

# THE STAMP REPORTER.

Published every Saturday.

GEO. BRADLEY, Editor and Publisher,  
St. Catharines, Ontario, Can.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Canada and United States per year 50c  
Other countries in postal union per  
year... .. \$1.00  
All subscriptions commence with cur-  
rent issue.  
Back numbers cannot be supplied at  
subscription rates.

## ADVERTISING RATES.

1 inch insertion... .. \$ 40  
5 inches to be used as desired... 1 75  
10 inches to be used as desired... 3 00  
Reading notices per line... .. 10  
TERMS.—Cash must positively accom-  
pany orders.  
Contract ads. may be paid weekly,  
monthly or quarterly in ADVANCE.

## PUBLISHER'S NOTICES.

FORMS CLOSE on Tuesdays at 5 p.  
m. All copy must be received by that  
time to ensure appearance in follow-  
ing issue.

REMITTANCES — Unused current  
stamps of Canada or the United States  
taken in payment of account for sub-  
scriptions and advertisements under  
\$1. This sum and larger amounts may  
be remitted in bank notes or by postal  
note, post office or express money or-  
der.

RETURN POSTAGE should be en-  
closed in all letters enquiring for in-  
formation other than of general inter-  
est and requiring a personal reply.  
This will insure our attention and a  
cheerful reply.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—In notify-  
ing us of any change of address sub-  
scribers should be sure to give their  
old address as well as new address.

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRES  
with this issue if a (X) appears in the  
margin opposite this paragraph. The  
paper is not abruptly discontinued on  
the expiration of subscriptions, unless  
expressly so ordered. We shall highly  
appreciate an early renewal from you,  
or an order to have your paper discon-  
tinued.

## Ourselfs.

It has not been our custom in the  
past to devote much space to "blow-  
ing our own horn," but owing to the  
fact that we must have more subscrib-  
ers and advertisers to make this paper  
as a weekly a success, we hope our  
readers will forgive this waste of  
space.

Of late we have written to many  
dealers soliciting an advertisement,  
and quoting lowest cash rates for same,  
but invariably receive no reply. Some-  
times we wonder how it is. Have our  
efforts in trying to make the S. R. a  
success been a failure? Perhaps they

doubt our having any circulation. To  
such probably the following will prove  
that if not many they are buyers.

One advertiser receives between \$40  
and \$50 from each advertisement.

Surely if you are an enterprising  
dealer and desire to extend your busi-  
ness the above statement ought to be  
sufficient to merit a trial advertise-  
ment in next week's issue. If you  
doubt our reliability we will send you  
first class references on demand.

Along with advertisers we must get  
subscribers. We placed the subscrip-  
tion price as low as possible and hope  
that our readers will consider all the  
good points and decide whether it is  
worth a "half" or not. If you decide  
to subscribe look up some of our special  
offers.

A good stamp paper to the stamp col-  
lector is a good friend. It protects  
and encourages him, and though he  
can, he ought not to do without it.

If you get more than one copy of this  
paper give the duplicate to a stamp  
collecting friend.

Number one did not appear prompt-  
ly on time owing to the delay caused  
by having to submit a copy to the  
Postmaster General for his approval,  
before being allowed mailing privi-  
leges.

Many have expressed their opinion  
that this paper will not last long. We  
might say that it is our intention to  
stick to it, and you need not fear send-  
ing in your fifty cents for a year's  
subscription. Each one received makes  
our burden that much lighter.

Brother Dodge has lost another  
chance by allowing William R. Brown,  
publisher of Stamp Talk, to gobble up  
the "International Philatelist."

## Special Notice.

Every subscriber who receives more  
than one copy of this number will con-  
fer a favor by handing the extra copy  
to a philatelic friend.

## The Duke of York and Philately.

A foolish paragraph has been going  
the round of the outside press that  
H. R. H. the Duke of York seriously  
contemplated the sale of his first-class  
collection of postage stamps for a  
charitable object. Though it might  
seem somewhat unnecessary we are  
glad to see that Mr. J. A. Tilliard  
has come forward to flatly contradict  
this absurd rumor.

To those who doubt the sincerity of  
H. R. H.'s devotion to the pursuit  
we beg to point to the researches he  
has made in the matter of the 2 rig-  
bank skilling (blue) stamp (1857) of  
Denmark, read before the London  
Philatelic Society by the Hon. Secre-  
tary. Stamps (Eng)

## Notes of Interest.

The sale of the United States peri-  
odical stamps, which began February  
15th, was a decided success. They  
were distributed at the larger post  
offices, 5,000 sets being retained by the  
department at Washington, 3,000 at  
New York, 2,000 each at Philadelphia  
and Chicago, and a smaller number at  
other offices, with instructions that  
one set should be sold to a single cus-  
tomer. The price set by the depart-  
ment was \$5 per set. As far as the  
United States Government is concern-  
ed the sale was a great success, for  
after paying all expenses there is  
\$249,975 left. There are a million or  
so stamp collectors in the United States,  
and the eagerness with which  
these stamps were purchased makes As-  
sistant Postmaster-General Merritt re-  
gret that he did not charge \$10 a set  
for them and thereby double his profit.

The United States stamps command-  
ing the highest price are probably the  
15, 24, 30 and 90 cents of the issue of  
1869. These stamps are printed in two  
colors, and consequently were run  
through two presses. By accident sev-  
eral of the sheets were inverted dur-  
ing the second process, with the result  
that the central picture or illustration  
was printed upside down. The mis-  
take was not noticed until after the  
stamps had been disposed of to the  
public by the post office department  
and gives them great value to collec-  
tors. These oddities now bring from  
\$150 to \$500 each.

The most valuable American stamp  
was issued by the postmaster of Balti-  
more before the National Government  
assumed that responsibility. Three  
examples only are known to exist, one  
is on blue paper, and two on white.  
The blue one sold for \$4400 some years  
ago. The white ones are quoted at  
\$2000 each.

It is stated that a mistake was made  
in surcharging the two cents United  
States stamps for Cuba, with the value  
two and a half c de peso. This was  
done with the idea of making a value  
equal to that which had been used for  
interior postage. It was found later  
that the rate of interior postage had  
for some time been 2 c de peso; there-  
fore the stamps of this surcharge were  
sold for the original face value in U.S.  
currency.

The first issue of Hawaiian stamps  
in 1851 are very rare and valuable,  
having been sold as high as \$2,500  
each. India stamps, with India letter-  
ing upon them, are also very rare, but  
for some reason there is no demand for  
them. They are not popular among  
collectors, chiefly because they do not  
belong to any particular series or set,  
and are only curiosities. The value of  
a stamp depending upon the demand  
for it, is largely regulated by the ease  
with which the set to which it belongs  
can be completed. If the collector, for  
example, has all stamps of a certain  
issue, with the exception of one, he will