



The MASONIC STAMP COLLECTOR

Journal of the Masonic Stamp Unit of the American Topical Association, published bi-monthly. Address all letters and submit material to the Editor, Nicholas G. Koutroulis, 4659 Sandalwood Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70127.

VOL. 1 - No. 6

JULY-AUGUST 1968

WHOLE No. 6

FROM THE EDITOR

GREETINGS: Since the last issue of the Masonic Stamp Collector I am happy to report that I am now completely well again and back to normal routine. I wish to thank those of you who took the time to send me get well wishes. Your thoughtfulness was very much appreciated.

This is the No. 6 issue of the MSC which signifies one year of the reactivation of the Masonic Stamp Unit and its publication, 51 pages later and 235 members on its rolls. It seems to me only yesterday that I was preparing issue No. 1. You helped make my first year as editor a pleasant and worthwhile one with your kind remarks, encouragements and approval of the contents and format of the Masonic Stamp Collector. I enjoyed very much doing this work and I hope my small contribution in editing our paper helped some of you by inspiring you to proceed with your Masonic collecting. I especially wish to thank those contributors of Masonic material to our publication. Without their contribution my task of editing would have been a difficult one. I am looking forward to another successful year. There is so much wealth of material in Masonic Philately that this type of a publication can go on and on indefinitely. Our topical stamp specialty is one of the most diversified and continuous one. As long as there are new stamps issued there will always be stamps with Masonic connection and implication. It is not a hobby of yesterday, today or tomorrow; it is a hobby for always. I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the cooperation of Jerry Husak, Executive Secretary of ATA especially in honoring our unit in Topical Time; Linns, Stamps and Western. These folks have been kind and generous in promoting our unit in their respective publications. Last but not least I thank every member in our unit. I do sincerely hope that all of you, each and everyone of you, will be with us the year ahead. I hope none of you will find it necessary to drop out. I suppose every year is a test for every editor. The renewal of your membership will be a proof and indication to me that I provided you an interesting and worthwhile media of information on Masonic Philately; this is my only reward. Next volume we will discuss and illustrate how to write-up, mount and present your Masonic collection. This should be helpful to beginners as well as advanced Masonic collectors.

REPORT FROM TOPEX '68: It was my pleasure to attend TOPEX '68 in Milwaukee last June. I arrived there Thursday night and everyone was surprised to see me so soon after my surgery (I had the approval of my Doctor to travel). The show was held in the Sheraton Schoroder Hotel. I was privileged to be one of the three Judges

☒ A checkmark here indicates that your membership in the Masonic Stamp Unit is expiring with this issue of the Masonic Stamp Collector. A statement is enclosed. Please remit now to the editor. Fees: U. S. and Canada, \$3.00; Foreign, \$3.50. Please make checks payable in U. S. Funds to the Masonic Stamp Unit.

It was a very interesting show with much good material on exhibition. The jury worked very hard for two days in deciding the various and many awards. I was particularly pleased to see two Masonic exhibits there but I was disappointed as I expected to see more on display. One of the Masonic exhibits was displayed by Bro. Robert A. Domingue, MSU No. 207, entitled "Freemasonry in Philately - A brief introduction to the Masonic collector." The other was by Chester A. Strail, not a member of MSU, his entitled "Masonry on Stamps - American Masons, Foreign Masons, and Masonic Symbols on stamps. Bro. Domingue received a second place (silver medal) award and the Masonic Unit Staat Memorial Award. Congradulations to Bro. Domingue for his efforts. I believe, this is the third time Bro. Domingue won the MSU award. He had some nice Masonic material on display. I will write an article on "Exhibiting your Masonic Collection" in a future issue. I think we are missing a lot in stamp exhibits. I think I have some definite ideas on how to prepare our Masonic collection for exhibitions. It is a shame for many of us to try over and over and never get any major awards. Masonic Philately is a very difficult subject to exhibit mainly because of too much write-up but I think I have some solution to that also. Well, back to Topex again. The General Chairman was Bro. Clarence Beltmann, ex-editor of MSU newsletter and present member of our Unit. Topex Secretary-Treasurer was Mary Ann Owens, also a member of MSU. I was very proud of both of them. They did a splendid and outstanding job. I have attended other TOPEX shows but I can truthfully say this was the best ever; and I am glad that I had a part. To both of them and their Committee, congradulations! I was proud to serve in the jury on a well organized and run exhibition. I was also privileged to witness the honor that was bestowed on Clarence of being made DTP (Distinguished Topical Phil.) - Only two are selected every year. Congradulations Clarence on a well deserved honor.

