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150 years for B'nai B'rith

(see page 3)

The MASONIC PHILATELIST

VOL. 49

NO.4

DECEMBER 1993

DR. ALLAN BOUDREAU PUBLISHER

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THE COLLECTORS CLUB 22 East 35th Street New York, New York 10016 Telephone (212) 683-0559 FAX (212) 481-1269



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.

The Editor invites all members to submit items of information and articles on the subject of Masonic Philately. Typewritten copy and/or camera ready items will result in the best possible presentation of your material if it is selected for use.

B'nai B'rith (Sons of the Covenant) 150 Years of Fellowship

By Dr. Allan Boudreau



Fraternal philatelists will have a special interest in a stamp honoring B'nai B'rith's 150th anniversary in October 1993. The 1.5 NIS (about \$0.50 US) stamp displays the B'nai B'rith menorah and was designed by Aharon Shevo and Gad Almaliach, the result of over two years of effort and two rounds of competition.

B'nai B'rith is the world's oldest and largest Jewish organization. Worldwide membership is now approximately 500,000 (over 150,000 in the United States) organized in 75 state and regional groups. The national office, located in Washington, D.C., publishes the *National Jewish Monthly* and other periodicals. A budget of over 25 million supports education, social services, youth activities, and a variety of other community programs.

B'nai B'rith was founded in 1843 by 12 young German Jews at Sinsheimer's Cafe on Manhattan's Lower East Side with the purpose "to provide service to their own people and to humanity at large." Patterned on the structure of the Masonic Lodges then operating in that neighborhood, B'nai B'rith's early proceedings, both oral and written, were conducted in the German language. One of its first acts was collecting \$60 for a fund to support widows and orphans.

Today's broad based programs undertaken by B'nai B'rith embrace a wide cross-section of American Jewry. The Anti-Defamation league was founded in 1913 and is now a separate entity with a strong B'nai B'rith presence on its governing board. The Hillel Foundation was established 1923 to assist Jewish college students.

Other programs include B'nai B'rith Women, Housing for senior citizens, and the Senior Resources Network and Caring Community to provide referrals for housing, medical care, and other services for the elderly. To provide a source of bonding between grandparents and their grandchildren, B'nai B'rith recently instituted another program called Grand Explorers, which will organize trips to Washington, New York and Israel for family members

Stamps can be purchased in the United States from local distributors of the Israeli philatelic service and from the Klutznick National Jewish Museum.

The Masonic Lodge was the pioneer of Fraternal organizations in the United States and attempted to preserve the code and spirit of the medieval guilds. The lodge system of local organization and meetings and the use of symbol and ritual offered men companionship and common interests.

Among the many groups that based their structure on the Masonic Lodge model were the oldest college Greek letter society, Phi Beta Kappa, founded in 1776 at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia; the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry (the Granger Movement) an agrarian organization founded for educational and social purposes by Oliver H. Kelley and six associates in 1867; The Benevolent and Protective order of Elks (BPOE) founded in New York City in 1868; and the Knights of Columbus, an American Roman Catholic Society for men, founded at New Haven, Connecticut in 1882.

The New Columbia Encyclopedia, Columbia University Press, New York and London, 1975; The Jewish World, October 21, 1993; 150 Years for B'nai B'rith, Tova Mirvis, JTA, New York City'

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MEMBER, APS WRITERS UNIT 30; ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL DE JOURNALISTES PHILATELIQUES.

November 11, 1993

Dear Brothers,

I enjoyed the latest issue of our paper, and I'm glad to enclose my dues, together with a small contribution above that sum in order to help the treasury along.

I also enclose a couple of items you may want to reproduce in a forthcoming issue. I've collected Masonic memorabilia for better than 50 years, but not until recently were they in an album. I simply threw them into a large carton, and two weeks ago I starting sorting and mounting.

Here are two items you may want to reproduce. One is a letter from 1690 from one Mason to another owing money. I think anyone who reads the letter can understand the Masonic references in it.

