

Halifax Notes.

On the second of September a club was formed in this city devoted to the interests of stamp collectors, entitled 'The Halifax Philatelic Club.' The president is Mr. A. M. Muirhead, also president of the Dominion Philatelic Association, and Mr. J. Foster Rood, the well known specialist in Newfoundland stamps, is vice-president. Up to present writing about a dozen collectors have joined the ranks, but more are expected. The official organ is the 'Halifax Philatelic Magazine' and membership in the club is limited to Nova Scotia.

The exchange branch of the D. P. A., located in this city, does not appear to be particularly successful. Mr. James N. Peckman, the exchange superintendent, says that there are very few books in circulation this month, but as this is a comparatively new branch of the association the reason is apparent.

A few copies of the Newfoundland 3 cent, surcharged one cent, in black, have been seen here, but it is evidently the intention of the government to make this issue a strictly local one. The Cabot sets must be nearly if not quite sold out, and as the lower denominations have been sold some time ago, the prices have advanced considerably.

'Halifax for 1898,' is the cry of the Halifax Philatelic Magazine, and, as becomes a loyal citizen, I have to echo it. Of course it is only natural for us to lose some interest in these conventions when they are held so far away as Ontario, and let us hope that the Ontario members will see the wisdom of Halifax for the convention city.

The last few sets of Canada Jubilee, up to \$1.00, have been sold out at this office. A few copies of higher denomination, from twenty cents up, are still to be obtained. The half cent of the present issue are not to be obtained, the issue being nearly exhausted.

Edward A. Whalen, the well known collector and associate editor of the Halifax Philatelic Magazine, has left for the land of the free, where he will devote himself to study. In him the city loses an ardent philatelist and the Halifax Philatelic club, an energetic secretary.

Detroit Letter.

Philatelic societies are having a hard time of it in the United States. The A. P. A. is barely holding its ground and the P. S. of A. and S. of P. are retreating.

The American Collectors' Company is making good progress and has a large number of influential agents. The plans of the company are excellent and if they only carry out their system of doing business on the co-operative plan we think their success is assured. No better manager than Mr. Crawford Capen could have been secured.

The Detroit Philatelist had the misfortune to be burned out in a large fire some time ago, but Mr. Kessler informs us that they are now doing business again.

The auction sales held thus far have proved that good stamps will always bring good prices. The catalogue will, we understand, be gradually revised until it will be as near net prices as it is possible to issue a catalogue. At the same time net prices for a catalogue are a thing impossible, for some dealers would cut prices merely to draw trade.

A certain eastern dealer recently located a large stock of unused orange special delivery stamps and instead of purchasing them outright would take them as he wanted them for use. However a travelling collector happened to inquire for old stamps at this post-office and took all the special deliveries left.

The Christmas trade is reported to be brisk and one dealer of our acquaintance is advertising in a local paper to give fifty varieties of stamps away to all who apply. He informs us that the results are surprisingly large.

AMERICAN.