



the Masonic Philatelist

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The Postal Bulletin of July 6, 1948 says in part, "The Department will issue a 5 cent stamp through the New York, N. Y. post office, on July 31, 1948, to commemorate the Golden Anniversary of the city of New York." Thus fifty years must have gone by for the city.

The Postal Bulletin of October 29, 1953, says in part: "The Department will issue a 3 cent stamp to commemorate the 300th Anniversary of New York City through the New York, N. Y. post office on November 20, 1953." My, how time flies. It must be the inflation that we have all heard about, when five years go by to equal 250 years.

History also teaches us that though New Amsterdam was officially established on Feb. 2, 1653, New York City did not come into existence until 1664!

The design uses as the basis, of the New Amsterdam part, of the stamp design, which Martha Lamb states in her well known, "History of the City of New York," a sketch of New Amsterdam done by Augustine Heerman in 1656, which she said was widely copied and circulated in Europe. Another drawing copied from this sketch appears in the book, "One Hundred Years of American Independence" and is called "The English Landing at New York, 1664."

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● Meetings ●

First Friday of Each Month
Collectors Club Bldg., 22 E. 35th Street

December 4—Finding Pleasure in Stamp Collecting.—Harry L. Lindquist.

January 8, 1954—Topical Collecting. If you favor a certain topical collection and would like to show some of it, contact Bro. George B. Wray at 22 E. 35th street, N. Y. C. and let him know in advance of the meeting.



About the Club

The National Stamp exhibition "Philatex 1953" recently held in connection with the Nineteenth Annual American Philatelic Congress at the Hotel Robert Treat, Newark, N. J., October 30 to November 1, 1953 showed some wonderful philatelic material which was entered by well known collectors from all parts of the U. S. Though the lighting was extremely bad, one could enjoy looking at this grand material because of the absence of any crowd to hustle one along. Quite a few of the members of the Masonic Stamp Club had exhibits, namely: Bro. Clarence Brazer—1847 issue and 1875 reproduction essays and proofs classified—five frames. Bro.

Marcus White—Essays, proofs and drawings of the postal stationery of Canada and Newfoundland—two frames and—Stamps with advertising around the stamps, envelopes and adhesives—five frames. Bro. Fred Barovick—Brazil, two frames, and Souvenir and Miniature Sheets of the World—four frames. Bro. Allison Severe—Luxembourg, one frame. Bro. Michael Miller (not a member of the club) showed two frames of the 1869 U. S. issue.

In frame 25, one of an entry by John H. Smith, a page of 1861-67 3 cents stamps showed Masonic Cancels—Square and Compass cancels. The stamps off cover were identified as to place of origin such as Charlestown, N. H.; Kennebunkport, Me., Copake Iron Works, N. Y.; Quincy, Mass.; Nashua, N. H.; Brattleboro, Vt.; Boston, Mass.; Alliance, Ohio.

Bro. George Wray showed four frames of his Sanitary Fair essays, proofs and covers. Bro. George must have known some one because his frames were brightly lit up, and made a fine showing. He also had a nice article on the Sanitary Fair in STAMPS of October 24, 1953.

IN AND AROUND THE CLUB

By Emanuel Reggel
690 Fort Washington avenue,
New York 33, N. Y.

Brother Frederick Bennett of Maumee, Ohio sent us greetings and said he was visiting Sweden and Norway this past summer. We hope he enjoyed himself there. We'll enjoy hearing about his trip.

Brother Phil Wilde, of Cardiff, England said that he had vacationed in Italy and had a marvelous holiday there. By now he has attended the International Exhibition at Lisbon, Portugal. How about a report on it, Phil?

Brother Max Kohane, of Melbourne, Australia, reports that since we last saw him, he has covered the whole of Australia on a business trip. He is now preparing to visit us again in March. We'll be looking for him.

It was also reported that Brother Morris Straus had the misfortune to be in the hospital with a bad leg, and is now confined to his home. Bad news comes around once in a while which we do not like to hear. But we hope

that Morris will soon be up and kicking around.