I am also enclosing a copy of a letter from John Quincy Adams. When he ran for President, the only thing at issue was Masonry, and he was elected on an anti-Masonry ticket. He wrote the letter in 1838.

I also found an original copy of Morgan. I would be glad to do a story on that for the paper if you can use it.

Best fraternal wishes, and I hope all goes well with you.

12

P.S. A stamped addressed envelope is also enclosed for the covers.

John Follows Egg New York

Jir

Accept my thanks for your obliging Leller dated in Safetember last, and which I cluly received together with a very tearned work upon the hysteries of the aixent Egyptions By Hogamonis and Druests, and arringungents the onger, fistory and Burpart of Free · chagonny-

Considering the doct tetion of Fines Masonry as foundayion Impostun Stistonical Religious, Moral and Bolitical, oury Printorical research, relating let becomes interesting to me - because no honest enquirer after truth can count any other conclusion concerning it - That the only means of coping away the fee. I present attached to the Society is a total abandonment of the Date? I am happy to find is your unequi vocal operion; and as the Oaths are the cital part of The Institution, I trus the good fense of its members will at me distant day induce them to abandon with the Oaths. The whole figiter of gantastical absurdations connected with them.
I am with great Respect Sin your obed Service John Quincy Adams

John Fellows Esq^r New York

Quincy 2 Nov^r 1838

Sir

Accept my thanks for your obliging letter, dated in September last, and which I duly received together with a very learned work upon the Mysteries of the Ancient Egyptians Pythagoreans and Druids, and inquiring into the origin, History and Purport of Free Masonry--

Considering the institution of Free Masonry as founded upon Imposture, Historical, Religious, Moral and Political, every historical research relating to it becomes interesting to me -- because no honest enquirer after truth can come to any other conclusion concerning it --that the only means of wiping away the stain at present attached to the Society, is a total abandonment of the Oaths. I am happy to find this is your unequivocal opinion, and as the Oaths are the vital part of the Institution, I trust the good sense of its ministers will at no distant day induce them to abandon with the Oaths, the whole system of fantastical absurdities connected with them.

I am with great Respect Sir your obed^t Serv^t

John Quincy Adams



THE SCOTTISH RITE JOURNAL DR. JOHN W. BOETTJER, 33°



1733 SIXTEENTH STREET, N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009-3199 TELEPHONE 202-232-3579 CABLE SCSJUSA FAX 202-387-1843

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY, SOUTHERN JURISDICTION, U. S. A.

September 30, 1993

Dr. Irwin M. Yarry, Editor Masonic Philatelist 22 E. 35th St. New York, NY 10016

Dear Masonic Editor:

This year is the bicentennial of the laying of the cornerstone of the United States Capitol in Masonic ceremonies on September 18, 1793. The event gained major media attention (an estimated 100 million viewers!) when a Masonic reenactment was telecast from the west front of the Capitol on September 18, 1993.

Also, on October 23, a large general celebration, with Masonic representation, will be held in Washington, DC, and should include many high government officials, including the President.

As part of this Masonic bicentennial event, The Supreme Council, 33°, S.J., commissioned an original oil painting of the 1793 ceremony. Enclosed is a description of the art print made from the painting, a small color reproduction of the painting, and a 4"x5" black-and-white glossy photograph of the painting. Probably, the text of the card provides you with adequate text for any article you may be able to publish.

I request you feature this information and an image of the painting in your publication as a service to the Fraternity and America. Please note that a framed copy is now available as an economical and convenient service to the Brethren. The framed, double-matted, and glazed copy, described in the enclosed reprint, costs \$195.00 complete. The cost of the print and its shipping/handling charges are included in this one price.

Thank you for your consideration of and timely attention to this matter.

Cordially and fratemally yours,

Managing Editor

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George Washington Laying the Cornerstone of the United States Capitol



Framed Full-Color Version Now Available

As a service to our members, this historically accurate fine art print (shown in the June 1993 Journal) celebrating the bicentennial of this important Masonic event is now available custom framed to archival quality.

This unique and beautiful full-color print (image area 19" x 30": overall frame size 30" x 40") is offered in a collector's edition of 999, signed and numbered by the artist, Brother John D. Melius, 32°.

