

See Announcement on Back Cover.

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WHOLE NO. 59

United States Minutes.

CONDUCTED BY J. USONA

The Treasury Department's circular of July 1, giving the exchange values of foreign coins shows the dollar is the unit of value in several countries and that the worth of this unit in U. S. coin varies considerably. The Dollar of British North America, British Honduras and of Liberia is worth \$1.00 gold U. S., that of Newfoundland \$1.014, while those of silver standard countries, such as Hongkong, Straits Settlements and Lohuan (Mexican dollars), and Mexico are worth \$0.476. The Peso, often stated to be equivalent to a dollar is pretty nearly equivalent to a Mexican dollar in the silver standard South American countries, but in Uruguay (gold standard) it is equivalent to \$1.034 U. S. This should be remembered in estimating the cost of dealers' advertised bargains, a one cent stamp of Johore, for instance, advertised o. g. at two cents, is being sold at over four times its face value, and so on in proportion. When sending money to foreign countries under this unit, \$1 Canadian or U. S. should purchase over \$2 face value of stamps.

The South Carolina Interstate and West Indian Exposition, having been denied a special set of stamps, has gotten out a

brilliant bi-colored sticker, after the style of the Buffalo ones advertised so freely. It is diamond shaped, vermilion ground lettering, with a centre view in dark blue of the Isle of Palms.

The J. M. Bartels Co., warn dealers and collectors against Z. K. Dowse of Mahwah, N. J., and Chas. Dover, 3025 East 6th St., Kansas City, Mo. They are alleged to have obtained stamps on approval and to have made no returns for them.

The *Nebraska Philatelist*, a promising monthly, has yielded up the ghost; cause: failure to get a transfer of second class rates from Hastings to Omaha.

The neat rubber stamp "R. F. D." cancellation of the Rural Free Delivery is beginning to appear frequently in the mails.

The Dodgeville-Mineral Point (Wisconsin) mail route probably enjoys the distinction of costing the government as little as any. One cent per year pays the contractor for hauling the mails 18 miles every day, except Sundays, rain or shine.

A badly arranged monthly, with reprinted articles and "shaky" advertisements, has been sending me sample copies for a month or two, and recently forwarded one with a paragraph conspicuously marked with ink. This was to the effect that they had concluded to discontinue the sending of sample copies, and intimated quite