

# THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

## Journal of the MASONIC STUDY UNIT



Affiliate #94



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

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WHOLE NO. 129

### FRANCISCO BILBAO BARQUIN

A stamp issued by Chile in late 1998 to honor Francisco Bilbao, includes the Masonic Emblem in the stamp design.



This noted writer, sociologist and Chilean politician was born in Santiago in 1823. He was a disciple of the Freemason, Andres Bello, founder of the Latin American nationalistic school. He was a strong advocate of freedom, was a great speaker and admirer of the classics and was a pupil of Michelet, Quinet and Lammenais in Paris (1843). He participated in the French Revolution in 1848 and returned to Chile in 1850 where he established "La Sociedad de la Igualdad" (The Society of Equality) which rose to include six thousand members. After the failure of the Revolution of April 1850, he was exiled to Lima, Peru, where he actively collaborated on the overthrow of the Chilean government in 1854. He helped write anticlerical and antitraditionalist publications - "El Orden" (The Order) and "Nuevo Mundo" (New World), actions which caused his banishment to Paris in 1854. In 1856 he moved to Argentina and affiliated with the Unitary Party. One of his more important works was the "Evangelio Americano" (American Gospel) published by the Buenos Aires Typographical Society in 1864. He believed this work to be a Bible for the Latin American Continent, however reviews credited it as not going far from a trial of observations and personal conclusions. He died that same year, on February 19, 1864.

Bro. Bilbao affiliated with the Lodge Union del Plata No. 1 of Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1857; he served this Lodge as Master in 1860-63. As a Mason, he had led a very intensive life and fought by the principles of the Order with such strength that it set examples to the brothers of the Valley. Upon his death, Brothers of East Argentina established a Lodge named "Francisco Bilbao to maintain his memory.

-article and stamp submitted by Bro. Juan Sabater Pie, Barcelona, Spain

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

### NEW MEMBERS:

NONE - Have you recommended the Unit to a fellow collector and/or Mason?

### ADDRESS CHANGES:

284. Th. J. de Gier, J. van Eijeklaan 232, 3723 BC Bilthoven, Netherlands

### MISSING BRETHERN: (Mail Returned)

117. Ralph A. Herbold, 7198 Crescent Ave., Buena Park, CA 90620

175. E. A. C. Crab, De Melkpatte 10, 2037 PV Nootdorp, Netherlands

398. Edmun V. Ralph, 215 The Donwah West, Don Mills, Ontario, Canada M3P 3B5

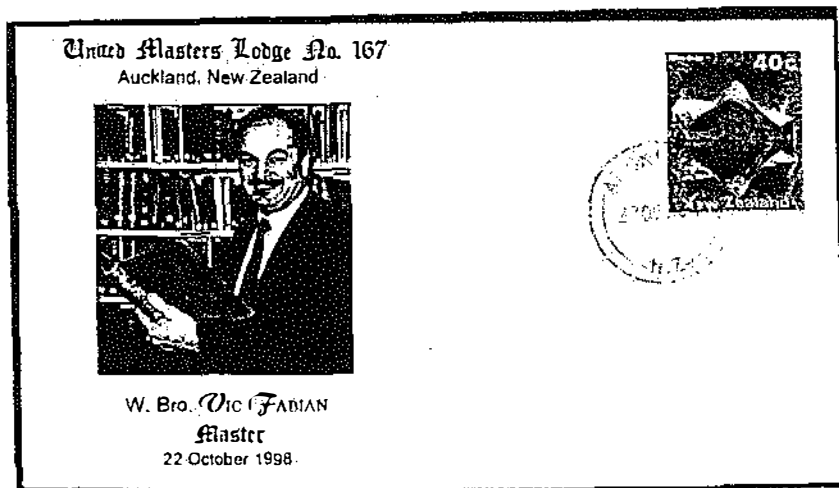
### CLOSED ALBUMS:

186. Dulaney L. O'Roark - late of St. Petersburg, FL

241. LTC Thomas Stuhr III - late of Dover, DE

Bro. Juan Sabater Pie sent a nice year end letter to your Editor summarizing his activities in his Masonic Philately hobby. He thanked the many Brethren who have assisted him and was proud to announce that he has been able to add significantly to his collection. He belongs to all the Masonic Philatelic clubs (except the one in Germany) and corresponds with more than 100 brethren on the subject. He is very prompt in explaining his hobby and his contacts in Lodges which he attends and extends the best wishes of *Perseverance Lodge No. 3* of Barcelona. He is truly an active Masonic Philatelist and a credit to the Craft as well as the hobby.

