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The Old Mistake.

BY RAYMOND S. BAKER.

To err is the common lot of humanity. Ever since the fall of Adam, man has not ceased to make mistakes, and it is very probable that he will continue to blunder until the end of time. By intuition, experience, and with the help of the reasoning faculties however, the genus homo has been enabled to successfully pass over many old pitfalls and to avoid those of a newer character.

In the world of philately problems exist and severe lessons have sometimes to be learned. There are laws and rules applicable in different degrees to certain conditions which demand recognition and obedience, and whose violation inevitably brings with it disastrous results. Social judgment and sagacity are as much in demand in stamp collecting as in any other pursuit.

But collectors are slow to learn, and commit the same mistakes again and again. It might in truth be very reasonably asked, how long it will take Canadian philatilists to find out that they can support one national society in Canada and only one. This fact has now been demonstrated

for some time, but still new clubs new associations, new leagues are being continually organized. Someone has been slighted or even insulted, someone else wants to be a president, another covets the secretary's position, a fourth has personal and pecuniary advantages in sight, and so on, ad infinitum, and it might be added, ad nauseam.

We would invite the attention of these gentlemen to the history of philatelic society in the Dominion. They will doubtless remember the Canadian Philatelic Association in its palmy days when for it there appeared every prospect of a long and prosperous career. But collectors did not support this society to a man. What did they do? They formed other societies. The state of the C. P. A. is only too well known and it is not necessary to say that it is falling into decay. Take then, the Philatelic Society of Canada of which John R. Hooper was the leading light. His live and active energy boomed this organization into prosperity and its future seemed bright indeed. Where is the P. S. of C. to-day? Sorely stricken by the fall of its founder, deserted by its members who fled to other associations, the P. S. of C. is now nothing but a byword and a reproach.