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The Stamp Reporter.

A MONTHLY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

Entered at the St. Catharines, Ontario Post Office as Second Class Mail Matter,
September, 1897.

VOL. 2.

OCTOBER.

No. 2.

THE COST WAS TOO GREAT

Government to Discontinue the Redemption
of Postage Stamps.

The Post-Office Department has decided not to redeem any postage stamps after October 1st. At present the department redeems stamps at a discount of five per cent. It appears that some of the postmasters are paid a commission on the business they do instead of a salary. The commission in some cases is as much as 45 per cent on the business done. It is suspected that some of these postmasters have indirectly been redeeming stamps sent to them for sale, making a profit of forty-five per cent. on the transaction at the expense of the Government. One month recently the redemption amounted to \$70,000. To meet this state of affairs the discount rate was raised from one to five per cent. It is now decided to discontinue altogether the redemption of postage stamps two months hence. This will prove an inconvenience to traders who do business through the mail.

At present postage stamps are largely used for the transmission of small sums of money through the mail. Hereafter, however, their places will be taken by postal notes. The Post-Office Department is now issuing to all accounting postmasters postal notes of three denominations—25 cents, 50 cents, and 70 cents. Larger denominations will be issued so soon as they are received from the printers. The postal note is about the size and shape of a dollar bill.

STAMPED ENVELOPES.

Hartford Firm Submits the Lowest Bid for
the Work.

Four bids were submitted to the U. S. Post-Office Department for supplying stamped envelopes and newspaper wrappers to the department for the ensuing four years.

The bid of the Morgan Plympton Company of Hartford, Conn., was the lowest. It is about \$48,000 per annum lower than the lowest bid submitted last March.

Mr. Applegath Heard From.

MR. GEO. BRADLEY,
Pub. THE STAMP REPORTER,
St. Catharines,

SIR:—

I am to-day in receipt of the September number of THE STAMP REPORTER and have read the disgraceful letter of A. M. Muirhead, ex-President of the D. P. A.

In order to set myself right before the members, I wish you to kindly publish this letter in your October number.

Previous to the convention, Mr. Muirhead placed me on the Committee of Arrangements, and in order to perform a certain duty in connection with the office I had occasion to call up Mr. W. A. Starnaman ONCE by telephone, and then the conversation was for the most part with reference to the special convention number of the Philatelic Advocate.

With reference to Mr. Muirhead's statement:—"Mr. Applegath kicked about allowing the members to vote and wanted proxy voting." I would say that I did write Mr. M. with reference to this matter but I advocated proxy voting with reference to general matters, such as the Constitution, By-Laws, etc., and received his reply confirming same under date of April, 27th, 1898, saying:—"Proxies of course will be used for general purposes," and which I may say was not done.

I deny the statement that I "used every means possible to frustrate the plan instituted by

myself to give every member a vote if he lived in Hamilton or Dawson City."

As the ballots were not sent out in time to allow any member living outside of Canada or the States to vote so that his ballot would reach the Credential Committee in time to be counted, yet Mr. M. says that his plan "gave every member a vote."

Trusting that as you know the facts of the case you will be honorable enough to set me right before the members who read the Manifesto in your last number.

Yours respectfully,

CHAS. S. APPLGATH.

A Philatelic Journalist at Home.

A. M. Muirhead's articles have always filled me with wonder and amazement, and one day I determined to visit the Philatelist at home and discover, if possible, the secret of how he wrote his articles. Arrived at the house I found Mr. Muirhead in a brown study, a sort of character study, see, (see Muirhead's Manifesto in September number of Stamp Reporter.)

The room was a large one and the walls were lined with book cases filled with volumes of reference on the different ologies. A well worn volume was called "Fifteen hundred of the longest words in the English language," and another was "How to make simple sentences complex. As I entered, Mr. Muirhead stood before a window holding in one hand a measuring glass into which he was carefully pouring something from a long-necked

bottle. Other bottles stood near, and he glanced at a written formula as he added ingredients to his mixture. I watched him for a while in silence, then my curiosity overcame me.

