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FOR THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF CANADA.

## CANADIAN PHILATELIC UNION.

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**A**BOUT one year ago the amalgamation scheme so thoroughly expounded by Mr. Davison and the *Post Office*, and so energetically indorsed by our more prominent collectors, was first aired into existence and received such a splendid ovation by the better class of our press and people. Although so well received, it met with quite a sturdy opposition when put to a vote, and was accordingly dropped by its promoters. Such is the history of the amalgamation agitation in the United States. But now let us come nearer home and consider whether a union of the two Canadian national societies would be a progressive policy and whether it would meet with more success.

It is quite true that the unsuccessful outcome of the American plan stares us in the face, but is it not worth the trial? We must first consider that the Canadian organizations are placed in quite a different position than were the American societies. There, there were many difficulties that cannot be encountered in the bringing about of a union of the Canadian Philatelic Association and Philatelic Society of Canada. It must be remembered that the P. S. of A. was originally part of the A. P. A., and was organized for the main purpose of rivalry, and how could we expect support from its members? The W. P. U., on the other hand, was organized with the only aim of a help

to the western collectors, who claimed that the A. P. A. was neglecting them in the matter of benefits, officers and representatives, and how could its members co-operate with the A. P. A. amalgamationists except to return to their former source of grievance? Another and more general cause of the failure of the scheme was the fact that there were *three* societies included, and naturally involved more difficulties. Undoubtedly, with more officers to contend with, who, with the aspect of losing their honors and positions, would do their utmost to oppose the effecting of the plan, the task was rather more increased. Still another important drawback was the provision of the scheme which asked the P. S. of A. and W. P. U. to disband and enter the ranks of the A. P. A., a clause which could certainly not be in accord with the views of these organizations, who would be far from inclined to again re-enter the old society, and, as we would say, "beg pardon." Had the agitation been commenced prior to the incorporation of the A. P. A., and had the scheme provided for a union of the three societies under a different name and constitution, success would certainly have followed. As it was, however, this could not be, as the incorporation business was in the way. Thus, with these few, and many other, causes in opposition, the scheme failed.

In Canada, however, we cannot have