

The PHILATELIC FREEMASON.



Journal of the Masonic Unit,
American Topical Assn.

Walter J. Kirby, Editor
2106 N. Van Buren Street
Little Rock, AR 72207

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AN APOLOGY—

Your editor offers his sincere apologies for the delay in this issue of the PHILATELIC FREEMASON. At 2 a.m. September 25 your editor was rushed to the hospital with a heart attack, and this is used as his excuse.

My doctors say that I have made an astonishing recovery, and that, by using judgment, I should be able to take up my usual routine, "but do not overdo it."

Can one "overdo" stamp collecting? For 55 years I have enjoyed the benefits of Freemasonry, and for a like period of time I have enjoyed stamp collecting. For the past several years I have (with apologies to Wrigley) "doubled my pleasure, doubled my fun" by combining the two.

I greatly enjoy editing the PHILATELIC FREEMASON, and appreciate very much the cooperation and support I have received from our members. It is my hope that this may continue.

— Walter J. Kirby.

MADE A MASON "AT SIGHT"—

Senator John Hershell Glenn, Jr., the ex-astronaut, was made a Mason "at sight" on August 19, 1978, by the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Ohio, Jerry C. Rasor, at Chillicothe. This honor came in connection with the 170th anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Ohio and the 175th anniversary of the founding of the state.

Bro. Glenn was born in Cambridge, Ohio, July 18, 1921. He entered Muskingum College in 1939, but left in his junior year to take preflight training in the Naval Aviation Cadet Program. As a pilot in the Marine Corps, he flew a total of 149 combat missions in World War II and the Korean War. On Feb. 20, 1962, he became the first American to orbit the earth, accomplishing the feat in a Project Mercury Gemini capsule called Friendship VII. The three-orbit flight covered about 81,000 miles in slightly under five hours.

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He retired from the Marine Corps in 1965 and became a business executive and consultant to the National Aeronautic and Space Administration (NASA). His many awards include the Distinguished Flying Cross (five times) and the Air Medal with 18 clusters.

As this is written we have not been advised what lodge Bro. Glenn has affiliated with.

As for stamps picturing Bro. Glenn, we are sure there are several, but only collecting Masons on stamps, we have paid no attention to them until he became a Mason. Our 1962 issue, Scott's No. 1193, shows Friendship 7 orbiting the earth with Bro. Glenn, and Romania No. C153, 1964, pictures him. Will someone compile us a check-list of this new brother?

ANTONIO CARLOS GOMEZ. 1836-1896.

Gomez was born in the state of Sao Paulo. His father was a minor composer and conducted the local philharmonic orchestra, so that Carlos was exposed to music at his earliest years.



Carlos Gomez became one of Brazil's leading composers. Of his several operas, "Il Guarany" which he composed in 1870 while studying under Rossi in Milan, is best known. He served for a time as conductor of the Para Conservatory.

Gomez was initiated into Freemasonry July 24, 1869, in Lodge "Amizade" in Sao Paulo. He is pictured on Brazil's issue of 1926, Scott's Nos. 422-423, with "Il Gaarany" on Nos. 424-425. He also is pictured on No. 1155, issued in 1970.

-- Dennis I. Duveen.

Editor's note -- In our Oct.-Nov., 1977, issue "Il Guarany" was erroneously referred to as Brazil's national anthem. For the record, the National anthem was composed by Manoel da Silva in 1831.

CASIMIR STANISLAUS GZOWSKI (1813-1898)--

Gzowski, the Polish engineer who constructed the International Bridge over the Niagara River Gorge at Niagara Falls in 1871-73, is portrayed on a 8.40 zloty + 4 zl. souvenir sheet issued in June by Poland in honor of the Canadian International Philatelic Exhibition, CAPEX '78. The sheet also pictures Niagara Falls.

