment.

The Grange is unique in admitting women to full voting power and official equality with men—THE family organization.

The Grange places the open Bible on its altar and the flag of the re-

public in the meeting room. It makes the Word of God and the flag the ensign that should be over the hearthstone and in the hearts of all Patrons.

So dreamed Father Kelley; so has the Grange lived, served, and developed rural USA for 99 years.—Adapted from "The Grange — Friend of the Farmer."



### FORT MASONIC

R. W. Wilmer E. Bresee  
Senior Grand Warden

When we hear of the wars of the United States, the War of 1812 gets but little mention, yet Masonically it should get more. The masonic affiliations of many of the participants, and the active share that our Grand Lodge took in the measures for the protection of the City of New York, gave Masonry a proud role that we are glad to recall.

Charles T. McClenachan, in his History of Freemasonry in the State of New York, Vol. II, tells us something of the events of a war that was a real trial of the strength of the new United States, and of its resolution to remain an independent country. Among the Masonic soldiers he writes about are General Macomb, identified in Conover's Freemasonry in Michigan as Master of Zion Lodge, Detroit and General Andrew Jackson, who was a member of Harmony Lodge 1, Nashville, Tennessee, as early as 1800, was elected an honorary member of Federal Lodge 1, Tallahassee, Florida, and was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee from October 7, 1822 to October 4, 1823.

Masonry's Role in the struggle is

further described in Volume I of the History of Freemasonry in New York, by Peter Ross. "War was no sooner declared (June 19, 1812) than the fact was appreciated that the State of New York would be one at least of its battlegrounds, and that the City of New York, with its rich commercial stores and its general wealth, would probably be one of the ports which the British would try to acquire."

### MASONRY AND G.A.R.

Masonic principles were imbued into the G.A.R. (No. 985) when it was formed in 1866 by veterans of the Union Army in the Civil War for the purpose of aiding worthy distressed veterans, their widows and orphans. Masons charted the course of the organization during its infancy. Brethren developed the early ritual which not only was patterned after that of the Craft with three degrees (Recruit, Soldier and Veteran, each with its sign, grip and password) but which took many phrases from Masonry.

The first G.A.R. post was established April 6, 1866, at Decatur, Ill. Capt. M. F. Kanan, a member of Macon Lodge No. 8 of Decatur, was the first commander. Posts were formed elsewhere and on July 12, 1866 a state organization was set up. Maj. Gen. John M. Palmer, a member of Mount Nebo Lodge No. 76, Carlinville, Ill., and a Past Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, was named first state commander.

The movement spread rapidly to other states. On November 20, 1866, the national organization was formed. Brig. Gen. Stephen A. Hurlbut, a member of Belvidere Lodge No. 60 of Belvidere, Ill., and also a Past Grand Orator, was elected the first national commander-in-chief.

A year later, Gen. Hurlbut was succeeded by Maj. Gen. John A. Logan. Gen. Logan was re-elected twice and he is regarded as the most outstanding leader the Grand Army of the Republic ever had. Memorial Day as a national holiday for honoring the heroic dead was the outcome of his efforts.

Gen. Logan was raised in Mitchell Lodge No. 85, Pinckneyville, Ill., and affiliated with Benton (Ill.) Lodge No. 64, in 1851. At his death he also was a member of Washington Chapter No. 43, R.A.M.; Chevalier Bayard Commandery No. 52, K.T., and the Scottish Rite Bodies, all of Chicago. He was elected to receive the 33°, but died before the honor could be conferred.

In an address, he outlined the three-fold objectives of the G.A.R.: "Fraternity among its members which shall bind them together in one great brotherhood; the exercise of Charity in its broadest sense of liberal distributions to and sympathy for those in want and distress; and, unswerving Loyalty to our government and its great principles, coupled with a determination to maintain its integrity unimpaired."

There were 2,675,000 men who fought on the Union side during the war. Today, there are none living, but the Masonic principles under which they banded together will never die.—Mirt.