For a donation of \$195.00 to The Scottish Rite Foundation, you will receive this limited edition print on acid-free paper, double-matted, glazed and framed in hardwood and delivered to you via United Parcel Service.

Donations from distribution of the print will be used to support The Scottish Rite Foundation, in particular its Childhood Language Disorders Program. Donations are deductible as charitable contributions to the full extent allowed by law.

Send requests to: The Supreme Council, 33° 1733 Sixteenth Street, NW Washington, DC 20009-3199 Limited edition print – \$100.00 Donation Framed limited edition print – \$195.00 Donation

Please make checks payable to: The Scottish Rite Foundation, S.J., USA

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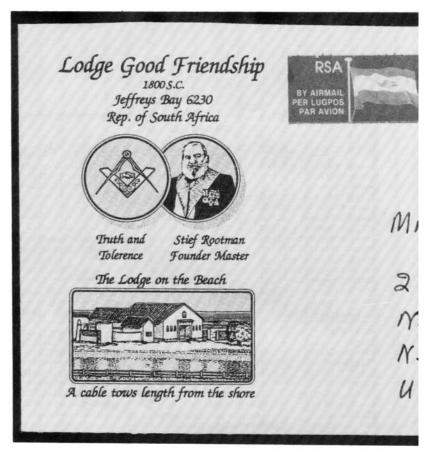
Executive Secretary The Collectors Club 22 East 35th Street New York, NY 10016

FAMOUS MASONS

Some of your Brethern

	•	
PRESIDENTS	ASTRONAUTS	MILITARY & SUCH
George Washington	1st John H. Glenn	William F. Cody (Buffalo Bill)
James Madison	4th Virgil Grissom	Samuel Colt (Colt 45 Gun)
James Monroe	5th Edwin (Buzz) Aldrin	Samual L. Clemens (Mark Twain)
Andrew Jackson	7th Gordon L. Cooper	Gen. Sam Huston
James K. Polk	llth Donn F. Eisele	Gen. Geo. Pickett
James Buchanan	15th Wally Schirra	Gen. John Pershing
William McKinley 2	25th Thomas P. Stafford	Gen. Lafayette
Theo. Roosevelt	26th Edgar D. Mitchell	Gen. Rufus Putman
Thomas Marshall VP2	28th Paul J. Weitz	Gen. Claire Chennault (Flying Tigers
Warren G. Harding 2	29th James Irwin	Gen. Henry "Hap" Arnold
Franklin Roosevelt:	lst	Gen. "Mad Anthony Wayne
Harry Trueman PGM 3	32nd	Gen. Omar Bradley
Lyndon Johnson	36th	Gen. George Marshall
Gerald Ford	38th	Gen. Douglas MacArthur
ENTERTAINERS & SUCH	1	Gen. Eddie Rickenbacker
	<u>-</u>	Gen. Jimmie Doolittle
W. C. Fields	Peter Sellers	Gen. Electric (Just checkn' ya' out)
Jimmie Rodgers	Irving Berlin	Col. William Travis (Alamo)
Harold Lloyd	John Phillip Sousa	Capt. James Cook
Oliver Hardy	Sigmund Romberg	Adm. Robert Perry
Louis B. Mayer	W.C. Handy (Prince Hall)	Adm. Richard Byrd
Dick Powell	Harry Houdini	Adm. John Paul Jones
Victor McLaglen	Tris Speaker (Ball player)	SFC Marvin "Pat" Keller (Who?)
Roy Rogers	Danny Thomas	Christopher "Kit" Carson
Will Rogers	Are you dating yourself?	Charles Lindbergh
Red Skelton	Merriwether Lewis	Paul Revere
Ed Wynn	William Clark (Lewis & Clark)	Patrick Henry
Audie Murphy	John Marshall (Chief Justice	Simon Bolivar
John Wayne	Earl Warren (Him Too)	Patrick Henry
Walt Disney (DeMola	ay)Andrew Mellon	DeWitt Clinton (P.G.M.)
Al Jolson	Chas. H. Mayo (Mayo clinic)	Ben Franklin (P.G.M.)
Ernie Borgnine	Sir Winston Churchill	Alexander Hamilton
Warner Baxter	John R. Ringling (Circus fame)	John Hancock
Clark Gable	J. Edgar Hoover 33°	Benedict Arnold (obliterated later)
Buck Jones	Henry Ford	Brigham Young (of the Mormons)
Wallace Berry	Booker T. Washington	
Joe E. Brown	Sam Rayburn (Speaker of the hou	se)
Eddie Cantor	Sen. Barry Goldwater	Wendell L. Willkie
Charles Colburn	Sir Walter Scott	Duke Ellington (Prince Hall)
Cecil B. DeMille	Frederick Pabst (Hic!)	
Brian Donlevy	Prince Phillip	
Douglas Fairbanks .		7
"Hoot" Gibson	Archibald Willard Spirit of '76	Painter
Flo Ziegfeld	Avery Brundage	
George M. Cohan	Sen. Everett Dirksen	

