

mouth, he is running a great risk to say the least, as well as being a standing menace to society, and the day will come when he will be sorry he ever did such a thing. And let this be a warning to all, whether they are stamp collectors or not.

Foreign countries such as India, Russia, and those of Asia, particularly, spread the cholera germ and diphtheria, as well as fevers of all kinds (and there may be some of your family so afflicted) can be communicated by the bad habit of touching the mouth to the stamps. Always soak the paper off the stamps by means of a pan of hot or lukewarm water (as that kills all the germs), and wash the hands well afterwards. If you stick a stamp on a letter, wet the letter and not the stamp. Large quantities of stamps before being handled should always be disinfected by being put in a drawer for a few days, closed tightly, with some powerful disinfectant, which can be procured at any druggist's. No idea is known of the great extent which the bad habit above referred to is responsible for the various diseases, such as sore throat, miasma, etc. Let this warning be sounded far and wide through the press of this country, whether it is philatelic or not.

The Canadian Philatelic Association, who held their convention in Montreal some time ago, has been re-organized, and the outlook for philately in Canada this winter is that business has never been so encouraging in the stamp lore for years, and, with four philatelic papers and two societies, you may expect us to be one of the leading stamp centres of the world.

## It is Reported

That the current 15-cent slate Canada will either be dropped or change its color.

That L. M. Staebler of London, Ont., will shortly revive the Canadian Philatelic Weekly.

That a new paper is to appear from New Chester (Pa.), with R. M. Miller as editor and publisher.

That the Minnesota address book will not appear, the reason being that the publisher cannot spare the time.

That the Lindsay Stamp Co., conducted by I. E. Weldon, will shortly open an office on Yonge street, Toronto.

That the new issue of Canada postage stamps with the queen in widow's weeds, similar in design to the third issue of Bill stamps, will appear about October, 1896.

That the contract for the printing of the United States stamps will be transferred to the American Bank Note Co. on January 1st, 1897, on account of the unsatisfactory work done by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

The city clerk to-day received a letter from Victoria, B. C., stating that the corporation had endorsed the resolution adopted by the Toronto city council in favor of a 1-cent rate for local drop-letters. It has been suggested that if the Government changed the engraving on the stamps every two or three years the revenue from stamp collectors alone would more than cover any deficit arising from such a change. In the United States there are clubs of stamp collectors representing a membership of 30,000.—*Toronto Daily Mail and Empire, June 10th.*