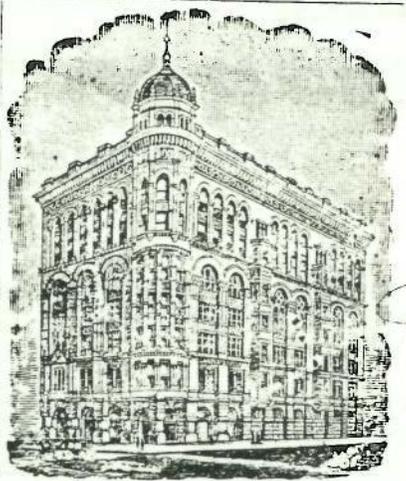
Details of Bro. Gzowski were published in our Feb. Mar., 1978, issue on Page 35.

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THE CUSTOM of the President throwing out the first baseball to open the new season was started when Bro. William Howard Taft threw out the first ball at a game between the Washington Senators and the Philadelphia Athletics in April of 1910.

WARREN G. HARBING was the first president to ride to his inauguration in an automobile.

A MASONIC TEMPLE BURNS



MAGNOLIA LODGE NO. 60.
F. and A. M.
G. W. SKIDMORE, SECRETARY.
522 Main St. . . Little Rock, Ark.



Mrs W. J. Whitnell
C/o W. J. Whitnell
Gazette
City

At 3:30 a.m., August 27, 1919, fire broke out in the Masonic Temple at Little Rock (Ark.) completely destroying the building and records of all Masonic Bodies in the state.

The Temple, located at Fifth and Main streets, built in 1893, was seven stories high, the tallest building in the city and said to have been the tallest all-brick building in the country. Owned by the Masonic Grand Lodge of Arkansas, it was built at a cost of \$70,000 — a large sum at that time. The ground floor was occupied by the Exchange National Bank and shops, offices occupied the next four floors, while various Masonic Bodies occupied the two top floors.

The Temple was not constructed as such buildings are today, in that it contained no iron or steel. Its girders, beams and floors were all of timber (probably Arkansas soft yellow pine) and had been in use for more than a quarter-century, so were dry as tinder. When the fire broke out it was soon a mass of flames, the open elevator shaft acting as a chimney in spreading the fire.

The Temple's location was in the heart of the Little Rock business district. The city was dependent on street cars, rather than private transportation, and all cars were routed by that particular intersection. Parts of the walls remained standing for three days, and transportation had to be re-routed, causing much confusion. The fire department's lone ladder truck was used to pull down the walls.

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Renters in the building reported a total insurance coverage of more than \$125,000, this representing only a part of their actual loss. The building itself was adequately insured, but no monetary value can be placed on the loss of Masonic records and mementoes.

Fortunately, no personal injuries were reported, but the monetary loss was the greatest the city had suffered from fire at that time.

-- From the Editor's files.

MASONRY IN LUXEMBURG----

On September 11, 1978, the Postoffice of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg issued a stamp to commemorate the fact that 175 years of Freemasonry was definitely established in Luxemburg.

In the 18th Century the Duchy of Luxemburg was part of the Austrain Netherlands (now Belgium). In 1744 the Empress Marie Theresa appointed her brother-in-law , Charles of Lorraine, Governor General of the Austrain Netherlands. Both Charles of Lorraine (1717-1780) and his brother, the Emperor Francis, were active Masons. Charles did much to stimulate the development of Masonry in his countries and refused to implement the papal bulls issued against Freemasonry by Popes Clemens XII and Benedict XIV. He founded the Lodges "Saint Charles" in Brussels and "L'Unaninite" in Tournai. His portrait appears on Belgian stamps of 1941 and 1949, (Scott's 294 and 475.)

At this time there were in the city of Luxemburg some mainly ambulatory military lodges, including "La Parfaite Union," founded in 1770. The decree of May 15, 1786, issued by the Emperor Joseph II (1780-1790) made the work of the lodges in the Austrian Netherlands virtually impossible. As a result of the decree the Lodge "La Parfaite Union " had to close in that year. The work, however, was continued in secret.