For your pleasure by:
Pat Keller, Secy., P.M.
East Townsend #322
Collins, Ohio
Aug. '92

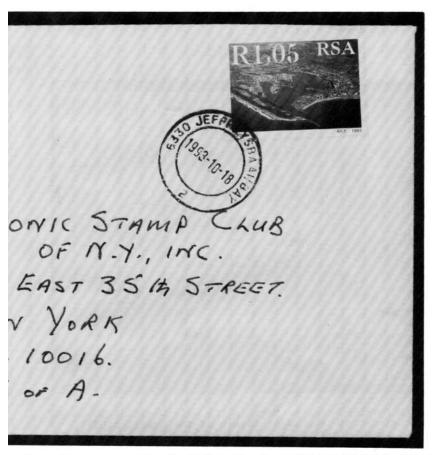


Jeffreys Bay is a town on the South East coast of South Africa. It is near to Port Elizabeth which is also the biggest harbour city in the Eastern Cape.

Originally it was popular for the good sea-fishing and Captain Jeffreys established a trading post and a fish curing facility here. For many years it was known as "the Fishery" and up country farmers obtained supplies of dried fish from here to supplement the diets of their labourers. Today, it is still the hub of a very lucrative squid (calamari or "white gold" as it is referred to by the locals) fishing industry.

Shell collectors consider the area a world renown paradise and our museum boasts with a superb shell collection. The surfing and its popular beaches is unsurpassed and attracts enthusiasts from all over the world. Annual competitions form part of the international world wide tournament circuit.

It is a very popular holiday and retirement venue. The tranquil and quiet community really comes to life at holiday times when the population is increased dramatically. It is and has been, for a number of years, the most rapidly growing town in the country.



Many Freemasons retired to Jeffreys Bay from other centres in the country and during 1991 thirty Masons got together and formed a new Masonic Lodge. Charter was granted by the Grand Lodge of Scotland as "Lodge Good Frienship No. 1800". The Lodge was consecrated in 1992 and obtained the use of a derelict swimming pool's changing rooms as Lodge rooms. This facility is on the beach at the mouth of the Seekoei (Hippopotamus) River adjoining the town. It is claimed that these are the only Freemasons Lodge rooms in the world that are situated on a beach. As the members of Lodge Good Frienship say "A cable tow's length from the shore". A cachet was released to mark this event.

Members of Lodges in amity with the Grand Lodge of Scotland are most welcome and are invited to make visitations.

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V.'. M.'. JUAN SABATER PIE Ronda Guinardó, 28 3º 1ª 08024 - BARCELONA (SPAIN)

October 13, 1993

DR. ALLAN BOUDREAU NEW YORK

Dear Bro. Allan:

I received your last letter where you say that have the last number of "CRONICA FILATELICA", with the article about FILOSO FIA MASONICA.

It's very pleased for me that you enjoy it. There are not any problem for reprint it in a future issue of our Club Magazine.

