

THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

An Illustrated Monthly for Stamp Collectors.

L. M. STAEBLER, - Editor and Publisher.

Member of Canadian Philatelic Association; Dominion Philatelic Association; Philatelic Sons of America, etc.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

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L. M. STAEBLER,

LONDON, - - - CANADA.

The Editor's Table.

OUR ranks are being daily increased by numbers of new collectors, but notwithstanding this our up-to-date dealers are constantly devising new methods for interesting those who have never collected stamps. Such enterprise cannot be too highly commended, and I would that more of our dealers would do a little missionary work, which not only benefits the dealer himself, but also aids the progress of our science. I

Recruits Wanted think I cannot do better than mention three or four of the methods which have served to interest many who were formerly non-collectors. A certain New York dealer has been advertising in the daily papers to give stamps away to anyone who will call for them, and to those who apply he gives a cheap packet of continental stamps which, while costing the dealer but little, serve to form the foundation of many a collection. This method is a good one, and from point of cost it is one which could be advantageously adopted by almost all our dealers. Personally, I have an advertisement which I am using in the general press, offering a small collection to any non-collector for a 3-cent stamp to cover postage. If such an advertisement is carefully prepared and made to look attractive, a large number of replies will usually result, and when a price list is enclosed with the stamps it will serve to bring the dealer further orders. Not a few collectors and dealers keep a supply of cheap continentals, which they give away as the opportunity occurs. A San Francisco dealer is planning to give away several millions of cheap stamps, and should he do so he will likely interest a large number who hitherto have never collected stamps. I must not pass over the enterprise of some of the leading dealers who are advertising albums and lots of cheap stamps at prices far below actual cost. The majority of collectors collect as a pastime and not a study, and offers such as the above all serve to make attractive the pursuit which is interesting so many, the world over. Let every dealer and collector, so far as lies in his power, endeavor to interest his friends, and thus aid the great forward movement of Philately!

THE 1896 general issue for Nicaragua has a map for the design, which is quite a marked change from the preceding issues; a set of seven postage due stamps have also appeared.—It is said that Argentina will shortly issue a new 80c. stamp.—The stamps of the Republic of Cuba, mentioned in these columns last month, are reported as now being used in some parts of the island.—A set of seven postage due stamps have appeared from Abyssinia.—The Government of New Zealand have recently made the awards offered for a set of twenty-two designs for stamps illustrating the scenery of the country; consequently we may expect an attractive set from this colony at an early date.—I understand that the 5, 10 and 25 b. Roumania have been surcharged, respectively, 10 and 20 paras and 1 piastre, for use in the Levant.—A new id. rose Transvaal has appeared, same type as the current set, with the value printed in green.—Notwithstanding the fact that they have been denounced by the S.S.S.S., the new Greek commemorative stamps are having a good sale. They are being offered by many of the leading dealers.—Fernando Po has issued a 2c. carmine, with head of Baby King.—A set of five French postage due stamps have been surcharged for use in Morocco.

New Issues.

The Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps.

CIRCULAR No. 5.

391 STRAND, LONDON, ENG., April, 1896.

The Society, in conjunction with the Special Committee appointed by the London Philatelic Society, having taken into consideration the Stamps mentioned below, are of opinion that they are not worth the attention of Philatelists, and appeal to all Collectors and Dealers to discontinue collecting or dealing in the same.

21. Ecuador. The Government of this country is an old offender, and its delinquencies were referred to in a previous circular. (See No. 4, paragraph 17.)

From a Circular Notice in four languages, dated 5th December, 1895, it appears that a special postage stamp is to be issued on the 5th June, 1896, which will be available for postal purposes only on the day of issue, and ten following days. This issue is to commemorate the Esmeralda Incident. It is perhaps scarcely necessary to advise dealers to beware of it.

22. Indian Native States. The postal departments of several of these States either have been or are about to be taken over by the Central Government. In the case of Hind and Cashmere this has already been done, and it is reported that a similar course has been, or is shortly to be adopted, with regard to Bamra, Bhopal, Poonah, Wadhwan, Nowanugger, Bhor, Nangaon, and Faridkot.

It appears that the issues of some of these States have been reprinted, and are being offered for sale. Collectors and dealers should therefore be on their guard.

23. Republic of Cuba. Stamps of an issue prepared in 1877 are now being offered for sale. The values are 2, 5, 10, and 25 centavos.

In The Third Circular, under the heading No. 13, reference was made to a contemplated speculative issue of Grecian Stamps to commemorate the Olympian Games. From a recently published notice, the issue appears now to be an accomplished fact, and to consist of twelve stamps in value from 1 lepta to 10 drachmas.

Bulgaria. An issue has appeared in commemoration of the conversion of Prince Boris.

Collectors and dealers should exercise discretion with regard to these stamps, unless they are intended permanently to supersede the current issue.

HERBERT R. OLDFIELD,

Hon. Sec. to Special Com. London Phil. Soc., and Acting Hon. Sec. (pro tem.) to S.S.S.S.