

A Chicago dealer has two deaf mutes for customers. Doubtless they get as much enjoyment out of collecting as their more fortunate brothers, and certainly they get more enjoyment out of life than they otherwise would.

Dealers tell of finds made in the most unpromising fields. Recently a Chicago dealer bought a collection which was in every way mediocre, yet among the torn, dirty and undesirable specimens generally he found a beautiful unused stamp of the first issue of Norway, worth \$18. There was not another stamp in the collection worth more than 25 cents.

Many stores of various kinds in the large cities are embarking in the stamp business as a side line. They display sheets of stamps and albums in the show windows, and no doubt sell some stamps.

The one-penny Jubilee stamp of New South Wales is red in color.

The twenty centavos stamp of Columbia, S. A., is now printed in brown on green, instead of blue paper as formerly.

Chicago has several deaf and dumb collectors. The enjoyment to be received from collecting comes through the sense of sight.

The 3-cent Canadian Jubilee stamp, if exposed to the sun's rays for two or three days, will turn nearly white.

Canada's first issue of stamps was in 1851. The same company prepared the plates and printed the stamps that printed the 1847 issue for the United States.

The 1 sen stamp of Japan has been changed from bright green to yellowish olive green in color.

Mexico was the first Central American country to issue stamps, and it stands well up toward the head as among the greatest producers of stamps.

The early issues of the stamps of many countries and colonies were prepared by native designers and manufacturers. As a result we have very crude stamps—but, oh, how handsome they look to the collector of to-day! Take Hawaii, Romagna, Moldavia, etc. They are as "ugly as a mud fence," so to speak, but the prices at which they are held nowadays makes them handsome. Anything that is unattainable is handsome and desirable, because such is human nature.

Ecuador has made use of the remainders of its Jubilee issue by surcharging the stamps and issuing them. The remainders and plates were to have been destroyed, but this does not look like it.

The new five-cent stamp of Italy has been surcharged, "Colonia Eritrea," for use in that colony. This provisional is a good one to buy, if you can get hold of any.

On account of errors in printing the eighteen cent and twenty-four cent denominations of the new issue of North Borneo have been withdrawn from circulation. All collectors who have gotten hold of these values will do well to hold on to them.

Tasmania has a new 1 pound stamp, though what it wants with a stamp of such a denomination is a mystery.