



THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

Journal of the MASONIC STUDY UNIT



Affiliate #96



Editor
Robert A. Domingue
59 Greenwood Road
Andover, Mass. 01810

VOLUME 10, NO. 1

MAY-JUNE 1986

WHOLE NO. 53

WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN



The U.S.P.S. issued a \$2.00 regular issue for William J. Bryan on March 19, 1986.

William Jennings Bryan was born in Salem, Ill., on March 19, 1860. He graduated from Illinois College in 1881 and received a law degree from the Union College of Law in Chicago in 1883. He practiced law in Jacksonville for the next four years and in 1887 he moved to Lincoln, Nebraska. In 1890 he was the second Democrat elected to Congress from that highly Republican state and served two terms. In 1894 he was defeated in his bid for a seat in the U.S. Senate. He received the nomination of the Democratic Party for the Presidency at the Chicago National Convention in 1896 following his famous "Cross of Gold" speech made when he was only 36 years old. He lost this election to William McKinley and again in 1900. He was renominated in 1908 but lost to William Howard Taft. He did not receive any more nominations but was active in the party and was the driving force behind the nomination and victory of Woodrow Wilson in 1912. This support won him appointment as Secretary of State serving from March 4, 1913, to June 9, 1915. In this role he helped pass the "New Freedom" reforms through Congress. He was also instrumental in the passing of the Federal Reserve Act, and the 18th and 19th Amendments. He died in Dayton, Tenn., on July 26, 1925, five days after the conclusion of the famous Scopes trial relating to teaching of the Darwinian theory at which he appeared for the prosecution.

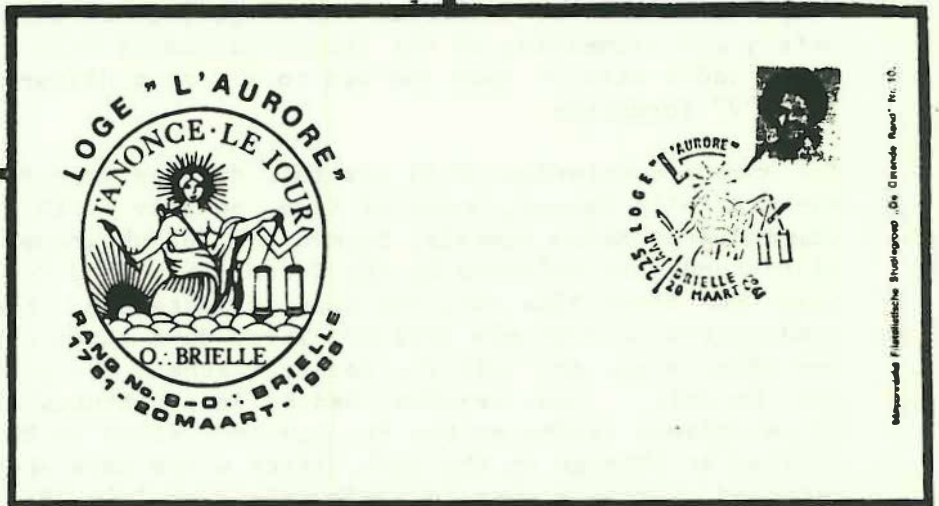
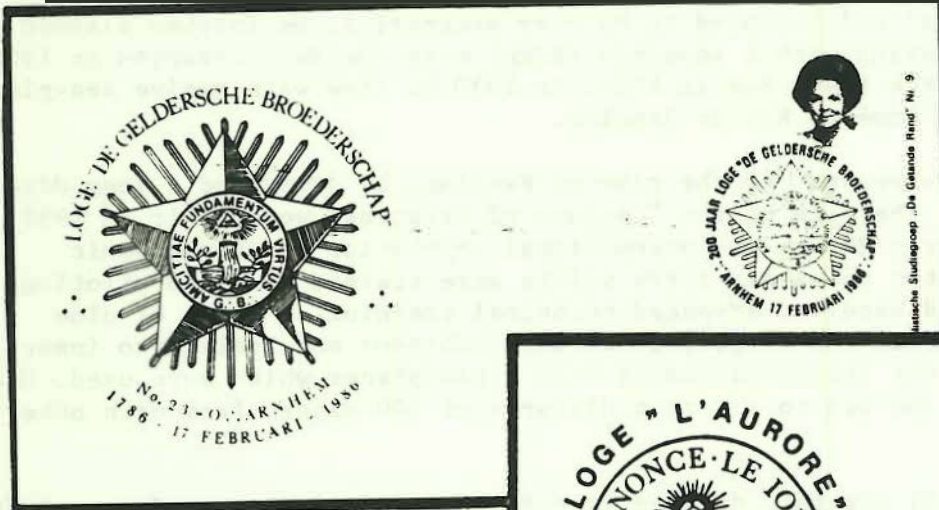
William Jennings Bryan received his degrees in Lincoln Lodge No. 19, Lincoln, Nebr., after having petitioned this Lodge on Dec. 3, 1901, and being elected Jan. 7, 1902. He was Initiated on Jan. 28, 1902, Passed on Feb. 11, 1902, and Raised on April 15, 1902. He demitted on Feb. 7, 1922, apparently when he moved to Florida and then to Tennessee. (Thanks to Bro. Wayne J. Pauley, Secretary of Lincoln Lodge, for the Masonic information.)

FURTHER INFORMATION ON HUGO L. BLACK

Bro. Frank Cochrane has sent word on the York Rite Body activity of Bro. Hugo L. Black as reported by the Grand Secretary/Recorder of the Grand York Rite Bodies of Alabama. He received the Royal Arch Degree on June 2, 1915, in Mineral City Chapter No. 101, R.A.M. and the Commandery Orders on Oct. 13, 1916, in Cyrene Commandery No. 10, K.T., both in Birmingham, Ala. He was not a member of the Council of R.& S.M.