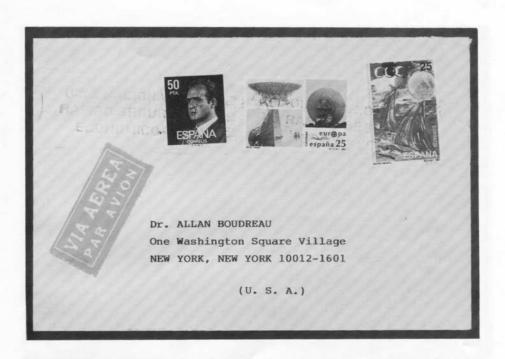
Here, in Spain, write about Masonry is the only way that I can utilized for to diffuse the hight ideals of the Craft. Behalf this articles there are some people that ask information, and three of this are initiated in several lodges.

Today is a pleasure to send you a photography of some members of my Lodge. You can see that I am in the center, with the mallet in my hand.

I do hope to hear from you very soon.

Fraternally,

JUAN SABATER PIE







Filosofía masónica

Juan Sabater Pie

Como continuación a los anteriores artículos y para conocer más intimamente la filosofía interna de la Francmasoneria moderna, debemos adentrarnos más en este mundo pseudo-misterioso que, para algunos, es esta enigmática Orden.



o primero que observamos en cualquiera de sus comunicaciones internas y documentos oficiales son una larga serie de iniciales seguidas de unos extravagantes :., con los que a menudo se ha identificado a los masones, denominándolos los Hermanos Tres Puntos.

AL.G.D.G.A.D.U.

Cualquier trabajo realizado por un miembro de la Orden, sea cual fuese su cargo o condición, así como en la apertura de todas las reuniones celebradas por los masones de todo el mundo, siempre se abre can una clásica invocación dedicada a la Existencia Supremo, Creadora e Indefinible a la que los profanos llaman Dios y cuyo estudio es una de las bases de análisis de la Masonería y que estos denominan simbólicamente el Gran Arquitecto del Universo, Autor y Ordenador de todo la que en el mundo existe.

Millones de francmasones esparcidos por los cinco continentes inician toda su actividad y correspondencia con esta abreviatura



Carta prefilatélica fechada 12/12/1815, circulada en Cataluña, plegada masónicamente y con simbologia masónica

2:/-

(3 puntos) de identificación en su parte frontal.



arriba reseñada y que significa "A la Gloria del Gran Arquitecto del Universo" y con la cual quieren manifestar que, siempre y en todo lugar, el masón afrece un testimonio y homenaje de agradecimiento a este Ser, Inteligencia o Energía Superior al que corrientemente denominamos Días y que en la simbología masónica es representado por diversos elementos:

Volumen de la Ley Sograda: Libro sagrado de cualquier religión. Estrella de cinco puntas: Emble-

ma de la Divinidad. La letra "G": Abreviatura de

"God", Dios.
El ojo: Simbolizando a Dios

contemplando su propia creación.
A continuación de este universal recordatorio delicada al Ser Supremo, en numerosas comunicaciones masónicas aparecen tres nuevas iniciales que extrañan a los profanos: 1 - 1 - 5 - 5 -

Se trata de la divisa inconfudiblemente masónica de Libertad,





Igualdad y Fraternidad, por las

cuales, desde hace doscientos

años, miles de Hermanos han entregado gustosamente sus vidas en

la lucho para la consecución de

estas tres derechos inviolables del hambre y que componen el lema

emancipador y regenerador de la

Puede utilizarse cualquier libro sagrado de las distintas



La letro "g" como obreviatura de God (Dios, en inglés).

la Ley; sus ideales morales están contenidos en aquella sublime máxima que la Masoneria coloca en un primer término: Lo que no quieras para ti, no lo quieras para los demás.

La Igualdad es el segundo de los tres altos ideales que forman el lema ternario masônico. La Orden reconoce que todos los hambres han nacido iguales y, por lo tanto, proclama que no debe existir ninguna diferencia entre ellos, sin importar clase social, raza o religión, ya que a todos sus miembros los identifica con el cariñose nombre de Hermanos. La lucha contro el racismo y la discriminación de

El ojo, simbolo de Dios.