DUES: it is time for renewal of dues for most of our members. If you have the complete set of Vol. 1 of the MSC your dues are now due. Also you will notice a checkmark in the box on the front page reminding you to please mail your check now. U.S. and Canada, \$3.00; Foreign, \$3.50. You may use the enclosed renewal notice for your convenience. It will be a great help to me if you would mail your check as soon as possible.

MASONIC COVER CLUB: I am sure by now all of you received the Masonic covers on the 10 historic flag series. This set was received very well and the response was tremendous. Only 200 sets were serviced and out of these about 15 are not serviceable due to damage in the mails. Only very few sets are still available. Members in the Masonic Cover Club please find enclosed your order on Masonic Cover No. 6; Bro. Henry Ford. Future Masonic covers to be issued are Walt Disney (not a Mason but a DeMolay) and Art Stamp Trumbull's Battle of Bunker's Hill. I think the series of Masonic Covers we are issuing are going to be interesting and informative Masonic historical collectors' items.

HOUSE OF TEMPLE: The editor received a very nice letter from Bro. James D. Carter, Grand Cross, Librarian thanking our Unit for placing the Library of the Supreme Council in our mailing list to receive the Masonic Stamp Collector and Masonic Covers. For those of you who are not familiar, the House of the Temple is the home of the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction. I visited the House of the Temple a few years ago and I must say I was impressed. If any of you planning a trip to Washington, D. C. You must include in your plans a visit to the House of The Temple, whether or not you are a Scottish Rite Mason. It is a most impressive building inside and out. The guide will take you around and give you a very educational and impressive tour.

2¢ JEFFERSON COIL: The 2¢ Jefferson Coil issue of 1954 was reprinted in Luminescent Coating for Disabled American Veterans Headquarters at Cincinnati for multiple use on mailings of their Auto I.D. tag chain devises, on May 6. This information was sent by Bro. John M. Cunningham, Washington, D. C.

MASONIC HAND BOOKS: Masonic handbooks No. 29 and No. 43, Masonic Stamps of the World Vol. I and II, are still available from A.T.A. These booklets contain information on many Masons appearing on stamps and are indispensable in starting or expanding a Masonic Collection. Both handbooks sell for \$5.00. Order direct from ATA, 3306 N. 50th St., Milwaukee, Wis. 53216.

EDITORIAL ON MEMBERSHIP IN MSU: I received a letter from one of our members asking me to clarify the membership of the ladies in the MSU. This brother says that he was of the impression that one had to be a member of the Craft to belong to such a group. Indeed not. Anyone who likes to know more about our Masonic heritage Masonic deeds and important Masons of our history are more than welcomed to become members of our group. Matter of fact two of our men members are not Masons but they are interested enough to want to know more about Masonry. There is nothing wrong or anything against our Masonic laws or obligations to impart such information about Masonry to all who seek it. We are proud of our Masonic history and all the great men who were and are Masons. The teachings, philosophy and acts of Masonry are not secret. Masonry is not a secret society. We are proud of our membership, I know I am. Certainly, we have our esoteric work which is only known to the members of the Craft and one cannot reveal it, but this type of information in our publication may be found in many books in libraries by anyone who is willing to research for it. Our Unit is broad in scope and membership is open to all. The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, for example, restricts its membership only to Masons but it holds monthly meetings and confers upon its members the degree of Master of Philately. However, anyone may read its publication. Anyone, whether a member of the Craft or not, may read the Royal Arch Mason Magazine, Knights Templar magazine, or various publications emanating from different Grand Lodge jurisdictions. I do hope this clarifies the question of membership in the Masonic Stamp Unit.

