

THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

Journal of the
MASONIC STUDY UNIT



Affiliate #94



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

VOL 25 NO 1

MAY-JUNE 2000

ANDRE GUSTAVE CITROEN

Central African Republic issued a series of stamps on April 10, 1989, to note Transportation Innovations. The 400 Fr stamp in the series, Scott No. 918, pictures Bro. Citroen and one of his automobiles.



This noted French engineer and motor manufacturer was born in Paris on February 5, 1878, and graduated from the Ecole Polytechnique. At the outbreak of World War I he convinced the French Army of the necessity of mass-producing shells. After the war he mass-produced a small car, the Citroen, introducing Henry Ford's methods to the European automobile industry; the car won great popularity. He aided in financing the 1932 Georges-Marie Haardt expedition which traveled by car from Beirut to Peking and also sponsored the Citroen Central African expedition. Refusing to retrench during the depression, he introduced the "Seven" in 1934 - the only popular front-wheel drive car of its time. La Societe Andre Citroen went into liquidation in December 1934 and was later reorganized by different principals but the company still bears his name. Andre Gustave Citroen died in Paris on July 3, 1935.

Bro. Andre Citroen was initiated in lodge "Le Philosophie Positive" of the Grand Orient of France on June 20, 1904.

-article originally appeared in the Masonic Philatelic Club (of Great Britain) Magazine and was submitted by Bro. Juan Sabater Pie of Barcelona, Spain

MASONIC STUDY UNIT OF THE AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

Secretary-Treasurer

Otto Steding
1033 Hollytree Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45231

Membership

\$8.00 - North America
\$14.00 All Other

President

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

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

NEW MEMBERS: None - we need some.

ADDRESS CHANGES:

355. Stephen J. Kapp, 704 West 5th St., Grove, OK 74344

MEMBERS ACTIVITIES:

Bro. Richard O. Wright of 13675 N. Hartley Lane, Lodi, CA, 95242 informs us that California did not prepare any postcards for the Rose Parade Float for 2000. Apparently the demand didn't warrant the expense. He still has several from years past if anyone is interested. The \$1.00 per card is always sent to the Float Committee as a donation from the Unit. He also states that he is serving as Master of Lodi Lodge No. 256 again; previous terms were 1976 and 1989.

Bro. Jim Dougherty, Grand Photographer for the Grand Lodge of Texas and Editor of *The Texas Mason*, has a rear burner project for the future: an illustrated reference book, probably on CD-ROM, of George Washington Bicentennial FDC's, regional and local events cachets. He is on the lookout for copies of newspaper clippings, dealer stuffers or other materials that give information on cachets appearing in 1932, the GW bicentennial year. Any inputs would most certainly be welcomed.

Bro. Stan Longenecker of Mount Joy, PA, participated in Battle Road 2000 in Lexington, MA, over the Patriot's Day weekend. He was part of the Pennsylvania contingent and participated in the battle with the Red Coats at "Meriam's Corner". He states it was an interesting but tiring experience. Unfortunately, he and I were both very busy that week-end and we were not able to get together - we were only about 25 miles apart.

Your editor is finally going to accept the doctors' advice and trade in my right knee for one of those "new-fangled" replacements. Everyone I have talked to, including our Secretary-Treasurer who has done it twice, tells me I will never regret it and will wonder why I waited so long. It is timed between Newsletters (May 23) so I won't have to miss a beat.

A reminder to all that I still have a very significant stock of Masonic Cacheted Covers - FDCs and Special Events, US and foreign. There are still some Fancy Cancels left from Bro. Ben Rutman's collection at fair market prices - both on and off cover. I also have some non-Masonic covers - FDCs, SEs and postal history. Write for my lists.

Bro. Bob Gilbert of Robesonia, PA, has shared a copy of a recent acquisition for his collection - a FDC for the Serbia Anti-Masonic issue of 1942.



