

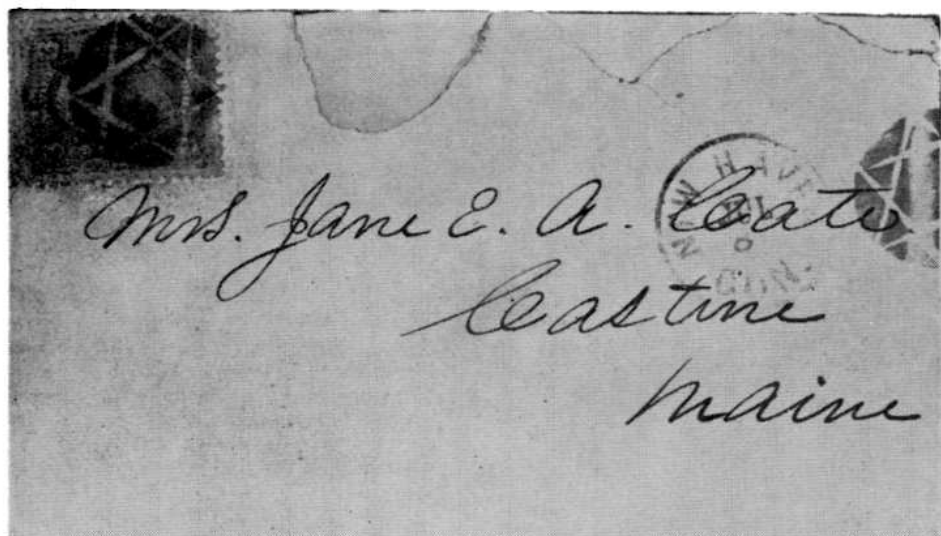


The Masonic Philatelist

VOL. 30

MARCH 1974

NO. 7



A cover mailed from New Haven, Connecticut to Castine, Maine, July 7, 1867, bearing the Star of David cancellation.

The MASONIC PHILATELIST

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ROBERT A. SMITH

Guest Editor

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The Masonic Stamp Club of New York was organized in 1934 for the purpose of encouraging research and study in Masonic Philately, and to establish bonds of good fellowship among Masons who are stamp collectors. The need for the organization has proved itself through the years with its ever-increasing membership and the formation of other Masonic stamp clubs in the United States.

★ MEETINGS ★

First Friday of Every Month
(Except July and August)

COLLECTORS CLUB BUILDING
22 East 35th St., N.Y., N.Y. 10017

From the Editor —

I wish to thank all who have helped make my job as editor a little bit easier by contributing articles for the Philatelist. Our Treasurer Charles Morris, Walter C. Marshall, Elwing D. Carlson, and Marshall E. Loke. Bro. Loke has always been a regular contributor to the Masonic Philatelist over the years, and it is always an honor to receive his articles again. Many thanks Marshall!

In our December issue, a checklist of the Masonic Philatelist was published on page 7. This painstaking job was accomplished by Charles Morris, Treasurer. On behalf of the entire club, I wish to express my sincere thanks and many kudos.

Bro. George Wettach would like our members to participate in BEPEX 1974, which is holding its Fortieth Anniversary Exhibition at Garden State Plaza, Civic Auditorium, Routes 4 and 17, Paramus, N. J. 07652, on March 14, 15, 16, 1974. This is an annual event which George would like to see more of our members participate in showing their topical collections and by attending the show. The Masonic Stamp Club of New York gives an award for the best Masonic collection. For those interested in obtaining frames at BEPEX, they should write to Mr. Werner Vogel, Treasurer, Box 195, Fairview, New Jersey 07022.

Bowling Green Station
Robert A. Smith
Editor
Box 142

NEW MEMBERS

Edmund F. Dawes, Longmeadow Lodge, Longmeadow, Mass.

Walter A. Koob, Midwood Lodge No. 310, Queens Village, N. Y.

