

The PHILATELIC FREEMASON.



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WHOLE NO. 10

TWO MASONIC STAMPS PROMISED IN 1979—

The USPS has promised stamps honoring two members of our Fraternity in 1979.

Admiral John Paul Jones, father of the American Navy, will be honored with a stamp to be issued September 23. Admiral Jones is depicted on the 1¢ Navy of the Army and Navy issue of 1937, Scott's No. 790.

Will Rogers, humorist, author and actor, will be honored with a stamp to be issued November 14. Brother Rogers appeared on a 3¢ stamp issued in 1948, Scott's No. 975, and on the Nicaragua Earthquake issue of 1939.

A biography of each of these brethren will be published later.

MAKING A MASON "AT SIGHT"—

Making a Mason of Senator John Herschel Glenn, Jr., "at sight" is the first of this we have heard of in some time. (See our last issue, page 81.)

The practice of making a Mason "at sight" has long been controversial. In some jurisdictions it is forbidden, while in others it is left at the discretion of the Grand Master. This is a method used to confer the degrees on a candidate, usually (as in the case of Senator Glenn) a well-known person of excellent character.

The candidate has not made application to any lodge, been investigated and balloted upon. There is no lapse of time between degrees, nor examination for proficiency. Instead, these requirements are waived. The Grand Master calls an "Occasional Lodge," consisting of qualified officers of his selection. These confer the degrees in "short form," and obligate the candidate. After the ceremony he is really a non-affiliated Mason, who should make application to a regular lodge for affiliation. In the case of Brother Glenn, he affiliated with Concord Lodge No. 688, New Concord, Ohio.

In our collections of Masons on Stamps, Brother Glenn is the latest to have been "made a Mason 'at sight.'" Other are Admiral Winfield Scott

fwd.

Schley, made a Mason by J. H. Small, Grand Master of the District of Columbia, on October 21, 1899. He affiliated with Benjamin B. French Lodge No. 15, later that day; he received the 33d Degree October 25, 1907.

President William Howard Taft was made a Mason February 18, 1909, by Chas. B. Haskinson, Grand Master of Ohio. Two months later he affiliated with Kilwinning Lodge No. 356, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Andrew W. Mellon was made a Mason December 29, 1928, by J. William Smith, Grand Master of Pennsylvania. He affiliated with Fellowship Lodge No. 679 in Pittsburgh, later receiving the Royal Arch degrees.

General Douglas MacArthur was made a Mason January 17, 1936, by Samuel W. Hawthorne, Grand Master of the Philippines. He affiliated with Manila Lodge No. 1, later attaining the 33d Degree.

General George C. Marshall was made a Mason December 16, 1941, by Asa M. Daniels, Grand Master of the District of Columbia. General Marshall never affiliated with any regular lodge, hence many do not consider him to have been a member of the Fraternity.

Other prominent persons have been made a Mason "at sight," in various jurisdictions, but have never been philatelically honored.

AN AUSTRALIAN STAMP OF MASONIC SIGNIFICANCE—

A stamp commemorating the establishment of Government of the Northern Territory was issued by Australia on July 1, 1978, with a floral emblem of the Desert Rose. The establishment of the Territory is an initial step toward the eventual establishment of the Territory's statehood.

The Territory has its own Grand Lodge, apart from South Australia, and the Craft is very active in the Territory, having Darwin as its headquarters. Four hundred Freemasons watched the laying of the cornerstone of Masonic Memorial Village, a project for senior citizens, on June 19, 1969. This is a \$10,000 project. Grand Master Canon Ray laid the stone, containing many Masonic documents and mementoes.

— Leslie C. Kelly

Editor's Note — The floral emblem, Stuart's Desert Rose, was named for the Australian explorer, John McDouall Stuart, Scott's No. 345, of 1962, as was Stuart's Desert Pea. The Rose has previously appeared on the 2¢, 4¢ and 6¢ of the 1970-75 coil issues. The Desert Pea appears on the 7¢ and 10¢ of this issue and on the 20¢ of the State Flower issue of 1968, Scott's No. 437.