Bro. Vic Fabian was recently installed as Master of United Masters Lodge No. 167, the Auckland area Research Lodge; 80 Masons attended the ceremony. In the form of a true Masonic Philatelist, he issued a cover for the occasion. He also comments that the design of the stamp he used for the cover resembles the Square and Compasses (look at the stamp and partially close your eyes) - the mountain being the compasses and the reflection of it, the square. It is primarily blue and represents the geographical beauty of New Zealand. Congratulations, Bro, Fabian.



## 1999 ISSUE - ALFRED NEWMAN

When I began to research and write about Masons, our late Brother Jerry Erickson was a great source of assistance and encouragement. In a few short years Jerry had become the leading expert on Masons in government, sports and entertainment. Shortly before he died he sent me a list of Masons in the field of music. One of them was Alfred Newman with one caveat: he has been called a Mason but Lodge membership is not known. Since he will be one of the persons honored in 1999 by a stamp in the series of Hollywood composers. I am presenting his biography with the warning that there is no proof of his membership. If anyone can provide further data, it would be appreciated.

Alfred Newman was born March 17, 1901, in New Haven, CT, the eldest of ten children of Michael and Luba Newman. His brother Lionel won an Oscar for Hello Dolly. Emil was a composer, Robert was a studio executive, Marc was an agent, Irving was a doctor (his son is a film composer). His mother was a Russian cantor's daughter and encouraged him to study piano and he played concerts at the age of eight. In 1913 he played for Gus Edwards at the Harlem Opera House and in 1914 he toured on the Keith vaudeville circuit. By 1916 he was a pianist/conductor on Broadway for Hitchy-Koo; this led to further conducting roles with George White's Scandals and the Greenwich Village Follies. He also conducted for works by Jerome Kern, Bert Kalmar & Harry Ruby, George Gershwin, Rogers and Hart and Sigmund Romberg.

In 1930 Irving Berlin asked him to arrange and orchestrate the music for *Reaching for the Moon*. This was his first experience with motion pictures and led to responsibility for over 250 film scores. He received 45 Oscar nominations and won nine times - for Alexander's Ragtime Band, Tin Pan Alley, The Song of Bernadette, Mother Wore Tights, Call Me Madam, With A Song In My Heart, Love Is a Many Splendored Thing, The King and I and Camelot. He married Martha Montgomery and they had six children. His son David has continued the family tradition of composing. Alfred also guest conducted the Los Angeles and Cincinnati Symphonies. He died Feb. 17, 1970.

-article provided by Pres. Norman Lincoln, Eaton, OH

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### MASONIC STUDY UNIT OF THE AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