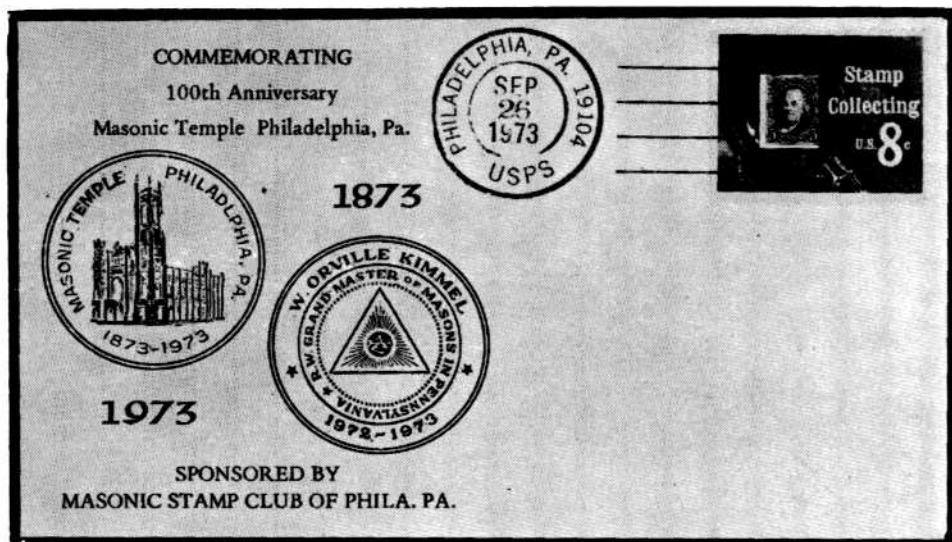
Harold M. Brodsky, Hannatt Lodge & Hamilton Lodge No. 15 (R.I.), Hyde Park, Mass.

DECEASED MEMBERS

Paul Nagel, Chicago, Illinois.

William G. Koppelmeyer, Madison, Wisconsin.

"May their souls rest
in everlasting peace."



The Masonic Temple of Philadelphia is the largest and most costly edifice ever erected for the exclusive uses of the Masonic Fraternity. The ground on which it stands was purchased July 1, 1867 and has a frontage on four streets—one hundred and fifty feet on Broad and Juniper Streets, respectively—and two hundred and forty-five feet on Filbert and Cuthbert Streets, the Temple occupying the entire block. The cornerstone was laid June 24, 1868, and the Temple was completed and dedicated September 26, 1873, the cost up to that date being \$1,569,092. Over two million dollars have since been expended on alterations, improvements, and decorations. It is a perfect type of Norman architecture, and was built of Quincy and Fox Island granite. In its constructions and in its furnishings none but the best and most durable materials were used, and, after a lapse of 100 years, not a fault has been discovered in the structure. It is a lasting monument to the fraternity it represents.

1873

Samuel C. Perkins
 Alfred R. Potter
 Robert Clark
 James M. Porter
 Thomas Brown
 John Thompson

R. W. Grand Master
 R. W. Deputy Grand Master
 R. W. Senior Grand Warden
 R. W. Junior Grand Warden
 R. W. Grand Treasurer
 R. W. Grand Secretary

1973

W. Orville Kimmel
 Rochester B. Woodall
 John L. McCain
 Walter P. Wells
 Arthur R. Diamond
 Ashby B. Paul

THE MYSTIC CHAIN

I am proud and happy that in my beloved Lodge we still use in the closing ceremony what is known as the Mystic Chain. It is a symbolic act in the Masonic ritual used only in some of the Grand Lodges, mostly at the end of a meeting. This practice is unknown in England, but is well known in France, Germany and other romantic countries.

Amelia Lodge of Weimar, Germany, was closed in the early 1800's because of differences of opinion amongst the Brethren. The world famous poet, Goethe, was very instrumental in the re-opening of his Lodge. Another Brother of this Lodge was Kornelius Ridel (1759-1821) who wrote a paper in 1817

on the beauty of the Chain, and how a candidate in the moment he received light was standing with his brethren in the formed chain.

In this connection it also comes to mind that Goethe refused to be brought to the Lodge blindfolded and gave his word of honor that he would keep his eyes closed. The forming of the chain was not known in all Lodges, but the Duke of Braunschweig instructed his Brothers about it. The Odd-Fellows wear three links of chain as insignia, and these are named Friendship, Love and Truth.

In my Mother Lodge we had a specific way to remember brethren who left us for the Eternal East. The Chain would

be formed by the brethren with one spot left open while the Master held the Eulogy in honor of the deceased Brother. Afterwards the chain was closed because this mystic chain should never be broken.