From 1894-1815 Luxemburg was under French governance. In 1802 the French army occupying Luxemburg counted three ambulatory lodges connected with different regiments: "La Concorde," "La Fraternelite" and a new "La Parfaite Union." During their stay in Luxemburg these lodges also admitted and initiated civilians.

As early as 1802 the French regiments these lodges were attached to had to leave Luxemburg for duties elsewhere. With their departure civilian members found themselves without a meeting place. They founded a new lodge named "Les Enfants de la Concorde Fortifies," recognized by the "Grand Orient de France." This was the first definite lodge in Luxemburg, and it has



determined Masonic life in Luxemburg until the present day. It is the foundation of this lodge on the 28th day of the the third month of the Year of Light, 5803 (May 28, 1803) which the Luxemburg postoffice commemorates by issuing this stamp 175 years after the event. On the stamp we see the Cubic Stone rising from the rough rocks of the Luxemburg mountains, symbolizing the ideals of Freemasonry.

The political storms raging over Europe in the first half of the 19th cen-

tury did not leave Luxemburg undisturbed. 1815 witnessed the end of the Napoleonic Empire. At the Congress of Vienna the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg was joined in personal union with the Kingdom of the Netherlands. This meant that the kings of the Netherlands were at the same time Grand Dukes of Luxemburg. In this period the Lodge "Les Enfants de la Concorde Fortifiée" resorted under the Grand East of the Netherlands, of which Prince Frederik was Grand Master for 65 years.

In 1839, after the Belgian Revolt, the French speaking part of Luxemburg joined the Kingdom of Belgium; the German speaking part, with the city of Luxemburg as its capitol continued the personal union with the Netherlands as an independent Grand Duchy.

In 1840 King William I abdicated. His son succeeded him as William II, King of the Netherlands and Grand Duke of Luxemburg. He was a Freemason, initiated March 4, 1817, in the Lodge "L'Espérance" in Brussels and an honorary member of this lodge. His portrait appears on three stamps of the Netherlands in 1913 (Scott's 91, 95 and 99) and on one stamp of Luxemburg in 1939 (Scott's #208).

The king formed a committee to draw up a constitution for the Grand Duchy. The Luxemburg statesman, Bro. Jean Baptiste Gelle, who was Worshipful Master of the Lodge "Les Enfants de la Concorde Fortifiée" from 1815 to 1846, was appointed president of this committee. Bro. Kaspar Theodor Ignace de la Fontaine (1787-1871) was appointed governor of Luxemburg.

In his own country Ignace de la Fontaine was one of the best known personalities of the political and scientific life in the first half of the 19th century. As representative for Luxemburg in the States General of the Netherlands he acquired great merit, especially for the reorganization of education in his country. After nine years as member and president of the Audit-office he became a Minister in 1841. He was governor from 1842 to 1848. After that he was town councillor of the city of Luxemburg. His leisure time was devoted to the archeology and numismatics of his country. He was the founder of the Luxemburg Archeological Institute. He was a member of the Lodge "Les Enfants de la Concorde Fortifiée." He appears on a stamp of Luxemburg in 1956 (Scott's #322.)

The independence of Luxemburg had its consequences for Masonry. The Lodge "Les Enfants de la Concorde Fortifiée" had to convene under autonomous constitution or join a foreign Obedience. It preferred the former and in 1844 constituted the "Loge Centrale pour le Grand-Duché de Luxembourg," conferring on itself the authority of a Grand Lodge. From that time forwards Freemasonry in Luxemburg was completely independent. There are now three lodges, all in the city of Luxemburg.

-- Wessel M. Lans.

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THE STATUE of "Freedom" atop the capitol dome in Washington was designed by Thomas Crawford and sculpted by Clark Mills. Mills was initiated in Lebanon Lodge No. 7, Washington, D.C., on May 4, 1849. The statue is depicted on a U.S. stamp of 1950, Scott's No. 989.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN proposed that the wild turkey be adopted as the symbol of our country; the eagle was chosen instead.