MACARTHUR CENTENARY—

General Douglas MacArthur, 33^o, was born at Little Rock, Arkansas, on January 8, 1880. Now is the time to write Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, U.S. Postal Service, Washington, D.C. 20260, asking for a stamp marking the centenary of his birth. A letter to your congressman might also help.

I NEVER saw a man I didn't like.

-- Will Rogers

NEW ZEALAND TO HONOR MASON—

On February 7, 1979, New Zealand will issue a set of three stamps depicting different statesmen, one of these being M.W. Bro. RICHARD JOHN SEDDON (1845-1906.)

Born in Lancashire, he immigrated to Victoria in 1863 and to New Zealand in 1866. In 1879 he became a member of the House of Representatives and in 1891 Minister of Public Works, Mines and Defense. He was Prime Minister from 1893 until his death. Among the important measures of his ministry were Woman's Suffrage, the world's first Public Health Department, and fire insurance. A master of parliamentary procedure and a brilliant politician, Seddon presided over an era of reform initiated by other members of the Ministry. With his huge capacity for work, he was the right man for the parliamentary rough and tumble of the '90s. Seddon's attitude was that "it is better to wear out than to rust." In all, Seddon led the Liberal Party to victory in five successive elections, becoming popularly known as "King Dick." The achievement for which Seddon is perhaps best known today was his introduction of old age pensions in 1898.



His Masonic career spanned 37 years. He was initiated in Pacific Lodge No. 1229, E.C., at Hokitika in 1868. He joined Westland Kilwinning Lodge No. 467, S.C., of which he was Master in 1895. He was a founding member of Lazar Lodge No. 1689, E.C., of which he served as Warden. When in 1898 the choice of Grand Master was under consideration by the Canterbury brethren, Bro. Seddon, Premier of the colony, was asked to accept the nomination. He accepted and was installed as Grand Master at Christchurch on April 28, 1898. He entered upon his term of office heartened by the recognition accorded by the United Grand Lodge of England, and now that the majority of brethren were, without hindrance, free to fraternize, he strongly advocated full communication between all lodges. He referred to the great numerical strength of this Grand Lodge, but stressed upon the brethren that the strength of Masonry lay not in numbers but in moral stature. He was buried with a Masonic service June 21, 1906.

— John M. Cunningham.

A MASONIC COVER —

A Masonic cover was issued December 9, 1978, for a two-fold purpose—the 140th Anniversary of Mobile Lodge No. 40, F. & A.M., Mobile, Alabama, and Masonic Day in Mobile. Covers may be had at a cost of 75¢ or three for \$2.00. Please enclose a #10 SASE with your order. Order from Cover Chairman, Mobile Lodge No. 40, F. & A.M., P. O. Box 5146, Mobile, Ala. 36605.

A. P. BALL, predecessor of P. T. Barnum as the greatest showman of his time, was a member of Western Star Lodge No. 15 at Bridgewater, N.Y.

GENE AUTREY, singing star of stage, screen and radio, was raised in Catoosa Lodge No. 185, Catoosa, Oklahoma, in 1927.

MASONS ON DOCUMENTARY REVENUE STAMPS —

Bro. Norman G. Lincoln's excellent article in our May-June issue is a valuable contribution to the list of American Masons having stamps issued in their honor. Continuing the series, the two following stamps belong in our collections of Masonic Philately. — Editor.

OLIVER WOLCOTT, JR., (1760-1833) was a son of a signer of the Declaration of Independence, born at Litchfield, Connecticut. He graduated from Yale College in 1778 and served as a volunteer in the war until 1871, when he was admitted to the bar and began the practice of law at Hartford.

He was employed to handle the financial affairs of the state government and subsequently as commissioner to settle its accounts with the United States. He served as comptroller of public accounts of the United States, 1788-89; auditor of the United States treasury, 1889-91; comptroller, 1891-95; Secretary of the Treasury, 1795-1800, and judge of the United States circuit court, 1801-02.

In 1802 he removed to New York, engaged in mercantile business, founded the Bank of North America and was its president, 1812-14. With his brother, Frederick, he founded extensive manufacturing establishments at Wolcotts-ville near Litchfield, Connecticut. He was governor of Connecticut from 1819 to 1827, after which he resided in New York until his death.

