



The Masonic Philatelist

A QUARTERLY

VOL. 37

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NO. 2



Masonic Hall Station
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The MASONIC PHILATELIST

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VOL. 37

NO. 2

DR. IRWIN M. YARRY

EDITOR

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FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

Born at Hyde Park, N.Y., Jan. 30, 1882

Holland Lodge No. 8, 1 Manhattan

Initiated October 10, 1911

Passed Nov. 14, 1911

Raised Nov. 28, 1911

Appointed Grand Representative of

The Grand Lodge of Georgia

near the Grand Lodge of New York, 1932.

Received 32nd Degree in Albany

February 28, 1929.

Became a Shriner, Cypress Temple

Albany, March 1930

Raised his son Elliott in Architect No. 519
New York City, Friday, Feb. 17, 1933.

Raised his two sons, James and Franklin D.,
Jr., in Architect Lodge, Thursday, Nov-
ember 7, 1935.

Became an Honory member of Almas Tem-
ple, A.A.G.N.M.S. (Shrine)

Washington, D.C. May 26, 1933.

Became an Honory member of Architect
Lodge No. 7, 1935.

Honorary Grand Councilor, Order of De-
Molay.

Died 12 April 1945

Warm Springs, Georgia



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.

Please Address All Communications To The

MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF N. Y.

c/o COLLECTORS CLUB

22 East 35th Street, New York City, N. Y. 10016

Roosevelt Masonic Photograph

The centerfold of this issue of THE MASONIC PHILATELIST features a rarely published photograph of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mayor Fiorella La Guardia and many others who were present on Thursday evening, November 7, 1935. The program for that evening is also reproduced in this issue.

President Roosevelt was a noted stamp collector. Some years ago, just before he was elected Governor of New York State, a Delegation of Governors from the New York Collectors Club visited Mr. Roosevelt to ask him to join their ranks. To this he consented and remained a lifelong member of the Collectors Club. On this occasion Mr. Roosevelt stated that he took most interest in the stamps of the countries with which his wife or himself had been connected and in particular in the stamps of the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Hongkong, and the United States.

The foundation of President Roosevelt's collection was due to his mother, Mrs. James Roosevelt, who began to collect stamps when she was a young girl. Included in this collection were a quantity of early Hongkong stamps which franked letters home from China during her parent's residence in that country. This collection Mrs. James Roosevelt turned over to her son in his early youth, and from that time he was an avid collector. Mr. Roosevelt early formed the habit of studying his stamps - he wanted to know their history and the reasons for the different issues.

An especially interesting portion of his collection was the collection of Haiti and the Dominican Republic, many of these secured when he was Assistant Secretary of the Navy from 1913 to 1920.

Eleanor Roosevelt once stated at a meeting of the Westchester County League, in Rye, New York that "When the President is very tired he turns to his stamp album, which has been his life long hobby. I don't know anybody else who knows so much history and geography as my husband, and I think that is largely due to his interest in stamps.

President Roosevelt was raised in Holland Lodge No. 8, New York City and a member of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York.

The 'Roosevelt' Stamps

By FRANKLIN R. BRUNS, JR.

Curator, Division of Philately and Postal History
Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D. C.

During the presidency of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, a total of one hundred and thirty-four stamps were released by the Post Office Department.

The Presidents interest in stamps was widely publicised before his election, and stamp collectors looked forward to a friendly, interested, regime. They were not disappointed.

From the very first adhesive President Roosevelt was advised of all plans and shown proposed designs and models. In all instances his opinions were received and generally followed.

There were certain stamps which went beyond mere consultation and "briefing." These, known as "Roosevelt's stamps" were his special pets and in most cases were designed by him.

The first of these was the "Little America" stamp of 1933, honoring the Byrd Antarctic Expedition of that year, and indirectly the contributions to aviation made by Admiral Byrd in 1926 (North Pole flight), 1927 (trans-Atlantic flight) and 1929 (South Pole flight).

President Roosevelt sketched an upright stamp design showing a map and these flights, though some of the dates had to be revised. This was the most general sketch made by the President and left quite some latitude to the Bureau of Printing and Engraving, but the main theme was carefully followed out. The original sketch, preserved by then Postmaster General James A. Farley was signed by the President and dated "4/25/35." The last "5" was then revised to a "4." In any event, the autograph was an afterthought, since the stamps went on sale October 9, 1933. This sketch has been placed with the Smithsonian Institution by former Postmaster General James A. Farley on a loan basis and is now on exhibit there.

On January 24, 1934, President Roosevelt forwarded a memorandum to Postmaster General Farley, "I am inclined to think that this Maryland Tercentenary is worthy of a special stamp." Such a commemorative was rushed into production and appeared March 23, 1934.

