



## **The Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award For 1970 Presented To Mortimer L. Neinken**

Mortimer L. Neinken has been a familiar figure to United States philately for many years. He is a member of the *Collectors Club*, and of many other philatelic organizations. He is also a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London; a Trustee of the Philatelic Foundation, and a member of its expert committee. He was president of the U. S. Philatelic Classics Society from 1964 to 1968.

He began collecting stamps in 1938, specializing in the classic issues of the United States. He concentrated mostly on the One, Ten and Twelve cent stamps of the 1851-1857 issues. When these collections were exhibited at national and international exhibitions they gained high awards.

He was not content just to amass stamps and win medals. He made sure that the knowledge which he had gained was preserved. He has had two books

published by the Theodore E. Steinway Memorial Publication Fund of the *Collectors Club*; "*The United States Ten Cent Stamp of 1855-1860*" and "*The United States Twelve Cent Stamp of 1851-1860*." His latest work, titled, "*The United States One Cent Stamp of 1851-1860*" is now in the hands of the publishers and will be available in May of 1971. It is a comprehensive revision of Volume I of the Stanley B. Ashbrook work, "*The United States One Cent Stamp of 1851-1857*". The book will run about 500 pages and will include 2300 illustrations. It is being sponsored by the U. S. Philatelic Classics Society. In addition to the books, Mr. Neinken has also written numerous articles for the *Collectors Club Philatelist* and many other philatelic publications.

He has received the John N. Luff Award of the American Philatelic Society, also the Carroll Chase Award. The U. S. Philatelic Classics Society has twice presented him with the Stanley B. Ashbrook Award. The American Philatelic Society in addition to the other awards, twice gave him the Eugene Klein Memorial Award.

Mr. Neinken was born in Paterson N. J. on May 16, 1896. He was graduated from Columbia University in 1916 with a degree in Civil Engineering. During World War I he saw service as a captain in the Army Corps of Engineers. He subsequently entered the family business, Champion Pants Manufacturing Company, of New York, N. Y., one of Americas' largest manufacturers of men's slacks. He was president of the company from 1939 to 1966. He resides in Brooklyn, N. Y. and has been a Trustee and Director of many Communal organizations. One of which he is most proud is having been President of the Board of Trustees of Maimonides Medical Center, Brooklyn, from 1962 to 1970. He has been honored by special awards from the New York Public Library, New York Academy of Medicine Library and the Smithsonian Institution.

## *Editorial*

### *You Should Know Them By Their Collections*

One reads much about and often sees the picture of a "prominent" stamp person in the stamp papers, then finally meets this well-publicized person. It is astonishing the little knowledge these leading figures have about philately.

One expects to meet a person well versed in the highways and byways of stamp collecting. Instead he prattles mainly about people associated with philately, and, in addition, he openly admits that he is not much of a stamp collector.

It is true that there are in this country hundreds of stamp clubs and organizations. All are starved for adequate financing and sufficient voluntary help to keep the club going. The requisite for this type of worker is simply one who will willingly and freely give of his time. The calibre of his stamp collection is immaterial. Such people do make a contribution to our hobby and this must not be forgotten.

Furthermore, it is found that the upper echelon of philatelic scholars has no desire to be very active in organized philately. Its metier is quiet research rather than social contacts. Consequently, most of our stamp clubs and societies are run by those who are not top philatelists. There are, however, a few exceptions.

The mistake made in misleading people about these prominent stamp collectors comes through the use of the two words "philatelic expert." A good worker for a stamp club, a handshaker and efficient organizer will be publicity conscious. This is an integral part of his work. But if he allows exaggerations to describe his activities, he harms himself, because people expect to meet a philatelic expert if he has been publicized as such.

It is best to judge people moving in philatelic circles by the stamp collections they own. Thus, before accepting someone as a great philatelist, learn something about his collecting activities. Yes, by their collections ye shall know them.

H.D.S.H.