#### FOR DAVY CROCKETT

Another fine stamp in the folklore series, is the recent 5¢ commemorative for Davy Crockett on the 181st birthday of the hunter, scout, warrior, and Congressman from the Tennessee backwoods, who died in defense of the Alamo, March 6, 1836.

Colonel Crockett's motto was: "Be sure you're right, then go ahead." He was born in eastern Tennessee in 1786. When he was eight, Davy was hunting with a long rifle, his father saying that if Davy missed a squirrel he missed his dinner for wasting a shot. Davy learned to read and write while Justice of the Peace and was elected to the House of Representatives in 1827 in Tennessee. Appearing in Congress in his usual coonskin cap, fringed buckskin and moccasins, he thrilled and delighted Washington, D.C., with his strange attire and backwoods humor. He was respected for his strong common sense and shrewdness and prided himself on his independence. However, his opposition to President Andrew Jackson's policy of moving the Indians to lands west of the Mississippi cost him his congressional seat in 1835.

A legend in his own time, Davy is still a legend because he was the type of man about whom stories are naturally told. Davy described himself before the House of Representatives

like this: "In one word, I'm a screamer. I've got the roughest racking horse, the prettiest sister, the surest rifle and the ugliest dog in the district. My father can whip any man in Tennessee, and I can lick my father. I can give any man on this floor two hours start, and outspoke him. I can run faster, dive deeper, stay under longer, and come up drier than any man this side of the Big Swamp. I can outgrin a panther and outstare a flash of lightning, tote a steamboat on my back and play at rough and tumble with a lion with a kick now and then from a zebra."

In a letter written to his children on January 9, 1836, less than two months before he died in the Alamo, Davy wrote, "... I must say as to what I have seen of Texas, it is the garden spot of the world, the best land and the best prospects for health I ever saw is here."

Today, Texans enjoy "the best land" there is because of such a man as Davy Crockett, who died in one of the most heroic struggles in the annals of mankind.—Ralph W. Yarborough, United States Senate.

#### SPIRITUAL MESSAGE

We are indebted to Bro. Douglas Murison of Temperley, Argentinia, for the following interesting and enlightening item which points out differences in symbolisms in American and English rituals:

On first contemplating the 3d stamp of Great Britain's "Peace and Reconstruction" issue of 1946 (No. 265), one is prompted to the conclusion that a Freemason designed it but, bristling as it is with Masonic symbols, the idea is immediately dismissed—it is almost too revealing!

Yet, further contemplation of this stamp, so full of Masonic interest, makes one incline again towards this first conclusion: Why should not a Freemason make use of the Dove, the Square, the Compasses and the Trowel to serve the dual purpose of conveying his message to the initiated and to the uninitiated, because the reconstruction of the wrecked world after World War II had to be undertaken both materially and spiritually? Each of the two stamps of this issue clearly, unmistakably and symbolically portray these aspects, especially to the Freemason, although they are officially designated as "Reconstruction Abroad" and "Reconstruction at Home." The latter description refers to the stamp we are studying, but only the



Freemason can read the spiritual message.

The message is rightfully conveyed to us through the medium of the Dove, symbolizing to all, initiated and uninitiated, Peace. Royal Ark Mariners will appreciate the happy deliverance associated with it, and it must not be forgotten that it is also the Lodge messengers' badge, that is to say, of the Senior and Junior Deacons. (\*)

The inclusion of the trowel in the design of this 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 other jurisdictions and possesses deep esoteric meaning.

In the United States, the Trowel is, by the lesson it teaches, deservedly a principal Working Tool. In New Zealand and Scotland, it is the jewel of the Junior Deacon. It is employed in certain additional degrees and in some English Craft Lodges that still work their own ancient ritual. Outside the ritual though, the Trowel comes into its own among Freemasons during the ceremonies of cornerstone laying.

It is to be greatly lamented that such an implement, typical of the layer, as distinct from the hewer, of stones, should have been dropped from our (English) ritual, especially when we remember that Monarchs themselves have not thought it derogatory to their dignity to exchange the Scepter for the Trowel.