The second "Special" Roosevelt stamp was the 3-cent Mothers Day stamp of 1934. His sketch was subjected to some revision, but the designers were careful to accept his word-

ing "In Memory and in honor of the Mothers of America." and the horizontal format. In the lower right corner he inscribed "For Jim Farley—The 'Original Design' of the Mothers Day Stamp by Franklin D. Roosevelt." In the lower left were the date "2/16/34" and "F.D.R." This design thus was created (and dated) prior to the May 2, 1934 issuance date.

Another indication of Roosevelt's awareness of stamp doings was experienced in 1935 when he approved the photographic model of the Connecticut Tercentary stamp (O.K. F.D. R.) and appended "How about a rich lilac." The official announcement by the Post Office stated of this stamp: "It is printed in rich lilac."

Even earlier, when asked his opinion as to the subject for the Connecticut stamp, he sent a memorandum (March 20, 1935) to Postmaster General Farley: "In regards to this Connecticut stamp design why not put it up to the two Senators and to the Congressmen? My thought is in favor of the Charter Oak."



His next direct interest, of record, came in 1936 when he sketched out his thoughts as to the design for a Susan B. Anthony commemorative. This sketch was very carefully followed in size, layout and wording. He proposed an oval border in solid color, and "Suffrage for Women" which appear on the stamp. This pencil sketch, on lined paper, bears the identifying "Drawn by 7/9/36 FDR" in the lower left.

A year later, on White House paper he suggested that the Virginia Dare commemorative be a square stamp, with a 5-cents value, printed in baby blue. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing utilized a center vignette differing from Roosevelt's crude sketch, but this undoubtedly had his approval. The Bureau also compromised a bit

by placing the value "5 cents" down the right side only, but it carefully included the wording "In Memory of Virginia Dare, Born Roanoke 1587." Printing was in a light blue which could be termed baby blue.

Next came the "Eagle" airmail (6 cents) of 1938. The Roosevelt sketch, again on lined paper, included an eagle, "U. S. Postage," "Airmail" and the value "6c" in the lower corners. The accepted design followed all of these points, and also the colors, in accordance with the President's notation to the right "red border, blue eagle, white background." To the lower right he wrote "Franklin D. Roosevelt, Fecit."

The last "original sketch" loaned by James A. Farley to the Smithsonian Institution concerned the 50th Anniversary of Statehood stamp of 1939. President Roosevelt proposed a vertical row showing the four States (Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota), with the names of the states directly beneath, and under state names the dates of admission to the Union. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing took a map and highlighted the four states involved. This sketch was initiated "FDR fecit 1939" at the right, and someone else added the notation "5/4/39 Design Drawn by FDR."

It is noted that the late President Roosevelt presented three original drawings for the 1, 2 and 3-cent Defense stamps of 1940 to "a representative of the Post Office Department." This official's identity is not a matter of public record, but it obviously was not James A. Farley.

It is of more than passing interest to note that no instances of "original" sketches were included in sales of the Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harold L. Ickes (Secretary of Interior under President Roosevelt) collections.

Instances of the former President's interest in stamps are too manifold to permit recounting. Briefly, though, records indicate that he insisted on adding the Finns to the "Landing of the Swedes and Finns" commemorative of 1938; that he suggested the use of Botticelli's allegorical painting on the Pan American Union commemorative of 1940, and that he made several changes in the famed Americans included in that group of stamps released the same year.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

A President's Hobby by Lena Shawen (1949) H. L. Lindquist Publications.

Postage Stamps of the United States, 1847-1955. U. S. Post Office Department.



Checklist Of Stamps Issued To Honor Franklin Delano Roosevelt

Compiled by L. Boyd Norris, Member of
The Franklin D. Roosevelt Philatelic Society