NEW MEMBERS--

- * 47 Charles R. Hartman, 1121 Fairmont Pike, Wheeling, W. Va. 26003
 - * 54 Marvin Green, 209 Laurel St., Beverly, N.J. 08010
 - * 67 Moises D. Pancer, P.O. Box Airmail 1616, Barranquilla, COLOMBIA, S.A.
 - 88 A. H. Oliveira Marques, R. Francisco Andrade, 10, Lisbon, 5, PORTUGAL
 - 89 Salum Jorge Nacif, Rua Santo Antonio #98, Caixa Postal #43, 38790, Laguna Santa Catarina, BRAZIL
 - 90 Wessel M. Lans, 27 Primulastraat, #2565 PH, The Hague, NETHERLANDS
 - 91 Milton Smith, 2103 Upper Street, Dennis Road, St. Paul, Minn. 55116
 - 92 Jan W. van Daalen, Museum Kanstraat #76, Nijmegen, #6522 GD, NETHERLANDS
 - 93 Simon L. Alpern, 245 E. Gum Hill Road, Bronx, N.Y. 10467
 - 94 B. L. Richards, P.O. Box 55022, Sherman Oaks, Cal. 91403
 - 95 Mrs. Rosa M. Kesselmen, NPMC-ENT Dept., 7500 E. Carson, Long Beach, Cal. 9082
- * These numbers originally assigned to member suspended N.P.D.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

- 2 Marshall S. Loke, 238 Laverne Drive, Rochester, N.Y. 14616
- 21 Dr. C. R. MacKenzie, 96 Rouken Glen, 381 Musgrave Rd., Durban 4001, Republic of South Africa.

JEAN BAPTISTE FRESEZ (1800-1867)--

Jean Baptiste Fresez was of working-class stock from Longwy. He studied art in Brussels and Antwerp. From 1811 to 1867 he was a Professor at the Athenium of Luxemburg. He acquired great fame as a painter of portraits and landscapes. Several of his paintings of old Luxemburg castle ruins are very valuable as they preserved for posterity many important things that have disappeared.

Bro. Fresez was initiated January 1, passed April 6 and raised May 30, all in 1838. He appears on four stamps of Luxemburg in 1952, Scott's #B170-173.

— Wessel M. Lans.

HANS GEORG WENZESLAUS VON KNOBELSDORFF --

von Knobelsdorff was the favorite architect of Frederick the Great and a painter. He belonged to the intimate friends of the Crown Prince, later King Frederick. He was a member of the king's court lodge which was called "Loge Premiere" or "Loge du Roi notre Grand Maitre." He did not affiliate - as most of the intimates of the King did - with the "Statdloge" known as "Aux Trois Globes" which was founded in 1740. It is not known when he was initiated. It must have been sometime between the autumn of 1738 and the king's accession to the throne in June of 1740.

