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NEWS OF THE MONTH

Two important new series of stamps are announced this month; a set for Italy, with the portrait of the reigning monarch, Victor Emmanuel III., and the long-expected series for Greece. A complete new set is also reported from Bulgaria, but up to the date of going to press, we have not received confirmation of the news. War provisionals are reported from Colombia, due to the perpetual revolution in that country. A revolution against President Castro's government in Venezuela is reported in the press despatches, and as the revolutionary forces have assembled on the Colombia frontier, and thence crossed into Venezuela territory, complications which may lead to war between the two republics are feared. Whatever happens, some memento is pretty sure to be recorded in the annals of Philately.

The recent order of the Canadian postal authorities requiring newspaper postage to be paid in cash instead of stamps, is the subject of many protests on the part of the press. Besides preventing the use of the high value Jubilee stamps, which became practically demonized by this rule, all publishers receive a large proportion of their subscriptions in 1, 2 and 5 cent stamps, generally in much larger quantities than they can use in their ordinary business correspondence; these they are now unable to use for newspaper postage, and, as it is illegal to sell them without a license, publishers are wondering what they are to do with their accumulations of stamps.

The president of Scott Stamp Co. and its consolidated interests, announces a change in the system of fixing prices in the Standard catalogue. In future editions, prices are to be those asked for fine specimens, perfect in every respect, instead of average specimens, as in former editions. It is hoped to secure stability of prices in this way, but looks more like an

attempt to inflate prices than otherwise. We shall have more to say about this when the catalogue is issued, in the meantime, contenting ourselves to remark, that in our opinion, no stamp dealing firm's selling quotations can ever be a true standard of values, so long as the firm's buying prices are not quoted. Let the consolidated companies issue a catalogue giving the prices they are prepared to pay for all stamps, in fine condition, and they can then call it in reality a "Standard," stability of prices will be a fact, and selling prices will regulate themselves very quickly. We doubt whether any stamp concern will ever have the courage to issue such a catalogue.

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ENTRANCES AND EXITS.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—(*Commemorative post cards*). A series of 2c cards was issued June 26th, commemorative of General Bartolomé Mitre, with various views on the back. There are said to be 4 different views in as many colors, making 16 varieties in all. (*Surcharged envelopes*). The obsolete 12c envelopes, blue, have been surcharged in red 5 with 6 horizontal bars cancelling the former value

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE. (*3d green*.) The current 3d green of Great Britain announced by "*Le Philatiste Français*" with the surcharge BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE in black in two lines.

BRITISH GUIANA.—(*Withdrawal of provisional stamps*). An official circular gives notice that the remainders of the provisional set of 1889, in mauve with value surcharged in black, have been withdrawn from circulation. The values mentioned in the circular are the 3c, 4c, 6c, 8c, 10c, 20c, 40c, 72c, also the 5c envelope on thin white paper.