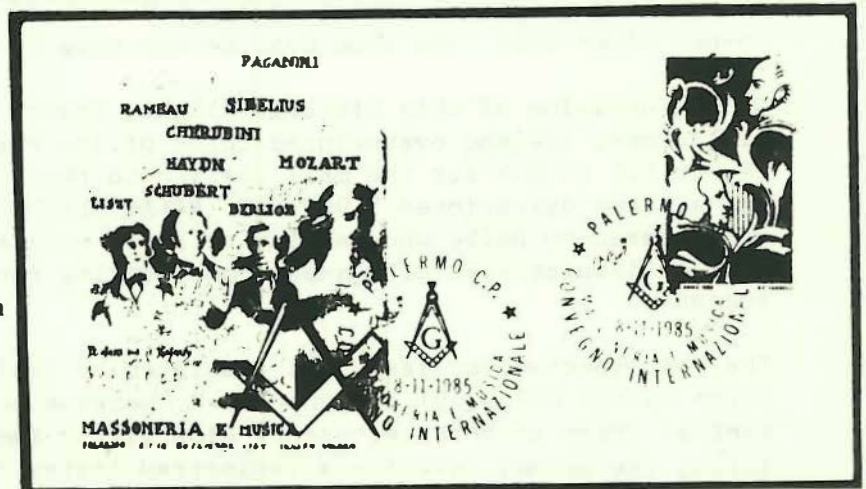
NETHERLANDS COVERS

Bro. W. F. Smit, President of the Masonic Philatelic Study Group, "De Getande Rand", has forwarded copies of the two latest covers issued by that group located in the Netherlands. The Feb. 17, 1986, cover honors the Lodge "De Geldersche Broederschap" No. 23 in the East of Arnhem. The March 20, 1986, cover honors the Lodge "L'Aurore" No. 9 in the East of Brielle. For each issue the Postmaster General allowed a special cancellation and an informative enclosure is provided inside each cover. These covers are for sale at a price of \$2.00 each, including airmail postage, and can be ordered from Bro. W. F. Smit; Koningshof flat 28; Utrechtseweg 62; 6866 CM Heelsum; The Netherlands. With the problems associated with check cashing, Bro. Smit requests U.S. bills. Although mailing of bills is discouraged by the U.S. Postal Authorities, I have found that the best way to handle this situation (learned from brethren in France) is to wrap the bills in carbon paper; it foils external detection.



SPECIAL ITALIAN MASONIC CANCEL

At long last the Italian postal authorities have permitted the use of a Masonic cancellation for the International Convention of Masons and Musicians. The Italian Masonic Stamp Club, Club Filatelico Internazionale D.T.M. has prepared a cover for this cancel which can be obtained from Mrs. Dina Ricci; Casella Postale 39; 48022 Lugo (Ra); Italy.



ITALO BALBO AND THE INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT OF 1933

Before the advent of Fascism in his country, Italo Balbo (1896-1940), the famous Italian pilot was a member of the Savonarola Lodge, in Florence, under the Grand Orient of Italy. He is known as having served as Orator in this Lodge. In 1923, as member of the Grand Fascist Council, he opposed Mussolini's decision to dissolve Masonry. In 1940, while Governor of Libya, he died when his plane was shot down near Tobrook under circumstances that still remain obscure.

In the early 1920's, although an active Mason, Balbo was a fervent follower of Benito Mussolini; he also had a real passion for aviation. He quickly rose to power and became Minister of Aeronautics in 1929. He immediately devoted all his energy to developing Italy's aviation, ordering new prototypes to be built and experienced pilots to be trained.. To attract the public's attention to his projects, he organized annual "Aviation Days" which proved to be very successful. He further planned long distance flights starting with a squadron flight over the Mediterranean in 1928 and another to Odessa on the Black Sea in 1929. In 1930 he flew with twelve sea-planes to South America, linking Rome to Rio de Janeiro.

To celebrate the tenth anniversary of the rise of Fascism, he organized a long distance flight to Chicago, the site of the "Century of Progress" world fair in 1933. The final itinerary was chosen during an international convention of transoceanic pilots held in Rome. For two years air force pilots were trained in blind piloting, using only instruments and received advanced technical training. A fleet of nine ships was specially chartered and positioned between Labrador and Iceland to insure safety and refuelling of the Savoia-Marchetti S-55 X sea-planes which were used. Each plane had a crew of four and was to fly at a distance of 500 meters from each other in a "V" formation.

The Armada consisting of 24 aircraft divided into four groups of two squadrons, left the Orbetello lagoon, north of Rome, on July 1, 1933. The two leading squadrons, commanded by Balbo himself, formed the "Black group", the symbolic color of the fascists, and were followed by the Green, White and Red groups, the colors of the Italian flag. The fleet flew over the Alps to Amsterdam; the next day the sea-planes reached Londonderry in Northern Ireland. Three days later they flew to Reykjavik in Iceland and after a six day wait for better weather, the planes crossed from Iceland to Labrador. On July 13 they reached Shediac in New Brunswick, Canada. The following day the 24 sea-planes landed on the St. Lawrence River in Montreal harbor. They all finally arrived at Chicago on the 15th. After a few days spent in the U.S., the squadrons returned, stopping over in Newfoundland on July 26. Bad weather forced them to stay there until Aug. 8 and they changed their itinerary flying home through the Azores. They reached their homeland on August 12, at Ostia, where a frenzied welcome was given to the crews. The next day a triumphal parade was led through Rome where Gen. Balbo was invited to pass under the Triumphal Arch of Constantine, an honor not granted to anyone since 1527. The same day, he was made an Air-Marshal by the Duce.

