

of reform?

The next received was a card stating that we held the three offices mentioned above (probably forgetting they stated five before). This card also said the Bay State Phil. would give three free exchange notices as if votes were to be bought by a few ads and not secured on the merits of the paper.

The cap sheaf of the trash sent out was a booklet of twelve pages $4\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{4}$ inches of which seven were filled with a concoction of falsehood and slander and occasionally a word of praise regarding the growth of our glorious society. One paragraph is given to the centralization of power at Berlin. It is for the best interests of the society that the offices of Secy-Treas and official organ are in one city. All copy for official organ should be in by the 20th of each month, but it often happens that applications or reports received as late as the 28th get in as the D. P. A. forms are held open until the last and the Secy-Treas being right on the spot can insert them, whereas if he were living in another town it would necessitate a delay of a month. F. I. Weaver came by his position honestly and is as much entitled to the office as a member residing in any other part of Canada. When a committee on Constitution was wanted, Mr. A. M. Muirhead appointed Mr. Weaver and ourselves as we had long been active members, and being acquainted with every clause of the constitution, Mr. Wurtele saw fit to appoint the same committee again when changes were to be made. The reformers(?) forgot when speaking of centralization that Mr. Gile, is President, Trustee and pub. of Official Organ for Bay State Phil. Ass'n., also Sales Supt and Off. Organ of Junior Philatelists. This is worse than Starnaman Bros.

The charge is also made that we do the printing for the society. We do, but all prices have been submitted to the President before the work was done, except in the case of repeat orders which were done at the same price. We have always done the printing for the society 20% cheaper than we would do it for any one else and once when tenders were asked for, our

prices were found to be 50% lower than most of the offers.

W. A. Starnaman is charged with threatening to expel members and forcing them to apologize. Mr. Gile had published articles derogatory to the interests of the association and was asked to retract the statement or suffer the consequences of the constitution. Mr. Gile wrote that he had previously apologized to the President, although we never asked him to do so.

Any person who saw Mr. Ussher's actions at the convention at St. Catharines where he worked against the interests of the society although only a member a few months would be convinced that there are far better men for trustees than he is.

For official organ the Reform(?) Party asked for votes for the *Bay State Philatelist* a paper which doubled numbers twice in four consecutive months in 1900. They state that the publishers of the *Advocate* refuse the association space without extra charge. This is false, as we give unlimited space for official matter, and defy the reformers(?) to show where we charged one cent more than we were entitled to. When the *Philatelic Canadian* was official organ the Auction Dept. was started by Mr. I. E. Weldon, then President. He made a rule that the official organ should receive 5c for each lot advertised and we took the official organ ship on these terms. Later we made arrangements to give one column free and get 5c a lot for all over that amount but we never charged anything extra although at times the limit was exceeded. It is amusing to note the following paragraph in the same booklet in which they are trying to raise a quarrel. "It is a matter of satisfaction and congratulation to know that the life of our association has been one of steady growth and continued success. We have thus far been noticeably free from quarrels and contentions, from schisms, political deals and boss denomination."

Space will not permit a more lengthy explanation but in closing we may say that we hope those who voted reform(?) will remain members long enough to find out the reform(?) leaders in their true characters. The vote shows that the members don't wish reform(?) yet.