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Otto Steding  
1033 Hollytree Drive  
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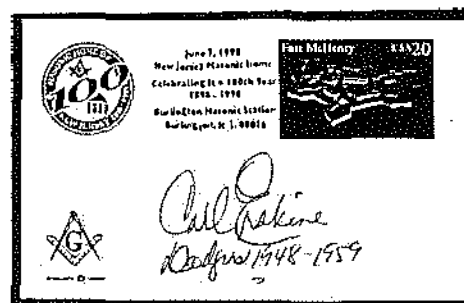
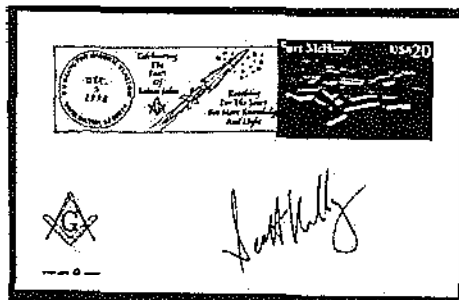
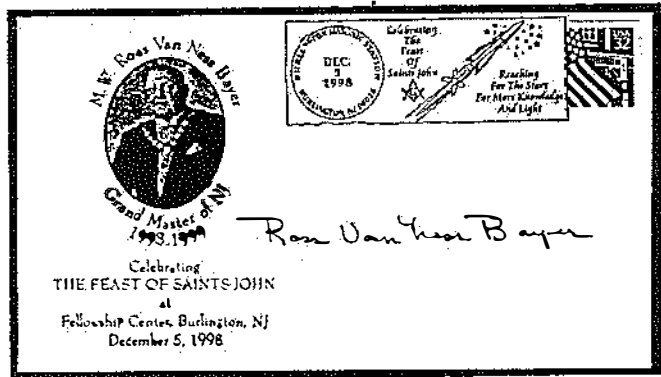
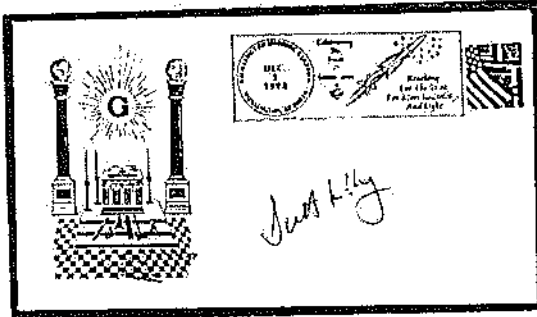
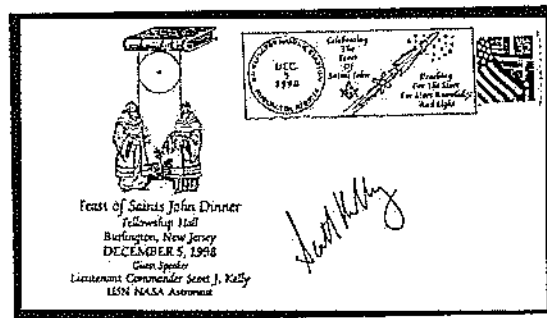
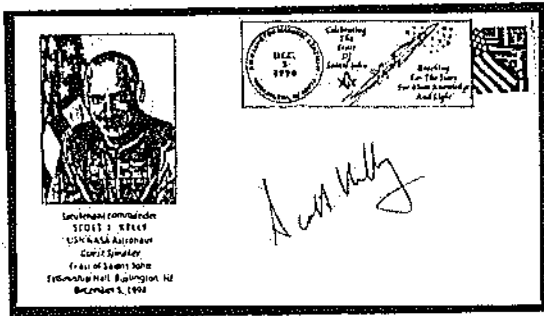
Membership  
\$8.00 - North America  
\$14.00 All Other

President

Norman Lincoln  
P.O. Box 454  
Eaton, OH 45320

## COVERS FOR THE FEAST OF SAINTS JOHN

Bro. Dick Mekenian has provided copies of the various covers he prepared for the Grand Lodge of New Jersey Feast of Saints John held in Burlington, NJ, on December 5, 1998. The guest speaker was Bro. Scott J. Kelly, Astronaut. The first four covers shown, Scott J. Kelly, Saints John, Tile Floor & Symbols and Grand Master Bayer, autographed as shown, are available at a cost of \$5.00 each. The Postal Card autographed by Bro. Kelly, is free with any three covers purchased. He also has available a small quantity of NJ Masonic Home Centenary cards signed by Carl Erskins, pitcher for the Brooklyn Dodgers from 1948 to 1959, for a cost of \$20.00. All monies collected will go to the Scottish Rite Children's Learning Centers and the NJ Grand Lodge Permanent Fund. Bro. Mekenian may be reached at 711 5th Ave., Spring Lake, NJ 07762-1225.



## WILLIAM CROFT BARNES 1858-1936

A true Westerner, Will C. Barnes was born in San Francisco and spent his infant years in the booming mining camp of Gold Hill, Nevada. At the age of 7, he and his widowed mother moved to La Porte, IN, to the home of his maternal grandfather, a wagon maker. Six years later he moved to Indianapolis and became a music salesman and usher at the Old Academy of Music Opera House. At the age of 18 he was offered the munificent sum of \$20 a week to sell sheet music in a leading San Francisco music establishment. While there, he developed a passion for the sea and an intimate knowledge of ships. He was unsuccessful in an attempt for the Revenue Training School (he placed 9th of 103 for 3 vacancies) and changed his goal to becoming a member of the US Army Signal Corps. He was informed that the Corps was full but by recalling and using an acquaintance with Sen. Booth of California, he became a member of the corps detailed to the telegraphy school. Within a few months he was posted to Fort Apache, Arizona to relieve the operator on duty. He was engaged in several Indian attacks - starting as early as his initial trip to the Fort. By 1880 he had acquired the expertise needed to make him a first rate telegrapher.