WALTER PARKER

On January 21, 2000, Australia issued four stamps for Australia Day. The stamps featured three centenarian Anzacs - Walter Parker, Ray Longmore and Alex Campbell - plus the 1914-15 Star. In 1998 Parker and Longmore were presented with France's Legionne d'Honneur and in 1999 all three were presented with Australia's 80th Anniversary Armistice Remembrance Medal.



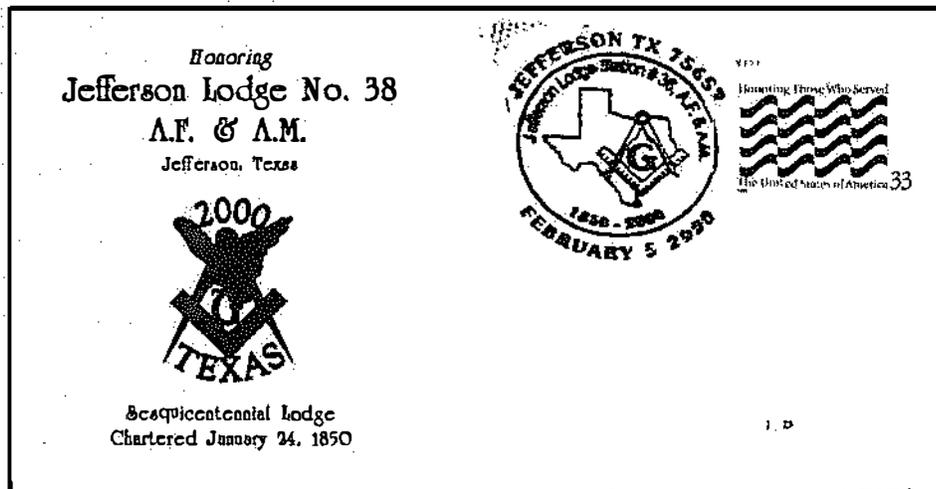
Walter Parker was born in Sydney, Australia, in 1894. At the outbreak of World War I, he was an apprentice commercial art printer. He promptly enlisted in the Australian Army and serving in Gallipoli, he carried water and ammunition to the front line troops. He later served in France until he was shot in the arm. Following the war he married and had two children; his son was killed in World War II. Sadly, Bro. Parker passed on to the Grand Lodge Above the day after the stamps shown above were issued.

Bro. Parker was initiated in Lodge Brunswick No. 225 (N.S.W.C.) on June 30, 1925, passed on September 29, 1925 and raised on September 2, 1926. He also joined Lodge New England No. 764 (N.S.W.C.) on October 20, 1951.

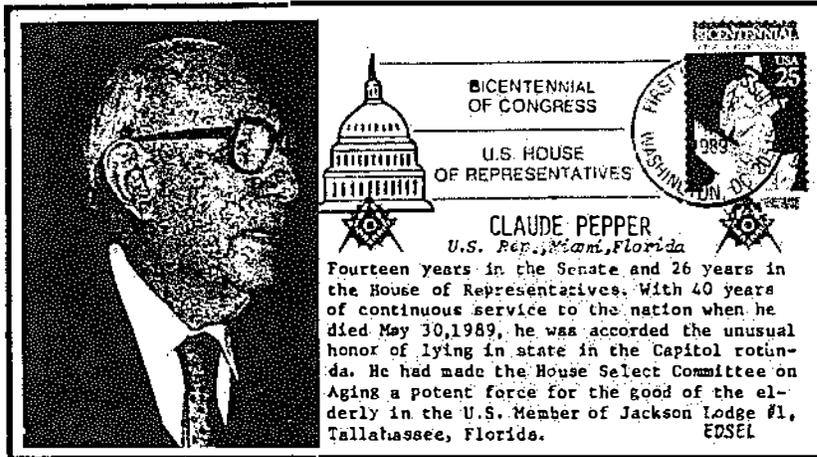
-article copied from one in The Masonic Philatelic Club Magazine that was contributed by Bro. Grahame Gumming.