I feel sorry that many Lodges do not use this part of the ritual because it is my belief that this moment is one of the highlights of the end of a meeting where the closeness of Brother to Bro-

ther can not be better explained than by this gesture. It is as if we would shake hands with each of our brothers which we could not otherwise do. In modern times a lot of feeling is lost. But let us remember that 150 years ago, a Mason rode out into the night on horseback for 10 or more miles only to be together with his friends and Brethren.

W.M. WALTER C. MARSHALL

MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK

Fascinating Facts and Intimate Incidents

About

STAMPS and PEOPLE

(Continued from February issue)

His ex-Majesty King Alphonse XIII of Spain

has been a collector for many years. He collects generally, but since his coronation has specialized in the stamps of Spain and her Colonies, Portugal and France.

Other Royal Collectors

are the Crown Prince of Sweden, Prince Otto of Hungary, King Carol of Roumania, Prince Fushimi of Japan.

The World's Greatest Collector

was undoubtedly Philip la Renotiere von Ferrari. He was the son of the famous Duchess de Galliera, one of the richest women of Europe who owned a large portion of Genoa, Italy.

The Duchesse resided chiefly in Paris and had a magnificent mansion at 57 Rue de Varenne. This mansion she left to the Austrian Government for its embassy in France. She made a condition in the gift that her son, Philip, should have the use of one wing of this mansion. There I visited him on countless occasions between 1888 and 1914.

On the first floor there were two rooms used entirely for his collection. The first and larger room was for his adhesive stamps and the smaller one for his collections of envelopes, cards and other entires.

There was a curious little contraption in front of the desk of his private secretary, Pierre Mahe. There was a board on the wall and in it a row of sharp pointed nails. On there every Monday morning, M. Progin, the treasurer of the

household, used to fix up bundles of French bank notes of 20, 50, 100, 500 and 1000 franc denominations. The regular amount placed here each Monday was 50,000 francs, then about \$9,750.00. We could, any of us, make quite a decent collection today with that amount at our disposal every week.

In his early days Ferrari laid the foundation of his great collection by purchasing some of the most famous collections formed during the period 1860-1885. Among these were those of Baron Rothschild of Paris, Judge F. A. Phillbrick of London, Sir Daniel Cooper, Governor of New South Wales, etc., etc.

When the Great War broke out the French Government confiscated this great collection as by birth on his father's side was Austrian. The collection was sold at fourteen sales, by auction held in Paris and extending over three years. The total amount realized was \$1,632,524.00.

T. K. Tapling, M.P.

was head of the great firm of wholesale carpet manufacturers and a well known member of British Parliament. He died in 1891 and left his magnificent collection of postage stamps to the trustees of the British Museum. This has been arranged in a series of fine cabinets and is shown in the center of the Kings Library in the museum. In the issues up to 1890 it is one of the outstanding collections of the world and is today worth considerably over a million dollars.

* * *

In this country there are many of the

greatest collectors of the world. A number of these collections are valued at a million dollars each and upwards.

Among the best known of these is Colonel E. H. R. Green, who has collected for many years and who has purchased many superb specialized collections and amalgamated them with his own.

One of the greatest collectors of this country is the well known forestry authority, Mr. Charles Lathrop Pack of Lakewood, N. J. Mr. Pack is probably the only American collector who corresponds personally with King George V. One letter he has written in the King's own hand, running to several pages, on the subject of plating the early stamps of Victoria.

The greatest democracy that we know is Philately. Men collect stamps in every civilized nation—they meet and enjoy each others company because they are philatelists. I think, perhaps, they are wise because they do not trust telegraph wires on important messages. Fred Melville once telegraphed home that the party had arrived all right. The message was delivered as, "Arrived all tight." In another case a young married man arrived home to find that his wife had presented him with twins. He dashed off to the telegraph office to send a message to his parents and you can imagine their surprise when they received a message reading, "Twins today, more tomorrow."

The Reverend Dr. James, a famous headmaster of Rugby, in an introduction he wrote to a book I published, says: "I have encouraged many a boy to collect. I think it is a great thing for a schoolboy to have a hobby that will employ him in hours not marked for work or reading. It will teach him a good deal of geography and history. The study of philately will teach the habit of close and accurate observation always so useful in all careers."