On the occasion of this historic flight, Italy, Iceland and Newfoundland issued special stamps. Iceland overprinted three of its regular stamps "HOPFLUG ITALIA 1933" (Scott C12 to 14) for the mail carried to the U.S. On the return flight, Newfoundland had a stamp overprinted "1933-GEN. BALBO FLIGHT-\$4.50" (Scott C18). This rate of \$4.50 was imposed by Balbo who refused to carry mail at a cheaper rate. The U.S. and Canada avoided issuing special stamps commemorating the event, most probably for political reasons.

The most spectacular issue was initiated by Italy who issued two triptychs on the occasion (Scott C48 & 49) designed by C. Mezzana under Balbo's own supervision. The central stamp of both represents King Victor-Emmanuel III with a denomination of 5.25 Liras, the normal rate for a registered letter on special delivery. The stamp on the

ITALO BALBO AND THE INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT OF 1933 (Contd)

right on the first triptych had a denomination of 19.75 Liras, the air mail rate for inside Europe. The one on the second triptych was priced at 44.75 Liras, the rate for air mail across the Atlantic. The left stamp on the triptychs represented the Italian flag and had no denomination - its purpose being to serve as a registered-special delivery label. Each of these was overprinted "APPARECHIO I-(code)". The I naturally stood for Italy and the code was the registration of the sea-plane transporting the mail and was taken from the first four letters of the pilot's name. For example, the mail carried on board Balbo's own plane was stamped with triptych overprinted "APPARECHIO I-BALB". Only twenty of the planes carried air mail.

The stamps were printed in sheets of twenty triptychs each so that each triptych bore a different overprint. Four sheets were printed in different shades of color and were overprinted "SERVIZIO DI STATO", they were used for the state mail, including a letter from the Duce to President Roosevelt. A few sheets were also overprinted "VOLO DI RITORNO NEW YORK-ROMA" but the American Postmaster General forbade their use for mail leaving the United States. One Hundred and Thirty Six mail bags containing a total of some 19,000 letters stamped with the triptychs left Rome on July 1, 1933. All were cancelled with a special stamp reading "CROCIERA DECENNALE / ITALIA-NORD AMERICA". One such cover is illustrated below as well as the Newfoundland overprint issued for the occasion.



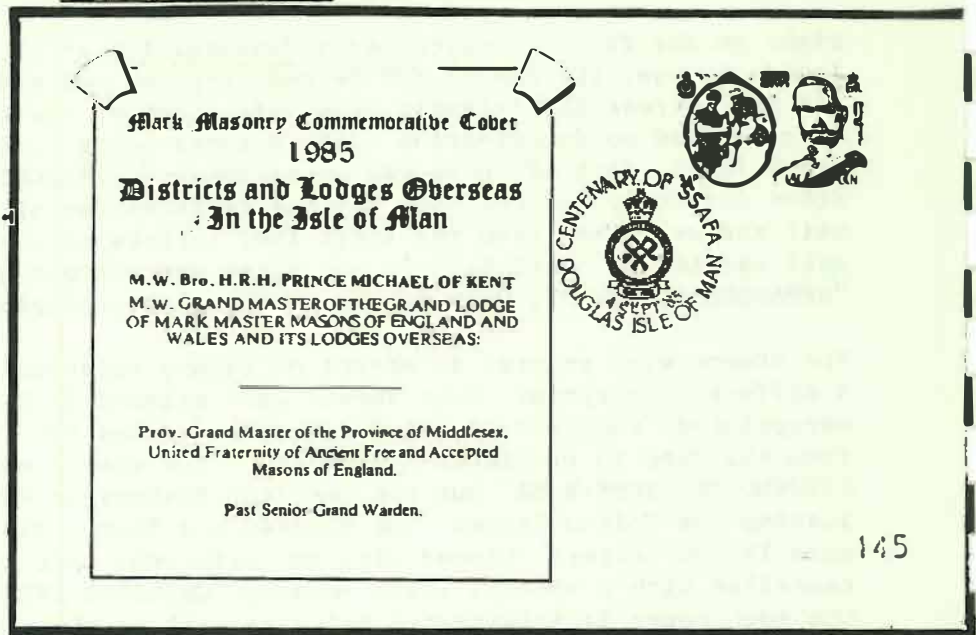
This article was condensed from one sent in by Bro. Andre F. Demets of Montreal, Canada. The cover and stamp are from his wife's collection. Thank you for the interesting article Bro. Andre.

ANOTHER MASONIC PERFIN

Bro. John M. Cunningham has acquired another Masonic perfin application device for his use on stamps which he deems to be of a Masonic tie-in or nature. This device has as its design the letters GAOTU in two rows (GA/OTU). These letters stand for Grand Architect, Great Architect, Grand or Great Artificer of the Universe - titles under which Freemasonry refers to Deity.