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EW ZEALANE







La estrella de cinco puntas es un emblema de la Divinidad.

Francmasoneria, y que la misma Francia adoptó como trilogia propia durante su Revolución de 1789, prueba evidente de la participación de la Orden en aquel hecho histórico.

KYTIPOE CYPRUS 80 M

La Libertad es el primero y el más importante de los tres principios que componen la triple divisa masónica y que nos concede la focultad de obrar como mejor nos parezca, con lo cual somos dueños y responsables de nuestros propios actos. La libertad tiene la Naturaleza por principio, a la Justicia por regla, por solvaguardia a clases ha sido una constante en la historia de la Francmasonería, la cual propugna total igualdad entre el que manda y el que obedece, entre el que produce y el que consume, entre el que paga y el que coha: unas y otros, formados por el mismo Principio Creador, compuestos de una misma materia, su jetos a las mismas afecciones y also mismas causas de destrucción, deben respetar la posición y creencias de todos las hombres prescindiendo de su raza, ideas religiosas o nacionalidad.





procedemos de un Padre común. El Amor "se da", pero nunca puede exigirse: Lo mismo debe decirse de la Fraternidad, que no puede ser sino una manifestación de Amor. Ninguna verdadera y sincera manifestación de Fraternidad puede obtenerse si no es cuando verdaderamente se siente y realice interiormente: Un masón se hace verdadero Masón y Hermano según siento en si mismo el Ideal Masônico y se reconozca como





Todos los hombres han nacido iguales, no importa su clase social raza o religión. de perfeccionamiento que la Or-

den propugna para sus miembros y para la Humanidad en general:

preciada virtud que aspira a la

tranquilidad, el amor y el sosiego,

en contraposición a la perturba-

ción, al odio y a las pasiones. La

paz, es el ideal primordial de la

Masonería, pues sin ella na es factible ni el desarrollo ni el progreso

La Francmasoneria como delan-

tera en las campañas pacifistas

por la paz, el desarmamento y por

a croación de Organismos Inter-

nacionales que velasen por la con-

ciliación y el equilibrio entre los

países, fue la promotora de institu-

ciones como la Sociedad de Na-

ciones, el Tribunal Internacional de

La Haya y el Cansejo de Europa,

entre cuyos fundadores figuraron

un gran número de masones.

de las Naciones.

La Paz, aspiración suprema y

La divisa masónica Libertad, Igualdad









000 000

El mérito, el talento, la sabiduría, la virtud y el trabajo son las únicas distinciones que la Masoneria admite voluntariamente. Sin querer trastornar el equilibrio social, ni igualar fortunas, ni despojar a los unos en beneficio de los atros, pero preocupándose por el bienestar de todos, la Orden reconoce que el Hombre no puede ser venturoso si no tiene la seguridad de encontrar en su trabajo el pan cotidiano para él y su familia y si no se le pone en plena posición de todos los derechos que son inherentes a una persona. "La Igualdad natural de los hombres, es la primera base de sus derechos y el fundamento de toda verdadera moral" (Condorcet).

La Fraternidad es el tercera y último pedestal que configura la divisa de la Masoneria y concierne a la obligación moral de todos sus miembros de ayudar a sus Hermanos y, consecuentemente, a todos los seres de la Tierra, ya que todos

Hermano de los demás. Este Amor fraternal no sólo se debe dirigir a los demás miembros de la Orden. sino a tadas las personas que nos radean. Esta es la Fraternidad de los Iniciados y de los verdaderos Maestros.

Además de estos tres pílares básicos, existen otros varios objetivos

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importante de los tres principios de la triple divisa



La Caridad es otro de los grandes objetivos de la Orden y uno de los primeros deberes del Masón, consignado en los Antiguos Limites del año 1717. Efectivamente, la principal actividad externo de la Francmasoneria es la Caridad, ya que sus miembros jamás abandonan una de sus "Tenidas" sin haber depositado previamente alguna cantidad voluntaria y secreta en una colecta en beneficio de algún acto filantrópico y humanitario.