All Brothers, everywhere, wherever you are, keep us informed of your hobby and activities. Write to me and see if we can not make this column really stand out.

MASONIC CACHET COVERS

The writer has prepared Masonic cachet covers for recently issued, or announced, stamps. Inscriptions on the covers follow:

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION STAMP—The 75th anniversary of the Association is commemorated by a stamp issued in 1953. When the organization, now comprising more than 49,000 lawyers, was formed in 1878, its announced aims were high standards of legal education, ethics and judicial administration. Since among the principles of Freemasonry are high standards of morality, ethics and justice, it was fitting that a Mason—James O. Broadhead, St. Louis—should be chosen first president. Made a Mason prior to 1846, he was a member of Tuscan Lodge No. 360, St. Louis, at his death in 1898. Many other Masons have headed the A.B.A.—John A. Mirt, Chicago.

"SAGAMORE HILL" STAMP—"Sagamore Hill," at Oyster Bay, N. Y., home of a Mason and now a national shrine, is shown on a stamp issued in 1953. The home was an integral part of the life of Theodore Roosevelt, one of the nation's most revered Presidents. Roosevelt, member of Matinecock Lodge No. 806, Oyster Bay, was an ardent Mason. Speaking before the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, November 5, 1902, he said: "Masonry should make, and must make, each man who conscientiously and understandingly takes its obligation a fine type of American citizenship, because Masonry teaches him his obligation to his fellows in practical fashion."—John A. Mirt, Chicago.

NEW YORK CITY STAMP. The 300th anniversary of New York City is commemorated in a postage stamp issued in 1953. When George Washington, Master of Alexandria (Va.) Lodge No. 22, was inaugurated in 1789 as the first president of the United States, the historic event took place in New York City amid a Masonic setting. Robert R. Livingston, Grand Master of New York, administered the oath on a Bible borrowed from St. John's Lodge No. 1, warranted in 1757 and which is today's oldest lodge in the state. Masons have

been identified with the city's growth ever since Freemasonry was established there more than two centuries ago.—John A. Mirt, Chicago.

GADSDEN PURCHASE STAMP. The 100th anniversary of the "Gadsden Purchase," a transaction negotiated by a Mason, is commemorated in a postage stamp issued in 1953. By the purchase—from Mexico for \$10,000,000—U. S. acquired about 20,000,000 acres along the southwest border in what is now New Mexico and Arizona. James Gadsden, who closed the deal for the U. S., was a pioneer in the opening of Florida Territory. While there, he became an early member of Jackson Lodge No. 23 at Tallahassee, Fla., chartered in 1825 by the Grand Lodge of Alabama. Jackson Lodge is now No. 1 under the Grand Lodge of Florida.—John A. Mirt, Chicago.

MASONIC CACHET OFFER

Bro. R. R. Hausen, president of the Redding Masonic Supply Co., Inc., 200 Fifth avenue, New York City, has presented our club with a limited supply of Masonic cacheted covers.

These beautiful die-cut cachets were sponsored by the Masonic Stamp Club on the occasion of the Centenary of the U. S. Postage in 1947, and consists of the 3¢ Centenary stamp, the 5¢ airmail envelope, and the 15¢ souvenir sheet on three separate designed, un-addressed first day covers.

They are offered by the club at \$2 per set of three, in the order in which remittances are received. The supply is limited to the fifty sets that are available. They will be mailed under separate cover. Make checks payable to: Masonic Stamp Club of New York and mail them to Dr. Irwin M. Yarry, Sec'y, 31-12 54th street, Woodside 77, New York.

MASONRY ON POSTAGE STAMPS

Christmas is just around the corner. If you are wondering what to send a Masonic stamp collecting friend, your problem is solved easily. Give him a set of Vol. 2 of MASONRY ON POSTAGE STAMPS (12 numbers), a monthly service for Masonic stamp collectors put out by John A. Mirt, 644 Melrose street, Chicago 13, Ill. You will be helping a worthy Masonic charity at the same time, because the profits go to educating Masonic orphans. A sample number of MASONRY ON POSTAGE STAMPS may be had for 25 cents.

