BY THE SIGN OF THE GAVEL

At our June meeting, I was elected president of the club. I consider it an honor and a privilege to be called upon to serve our Brothers.

As we begin this new season, I wish to emphasize the fact that this is your club. In order to continue our fine work, our editor, Brother Roy Ketcham, needs the support of all members. He must have articles, news items of Masonic interest, etc., for our publication, The Masonic Philatelist. If you have any material, please send it to him.

I would like you to write and tell us what we can do to improve our club.

I hope that all members have had a healthy and pleasant summer. I am looking forward to greeting you at our first meeting of the season on September 10th.

—EMANUEL M. REGGEL

REGGEL ELECTED PRESIDENT

At the June meeting of The Masonic Stamp Club, the nominating committee presented their slate of officers for the year ending June 1972.

Elected President was Emanuel Reggel, who is one of the hardest workers in the organization. Manny has served the club for over 30 years, in various capacities. This veteran philatelist and Mason has been on practically every type committee at one time or another from membership to dinner chairman. He is a past president as well as a long-time member of the board of directors. The club can be assured of another successful year under the able leadership of Brother Reggel.

Robert A. Smith was nominated and elected First Vice-President. For the past two years Bob has served as secretary of The Masonic Stamp Club, and has done an admirable job. He is also a Past Master of his lodge. His experience in the fraternity and club gives him excellent credentials for fulfilling his new job for the year ahead.

Re-elected as Second Vice-President is George H. Wettach. George is also a worker in his lodge and in the local stamp club in New Jersey where he lives. His ideas will be a great asset to the organization for the year ending in June 1972.

Our Junior Past President Edwin Mayer accepted the nomination as treasurer, having completed two years as leader of the club. His record speaks for itself. This, plus his many years in the business world, qualifies him to do an extra fine job in the office to which he was elected.

Brother Charles Morris, a newer
member to the club, was nominated and elected secretary. With the guidance of Past Secretary Bob Smith, there is no doubt in anybody's mind that Charlie will be able to carry out the duties which this office requires.

Directors elected to serve for a three year term were Yale Shapiro, Joe Levinson and Roy T. Ketcham.

The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc. is fortunate to be able to have such a distinguished group of Masons and stamp collectors to serve it and all the members for the next 12 months. President Reggel was proud to have these gentlemen to back him during his term as the executive officer of the club.

MASONIC HOME STAMP CLUB EXHIBIT

The Masonic Home Stamp Club had a topical stamp exhibit in the Vrooman Building for St. John's Day. Many visitors who viewed this exhibit commended the club for their efforts.

Represented in the exhibit were Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Baker, Dr. Robert Zobel, Mrs. Edith Carr, Mrs. Margaret Bushman, Mrs. Jessie Grounder, Mrs. Martha Friddle, Mrs. Selma Davies, Mrs. Nettie Gilbert, Mr. Elmer Hughes and Mrs. Tom Woodruff. An album of foreign stamps belonging to George Hill was also on display.

In the museum, portions of a collection given by Ben Lipset of New York City was on exhibit, as was the philatelic map and Famous Masons First Day Covers.

Emanuel Reggel and Yale Shapiro, representing The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, visited this new club and presented them with some of the Masonic cachets that had been issued during the last few years. Brother Reggel addressed the club and talked on the fun of collecting stamps.

Any brothers having duplicate stamps can donate them to this stamp club, made up of some of the guests at the home. They can be sent to The Masonic Home, 2150 Bleecker St., Utica, N.Y. 13502, Attention Stamp Club.

Photographs taken by Brother Reggel of the members of this newest philatelic club can be seen on page 4 and 5.

SCOTT CATALOGUES

Scott Publishing Company announces that the 1972 "Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue" will be published in three volumes of approximately equal size, each retailing at $3.00.

The three-volume format supersedes the two-volume editions of the Scott Catalogue that have appeared annually for just less than 30 years.

Record production of new stamps all over the world made necessary adoption of a two-volume for the 1943 edition. Continued record production of new stamps now makes a three-volume catalogue expedient.

There will be no combined edition of the 1972 Scott Catalogue with all listings in a single volume.

Certain changes in the arrangements of the Scott Catalogue will make their debut as the 128th edition appears in three volumes.