"What are you doing", I said, "compounding a theory?"

"No," he replied, "I am mixing a metaphore but it's too clear. However, I think I can remedy that," and drawing an inference from a spigot near by, he added it to the glass and produced a successful muddle.

Not wishing to be abrupt, I said, casually, "how do you write your articles and that speech that was read at Hamilton lately?"

Mr. Muirhead looked thoughtful; that is, he continued to look thoughtful.

"The chemical analysis of philatelic literature," said he, "is a life-long question. Perhaps I am the only living philatelic writer who has thoroughly mastered it, and I don't know but that I am the only dead one. To epitomize, I hold that ambiguity, complication and erratic diction and contradiction, illuminated by the intensity of the indefinate is indispensable to the perfection of literary style."

I agreed with him heartily, and told him so.

"What are you engaged on at present," I continued?

"I shall devote the rest of my life to exterminate the Dominion Philatelic Association, and personal sketches, though it is considered by some as an infringement on the articles of our Gladitorial heroes." Mr. Muishead turned and began weighing his

words on a delicately constructed scale, and feeling that any remark of mine would be superfluous, I quietly left his laboratory.

LAYOS.

Penny Postage.

Ottawa, Sept. 13.—Concerning Canada's domestic postal rate, the Postmaster-General makes the following brief statement of his purpose: "It is my aim to reduce the domestic letter rate to two cents at the earliest possible moment, consistent with the interests of the taxpayers of Canada. Any deficit in the working of the department each year must come out of the general taxation, and therefore I do not desire to increase that burden more than is absolutely necessary. During the present year many changes in the department are coming into effect, one of which, namely, the adoption of the Imperial penny post, it is contended by some, will reduce our revenue materially. My own judgment is otherwise, but time will determine which view is correct. I think it only fair to the public to test the effect of the reduction to two cents on letters to the mother country before going into the larger scheme of reducing the domestic rate."

Important Notice.

A lengthy letter entitled, "The Other Side of the Question," dealing with Muirhead's Manifesto, will appear in November issue. Be sure you read it. Subscribe now or will miss it.

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Address all communications relative to the above to

GEO. BRADLEY, Editor and Pub.,
St. Catharines, Ont., Canada.

After an absence of about a month I again assume control of this magazine. It was my intention of giving up the paper, but I have decided to continue. I will endeavor to better the magazine and will always be found

ready to oblige any of my readers in any way I can.

* * * * *

The Boys Own Philatelist now appears as a weekly. This is at present the only weekly stamp paper in Canada, whether it will prosper or not remains to be seen.

* * * * *

Subscribe to this paper.

* * * * *

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* * * * *

Join the B. O. P. A.

New Issues.

The following is a few of the latest issues of stamps that have appeared during the last month:

Newfoundland set (to date):

1-2c dark olive (Prince Edward of York).

1c green (Queen Victoria).

2c orange (Prince of Wales).

3c orange (Princess of Wales).

A 5c stamp will appear about the first of January and will be adorned with the picture of an ardent philatelist, the Duke of York.

British Guiana is to the front this month with a fine set of stamps in design much on the plan of the current New Zealand. Values to date are:

1c carmine and black (Mt. Roraima).

2c blue and brown (Kaieteur Falls).

5c brown and green (Mt. Roraima).

10c red and dark blue (Kaieteur Falls).

15c blue and red-brown (Mt. Roraima).

New Zealand has a new 3p registration envelope. same type

as as the regular 3p adhesive. Color, ultramarine.

Handuras has just decided to have a new issue.

The color of the 2c post card has been changed from orange to blue.

The 2 and 6 cent values have appeared with numerals in the lower corners.

The Philatelic Messenger.

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Official Organ—Stamp Reporter.

Secretary's Report.

To B. O. P. A. Members:

Having been appointed Secretary of our society by our President, I beg to inform all members that in future to transact all society business through we.

Yours fraternally,
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