

Interesting.

From Weekly Philatelic Era.

WHICH SHALL IT BE ?

New York City, N.Y., Nov. 18, '98.

W. W. JEWETT,

Portland, Me.

Dear Sir: From press dispatches I note that the two-cent postal rate of Canada, with various British possessions and for inland rate has gone into effect. Now I desire to ask a few questions in regard to the color of the two-cent denomination. The present shade is purple. According to the agreement of U. P. U., the color of the stamp necessary for foreign (single letter, postage *must* be blue. Will the color of the two-cent stamp be changed to blue? Now according to U. P. U. the color of stamp necessary for inland (single letter) postage *must* be red. Will the color of the two-cent be changed to red?

As this reduction of rate only applies to certain countries, will it become necessary to change the color at all, or at least for foreign postage?

To sum up. There must be a two-cent stamp color red. There will *perhaps* be a two-cent stamp color blue: or the purple may remain.

The color of the five-cent stamp is already blue and to issue a two-cent stamp in the same shade, may cause much inconvenience and unlimited trouble to all concerned.

Yours truly,

WM. A. McDONNELL.

The above shows how the letters of different Canadian philatelic correspondents, who have likely been scarce of news, have created a wrong impression. In the first place the 2-cent rate to Great Britain and Colonies has not gone into effect, and again no action has been taken respecting the reduction of the inland rate. In answer to the first question, we do not think the color of the 2-cent stamp will be changed to blue, because in the first place the penny rate is not a "Universal Rate" and as is now known the stamp is a three colored one. As to the second question we think that when the inland rate takes effect the two and three-cent stamps will change color. Therefore we have good grounds on which to believe the rumor that an entire new issue is in preparation. Moral: Get your present issue in time and save money.

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