

# LE PHILATELIC FREEMASON Journal of the

MASONIC STUDY UNIT



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

VOL. 10, NO. 6

MARCH-APRIL 1987

WHOLE NO. 57

# IN MEMORIUM BRO. COLIN R. MACKENZIE MASONIC PHILATELIST AND RESEARCHER

We were recently informed by Mrs. Marion Mackenzie that her husband, Wor. Colin R. Mackenzie, was summoned to the Celestial Lodge above on December 31, 1986. Bro. Mackenzie was Charter Member No. 10 and held an established reputation as a noted Masonic researcher. He contributed to a regular article in the Nepal Masonic News as well as to the various Masonic Philatelic newsletters of the world.. His ansence will be sorely felt and our sympathy and condolences go out to his widow.



Shortly before his death, Bro. Mackenzie prepared a simple but effective Masonic cover in his homeland of the Republic of South Africa. In my last correspondence from him on Dec. 11, he provided me with one of the three copies which were prepared and related the Masonic significance behind the stamps used on this cover.

The National convention which led to Union of the colonies and republics of South Africa was begun in 1908 in the Durban City Hall which is now the post office of this fair city (stamp on left). It then moved to Bloemfontein and Cape Town. The chairman of the Convention was Lord de Villiers, a prominent Mason of his time. The stamp on the right depicts Lord de Villiers standing in the foreground while the rest of the convention members are seated behind him. The stamp picture is taken from a painting by the English artist Roworth. This painting also shows President Steyn of the Orange Free State, fourth on the left, back row, but is indistinct on such a small reproduction. Steyn was also a Freemason.

Lord de Villiers Lodge was Lodge de Goede Hoop and he was initiated in 1866. He became Provincial Grand Master in 1871. The Lodge at the time fell under the Netherlandic constitution. -605-

#### MEMBERSHIP NEWS

#### NEW MEMBERS:

485. Albert J. Fournier, 1132 S. Haddow Ave., Arlington Heights, Ill. 60005 486. Ed Tante, P.O.Box 177, Columbus, Ga. 31902

#### ADDRESS CHANGES:

156. Kenneth W. Kuhblank, 140 lst Ave. N., Algona, Wash. 98001 49. Albert L. El, 655 North 56th St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19131

100. Louis Crisafulli, 2058 Mt. Hope Lane, Toms River, N.J. 08753

Does anyone know the whereabouts of #120. Floyd L. Bass??

#### CLOSED ALBUMS:

10. Colin R. Mackenzie on December 31, 1986, in Greyville, Rep. of So. Africa

#### INFORMATION ON MEMBERS

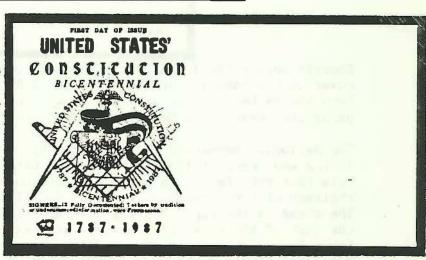
Bro. George Wettach was in two hospitals for over seven weeks recently for a variety of problems including pneumonia and the transplant of a heart valve. Near the end of Jan. he left for two months in Florida to complete his recuperation process. Hope you continue to get well quickly Bro. George.

Bro. Edwin Shane is the Editor of the Indiana Stamp Club "Kicking Mule" as well as Senior Deacon of Mystic Circle Lodge No. 685 F.& A.M., Lawrence, Ind.

Bro. Gordon Garrett has resigned as Editor of the Sunnyside Gavel - a supreme example of what a Lodge Bulletin (or Communication) could be like if someone devoted the proper time and effort. Just after completing his last issue he suffered a small stroke but is reportedly doing well on his road to recovery. Good luck on your progress Bro. Gordon.

## SELF SERVICE ENVELOPES - U.S.CONSTITUTION ISSUE

Bro. Richard M. Needham has prepared a cacheted cover for the forthcoming (Sept. 17) USPS issue to commemorate the bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution. They are available from him at a cost of 35¢ each, 2 for 55¢, 3 for 80¢, 4 for \$1.00, 6 for \$1.50, 10 for \$2.75, etc. Contact him directly at 708 N. Mt. Pleasant Ave., Lancaster, Ohio 43130.