Oliver Wolcott, Jr., was made a Mason on January 28, 1784, in St. John's Lodge No. 4, Hartford, Connecticut, and was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, 1818-20, while serving as governor. He is pictured on the 2¢ U.S. Revenue stamp, Scott's No. R289.

LEVI WOODBURY (1789-1851) was a native of Francestown, New Hampshire. He graduated from Dartmouth in 1819 with highest honors. After being admitted to the bar in 1812 he began to practice law in his native town. He was appointed judge of the state supreme court in 1816, elected governor of New Hampshire in 1823, elected United States Senator in 1825, appointed Secretary of the Navy in 1831, Secretary of the Treasury in 1834, remaining in that office until 1841 when he was again elected to the Senate. In 1845 he was appointed to the United States supreme court and held that office until his death.

Levi Woodbury was initiated in Washington Lodge No. 13, Exeter, New Hampshire, on June 20, 1811, receiving the fellowcraft degree on August 20; there is no record of his having received the Master's degree. He is depicted on the \$1.00 U.S. Revenue stamp, Scott's No. R300.

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TO YOUR CHILDREN, recommend virtue, for that, alone, not money, can give happiness.

— Ludwig von Beethoven.

MASONIC CORNERSTONES —



I have information on a few cornerstones laid with Masonic services. Most of them go back pretty far, and will make a nice addition to your Masonic collection. Does anyone know of others of more recent years?

Numbers listed are all Scott's numbers.

ARKANSAS STATE CAPITOL (No. 782.) Laid November 27, 1890, by the Grand Lodge of Arkansas.

FLORIDA STATE CAPITOL (No. 927.) Corner stones to extensions to the capitol laid by Florida Grand Lodge in 1922, 1936 and 1946.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE (No. 943.) Benjamin B. French, Grand Master of the District of Columbia, laid the cornerstone of the Smithsonian May 1, 1847. Present were President James K. Polk and Vice-president George Dallas, both Masons.

WHITE HOUSE (No. 990.) Laid October 17, 1792, by Georgetown Lodge No. 9 of Maryland. Peter Casanave, Grand Master, "gave an oration well adapted to the occasion."

NATIONAL CAPITOL (No. 992.) Laid by George Washington September 18, 1793, while President and Master of Alexandria Lodge No. 22, under auspices of the Grand Lodge of Maryland.

COLORADO STATE CAPITOL (No. 1001.) Laid July 4, 1890, by the Grand Lodge of Colorado.

BALTIMORE & OHIO RAILROAD (No. 1006.) The Grand Masters of Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland joined on July 4, 1828, to lay the first stone. Charles Carroll of Carrollton, last surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence, had a part.

BUNKER HILL MONUMENT (No. 1034.) Lafayette laid this stone, June 17, 1825. Daniel Webster delivered one of his most memorable orations.

INDEPENDENCE HALL (No. 1044.) Benjamin Franklin, Grand Master of Pennsylvania, and the brethren of St. John's Lodge of Philadelphia, laid the cornerstone of the State House, now Independence Hall, in 1734.

STATUE OF LIBERTY (No. 1035.) Foundation stone laid August 5, 1884, by William A. Brodie, Grand Master of New York.

WASHINGTON MONUMENT (No. 1158.) Laid July 4, 1848, by the District of Columbia Grand Lodge, assisted by Grand Masters of Pennsylvania and Maryland. Alexandria Lodge No. 22 and Fredericksburg Lodge No. 9 attended, and Vice-president Dallas was present.

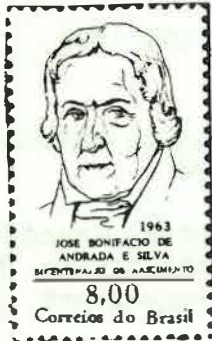
— Edwin C. Taschner.

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WHEN WRITING a fellow member of the Unit, why not use commemorative stamps, preferably of a Masonic nature? Remember, he collects stamps, too.

