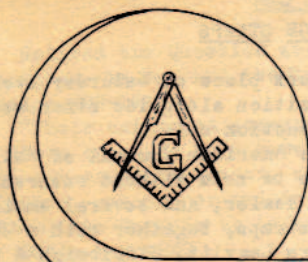
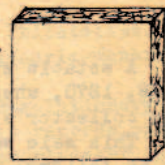


ENTERED



# The MASONIC PHILATELIST



HARRY M. KONWISER &  
SAM BROOKS, Editors

FORREST ELLIS  
Circulation

PUBLISHED BY THE MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK

No. 7

November 1944

Members of the Masonic Stamp Club can rightfully claim they had the best represented club at the "Stampex, 1944" exhibition recently held in Newark, N.J. October 13-14-15, 1944. Bro. Alex Watts received the Grand Award, a silver cup, donated by Col. Hans Lagerloef, for the 15 frames (240 album sheets) of his specialized collection of Jamaica.

Bros. Sol Glass, H.L. Lindquist, C.W. Brazer, Sidney F. Barrett, A.S. Arnold, George F. Tempel, Jr., Clarence Hennan, Carl. E. Pelander and Franklin R. Bruns, Jr., also exhibited.

Four of the five judges on the Board of Judges were members of this club, H.L. Lindquist, A.S. Arnold, Sidney F. Barrett and Emil Bruechig.  
F.L.Ellis

"The Man On the Cover" for October was General Sullivan, who has the distinction of being the only man illustrated on a U.S. postage stamp that showed his lodge affiliation.

Charles A Hamilton of Washington, D.C. early in 1929 presented a group of photographs of various engravings, etc. to the Post Office Dept. and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, for selection of a model of design for the Sullivan stamp. The one chosen was that of an engraving of Sullivan that had been prepared for the Putman edition of 1859 "Life of Washington" by Irving.

Sullivan wore, as most of the men of his day, a gorget hung around his neck which bore as part of a design, a square and compass. When he sat for a portrait, the painter included this design, which in turn the engraver did not neglect.

The stamp was designed by C.A. Huston and was engraved by John Eissler, vignette, and E.M. Hall and E Helmuth, lettering and numerals.

If you use a magnifier you can plainly see the compass  
F.L.Ellis

## MEETINGS

Nov. 24 Trading & Swapping

Dec. 1 Members' Competition-Foreign postage stamps only; 40 pages or 15 minutes each.

MEETINGS FIRST AND LAST FRIDAY EACH MONTH  
COLLECTORS CLUB BUILDING 22 East 35th St. N.Y.

THE FIRST AUCTION SALE OF POSTAGE STAMPS

A notable event in the annals of philately took place on Saturday evening May 28, 1870, when stamp collecting assumed its position alongside other well known collector's objects, in presenting its first auction sale.

This sale was announced and advertised in the "American Journal of Philately" as follows: "Auction Sale of Postage Stamps to be sold without reserve, comprising the entire stock of a bankrupt European dealer, and several small American collections with many exceedingly scarce stamps, together with a Job lot of albums. The well known auctioneers of Messrs Leavitt, Streibeigh & Co., will conduct the sale, and orders to purchase executed by J.W. Scott, Cogan & Sampson of New York City and Mason & Co. of Philadelphia".

The weather on that eventful day was most disagreeable, but in spite of the incessant downpour, a goodly crowd arrived in their carriages. Among the many present were J.W. Scott, Messrs Watson, Sampson, Bailey, Williams and S. Allen Taylor of Boston. Mr. Mason arrived shortly after the sale began.

The opening lot of 100 foreign started at 25¢ and was knocked down for 60¢. The next lot 200 common foreign brought 90¢. Then followed several lots of albums which brought very little. Lot #30, a fine mint Corrientes sold for \$1.13. Lot #33, a mint set of U.S. 1851, brought \$1.12. (The cheapest varieties to-day catalogue \$1000) Lot #34, a set of current envelopes (Reay Issue), sold for \$1.70. Lot #40, Cape Wood blocks, the 1 penny and 4 penny realized \$2.00 (Cat. \$1250.) The next few lots were Confederates and brought very little. Lot #43, a Knoxville in fine condition \$2.25, a 10¢ green cancelled, brought \$1.10 (Cat. \$2000). A 10¢ red envelope, cancelled, sold at the same price. (Cat. \$300) A beautiful mint set of French Republics brought \$3.13. Then followed lot #62 collection of 389 mint stamps in a beautiful morocco album which sold for \$9.50. The real prize an Hawaiian Missionary 5¢, was sold for \$11.00, and was bought by J.W. Scott for acustomer. Lot #79-5¢ Geneva went for \$4.00. A 60 Crazia Tuscany brought \$3.12 (Cat. \$1000) Lot #198, a mint penny Mauritius red \$3.75. One on blue paper sold for \$2.25. The highest price for a single lot was realized as a collection of 1800 stamps in a Moens album in excellent condition and for \$38.00.

All in all, 269 lots were disposed of during the two and one-half hours of the sale. The highest price paid for any single stamp was \$11.00 the entire sale realizing about \$500. Total number of stamps sold 14,000. One lot wrongly catalogued was resold for 55¢ formerly brought 40¢

Dr. IRWIN M YARRY

The medal presented annually for the outstanding Mason of the Year, has been presented to Lauritz Melchior, tenor of the Metropolitan Opera associates

Though not a Philatelist, Mr. Melchior has in his possession the first sheet of the Denmark stamp of the "Overrun Countries of Europe" issue, sold in New York. This sheet was presented to him in a frame, by Postmaster Albert Goldman of New York when the stamp was first placed on sale at that postoffice

F.L. Ellis

Editors of stamp publications who are also Masons; H.L. Lindquist, publisher of "STAMPS", "STAMP SPECIALIST" and other stamp works; Al Burns, editor of "WESTERN STAMP COLLECTOR"; Don Houseworth, editor of "THE INTERNATIONAL STAMP REVIEW"; F.R. Bruns Jr., editor of the stamp column of the "SUN" and the "COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST"; C.S. Thompson, formerly editor of "GOSSIP"; C.W. Braser, editor of "THE ESSAY-PROOF JOURNAL". There must be others. If names and publication names are sent in, the list can be carried on.