Private, U.S. Signal Corps



Cowboy



Legislator

He had several brushes with the Apache Indians - especially when out on the lines repairing breaks. He demonstrated true bravery while serving as observer and while trying to get news to Fort Thomas - 90 miles away. His actions merited his being called to the front of the assembled troops and being presented with the Medal of Honor, duly inscribed "For Bravery in Action, Sept. 1st, 1881, at Fort Apache, Arizona". By this time he has risen from Private to Sergeant. He left the Signal Corps after his enlistment was up and became a rancher of great means. He eventually served in the State Legislature of Arizona and, after New Mexico became a state, in that Legislature also. He met up with Sheriff Bucky O'Neill and other notables of Western Folk Lore such as Gifford Pinchot who convinced him to become part of the U.S. Forestry Service and take part in the Range Conservation movement.

Barnes wrote several books including Western Grazing Grounds and Forest Ranges, Tales From the X Bar Horse Ranch, Apaches and Longhorns, Arizona Place Names and Cattle.

He became familiar with many literary figures of his time such as Mark Twain, James Whitcomb Riley and John Wesley Powell. The **William C. Barnes Butte** in Papago Park and Military Reservation in Phoenix was dedicated in his honor on Dec. 4, 1938. When he died on Dec. 17, 1936, he was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery, as a Medal of Honor recipient.

His Masonic affiliations have not yet been uncovered but it is known that in August 1888, while Barnes was at Holbrook, Arizona, a telegram arrived addressed to the Master of the Masonic Lodge at Holbrook, The Master was not in town so the telegram was delivered to Barnes as the next highest official in the Lodge. He in turn took the action requested by the telegram.

Bro. Barnes exemplifies the Ben Franklin adage of: "If you would be remembered you must either do something worth writing about or write something worth reading". He did both, but unfortunately, he is not remembered as much as he should be. He can be noted in a Masonic Collection by the Medal of Honor Stamp (Scott 2088), the Range Conservation stamp (Scott 1176) or the Arizona (Scott 1192) or New Mexico (Scott 1191) issues.

-article submitted by Bro. Edsel Hatfield, Hazelwood, MO.

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## GIVING AND SHARING

The Giving and Sharing stamp released by the USPS on October 7, 1998, should be considered applicable to any Masonic stamp collection. Philanthropy is not only an American tradition of giving and sharing, it is a Masonic tradition as well. This point is well made in the book published in 1997 by The Supreme Councils, 33 deg. N.M.J and S.J., titled: Masonic Philanthropies A Tradition of Caring, by S. Brent Morris. This book lists many/most of the Charities and activities that our Masonic family is involved in and gives a brief summary of each.



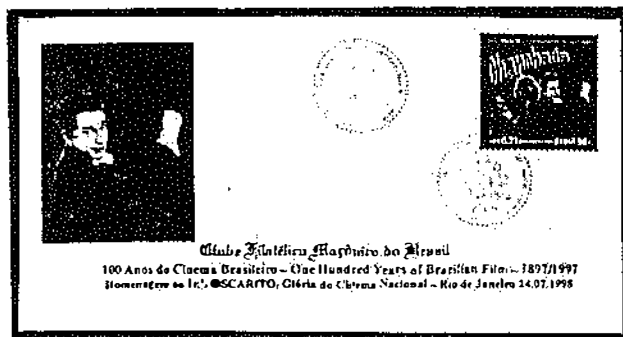
The stamp design symbolically shows the relationship between the "giver" and the "receiver" (flower and bee), illustrating that both participants benefit from the relationship. The colors of this stamp are yellow blossoms, orange bee and green background with lettering in black. According to An Illustrated Encyclopedia of Traditional Symbols by J. C. Cooper, "Colour symbolizes the differentiated, the manifest; diversity; the affirmation of light. Colours which give back light, e.g. orange, yellow, red are active, warm, advancing; those which absorb light, e.g. blue, violet are passive, cold, retreating, while green synthesizes the two divisions."

