

The Masonic Philatelist

PUBLISHED BY THE MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK



Vol. VII No. 6 November 1950



• Meetings •

TURKEY HASH ON NOVEMBER 24th

A year ago the Masonic Stamp Club started something new - TURKEY HASH - which has been copied by nearly every stamp club in the country. We are proud of having been the innovators of a new idea and are pleased that other clubs saw fit to emulate us. Due to popular demand, and also because we think such a type of program has real merit as well as providing more fun and entertainment than the proverbial barrel of monkeys, we are repeating it this year. Now that everyone knows what it is all about, this year's show should far surpass the initial one. For the uninitiated, the idea is this: Everyone, and we mean EACH AND EVERY MEMBER OR GUEST who is present that night, will bring something to show. NO ONE IS EXCUSED. You can bring a single stamp, a cover, one or more album pages, a book, a picture or the Postmaster General of Patagonia. In other words, BRING ANYTHING that you think will be of PHILATELIC SIGNIFICANCE or interesting or unique to your fellow members. Each person will be necessarily limited in time to 5 repeat FIVE MINUTES ONLY so that everyone will have an opportunity to speak. This will be the only strict rule of the evening - five minutes BY a STOPWATCH. Those who were lucky or smart enough, to be present last year are still talking about it. On that occasion there were seen rare stamps, penny stamps, damaged stamps, non-existent stamps, covers, books and envelopes. There were laughs and tears - an earthquake and a fire (courtesy of Bro. Sid Barrett). Brothers and friends, it was colossal. Let's make it STUPENDOUS this year. Bro. Carl Pihl will be in charge of the program. The regular meeting starts at 8 P.M. but some of the fellows get there as early as 7 P.M. for gossiping and swapping. Don't forget, Friday - November 24th - at the Collectors Club.

OFFICERS 1950-1951

Russell B. Roane President
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 Carl H. Pihl 2nd V-Pres.

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 61-23 Roosevelt Ave.
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 Henry W. Holcombe 1939-1941
 Carl E. Pelander 1941-1943
 George Cammitzer 1943-1945
 Sam Brooks 1945-1946
 Jacob S. Glaser 1946-1948
 Ferrars H. Tows 1948-1949
 (*) indicates deceased

THE MASONIC PHILATELIST

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

EDITOR

Sam Brooks, 985 Anderson Ave.,
 New York 52, N. Y.

Aspiration

Let me be a little kinder;
 Let me be a little blinder
 To the faults of those about me;
 Let me praise a little more.

Let me be, when I am weary
 Just a little bit more cheery;
 Let me serve a little better
 Those whom I am striving
 for.

Let me be a little braver
 When temptation bids me
 waver;
 Let me strive a little harder
 To be all that I should be.

Let me be a little meeker
 With a brother that is weak-
 er;
 Let me think more of my neigh-
 bour
 And a little less of me.



Want To Know What A Maximum Card Is?

Readers who have been a bit hazy over the term "maximum card" have an opportunity to learn more about the cards and the term through the Maximum Card Society of America (MACSA).

The Society is making available a leaflet with an article by Dr. Edgar C. Cardose, "What Is A Maximum Card?" in question and answer form.

This leaflet with photographic illustrations will be sent to interested persons on request who address them to MACSA secretary, Miss Florence Palma, 420 W. 121 St., New York 27, N. Y.

Brother Thomas Phillips, Programme Chairman, reports:

October 27th meeting- Brother Fred Hill gave us a most interesting discussion on his collection of "Religion on Stamps". This portion of Fred's collection is on "Maximum Cards", a new form of collecting. The card shows the subject on the stamp and permits the viewer without the use of a glass, to obtain a clear understanding of the stamp. The name of this new form of collecting intrigued us all and it is doubted that we obtained too clear an explanation of its use. Those interested, read the news item about the "Maximum Card" Card Society of America, on another page.

Brother Thomas Phillips showed a specialized collection of the Presidential series of 1938-1941 which he calls his Classics of 2050. With the optimism of the one who plants a tree but never expects to obtain any use from the shade thereof Brother Phillips feels that someday some one will come across this collection and get some real pleasure from it.

November 3rd meeting- Mr Stephen G. Rich showed his two collections of Zululand and Mafeking to a very interested group. An interesting speaker, Mr. Rich is able to lard his subject well with personal experiences from that part of the world. Of special interest were the stamps made during the siege of Mafeking using blue-print paper. So too were the items which he designated as "counterfiets of Counterfiets" which show how far some of our faker friends will go to produce an oddity. Truly an interesting and instructive evening.

