

Mr. L. G. Quackenbush, one of our regular contributors, has assumed the editorial control of *The Philatelic Review of Reviews*, and we already notice a great improvement in the paper, which now stands high among its older contemporaries.

The International Stamp Exchange is a new society formed at a recent meeting of a number of Toronto collectors. Those contemplating joining can obtain full particulars from the secretary, Mr. I. E. Weldon, 147 Portland St., Toronto, Ont.

Our fourth volume begins with our January issue, and promptly on January 1st, our subscription rates will be advanced to fifty cents per year. Now is the time to subscribe, as no subscription will be received after the end of December, at the present rates.

It is said that there are 21 stamp collectors for every 1000 of population in Canada. We would not vouch for the correctness of this estimate, but if it were correct, there would be some 105,000 stamp collectors in Canada. We think that one-half that number would be nearer the correct number.

We would call the attention of our readers to our list of Cheap Sets in this issue. A number of additions will be made to the same, month by month. The prices will be found low, and to every collector, not already a subscriber, ordering \$1.00 worth or more at one time, will receive as premium a years subscription to this journal.

As soon as we have overtaken Father Time, we shall resume our sixteen page form. We are glad to note the interest our readers are taking in the increase of our circulation. To any one who will secure us four subscribers and forward the subscriptions to us with \$1.00, we will give a years subscription free. Induce four of your collecting friends to subscribe.

The Indian Philatelist says: "Somebody writes that China is going to commemorate the 60th birthday of the Queen Regent with a set of stamps. We are afraid China has enough on her hands just now without thinking of such amusements." It might be that China is going to raise the money to pay her war indemnity in this manner. Stamp collectors, who have a grievance against their Chinese laundryman, should boycott this issue, or join the Anti-Speculative Society.

The Universal Stamp Review is announced to appear from London, England, in January next. Messrs Smith and Partridge are the publishers, and they claim that it will excel any journal of the kind at present published. If the new stamp papers would carry out all their proposals how

welcome they would be. Philatelic publishing is so uncertain that little dependence can be placed on a paper's merit till you have the copy before you. A publisher is so apt to have a better opinion of his publication than the readers.

We have recently made a study of the varieties of the current 3c envelope of Canada, and have found the following distinct varieties in the entire envelope which we have not as yet noticed in any catalogue:

1. 3c. red on cream, small size, laid paper.
2. 3c. red on cream, large size, laid paper.
3. 3c. carmine on white, small size, laid paper.
4. 3c. carmine on white, large size, laid paper.
5. 3c. carmine on cream, small size, laid paper.
6. 3c. carmine on cream, large size, laid paper.
7. 3c. carmine on white, large size, wove paper.

The majority of the above varieties are very scarce, and of No. 7 we have only seen two copies. We have two sets of the above envelopes entire, and used, in fine condition, and will be pleased to furnish the price on application.

New societies will soon be as bad as new papers. *The Queen City Philatelic Society* was formed in Denver, Col., on the 15th of September, and is now ready for business. If you are dissatisfied with the society you are now a member of, or if you were disappointed in securing an office at the late election, the fashionable method to heal your wounded feelings is to start a society of your own, and elect yourself and your friends to the important offices, and then appeal to the philatelic world to join. We are not trying to mislead you, dear reader! This experiment has been tried more than once with success to save the promoter, but it is this kind of success that is having such a detrimental effect on the good work that our older societies might do if they had proper support.

It would appear as though the United States Government are not making a success of printing their own stamps. Two hundred million were recently rejected as of inferior workmanship. The Government claim to save \$50,000 per year by printing their own stamps. We think that it is false economy for the post office department to use such poor stamps as they are now selling, when for a slightly increased amount they could secure the superior workmanship of The American Bank Note Co. The gum on the new stamps is also very poor, and business men are complaining bitterly of this misplaced economy of the post office department. The work of the bureau of printing and engraving will possibly improve in time, but it is a shame for the public to suffer for the experiment.