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A MONTHLY PHILATELIC MAGAZINE

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NEWS OF THE MONTH

Our surmise last month, that the recent notice by the Government of Great Britain forbidding the use of obsolete stamps after June 1st, was not necessarily a decree of their demonetization, as our contemporaries assumed, turns out to be correct. The editor of *Morley's Philatelic Journal* wrote to the officials on the subject and has received the following reply: "Allowance of the stamps which will become useless on June 1st can be claimed at any time within 6 months of that date under the provisions of the Stamp Duties Management Act 1891." In Canada stamps are never demonetized, our government however refuses to redeem them, and in order to prevent those dollar value Jubilees, held by speculators, being used up in about the only way they can be used for the payment of newspaper postage in bulk, a recent order requires publishers of newspapers to pay their 2nd class rates in cash, not in stamps. The speculators have been selling out to the newspapers, at a discount, thousands of dollars worth of Jubilee stamps, and it is in order to stop this loss to the post office that the new rule has been adopted. An important event in commercial philately is the recent absorption of the Scott and New England Stamp Companies by the American Collectors' Co. of New York, which has increased its capital to \$450,000, making it, when the shares shall have been taken up, the largest stamp concern in the world.

ENTRANCES AND EXITS.

BOSNIA.—(5 *Kronen stamp*). Another high value stamp, of the type of the 1 and 2 Kr. reported in our January number, 5 Kronen blue is announced by several European journals.

CYPRUS.—(*Official Rs. 1.50*). The 1 rupee 50 cents, rose, issued last year has been surcharged ON SERVICE.

CHATE.—(*Rumored surcharged 1 dr. unpaid letter*). Owing to its similarity

with the 1 lepton value, it is said that the 1 drachma of the new unpaid letter set is to be surcharged. It is also announced that the set in olive bistre, reported in our April number as unpaid letter stamps on the authority of the *Am. J. of Ph.* are really revenues.

ECUADOR.—(*Further color changes*). In our March number we announced the change of color of the lower values of the current type, the following are also reported:

20c. gray,	formerly	green.
50c. light blue,	"	rose.
1s. brown,	"	ochre.

FRANCE.—(*Postal packet stamps*). A set of stamps, similar in shape to the current high value postage but having a locomotive as the principle design, have recently been issued for the prepayment of packages on the Government railway system. They can hardly be termed postage stamps as they are issued, we learn, by the railway not the postal administration, but we suppose they are as much entitled to that distinction as the Belgian railway stamps. The set comprises:

5 centimes, gray.	50 centimes, blue.
10 " " green.	1 franc, brown.
20 " " rose.	2 " " red.

(*The Military Frank*). In regard to the proposed frank in three colors, announced in our May number, it is now said on account of the expense of their production as intended, that they will not be issued, but that the surcharged 15c will continue in use for this special army service.

GREAT BRITAIN.—(*Official 1/2d*). The 1/2d green has been surcharged I. R. OFFICIAL in black.

MONACO.—(*Color of 10c post card changed*). The 10c card has appeared in brick red on green.

NEW CALEDONIA.—(*Another provisional 15c*). The 1 franc bronze green has been surcharged like the 75c, reported in May N.C.E. 15c.

NICARAGUA.—(*Provisionals*). In addition to the three values of unpaid letter stamps surcharged CORREOS, reported last month, the 1, 2, 30 and 50c have also been operated upon. Besides these, of the regu-

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