New Meetings---

MARK WELL on your personal date list the 24th of November. On that night Brother Carl Pihl will conduct his justly famous TURKEY HASH. If you were not there last year you really missed an enjoyable evening. Make it a point to show up this time and BRING SOMETHING to add to the ingredients even if it is only an idea as to what to do with used hinges

DECEMBER 1--- MASTER OF PHILATELY DEGREE

Once again this famous Degree will be presented by a very able team under the leadership of Brother Morris Strauss. Those who have taken the work are obligated to turn out and assist in the work, but what is more important, encourage the team. If you have not had the Degree, come early and be enlightened. DON'T MISS IT!!! Tiled doors.

MASONS ON STAMPS

*A Department Conducted by Russell B. Roane
and Sponsored by the Masonic Stamp Club*

THE NEW 5-CENT MONROE STAMP

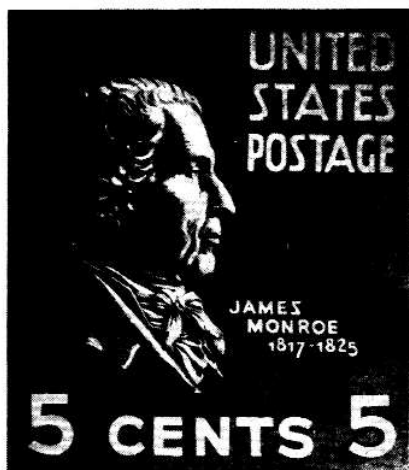
By CHARLES H. JOHNSON

EDITOR'S NOTE: *M. W. Charles H. Johnson, our Grand Secretary, who contributes this, the third, article in a series dealing with the new Presidential series of United States stamps, needs no introduction as a man or a Mason, having achieved distinction in both of these fields. Despite his manifold duties and activities he has been an ardent stamp collector since boyhood and has amassed a splendid general collection of almost 50,000 varieties, among them his prize winning collections of all the Scandinavian countries. He has been Vice President of the Masonic Stamp Club since its organization, in the founding of which he took a most important part. He is a member of the New York Collectors Club and Vice President of the Finnish-American Stamp Club.—R.B.R.*

IT IS AN INTERESTING CIRCUMSTANCE that Bro. James Monroe, whose likeness appears on the five-cent stamp of the new Presidential Series, was also the fifth President of the United States. He was the second Masonic President, Washington, to whom the one-cent was dedicated, being the first.

As not infrequently has happened in the lives of great men, the fame of Monroe has suffered by reason of one supreme event associated with his name—the enunciation of the “Monroe Doctrine.” This declaration of American policy was so dramatic that it has overshadowed, in the minds of all but scholars, the many other very solid accomplishments of a great man and statesman. Space that can be devoted to this article does not permit of an exhaustive discussion of Monroe and his career but a few highspots may be touched upon, in the hope that readers may be led to go farther into a study of the subject.

Monroe was born in Westmoreland County, Virginia, in 1759—on April 28, to be exact. It was a good region in which to be born and nurtured, for nearby was the birthplace of Washington, while in the vicinity lived two great Lees—Richard Henry, and his cousin, “Light-Horse” Harry. He was a student in William and Mary College at Williamsburg when hostilities broke out between the Colonies and England. Immediately he “joined up” and was sent to the Third Virginia Regiment, then stationed near New York. Here he saw action at the Battle of Harlem Heights, and later at White Plains, reminding us that his career began here in New York—and it was in New York City that he died, on July 4, 1831.



Ⓐ The new Monroe 5-cent stamp

Monroe left the service with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, and in 1782, before the peace was signed, he was elected to the Virginia legislature, and from 1783 to 1786 he was a member of the federal Congress. For four years, beginning with 1790, he was United States Senator, in 1794 being appointed Minister to France. Two years later he was succeeded by Charles Pinckney, but in 1801, having served as Governor of his State, he was sent by President Jefferson to France, to assist Minister Robert R. Livingston (who from 1784 to 1800 had been Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York) in negotiating the Louisiana Purchase.