F.L. Ellis

## WAS HAMILTON A FREE-MASON?

Noticed the Question about Alex. Hamilton in the Masonic Philatelist. "Washington--The Man and the Mason"--by C. Callahan, pub. by Alexandria-Washington Lodge #22-1913:

"Their existence accounts also for the number of famous Revolutionary characters known to have been members of the Order whose Masonic records can not be consecutively traced, and No discovery made of the time or place of their initiation, passing or raising. As illustrious examples we have Alexander Hamilton, the Marquis de Lafayette John Marshall and numerous others".

Ditto Page 267

"On December 27, 1779 American Union Lodge met at Morristown, N.J., to celebrate the festival of St. John, the Evangelist, and records still extant show that the following distinguished officers of the Revolutionary Army were among the visitors present on that memorable occasion: Bros. Washington--- Hamilton---."

Dr. SAMUEL KONWISER

## PHILATELIC MASONRY

There are several stamp clubs with membership restricted to collectors who are Masons, but Australia has something rather different in the form of a Masonic lodge which seems to have a philatelic membership. At least the Australian Stamp Monthly reports that Philatelic Lodge No. 552 of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons was consecrated recently in the Australian province of Victoria. No details were given, but it would appear that there were enough collectors in the membership that the name Philatelic was chosen for the lodge--

WILLIAM W WYLLIE,

in Western Stamp Collector

Members are invited to contribute to this periodical. None of the editors are seeking to monopolize the space. So, get the old pencil out, make your notes and ring for the type-writer damsel. PUT YOUR philatelic patter in print. (Addresses and phone numbers of the type-writer dames will not be the correct Substitute for copy)....

### Mail Service in 1673.

The first mail between New York and New England was started on New Year's Day, 1673. The postman carried a letter from Gov. Lovelace in New York city to Gov. Winthrop in Connecticut in which the route was laid out and directions given for changing horses and where the mail was to be dropped.

Come to the next meeting and bring a friend.

Write to the Editor and tell him you don't like this issue. At least he'll know you read it.

Send us some of your material to print.

Propose a Masonic friend for membership.

The one centavo stamp of the 1935 issue of Honduras, features for its vignette, the Masonic Temple of Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Information is wanted on this issue regarding the significance of the one centavo stamp to the rest of the series.

F.L.Ellis

## Meeting of Oct. 27th

On this nice, cool night, a fair sized group assembled at the Collectors Club to listen to Bro. Franklin R. Bruns Jr. As usual, several arrived early and the usual gab-fest was on. We had the pleasure of welcoming Bro. Arthur S. Wardwell of Brooklyn, who had applied for membership. He had with him his cousin from Rome, N.Y. Bro. Tom Wardwell, which brings us to a point we mentioned before. You may come early and bring your friends, Masonic or Non-Masonic. They are all welcome. You may assure them of a pleasant evening. Frank Bruns' showing was good to see. He showed us his collection of Penny Black Centenary Stamps of the World.

Frank, as you know, is Philatelic Editor of the "New York Sun", Editor of the "Collectors Club Philatelist" and active in many other philatelic groups; and he knows his stuff. The collection is well written up and displayed, and there was a good story with each page. The meeting closed early and the crowd into small groups. New Possessions were brought out and displayed for the critic observation of the "Kibitzers".

If you haven't been down to a meeting lately, you're really missing something. Of course you're busy and so are most of us. Do you know our Secretary, Arthur Heim comes in from Washington? He likes it and so do we all.

Pay us a visit. You may become a regular and we're certain you'll like it. See you soon.

SAM BROOKS

## November 2nd

At the November 2nd meeting, the first members' competition of the season, limited to forty pages of U.S. postage stamps, brought out an unusually fine showing by five members. A short business session, presided over by Dr. George Camnitzer preceded the competition. Final arrangements were made for the November 16th visit to the Teaneck Stamp Club.

Jacob Glaser opened the competition by showing a beautifully arranged specialty collection of Washington Bicentennials. The display for each denomination consisted of one sheet with a large photograph of the subject, and a second sheet with a miniature photograph and the stamps themselves in used and unused singles and blocks. This was followed by plate number singles and finally by first day covers. Surely, a grand way of arranging this popular issue.

Harry Konwiser again went into that inexhaustible store of knowledge and material which he had, and brought out, but not for competition, an album of old Dead Letter Office material. It was all there-the various classification markings, Dead Letter Office covers and a large variety of other unusual and interesting covers. Harry confided that he had mounted this collection the previous evening. How does he do it?

Charles Lett exhibited for the most part, pages of nineteenth century, particularly strong in fine copies of the earlier issues. He concluded, however, with several pages of twentieth century issues, including aint Zeppelin singles with all of the plate numbers which were used.

Russell Roane, who has been missed for many meeting past, showed a fine mint collection, practically complete from 1922 to date.

William Staecher concluded the competition by exhibiting unused blocks of four, of issues from 1894 to 1921. Brother Staecher requires almost perfection in his stamps, and the blocks he showed were real rarities.

The exhibits of Brothers Lett, Staecher and Roane, in that order, were given the first, second and third awards. Judges for the evening were Clarence Brazier (who has also been missed for too long a time), Sam Brooks and Harry Friedman.

Reported by Gerden G. Johnson