How nice it would be if the entire Masonic family would use this stamp for all their correspondence from now until at least when the postage rate goes up on Jan. 10, 1999.

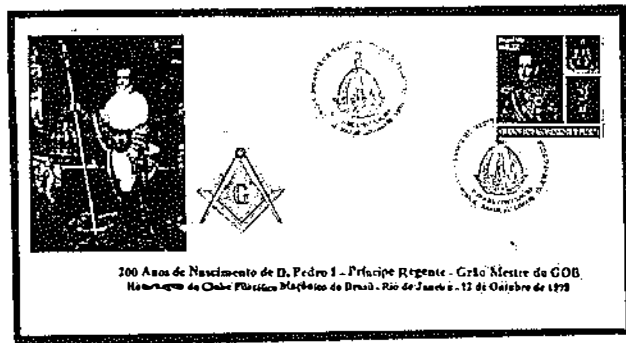
-article submitted by Bro. Milton P. Youmans, Waynesville, MO

## NEW BRAZIL ISSUES/COVERS

Bro. Dr. Renato Mauro Schramm, President of the "Clube Filatelico Masonico do Brasil" has informed us of a couple of new issues from that nation which picture Freemasons: Oscarito and D. Pedro I.



The "Chanchada", translated as a worthless play, is the theme of the stamp issued on July 24, 1998, which pictures "Grandè Otelo" and "Oscarito" in a still-scene from the film "A Dupla do Barulho" by Carlos Manga, Atlantida, 1953. It is part of a set of six stamps issued to commemorate (in 1997) 100 years of Brazilian Cinema. The cover indicates that Oscarito was a Freemason but no details are given.



The October 13, 1998, release for Dom Pedro I is more familiar to Masonic Philatelists. He has been honored on several stamps previously issued; this release is to commemorate the 200th anniversary of his birth. He was born on October 12, 1798, at the Queluz Palace in Portugal. He became the first emperor in the new world - Brazil and a king in the old world - Portugal. He was the fourth son of D. Joao VI, regent prince of Portugal. He arrived in Brazil in 1808, finished his education there and married twice. He resigned the Brazilian crown in 1831 in favor of his son, D. Pedro de Alcantara, and returned to Portugal. Following a victorious military campaign against his brother, he died on Sept. 24, 1834, shortly after the Evora Monte Convention that sealed the victory of the liberal cause, of which he had become the paladin. D. Pedro had served as Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Brazil.

## THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE A ROOK IN THE GARDEN

Brother Maurice Beazley invited me to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Masonic Philatelic Club of the U.K. It was held at the Freemason's Hall on Great Queen Street in London on November 14, 1998. I flew from Dayton, OH, to Dallas to Heathrow and took a bus to the Westford Hilton where I met Margaret and Maurice. The accommodations were very nice and the buffet dinner was most appetizing. On Friday we braved the underground to take a tour of the Freemason's Hall. We also visited Yasha Berensiner's antique shop where I obtained some Masonic souvenirs for some friends.

At the annual meeting I was able to assign faces to brethren who had previously been just names such as Trevor Fray, Tony Field and Graham West. The meeting went very well. It is unfortunate that the Masonic Study Unit does not have one as there was a great deal of fellowship and exchange of ideas. There was also an auction but no dinner.

We then drove to Redcar in North Yorkshire where I was the guest of the Beazleys and Frisky, their dog. On the way, we stopped at the American Air museum which contains many examples of warplanes of the US from the second World War and Cold War eras. In several hangers volunteers were working to restore British, German and Russian airplanes. That evening we visited the Royal Air Force Club but failed to win anything at Bingo.

During the next three days I was able to attend an installation of the officers of a Mark Master Mason Lodge, observe the Fellowcraft and Royal Arch Degrees being conferred. For those who have never visited Great Britain, I would advise you to do so. The British work that I saw was excellent, though more formal than usual in American Lodges. But, I was welcomed and made to feel at home. Dinners are normally held prior to Lodge meetings in Ohio and we have toasts only at "Table" Lodges.

