



The PHILA-QUAD

of the
QUAD-CITY STAMP CLUB

MEMBER OF THE ILLINOIS, IOWA, AND NATIONAL FEDERATIONS OF STAMP CLUBS
AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY, CHAPTER 249 - TRANS-MISSISSIPPI PHILATELIC SOCIETY, CHAPTER 30

VOLUME XXVII No. 5

November 1, 1966

THE NEXT MEETING

WHEN. Thursday, November 10, 1966
WHERE Iowa-Illinois Gas & Electric Co. 2nd Floor Auditorium
2811 - 5th Avenue in Rock Island
TIME. Anytime after 7:00 P. M. until 10:00
SPECIAL FEATURES. United Nations Slide Lecture on Stamp Making,
Door Prize and Jackpot Drawing - Big Precancel
Auction - Swapping and Announcements.

THE NEXT MEETING: The outside, Fall activities are demanding less and less of our attention, and to welcome those members that find the warm months with too many conflicts to make it to our meetings, they will find a fine listing of programs for the remainder of the stamp collecting year.

A most interesting film-clip slide program on the design and manufacture of the first international postage stamps will be the feature of this meeting. This film strip was prepared and distributed by the United Nations.

Our October issue carried the special auction listing of the Precancel and Perfin items for this meeting. The members present will compete with mail bids.

The already very large Jack Pot will again be waiting for a member who is present at the meeting to claim it. As the list now resembles the varied items offered by a stamp store, we will not take the time and space to repeat it, but each month an additional item will be added till it is drawn.

Why does Japan use a different year date than we do?

The reputed date of the founding of Japan was 660 B.C. Their present year is 2626 - ours is 1966. This would indicate the accepted date of founding must be about correct.

START WORKING ON THAT EXHIBIT FOR THE IOWA FEDERATION EXHIBITION WHICH WILL BE HOSTED BY THE QUAD CITY STAMP CLUB ON APRIL 29-30

THE PHILA - QUAD

Monthly Publication of the
Quad City Stamp Club

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Regular Meetings are held
the 2nd Thursday night of each
month from 7 - 10 P. M. at the
Iowa-Illinois Gas and Electric
Co. Auditorium (2nd floor) at
2811 - 5th Avenue in Rock Island.

Visitors are always welcome!

SPECIAL NOTICE

PLEASE PARK ONLY IN THE SOUTH LOT
ACROSS FROM THE AUDITORIUM AND
5th AVENUE. THANKS!

P. L. O. W. C I T Y S T A M P S

Will have their Fine Selection of
UNITED STATES & FOREIGN SINGLES - SETS
NEW ISSUES - SUPPLEMENTS - SUPPLIES

Mail Address - P. O. Box 265, East Moline, Illinois

WAYNE DIXON - MANAGER

3657 Coaltown Road Moline, Illinois Phone 797-1634

NEW MEMBERS We wish to welcome the following into membership in our
organization. They join the large number of members interested in the
precancels used to mail our monthly Phila-Quads. We hope they will
enjoy their membership in the years to come.

Dr. Caroline O. Merriam, 2800 North Broadway, Council Bluffs,
Iowa. Interested in town types of Iowa, Kansas and Texas.

Mr. N. W. Touchette, 8807 Sheryl Ann Drive, St. Louis, Mo.
Interested in U. S. Precancels.

SUBURBAN COLLECTORS SHOW NOV. 19 and 20. All roads will lead to
Hinsdale on November 19th and 20th for the 35th Anniversary of our
National Anthem and the Suburban Collectors Club Exhibit and
Bourse at the Hinsdale Community House at 7th and Madison Streets.

This annual event has grown to be one of our finer fall shows,
and all that have attended in past years will be counting on another
fine time at this year's edition. 200 frames of collections will
be on display, along with a large dealer bourse. Free parking,
admission and refreshments are always a feature of these shows.

THAT UNITED NATIONS ELUSIVE PRECANCEL. The news of the precancel from the United Nations was spread widely by a philatelic publication in its issue for November 29, 1952. Included with the news item was a cut, greatly enlarged, showing just what the thing looked like. The Precancel Forum in its issue for December 1952 carried the news and a plea went out to all collectors to be on the alert for this item and report any findings.

The first copies to show up had an air of mystery in that they usually came from persons who were either not collectors at all or who paid little attention to the precancel part. A precancel collector, like all other collectors, likes to know the reason for the issue and the usage of the stamps that go into his albums. In this case, which is very unusual, there was quite a hue and cry as to why the stamps were issued and who they were issued for and for what purpose the user found for them.

The philatelic press immediately contacted the Postal Department of the United Nations and requested information on the one and a half cent precancelled stamp. What kind of a mailing required their use? Who made the mailing? Were they delivered to the United States mails in the regular manner of all United Nations mail? Was a special mailing made for any of the covers going to foreign nations? It is now a matter of history - no one in the post office department of the United Nations seemed to know what it was all about and no one was found who could answer the questions required. It did seem to one official that a request for 52,000 copies had been made, but if the request was granted, he did not know where they went or how many were used. By this time, this little item was top philatelic news in this country and most English speaking countries.

A few covers began to show up, but there seemed little to connect them with any one mailing as the contents had been destroyed. It remained for a friend of a serviceman to obtain the first real information. Due to trip across the Pacific and back two times, trying to catch up with a G. I., the long waited cover finally caught up with him at his home in Seattle, Washington. An advanced precancel collector happened in about the time the cover arrived and spotted the precancelled stamp.

