

able to say how it is that these stamps from the same matrices vary in length. During the time these stamps were in use, there surely must have been more than one working plate to print from, and it seems to me probable that as soon as Messrs. De La Rue took over the contract, they found they wanted more working plates, and constructed some; and during that construction, something happened to cause the new plates to be smaller than the original ones. Could the steel plates in the process of hardening have shrunk in length? That seems most improbable.

(Continued.)

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#### OUR STAMP EXHIBITION.

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MR. EDITOR,—As we are to have an exhibition of stamps at the coming convention of the C. P. A. in Halifax in July, it has occurred to me that a few suggestions from some one may result in more general uniformity of arrangement and contribute somewhat to the better success of the exhibit.

Now while we may not have any really great collections in Canada, such as we sometimes see described in philatelic literature of England and the United States, and while we cannot hope to make a show at all comparable with the one lately made in New York City still we have among the members of the C. P. A. many really good collections which contain hundreds of gems.

If our members will interest themselves in this matter, a very good display can be made, and one which will be a credit to our Association.

The plan by which I propose to exhibit the specimens, is for the various members to select a few countries in which they are rarest or quite complete, and mount their specimens upon card board sheets 10 × 15.

Run a neat border around the card  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch from the sides and bottom of the sheet, which should be of No. 4 or No. 5 board. This will be found to be quite stiff enough, and is not so expensive as the thicker kinds. The border may be type set or hand ruled in coloured inks. By leaving a space of  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches at the top, a square of  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 10\frac{1}{2}$  is allowed, in which to arrange the stamps. This will be found considerably larger than most albums give. Allows space sufficient to design a large variety of figures, if the fancy of the exhibitor runs that way.

These sheets can be placed on shelving arranged for the purpose, and covered with glass to prevent handling or removal.

The local committee of members of C. P. A. in Halifax, will make all arrangements necessary for exhibit, which will be made upon a day to be decided by Convention. All exhibitors can depend upon the greatest care being taken of any specimens forwarded by members who cannot be present and they will be carefully packed and returned when exhibition is over. Members should have their names or some distinguishing mark upon all sheets exhibited.

I understand our illustrious president intends to make a magnificent display, and we are all aware that no one in Canada can hope to compete with him either in variety or value, if he chooses to give us a glance at his treasures.

Yours respectfully,

Pictou, N. S.

A. J. CRAIG.