ISLE OF MAN COVER

The illustrated cover for the Centenary of Mark Master Masonry on the Isle of Man was identified in the newsletter of the Masonic Philatelic Club of Great Britain. It can be ordered from Bro. Gordon Crosby, "Lynton", The Crescent, Baldrine, Douglas, Isle of Man. The price is £ 1.50

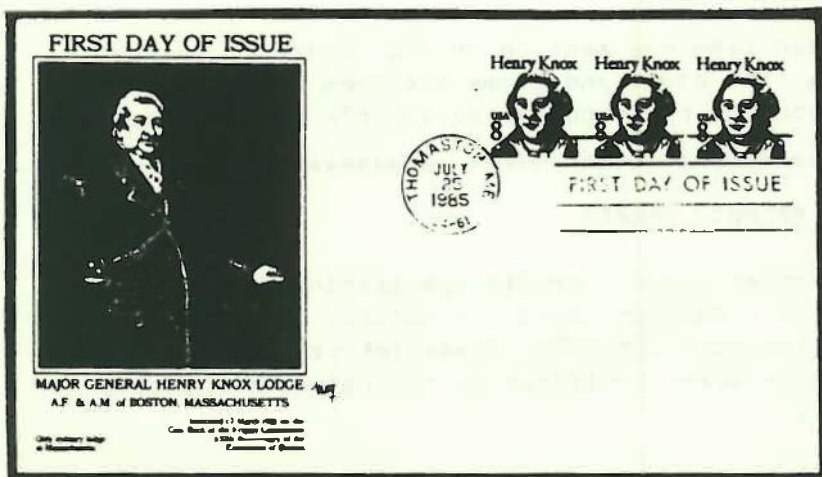


MSC OF NY COVERS

Recent covers issued by the Masonic Stamp Club of New York are shown below. They can be obtained at a cost of \$3.00 each from Bro. Nicholas Batalias, 27-05 Urban Place, Fair Lawn, N.J. 07410.



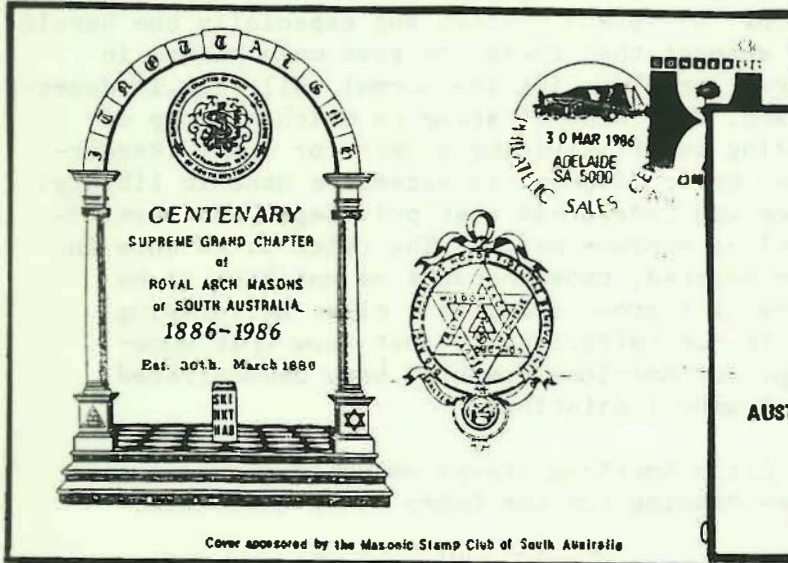
HENRY KNOX LODGE COVER



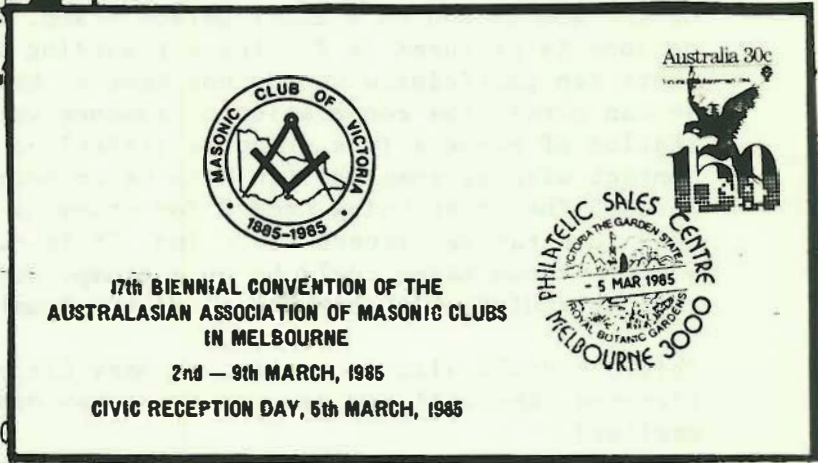
Henry Knox Lodge, the only Military Lodge in Massachusetts, has prepared a Masonic cacheted cover for the recent Henry Knox stamp. They can be ordered from the Lodge Secretary, Bro. John Kandres, 26 Crestwood Rd., No. Reading, Mass. 01864 at a cost of \$1.00 each.

AUSTRALIA COVERS

Two covers recently received with Australian franking are shown below. The March 5, 1985 cover for the Australian Association of Masonic Clubs was received from Ross Wetreich as part of one of his periodic approval mailings. The other cover - for the Centenary of the Supreme Grand Chapter was received from Bro. S. W. Martin, President and Editor of the Masonic Stamp Club of South Australia. Copies may still be available from him at 4 Barrow Crescent, Lockleys, South Australia 5032 at a cost of \$2.10 U.S. each, airmailed.



Cover sponsored by the Masonic Stamp Club of South Australia



FRENCH MASONIC COVER

Rt. Wor. Bro. Allan Boudreau, Librarian of the Grand Lodge of New York has forwarded an article from the Grand Orient of France which announces a special Masonic cover for their philatelic show on 19 April 1986. The cachet which will be applied is shown to the right. The covers cost F.F. 10.00 each plus postage (1 F.F. ≈ \$.136) and can be ordered from Grand Orient de France; 16, Rue Cadet; 75009 Paris; France.

