

# The International Philatelist.

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## A Successful Philatelist.

"Nothing succeeds like success," and this familiar adage is as applicable to stamp collecting and stamp collectors as it is to anything else in this world. A few elementary principles or rules are necessary for a collector to be what can truly be termed "A Successful Philatelist."

He must be a man with considerable of what is well expressed in the term, stick-at-it-iveness. A collector who collects by fits and starts, and is all alive one week and very much otherwise the next, will fall very far short of the mark. Better go at it in a mild way and steadily than be a "fits and starts" collector.

This wonderful genius they call a Philatelist, must also be a very industrious man, although our hobby is usually looked upon as a pleasant pastime, yet considerable labor and pains are necessary in order to acquire a good collection, keep it in good shape, and at the same time glean all the knowledge and information you can from the same.

Another point to be remembered is neatness and precision in everything. An orderly, well-kept collection is a pleasure to its owner and to all who may have the privilege of seeing it, but when you have half your stamps hinged in fairly straight, and the remainder fairly crooked, combined with a good assortment of bad specimens, the effect is far from pleasing.

Never attack your stamp collection when in a bad humor. Every hobbyist, it matters not what his hobby be, should make the moments spent in the pursuit of his hobby, some of his happiest, and if you associate your stamps with your darker hours, you may be unconsciously hoarding up heartaches and bitter memories that at some time may cause you to wish you never made a collection of stamps.

Another important duty is to keep up with the times. In order to do this, you must carefully peruse the literature of the times. Read as many philatelic papers as you can get hold of; if you cannot afford to subscribe to all of them, you can generally borrow from fellow-collectors.

Above all things he honor itself in all your dealings. The most miserably despicable mortal on the face of this earth is the dishonest Philatelist, no matter what method of dishonesty he practices. If you do not want to be in this class, never allow the least shade to enter into any of your philatelic transactions.

Some of the foregoing rules or principles, term them as you may, will probably seem rather unnecessary to many. When, however, you take into consideration the fact that three-quarters of the stamp collectors of to-day are of the age when habits, good or bad, are generally formed, it will easily be seen that good principles lived up to in the keeping of a stamp collection, may effect in possibly more than a slight measure, the methods used and the habits necessary for the more serious things of life.

"J.P."

## Editorial.

It will be noticed that the sole interest in, and management of, THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIST has been acquired by the Editor and Publisher of *The Canadian Journal of Philately*, who will in future issue it monthly as usual. Among the new features will be those which particularized the publications, *One Dime* and *The Philatelic Fraud Reporter*, both of which have been also acquired by us.

Whilst this combination lessens the number of the smaller publications, we think it a move in the right direction. The advantages both to subscribers and advertisers, whose contracts with above mentioned publications we shall fulfill, will be much increased, as THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIST will be sent to all subscribers on the list of each publication, much increasing the interest as well as circulation.

Although we do not undertake in THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIST to supply our readers with the high-class literature aimed at in *The Canadian Journal of Philately*,