



THE MASONIC PHILATELIST



PUBLISHED BY THE MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK
HARRY M. KONWISER & SAM BROOKS, Editors

No. 4

June 1944

EDITORIAL THOUGHTS

Both the editors agree the No. 3 issue was "Quite nice" and their friends in the Craft heartily agree with the modest thoughts of the management. It really is nice to achieve approval en bloc and without solicitation. But there is this fact to consider. Without the aid and active assistance of the Brethren, this Masonic Philatelic publication would be as dull as last week's weather report. So - and the Editorial Hailing sign for Aid is being hoisted-H E L P ! ! ! ! You can help by telling something about your collection, or about a single stamp, or about somebody else's collection. Send us a picture of a page from your album. This, Brethren, is the Time and the Place.

NEWS

Major Copeland Southall, U.S.A. was a visitor at our May 26th meeting after an absence of two years. While stationed near Richmond, Va., he recently married his girlhood sweetheart. Copeland has seen overseas service but could tell little of his actual work. Good Luck, Soldier.

CLUB COMPETITION

The May 26th Club Competition of 25 pages of U.S. resulted in the First Award being given to William Staecher, for his showing of choice U.S. Commems in blocks of four; second to Forrest Ellis for Design Sources of our 1922 issue; Third to Arthur Heim for U.S. Commems from 1933 to May 1944. Other competitors were Charles Zenker, Andrew Rasmussen and Arthur Deas who told us that 26% of all mail is Metered Mail. The judges were Ferrara H. Tews, Charles Brooks, and Harry Konwiser.

THE BACK PAGE

of last month's issue failed to mention, that the page is from the collection "Masonic Philately" compiled by Sam Brooks. (HMK insists that this go in). This was shown to give an idea of one type of Collecting. We'd like to show how you collect.

PERSONALS

ARTHUR DEAS-if we were a political organization, we would call him our "Standard-Bearer", but he's just a regular fellow. But what he collects: New it's Meters and Meter Slogans. Arthur says this is a field of growing interest and should appeal to those who have access to bulk mail. Nice going young fellow!

ANDY RASMUSSEN-1944 Champion "took it on the chin" at the last Club competition. Not even a third. This is News, for Andy's showings are always nice. But the competition is getting tougher.

JAKE GLASER-Persons requiring Expert contracting, tunnel building. Railroads or what have you, are asked to give their business to Jake. Sure this is a boost-So What? Jake is a real Booster for our Club, the Collectors Club and other organizations. Just now he is assisting in the formation of Stamp Clubs in the PAL (Police Athletic League). Jake was recently elected to the Board of the Association for Stamp Exhibitions.

MEETINGS FIRST AND LAST FRIDAY EACH MONTH
COLLECTORS CLUB BLDG. 22 EAST 35TH STREET

ANNUAL MEETING JUNE 30th

WHY I COLLECT COLOMBIAN STAMPS.

Over fifty years ago I started to collect stamps while a student at the Brooklyn Boys High School. This Stamp Club was made up of boys from the Eastern district YMCA and the Brooklyn Boys High School. I have saved stamps continuously since that time, and naturally accumulated a great many stamps, most of which came in five, ten and one dollar **packets**. A great many others came from friends who were in the exporting and importing business.

About ten years ago I saw an article in the Masonic Outlook, stating that there was a Masonic Stamp Club that met in a Twenty-third Street, New York, building and any Master Mason in good standing was eligible for membership. I wrote a letter of inquiry, and in about two weeks, received a reply inviting me to come down to the next meeting. I attended that meeting and met some of the finest fellows in Philately that I have heretofore met.

After attending these meetings regularly for about a year, I decided that if I was to get anywhere in Philately, I had to specialize in some country. Most of my stamps were of the type collected by school-boys and amateurs, with very few good stamps collected while in my teens. Up to this time, I had shown my stamps only at Boy Scout gatherings, High School meetings, YMCA, etc. Now, I had to decide to specialize in one particular country and this problem was solved for me by my daughter Estelle, who is an artist and was studying in Italy. She married Luis Escobar of Bogota, Colombia. Immediately I knew what country I was going to collect.

Now I began to haunt auction rooms and the dealers who were my friends, and became acquainted with people specializing in Colombia, and went after the better type of Colombian stamps. Then I visited my daughter in Bogota, Colombia. While there and at Barranquilla and Cartagena, I visited the various stores handling stamps, stamp dealers and the very few adult collectors. I was not able to pick up very much, but I made good contacts and got some good stamps later on from these sources.

One day, while in the office of the Scadta Company at Bogota, I made friends with a gentleman who was connected with the American Legation before he became manager of the Bogota office, and after talking with him for some time, I was able to get a very fine collection of Scadta stamps on and off cover.

I have been adding to my collection continuously, being able to buy the Dr. Pringle collection of London, England, and my good friend Clarence Brazer, succeeded in getting me the Colombian proofs collected by Worthington.

Of course, those that know Colombian stamps, are aware that not only did Colombia issue stamps, but the States and the Cities issued stamps too. Colombia itself issued the first stamps in 1859; it was then known as Granada Confederation. In 1861, the stamps were New Granada; in 1862, United States of Colombia and in 1886 to the present day, Republic of Colombia.

There are some very interesting stories of the stamps of Colombia and at a later issue, will relate some of them.

Jacob Simon Elaser

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual meeting is scheduled for June 30th. At this scheduled event, prescribed by the by-laws, the members will nominate and elect officers for the ensuing year. It is your duty to ballots so come early, talk things over with the members, nominate and elect. Every member is a potential officer.