DOUGHERTY COVER FOR JEFFERSON LODGE NO. 38

Bro. Jim Dougherty, P.O. Box 1192, Austin, TX 78767-1192, has issued a cover to commemorate the sesquicentennial of Jefferson Lodge No. 38 of Jefferson, TX. The USPS also cooperated with a pictorial cancel for the event.



CLAUDE DENSON PEPPER



The USPS will be issuing a stamp to honor Claude Pepper on September 7, 2000. Until that time, we can continue to use this Edsel cover for our album page.

Claude Pepper was born on September 8, 1900 at Dudleyville, Alabama.

After graduating from high school at Camp Hill, AL, he earned an AB cum laude at the University of Alabama and a JD at Harvard Law School. After teaching a year at the University of Arkansas Law School, he began the practice of law at Perry, FL. In 1928 he entered politics and was elected to the Florida House of Representatives from Taylor County. In 1930 he moved to Tallahassee where he joined Tallahassee Lodge No. 1, the Scottish Rite and the Shrine. After an unsuccessful run in 1934, he was elected US Senator in 1936 and began serving the first of his three terms in Washington. He married Irene Mildred Webster on Dec. 29, 1936; she died in 1979. They had no children.

As a member of the Military Affairs Committee, Pepper travelled to Nuremberg where he heard Hitler speak. He then became an anti-Nazi and helped pass the "Destroyer Deal" in 1940 to assist England as well as the Lend Lease Act of 1941. He rose in the ranks of the liberal Democrats by attending the National Conventions from 1940 to 1980. He chaired a wartime subcommittee on Health and Education and visited the Kremlin in 1945 where he interviewed Stalin. Senator Pepper had been a solid supporter of the New Deal but made the error of supporting Henry Wallace. He thus gained the enmity of Harry Truman. Pepper's opposition to the Truman Doctrine earned him the epithet of "spellbinding pinko" from Ralph Magill of the Atlanta "Constitution". In 1950 his fight for re-nomination against George Smathers was bitter and ultimately a losing one. During the MacCarthy era he could not overcome the smear tactics which called him a "nigger-lover" and "Red" Pepper. When he lost the Senate primary of 1958 to Brother Spessard L. Holland, his career appeared over. However, he moved to Miami in 1962 and built up a constituency among Blacks, Cuban exiles, Jews and senior citizens. He was elected to the 88th House of Representatives where he supported Medicaid and law enforcement. He voted for the Civil Rights Act, the ABM and the SST. He became a dove on Viet-Nam and a critic of Reaganomics. His greatest contribution was to senior citizens by sponsoring the Older Americans Act of 1965 and chairing the White House Conference on Aging in 1981. He received many honors and awards and appeared on the cover of "Time" in 1983. When he died May 30, 1989, he was the oldest man ever to serve in Congress. (An honor presently held by Bro. Strom Thurmond.)

-article contributed by Bro. Norman Lincoln, President of our Unit

FERNANDO PRESTES

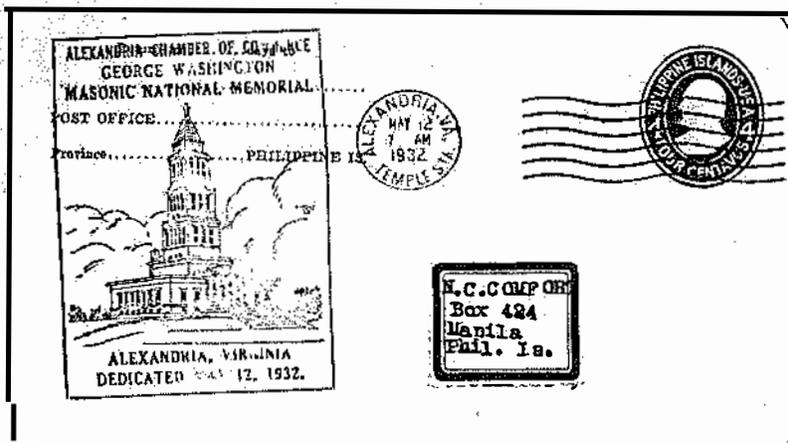
Bro. Juan Sabater Pie has provided this Brazilian cover complete with cachet and cancel to honor Fernando Prestes (1855-1937)



Bro. Prestes was a politician in Brazil serving as the fifth President of the State of Sao Paulo from 1898 to 1900. He also served as vice president during 1908-12 and 1920-28. He was initiated in "Firmeza Lodge" of Itapetininga (Sao Paulo) about 1876, On July 20, 1895, he was installed as Worshipful Master of that Lodge.