Volume I will contain the listings of the stamps of the United States and its possessions, the United Nations, British Commonwealth of Nations, Central America and the Latin West Indies.

Volumes II and III will contain, in alphabetical order, the listings of stamps of other countries of the world, including the 10 South American republics: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Volume II will include countries from Afars and Issas thru Yugoslavia.

Volume III will contain the listings of countries from Karelia through Zambia.

A further innovation in the 1972 Scott Catalogue will be the grouping of the Old German States for listing with Germany. The Italian States will also be grouped and listed with Italy.

Instead of the traditional hard covers the 1972 Scott Catalogue will have Lexotone binding, reducing the bulk and weight of the volumes materially.

Volume I will be published late August or early in September to launch a new philatelic season. Volume II will be on sale late in October and Volume III appears in November.

NEW MASONIC CACHETS

The Masonic Stamp Club of New York is proud to present a set of three new first day covers.

This trio honors Brother General Douglas MacArthur; Most Worshipful Harry S. Truman, and Brother Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd. The Masonic Philatelist has had articles about General MacArthur in recent issues and is including an interesting item about Admiral Byrd in this issue.

The price for the group is only two dollars. The supply is limited, and members of the club are being offered the first chance to purchase them. An order blank and envelope is enclosed for your convenience in ordering. Your check or money order should be made
Seated: Mrs. Bushman; standing: Miss Blatt, Yale Shapiro, and seated: Miss Polly.

Miss Blatt, Mrs. Griffith, Manny Reggel, Mrs. Woodruff and Mrs. Bushman.
From left to right: Mrs. Gilbert, Mr. Hughes and Mr. Zobel.

From left to right: Mr. Baker, Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Carr, Miss Polly and Mrs. Grounder.
payable to "The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc." and mailed to Edward Mayer, Penthouse, 225 West 34th St., New York, NY 10001.

Unique Lodge Meeting of Many Nations
Held by the Byrd Antarctic Expedition

Masonic Lodges have convened in many strange places and under countless peculiar circumstances. The cellars under Paris, the deserts of Africa and the catacombs of Rome have seen Lodges meeting to further the Craft.

Most unusual of all is the recent convocation of Antarctica Lodge No. 777, holding its first regular meeting at the South Pole. A freezing wind howls over the Antarctic wastes, driving the thermometer to 60 below, piling and packing the snow to make a veritable Lodgeroom of snowdrifts.

Reproduced below is a facsimile of the roster of the names of those who attended the first meeting of First Antarctica Lodge No. 777, New Zealand Constitution. Nine different jurisdictions were represented.

South Pole Minutes
A page of the minutes reads as follows:

February 5, 1935.

"Minutes of the First Antarctica Lodge No. 777, held in the messroom of the Expedition Ship S.S. Jacob Ruppert at the Ice Barrier Ross Sea, Lat. 78—South, Long. 173—30 West, on Feb. 5, 1935.

Lodge No. 454, New York City, U.S.A.; Bro. H. L. June, Kane Lodge 454, New York City, U.S.A.; Bro. L. Clark, Nassau 536, Brooklyn, U.S.A.

Antarctica Meeting

"Lodge was opened in the First Degree, and as this was the first and presumably the only meeting of the Lodge, the Secretary reported that there was no correspondence requiring attention. The Wor. Master, Bro. G. M. Mitchell, then delivered a lecture on 'The First Degree Tracing Board' from the Ritual of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, U.S.A. Fraternal greetings were then offered, by each brother present on behalf of his mother lodge. The lodge was closed in peace and harmony at 10:30 P.M. and at the request of the Bro. Junior Warden, all the brethren remained to partake of some refreshments.

Countries Honored

"Toasts were proposed during the evening honoring the countries of the attending brothers. Thus honored were King George V, King Haakon of Norway and President Franklin D. Roosevelt. This last toast was proposed by Bro. R. E. Byrd, leader of the expedition.

"The meeting closed with a vote of appreciation to the wives of Wellington, N.Z. brethren who provided the refreshment to be partaken at this South Pole meeting."

—Courtesy Masonic Craftsman and Pacific Lodge No. 136, F. & A. M.