In times gone by, the Inner Tiler (now known as the Inner Guard) used a pointed Trowel in lieu of the sword with which all Masons of

(\*) The Dove is found on Deacons' rods in English Lodges, and also is a symbol in Royal Ark Mariners, a "side" degree in English and Scottish Freemasonry.

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 Compasses, 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 Fellowcrafts' Degree.

There still remains one more item of consideration—the small piece of brickwork portrayed in the lower left-hand corner of the stamp. We can look upon this as the Mark Master Masons' Working Plan, or as the Trestleboard found in United States Lodges. It is the plan to which we must conform our work, even our spiritual work.

The last communication of his late Majesty, King George VI, shown on the stamp, 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."

Is it not possible that our worthy and well-beloved Sovereign and Brother read this message from the 3d postage stamp of Great Britain's "Peace and Reconstruction" issue? Whether this is so, or not, the stamp faithfully illustrates that beautiful message which will be remembered and recalled throughout the ages whenever Freemasons meet.

(To this might be added the information that the curled line on the stamp may be likened to the cable-town which symbolically ties the candidate to the Fraternity. Likewise, the companion 2½d stamp [No. 264] with its drawings also may be reminding of the designs on the Trestleboard.—Mirt.)

## GREEKS IN MASONRY

Masons figured in the political history of Greece before and after the turn of the 20th century. King George I, who reigned from 1863 until his assassination in 1913, was born in Denmark and was initiated into Freemasonry in that country. His oldest son, who succeeded him as Constantine I, was made a Mason "at sight" by the Greek Grand Master who in turn also had been made a Mason "at sight" by Lord Dalhousie, Grand Master of Scotland. Constantine in 1922 abdicated in favor of his son, George II who at the time of his death in 1947 was in exile in England, where he held the rank of Past Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of England. Another

Mason, Eleutherios Venizelos, dominated the Greek political scene during the early part of the 20th century and during the latter part of World War I was virtually the ruler of Greece.

King George I is shown on the 20d Greek stamps of 1939 (No. 418-420) and numerous Crete stamps; Constantine I on Greek 3d and 8d stamps of 1936 (No. 389-390) and 1.50d and 30d stamps of 1938 (No. 414-415); George II on a series of four stamps in 1937 (No. 391-394), on a memorial series of three stamps in 1947 (No. 498-500), and a 10 lepta Crete stamp of 1904 (No. 76); Venizelos on Greece 130d and 300d issues of 1946 (No. 482-483).

#### **MASONIC INTEREST IN POLAR STAMPS**

There is Masonic interest attached to the 3½d stamp issued by Australia. The stamp shows a map of the Antarctic continent and the South Pole, in the exploration of which Masons have played an important role.

Robert Falcon Scott, a member of Drury Lane Lodge No. 2127, London, reached the South Pole only five weeks after it was discovered by Amundsen in 1912. Scott perished on a return trip two months later.

Rear Adm. Richard E. Byrd, a member of Elisha Kent Kane Lodge No.

454, New York (named after a Mason who was an early explorer of the Arctic regions) made the first aerial flight over the South Pole in 1929. Adm. Byrd dropped a Masonic flag as he flew over the pole. His companion on the trip was Bernt Balchen, member of Norseman Lodge No. 878, Brooklyn, the Scottish Rite Bodies of New York and Kismet Shrine Temple, Brooklyn. Bro. Balchen dropped his Shrine fez over the pole.

Byrd made further expeditions to the Antarctic. He informed this writer that on one of these expeditions, the majority of his crew were Masons. These men assembled a Little America in the South Polar region on February 5, 1935, as the First Antarctic Lodge No. 777, New Zealand Constitution. Thus, Freemasonry was carried into the frozen lands of the South Pole.

Little America is pictured on a 3¢ stamp issued by the United States in 1933 in connection with Adm. Byrd's second Antarctic trip. In this writer's collection is a cover bearing this stamp and postmarked "Little America, Antarctica, Jan. 31, 8:00 p.m., 1934." Some years ago, Adm. Byrd on a visit to Chicago autographed this cover for me. The design of the stamp, No. 733, was repeated in a souvenir sheet in 1934 (No. 735) and in a special printing in 1935 (No. 753).