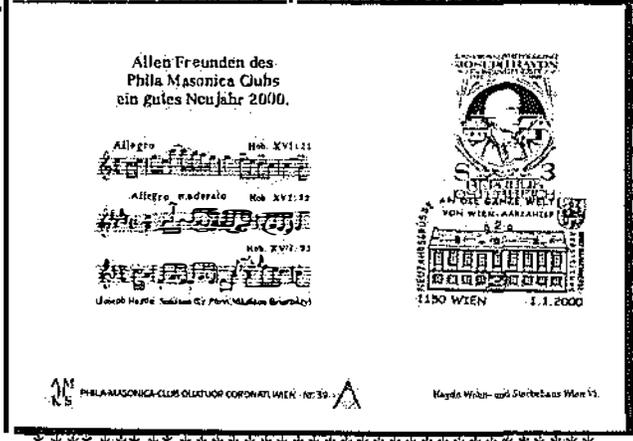
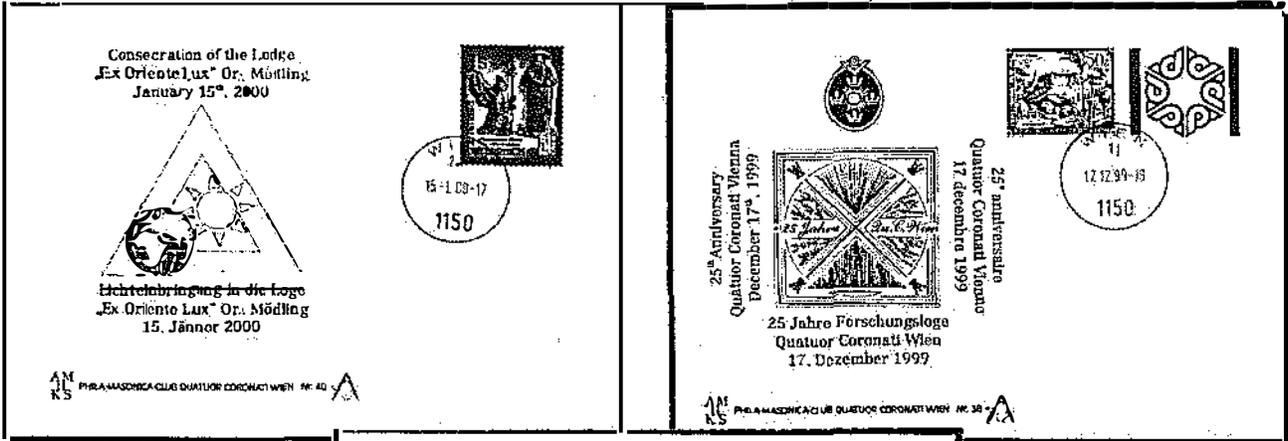
BOURSE FIND

While searching through a box of covers at a recent bourse in New Hampshire, I ran across the cover shown below. At first glance it appeared to be nothing more than another May 12, 1932, rubber-stamp cacheted cover from Alexandria. Closer examination, however, showed that the stamped envelope was not regular US postage - rather, it was a Philippines issue. It makes an interesting addition to my collection for only fifty cents.



COVERS FROM AUSTRIA

The latest batch of covers received from Bro. Dr. Herman Schmid are shown here. He is President of the Phila Masonica Club, Quatuor Coronati, Wien and can be reached at Hackenberggasse 29/33/3, A-1190 Wien, Austria.