AJMAN: M572,P&I,M1349 (M1343-50)
ALBANIA: (5)P,(4)P&I, 1952
ANGUILLA: 194 (193-98) 198a
ARGENTINA: 551
BELGIUM: S59-60, red o/p,black o/p
BOLIVIAL: C298
BRAZIL: 487,C76,C76A,um,unwm
CANADA: 5 PC 1972
CENTRAL AFRICA: C79-80 P&I
COLOMBIA: 520-22
COOK ISLANDS: 129, (127-30)
COSTA RICA: 251-55,C160-67,C224-226
CUBA: 406
DAVAAR ISLANDS: 3 P&I,3 O/P P&I, '72
DAHOMEY: 116 P&I
DOMINICA: 407 (405-10)
EQUADOR: 509-13,C193-97
ECUADOR OFFICIALS: MI162-193
EQUATORIAL GUINEA:M1383 (M1363-85)
P&I
ETHIOPIA: 278-80,C21-22
EYNHALLOW: (8)P&I (1)S/S 1976
FRANCE: S Edb
FUJEIRA: M398(M396-402)P&I,M398A
P&I, M454 (M449-58) P&I
GREAT BRITAIN: (8) Strike Labels '71
GREECE: 469-71
GRENADA: 373 (373-78) 378a
GRENADA GRENADINES: M101 (M100-101)
GUATEMALA: C92,C151-56,337 (335-7)
337a P&I,C180 (177-80) C180a
HAITI: C33-34
HONDURAS: C158 (C155-62) C163
HUNGARY: B198A-D P&I, CB1-CB1C PoI
M1256-57
ISO (SWEDEN): (8)P&I,S/S (1)1976
LAOS: C68,M456 (M447-58) P&I
LIBERIA: 296-97,C51,339 (338-40) 340A
P&I,696 (691-96) P&I
LUXEMBOURG: Souv.Card 1945 canc.
MALI: C88 P&I
MALTA: 253 (246-62)
MANAMA: M329-35 P&I,M345,M346,
M346 UPU o/p,M363-69 P&I;
M363-60 gold o/p P&I, M393 (391-98) P&I

MEXICO: 826-7,C167-69
MONACO: 198-202,B93,CB-6,C14-15, C16
(C16-20) 355
NETHERLANDS: Rocket S/SM/S '45
NEW ZEALAND:254 (247-51)
NICARAGUA: 696-700,C272-76.C295,
CO44,C463-74,C468A C474a,C729-36,
390 (928-31) C850-51, 2 S/S 1977
NIUE: 92 (90-93)
OMAN: (1) S/S 1975
PANAMA: C100-04,RA28-29,
PARAGUAY: C184-88 P&I
PHILIPPINES:C64-6,542-44,C70
POLAND: C26A-c)C26D, Groszy o/p
POLISH FORCES IN ITALY (5) '45
RAS AL KHAIMA:M16(M15-17) M19
(M18-20)M16A (M15A-17A) M19A
(M18A-20A) M27-29
RUSSIA: 907-08
RWANDA: 381-88 P&I
ST. VINCENT: 442 (435-44)444 a
SALVADOR: 606-12,C111-17
SAMOA: 193 (191-94)
SAN MARINO: 257A-F,C51A-H,257G-I,
C51I-K
SPAIN: May Day Cover 5/1/38
TOGO: 529-32 P&I,C47 P&I,C47a
TURKEY: 817-22
TURKS & CAICOS: 297-98,298a
UMN AL QIWAIN: M61 (M50-69) P&I,
M61A (M60A-69A) P&I
U.S.:928,930-33,1284,1284B,1284C,1298,
1305,908
UPPER VOLTA:C78-79,M584-88 P&I
URUGUAY: 602-604
VENEZUELA: 1154 (1151-55)
YEMEN:Arab Rep. (1) gold foil S/S
YEMEN: MI99-113) P&I
YEMEN:Royal MI575-84,P&I,MI584A-D
YEMEN:Royal, Famous Men (11)

S/S - Souvenir Sheet,
M/S - Miniature Sheet,I - Imp., P - Perf.,
PC-Postcard, canc.-cancelled, o/p-overprint,
wmk - watermark, (N) # in set MI - Michel,
M - Minkus, S - Sanabria. Others: Scott

The Masonic Stamp Club of New York

On January 13, 1934 a group of Masons gathered together in the Grand Lodge Library and Museum on 23rd Street in New York City and it was not for Masonry alone. All had another interest in common; they were stamp collectors.

Presiding over this group was one of the greats of both Freemasonry and Philately, the late Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York, Charles H. Johnson. It wasn't long before the original small group was joined by many more and the Masonic Stamp Club of New York was well on its way. The meetings were primarily for the purpose of exhibiting collections, listening to talks on stamps, stamp collecting, postal history and, especially, the many Masons involved in these areas.

It may be well to mention, at this point, that the Club is open to every Master Mason in good standing in a Lodge and jurisdiction recognized by the Grand Lodge of New York who has any interest in stamp collecting and especially to those interested in Masonic Philately.

Late in 1938 the Club petitioned President Franklin D. Roosevelt, a Mason and stamp collector, to issue a commemorative stamp in honor of the 150th anniversary of the inauguration of George Washington (another Mason) as the first President of the United States. The following year, on April 30, 1939, this stamp (Scott's #854) was issued. When it became known that the stamp would be issued, the Club prepared a special envelope as a Masonic souvenir. On the day of issue, first day covers were mailed to Masons all over the world, who paid the sum of ten cents for each cover. The proceeds of this effort were contributed to the George Washington Masonic Shrine at Tappan, New York.