The first covers carried the corner card of "The United Nations" on one line with the simple address of "New York City" on the line below. This latest find contained two printed pages asking for subscriptions to the United Nations Bulletin plus a free copy of "The United Nations in Pictures" at \$2.00 for 6 months. The letter started out - "Did you recognize the new U N postage stamp on this letter? It may be of interest for your album or a friend's stamp collection."

Much controversy has arisen as to how this matter got into the mails. Was it deposited at United Nations post office and transshipped as is other foreign mails, to the United States office? If this is what happened, it is hard to explain the notation "Section 34.66 P.L.& R." just as do the regular U.S. precancel covers?

A collector in Florida read about the precancel, and as a collector of both singles and blocks, immediately wrote to the U.N., sending a remittance to cover, and requested the five stamps. It would seem

someone in the U.N. talked out of turn, for this collector received a reply stating the stamps were not available as they were prepared for the Columbia University Press and no extra copies were available. As might be expected from a true precancel collector, a letter was dispatched to the Columbia University Press with a request for five of the stamps. Again a reply was received, this one stated that the Press had used the stamps on a special mailing; that about 52,000 were ordered but not all of them were used; and that the balance had been returned to the U. N. Post Office. Further, it came out that the mailing was made to Political Science Professors and to no others. From the copies that came to light, it was quite evident that there are few stamp collectors in the ranks of these Professors.

The questions that have not been answered to date is, where did the letter received by the G I in Washington originate? Was it from the leftovers of the first 52,000 or was an additional printing made. U. N. Officials have strongly stated there was only one printing, but the Scott's catalog lists the number 361,000 as being the number issued. This figure is quite a way removed from the 52,000 stated, and receipts of additional mailings tends to prove the U. N. officials either did not know what was going on or for some reason, did not wish the information to be made public.

All of this adds up to one thing - this stamp is very scarce and the 1967 Scott's does not give a value for it. Some day, the value may appear, and until that time we must wait for added information that can determine the value in dollars and cents for the stamp as well as to have some idea as to just how many are in the hands of collectors today. We know very few collectors that have this stamp, and those that do hang on to it - even as you and I. Now we wonder just how many of these cent and a half precancels are in the Quad City area.

THE OCTOBER MEETING About 50 members and guests braved the unseasonably warm, very humid evening to attend the October meeting and were rewarded by a program that was well received from the interest and number of questions asked during the presentation of information on preparing material for exhibition purposes, and the mechanics used in judging stamp exhibitons.

Mike Heggan came up with the matching number to win the evening's raffle - a one-cent U. S. National Parks Souvenir Sheet.

Mrs. J. Allen Bradley of Geneseo picked a bad night to miss a meeting as her membership number was drawn for the huge jackpot of prizes and the pile is still there for the right member on the right night. Another item will be added for the November meeting.

THE ILLINOIS FEDERATION DOES IT AGAIN! Our sincere congratulations again go to Les Winick, of Homewood, Illinois as Editor of the Illinois Federation of Stamp Club NEWS. This Fall edition is an excellent presentation of what the member clubs are doing; what is new in Club programs; Federation announcements; details of Club Exhibitions and Conventions in the State, and a complete listing of the member clubs, together with their active Federation representatives. Other Federations could lift many pages from this active group and get their own Federations off dead center and into something other than a receiving depot for the annual dues.

JUDGES NAMED FOR IOWA FEDERATION SHOW The exhibitors at the Federation OF Iowa Stamp Club's Exhibition next April can rest assured their offerings will be judged by three well known and competent judges. Acceptance has been received by Earl Wellman of Brookfield, Illinois, Les Winick, well known Editor of the Illinois Federation Club News, of Homewood, Illinois, and Ashton Humiston of Aurora, Illinois.

A rundown of the philatelic activities and qualifications of these three men would well fill this page. We feel they are so well known that just to mention their names is sufficient.

NEWS OF IOWA CLUBS As this issue is being written, we have yet to receive our first club bulletin from an Iowa Club. Possibly our Secretary has received a few, but if this is the case, we have not been notified. Please address a copy to the Editor as shown on page 2 - postage is not that expensive!

PROSPECTUS TO BE DISTRIBUTED IN DECEMBER The prospectus for the Iowa Federation Show next April is scheduled for distribution in December. A copy will be mailed with each copy of the Phila-Quad, and each club Representative will be mailed a supply. One word of warning - space is limited and exhibits will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

1967 COMMENS ANNOUNCED

Postmaster General O'Brien has announced the subjects of seven commemoratives stamps to be issued during 1967. These are:

- Sesquicentennial of Mississippi Statehood
- Centennial of Canada's emergence as a Nation
- 100th anniversary of the purchase of Alaska
- 150th anniversary of the Erie Canal
- 100th anniversary of the National Grange (oldest major farm organization)

- Henry David Thoreau, 19th Century essayist and poet
- Reproduction of painting by Thomas Eakins
- 1 postal card for the 50th anniversary as a United States territory.

The Suburban Collectors Club of Hinsdale is sponsoring a 5th Anniversary Exhibition and Bourse at 7th and Madison Streets on November 11-12. Members that have attended these shows will appreciate the quality of the material shown, and we hope you will attend. Mark the date on your calendar and make a plan to visit our Fair Cities for an enjoyable event.

A postcard mailed from one of the older post-offices in Whiteside County, which has had a post-office since 1818, 1838, when William D. Dudley opened a 12 x 12 log cabin. John E. Cornelius is