In starting to collect, the youth must have the right appliances. Talking of appliances reminds me of the story of the student who was asked to give an example of a commercial appliance used in ancient times and he gave as his answer, "The loose leaf system as used in the Garden of Eden."

The hobby of Philately falls under three heads: Educational, Aid of Health

and Investment.

Educational. It is a great help to a knowledge of geography. How many of us, who are non-collectors, know where such places are, as Azerbaijan, Castellorizo, Elobey, Kelantan, Sungei Ujong.

History. Portraits on our stamps show us many of our Presidents from Washington to Wilson and Harding. Our commemorative stamps depict many of the most important events in our history, such as, Declaration of Independence, Landing of Columbus, Founding of Jamestown in 1607, Battle of Lexington, Concord, Surrender of General Burgoyne. From French stamps we see the change from the Republic of 1849, Presidency of Louis Napoleon in 1852, Empire of Napoleon III from 1853, Republic of 1870, and then the special issues by the Germans in 1870-71 Alsace Lorraine.

Recently I was reading an article in "The Rotarian" written by Professor Thomas Arkle Clark, Dean of Men, University of Illinois. In this article he deals with the question of what businessmen can do when they retire, and he notes several cases of bankers and other professional men who, in their retirement, found time hanging on their hands, and finding the days long and boresome. They had nothing to do, no hobbies to ride, no diversion or occupation for their spare time, and this, in several cases led to early death.

Professor Clark went on to say, "Unoccupied leisure is deadly, stifling, fatal to life and happiness. If a man hasn't a hobby when he retires, he should at once begin to cultivate one, and the earlier in life he begins the better for him and for those with whom he is to associate."

What to Collect and Why?

I am often asked for advice as to what to collect and the reasons for what I may recommend, and then again a question is often raised as to what is likely to prove the soundest investment. In my long experience of some fifty years I have formed the opinion that the soundest investment and the one that can be the easiest realized is to collect the stamps of one's own country first and above all.

In Great Britain the stamps in constant demand are the British and then the chief British Colonies, especially

British North America, Cape of Good Hope, West Indies, Mauritius, and so on. In France, the collectors first preference is the stamps of France and the French Colonies. In Germany, Italy, Spain, South America, etc., the same rule applies. Even in a more marked degree does this apply in the United States. Here the great demand, be it for Pictures, Furniture, Prints, Books, Coins or Stamps, is for Americana.

During the four years of the great depression we saw stocks of all kinds selling for a tenth and less than the prices of 1929, and many billions of money were lost. What happened with stamps? First of all practically none of the big collectors realized their holdings, they sold millions of shares but held on to their stamps. Secondly—what collections did come on the market, by death or other reasons, realized good prices.

Take, for instance, the collection of United States sold in November 1933 of the late Arthur Hind. This realized \$245,000.00, a sum very little less than what it cost him, whereas his share holdings on an average at the time of his death would not have realized one-fourth of their cost price.

In collecting the stamps of the United States one has the opportunity to collect one or more of the many divisions into which it can be divided. The general great division is into stamps of the nineteenth or twentieth centuries. Both have much to recommend them.

Anyone with the necessary money can make a fairly complete collection of U.S. 20th Century in a few months. There are a few dozen elusive varieties that it takes time to secure, but in general 20th Century U.S. in fine condition can be easily had.

Far different is it with U.S. 19th Century—to get a good condition collection of all the chief varieties wants a keen hunter, lots of patience, and money. To my mind the chase is the thing, and half the fun of collecting is in the hunting.

Then again in 19th Century U.S. one can specialize in either unused, used, or stamps on covers. In unused one is limited to singles, and blocks and the different shades, printings and papers. In used there is tremendous scope for research and for hunting for fine and

rare cancellations—a branch of collecting in very great demand nowadays.

Another subdivision of U.S. 19th Century stamps is to collect the stamps issued in the Confederate States during the Civil War of 1861-1865. These are undoubtedly the most historical stamps in the 19th Century. From June 1st, 1861 the use of U.S. stamps was forbidden in the seceded States and it was not until the middle of the following October that the Confederate States issued the first of their own stamps. For the space of four and a half months there were various make-shift arrangements for the payment of postage in the eleven seceded States. In about seventy districts the postmasters made and used their own stamps, many of these are of great rarity and their history is full of interest. In very many towns the postmasters sold envelopes stamped with the word "PAID" in numerous forms and designs. These are interesting and much study is yet necessary to fully establish their usage. As the war went on, we find that paper became very scarce in the Southern States, and in many cases envelopes were made from wallpaper, account books ad forms, and so on.