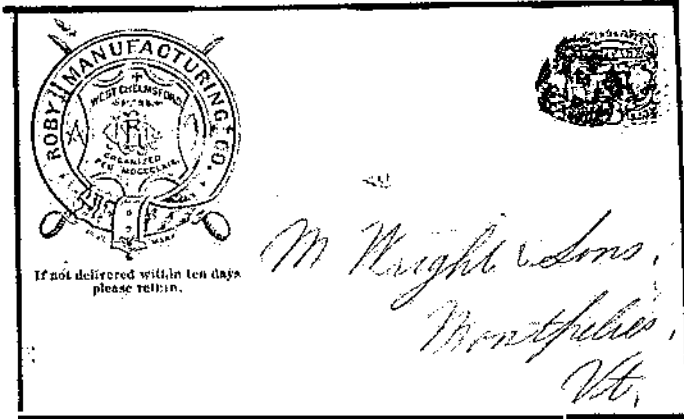
I would judge that Masonry is doing well in the United Kingdom. British Masons are emerging from their traditional secrecy. Freemason's Hall was full of bulletin boards with newspaper clippings of Masonic charities as well as photographs of installation ceremonies and brethren in regalia which would not have been seen a few years ago. There is some concern about the efforts to identify Masons in public life and on the police forces. Similar efforts have been made by totalitarian regimes in other countries in the past.

After looking over Maurice's collection of post cards, I am ready to give him the title of leading deltiologist in England. I must also state that the British are a very vigorous people. It was hard for this aging mid-westerner to keep up. It was also colder than I expected. There are more cars on the roads than when I was in England twenty years ago. The prices are higher than in Ohio and the streets are cleaner. There are still sheep grazing in the moors and there are still flower gardens and birds singing. I am proud to say that many of my ancestors came from England, because the English are survivors. The English Masons practice true Masonry.



## CHRISTOPHER ROBY PRODUCER OF MASONIC CANCELS

A short time ago, Bro. Ray Koch of Richland Center, WI, sent me a scanned copy of a cover he acquired at a convention in California. He has assigned Skinner-Eno 36-72 to this cancel as it fills in a void in their catalog which shows the cancel but no source. The proximity of West Chelmsford to Andover prodded me to do a bit of research on the cover - its origin and the related parties. The cover was canceled on July 18, 1870.



Christopher Roby was born in Dunstable, MA, and in about the year 1842 he left that town to enter business in West Chelmsford, MA. Early in the 19th Century, Deacon John Farwell had constructed a factory in West Chelmsford for the manufacture of scythes, making use of the water power available from Stone Brook. Some 25 years later, after several transactions, the business was acquired by a Mr. F. T. Sawyer who sold a half interest to Christopher Roby. Because of the presence of the factory, the village was popularly known as "Scythe Factory Village." The railroad was put through in 1848, a post office was established and the name was changed to West Chelmsford. Roby, Sawyer & Company continued the production of scythes until 1853 when Mr. Sawyer retired and the company name was changed to C. Roby & Co.

Much of the market for their scythes was in the southern and border states so when the Civil War broke out in 1861, Roby lost not only his market but also most of the goods that had been shipped during the previous winter. Trade with the secessionist states was prohibited. Demand for cavalry sabers skyrocketed with the outbreak of hostilities so Roby converted his factory to the production of swords and sabers and filled a government order for 410 sabers in 1861. During the next four years, 32,410 cavalry sabers and 16,000 swords were manufactured at the West Chelmsford plant. After the war, edged tools for textile mills and farms were produced along with Masonic regalia swords but the business fell on hard times and in 1867 Roby filed for bankruptcy. The court sold the mill site, factory and water rights for \$2000. The new owners continued operation of the factory until it was purchased by the Hiscox File Company for the manufacture of files and machine knives.

The company logo shown on the envelope includes the Masonic Square and Compasses - obviously a tie to the manufacture of the Masonic regalia swords, the snarth (scythe blade) to their former business and the crossed swords to their Civil War products. The Organization date of Feb. 1869 indicates that the successors to C. Roby & Co. maintained the Roby name after the bankruptcy proceedings.