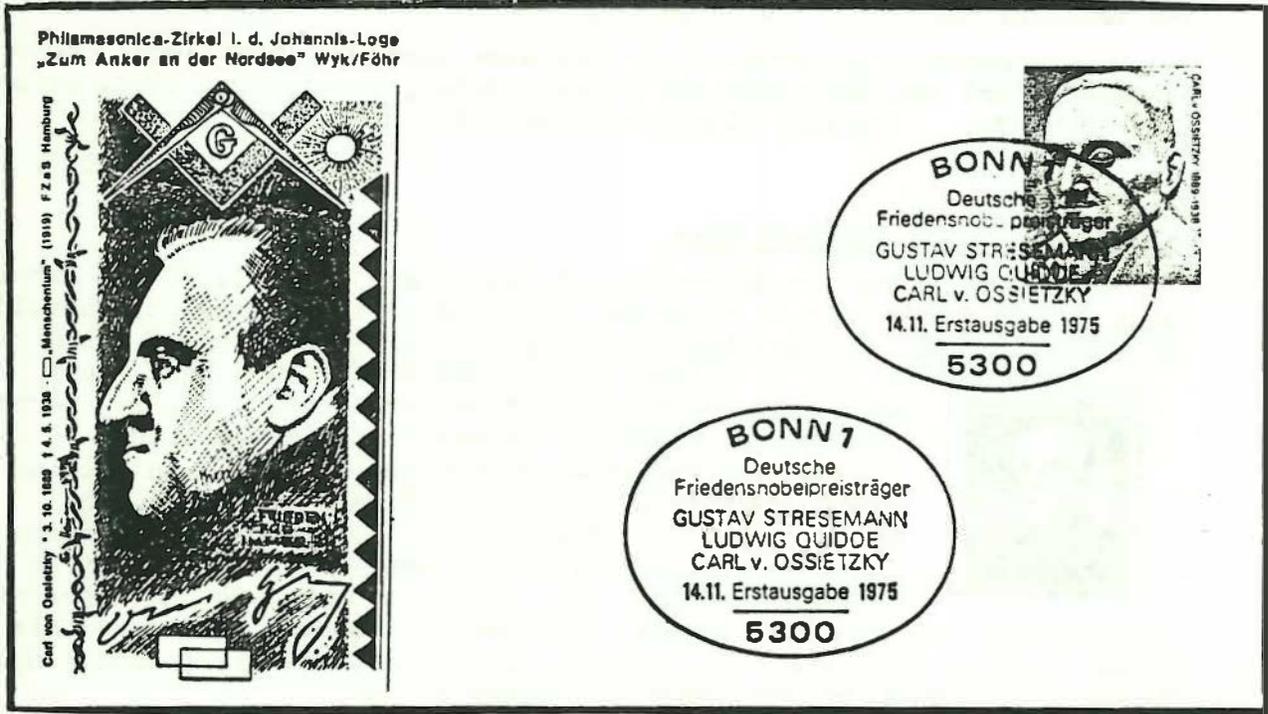


von Knobelsdorff's likeness appears on a 20pf stamp that was issued in honor of the 275th anniversary of his birth on Feb. 15, 1974, Scott's No. 9N344.

— John M. Cunningham.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT'S likeness appears on the stamps of more than twenty countries.

CARL VON OSSIETZKY -- 1889-1938 --



Cover courtesy John M. Cunningham

Carl von Ossietzky served in the German army in World War I and later worked on newspapers. He took the editorship of the leading antimilitarist paper and was secretary of the German peace organization. Imprisoned in 1931 for allegedly betraying military secrets, he was freed in the amnesty of 1932, but when Adolf Hitler came to power the following year, he was sent to a concentration camp. When he was later released in broken health, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 1935. The Nazi government was infuriated by the award and forbade German citizens accepting Nobel prizes thereafter.

Ossietzky was initiated in April, 1919, in the Lodge "Menschentum" in Hamburg, a lodge later under the jurisdiction of the "Freimaurerbund zur Aufgehenden Sonne." This grand lodge was irregular before World War II, but was received into the United Grand Lodge of Germany after the war.

Ossietzky is pictured on a miniature sheet of three Nobel Prize winners: himself, Gustave Stresemann and Ludwig Quidde, Scott's No. 1206. He also is on 1964 issue of German Democratic Republic, Scott's No. 718, issued to promote world peace.

GUSTAVE STRESEMANN (1878-1929)--

Stresemann was educated at the Universities of Berlin and Leipzig. He entered the German parliament in 1907, was foreign minister from 1923 until his death, and was the country's leading statesman. He obtained the entry of Germany into the League of Nations on equal terms with the Allied nations, effected a security pact with France, and for their work toward international peace both he and French premier Aristide Briand shared the Nobel Peace prize in 1926.

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Stresemann was initiated June 22, 1923, in Lodge "Friedrich de Grosse" No. 618 of the Grossloge zu den drei Weltkugeln in Berlin. He was made an honorary member of the Lodge "Zur Beständigkeit" in 1927.