#### NEW ISSUES

1986

- Apr. 23 Nicaragua National Libraries Campaign 7 Values 6 cor is Ruben Dario.
- June Tanzania Queen Elizabeth II 60th Birthday 4 Values + S/S 10/- shows Prince Philip.
- Oct. 22 Mexico 175th Birth Anniversary of Franz Liszt 1 Value.
- Oct. 28 Nevis Centennial of Statue of Liberty each stamp/SS shows statue and a U.S.President. Pres. Jefferson & Buchanan are included.
- Nov. St. Thomas & Prince Islands Christmas Paintings by A. Durer 5 Values.
- Nov. 4 Canada 100th Anniversary of John Molson's Death 1 Value (34¢)
- Nov. 18 Montserrat Same as Nevis Pres. Washington, Jackson shown.
- Nov. 19 Central African Republic Famous Persons and Events 5 Values + S/S 25 fr value shows Frederic Bartholdi.
- Nov. 21 Aitutaki Christmas Paintings by A. Durer 4 Values + S/S.
- Nov. 24 Tuvalu Same as Nevis Pres. Monroe, Polk, Jackson, Grant, T.Roosevelt, F.D.Roosevelt shown.
- Nov. 26 St. Vincent Grenadines Same as Nevis Pres. Johnson, McKinley, Ford shown.
- Dec. 15 British Virgin Islands Same as Nevis Pres Garfield, Taft, Truman, Harding shown.
- Dec. 17 St. Kitts Centennial of Statue of Liberty 4 Values + S/S 40¢ value shows Bartholdi.

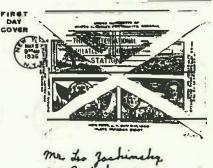
1987

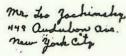
- Jan. British Antarctic Territory 50th Anniversary of Capt.
  Scott's arrival at the South Pole 4 Values.
- Jan. St. Helena Royal Visit Ships 4 Values includes
  Prince Edward, King George VI and Prince Philip.
- Jan. 11 Nevis Bicentennial of U.S.Constitution/250th Birthday of A. Hamilton 4 Values + S/S \$2 value also shows Henry Knox, Thomas Jefferson, E. Randolph and George Washington as well as Alexander Hamilton.
- Feb. 23 France Famous Frenchmen 6 Values one is Charles Richet.

# AN UNUSUAL VERSION OF AN EARLY COVER

Bro. Andre Demets recently sent in a photocopy of an early FDC published by the MSC of NY. This cover is not very common but his version is the first I have seen on which the souvenir sheet was segmented as shown to the right. Bro. Andre asks: "Why was the sheet cut in four pieces before being affixed to the envelope? (What a job !!)", Can any member shed any light on this oddity?









#### LAURITZ LEBRECHT HOMMEL MELCHIOR

Lauritz Melchior, one of the world's foremost Wagnerian tenors, was born in Copenhagen, Denmark, March 20, 1890. He trained at the Royal Opera House School and made his debut as a baritone April 2, 1913. On Oct. 8, 1918, he returned as a tenor in Tannhauser. Other debut appearances include Covent Garden, May 14, 1924; Bayreuth, July 23, 1924; Metropolitan, Feb. 17, 1926. He remained a member of the Metropolitan and its principal Wagnerian tenor until Feb. 2, 1950. He sang Tristan over two hundred times. He was six feet four inches tall and weighed 240 pounds. In addition to opera, Melchior was a pioneer in radio, appearing with Marconi in 1920. He became an American citizen in 1947. He also sang in concerts on television and in night clubs. His films include "Thrill of a Romance 1945", "Two Sisters From Boston 1946", "This Time for Keeps 1947", "Luxury Liner 1948" and "The Stars are Singing 1953". In 1952 he played the Palace Theatre, New York. His recording career was extensive. He recorded duets with Frieda Leider, Lette Lehmann and Kirsten Flagstad. Though he specialized in Wagner, Melchior also recorded songs by Strauss and Grieg and Schumann as well as some lesser-known Scandanavian songs. He also recorded pieces from "The Student Prince" and "The Vagabond King". He died March 18, 1973, in Santa Monica, California.

Bro. Melchior was raised in a St. John's Lodge in Copenhagen in 1918. (Zorobabel og Frederik til det Kronebe Haab.) On March 24, 1935, he was made an honorary member of Frederick Lodge No. 857, New York. In 1944 he received the Distinguished Achievement Award of the Grand Lodge of New York.

