

# The Masonic Philatelist

PUBLISHED BY THE MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK

VOL VIII

NO. 11



OCTOBER, 1951

BY THE SIGN OF THE GAVEL

For the first time, our Club season started off with a special meeting. On September 14, a fortunate roomful of members and guests was entertained by the fine collection and the fine personality of Bro. P. Wilde of Cardiff, Wales. I believe there is to be a detailed description of this meeting elsewhere in this issue.

While your officers were greatly pleased at the fine attendance at this meeting, we are also somewhat puzzled. What is it that brings out the membership in large numbers for one meeting and perhaps none but the faithful "Old Guard" at the next? About six years ago, the Program Chairman was greatly embarrassed when a guest speaker, showing one of the finest U.S. collections it has even been our pleasure to see, was greeted by only seven or eight spectators. This necessitated a change in policy and we have been trying, unsuccessfully, ever since to find out the cause. Perhaps there is none and it is just a series of coincidences that so many members are tied up and can't come on the same night.

Our recent poll of local members showed you want two meetings a month and the program for the year is arranged accordingly. It promises to be a good, entertaining program and we hope that you will make every effort to be present as often as possible. Let's start with a big turnout for Brother Harry Lindquist on October 26th.

And Don't forget -- if you want to join the group for dinner before the meetings, be at the Club before 6:00 P.M. That is the time we leave for whatever restaurant we will be heading for that night.

## • Meetings •

FIRST AND LAST FRIDAY EACH MONTH - COLLECTORS CLUB BLDG. 22 E. 35th Street

October 26, Harry Lindquist night; bring a friend.

November 2, Pumpkin Pie night; not edible but comical.

## THE MASONIC PHILATELIST

Published by  
The Ralph A. Barry Publication Fund  
of  
The Masonic Stamp Club of New York

### EDITOR

F. L. Ellis, 2120 E. Tremont Avenue  
New York 62, N. Y.

### OFFICERS

Arthur I. Heim	President
Carl H. Pihl	1st Vice-Pres.
Thomas Phillips	2nd Vice-Pres.
Dr. Irwin M. Yarry	Secretary
31-12 54 Street,	Woodside, N.Y.
Harry M. Konwiser	Treasurer
181 Claremont Ave.	New York 27, N.Y.

## CHARLES E. FISH

The Great Creator having been pleased, out of his infinite mercy, to remove our brother from the cares and troubles of this transitory existence, to a state of endless duration, thus severing another link from the fraternal chain that binds us together; may we who survive him, be more strongly cemented in the ties of union and friendship; that during the short space allotted us here, we may wisely and usefully employ our time.

.....

COVERS of October 1951 features a photograph of Bro. Franklin R. Bruns on its cover and a write-up on Bruns on page 4.

.....

A partial list of members attending CAPEX included Sidney Barrett, Mr. and Mrs. Harry L. Lindquist, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob S. Glaser, Walter Van Zullen, Irwin M. Yarry, Hon. Chester A. Smeltzer, George B. Wray, Franklin R. Bruns, Jr., and Harry M. Konwiser.

A word of mention in praise of Bro. Konwiser is in order for his wonderful work and experience, without which this International Stamp Show could not have been run as smoothly as it did.

### NEW MEMBERS

H. Harris Ades  
1033 Kirkham Street  
San Francisco, Calif.  
Lebanon #495  
Specializes in stamps of  
Masonic significance.

### VISITORS AT THE WILDE SPECIAL MEETING

C.M. Lederer, Long Island City, L.I.  
Col. H.G. Reid, Soufriere, St. Lucia,  
B.W.I.,  
Editor, St. Lucia Philatelist.  
T.M. Nathan, New York, N.Y.  
P. Lindenberg, New York, N. Y.  
A.D. Maier, New York, N.Y.

### AT THE OCTOBER 5th MEETING

Gordon S. Dills, Garrett, Indiana,  
of the Creek Chub Bait fame,  
the fisherman's delight.

