

Other examples might be mentioned which would only still further show that this wholesale manufacture of stamp societies must be prohibited if Canadian philately is to aspire to dignified recognition.

The natural conditions existing in Canada demand that there should be but one philatelic association. With a comparatively small population, a country whose resources are just beginning to be developed, few centres of population, a people who have not acquired the wealth which gives a life of ease and recreation, it cannot be expected that Canada will rank as high philatellically as her more fortunate neighbors. Because stamp societies are numerous and popular in the United States is no guarantee that the experiment will be a success in Canada. It is plainly to be seen that the contrary is true and the sooner the collectors of this country recognize and act on this fact the better it will be for Canadian philately.

At the present time we have a society of which none need be ashamed. Ever since Alex. M. Muirhead launched the Dominion Philatelic Association in Sept. 1, 1895, it has been a growing success. It is true differences have occurred and storms have been encountered. Perfection is not near. A valid criticism is that Ontario preponderates among the officers. But this should stir up the provinces to renewed activity until they compel recognition. The Ontario collectors should be more charitable, and have more regard for the welfare of the association, for the Dominion is not limited

to one province, but takes in all. A representative distribution of officers should therefore be effected.

But if grievances do exist, let not the main issue be forgotten. We desire to present to the world a respectable Canadian philatelic society and to gain this end let the collector not think it too hard to resign the hopes of office or even to submit to imposition. Such action shows the spirit of the true philatelist. On the other hand, how petty, how narrow minded is he, who, like a spoiled child, failing to get what is wanted, leaves his fellow collectors, and with a few kindred spirits, starts a rival organization to soothe his ruffled spite. And he who for no particular reason founds a new society, is guilty only in a less degree.

It is imperative then that no more associations should be founded, and it would be preferable if those which do exist should be swallowed up in a grand rally for the D. P. A. Let Canadian collectors, casting behind them all personal malice and jealousy, and "in honor preferring one another," throw their influence and support in the direction of this society and thus make it the premier organization of America. And may it be the aim of one and all to so increase the fund of friendship and hearty co-operation, that the record of the D. A., not tarnished by dishonor and disgrace may rather be spotless and glorious like unto "the morning star which goeth not down behind the darkened West, but melts away in the brightness of heaven."