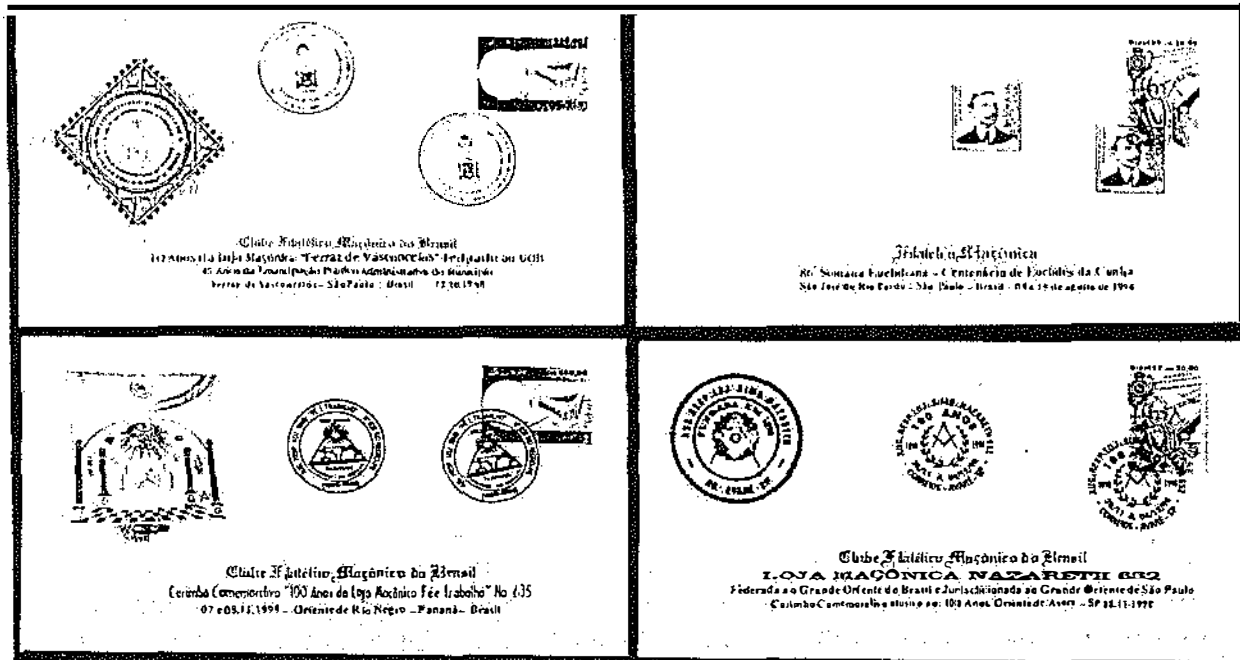
Christopher Roby served as the Postmaster at Chelmsford for 34 years. He, therefore was the postmaster responsible for the excellent negative Square and Compasses cancel shown on this cover. He died in 1897 and it is reported that he left his entire estate in trust, to be used for the benefit of West Chelmsford.

I have not yet determined which Lodge Christopher Roby belonged to but there were six possibilities in the area - St. Paul's Lodge in Groton, Caleb Butler Lodge in Groton Junction and four Lodges in Lowell - Pentucket, Ancient York, Kilwinning and William North. There was no Lodge in Chelmsford or West Chelmsford, nor is there one now. Hopefully the Grand Secretary's Office of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts will provide me with Bro. Roby's Masonic history in the near future so I can complete this research.

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### MORE BRAZILIAN MASONIC COVERS

Details on acquisition of these covers and others he has to offer are available from Dr. Renato Mauro Schramm, President, Clube Filatélico Mazonico do Brasil, Caixa Postal 3085, CEP 88010-910, Florianopolis - SC - BRASIL. (E-mail clubselo@zaz.com.br)



## ANTONIO GAUDI I CORNET

Spain issued a set of three stamps on Feb. 25, 1975, to honor Contemporary Spanish Architects. The 8P value, Scott 1874, pictures Antonio Gaudi.