Lauritz Melchior is pictured in the role of Parsifal in a 1975 issue of Nicaragua, Scott No. 965. None of the other singers of this issue were Masons.

-Article submitted by Bro. Norman G. Lincoln, Member No. 12 of Eaton, Ohio

## MASONIC CORK CANCELS

Cork cancellations were used by many early postmasters in both the United States and Canada during the late 19th century and into the 1920's. The end of a cork would be cut into a design. Figures, stars, initials, etc. were used or sometimes the cork would simply be cut with straight lines. Among the most attractive of the cork cancellations were the "Masonics" used by postmasters who were members of the Fraternity.

Besides the Square & Compasses "killers" depicted here, there were many other Masonic cancellations. One design from a Connecticutt post office consisted of an oval showing the Hebrew word for Jehovah and is one of the most sought after cancellations. Other Masonic designs used such symbols as the moon & stars, triangles, hearts, etc, but not all moon, stars or heart killers were of Masonic origin. One reported Masonic killer used the Royal Arch Mason emblem, the keystone and the letters "HTWSSTKS".













-Article contributed by Bro. Jack Welch, Member No. 126 of La Porte, Texas

#### ELEFTHERIOS VENIZELOS

On June 30, 1986, Greece issued a set of two stamps commemorating the 50th anniversary of the death of Eleftherios Venizelos. This issue is shown below. Wor. Bro. W.G.Ioannidis was able to obtain several sets of these stamps and he would like to offer them to the MSU members at cost as follows: Single stamp of Venizelos  $40\mathfrak{c}$ , set of two stamps \$1.10. (The second stamp of the set pictures the "VI Cretological Conference" which is related to Venizelos. Bro. Ioannidis can be contacted at 3217 State St., Saginaw, Mich. 48602. Thank you for the

offer, Bro. Ioannidis.





Venizelos was born in Greece when that island was part of the Turkish Empire. After studying law at the University of Athens, he took a leading part in the Cretan insurrections that ended the Turkish rule. In 1909, King George I of Greece asked Venizelos to come to Athens and was elected to Parliament. In 1910, he was appointed Premier.

In 1914, Venizelos urged King Constantine I to declare war on Germany but the Queen was a sister of the Kaiser and Constantine refused. When Constantine was forced to abdicate in 1917, Venizelos again became Premier and immediately declared war against the Central Powers. His skillful diplomacy at the peace table brought the extension of Greek territory into Asia Minor. But King Constantine I was restored to power in 1920 and Venizelos was forced to leave Greece. In a few years much of the new territory was lost to Greece. Venizelos led an armed revolt in 1935 and fled into exile under sentence of death. Though he was pardoned by King George II when he regained the throne in 1936, he remained in Paris where he died a few months later.

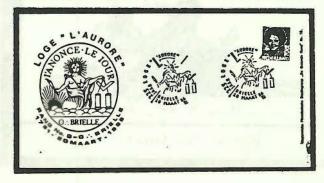
Bro. Venizelos was initiated on Feb. 25, 1898, into the Athina Lodge of Athens. His original testament was kept in the archives of the Grand Lodge of Greece until the enemy made an invasion of the country. However, his answers to the questionaire submitted to him are still available in the archives of the Grand Lodge in Athens. He did not make any further progress in his Masonic career.

In addition to the stamps pictured above, Venizelos is also pictured on issues of Greece released in 1946 (Scott No. 482/3) and 1965 (Scott No.824/6).

-Article provided by Bro. W.G.Ioannidis

Netherlands covers recently received from Bro. W.F.Smit; "Koningshof" Flat 28; Utrechtseweg 62; 6866 CM HEELSUM, The Netherlands. Write to him for details.





## MATTHEW CALBRAITH PERRY

Matthew C. Perry is shown on a U.S. stamp of July 14, 1953, (Scott No. 1021) which commemorates the centenary of his negotiations with Japan and a Ryukyu Islands issue of May 26, 1953 (Scott No. 28) to commemorate the centenary of his arrival at Naha, Okinawa.

