

EUGENE KLEIN DIES

EUGENE KLEIN, well-known philatelist and dealer of Philadelphia, died on April 30, 1944 at the Hahnemann Hospital in Philadelphia, following a long illness. He was sixty-five years old.

Mr. Klein had been an important figure in philately for many years. He began collecting stamps as a schoolboy in his native Hungary. He continued his interest in them all through his school years and on into manhood. He was educated in Budapest and Vienna, and continued his studies after he came to the United States in 1894, attending Drexel Institute's engineering school, and the University of Pennsylvania.

His intense interest in stamps led him to develop his hobby into a huge philatelic business, becoming one of the most important dealers in this country. He made many important purchases in both United States and Foreign stamps, and was an authority on them. He traveled abroad extensively in the pre-war years, purchasing stamp collections and seeking out rare stamps.

He developed a fine auction business, and handled many important collections at public sale, among them being the Wharton Sinkler collection in March 1940, and more recently the Arthur E. Tuttle collection. Mr. Klein was mentioned in Mr. Tuttle's will, being named as the dealer through whom Mr. Tuttle's \$100,000 collection should be sold.

Mr. Klein himself as a collector specialized in the stamps of Heligoland and Hungary. He wrote several monographs on the stamps of various countries, and a book on "United States Waterway Packet-marks," in which he was intensely interested.

Mr. Klein sponsored the idea of the American Philatelic Congress, and was the leading figure in organizing it on the pattern of congresses held in Europe each year. The first American Philatelic Congress was held at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Philadelphia on December 27 and 28, 1935, and was a complete success.

In the 1935 convention of the American Philatelic Society Mr. Klein was elected to the presidency of that organization, and he has since continued very active in the affairs of the society. As a matter of fact, he was always among the leaders in philatelic activities, and often acted as a judge at international and other philatelic exhibitions. He belonged to a number of stamp societies, among which were the Collectors Club, New York; the Philadelphia Stamp Club; the Junior Philatelic Society of London; and the French Philatelic Society.

In 1938 he received the Michael L. Eidsness, Jr. Silver Plate Award at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington for helpful service to stamp collectors.

Mr. Klein is survived by his widow, Sara Conover Klein; two daughters, Mrs. Harold Lorber, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y.; and Dolores

May 13, 1944 Stamps



Eugene Klein

Klein, of Philadelphia; a sister; and three brothers.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, May 3rd, from 18. W. Washington Avenue, Pleasantville, N. J.

The funeral was attended by a large number of Mr. Klein's friends and relatives, and we noticed among those in attendance Alfred F. Lichtenstein and H. L. Lindquist, of New York; Prescott H. Thorp, of Netcong, N. J.; James Starr, of Philadelphia; Jere Hess Barr, of Reading, Pa.; James Hughes, of Atlantic City, N. J.; Mrs. Cook, of Philadelphia; and George Weiman, who is at present connected with Mr. Klein's business. Mrs. Klein, who has been very ill herself, was confined to the hospital and unable to attend the funeral services.

There are several sales scheduled for the immediate future, including

the next instalment of the Tuttle Estate on May 27th, 1944. These will go ahead as scheduled and, in fact, the business will be continued without interruption or change under the present staff.

Mr. Klein had always been very active in philatelic affairs, and in addition to the connections mentioned above, he had for many years taken an active part in the work of the Association for Stamp Exhibitions, and was one of the leading members on committees handling the New York shows in 1913, 1926 and 1936.

He had for many years acted as International Secretary for the American Philatelic Society, and this brought him in touch with prominent philatelists throughout the world.

Few dealers have done more in the advancement of the hobby than Mr. Klein, and his passing will leave a void that will be very difficult to fill.