## SPECIAL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 14, 1951

Before a large gathering of Members and friends, Bro. P. A. Wilde from Cardiff, Wales, presented an excellent display of Hong Kong used in the Treaty Ports of China and Japan.

Bro. Wilde arrived in New York on the Queen Elizabeth en route to Toronto for the "CAPEX". He was entertained by various members, and through the efforts of Bro. Pelander and your secretary, attended the Turpin-Robinson bout, a fight about which Bro. Wilde remarked "I must see and report to the folks back home."

All those members attending this special meeting were most delighted with Bro. Wilde's presentation and the interesting manner in which he explained the postal history of Hong Kong. He ended with a round table display of items from Great Britain -- explaining many things to look for among even your ordinary British stamps.

In philately, knowledge is wealth, and Bro. Wilde has a wealth of knowledge -- is a keen student and a gentlemen.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Masonic Stamp Club was well represented at CAPEX in practically every section. About 100 frames, totalling over 1500 pages of stamps, were exhibited by the following:-

Fred Barovick	Souvenir and Miniature Sheets
C.W. Brazer	Essays and Proofs
Sam Brooks	Masonic Philately
H.W. Friedman	Seychelles
Dr. C.W. Hennan	Argentina, Pan America (not for competition)
Herman Herst, Jr.	Oregon Postal History
J.S. Glaser	Colombia and Scadta Air Mails
B.E. Jacobs	U.S. Cancellations
H.M. Konwiser	U.S. Dead Letter Office
C.E. Pelander	Tonga
H.L. Lindquist	Canada War Savings Stamps
A.M. Severe	Luxemburg
Chester Smeltzer	U.S. Die Proofs (not for competition)
P.A. Wilde	Hong Kong
George W. Wray	U.S. Sanitary Fairs
Dr. I. M. Yarry	Hong Kong
Marcus W. White	Postal Stationery

A complete list of awards for the above members is at this time incomplete and will be given in the next issue.

DR. I. M. YARRY



Juan Pablo Duarte

*From Mirt's Back Porch.*



Juan Pablo Duarte

## MASONRY ON DOMINICAN REPUBLIC STAMPS

Another interesting account of the role of Catholic clergy in the development of Freemasonry appears in the 1945 proceedings of the Supreme Council, Scottish Rite Masonry, Southern Jurisdiction. The information is relayed by Grand Commander Haim H. Lopez-Penha of the Dominican Republic, formerly known as Santo Domingo.

In the vestry of a Catholic Church called Convento Dominicó, a Lodge named Philantropia functioned in 1819. There were five friars among its members, one of whom was José Ma. Bans, who was Venerable Master of the Lodge. There were also six Presbyters, among them Elias Rodríguez, later a bishop.

Ill. . Lopez-Penha also reports that Alejo Ruiz, a priest, was Venerable Master of Lodge "Perfecta Armonia" and that another priest in Puerto Plata, Dr. Regalado, was a Mason who later gained the 33°. When the Spanish authorities persecuted Masonry, the brethren met in caves near Trujillo, in one of which Tomas Bobadilla y Briones received the Masonic Degrees. Later, he was founder of the Grand Lodge and Grand Commander of the Supreme Council.

"When Spain recovered Santo Domingo by virtue of the Treaty of Paris," the account continues, "Masonry practically ceased to exist. In 1821, a revolution of the natives expelled the Spanish and then in 1844 the Dominicans were liberated from the Haitians. Juan Pablo Duarte, a Mason, was founder of the Dominican Republic. There was a Lodge under the Grand Lodge of France at that time. Finally, in 1858, the National Grand Lodge was founded, and it has continued to exist. The Supreme Council was organized in February 1851, with the president of the republic, General Pedro Santana, as first Grand Commander.

The foregoing may be illustrated by a number of Dominican stamps. The country's map will be found on several issues. Duarte is pictured on A20, A24, and A78 and commemorated on A67. The centenary of independence is marked by A88, A89 and AP23.

*--John A. Mirt, Chicago.*