Stresemann is pictured on a miniature sheet of three Nobel Prize winners; himself, Carl von Ossietzky and Ludwig Quidde, Scott's No. 1204, issued November 14, 1975. Quidde, alone, was not a Mason.

-- Marshall S. Loke.

M. REW A. MELLON (1835-1937)--

Graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 1873, Mellon embarked upon a business career in which he was involved in banking, the development of coal and coke for the steel industry and the processing of aluminum.



He was an officer in the Mellon National Bank, Gulf Oil and Alcoa and many other corporations. His personal fortune was estimated in excess of \$50 million. He was a staunch Republican and was instrumental in aiding Henry Cabot Lodge defeat the Treaty of Versailles. He was appointed Secretary of the Treasury by Harding in 1921 and served 11 years, being re-appointed by Coolidge and Hoover. Mellon was unable to cope with the depression and recommended wage cuts and lowered work weeks. Hoover then named him Ambassador to Great Britain. A grant of \$15 million and his personal collection became the nucleus of the National Gallery of Art.

He and his brother, Richard, were both made Masons "at sight" by J. W. Smith, Grand Master of Pennsylvania, on Dec. 29, 1928. He affiliated with Fellowship Lodge No. 679 at Pittsburgh. A 3c stamp, issued Dec. 20, 1955, Scott's No. 1072, commemorates the centenary of his birth.

-- Norman G. Lincoln.

A QUESTIONNAIRE--

On the inside of the cover sheet of this issue of the PHILATELIC FREEMASON is a questionnaire that is IMPORTANT. Please fill it out and mail to Secretary Needham TODAY.

BERTEL THORVALDSEN (1770-1844)--

Thorvaldsen, the Danish sculptor, was educated at the Copenhagen Royal Academy of Arts. He won a scholarship and went to Italy to study classical sculpture. Living in Rome 42 years, he became a leading artist of classical works. Retiring in 1878, he returned to Copenhagen where he died suddenly. A large part of his fortune was left as a perpetual endowment for the Thorvaldsen Museum in Copenhagen which contains a collection of his works and art treasures. His tomb is in the courtyard of the museum.

Thorvaldsen was a Freemason. Although the early details are rather obscure, he seems to have been initiated in a Roman lodge "una loggia secreta" during the first years of the 19th century, and it is known that he visited lodges in Switzerland. During one of his visits to Copenhagen, he was made, on October 27, 1819, an honorary member of the Danish Lodge Friederich zur gekronon Hoffnung.

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Iceland on Nov. 19, 1975, issued a 40 krone stamp picturing a statue of Thorvaldsen. Other stamps honoring Thorvaldsen are Denmark Scott's No. 264 and 266 (1938) and No. 477 (1970.) Statues by Thorvaldsen are found on Denmark No. 265 (1938) "Jason and the Golden Fleece," and on Italy No. 771 (1959) "Lord Byron."

PIET RETIEF (1770-1838)--

Piet Retief was born in Cape Colony near the town of Wellington. As a young man he settled on the farm "Mooimeisiesfontein" (pretty Girls' fountain) in 1824. After many vicissitudes he became a wealthy farmer. Dutch rule in the Cape had given way to British, who taking their duties seriously and despite the fact the majority of the people spoke only Dutch, declared that English would be the official language. The sparks of nationalism in the frontiersmen, who had lived relatively free of state control were fanned.



Piet Retief drew up a manifesto setting out the reasons for him and his fellows leaving the Cape and trekking inland. He handed the manifesto to Sir Benjamin D'Urban when he led the Great Trek to the interior in 1837. In all some 10,000 trekkers

left the Cape in the next ten years. Establishing a settlement at what is now Winberg, after incredible hardships he arrived at Port Natal (now called Durban) he and his fellow trekkers lived in friendship with a small British settlement.