MASONIC PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA: In the May issue of The Australian Stamp Monthly I noticed that Brother Alan Dunn of Footscray, Victoria, MSU #67, provided at the April meeting of the Masonic P.S. of Victoria a display of Postal Markings of the A.I.F. in First World War. The display featured all spheres of operations, covers address to prominent personalities, a series of covers addressed to one member of a family and censored by another members of the family. Congratulations Bro. Dunn. It looks like it was an interesting display.

NEW ISSUES AND COMMENTS

Craftsmen Cricketers - Please refer to the last issue of the MSC regarding an article by Bro. Evans on the subject of Craftsmen Cricketers and stamps. St. Lucia issued two stamps on March 8, 1968 to commemorate the visit of the Cricket team. The design, common to both stamps, features an unnamed batsman watching a ball he has sent towards the square leg boundary, while a fieldsman on the off side has both arms raised in appeal. In the top left corner is an inset portrait of Sir Frederick Clarke, Governor of St. Lucia. Kingsford Smith - Fiji issued four stamps on June 5, 1968 for the 40th anniversary of his landing in Albert Park, Fiji. On June 6, Western Samoa issue a stamp for Kingsford Smith's TransPacific flight. Albrecht Durer - A stamp issued by Czechoslovakia to honor FIP Day on July 7 reproduces "The Feast of the Roses" painting by Albrecht Durer in 1506. Simon Bolivar - On September 6, 1966, Scott No. 258, Jamaica issued on stamp on the occasion of unveiling of the statue of Simon Bolivar which the Government and the people of Venezuela are presenting to the Government and people of Jamaica. Franz Liszt - Hungary, June 22, 1968, Scott #1820. John Dewey - On October 21, the U.S. will issue a 30c stamp of the prominent American series to honor John Dewey. Was Dewey a Mason? I don't know. Some members asking me about him but I can't find anything whether he was a Mason or not. If anybody has any information on Dewey please let me know soon. Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla - Mexico will issue an airmail Souvenir Sheet on November 1, 1968 depicting Hidalgo to honor EFIMEX '68 in Mexico City.

FIVE STEPS - MASONRY ON STAMPS
Step III, Cont'd. From Page 41

Part 4: Refers to Master Masons; Pioneer to Poet; now enshrined in Masonry's Philatelic Hall of Fame as "Cornerstones" or "Landmarks" - symbolic of Speculative Masonry in action. Note: numbers in () show relative Tribe & Nativity; re: Part 1.

<u>BROTHER</u>	<u>ABILITY</u>	<u>COUNTRY-TYPE</u>
(1) Franz Hayden	Music	Austria B50
(2) James Audubon	Naturalist	U.S. A333
(3) Frederick the VIII	Royalty	Denmark A12
(4) Garibaldi	Patriot	Italy A138-145
(5) Mer. Lewis	Pioneer	U.S. A510
(6) Alberdi	Statesman	Argentina A135
(7) Madero	President	Mexico A73
(8) Philip Sousa	March King	U.S. A339
(9) Oglethorpe	Altruist	U.S. A229
(10) Edm. Barton	Jurist	Australia A67
(11) Robert Burns	Poet	Russia A993
(12) Sam Houston	Soldier	U.S. A674

Ed. Note: Step Four on Masonry on Stamps has not been received by me in time for this issue. It will be published next issue.

THOMAS GROSVENOR

This year's American Painting Series postage stamp to be issued by the U.S. on October 18 with first day ceremonies at New Haven, Conn., will be a detail from "The Battle of Bunker's Hill" by John Trumbull. The Battle of Bunker's Hill has been twice before commemorated by the U.S. Post Office Department - 2½¢ regular issue, No. 1034 and one of the recent stamps of the Historic Flag Series.

