

CANADA NOTES.

OTTAWA.

The regular monthly business meeting of the Ottawa Philatelic Society was held in the rooms, 51 Sparks St., on Wednesday. Mr. R. H. Hunter, vice-president, in the chair. Business of a routine character. Discussion on Scott's 56th. More interest expected in stamp matters now that it is out, and business is also expected to be more brisk in the exchange department.

Mr. A. F. Sladen, exchange superintendent, is out again after a rather severe illness.

The committee having the exhibition of stamps and collections on hand, expect to fix the date for Feb. 5th.

No auctions have been held as yet, this season. The catalogue accounts for this, as some will not sell because the prices may go up, and others will not buy because prices may not go up. A change is expected now that the catalogue is out, and some good auctions are looked forward to before the season is over.

There has not been a very great increase of collectors during the past season, but considerably more money has been invested, in fact, probably more during the last season than for any other half dozen seasons combined. My informant on this subject is an old timer, Mr. W. Hunter, who, by the way, has high claims to fame as a philatelist. Early in the sixties he had 165 Nova Scotia and New Brunswick shillings. At present the other fellows have 164—he has one! but with it is an exceptionally fine lot of colonials.

MONTREAL.

The prevailing opinion seems to be that Montreal is not much of a stamp town on account of the scarcity of news from here in the philatelic papers, but the very opposite is the case.

Montreal has a flourishing society, with a club room of their own, where the members can meet at all times. Meetings are held every Thursday night, but business is only transacted every fortnight, the intervening night being given up to trading, selling and an impromptu auction.

Two collections, which are undoubtedly among the finest general collections in Canada to-day, are owned by members of the Club, namely those of Mr. Lachlan Gibb and Mr. W. Patterson. As you turn the pages and see numerous duplicates of such stamps as 12p Canada, shillings of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, whole pages of orange and scarlet-vermilion Newfoundland, not to mention the many gems in British colonials, United States, foreign, you cease to wonder at the continual rise in the price of stamps.

In the September number of the CANADIAN PHILATELIC MAGAZINE, I noticed a query regarding the 7c Bill stamp of the 1st issue, in which the value is spelt SEVEN. About two years ago I found one of these, and although diligent inquiries have been made of those handling large quantities, I have been unable to find any other, and judge thereby that it is not a common variety.

MOUNT ROYAL.

Last year's officers were elected at annual meeting of Toronto Philatelic Club, held on Jan. 6th.

A new monthly—The Philatelic Record—is announced from St. Catharines by Widdicombe & Beatty. It is also reported that stamp matters are booming in this vicinity.

London reports business quiet. Mr. Stæbler is running a juvenile paper and pays little attention to stamps. The local society has had wet weather for meeting nights, causing attendance to be small. Matters are expected to improve in the future.