CANTINFLAS

Bro. Juan Sabater Pie has forwarded a copy of the 1993 Mexican issue which pictures Bro. Mario Moreno "Cantiflas". He has heard that "Cantiflas" was a member of the Grand Dieta of Mexican Obedience. He is trying to research this case for more information. He has also read a story that Charlie Chaplin was a Mason - that fable has been disproven.



MICHAEL RICHARDS



Bro. Ralph Herbold of Ashland, OR, has provided the Masonic affiliation of Michael Richards requested by Bro. Peter Westbere in the previous issue. He is a member of Riviera Lodge No. 780, Pacific Palisades, CA, and the Southern California Research Lodge.

MARIA THERESA OF AUSTRIA

Archduchess of Austria and Queen of Hungary and Bohemia, she was the daughter of Emperor Charles VI and opposed France, Prussia and Spain in the War of Austrian Succession (1740-1748). As a result, she lost Silesia to Frederick II of Prussia and Austrian Lands to Naples. She made an alliance with France which brought in the Seven Years' War (1756-1763) in which Austria was humiliated.



In 1736 she married Francis I, Holy Roman Emperor, and with him was co-regent of Austria from 1740-1745. Her husband who was Grand Master of Austria did not concern himself with her wars. She, in turn, showed great hostility to Freemasonry, presumably from religious advisors, and at one time issued an edict against Freemasonry. Their daughter was the ill-fated Marie Antoinette who, as Queen of France, was beheaded during the French Revolution. After the death of Francis I, she and her son Joseph II became rulers. Joseph at first gave his protection and blessing to Freemasonry and later rescinded it.

-article contributed by Bro. Frank Elliott, No. Belfast, Ireland

MASONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE TITANIC



From time to time, we see articles on Masons who were associated with the Titanic and her untimely sinking on her maiden voyage. With stamps being issued depicting the tragedy as portrayed by the recent motion picture, it seems logical to start citing those individuals so an appropriate page can be developed.

One of the more notable casualties of that disaster was Bro. Francis Davis Millet, a noted artist and journalist. His painting, "The Sower" is shown on Scott 1060, the stamp issued in 1954 for the Nebraska Statehood Centennial. He worked for many noted newspapers in New York and London and is known for his historic murals and portraits. He was a member of Kane Lodge No. 454, New York City. He Drowned during the sinking and his ashes were brought to East Bridgewater, MA, where he had been a resident. At the request of Kane Lodge, Satucket Lodge of East Bridgewater conducted Masonic Services for him on May 3, 1912.

The Masonic Philatelic Club recently included an article on Bro. Harold Godfrey Lowe, the fifth officer on the Titanic, by Richard Heap in their magazine. Ho-headed and volatile are two adjectives which have been used to describe him. When the ship started to sink, he was off duty but immediately went to his lifeboat station. There he fired a warning shot with his pistol to prevent the boat being swamped by overcrowding. Once the lifeboats were launched, he formed a flotilla, of five boats tied together, and was the only person to turn back, after the ship sank, to pick up survivors. He picked up four. This fact is mentioned on a souvenir sheet issued by Maldives for the Titanic. Bro. Lowe was initiated into St. Trillo Lodge No. 2659, Colwyn Bay, on May 13, 1921, passed on October 14 and raised on January 13, 1922. He died in 1944 and was buried with a civil funeral and Masonic rites.



Laura Ingalls Wilder

Laura Ingalls Wilder's book, *Little House on the Prairie* was illustrated on one of the USPS stamps released on October 23, 1993, featuring youth literary classics. This tale, and the other Little House stories, tell children about early American pioneer life in the Great Plains in the 1870s and 1880s. They are true stories, in fact they are about Laura Ingalls and her family during that era.