The focal point of Trumbull's painting portrays the death of General Joseph Warren, a Mason and Past Grand Master of Massachusetts. Much has been written about General Warren and his Masonic history. The secondary point of interest in the painting is the portion that is reproduced in the postage stamp.



Trumbull described this detail in an exhibition catalog: "On the right of the painting, a young American, wounded in the sword hand and in the breast, has begun to retire, attended by a faithful Negro; but seeing his General (Warren), fall, hesitates whether to save himself, or, wounded as he is, to return and assist in saving a life more precious to his country than his own." The indecisive American is Lieutenant Grosvenor, his attendant is Peter Salem.

Thomas Grosvenor was born in Pomfret, Conn. in 1744 and he was a graduate of Yale University in 1765. He was a Revolutionary patriot and served as Lieutenant under Putnam in 1775 and later a colonel. He was a lawyer, judge and state legislator.

He was made a Mason in American Union Lodge, Redding, Conn. and served as secretary and senior deacon. d. 1825.

Lieutenant Grosvenor, in yellow breeches, white blouse, dark jacket and dark plumed hat holds a sword in his left hand because his right hand has received a wound. Peter Salem, in red breeches, stands behind the officer. He holds a flintlock aloft. In the background is the haze of battle, with smoke rising over Boston Harbor. The Masonic Cover Club will issue a Masonic cover on this stamp for Lt. Thomas Grosvenor.

"LET THERE BE LIGHT"

In the beginning God Created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters and God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

The above quotation from Genesis has a deep and great significance to a Mason. On September 7, 1965, Israel issue a set of stamps in honor of the Jewish New Year, 5726 and pertains to the Creation. The first stamp of the set, No. 298, pertains to the first day of the Creation "Let there be Light". This is a beautiful set and should be included in a Masonic collection on symbols.

THE ANCHOR

In the recent Historical Flag Series, the Rhode Island Flag depicts as its design the word "hope" and the anchor. In addition to the Masonic significance of the flag as was mentioned in the last issue of the MSG, the emblem on the flag has also a Masonic meaning on symbolism. This stamp belongs in the Masonic Symbols on stamps collection.

The anchor is a symbol of hope. Masonically, symbol of well-grounded hope. As an emblem of hope, the anchor is peculiarly a Christian, and thence a Masonic symbol. It is first found inscribed on the tombs in the catacombs of Rome, and the idea of using it is probably derived from the language of Saint Paul (Heb vi, 19) "which hope we have as an anchor of the soul both sure and steadfast." The primitive Christians looked upon life as a stormy voyage, and glad were the voyagers when it was done, and they had arrived safe in port. Of this the anchor was a symbol, and when their brethren carved it over the tomb, it was to them an expression of confidence that he who slept beneath had reached the haven of eternal rest.

WALT DISNEY

The U. S. Post Office Department will issue a stamp on September 11, 1968 to honor Walt Disney, who died December 15, 1966. First day of issue will be in Marceline, Mo.

Walt Disney was not a Mason but was a former DeMolay, having been a member of the original Mother Chapter of DeMolay in Kansas City, Mo. The Order of DeMolay is an organization sponsored by Masonic bodies for boys between the ages of 14 and 20 inclusive.

Walt Disney was present at Marceline, Missouri, his former hometown, Sunday, October 16, 1960 when the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri laid the cornerstone of the new Walt Disney Elementary School, assisted by officers of Marceline Lodge No. 481. The inscription on the cornerstone reads: MARCELINE LODGE/MASONIC EMBLEM/NO. 481 AF&AM - WALT DISNEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 1959.

From the Masonic Philatelist by Brother Marshall S. Loke

RUDYARD KIPLING

Kipling was an English writer who was awarded the Nobel prize for literature in 1907. b. December 30, 1865 in Bombay, India. He was educated in United Services College, North Devon, England, and returned to India in 1880, where he was on the editorial staff of the Staff of the Civil & Military Gazette and Pioneer, at Lahore until 1889. He began writing verse and tales while in India, and continued after his return to England in 1889. His writings contained frequent Masonic references,

particularly The Man Who Would Be King from Wee Willie Winkie (1889); In the Interest of the Brethren from Debits and Credits (1926); The Widow At Windsor from Barrack Room Ballads (1892). The most famous is his Mother Lodge from The Seven Seas (1896).