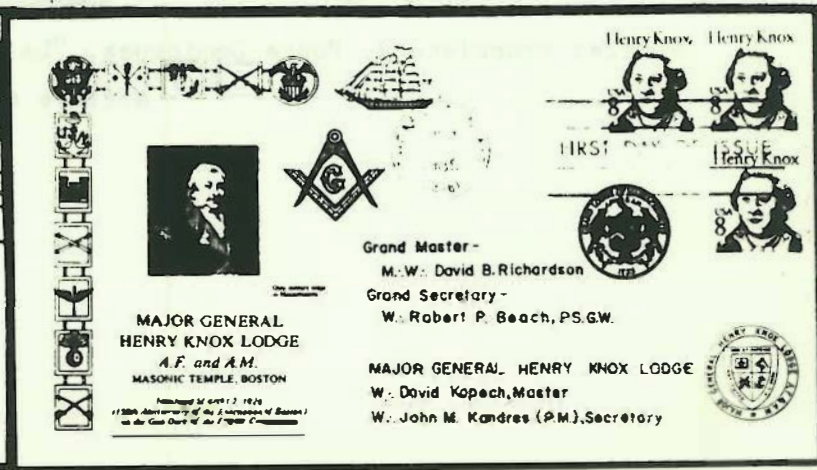




WASHINGTON MONUMENT

Completed 1792. It is dedicated 1794. Designed early 1840's by Robert Mills. Construction began 1848. Completed 6 Dec. 1884. Bro. George Washington born 22 Feb. 1732, Woodfield, Va., died 54 Dec. 1799, Mt. Vernon, Va. First issued 1/6 Dec. 1985. In honor of the 150th Anniversary of the death of George Washington, the U.S. Post Office has issued a 13-cent postage stamp. The design is the work of the artist, Robert Rauschenberg. The design is the work of the artist, Robert Rauschenberg. The design is the work of the artist, Robert Rauschenberg.

On 22 Nov. 1792, in what was probably the greatest public demonstration in American history, the Washington Monument was dedicated. The monument was dedicated in honor of the 150th Anniversary of the death of George Washington. The monument was dedicated in honor of the 150th Anniversary of the death of George Washington. The monument was dedicated in honor of the 150th Anniversary of the death of George Washington.



MAJOR GENERAL HENRY KNOX LODGE A.F. and A.M. MASONIC TEMPLE, BOSTON

175th Anniversary of the A.F. and A.M. in the Grand Orient of the United States

Grand Master - M.: W. David B. Richardson
Grand Secretary - W.: Robert P. Beach, P.S.G.W.

MAJOR GENERAL HENRY KNOX LODGE
W.: David Kopech, Master
W.: John M. Kandreš (P.M.), Secretary

THOMAS ESTRADA PALMA

For this article I want to refer the reader to a previous article done by Bro. Marshall Loke in "The Philatelic Freemason" of Jan./Feb. 1983 in which he gives an interesting story about Leonard Wood, the Governor of Cuba.

Leonard Wood was not the only Mason pictured on the Cuban stamp used to illustrate that article. The new and first President of the independent Republic of Cuba, Thomas Estrada Palma who was being sworn into office on that picture was also a Mason. In view of the great influence of Freemasons on Cuba's history and especially the heroic fight for its independence, I strongly suspect that there are some more Masons in that picture. However, one of the greatest problems for the normal collector is determining who is who on a multi-person stamp. This kind of stamp on which a group of persons is pictured is forming a rewarding and fascinating object for study. Researchers can participate who do not have at their disposal an extensive Masonic library; he can obtain the cooperation of someone who indeed has that privilege. The identification of persons in a group is strictly a profane matter. The trick is to come in contact with persons who can help us to proceed, those persons do not have to be Masons. The first thing needed for studying a group stamp is a clear key-drawing. Only then can we proceed searching. It is not sufficient to just know that somewhere a known Mason could be on a stamp. Our American Brethren have demonstrated this splendidly with the Masons on the Trumbull paintings.

This art could also be applied to many Latin American stamps on which groups are pictured. Who will and can provide a key-drawing for the Cuban stamp identified earlier?

Back to Thomas Estrada Palma: He was born in 1835 in Bayamo and died in 1908. He took part in the ten-year war against Spain - from 1868 to 1878. In 1877 he was taken prisoner but at the declaration of peace in 1878 he was released. He was a member of the Cuban Parliament and President of the Republic of Cuba from 1902 to 1906.

Thomas Estrada Palma was initiated in 1868 and was a member of the Lodge "Estrella Tropical" No. 19 in Bayamo. His symbolic name (pseudonym) was "Seiba".

Bro. Palma is pictured on several Cuban stamps and on two stamps of Honduras.



Source: Francisco J. Ponte Dominguez, "La Masoneria en la Independencia de Cuba".

Article contributed by Bro. Wessel M. Lans
The Netherlands

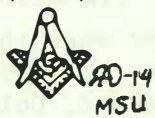
MSU/ATA CLUB COVERS

The first two MSU/ATA covers for 1986 have been published. Cover No. 13 was prepared for the Hugo L. Black issue of Feb. 27 and remains at the cost of \$1.00 each (plus a #10 stamped SASE). Cover No. 14 was prepared in a very limited quantity for the William Jennings Bryan issue of March 19. Both covers are shown below. The face value of the Bryan stamp being \$2.00 and the limited printing cost amortization have driven the cost of this cover to \$3.25 (plus the # 10 stamped SASE). Both covers can be ordered from your Editor at the address shown in the masthead.

Additional covers will be issued this year for the Duke Ellington issue, the Polar explorers issues and probably the Statue of Liberty issue. I am not yet sure what to do with the Presidents issues during May - if anything.



WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN
 born March 19, 1860 - Salem, Ill.
 died July 26, 1925 - Dayton, Tenn.
 "THE GREAT COMMONER"
 US Congressman 1890-1894
 Three unsuccessful bids for Presidency
 - 1896 1900 (McKinley) 1908 (Taft)
 Secretary of State for Wilson 1912-1915

Received Degrees in Lincoln Lodge No. 19, Lincoln, Neb.
 Initiated Jan. 28, 1902
 Passed Feb. 11, 1902
 Raised Apr. 15, 1902
 - Demitted on Feb. 7, 1922





HUGO LAFAYETTE BLACK
 born Feb. 27, 1886 - Marietta, Alabama
 died Sept. 25, 1971 - Washington, D.C.
 ASSOCIATE JUSTICE - U.S. SUPREME COURT 1937-1971

Lawyer
 Police Court Judge
 Prosecuting Attorney
 U.S. Senator



Received degrees in Ashland Lodge No. 356, Ala.
 Initiated March 23, 1907
 Passed April 12, 1907
 Raised April 27, 1907
 Demitted Oct. 4, 1907

Affiliated with Birmingham Temple Lodge No. 636,
 Birmingham, Ala., on Jan. 16, 1906


CUNNINGHAM COVERS

Bro. John M. Cunningham has again been busy in issuing covers and has the covers shown below and at the bottom of page 551 available for sale. The Peter Sellers cover sells for \$1.50, the others are \$1.00 each; a #10 stamped SASE would be appreciated I am sure. Contact Bro. Cunningham at Grant 205, 3700 No. Capitol St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20317


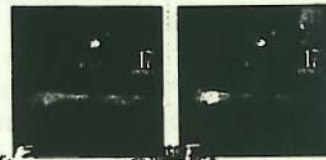



EVERETT MCKINLEY DIRKSEN
 born Peoria, Ill., 4 Jan. 1896
 died Washington, D.C., 7 Sep. 1968


EA. 3 Mar., F.C. 9 Jul., MM. - 25 Jul. 1931, all in Peoria Lodge Peoria, Ill. Scottish Rite AASR (WJ) 32 on 16 Nov. 1932.
 33 Masonry on 29 Sept. 1954 at Easton, Mass. Mem Br. of Grand Lodge of Illinois 1953 to 1954.



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

PETER SELLERS
 born - 8 Sept. 1925, Southsea, Hampshire, England, died - 24 July 1980,
 London, England. Screen, stage, vaudeville, radio, television actor,
 film director, producer and screenwriter. Received O.B.E. 1965 is
 best remembered for his Pink Panther movies.
 Degrees received in Chelsea Lodge No. 3086, London - Est. Apr.
 18 July 1948, F.C. 21 Jan 1949, M.M. 16 Nov 1961.



MASONS AND THE TEXAS REVOLUTION



On March 2, 1986, the U.S.P.S. issued a 22 cent Republic of Texas Sesquicentennial commemorative stamp. First day of issue was in San Antonio, Texas, home of the Alamo and in Washington on the Brazos, Texas. The Texas Declaration of Independence and National Constitution were written in March 1836 in Washington on the Brazos. The Texas Revolution and the establishment of the Republic of Texas closely parallels the American Revolution and the establishment of the United States of America in that both own a debt to their Masonic heroes and leaders. In both instances Masons played a major role on both sides.

Stephen F. Austin, the Father of Texas, was a member of Louisiana Lodge No. 109 and St. Louis Lodge No. 3. He led the settlement of the first Americans in Texas and was elected first Commander-in-Chief of the Texas Army. Brother Benjamin Milam led the victorious attack on the Mexican garrison in San Antonio and was killed in the attack on Dec. 7, 1835. Goliad, Texas, was the site of the defeat and massacre of Bro., Colonel James W. Fannin and 350 patriots by the Mexican Army.

There is a plaque at the Alamo in San Antonio with the following inscription: "Honoring these Masons: James Bonham, James Bowie, David Crockett, Almarion Dickinson, William B. Travis and those unidentified Masons who gave their lives in the Battle of the Alamo, March 6, 1836." It was erected by the Grand Lodge of Texas, A.F.& A.M., March 6, 1976.

Bro. Dickinson's wife and daughter were in the Alamo when the siege began. He gave his wife his Masonic apron when the battle began for her and their tiny daughter's protection - protect them it did. When the battle ended, Colonel Almonte, a leader of the Mexican forces and a known Mason, recognized the apron and gave them his protection. General Santa Anna, another known Mason, also protected Mrs. Dickinson and the child. Colonel Almonte also aided Bro. David G. Burnet, first President of Texas and his family by forbidding his soldiers to fire on the Burnet party while they were escaping by boat prior to the Battle of San Jacinto.

Bro. Sam Houston who led the Texas Army as its commander was a former U.S. Senator from Tenn., an American war hero during the Creek Indian uprising and was soon to be the second President of the Republic of Texas. He led his army to the defeat of the Mexican Army under Gen. Santa Anna at the Battle of San Jacinto. At the battleground at the San Jacinto Monument there is a plaque dedicated to the pioneer Masons whose outstanding leadership laid the cornerstone of the Republic of Texas. The plaque begins: "Among these were..." and then lists 48 known Masons active in the Texas Revolution and establishment of the Republic of Texas. Prominent among these are the names of Edward Burlison, David G. Burnet, Anson Jones, James Kerr, Mirabeau B. Lamar, Ben McCulloch, Gen. Thomas J. Rusk and others well known to students of Texas history.

A dozen or more signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence are known to have been Masons. Every President of the Texas Republic was known to have been a Mason. The lists go on. Only the American Declaration of Independence of July 4, 1776, ranks higher in importance than the Texas Declaration of Independence at Old Washington, Texas, on March 1, 1836.

The Battle of San Jacinto was tremendous in its influence on the United States' history and future. It changed the map of North America and enabled the U.S. to eventually extend its boundaries to the Rio Grande and to the Pacific. This era of history was successful in a large part because of the efforts of the Masons in Texas.