JOSE BONIFACIO DE ANDRADE E. SILVA (1763-1838)--

Jose Bonifacio was born in Santos, Sao Paule, and known as the "Patriarch of Independence." A graduate of Coimbra University in Portugal, he studied the Natural and Physical Sciences in Europe no less than ten years before returning to Brazil. He played an active part in the Declaration of Independence and from early youth was a crony of the Emperor, Dom Pedro I. In the first independent cabinet he served as Minister of Foreign Affairs. A devious and utterly unscrupulous, ambitious man he was exiled by the emperor in 1823, although the emperor recognized his learning and education and appointed him tutor to the future Emperor Dom Pedro II.



He was initiated in Masonry June 20, 1822, and elected Grand Master of the Grande Oriente of Brazil - for political reasons; again elected Grand Master in 1831, he served in that capacity a total of nine years. He was a member of the famous Lodge Comercio e Artes and subsequently the Lodge Uniao e Tranquilidade. He was responsible for the initiation of the Emperor Dom Pedro I.

He was philatelically honored with Dom Pedro I on Scott's No. 261, of 1922, on Nos. 789 and 792 of the issue of 1954-60, and No. 959 of 1963.

— Denis I. Duveen.

GEBHARD LEBERECHEIT VON BLUCHER, (1742-1819)--

von Blucher, Prince of Wahlstadt, was a Prussian field marshal, famous as a commander during the Napoleonic wars. He was described by a contemporary as a rough, ill-educated man, but endowed with common sense, fiery energy and indomitable courage. His appearance on the right flank at Waterloo with his army completed Napoleon's defeat.



He once said: "Since the days of my youth I have borne arms for my country and turned grey in doing so. I have seen death in its most terrible form, and I still have it in view. I have seen huts burning and their inmates leaving them naked and bare, - and I could not help. Such is the way and the raving of men driven by passion. But man striving for better things yearns to get out of this, and blessing it I welcome the hour when I, together with good and faithful brethren, can lift my mind to those higher regions where there radiates a light bright and pure. Sacred, therefore, is Masonry to me, to which I shall be attached till I die, and every brother will be dear and worthy to my heart."

He was initiated on Feb. 6, 1782, at the Lodge "Augusta zur goldenen Krone" in Stargard. Later he affiliated with the Lodge "Zu den drei Balken" in Munster, and was Worshipful Master of this lodge, 1802-06.

He is pictured with von Gneisenau on German Democratic Republic, Scott's No. 668, of 1963.

— John M. Cunningham

MASONRY IN GABON—

ALBERT BERNARD BONGO, president of the Republic of Gabon, is a Mason. After having undertaken a pilgrimage to Mecca, he is known as El Hadj Omar Bongo. He was elected president in 1967 after the death of the Republic's first president, Leon M'Ba, himself a Mason.

Omar Bongo was initiated May 13, 1965, in the Lodge "Les Hommes Libres" at Angouleme, France, under the jurisdiction of of the "Grand Orient de France." There was at that time some lodges in the Republic of Gabon, working under the jurisdiction of this irregular French Grand Lodge.

On the first of January, 1968, Bro. Bongo joined one of these lodges in Gabon, which now forms part of a since-founded Independent National Gabonese Obediente, named "Le Grand Rite Equatorial." He was "Grand Maitre d'Honneur" of this Grand Lodge.

In 1976 Bongo affiliated with the French established regular "Grande Loge Nationale Francaise" (French National Grand Lodge.) He has been regularized by a deputation of nine brethren from this Grand Lodge according to a ritual used for that purpose, in the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft and Master Mason September 26, 1976, at Libreville, the capital of Gabon. As Past Master under the "Grand Orient de France" he was also inaugurated in the "Chair of King Solomon." Bro. Bongo is now a member of the Lodge "Le Dialogue" No. 209 at Libreville, a lodge founded June 12, 1977.

Bongo's likeness appears on Scott's Nos. 228-229 (1968), C75-C76 (1968) and C105 (1971).

LEON M'BA, first president of the Republic of Gabon, was born February 9, 1902, and died Nov. 28, 1967, having been president since 1961. Prior to this time he had served as Premier, and as mayor of Libreville.

He was initiated April 15, 1958, passed December 12, 1958, and raised March 3, 1959, in the Lodge "Loyaute-Fidelite" in Paris under the "Grand Orient de France." He affiliated December 11, 1961, in the Lodge "Akademos" and June 20, 1966, in the Lodge "Condorcet."