The Club outgrew various subsequent meeting rooms at Masonic Hall and in 1944 initiated meetings at the Collectors Club in New York City where they meet today through the courtesy of the Collectors Club. Membership now numbers over 600 and is scattered all over the United States and many foreign countries.

In the early 1940's members of the Club started serious study of Masons on postage stamps and the term Masonic Philately was born. The first such topical collection to draw a major prize was the Masonic Philately exhibit at the 1947 CIPEX.* Interest in this area of philately has grown to the extent that Masonic Philately is a regular speciality and exhibited at many of the Major stamp shows. The Masonic Stamp Club of New York continues its long standing practice of participating in the ASDA show in New York City each November.

In March 1944 a small Club publication was begun and entitled, **The Masonic Philatelist**. This has grown to a substantial quarterly magazine now in its 37th volume and edited by Dr. Irwin M. Yarry.

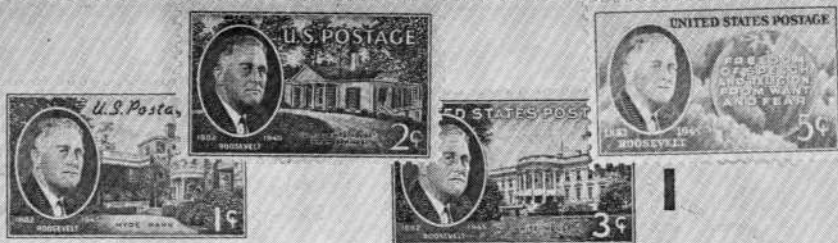
Over the years the Club has sponsored dozens of first day cachets honoring Masons and Masonic events - George Washington, Fiorella La Guardia, The Masonic Building at the New York World Fair, The 100th Anniversary Celebration at the Obelisk in Central Park are some of the more popular cachets issued. All proceeds from the sale of Masonic Cachets are given to Masonic Charities.

The Club has encouraged the establishment of other Masonic Stamp Clubs and a source of pride was the establishment of the George Washington Chapter No. 1 in Washington, D.C. (now the George Washington Masonic Stamp Club).

Brothers interested in membership which includes regular mailing of the **Masonic Philatelist** are invited to send a SASE (self addressed stamped envelope) to The Masonic Stamp Club, Box 10, Masonic Hall, 71 West 23rd Street, New York, New York 10010.

* *Centenary International Philatelic Exhibition, New York City, May 1947*

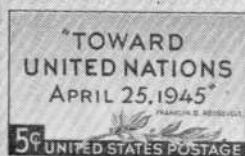




*"I owe my life to my hobbies, especially
stamp collecting."*

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Dec. 21, 1932



A TRIBUTE



PURING the Golden Age of the Arts and Crafts, before the wondrous skill of human hands had been made to surrender to the Moloch of the Machine and Mass Production, men wrought, with infinite patience and splendid devotion, priceless trinkets and precious books and things into which they distilled the very essence of their being. The great cathedrals of the Old World, the inspired canvasses, the exquisite goldsmithing, the marvelous illuminated manuscripts—all are the handiwork of Craftsmen who knew little of barter and sale—cared less for price or pay—but created under the guidance of a loftier inspiration the marvels before which we today stand in mute humility and admiration.

And ever, when such tasks of love were completed—perhaps after many years of glad and untiring labor—they would lay these priceless things into the hands of their liege lord, as a tribute of fealty and devotion. There was something fine in that Age of Ideals. It is lacking today.

CThus, too, this page has been fashioned in the same spirit that animated those earlier craftsmen. The types of the text were set by hand as in Ben Franklin's day, while the initial was graven on wood after the manner of Albrecht Dürer. It is dedicated by **The Masonic Philatelist** in the name of its Editorial Staff, its Contributors, and its nation-wide Circle of Readers, to

Franklin Delano Roosevelt

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND HONORED MEMBER OF AMERICA'S PHILATELIC FRATERNITY.

"The Rule We Must Follow as Freemasons"

(On the night of November 7, President Roosevelt took part in the raising of his two sons, James and Franklin Jr. in Architect Lodge No. 519, New York, of which he is a member. At the close of the ceremonies the President delivered the following address which was published in the New York Masonic Outlook. This Magazine republishes same with the permission of the Outlook editor.)