Los francmasones como sinceros buscadores de la verdad, consideran a la justicia como la principal de todas las virtudes y a la tolerancia como la base para respetar siempre las opiniones ajenas.

La Francmasoneria en su lucha constante contra el fanatismo, la ignorancia y la superstición, combatiéndolos bajo las banderas de la Libertad, la Igualdad y la Fraternidad, ha logrado, en el transcurso de cientos de años, grandes conquistas democráticas que quedan refleiadas en los últimos sellos que hoy aparecen en este artículo y que resumimos en los siguientes: Abolición de la esclavitud y la pena de muerte, Declaración de los Derechos Humanos, el logro del sufragio secreto y universal, y en la oficialidad de las libertades de culto, prensa y expresión.

El futuro de la Masoneria pasa por distintos problemas sociales y politicos. La lucha actualizada contra los fanatismos religiosos, el apoyo a los débiles en los paises del Tercer Mundo donde todavia existen guerras fraticidas que solucionar, las campañas sociales contra la droga, la prostitución y el medio ambiente... Hay todavia muchisimo trabajo a realizar... Y en nuestro país, una joven Masoneria, ilusionada en un mañana mejor, trabaja silenciosamente desde la legalidad y el anonimato, sin ningún descanso, para conseguir, sin prisas pero sin pausa, los altos objetivos que se ha propuesto, hasta alcanzar este mundo mejor y más solidario que todos anhelamos.

Los interesados en esta temática puer consultar los números de "Crónica" 76 [marzo/91], 81 (septembre/91) y 90 (junio/92) donde se publicaron an ficulos sobre la Masoneria.

THOMAS (TOMMY) CLEMENT DOUGLAS, PRAIRIE CLERGYMAN, STATESMAN AND MASON

by Christopher L. Murphy

Few men in Canadian politics have achieved the popularity of the colorful and innovative Tommy Douglas. Born in Falkirk, Scotland in 1904, Douglas came to Canada with his family in 1910. His first job was working as a printer in Winnipeg, Manitoba. He attended McMaster University (B.A., 1930) and the University of Chicago (M.A., 1933). After being ordained a Baptist Minister in 1930, he moved to Weyburn, Saskatchewan.



A gifted orator, Douglas entered politics and became leader of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) party. He was elected premier of Saskatchewan in 1944 and was returned to office in the next four elections.

It was Tommy Douglas who introduced government-financed health care which became the model for Canada's health-insurance scheme. During this time, he became a member of Weyburn Lodge No. 20, Weyburn, Saskatchewan.

Douglas resigned as Saskatchewan's premier in 1961 to serve as the first federal leader of the New Democratic Party. This position led him to British Columbia where he was elected to the House of Commons in 1962. While in British Columbia, Douglas affiliated with Zenith Lodge No. 104, Burnaby, B.C. He continued in politics until 1979. Brother Douglas passed on to the Grand Lodge above on February 24, 1986.

There are a number of Canadian postage stamps that may represent Tommy Douglas in a Masonic collection. The illustrated stamp is Scott #863 which effectively shows the vast expanse of Brother Douglas' political domain. Other equally applicable stamps are CDN #203, 425,828,961 and 1023.

MASONRY BY DESIGN OR ACCIDENT?

by Christopher L. Murphy



I am certain I am not the only Masonic philatelist who has been asked about the British Peace Issue of 1946 (Scott No. 265). This stamp has two obvious Masonic symbols and many Masons believe it is a true Masonic stamp.

Because the stamp was not issued for a Masonic purpose, I have been quick to correct this belief. I have classified this stamp as one that inadvertently shows symbols that may be associated with the Masonic Order. Officially, I am correct. The Scott Catalog shows that the stamp was issued to commemorate the return to peace at the close of World War II, Freemasonry is not mentioned.