Antonio Gaudi was born in 1852 in Reus, Catalonia, Spain. He was graduated from the Architecture School of Barcelona in 1878 and completed his training with Pablo Mila y Fontanals. He can be considered the first "modernist" architect of Europe - not just an architect but as a creator of forms - beyond the simple use of architecture. As construction depends upon the proper use of iron, concrete, brick, a parabolic arch and a warped surface, he also wisely applied the use of ornaments, columns and roofs to enhance the finished product. His most famous structure was the Cathedral Temple of the Sacred Family, other important works included the Calvet House (1899-1904), Bellesguard (1900-1902), the Batllo House (1905-1907), the Mila House (1905-1910), known also as the Pedrera (Quarry) and the beautiful Park Guell (1900-1914). He died in 1926.

An article by Josep Maria Crandell, published in the newspaper "La Vanguardia" of Barcelona, on October 4, 1998, attributes Antonio Gaudi as having a strong relationship with Freemasonry. His close friends included Eudaldo Canibell and Eduardo Fontsero, the last Great President of the Sovereign Council of Government of the *Great Catalan Regional Symbolic Lodge*. Crandell also states that Gaudi with Guell and other studious men of the profession, founded the Labor Lodge, one in which Masonic principles were integrated with Catholic ideals and which led to the wonderful Park Guell. He also asserted that this organization did not delay apprenticeships in granting the secret knowledge of Gaudi. For him, the initiation did not consist of the three degrees of apprentice, fellow and master alone, but extended to the thirty remaining - in alchemy, rose-cross, gnotism, astrology, etc and their signs can be admired in the forms and details of the greater part of their works.

-article submitted by Bro. Juan Sabater Pie, Barcelona, Spain

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## WANTS, TRADES, SALES

There have been no new submittals in these categories other than the new offers cited within the body of this Newsletter. You are reminded, however, that the Editor has an extensive stock of Masonic Cacheted covers, US and Foreign, that is available for sale. These are not only my covers but also some on consignment. Send for a current price list. If you have covers you wish to dispose of, contact me to set up proper arrangements. My stock is constantly changing.

## NEW ISSUES

The following new issues applicable to a Masonic Stamp Collection have been cited in the philatelic media:

- 1998 - Guinea - Roy Rogers and Horses, Souvenir Sheet with two stamps.
- May 28 - Russia - 200th Anniversary of the Birth of Alexander S. Pushkin, five stamps plus a Souvenir Sheet which unites the five.
- Oct. 2 - Uruguay - 25th Death Anniversary of Salvador Allende, one stamp.
- Oct. 6 - Gibraltar - Stamps of Wisdom - four stamps of famous persons and statements they made. One, Scott 771, shows Winston Churchill.
- Oct. 13 - Brazil - 200th Birth Anniversary of Dom Pedro I, one stamp.  
(see page 1455)
- Oct. 26 - Liberia - World Jamboree of Boy Scouts, Chile, three se-tenant stamps which include one of Daniel Carter Beard.
- Oct. 29 - Guyana - 19th World Boy Scout Jamboree, three se-tenant stamps which include one showing John Glenn receiving a special Scout merit badge.
  - Marshall Islands - John Glenn's Return to Space, booklet with six se-tenant stamps and a Souvenir Sheet, Scott 671/7.
  - Micronesia - John Glenn's Return to Space, pane of 8 se-tenant stamps.
  - Palau - John Glenn's Return to Space, pane of 8 se-tenant stamps.
- November - Antigua & Barbuda - Great Inventors of the 20th Century, two panes of 8 se-tenant stamps which include Carl Benz.
- December - Uganda - 19th World Jamboree of Boy Scouts, three se-tenant stamps which include "Uncle Dan" Beard and Hubert Humphrey.

Other identifications provided in Scott Stamp Monthly include:

- Guyana - 1993 - 2749A,B,G - A. Durer - part of Christmas issue set.
- Liberia - Sept. 16, 1998 - 1354 - Samuel Clemens/Tom Sawyer
- Luxembourg - Sept. 21, 1998 - 995 - 150th Anniversary of St. Jean de  
L'Esperance Lodge
- Mexico - July 18, 1998 - 2088 - Benito Juarez - Precinct in National Palace.

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A HAPPY, HEALTHY, PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO ALL