ARCHITECT LODGE has made me very happy. Let me say from my heart that tonight has meant very much to me. All my life I shall cherish the thought of coming here to Architect Lodge tonight to take part in the work of the Third Degree for my own sons. And, of course, this last act of you good people in making me an Honorary Member, giving opportunity to be a member of the same Lodge to which my boys—that is something I shall never forget.

To me the ceremonies of Freemasonry in this State of ours, especially these later ones that I have taken part in, always make me wish that more Americans, in every part of our land, could become connected with our Fraternity.

Since I have seen you last I have travelled in many foreign lands. I have come in contact with Brother Masons throughout this country, and I have seen the splendid work that Masonry is doing for our fellowmen. I have seen that same work in our distant possessions, in our territories; I have seen it even in those lands in the Pacific

to which I have travelled during these past two years.

The more I come in contact with the work of the Masonic Fraternity the more impressed I am by the great charitable work and the great practical good which we are carrying out, especially in that line which is so close to my heart—the care of little children.

Not only in that work, but also in acting as a leaven for a better society and better citizenship wherever it may be. I violate no confidence in saying that I wish the same could be said of Masonry in other lands. Today, as you doubtless know, we in our own nation are still proceeding under orderly government, under the same form of government under which our fathers lived, and so far as the broad affairs of government are concerned, we are making definite progress from day to day.

And so I can say to you good Brethren of Architect Lodge, and to your Worshipful Master, that I am very grateful to you, and I have had a wonderful party tonight.

Thursday evening, November 7, 1935
at seven-thirty o'clock

Grand Lodge Room, Masonic Hall
71 West 23rd Street
New York, N. Y.

The Sublime Degree of Master Mason will be conferred upon the following brethren:

Joseph Vlasak
James Roosevelt
Robert Max Sieglack, Jr.
Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr.
Morris Ruggles Brownell, Jr.

Honorary Membership will be conferred upon
R.:W.:FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT
President of the United States

R.:W.:FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

will be presented by

R. W. Jacob C. Klinck, Deputy Grand Master

and welcomed by

M.:W.:Townsend Scudder, Senior Past Grand Master

Historical Lecture - R. W. Henry C. Turner

Working Tools - - - R. W. Chris C. Bittel

Presentation of Bibles -R. W. and Rev. Geo. J. Russell

Music by - - - - - { Brother Louis V. Brant
 { Saint Cecile Quartette

R.:W.:Christian G. Rohrer, D.D.G.M.

PAST MASTERS TO OCCUPY STATIONS AS FOLLOWS:

Master	R. W. Frank Herwig
S. Warden	R. W. Herman T. Braun
Jr. Warden	R. W. A. W. Williams
Sr. Deacons	W. Harry Lechner, W. August Braun, Jr.
Jr. Deacons	R. W. Charles A. Miller, W. Bertram R. Perkins
Sr. M. of Cer.	W. Frederick P. Randolph, W. Otto S. Young
Jr. M. of Cer.	W. John Blumers, W. Chas. E. A. Popp
Sr. Stewards	W. Ed. A. Von Sothen, W. Lester Fittler
Jr. Stewards	W. Arthur Hjelmquist, W. Wm. C. Leopold
Marshals	W. Theodore Bolrath, W. William A. Mead
Chaplains	R. W. Robert R. Gerstner, W. Otto Rieg
Treasurers	R. W. Charles Hammel, W. Walter Stephens
Assistant Secretary	W. Herbert E. Eggleton
Director of Fellowcraft Team	W. Frederick H. Haske
At South Gate	W. Wm. J. Limont
At West Gate	W. Geo. W. Heller
At East Gate	W. Albert F. Reinert
Seafaring	W. Wm. L. McQueen





Holland Lodge No. 8, H. & A. M.

[Addendum to Notice for April 24th, 1945]

In Memoriam

R. W. FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

The Thirty-second President of the United States

Past Representative Grand Lodge of Georgia

Near the Grand Lodge of the State of New York

Raised in Holland Lodge, November 28th, 5911

Died, a Member of the Lodge, April 12th, 1945.

Collegiate Church of St. Nicholas

FIFTH AVENUE AT 48TH STREET

NEW YORK

Ministers

JOSEPH R. SIZOO DONALD H. SPENCER



Service of Remembrance

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF

GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

OF

THE STATE OF NEW YORK

IN TRIBUTE TO

Franklin Delano Roosevelt

AND

**His Masonic Brethren of New York
who have Died that the
Light of Freedom may Burn Forever**



SUNDAY, MAY THE TWENTIETH, 1945

EIGHT O'CLOCK

HUGH PORTER, *Organist and Choir Director*

ROOSEVELT STAMPS SOLD FOR \$211,000

Closing Session of Auction
Brings \$20,000—Hong Kong
Collection Yields \$4,500

By KENT B. STILES

The personal stamp collection of Franklin D. Roosevelt brought approximately \$211,000. At the closing session of the public auctioning of the philatelic holdings of the late President, through H. R. Harmer, Inc., by order of the Roosevelt estate executors, collectors and dealers last night paid about \$20,100 at the Parke-Benet Galleries, 30 East Fifty-seventh Street. This figure supplements \$29,567 realized at the afternoon sale, \$26,692 on Monday evening, and \$134,610 at auctions held in February.