Matthew C. Perry was born at Newport, Rhode Island, on April 10, 1794. He entered the Navy in 1809 as midshipman under his brother, Oliver H. Perry, and served on the schooner "Revenge". In 1810-13 he served on the flagship "President" training under John Rogers. His diary gives an account of the chase of the "Belvidere" when John Rogers fired the first shot afloat in the War of 1812. Promoted to lieutenant in July 1813, he was transferred to Commodore Decatur's new frigate "United States". In 1819 he convoyed the first company of freed negroes to Africa, assisted in establishing the Republic of Liberia and selected the site of its capitol, Monrovia. In 1822 he served under Commodore David Porter ferreting out the pirates in the Gulf of Mexico and later in protecting American commerce in the Mediterranean. From 1833 he was in command of the Brooklyn Navy Yard and there organized the first steam service in the navy. In 1837 he commanded the "Fulton", one of the first Naval Steamships. He was made commodore in 1841 and had charge of the steam navy in the Mexican War and in the reduction of Vera Cruz.

His crowning work, the expedition to Japan, came in 1853. President Fillmore entrusted him with a letter to the ruler of Japan, its object being to establish international relations, especially with a view of protecting shipwrecked mariners. On July 8, 1853, with the steam frigates "Susquehanna" and "Mississippi" towing the sloops of war "Saratoga" and "Plymouth", he moved up the bay of Yede and dropped anchor off Urga. This was the first appearance of a steamer in Yedo Bay. He turned the treaty over to representatives of the Emperor on July 14, 1853, and sailed for China and returned on March 31, 1854, to have it signed giving to the U.S. trading rights at two Japanese ports. On his return, he was received with many honors. He suffered from rheumatism in later years and died on March 4, 1858, at New York.

Matthew C. Perry joined the Masonic fraternity in 1819 receiving the sublime degree of Master Mason in Holland Lodge No. 8, New York City.

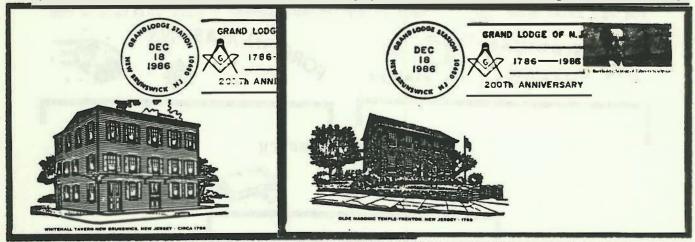




## 200TH ANNIVERSARY - GRAND LODGE OF NEW JERSEY

The Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey has prepared two cacheted covers to commemorate the 200th anniversary of that Grand Lodge. Each envelope is cancelled with the special 200th anniversary cancellation used on Dec. 18, 1986, by the Grand Lodge Station of the New Brunswick Post Office — the city of the Grand Lodge founding. The cachets are shown below. One pictures the first Grand Lodge which was situated in Whitehall Tavern, New Brunswick. The other shows the Olde Masonic Temple in Trenton — the first Grand Lodge Home. The F.A.Bartholdi stamp was selected because of this Mason's role in this country's history.

These cacheted covers, printed in only a limited number, may be obtained from R.W.Bro. Peter Skerchock, 30 Reiners Rd., Little Falls, N.J. 07424. A donation of \$3.00 per set will be totally used for charity. Requests should be accompanied by a #10 SASE and checks should be made payable to: The Grand Lodge of New Jersey.



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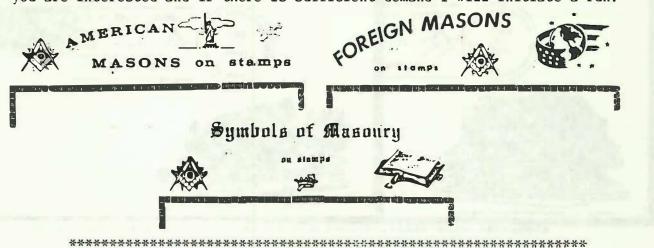
#### RECENT DAVID "C" COVERS

Bro. David C. Pritchard has recently taken up another hobby in a very active manner - cycling - but he has still found time over the past several months to prepare a few more David "C" cacheted covers. Information on acquisition of these covers can be obtained from him at 927 S. Ft. Thomas St., Ft. Thomas, Ky.