Kipling was initiated in Hope and Perseverance Lodge No. 782, Lahore, Punjab, India in 1886, by a special dispensation, because he was only 20 years and six months old. Strange to say, he recorded his own raising in the minutes as he was immediately elected secretary of the lodge. He wrote the following about his initiation which appeared in The Freemason (London) on March 28, 1925: "I was secretary for some years of Hope and Perseverance No. 782, E.C., Lahore, which included Brethren of at least four creeds. I was entered by a member of Brahmo Somaj, a Hindu; passed by a Mohammedan, and raised by an Englishman. Our Tyler was an Indian Jew. We met, of course, on the level, and the only difference anyone would notice was that at our banquets, some of the Brethren, who were debarred by caste rules from eating food not ceremonially prepared, sat over empty plates." He received his Mark Master degree in the Mark Lodge, "Fidelity" on April 12, 1887 and Royal Ark Mariners degree in the Lodge "Mt. Ararat" at Lahore, April 17, 1888. He affiliated with the Independence and Philanthropy Lodge No. 391, Allahabad, Bengal in 1888. On his return to England, he became a founder of the lodge Builders of the Silent Cities No. 4948, in 1927, and of Author's Lodge No. 3456. He was further appointed poet laureate of the famous Canongate Kilwinning Lodge No. 2, of Edinburgh, Scotland, in which, by tradition, Robert Burns, had previously served in a similar capacity. d. 1936.

Kipling is shown on a 45 ore stamp issued by Sweden on December 7, 1967 to honor Nobel Prize winners of 1907.

ALBERT A. MICHELSON

Dr. Michelson a Scientist and Nobel prize winner. b. December 19, 1852 in Strelno, Germany. Graduate of U. S. Naval Academy in 1873, and later attended University of Berlin, University of Heidelberg, Collge de France, and Ecole Polytechnique. He was an instructor in physics and chemistry at the U. S. Naval Academy from 1875-79. Served as professor of physics at Case School of Applied Science, 1883-89; at Clark University, 1889-92; and University of Chicago, 1892-1929. He was also exchange professor and lecturer at several European universities. In 1907 he received the Nobel Prize for physics, worth \$40,000. He was the author of Velocity of Light and Light Waves and Thier Uses. He received his degrees in Washington Lodge No. 21, New York City, August 18, 1874, December 31, 1875, and January 21, 1876. At the time of his initiation he was a midshipman stationed on the U.S.S. Roanoke. He withdrew on January 7, 1879. d. May 9, 1931.

Michelson is pictured on the 35 ore stamp issued by Sweden On December 7, 1967 to honor Nobel Prize winners of 1907.

THURN UND TAXIS

To this royal principality belonged all the postal rights in several countries until 1867. During the 18th century the following members of this royal house were Freemasons:

Carl Anala Fuerst von Thurn Und Taxis - Chief Postmaster General, 1733. Initiated into Masonry in 1762 at Bayreuth, Germany. Founder and charter member of the Lodge "Charles de la Constance" in Regensburg, Germany.

Carl Alexander Fuerst von Thurn Und Taxis - Son of the above. Principal Commissar of the Empire at the Parliament, Regensburg, Germany. Born 1770, died 1827. In 1789 he was initiated into the Lodge "Carl zum Rautenkranz" (Rhomboid Wreath) in

Hildburghausen, Germany. In 1799 elected Grand Master of the Grand Mother Lodge at Regensburg "Die Wachsende zu den drei Schlüsseln" (augmentation or growth to the three keys), which was then renamed in his honor "Carl zu den drei Schlüsseln" (Carl to the three keys).

Thaddaeus Graf von Thurn Und Taxis - Member of the Austrian Lodge at Innsbruck "Zu den drei Bergen" (To the three mountains), then Deputy Grand Master of the Innsbruck Grand Lodge called "Zum symbolischem Zylinder" (Symbolic cylinder).