M'Ba appears on Scott's Nos. 148-149 (1959), L60-162 (1962), C37 (1965) and C74 (1968.)

— Wessel M. Lans.

SIR WALTER SCOTT, during his final illness, asked his son-in-law to bring him "the Book." When asked "Which book, sire?" Scott replied "Need you ask? There is but one Book — the Bible."

FIORIELLO H. LaGUARDIA served three terms as mayor of New York City, in addition to a term in the U.S. Congress.

WE REACH THE "CENTURY MARK" !!!—



WE
HAVE
SOME
THING
TO CROW
ABOUT!

This is the TENTH issue of the PHILATELIC FREEMASON, which means we have published ONE HUNDRED PAGES of Masonic biographies, check lists and other interesting trivia. We began with the idea of making this the best of the unit news letters. Now that some of our foreign members are sending us interesting material, we feel that goal is in sight.

WE'RE NOT HORSING AROUND



We have also reached the "century mark" in membership. If "every member gets a member," we can double our membership! Let's all work on this. Following is a list of new members since our last issue:

- 96 Wm. C. Carraoher, 744 W. 69th Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V6P 2W3, CANADA
- 97 Norris C. Berg, 915 Pleasant Drive, Plattsmouth, Neb. 69048
- 98 G. Richard Marshall, 1471 Hixon St., Oakville, Ont. L6L 1S2, CANADA
- 99 S. Stobbs, 28 Rosafield Ave., HALESOWEN, West Midlands, B62 9BU, ENGLAND
- 100 Andrew P. Stehrer, Jr., 120 Sheraton Road, Syracuse, N.Y. 13219

Change of address:

7 Herbert W. Keogh, 627 Haverhill St., Lawrence, Mass. 01841

FRIEDRICH GILLY (1772-1800)—

Gilly, a talented young German architect, went to Westphalia in 1780 to help supervise the waterworks, and in 1791 helped with the construction of the city hall in Berlin. In 1794 he went to Prussia and brought back plans of the Marien Castle, which received great interest in Berlin, and built the Schwedt Castle in 1795.



He was proclaimed an architectural genius in 1796 with his proposed monument of Frederick the Great. In 1797 he became professor for Optic and Perspective at the new Architectural Academy in Berlin and was very active in the department of designs. A list of his works is quite impressive, and he wrote extensively in the line of his work.

Friedrich Gilly was a member of the Lodge "Zu den drei goldenen Schlüsseln" (The Three Golden Keys) in Berlin, as was his father. He was initiated on May 19, 1798.

A marble bust of Gilly, made by sculptor Johann Gottfried Schadow in 1801, is prominently on display at the Academy of Arts in Berlin. It is depicted on a 30pf stamp of Berlin, Scott's No. 9N327, issued on February 4, 1972, the bicentennial of his birth.

— Marshall S. Loke.

JONAS CHICKERING, piano inventor and manufacturer, was initiated in St. Andrews Lodge, Boston, Mass.; a member of St. Andrews Chapter, R.A.M., and a 32d Degree Mason.

Can the new USA bulk rate 8.4¢ PIANO stamp, Scott's #1738, be a "CHICKERING"?

GENERAL LAURO SODRE E SILVA (1858-1944)—

Lauro Sodre was born in Belem do Para and graduated from the military college in that city and became an ardent protagonist of the Republic and a faithful disciple of Benjamin Constant. Active in politics, he served two terms as governor of the state of Para. Conscientious and highly principled he resigned his high office when the coup of Marshal Deodoro da Fonseca led to the dissolution of the National Congress in 1893.



Initiated in Harmonia Lodge at Belem July 1, 1880, Lauro Sodre became a member of various other lodges and served with great distinction as Grand Master of the Grande Oriente do Brasil for more than 12 years, from 1904 to 1917.

Lauro Sodre's portrait appears on a 3.30cr green, Scott's No. 885, issued November 15, 1958, to mark the centennial of his birth.

— Denis I. Duveen.

