

Condemned Stamps.

BY RUDOLPH C. BACH.

Under the heading of "condemned" stamps, we mean stamps condemned by the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps, such as the Canada Jubilee, Newfoundland Cabot, Seebecks, and last, the Omaha Trans-Mississippi Exhibition stamps.

Now do those Philatelic Magazines and those dealers, that take such active part against these stamps, know that they are doing more harm to stamp-collecting in a month than a thousand Seebecks would in a year?

Those Stamp papers that publish the reports of the Society and publish articles against these stamps, only hurt their advertisers, for there are very few papers that do not contain an ad. of some of these stamps.

Now, why don't these papers shut up, and let the collector do as he pleases? Has a foreign society, that we know nothing about, except that they are trying to stop the sale of unnecessary stamps, the right to order American collectors what to collect and what not? No, a thousand times no. A collector can collect as he chooses.

To illustrate the harm that is being done to philately through the S.S.S.S. cranks, I will relate the following true incident. A young man, pretty well off, living here in Montreal, was induced to commence stamp collecting. He soon became very much interested, subscribed to a lot of stamp papers, and spent quite a sum of money every week in purchasing stamps. Among others he bought complete sets of Honduras, Salvador and other Seebeck states. Just then some of the papers he had subscribed to, started a crusade against these stamps, and to cap the climax, on showing his collection to a number of collectors at a social meeting in his house, the opinion he heard added to what he had read about the Seebecks, made him so disgusted with collecting that now a valuable collection is lying idle in some cupboard, half a dozen good philatelic papers go into the waste paper basket every month, and last, but not important, the dealers lost the trade of one who would have spent a lot of money.

And then, every new pretty set is sure to interest some one in stamps. Take the Canada Jubilee and Newfoundland Cabots, for instance. I know several people who were interested in stamps through seeing these beautiful stamps in the store windows.

And take those papers who publish the S.S.S.S. reports. They don't get paid for it, nor even get a letter of thanks; they publish them to fill up space. Of course, there are stamps that are really and wholly a fraud, but I am not denouncing them, but only Seebecks and other stamps that can be and have been used postally.

Let every collector refuse to subscribe to papers that hurt philately, and let every dealer refuse to advertise in a paper that goes against his goods and it will be a benefit to philately.

During the week of April 17, we had the pleasure of meeting Mr. C. A. Needham, of Hamilton, Ont. who was in town. Needless to say that Mr. N. was not without his little books full of big varieties.

Canada Jubilees have been in awful demand the last few days. A dealer in Montreal showed me a box of over 20,000 1, 2 and 3c. used Jubilees, and he was still offering to buy a large quantity at very good prices.

Mr. Dealer, don't forget to put us on your advertising list. A trial ad. is solicited and the results will convince you of our splendid advertising qualities.

Our first aim shall always be to please our readers in every respect. Suggestions cheerfully received.

We will exchange 1 inch ad. with all first class publications.

Subscribe now, before you forget it.

LETTER FROM A PRIZEWINNER.

PORT ARTHUR, April 13th, 1898.

DEAR SIR,

I am very well pleased with the stamps you sent me for being the first subscriber, and wish the *Montreal Philatelist* every success.

Yours truly,

W. RUSSELL BROWN.