He led a contingent of about 70 of his followers to the Zulu king, Dingaan, at Umgungundlovu to negotiate a grant of land for a settlement. Dingaan, before discussing the matter, demanded their help in recovering some stolen cattle. When this had been done and the treaty signed, Retief and his followers were massacred early in February of 1838. After this treachery Dingaan fell upon the settlement near Port Natal and slaughtered many of the inhabitants who finally beat off the Zulu onslaught. Following the death of Retief, Andries Pretorius (see our April issue) was chosen to lead the trekkers. He avowed to avenge the death of his people, promising to build a church if victorious. Successful in his undertaking, he fulfilled his vow. For many years December 16 was observed as the "Day of the Covenant" in South Africa.

A Mason, Piet Retief was raised in Lodge de Vereeniging, Nederlandic Constitution, at Oudtshoorn, having ridden all the way from Grahams-town for this purpose. This lodge is now Lodge de Vereeniging No. 3, Grand Lodge of South Africa.



A 1938 semi-postal issue of South Africa pictures Retief signing the treaty with Dingaan, 1½d+1½d, Scott's No. B7. The Church of the Vow is on a 1933 semi-postal 1½d+1½d, Scott's No. B1.

-- Dr. Colin R. MacKenzie.

JOHN PHILLIP SOUSA, the "March King," invented the "Sousaphone." It is shown on a 20 haleru stamp of Czechoslovakia issued in 1974.

JAMES BUCHANAN (1771-1868)--

James Buchanan was born of Scottish descent in a log cabin near Mercersburg, Pennsylvania. He graduated at the age of 18 from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa., with the highest honors in his class; was admitted to the bar at the age of 21. He was a volunteer in the war of 1812.

He served in the lower house of the state legislature from 1814 to 1815; was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1821 and served ten years. He was Minister to Russia in 1831, where he concluded a favorable commercial treaty. He was U.S. Senator from 1835 to 1845, Secretary of State from 1845 to 1849. He became Minister to England in 1853, returning home in 1856.



Nominated for the presidency by the Democrats, he was elected the 15th President in 1856, the first elected by his party. He served only one term. Buchanan was the only bachelor president; the mistress of the White House was his niece, Harriet Lane, the orphaned daughter of his sister. On his retirement he lived quietly at Wheatland, his homestead near Lancaster, Pa.

James Buchanan was made a Mason in Lodge No. 43, Lancaster, Pa., on December 11, 1816. He was elected Junior Warden of his lodge in 1821, Senior Warden in 1822, and Worshipful Master in 1823. He was appointed the first District Deputy Grand Master of his district in 1824. He was a member of Royal Arch Chapter No. 24 at Lancaster. While president he contributed \$100.00 to Lodge No. 43 and on March 10, 1858, was elected an "honorary" member, the record book being changed from "life" to "honorary." He assisted in the Masonic dedication of the equestrian statue of Brother George Washington in Washington Circle, Washington, D.C., and delivered the dedicatory address.



The 15¢ stamp of the definitive issue of 1938, Scott's No. 820, is from the photograph of a bust by Henry Dexter in the National Gallery of Art. A 1956 issue, Scott's No. 1081, pictures his home, "Wheatland" at Lancaster. A 1960 issue of Japan, Scott's No. 684, pictures him receiving the first Japanese diplomatic mission on May 17-18, 1860.

STAMPS FOR SHRINER'S HOSPITAL--

Kids in the Shriner's Hospitals can use your duplicate stamps, either U.S. or foreign, inexpensive, common or commems. They are used not only as therapy, but to teach them our hobby. Please help them out. Send them to M.U. #74, Bro. Madison B. Cole, Jr., 213 West Oakley Dr., Apt. 106, Westmont, Illinois 60559. He will forward them to some hospital.

DON'T OVERLOOK the questionnaire with this issue of PHILATELIC FREEMASON. Please fill it out and mail to Bro. Needham TODAY.

WALTER F. GEORGE, senator from Georgia, served as ambassador to NATO in 1957.