Featuring last night's sale was the disposal of stamps and covers of Hong Kong, in which Mr. Roosevelt specialized from boyhood. For these, mounted on album pages on which he wrote many notations, bidders paid about \$4,500. They evinced unexpected interest in album binders bearing the President's name or initials and eighteen lots of these brought \$2,110; and in philatelic literature that he had accumulated, this bringing \$1,480.

The highest price paid last night was not for a stamp but for a copy of a propaganda underground newspaper that the Allies introduced clandestinely into Germany and mailed to slain soldiers' next of kin. Henry Hill of New York gave \$1,300 for this item. He bought also, for \$360, a postal sheet, in skull-and-crossbones de-

signed

signed widows, although ostensibly such sheets were sent by Hitler.

One of the major buyers last night was Y. Souren, Park Avenue dealer, who paid \$2,625 for ten lots. These included an album containing postcards addressed to Mr. Roosevelt and members of his family, for which Mr. Souren gave \$1,000.

At the afternoon session stamps, covers and die proofs presented to the President by well-wishers in Australia, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Eire, Great Britain and New Zealand while he was in the White House realized \$5,000. The outstanding group among these offerings consisted of die proofs of Canada's wartime pictorial series and was a gift from Canada's Postmaster General. It was bought for \$1,700 by Mr. Hill. Thirty Cape of Good Hope covers mailed in the days before stamps were in use brought \$1,157.

In addition to buying the Canadian die proofs, Mr. Hill paid \$1,600 for mint sheets of the complete series of Belgian East Africa's 1942-43 pictorials in imperforate form. K. Bileski, a Winnipeg, Canada, dealer, gave \$1,600 each for two lots of similar stamps of Belgian Congo.

Three oddities were offered and all were bought by Mr. Hill. He paid \$500 for a block of forty forgeries, purportedly made by the Allied Powers for espionage purposes, of a German 1941 12-pfennig red stamp with portrait of Hitler; \$425 for sheets of Yugoslavia stamps printed in the mountains by the Chetniks under General Mikhailovich, and \$310 for a postally used copy of a German 1943 6-pfennig purple with head of Heinrich Himmler, but which the Nazi postal administration denied was ever issued, this item having been sent to Mr. Roosevelt by William J. Donovan, Director of the Office of Strategic Services.

April 2, 1946

Early FDR letter discovered



(WSC's Washington Bureau)

Discovery of a letter from Franklin D. Roosevelt concerning his stamp collecting interests when he was just under 11 years old has come to light in an auction catalog issued by Bruce Bimelson, an autograph specialist of Fort Washington, PA 19034.

WSC was provided with a reproduction of a portion of the letter by Tom Mahoney, freelance author of Poughkeepsie, NY.

As the auction catalog states, the earliest piece of George Washington's writing is on a survey he did at seventeen, while Abraham Lincoln's earliest is a scrap from a lesson book done at age fifteen.

The Roosevelt letter, dated January 11, 1893, was addressed to W. J. Fontein, a wealthy American living in Genoa, Italy.

Here is the text:

"Dear Mr. Fontein:

I am very sorry not to have sent you the stamps before but as Christmas was coming I had no time to spare. The Columbus set in memory of his discovery of America has just been issued & I will send them to you as soon as I can get them. I am making a coin collection and have over 100. Thank you very much for the stamps you last sent me & for the kind letter. I hope you are well & how is your son Wyger? Is his collection getting on very fast? We have not had very much snow yet but it is pretty cold: the thermometer went down to 4 below zero (Fahrenheit).

"Wishing you a happy New Year. Yours Sincerely,

F. D. Roosevelt."

The letter is valued at \$1,000 in the Gimelson catalog for his early March sale.

PROGRAM

PRESIDING

ARTHUR E. SMITH,
Postmaster, Hyde Park

INVOCATION


REV. GORDON L. KIDD,
Rector, St. James Episcopal Church, Hyde Park

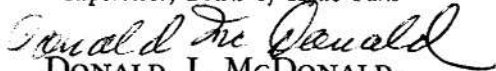
PRESENTATION OF COLORS

COLOR GUARD
4603 Air Base Group
Stewart AFB, Newburgh, N. Y.