Laura Ingalls was born February 7, 1867, near Pepin, WI in a little log cabin at the edge of a big woods. Through the years she traveled with her family by covered wagon through Kansas, Minnesota and finally the Dakota Territory where her father settled near De Smet. She taught school at the age of 15. At the age of 18, in December 1885, she married "Farmer Boy" Almanzo James Wilder. Their daughter Rose was born in 1886. A few years later, the family of three moved to Florida. In 1894 they settled near Mansfield, MO, in Ozark Country where they enjoyed a long and happy life. They operated an apple farm there named "Rocky Ridge Farm". She and her husband decided to retire in 1929; Almanzo died at the age of 92 and Laura lived to be 90, passing away on February 10, 1957, near Mansfield, MO.

By 1911 she had become Editor for a couple of newspapers and organized the Mansfield Farm Loan Association. When Laura was editing the *Missouri Realist*, some 40 years after her daughter was born, she was urged by her daughter, also a writer, to begin to set down on paper her early pioneer life in children's stories. The "Little House" series began; they became best sellers and were widely read. They were educational, both historically and morally, as well as absorbing and entertaining. The main characters are her immediate childhood family: Pa, Ma, Mary and Baby Carrie - and Jack their dog. The stories cover her early life from 5 to 18; the first book, *Little House in the Big Woods*, was published in 1932. It takes place in Wisconsin. *Little House on the Prairie* followed in 1935 after a sideline story of her husband's early childhood experiences. She published her last book in 1943 at the age of 76.

Laura Elizabeth Ingalls Wilder was an Eastern Star member along with her parents and sister in De Smet, So. Dakota. On May 15, 1897, Mansfield Chapter #75, Mansfield, MO, was Instituted and Constituted; she affiliated with this Chapter and served as Esther that first year. She served as Worthy Matron three times, the first being in 1902 when Almanzo, her husband, was initiated into the Eastern Star. Both she and her husband were extremely active in the Order.

-composed from articles by Bro. Milton P. Youmans and Richard Thomas

A majority of the members of our unit come up for renewal in April. Bro. Otto Steding has sent out dues bills to all those whose membership expires in the first half of this year. Please respond promptly. We don't like to lose members and more are always welcome.

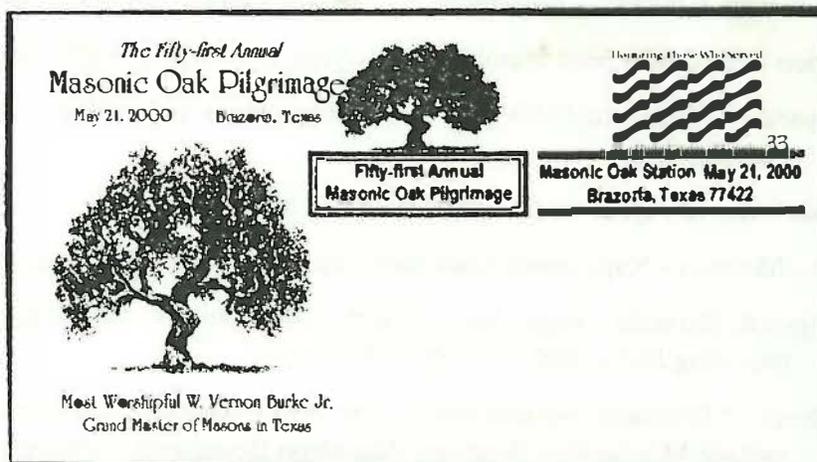
NEW ISSUES

The following new issues from around the world, reported in the philatelic media, have designs which are applicable to a Masonic stamp collection.