#### MASONIC ALBUM PAGES

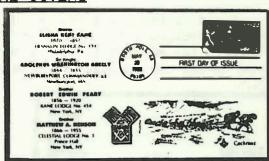
On several occasions over the past few years, I have been asked if I knew where one might purchase Masonic topical album pages. I know that the Washington Press in New Jersey does (or did) publish some under the White Ace name but I have never purchased them. Back in the 1960's I purchased a quantity of the pages offered by Bro. Clarence Beltmann under the original MSU/ATA. Since that time I have reproduced them on card stock in sufficient quantity to suit my own needs. Recently I had a larger size order run off by my printer so that I should be "set for life" and started thinking that some of the members might also want some. After conferring with him to develop prices, I believe that I could offer them for 15¢ apiece as long as we could amass a run quantity of 500 sheets of the same style. The three styles are shown below — the American and Foreign pages are in blue ink, the Symbols in black. There are photo offset printed on good quality matte stock ( $8\frac{1}{2}X11$ ) and the border encircles the entire display area with a Masonic Square & Compasses at the bottom center. Let me know if you are interested and if there is sufficient demand I will initiate a run.



## LATEST COCHRANE COVERS

Bro. Frank Cochrane III continues to produce quality Masonic cacheted covers. HIs three latest covers are shown below. Information on their purchase can be obtained from him at P.O.Box 360025, Melbourne, Fla. 32936.







#### ROBERT FULTON

Robert Fulton has been pictured on a U.S. stamp of Aug. 19, 1965, (Scott #1270) and a Hungary issue of May 15, 1948, (Scott #C55). His steamship "Clermont" was noted by the U.S. on Sept. 25, 1909, (Scott #373) and his "Nautilus" is shown on a Monaco issue of Dec. 12, 1962 (Scott #526).





Robert Fulton was born at Little Britain (now Fulton), Penna., on Nov. 14, 1765. He was apprenticed to a jeweler in Philadelphia but soon devoted all his energies to painting, going to England in 1786 where he studied under Benjamin West. There he met several influential people who encouraged him to experiment in engineering. He settled in Paris in 1794 and experimented with a small submarine, the "Nautilus", on the Seine. In 1796 he published a "Treatise on the Improvement of Canal Navigation". His first steamboat navigated the Seine in 1803. He returned to the United States in 1805 and backed by Bro. Robert R. Livingston, he built the "Clermont" which he steamed up and down the Hudson River between New York and Albany from 1807. In 1808 he obtained the navigation monopoly by an act of Congress. Toward the end of the War of 1812, he constructed the paddle steamer "Fulton" for the U.S. Government – this was the first steam warship. Robert Fulton died in New York City on Feb. 24, 1815.

Robert Fulton is often referred to as a Mason. He was certainly the associate of Masons, notably M.W.Robert R. Livingston. McClenchen in his "History of Free-masonry in New York" and others say that Fulton was a member of Hiram Lodge in New York City. Unfortunately, his Masonic membership cannot be established factually. Hiram Lodge No. 5 was chartered in 1783. At least one Masonic Lodge was named for him - Robert Fulton Lodge No. 104, New York, N.Y..

# CHARLES ROBERT RICHET

In addition to the new French issue cited on page 607. Bro. Richet was previously pictured on a Monaco set of June 29. 1953 - Scott No. 303/5.

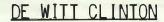


Charles Robert Richet, French physician, physiologist and metaphysician, was born in Paris Aug. 16, 1850. He was educated at the University of Paris, receiving his degree in medicine in 1877 and in science in 1878. He joined its faculty of medicine and in 1887 was appointed professor of physiology. He is best known for his research on the phenomenon which he named anaphylaxis, of which he was the co-discoverer with Portier, and for his investigations in serotherapy. He was awarded the 1913 Nobel Prize for physiology and medicine for his work on anaphylaxis. He conducted investigations on animal heat, busied himself with

#### CHARLES ROBERT RICHEI (CONT'D)

the subject of aviation and studied occult or supernormal phenomena coming under the heading of metaphysics. He acquired a considerable reputation for literary attainment in his scientific writings, verse, drama and moral and social romances. He was elected to the Academy of Medicine in 1899 and was a prominent member of the French Biological Society after 1881. He was an ardent pacifist and published a volume of poems in 1875. He died in Paris on Dec. 3, 1935.

Bro. Richet was initiated in Cosmos Lodge, Paris, in 1876.