There is, however, more to this stamp than meets even the most trained eye. A few weeks ago, a lodge brother, Charlie Oddstad, telephoned me and asked if I were aware of an article about this stamp that appeared in our Grand Lodge bulletin back in 1977. I did not recall the article so Brother Oddstad sent me a copy. I was quite astounded by the information the article contained. Just how "Masonic" is this stamp? I offer the information here for my fellow brother philatelists to consider:

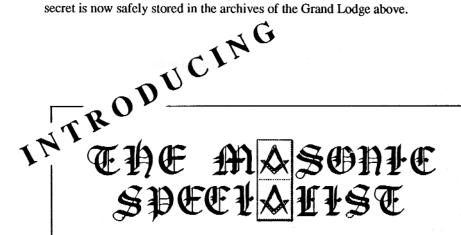
- 1. This stamp shows King George VI who was a Freemason. He was a member of Navy Lodge No. 2612, London, England.
- 2. The stamp was designed by King George VI himself.
- The stamp was released in 1946, the year King George was the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England
- 4. The stamp shows the square and compasses and a trowel which are Masonic symbols. There is also a brick wall showing cement which also has Masonic connotation.
- 5. The stamp has a curious ribbon that ties the King and the various symbols together; much like a cable-tow.

- 6. The ribbon can be said to form five (5) figure 3's. The numbers three (3) and five (5) are very significant numbers in Freemasonry.
- 7. The position of the square and compasses indicate the Fellow-Craft Degree. This degree was the King's favorite degree.
- 8. If the top of the stamp is considered North, King George is situated in the East.
- 9. The square depicted is an older form of the instrument (the arms are not equal in length). This form of the square is often portrayed on the jewel worn by the Master of a lodge. Also, the form represent the Greek letter "G" or "Gamma" denoting God or the Grand Geometrician of the Universe.

X X X

A further comment is made about the dove carrying a sprig of acacia. However, I have difficulty with this statement. Acacia is quite different in appearance and the branch shown on the stamp has berries or "fruit" which would indicate the traditional olive branch.

The evidence appears overwhelming that King George had Freemasonry in mind when he designed this stamp. But we will never know for certain - the secret is now safely stored in the archives of the Grand Lodge above.



Postage Stamps of the United States of America

Eanada

MASTER SECTIONS

BOOK ONE: More than 1,000 subjects covered; Subject sketch and lodge affiliation is shown; Primary stamp illustration for each subject is included; Secondary stamp references are shown; Stamp Facts and Additional Masonic Information sections are included.

BOOK TWO: Listing of all subjects showing their field(s) of acclaim (i.e. architects, astronauts, etc.), both in alphabetical order by field and subjects within the field.

BOOK THREE: Alphabetical chart listing of all Freemasons featured in the work showing their memberships in associated Masonic bodies (Royal Arch, Knight Templar, A.A.S.R., Shriner). Also, there is a reference to those who were grand masters and a reference to the subject's field of acclaim.

BOOK FOUR: Alphabetical reference list of all subjects mentioned in the Masonic Stamp Club of New York publication *The Masonic Philatelist*. The listing shows the year, month and page number for each reference. All issues of *The Masonic Philatelist* since its start were reviewed for this reference listing.

BOOK FIVE: Complete "keys" to group stamps. All U.S. and Canadian stamps showing groups of people have been researched and a corresponding "key" is included in the work to identify the people shown on the stamp.

WORK SPECIFICATIONS

The work is 8.5" by 5.5". It is three-hole punched for placement in a ring binder. All stamp illustrations are 85% of the actual size so you may use the work for a stamp album if desired.

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Dr Allan BOUDREAU Publisher The Masonic Philatelist

Dear Brother Boudreau,

I am pleased to inform you that on the 10 th . July France has issued a stamp commemorating the Bicentenary of the "Telegraphe Chappe ".Claude Chappe is the inventor of the aerial Telegraph (by visual signalling). His brethren Ignace, Pierre, René, Abraham , took care of the management of the system in France and Europe.

Ignace Chappe was a member of the Lodge " Les Amis Incorruptibles " located in Paris (G.O.D.F.). He was raised on the 15 th of April 1805.

the price of this cover is \$ 3.00 postage included.



I thank you beforehand for your support.

Sincerely and Fraternally

Jean Proute du