WELCOME

WILLIAM H. BARTLES,
Supervisor, Town of Hyde Park

INTRODUCTION


DONALD J. McDONALD,
Chairman, First Day of Issue Committee

REMARKS

FRANCIS CARDINAL SPELLMAN
Archibishop of New York

HON. FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT JR.
Poughquag, New York

HON. JOSEPH Y. RESNICK, M.C.
28th Congressional District

ADDRESS

HON. LAWRENCE F. O'BRIEN
Postmaster General, United States of America

BENEDICTION

FRANCIS CARDINAL SPELLMAN
Archibishop of New York

MUSIC

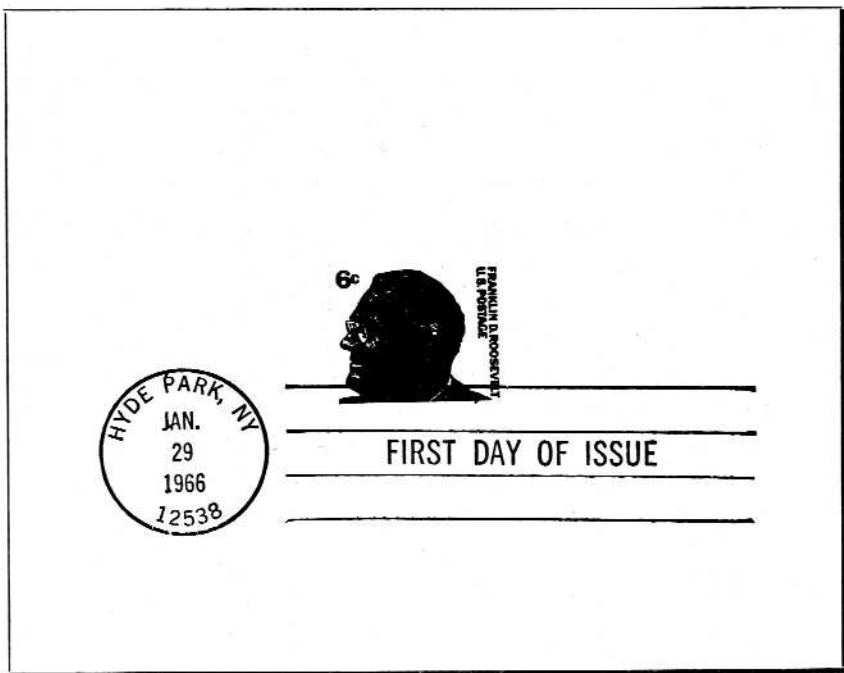
26TH AIR DIVISION BAND
Stewart AFB, Newburgh N. Y.

SOLOIST

PAUL DOE
Hyde Park

Saturday, January 29, 1966, Parish Hall, St. James Episcopal Church, Hyde Park

First Day Issue Ceremonies of The Roosevelt Stamp is Sponsored by
The Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce



The Roosevelt stamp is the second in the "Prominent Americans" series of new regular stamps. The series will consist of eighteen stamps.

Design of the stamp is by Richard Clark, art director for a New York advertising firm. It is based on a photo made August 15, 1941, aboard the battleship Prince of Wales, a day after FDR and Winston Churchill had signed the Atlantic Charter. Clark found a newspaper reproduction while researching in the New York Public Library, and World Wide Photos, Inc. of New York, then supplied him with a print.

It is a profile facing to the viewer's left. Vertical right in sans serif capitals is "Franklin D. Roosevelt U. S. Postage." The denomination "6c" is upper left. Picture engraving is by Joseph S. Creamer, Jr., and letter engraving is by Howard Sharpless of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

*Des. by Richard Clark
Hyde Park, NY
12538
JAN. 29, 1966
6c
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
U.S. POSTAGE*

1981 BICENTENNIAL CACHETS

NEW YORK, NEW YORK



TWO HUNDRED YEARS
1781 - 1981

Dear Brother,

May 5th begins the 200th Annual Communication of Grand Lodge. To commemorate this milestone in Masonic History, the Masonic Stamp Club of New York, by authority of the 1981 Bicentennial Committee of Grand Lodge, is sponsoring three beautiful Masonic cachets with descriptive inner liners. Each envelope will be cancelled with a special Masonic cancellation, as shown above, from a temporary post office at Masonic Hall in New York City.

One design shows the Grand Lodge Seal; the second the first Masonic Hall in New York City; and the third design features the present Masonic Hall complex on 23rd Street and Sixth Avenue in New York City. These are covers to be cherished by all Masons and collectors.