EDMUND BURKE (1729-1797)—

Burke, statesman, orator, writer and one of the greatest names in the history of political literature, was born in Dublin, Ireland, of a Protestant father and a Catholic mother and was brought up a Protestant. He graduated from Trinity College at Dublin in 1748, and bought a house with 600 acres a few miles from London and settled down. He gained fame by favoring the cause of the American colonies. In April of 1774 he made a speech on American taxation appearing to be the only member of Parliament who fully comprehended the dangers which threatened the colonies. In March of 1775 he made an admirable speech in favor of conciliatory measures toward the American colonies. In 1895 the noble efforts of Burke led the way to great reforms in the Government of India.

When Burke died in 1797, it was proposed that his body lie among the illustrious dead in Westminster Abbey, but he had left strict instructions that his burial should be private, and he was laid to rest in the little church at Beaconsfield near his estate.

Burke is believed to have been a member of Lodge "Jerusalem" No. 44 in London. This is based solely on the fact that the minutes refer to a "Mr. Burke" having been a member of the lodge about the year 1769. There is no further reference to any such member, and on such slim evidence it is impossible to say definitely that this was THE Edmund Burke.

Two stamps issued by Ireland April 29, 1974, Scott's Nos. 339-340, show a statue of the British Parliamentarian by John Henry Foley which stands in the entrance to Trinity College, Dublin.

— Marshall S. Loke.

WALLACE BEERY, movie star and actor, was a member of Blaney Lodge No. 271, Chicago, a 32nd Degree Mason and a Shriner.

ESTANISLAO DEL CAMPO, Argentina's famous gaucho poet, published his first poems under the pen name of "Anastacio del Pollo." He was a member of Lealtad (Fidelity) Lodge No. 6 in Buenos Aires.

DR. ANTOINE de PAGE (1862-1925)—

Born in Botsford, Belgium, de Page studied medicine and graduated from the University of Brussels in 1888 and became a surgeon. In 1905, he was appointed Professor of Surgery at the Medical Faculty. During the Balkan Wars of 1912-13 he headed a special mission to Turkey. During World War I he organized the field hospital, "Ambulance de l'Ocean," for the Belgian army at the Yser front, this headed by his colaborator, Debeisieux. His wife, like Nurse Edith Cavell, became a victim of World War I when the Lusitania was torpedoed on May 5, 1915, off the Irish Coast.

Dr. de Page was initiated into Freemasonry January 3, 1871, in Lodge "Les Vrais Amis de l'Union et du Progress Reunion" in Brussels; on November 11, 1907, he transferred to Lodge "Les Amis Philanthropes" in Brussels where he received the Fellowcraft degree on April 26, 1909, and the Master's degree on June 21 of that year.

Belgium honored Mrs. de Page with a stamp issued November 23, 1957, Scott's No. 465, picturing her with Queen Elizabeth. Dr. de Page was honored on Red Cross semi-postal issued April 27, 1963, Scott's No. B822.

DR. JULES BORDET (1870-1961)—

An eminent bacteriologist, Dr. Bordet was director of the Pasteur Institute in Brussels from 1901. He was known for his work in immunology and serology. He was co-discoverer of fixation on which the Wasserman test for the diagnosis of syphillis is based. He received the Nobel Peace Prize for medicine in 1919.

A Mason, he was initiated November 10, 1908, in Lodge "Les Amis Philanthropes" No. 2 in Brussels, receiving the Fellowcraft and Master's degrees in 1910.

His country honored him with a stamp on October 2, 1971, Scott's No. 757, marking the 10th anniversary of his death.

A WORD OF THANKS—

Your editor and his good wife wish to thank those members who have inquired after my health since my recent illness. My doctors say that my recovery has been astonishing. I am not on any set regimen as to diet or exercise, but use my own judgment. Doctors permitted us to spend Thanksgiving with our granddaughter in Denver, where we were able to view some of God's handiwork that we had only dreamed of in the past.

Your interest and your prayers are deeply appreciated, as is your co-operation in producing copy for the PHILATELIC FREEMASON. May God bless each of you.

Sincerely,

Walter J. Kirby, 32^o

NATHANIEL B. TUCKER, second Grand Master of Missouri, was reported to have opened his first law office in St. Louis in the trunk of a hollow tree!

— The Royal Arch Mason.