Article submitted by Bro. Jack Welch of La Porte, Texas, who wishes to thank the Grand Lodge of Texas for providing the reference material used.

MATTHEW A. HENSON

Transcribed by Bro. Joseph A. Walkes, Jr., from Celestial Records published by Celestial Lodge No. 3, F. & A.M., New York, Prince Hall

Insofar as the civilized world is concerned, this Brother stands out in pre-eminence because of the fact that he was the sole companion of the late Robert E. Peary when that explorer discovered the North Pole in 1909, consequently, (as these notes are being written) the subject of this brief sketch is now the only man alive who has ever stood at the spot that geographers declare to be the very top of this old globe.

Matthew A. Henson was born in Charles County, Maryland, on August 8, 1866, and presented his petition for initiation into Celestial Lodge No. 3 on the 5th day of November 1904.

For those who might be interested in the various facts connected with his several journeys into the Arctic area, the following works in the famous Schomburg Collection in the New York Public Library may be consulted:

1. "Witnesses for Freedom" by Rebecca Chalmers Barton.
2. "Negro Builders and Heroes" by Benjamin G. Brawley.

It is not generally known that Bro. Henson is the author of "A Negro Explorer at the North Pole".

Attesting to the fact that after the intervening years the journey of Bro. Henson has not faded from the memories of many persons, the following newspaper account narrates a recent recognition of the worth of this eminent Freemason.

Friday, April 7, 1950

MAN, 85, WHO RAISED FLAG AT POLE HAILED
Special to The New York Times

Washington, April 6 -- Matthew A. Henson, 83 years old and the only living member of Admiral Robert E. Peary's expedition to the North Pole, was honored today at ceremonies in the Pentagon. Today is the forty-first anniversary of the discovery of the Pole.

The Negro who raised the American flag over the Pole also received a "salute" from President Truman, who wrote to Mr. Hanson that the achievement of Peary's expedition was an example of the "cooperating effort of our citizens toward assuring freedom and justice for all, regardless of color and creed." The Pentagon ceremonies were sponsored by the Department of Defense and the Afro-American Newspapers. Mr. Henson received a special plaque from the newspaper group.

Mr. Henson turned over to the Air Force a steel canister containing a Bible he carried on the 1909 expedition. Records and pictures of today's ceremony are to be placed in the canister and dropped at the North Pole during one of the Air Force's routine flights over the top of the world.

Among the defense officials who gathered to honor Mr. Henson were Assistant Secretary of Defense Marx Leva; Karl R. Bendetsen, Assistant Secretary of the Army; John T. Koehler, Assistant Secretary of the Navy; Harold C. Stuart, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force and Brig. Gen. A. Robert Ginsburg of the Air Force.

The following tribute to Brother Henson has been transcribed from the June 1949 number of an eight page pamphlet entitled The Howard Way.

"I Can't Get Along Without Him"

One of the finest tributes ever paid by one man to another was that paid to Matthew Henson by Robert E. Peary. When the great Arctic explorer was making his final plans for his

Matthew A. Henson (Cont'd)

dash to the North Pole, he spoke of the parts to be played by Bartlett, Ross Marvin, George Borup, John Goodsell and Donald MacMillan.

When each man has led me and my men up to a certain point, within striking distance of the Pole, their work is done. They shall no longer be needed. But Henson is not to return, "I can't get along without him".

Matt Henson had earned that tribute because for nearly twenty years he had been Peary's closest and most trusted companion in his work. He was the one man who was with him on all his trips. More than once he had saved Peary's life. His strength, courage and wisdom had helped bring success out of failure.

Commander Donald B. MacMillan, himself an Arctic explorer in the top flight class, tells how he and others went to Henson for instruction. He says, "A carpenter, he built the sledges; a mechanic, he made the alcohol stoves; an expert dog driver, he taught us how to handle our dogs. Highly respected by the Eskimos, he was easily the most popular man on board ship. Henson, strong physically, and above all fully experienced, was of more real value to our Commander than Bartlett, Marvin, Borup, Goodsell and myself all put together. Matthew Henson went to the Pole with Peary because he was a better man than any of us."