- June 10, 1999 - Tajikistan - Aleksander Pushkin's 200 Birth Anniversary, one value.
- July 27 - Mexico - 140th Anniversary of Civil Register, one value pictures Benito Juarez.
- Aug. 20 - Moldova - Johann Wolfgang 150th Birth Anniversary, one value
- Aug. 31 - Dominican Republic - Presidents, 8 se-tenant stamps - include Pedro Santana
- Dec. 1 - Mexico - Alexander Von Humboldt's Voyage to America 200th Anniv., 1 va
- Dec. 20 - Guyana - Millennium/1910-19, 17 se-tenant stamps include Leo Tolstoy and Mark Twain
- 2000 - Monaco - the 12 Apostles, 6 stamps including St. John
- Jan. 17, 2000 - Monaco - Napoleonic Souvenirs, one value showing his bust
- Jan. 18 - Antigua & Barbuda - Super Seniors of the 20th Century, 12 se-tenany stamps including Eubie Blake and the Eifel Tower.
- Feb. 1 - Maldives - Millennium/Second Half of the 18th Century, 17 se-tenant stamps include Montgolfier Brothers, Napoleon Bonaparte, Wolfgang A. Mozart, Benjamin Franklin, Ludwig von Beethoven and Capt. James Cook
- Feb. 2 - Palau - Millennium/1800-50, 17 se-tenant stamps include Napoleon Bonaparte and Simon Bolivar
- Feb. 10 - Falkland Islands - Ernest Shackleton's 1914 Antarctic Expedition
- British Antarctic Territories - Ernest Shackleton's 1914 Antarctic Expedition
- South Georgia & Sandwich Islands - Ernest Shackleton's 1914 Expedition
- Feb. 28 - Central African Republic - History of Aviation, 28 stamps and 2 S/S - include Charles A. Lindbergh
- Feb. 29 - British Virgin Islands - Monarchs of the United Kingdom, 6 se-tenant stamps
- Cayman Islands - Monarchs of the United Kingdom, 6 se-tenant stamps
- Falkland Islands - Monarchs of the United Kingdom - 6 se-tenant stamps
- March - Guyana - Wonderful World of Exotic Cars, 3 panes of 6 stamps each, include Benz, Ford and Daimler automobiles
- Mar. 1 - Czechoslovakia - Tomas G. Masaryk 150th Birth Anniversary, S/S
- Mar. 2 - Ethopia - Alexander Pushkin's 200th Birth Anniversary, 4 values
- Mar. 9 - Ireland - Acts of Union 200th Anniversary, 2 values, one pictures Henry Grattan
- Mar. 13 - St. Vincent - Millennium/1900-50, 18 se-tenant stamps include Henry Ford, Alexander Fleming, Winston Churchill and Franklin Delano Roosevelt

TEXAS MASONIC COVER

Bro. James G. "Jim" Dougherty has provided an advance copy of his latest cachet. It won't be available until May 21 but he will take orders. 250 of these cachets were printed in 2-color (black and green) on 100% rag envelopes. All will be canceled in blue ink on the day of the 51st annual Masonic Oak Pilgrimage and barbecue. They are franked with the "Honoring Those Who Served" stamp. Cost is \$10.50 and includes first class return postage. 100% of the proceeds after preparation cost will go to the upkeep of Masonic Oak Park in Brazoria.



The Masonic Oak is the site of the first formal meeting of Masons in Texas in 1835. The men resolved to request a Charter from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, which indeed, was granted and presented to Bro. Anson Jones. A cavalry officer in the Texian Army under Gen. and Bro. Sam Houston, he carried the document in his saddlebag through the Battle of San Jacinto, which sealed the independence of the Republic of Texas. The Charter of Holland Lodge No. 1 adorns the wall of that venerable Lodge in Houston to this day. Masonic Oak Park is owned by the Grand Lodge of Texas and is located on acreage once owned by Moses Austin, father of the "Father of Texas", Stephen Austin.

The artwork for this cover was prepared by Victor Y. Armstrong, a Past Master of Parsons Lodge No. 22, and well known Western artist. Vic's family owned the Masonic Oak property for many years. Bro. Jim Dougherty designed the cachet layout and the cancellation device. The covers are serviced by the Grand Master's wife, Faye. Bro. Jim can be reached at P.O. Box 1192, Austin, TX 78767-1192.

MASONIC MILITARY

The recent USPS releases for Distinguished Solders include two prominent Masons - Bro. Audie Murphy and Bro. Omar N. Bradley. Each has been covered in previous issues but I will try to have a cameo coverage in the next newsletter.