Joseph Graf von Thurn Und Taxis - Member also of the Lodge "Zu den drein Bergen"

In 1952 Germany issued a stamp to commemorate the centenary of the first Thurn and Taxis stamp issue shown the Thurn and Taxis postilion, Scott #692. Belgium issued in 1952 a set of stamps on the occasion of the 13th Universal Postal Union Congress held in Brussels. Scott #416 shows Carl Anselm and #417 depicts Carl Alexander.

This article was submitted by Paul S. Levie, MSU #217.

OTTO VON BISMARCK - ANTI-MASON

Founder and first Chancellor of the German Empire. Bismarck was not a Freemason, neither was he friendly to the Craft. In his writings, "Thoughts and Remembrances," (published 1905) he recalls: "... during February 1869, when I called for the dismissal of a most incompetent and questionable official; I met with resistance from the King, who was fulfilling his duties towards his Masonic brethren with almost religious ardor. I chose to remain a few days away from my offices and duties in protest of the denial of my request. But the King remained adamant. I considered laying down my office. Reading my diary now, twenty years later, I am filled with remorse that I dallied between my convictions of what is in the best interest to the state and my love of the King. I followed my first conviction - and had to follow it! Today I feel the King shamed me by his courtesy in which he accepted my pedantry. I should have sacrificed to him my services in Florence in due respect of his believes in Masonry."

However, Bismarck was wrong in his assumption of the King's duties towards Masonry. The king's indulgence towards the official in question (Count Usedom) was for very different and political reasons.

Otto Von Bismarck is shown on Germany, Scott #692.

Submitted by Paul S. Levie, MSU #217.

BIO-SKETCH FRED JELSEMA

Born in South Dakota in 1916 and have spent most of my life in South Dakota. At the present time employed by the State of South Dakota. Have had six years in teaching and school administration. Graduated from Augustana College, Sioux Falls, S.D. and the graduate school at the University of South Dakota. Past President and present President of Black Hills Stamp Club. Served on the Board of Directors for one term. A member of the A.P.S. and served on the committee of Chapter Activities for two years. Member of Transmississippi Philatelic Society and a candidate for the Board of Directors in the coming election. A member of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York and awarded the degree of Master of Philately.

Masonically, was raised in Mt. Rushmore Lodge No. 220 in 1958. Member of Black Hills Chapter No. 25 and a Past Right Priest. Member of the Order of High Priesthood for South Dakota. Member of Black Hills Council No. 3 RASH and Schrader Comm. No. 9 K.T. Member of Naja Temple of Deadwood and the Aberdeen Scottish Rite in

Aberdeen, S.D. At the present time I am secretary of Ashler High Twelve. I am also a member of the south Dakota Lodge of Masonic Research and a member of the Publications Committee. I was Junior Deacon in the Blue Lodge and Junior Warden in the Commandery but dropped out because duties as High Priest were too great. I am also a member on the Committee on Masonic Education. Have developed a slide lecture on Masonic Philately which I presented to the Grand Lodge of South Dakota. My collecting interests are Israel, Palestine and Masonic material.

MEMBERSHIP LIST, CONT'D

220. J. D. Carter, Librarian	House of The Temple	Washington, D.C. 20009
221. Stanley F. Wilkening	1755 - 37th Avenue	San Francisco, Ca. 94122
222. Edgar A. Cole, Okinawa	Scottish Rite, DOD, ODS, Zone 2	APO San Francisco 96331
223. Joseph Kerr Cass, IV	1560 New Holland Pike	Lancaster, Pa. 17601
224. Walter M. Lowe	75 Bayberry Hill Road	U. Townsend, Mass. 01474
225. Myron L. Williams	P. O. Box 446	Tombstone, Ar. 85638
226. Charles Bowler	18 Electro Road	Scarborough, Ont. Canada
227. Carl R. Hallmann	P. O. Box 647	Chicago, Ill. 60515
228. J. Richard Rowe Jr.	380 South Eleventh St.	Wytheville, Va. 24382
229. Dwight B. Shaw, M.D.	3101 Royal Avenue	Pueblo, Colo. 81005
230. Robert F. Barkley	Box 147	Whiteville, Tenn. 38075
231. Willard R. Duns	858 Roenoke Rd.	Cleveland, O. 44121
232. Andrew P. Stohrer Jr.	Smith Trl. Park	Elbridge, N.Y. 13060
233. Kit C. Price	Box 73	APO New York 09757
234. Gertrude A. Connelly	159 Third Street	Elizabeth, N.J. 07206
235. Bruno S. Guglielmi	Strada San Martino 18/12	I 18038 Sanremo, Italy