For the thousands of collectors who collect covers or stamps on cover, we have many interesting groups to study, such as Letters used by Prisoners of War—Envelopes with Patriotic designs on the front. Envelopes with unusual postal markings, Letters sent out by Blockade Runners, by the Adams, Southern Express Co. and other Companies who carried letters. Trans-Mississippi letters and so on.

Another branch of U.S. collecting that has become very popular is that of Revenue Stamps which were first issued during the Civil War in 1862. The numerous varieties issued between that date and 1875 are full of interest and include many very rare varieties.

Other groups which one may specialize with pleasure and profit are the Provisional Issue by postmasters used locally prior to the Government issue in 1847. Stamps issued for Delivery of Letters by Carriers. This is a very interesting group of stamps mainly used in Baltimore, Boston, Charleston, Louisville, New York and Philadelphia. Official Stamps used by various Depart-

ments from 1873 to 1879. Newspaper Stamps used for payment of charges on periodicals, newspapers, etc. Envelope Stamps which are collected entire or cut squares.

(To be continued next issue)

EDWARD JENNER, M.D., F.R.S.

The celebrated English physician, Dr. Edward Jenner, who originated the practice of vaccination, was born May 17, 1749, at Berkeley, England, a market town in the County of Gloucester. After two years of study under a famous surgeon in London, he returned to his home town and developed a successful practice as surgeon-apothecary.

Smallpox was prevalent in those days and it had long been observed in that dairy community that persons who once had a mild case of cowpox were incapable of catching the more serious disease. It was this country doctor, Edward Jenner, who theorized that inoculation of a person with the virus of cowpox would make that person immune to smallpox.

His first vaccination of a patient in 1796 proved successful, as did later trials. He announced his discovery in 1798 and vaccination was soon accepted all over the world as one of the great discoveries in medical history. Dr. Jenner became a celebrity and received numerous honors, including membership in several of the chief scientific societies of Europe.

Not long after the turn of the century, Edward Jenner was made a Master in the Lodge of Faith and Friendship No. 449 (now No. 270) in Berkeley, Gloucestershire. Various accounts have been written on the subject.

According to one version, Dr. Jenner's nephew, Henry Jenner, Provincial Grand Master for Bristol, took it upon himself in 1799 or 1800 to issue a warrant and form a lodge at Berkeley, a place outside his Masonic province. This was contrary to the instructions of Grand Lodge, but Freemasonry in England was very disorganized at that time. There is no doubt that the Berkeley Lodge was in existence and meeting regularly in 1800 and that several candidates were initiated, passed and raised that year. Dr. Jenner was one of those initiated in the Lodge when he was 51 years of age. This irregular Lodge was closed in 1801 by order of Grand Lodge and all the records were destroyed. The present Lodge was formed in 1802 and Dr. Jenner's name appears in the first minutes as a founder member and his

name is one of thirteen to whom the warrant was entrusted.

The history of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Gloucestershire states that Edward Jenner was initiated in Faith and Friendship Lodge No. 449 (Now No. 270) at the first recognized meeting of that Lodge held at Berkeley on November 4, 1802. The Chair that night was occupied by the Provincial Grand Master of Bristol, Henry Jenner, nephew of Dr. Edward Jenner. Henry Jenner occupied the Chair for the next two years. His first initiates in that Lodge (presumably on November 4, 1802) were thirteen candidates, including Edward Jenner, M.D., F.R.S. All thirteen candidates on that date were named by resolution as Brethren in whose care "the Warrant of Constitutions should be invested and that it should not be removed but with their consent." Jenner was 53 years of age at his official initiation, and he was raised to the Master Mason degree on December 30, 1802. He became Junior Warden in 1804.

Following the visits of the then Prince of Wales (later King George IV) in 1808, the Lodge was granted a Royal Charter and from that date its name has been "The Royal Lodge of Faith and Friendship", the only Royal Lodge in the United Kingdom.