PANAMA HONORS FOUNDER OF NEWSPAPER, A MASON

As a former newspaperman, I was attracted by Panama's new 5c and 10c stamps picturing the masthead of "La Estrella de Panama," the country's first newspaper, as it looked at its founding in 1853. The editors whose names appear on the stamp were Luis (Lewis) A. Middleton and Archibaldo B. Boyd.

There was another interest in the stamps because I had a suspicion that maybe Middleton had figured in an important Masonic event in Panama more than a century ago. Checking proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas for 1851, this was confirmed. Middleton had headed a committee of three appointed by the Master of Union Lodge (U.D.) at Panama City which in 1851 solicited the Grand Lodge of Texas "to declare Panama in the Republic of New Grenada a Masonic missionary station, and this lodge the agent for the purpose of aiding the poor distressed brethren crossing this isthmus."

The gold rush to California was on then and thousands were going by way of the isthmus. One of the assignments of the committee was "to report the most efficient plan for soliciting voluntary contributions from the Masonic world, in money, clothing, medicine, and other necessities and comforts, to be ministered to the sick and worthy brethren visiting this part of the globe, and to bury those who may die in this place."

In the administration of Masonic charity, the monthly expense of the lodge was about \$150. The seven members taxed themselves higher than known in any part of the world. Dues were set at \$5 "American gold" a month, with added voluntary donations to meet emergencies.

Bro. W. B. Ochiltree, M.W. Grand Master of Texas, in his 1852 report to the Grand Lodge, had this to say about Union Lodge:

"The history of this infant Lodge is one of the most interesting character. Being remote from all other lodges and at a point where the sick, the distressed and the destitute are most likely to be found, the calls upon their charity have been more numerous than in any other lodge, perhaps, in the United States. Composed of old and experienced Masons from all parts of the globe, we may confidently expect

that the principles of our Order will be carried out, the hand of charity extended and the weary pilgrim find rest and refreshment."

Published records do not show Boyd to have been among the moving spirits in Union Lodge (no longer existent) but he could have been because all the members are not named in the proceedings. Nevertheless, the two Panama stamps, reminiscent of Freemasonry at work when distress calls, will be treasured in my collection.—From Mirt's "Masonry on Postage Stamps."

MASONS ON ARGENTINE STAMPS (Continued From Last Issue)

Manuel Maximino Alberti (shown with another Mason, Azcuenaga, on No. 163 issued in 1910 to commemorate the centenary of the revolution). Born 1763; became a Roman Catholic priest and was active in events that led to the "open forum" on May 24, 1810. He was part of the "junta," or council, then formed. He died in 1811. (I might add for the information of American and other readers that Roman Catholic priests were identified with the introduction of Freemasonry into many South and Central American countries—Mirt).

Miguel de Azcuenaga (shown with above on No. 163). Born in 1754; helped to defend the city of Buenos Aires against the first British attack; was active in the May 1810 revolution and was part of the first "junta." Later appointed chief of the general staff. He died in 1833.

Miguel Juarez Celman (1844-1909), president of the Argentine Republic in 1886-90. A "get-rich-quick" fever, accompanied with unrestrained speculation on the stock market and corrupt public administration led to an unsuccessful revolt in 1890, led by L. N. Alem (a Mason, who became Grand Master), but Juarez Celman was forced to resign. He was succeeded in office by C. Pellegrini (a Mason). (Shown on Nos. 59 of 1884 and No. 70 of 1888).

Gregorio Araoz de Lamadrid—Argentine soldier, born in 1795; noted for his bravery as adjutant to Gen. San Martin (a Mason). He took part in the Peruvian wars of liberation and later commanded a cavalry division under Gen. Urquiza (see above) at the battle of Monte Caseros, when the tyrant Rosas was defeated in 1852. He died in 1857. (shown on No. 87 of 1890).