De Witt Clinton was pictured on the U.S. revenue stamp used for many years on cigarette packs.

Clinton, born in Little Britain (now Fulton), N.Y. on March 2, 1769, held many political offices in the state of New York. He was elected Mayor of New York City in 1802, became Lt. Gov. in 1811 and was defeated for President of the U.S. by Madison in 1812. He later became Governor of New York in 1817, was reelected in 1824 and served until his death on Feb. 11, 1828, in Albany, N.Y.

De Witt Clinton was made a Mason in Holland Lodge No. 16 (now No. 8) on Sept. 3, 1790. He became Secretary of the Lodge in 1792 and was made Warden in 1793. He became Worshipful Master in Dec. 1793. In 1806 he was elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York and served continuously until 1819. He was an active York Rite Mason and during the last 12 years of his life, he served as the first Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the United States. He was also a 33°, A.A.S.R. Northern Jurisdiction.

# EDITORS RAMBLINGS

As I prepare this Newsletter, I look back and realize that it marks the completion of three years of editing "The Philatelic Freemason" - a total of 18 issues, a total of  $216\frac{1}{2}$  pages (remember the half page for Jerome Kern). It has been a memorable experience - frustrating at times but overall a rewarding task. I wish to thank all of you who have helped by submitting material for inclusion in the newsletters and those of you who have sent words of appreciation and encouragement. I enjoy the duty and trust that you will let me continue in the role for a while longer. Keep the information rolling in please.

I have made some inroads to the research on the Masonic Insurance Companies which I mentioned in the last newsletter. The Library of the Grand Lodge Of Massachusetts has several annual reports from these companies and I will be going in there soon to gather the information needed to develop a decent story on their relationship to the Fraternity. — Perhaps for the next issue or the one after that.

Another article that has been requested is one informing how to conduct research in the Masonic Philatelic field. I will try to take a crack at that one for the next issue. If anyone can provide suggestions as to how they perform research in this field, I'd be very glad to hear them and pass them on.

# RECENT EDSEL MASONIC CACHETED COVERS

Shown here are a few of the recent covers published by Bro. Edsel Hatfield. Information on their purchase can be obtained from him at P.O.Box 36, Hazelwood, Mo. 63042.

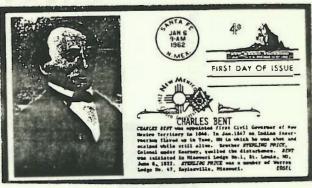










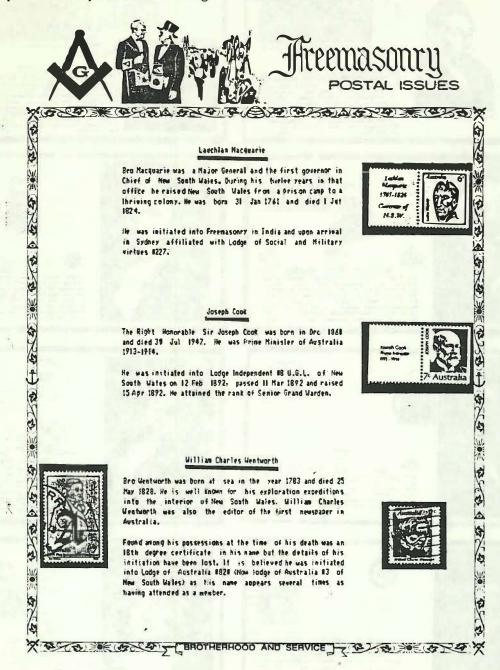






## PAGE FROM A MEMBER'S COLLECTION

In response to your Editor's plea for inputs to the Newsletter, Rt.Wor.Bro. John Provan, Past Grand Master of the American Canadian Grand Lodge within the United Grand Lodges of Germany, sent photocopies of several pages from his Masonic stamp collection. The sample shown on this page is one of a set of eight pages developed to display Famous Masons that have appeared on Australian stamps. Thank you for sharing these with us Bro. Provan.



# DUES ARE DUE

Our fiscal year starts on May 1 so most member's dues become payable before the shipment of our next Newsletter. Please try to make the Treasurer's life a little easier by remitting your dues before he has to go chasing for them. The dues remain at \$5.00 a year for North America and \$10.00 a year for overseas members. Remit to Otto Steding, 1033 Hollytree Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45231.