THANK YOU

From a letter to H.M.K. sent by Mr. William C. Michaels of Kansas City, Mo. - "Thanks very much for your letter of the 27th enclosing your very interesting Masonic Club Bulletin #3. May I not do something to help the club along? Anyway, I enclose my check for \$10.00 which can be used to make up a prize for some exhibition night, or use it for general expense or anyway you think proper. I think things like this ought to be helped along."

BENDHEIM EXHIBITS NO. ONES

We were very pleasantly entertained at our meeting of June 2nd by Mr. E. Mac D. Bendheim, an old time collector, well known among stamp groups. This is one time, we can truthfully write "if you missed this one, you missed a real treat". "Mac" showed number one stamps of the world and told some fine stories. We really had a fine time.

BRITISH COLONIAL COLLECTORS

No doubt Frank Bruns who has (or had) a fondness for Falkland Island stamps will be able to tell us whether the asking price (over four dollars) was the right sort of a price for the 32-set stamp (eight for the four different overprinted things). The entire edition, it is said, was quickly sold. The presumption is these were sold quickly to dealers. Few of our stamp papers care to dig deep into the selling of a set or a special stamp, since the facts might displease "the trade". This writer thinks that position ill-advised; thinks the trade folks should know the facts and tell them. If one or two dealers "had an in" -- that is their good luck, if there was some sort of skull-duggery in the issuance of the stamp, let's "Whodunit" get public attention. If some governmental official did something "out of character" let's have the facts, and if he repents, good - but let's at least suggest repentance are placing him on the nearby philatelist scaffold.

GOOD STUFF TO FOLLOW

Should this paper have any opinions? When you write in answer to the Questionnaire, as suggested to the Board by Arthur Heim, please add your opinion as to whether this Editor should offer "his views". The Club has dealer and collector members. Readers should have opinions. The Editor is not anxious to fill these columns with his views. The Editor took on this job, provided Sam Brooks would be the Publisher (do the real work of preparing the paper) AND PROVIDED THE MEMBERS WOULD ASSIST. What are you doing to help the Club, through the Editor?

FOR YOU AND YOU AND YOU

The average attendance at meetings during the past season has been 16 members. Your program committee has obtained speakers of the highest calibre for these meetings. These speakers have in many instances come long distances to entertain the club and in all cases have undoubtedly been greatly disappointed at the poor reception given their efforts. The committee feels that the membership should support its efforts, and to this end, before preparing a program for the coming season would like answers to the following questions:

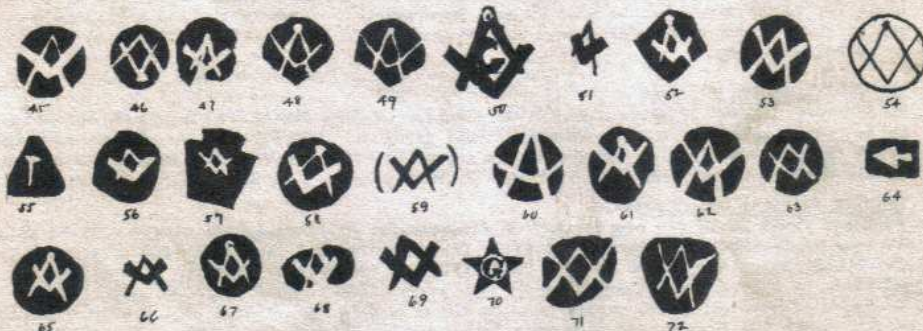
- (1) How many meetings do you reasonably expect to attend during the coming season?....
- (2) Besides the Annual exhibit, how many member's competitions should be held each season?....
- (3) Do you favor having speakers well known in their field, but who are not members of the Club?....
- (4) Would you prefer more speakers from among the club membership?....
- (5) Have you something of interest to show the members, and are you prepared to do so?....
- (6) We know some members like to trade stamps. Opportunity is available before and after every meeting. Bring your duplicates along. Aside from trading, what other activity would you like to see the club undertake?....
- (7) Would you be willing to help by devoting some time to putting your idea across?....

Please tear out, or answer by post card to our Secretary, Arthur I. Heim
115-66 Newburg St.
St. Albans L.I., N.Y.

MASONIC CANCELS

1889 ISSUE

from the collection of the
Late CHARLES Wm. GRAMM



- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| No. | 45 Nashua, N.H. | 55 Deerfield, Mass. | 64 Pittstown, Pa. |
| 46 West Brookfield, Mass. | 56 West Chatham, Mass. | 65 Franklia, Ind. | |
| 48 West Brookfield, Mass. | 57 Bellefonte, Pa. | 66 Painesville, O. | |
| 49 Derby, Conn. | 58 Painted Post, N.Y. (blue) | 67 Barnstead, N.H. | |
| 50 Hartford, Conn. | 59 Oriskany Falls, N.Y. | 68 Young America, Ill. | |
| 51 Arlington, Vt. | 60 Westford, Mass. | 69 Bethel, Vt. | |
| 52 Vermont, Ill. | 61 Frankfort Springs, Pa. | 70 Huntington, N.Y. | |
| 53 Saratoga Springs, N.Y. | 62 Nashua, N.H. | 71 Baltimore, Md. | |
| 54 Charlestown, N.H. (also on Bank Notes,
red and blue as well as black) | 63 Stroudsburg, Pa. | 72 Abingdon, Pa. | |

NEW YORK TIMES, SATURDAY, MAY 27, 1944



This was the note sent by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower to Gen. George C. Marshall to mark the 100,000,000th message sent to this country from soldiers in the European theatre of operations.

Back the Attack!



BUY MORE THAN BEFORE