Subsequently Monroe was Minister to England and later on to Spain. In 1811 President Madison honored him with appointment to his cabinet as Secretary of State, a post that he held until his election to the Presidency in

1816. It is noteworthy that the Vice President for both of Monroe's terms as President (for he was reelected in 1820) was our own Daniel D. Tompkins, who was New York's Grand Master in 1820 and 1821.

At the conclusion of his second term Monroe retired to Virginia, where he enjoyed, until his death in 1831, the repose that he had so well earned as soldier, statesman and American citizen.

We have little definite information concerning Monroe's Masonic associations, but in the records of Williamsburg Lodge, No. 6, Williamsburg, Virginia, we find that on November 6, 1775, he was "recommended as a fit person to be admitted a member of this Lodge, and the motion recorded." Three days later he was "prefer'd, received and ballotted for, passed, accepted and entered an apprentice."

Where Monroe was given the Second and Third Degrees is not known, but the records of the Lodge show, as Bro. William L. Boyden states, in his "Masonic Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Signers," that Monroe paid his dues from January 2, 1776, to October, 1780. On the former date he had left College and gone to the front, and it is regarded by many as probable that he received his Second and Third Degrees in one of the military Lodges that worked in the field during the war. In the literature of the subject sometimes appears a statement to the effect that he was a member of St. John's Regimental Lodge of New York in 1777, but no proofs are adduced. We do

know that he attended, in 1819, a meeting of Cumberland Lodge, No. 8, at Nashville, Tennessee. There is a tradition that he was a member of Kilwinning Cross Lodge, No. 2, Port Royal, Virginia, but on the basis of known data this must remain a tradition.

A very great man, of whom Masons may well be proud! His administration may best be characterized by the phrase by which it is known to historians—the "Era of Good Feeling." And that was characteristic of the man.

CLUB NOTES

For First-Day Covers of the April 30 issue, commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Inauguration of George Washington as first President of the United States, send name and address together with ten cents for each cover desired, to R. A. Barry, c/o Charles H. Johnson, Grand Secretary, 71 West 23rd St., New York City. A printed cachet, picturing Federal Hall, at which Washington took the oath of office, has been prepared and will be mailed with a first-day-of-issue cancellation. All proceeds above the cost of printing and postage will be donated to the Endowment Fund of the George Washington Masonic Memorial Shrine at Tappan.

At the February 3 meeting of the Masonic Stamp Club the Annual Member Exhibition was held. Prizes were awarded as follows: 1st, A. P. Rasmussen; 2nd, Charles H. Johnson; 3rd, Charles H. Carpenter; 4th, H. W. Labaschin; 5th, S. O. W. Goldsmith, and 6th, Alexander.

All Masons are invited to attend the meetings of the Masonic Stamp Club held in Masonic Hall—March 3. Members' Competition limited to twelve pages of Airmails, with A. Eugene Michael as guest speaker; March 31, Auction.

Oscar Gottfried, one of our newer members, is the publisher of "The New York Physician and American Medicine" a monthly magazine sent to every physician and surgeon and hospital in Greater New York. Brother Gottfried may be reached at 1440 Broadway, New York, 18, N.Y., for a sample copy. Recent issues have been illustrating Doctors on stamps.

---H.M.K.

Brother FRANK J. BEVERIN, Senior Warden of The Philatelic Lodge, Victoria, Australia, greets the editor with a very friendly note enclosed in a First Day Cover of the new Centenary issue. He says he likes the Masonic Philatelist and thanks the Club for sending it to him.

Thank you for your kind thoughts, Brother Frank, and give our Fraternal Greetings to all in the Philatelic Lodge.

King Gustaf V, 92, Dies October 29

King Gustaf V, whose portrait appeared on Sweden's postage stamps in 1910, three years after he came to the throne, died Oct. 29 at the age of 92.

Gustaf V became king of Sweden on Dec. 8, 1907 following the death of his father King Oscar II. His portrait did not appear on Sweden's stamps, however, until Nov. 19, 1910 when the 10 ore value of the 1910-14 series (Scott's No. 71) was issued. Since then his portrait had appeared on ten different stamp designs, including regular postage, commemorative and semipostal stamps.

Sweden's first King Gustaf V stamp showed the monarch at the age of 51 years. The last issue to bear his portrait was a semipostal series issued June 16, 1948 to mark his 90th birthday. The 40th



King Gustaf as he appears on some of Sweden's stamps.

anniversary of his coming to the throne was marked by a commemorative series Dec. 8, 1947 with a portrait of the 89-year-old monarch.

