

appeared. The first number is a dismal failure; a fine example of a mountain labouring with the well-known result. It is intended to be widely circulated for the purpose of interesting young people in philately. As it is, the paper would be a pleasing change for any young collector who has for the moment tired of stamps and desires to study geography, zoology and biography.

Wanted—A Canadian Issue.

"I am happy to be able to make the statement that the basis and aims of our ideas and hopes as Liberals are that we are before all and above all Canadians: Canadians at Quebec, Canadians at Toronto, and Canadians from the shores of the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the famous mountains whose feet are kissed by the waves of the Pacific."—*Hon. Wilfred Laurier.*

The proposition is simply this, that a pigmy issue of postage stamps has been imposed upon us every year since 1870 without intermission, that we are sick and tired of that issue, and that therefore a new series of some civilized design and more in keeping with the progress we have made in every branch of industry and human endeavor, be prepared by the Post-Master General of the Dominion. Since the inception of the present issue, almost every country under the sun has changed its postal issues. Australia, Jamaica, Barbadoes, Cape Colony, and the motherland herself, have all had many changes, but Canada has crawled along in the same old rut in regard to this matter.

We in Canada are beginning to feel ourselves as a nation, and it is fitting that our stamps should bear some national emblem, something to show that Canada is not a mere settlement of about 150 souls, but a country of

almost boundless extent and capabilities, with a population of nearly six million. Perhaps the prettiest stamp ever issued in Canada was the 5 cent "beaver," and a set of stamps fashioned somewhat after this design would be a tremendous improvement over our present stamps. A couple of years ago the Government got out a 2 cent envelope, and the praise that greeted its appearance was well merited, for it is a pretty stamp. The beaver surmounting the design, and the maple leaves at the sides, are the things that constitute its beauty. We have a right to expect artistic postage of our Government, and it is a sorry state of affairs when, instead of progressing forward, we *progress backward*, as the stamps used by Nova Scotia and New Brunswick before confederation were much more artistic, and of vastly finer workmanship than those in use at the present day.

Not one of Canada's great men, men whom in honoring the people would themselves honor, has ever had acknowledgement of their greatness on our stamps. Across the border, Lincoln, Washington, Franklyn, Garfield, Grant, and a host of lesser lights, have appeared on the postage stamps. In Canada we have on our stamps no portraits of Joseph Howe, Sir John A. MacDonald, Alexander MacKenzie, or Sir John Thompson. No wonder they think we are governed by an assortment of Lords, Dukes, and other creatures sent out to rule us by the Queen.

In far off Australia, the stamps contain pictures of native animals and birds, and other things peculiar to Australia. No wonder Australians think Canada is a barren land of ice and snow, where animal life is almost, if not entirely, confined to polar bears.