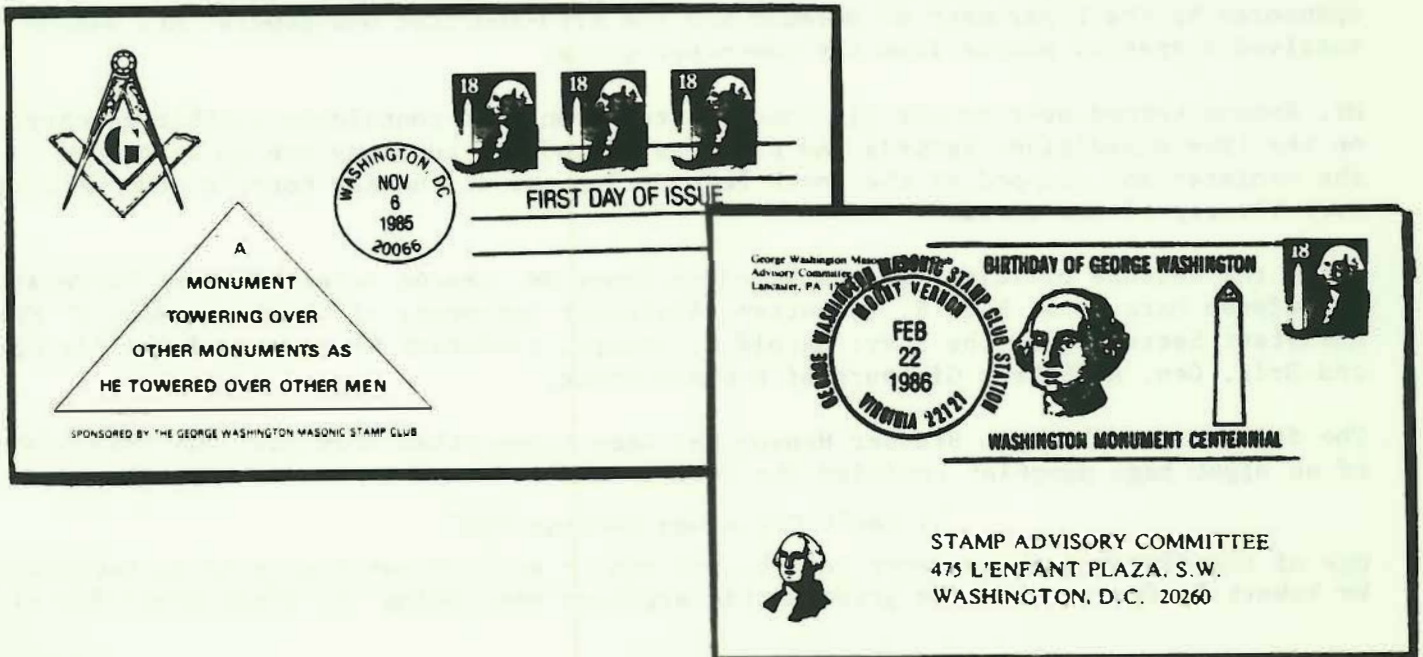
Matt Henson takes his place with other Negroes who by their lives have proved themselves not only a credit to their own race but to the entire human race.

Editor's Note: Bro. Henson died in 1955 and will be pictured in the Explorers' issue of June 4, 1986.

GWMSC COVERS

The George Washington Masonic Stamp Club has been issuing covers over this past year but for several reasons those on the subscription service have not yet received them - have patience I am told. Bro. Charles Willner of that organization has taken over as cover chairman and possesses the large cover stock which the club has. A list of available covers can be obtained from him at 4104 Montana Ave., Baltimore, Md. 21206.

Some of the recent covers issued by the GWMSC are shown below. They are leading an extensive card campaign for a George Washington Inaugural bicentennial stamp in 1989. They can provide all details and cards to mail into the Stamp Advisory Committee.



STAMP ADVISORY COMMITTEE
475 L'ENFANT PLAZA. S.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20260

INDEX-VOLUME 9

Anreith, Anton	520	Masonic Cover Producers.....	531
Audubon, John J.....	490	Masonic Perfans.....	509
Award, Newsletter.....	497,511	MPC of Great Britain.....	475
Baker, Bryant.....	543	Masonic Philately (Part 2).....	535
Beazley, M.H., Collection.....	540	Masonic Philately Research.....	488
Becher Covers.....	507,517	Masonic Researchers.....	504,505
Black, Hugo L.....	526,533	Masonic Revenue Stamps.....	496
Bryan, William J.....	526	Masonic Stamps & Labels.....	538
Canadian Masonic Research.....	492,538	MSU/ATA Covers.....	489,500,512,528,541
Clemens, Samuel L.....	513	Masonry on Israel Stamps.....	502
Cochran Covers.....	494,507,517,542	Membership Info.....	474,476,486,498,506 510,522,534
Cole, Nat "King".....	501	Michigan Shrine Cover.....	508
Cover Producers.....	532	Military.....	514
Cunningham Covers.....	503,530	Mirt Cover.....	527
David "C" Covers.....	481,507,539	Mystery Covers.....	494,519
Denver MSC Covers.....	527	Nazi Propaganda Forgeries.....	544
Duties of Officers.....	522	New Issues.....	476,487,499,510,524,535
Editor's Ramblings...478,506,510,531,542		Nominations for Officers.....	523
Edsel Covers.....481,505,518,520,531,540		Page from Member's Collection.....	496
Elections.....	509,534	Padilla, Jose Prudencia.....	473
Ellington, Edward K. "Duke".....	526	Philatelic Lodge No. 552.....	480
Financial Report.....	501	Philatelics, Freemasonry & Military...514	
Forster, Johann G.....	536	Quesada, Gonzalo de.....	521
Forster, Johann R.....	528,536	Raffles, Thomas Stamford.....	483
French Covers.....	511,528	Revere, Paul.....	484
GWMSC Covers.....	507	St. Kitts Masonic Issues.....	537
German Masonic Cover.....	494	Sellers, Peter.....	477
Greely, Adolphus.....	527	Shrine Cancel.....	475
Hardy, Norvell (Oliver).....	525	Statue of Liberty Card.....	519
Hatfield, Edsel.....	505	Stutz, Harry Clayton.....	491,518
Henson, Matthew A.....	526	Temple Stamp Club Cover.....	508
Heskett Covers.....	516,544	Thayer, Slyvanus.....	474,485,506
Hourglass Stamp.....	492	Thomas, Danny.....	512
Huntsman Cover.....	477	Tucholsky, Kurt.....	539
Ireland Covers.....	541	Twain, Mark.....	513
Kane, Elisha K.....	526	Utah Cover.....	479
Keller, Marvin L.....	508	Warren, Charles.....	489,503
Knox, Henry.....	485	Western Shrine Association Covers....	493
Lans, Wessel M.....	504		
Liberia, Masonic News.....	529		
Loke, Marshall.....	504		
Lyre Covers.....	503		
Mahdeen Covers.....	481,517,523		
Masonic Covers...477,479,481,493,494,500			
503,507,508,516,517,519,520,523,527			
530,531,539,540,541,542,544			