Crown Prince Gustav Adolf will succeed King Gustaf V. He is now 68 years old. No portrait of Sweden's new monarch has ever appeared on Sweden's stamps.

—Western Stamp Collector



Freemasonry in Sweden dates from 1735 when it was founded by Count Axel Ericson Wrede-Sparre. Lodges were organized under the Grand Lodge of France until 1760 when the National Grand Lodge of Sweden was formally constituted.

As in other Scandinavian Countries Freemasonry is supported by the Ruling Family. Beginning in 1753 with King Adolph Frederick, each King of Sweden has been either "Protector" or Grand Master of the Craft. Since 1800 the Organization has been on a sound basis and has shown steady progress. To-day there are about 43 Lodges with over 14000 members.

The late King Gustave V was Grand Master. He was Initiated by his Father Oscar II on January 13, 1877 in Lodge Nordiska Forsta, Stockholm.

The then Crown Prince Gustave Adolph, now King Gustave VI, was Deputy Grand Master under his father.

---Sam Brooks

Brother Harold Matters our Brooklyn reporter, tells us that Brother Dr. Clarence Hennen of Chicago, recently showed pages from several of his famous collections, at the Collectors Club at 22 East 35 St. Harold adds that the showing was a huge success and the room was filled to over-flowing.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH STAMP

The following cachet appears on the latest of my covers:



The U.S. Capitol, pictured on a legislative branch commemorative stamp issued November 22, 1950, is a structure with which the Masonic Fraternity has been identified. Twice Masons were called upon to lay cornerstones

with ceremonies of the Craft. The first time was on September 18, 1793, when President George Washington, wearing his Masonic apron, acted as Grand Master. The same apron and gavel were used by the Grand Master of the District of Columbia on July 4, 1851, when he laid the cornerstone of an addition. The principal architect was Capt. James Hoban, founding member and first Master of Federal Lodge (now No. 1), Washington, chartered in 1793 by the Grand Lodge of Maryland.

-- John A. Mirt, Chicago.

Members active in other organizations and at shows---

At the American Airmail Society International Airpost Exhibition in Philadelphia recently, Brother Harry L. Lindquist was chairman of the Judges. Brother Sol Glass of Baltimore was awarded a gold medal for his U.S. Airmail Issues.

Also in Philadelphia at the 16th Annual Convention of the American Philatelic Congress, Brother Dr. Clarence Hennen of Chicago was elected President, and Brother W.R. McCoy of New York was elected Vice-President. Members of the Council include brothers F.R. Bruns, Jr., W.R. McCoy, Sol Glass, Julius Windner and Dr. C.W. Hennen.

At the Exhibition held in connection with the Congress, George B. Wray won a second prize for his Sanitary Fair Collection and Franklin R. Bruns, Jr. received an A.P.S. award.

At Stampex of 1950 in Newark, N.J. Brother Sidney Barrett was a Judge and Brother Fred Barovick of Brooklyn won a Trophy for his Souvenir Sheets of the World.

To all of these Brothers--HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS.

FOR YOUR MASONIC STAMP COLLECTION

The Masonic philatelist will find a lot of material for his collection in the new issues. It is merely a matter of knowing your Masonic history or ritual. For instance, Western Germany recently put out a stamp with the initials E. R. P., which stands for European Recovery Program, better known as the Marshall Plan. The plan was developed by General George C. Marshall, who was made a Mason "at sight" by the Grand Master of the District of Columbia in December 1941. The E. R. P. has been given recognition previously. Italy in 1949 issued a series of three stamps on which the initials were used.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, the Mason, is honored on a new series of air mail stamps issued by Paraguay, adding to an already large issue of stamps honoring the late President. The Star of David, the seal of



King Solomon, is finely displayed on an Israeli stamp, which is a beautiful work of art as well. Of special interest to the Royal Arch Mason is a new 2-lire stamp issued as part of a series by Italy.



On it is pictured an operative Mason placing the keystone of an arch. All of these stamps have come out in a relatively short time, which gives you an idea of the endless possibilities of a Masonic stamp collection. As I said before, it is only a matter of knowing your Masonry. This is just another reason why you should attend your Lodge regularly. Also of great help is the reading of Masonic publications with their report of Masons who figure in the news of the day.--John A. Mirt.