MIGUEL HIDALGO Y COSTILLA

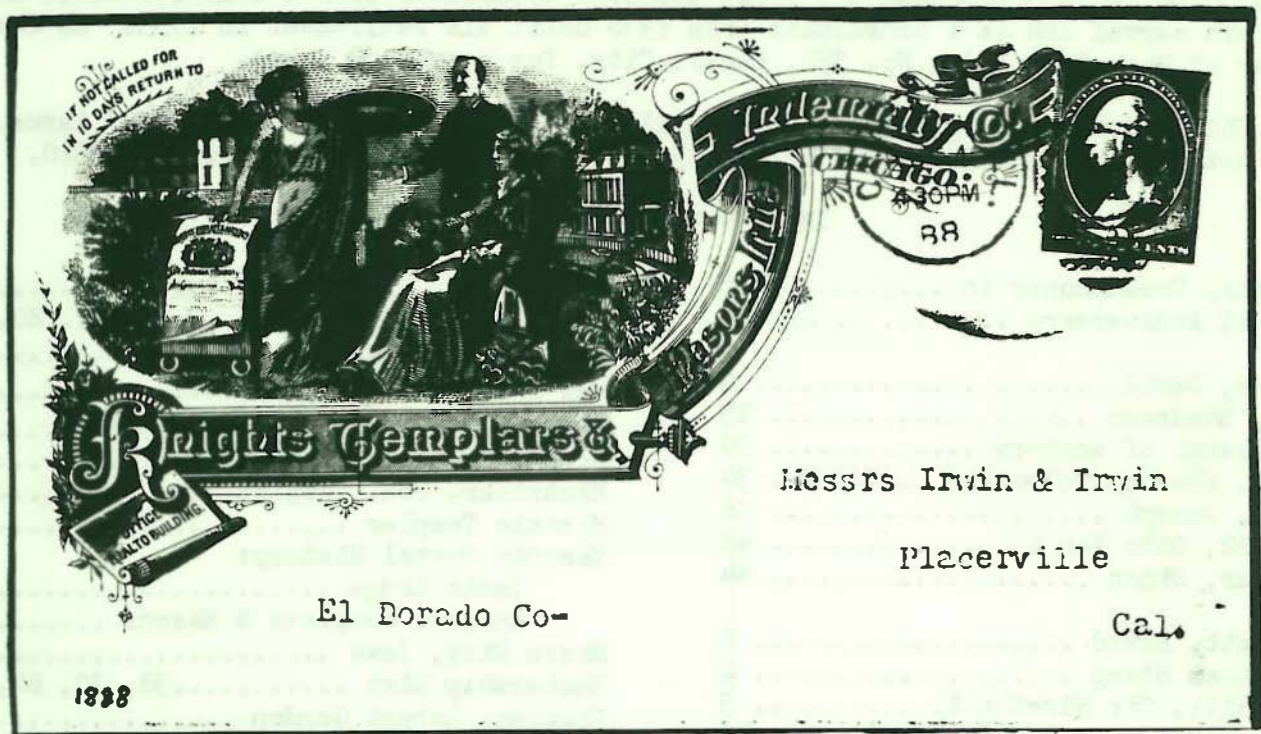
Catholic priest who led the first revolt against the Spaniards in Mexico and started the Mexican revolution that resulted in their freedom five years later. In an attempt to improve the condition of the natives, he proclaimed a revolt on Sept. 16, 1810 against the Spanish government. He seized Guanajuato and Guadalajara and was joined by Allende and Aldama. With an army of 80,000 he marched on Mexico City in October, 1810 winning the first battle, but was forced to fall back when defeated by Spanish forces under Felix Calleja on November 6. He was overwhelmed by Calleja in January, 1811 near Guadalajara and was forced to flee north. He was betrayed to the Spaniards, and after being degraded from the priesthood, was executed at Chihuahua on July 30, 1811.