The complete set of three different Masonic Bicentennial Covers will be mailed to you for only five dollars (\$5.00). You may obtain six sets for only twenty five dollars (\$25.00).

The net proceeds from the sale of these covers will go to the Trustees of the Masonic Hall and Asylum fund to support the Think Big and Build program.

Please send in your orders today, and be sure all your interested Lodge members and friends send theirs within a few days. Time is short for the May 5th date. Orders received after the supply is exhausted will be returned. Please make your check payable to Bicentennial Cachets. DO NOT SEND CASH, enclose a self addressed, stamped, return envelope and allow two weeks after your check clears your bank for delivery.

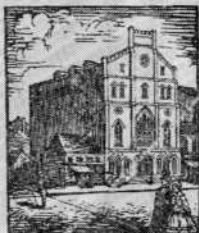
Fraternally,

Masonic Stamp Club Committee

c/o Bicentennial Cachets
327 West 42nd Street
New York, N.Y. 10036

SPONSORED BY MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF N. Y.

NEW YORK BICENTENNIAL
1781 - 1981



THE FIRST MASONIC HALL
NEW YORK CITY



TWO HUNDRED YEARS
1781 - 1981



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NEW YORK BICENTENNIAL
1781 - 1981



200TH ANNIVERSARY
GRAND LODGE OF NEW YORK



TWO HUNDRED YEARS
1781 - 1981



SPONSORED BY MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF N. Y.

NEW YORK BICENTENNIAL
1781 - 1981



MASONIC HALL 1981
NEW YORK CITY



TWO HUNDRED YEARS
1781 - 1981



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

I am happy for this opportunity to extend my greetings to the thousands of stamp collectors throughout the world and commend them for the real contribution they have made, and are making, to the fostering of good will and neighborliness among all the peoples of the world. As improved methods of communication and transportation have brought the peoples of the world closer together, so the hobby of stamp collecting has made its contribution to what the late President Roosevelt so aptly called the "science of human relationships". Through the medium of the simple postage stamp, American stamp collectors have toured the world and peoples from far-off places have acquired a better understanding of our country. The hobby of stamp collecting is one example of the ability of peoples of all nations to live, work and play together in the same world at peace.

Our late President was this country's number one stamp collector. It is difficult to estimate what part his hobby of stamp collecting from boyhood played in the shaping of his international views but we do know that as a stamp collector he constantly dealt with and considered the peoples of the entire world. The Franklin D. Roosevelt Stamp Collection is tangible evidence of the international consciousness of a great leader.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Harry S. Truman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

From the President of the United States, Harry S. Truman.

ATTENTION !! ATTENTION !! ATTENTION!!

As an added bonus to your membership in The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, all members, including those not members of New York State Lodges, will soon receive the Empire State Mason bi-monthly. Please send any address changes to:

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Use this form for prompt service.

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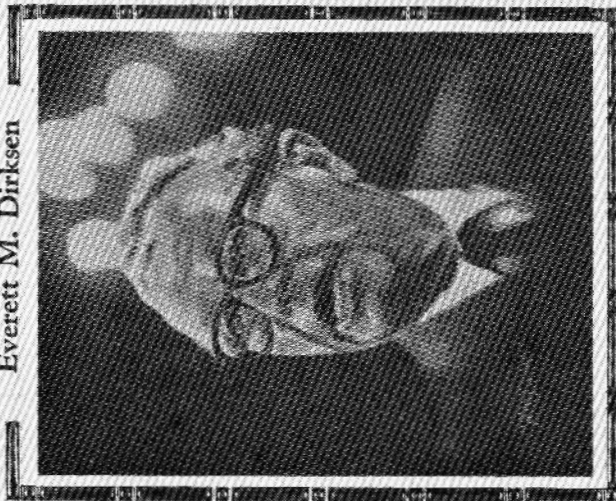
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Special Offer!

Everett M. Dirksen



Colorano "Silk" Cachet

First Day of Issue



USA 15c
Everett Dirksen

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

Everett M. Dirksen was born January 4, 1896 at Pekin, Illinois. He was elected to the Senate in 1950 and re-elected in 1956, 1962 and 1968. A member of Pekin Lodge No. 29, he was grand orator of the Grand Lodge of Illinois in 1954. He received 33-degree AASR (NJ) at Boston on September 29, 1954. Dirksen served as minority leader of the Senate from 1959 until his death in 1969.

Sponsored by the Masonic Stamp Club of New York



A limited number of this EXCLUSIVE MASONIC SILK Cachet are available at \$3.00 each. Be sure to send a self addressed, stamped, #10 envelope with your check payable to Masonic Cachets to:

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