Edward Jenner was elected Worshipful Master of The Royal Lodge of Faith and Friendship in 181 and was installed in March 1812. Long before he became Master of the Lodge he occupied the "Science Chair" (i.e. the W.M.'s Chair) for many scientific lectures which were given in the lodge **before** the lodge was opened. It was the custom when necessary to open a formal Lodge after the lecture.

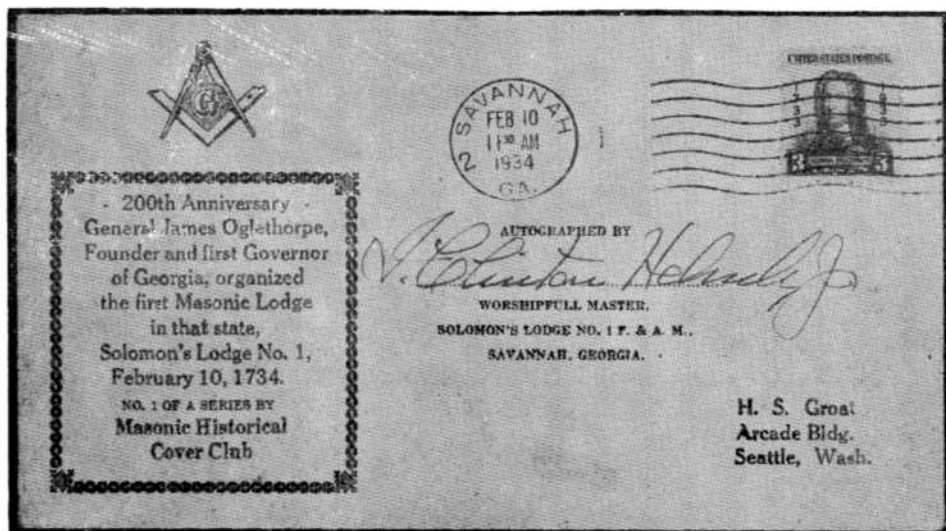
Dr. Jenner retired from active practice following the death of his eldest son in 1813 and that of his wife two years later. The last time that he attended Lodge was July 14, 1822, six months before his death. He was in poor health at the time and he died in his home January 26, 1823.

—Marshall S. Loke

Countries that have issued Jenner stamps include: Guinea (1969) Scott No. 557; Zambia (1970) Scott No. 64; Liberia (1973) Scott No. 642; Grenada (1973) Scott No. 509; Afars & Issas (1973) Scott No. C86.

Miquel Paz Baraona was initiated in Eureka Lodge San Pedro Sula.

He served as president from 1925 to 1929. His government was known for its sound financial policy.



HELP WANTED

The above cover is the first cover issued by the Masonic Historical Cover Club. I am interested in receiving information about the club and the other covers that they issued. Upon completion of this project, the information will be published in the Masonic Philatelist. If any reader has information about the covers, please (Xerox if possible) send to the Editor—Robert A. Smith, P.O. Box 142, Bowling Green Station, New York, New York 10004.

BERNT BALCHEN, VETERAN POLAR PILOT, DIES AT 73

ARLINGTON, VA. — Bernt Balchen, who piloted Adm. Richard Byrd's first flight over the South Pole, who died last month at 73, was buried with full military honors here at the National Cemetery.

The Norwegian-born airman flew 15 times over the North Pole and twice over the South Pole. In 1931 he was made an American citizen by act of Congress, which also awarded him a special medal.

During World War II Balchen joined the U. S. Air Force and ran the Allies' secret airline across the North Atlantic, performing daring rescue missions. He helped evacuate 70,000 Russians from a labor camp in northern Norway as commander of air operations against the German occupation forces in his homeland.

The board of directors of the Scandinavian Airlines, which Balchen helped found, called Mr. Balchen "a legend in his own time."

"He epitomized the best qualities of both his native and adopted lands," the SAS statement said.



Two months before his death Australia issued this stamp in a set showing "Explorers Aircraft" in the Antarctic. It pictures Byrd's Ford Tri-Motor plane—on which Balchen was chief pilot—in the process of dropping the American Flag over the South Pole. Another stamp of the series displays the Northrop Gamma in flight over the Pole in 1935—the Lincoln Ellsworth Expedition—on which Balchen was also chief pilot.