Hidalgo was initiated into Masonry by a secret lodge formed by Spanish officers from the Peninsula, who themselves were initiated by French officers of Napoleon's invading army. Many of them were Scottish Rite Masons. He was initiated in 1806 in Arquitectura Moral lodge of Mexico City. The meetings of this lodge were held in a private home called "Calle delas Ralas No. 4."

Hidalgo is pictured on many stamps of Mexico including 1, 107, 314 and C206. On February 24, 1968 Mexico issued an airmail stamp, 80¢, showing the official stamp of 1884 with Hidalgo's portrait and the EFIMEX emblem. This stamp was issued to publicize EFIMEX '68, International Philatelic Exhibition, Mexico City, November 1-9, 1968. On November 1, 1968, at the opening of EFIMEX, Mexico will also release a souvenir sheet in compliment of the exhibition. The Souvenir Sheet will have as the center design the above stamp surrounded by the various participating emblems of Philatelic Societies. This souvenir sheet will only be sold at the show. Your editor is planning to attend EFIMEX in Mexico City and planning to purchase enough of these sheets for our members interested in buying one or two. I am also contemplating in preparing a Masonic cover and while I am there will have same serviced with the sheet on the first day of issue. I am sure this cover will be interesting and different. I am undecided yet, however.

MASONIC POSTAL HISTORY
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR & MASONS LIFE INDEMNITY CO.

By N. G. Koutroulis



This cover was dated August 4, 1888 from Chicago, Illinois and bears a 2¢ green stamp of 1887 issue. This an unusual and a very attractive cover advertising insurance for Knights Templar and Masons. An extensive research on this cover revealed the the organizer and one of the incorporators of the Knights Templars & Masons Life Indemnity Co. was General M. Moulton. Moulton was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois in 1901; Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter R.A.M. in 1895; Grand Master of the Grand Council R.&S.M. in 1889; and president of the Illinois Masonic Homes. He was made a Mason in Covenant Lodge No. 526, Chicago, February 26, 1875.

The Knights Templars & Masons Life Indemnity Co. changed its name to Western Life Indemnity Company, May 17, 1905. Moulton was also president of this Company. In 1926 this latter named company changed its name to Western Life Insurance Company which was reinsured by the Mississippi Valley Life Insurance Company in 1927. The policies originally issued by the Western Life Insurance Company were reinsured by the Detroit Life Insurance Company which was in turn reinsured by the Life Insurance Company of Detroit. On June 18, 1940, this company was reinsured by the Central Life Insurance Company of Illinois which is now known as Central Standard Life Insurance.

This cover is also a fine example of early use of the small type of typewriter. Gen. Moulton was also a Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the United States, K.T. and a 33rd degree Mason AASR(NJ)

JAMES F. SMATHERS

Smathers was the inventor of the electric typewriter. He died last year

in Poughkeepsie, N. Y. While working for the American Type Founders Co. in Kansas City, Mo. in 1914, he put together, using spare parts, a typewriter with keys driven from belts powered by an outside electric motor. After WWI he patented the machine and sold the idea to the Electronic Typewriter Co. IBM bought the struggling company in 1933 and in 1935 produced the first electric typewriter with a self-contained motor. Smathers served IBM as a consultant from 1938 until his retirement in 1953. He was a member of Gate City Lodge No. 522, Kansas City, for nearly 50 years.

This information appeared in the Royal Arch Mason Magazine Winter, 1967 issue. This article may be illustrated by the typewriter stamp appeared on Austria B320.

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