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Philately.*

EDITED & PUBLISHED BY

GEO E MUELLER
BELIN, ONT.

THE PHILATELIC SPECTATOR.

VOL. 2. NO. 2

BERLIN, ONT., FEBRUARY, 1900

WHOLE NO. 5

INTERESTING NOTES

Philatelists will learn with interest that Finnish postage stamps are to be superseded by Russian, writes a Finnish correspondent of the London Chronicle. The Russian Minister of Interior has informed the Finnish Senate that by virtue of the Postal Regulations Decree of 1890, Finnish postage stamps will not be available for foreign correspondence after January 1 1900, nor for inland postage after June 1, of that year Russia stamps taking their place. The instructions do not state whether their money value will go to the Russian Exchequer or to that of the Grand Duchy. It may be that Russia intends in this way to appropriate a not inconsiderable portion of the Finnish revenue. I ought to mention here that Russian stamps have for the last eight or nine years been on sale in Finland, and that their use has been optional. Curiously enough, the Russian stamps, by reason of exchange are slightly cheaper than the Finnish and occasionally people availed themselves of his small economy. Lately this had aroused considerable indignation, and the recipients of letters bearing Russian stamps conceived the plan of sending the names of their correspondents to the papers, which published a daily list of the delinquents, and thus the mischief has been put a stop to. But

the change of stamps is, except to collectors, not in itself of great importance.

In the matter of catalogues and albums, the difficulty of the present day is that of an embarrassment of riches, the albums being so numerous that it is hard to choose between them and the catalogues so full of detail as to be a puzzle to the beginner rather than an aid.

A collector who goes in for nigher varieties to any beyond the most limited extent can only collect in a blank album his catalogue will show him what there is to be collected, and he can surely arrange his stamps in accordance with the catalogue without requiring numbered spaces to show him where to put each specimen. What is really wanted by the beginner is a classified catalogue, including, or at least indicating, every possible variety but at the same time separating the more important from those that are less so, giving first, lists, as one might say, of stamps in their various designs, colours, and values, as recognized by the Post Offices, followed by lists of the varieties recognized by philatelists and these varieties further classified as far as can be done, according to their relative importance from a scientific point of view. Thus the beginner be taught how to begin and at the same time would have before his eyes the road that he might pursue if he desires to become a philatelist.

INTERESTING NOTES

(Continued.)

The death of Mr. Trifet, the stamp dealer, of Boston, recalls the story of how a notorious thief was brought to justice through Mr. Trifet. It was in November, 1895, that a man entered his office and offered for sale a part of a sheet of rare stamps. Mr. Trifet had several years previously prepared a collection of stamps for Mr. Peabody, of Milton Mass., the stamps being mounted on specially prepared sheets. Mr. Trifet recognized the stamps, and asked the man if he had other stamps, and learned that he had. Purchasing these, a series of Virgin Island stamps, he told the man to return next day with the other. When he came the police were waiting for him. The remainder of the stamps were found at his house, and a further search revealed trunk loads of silverware, silks and furs, and more than \$100,000 worth of goods. From all over the State people came to recover the stolen property, and it was found that the goods represented fifty-four burglaries. Altogether it was the most comprehensive police haul ever made in Massachusetts.

Emperor William of Germany is interested in everything, from cooking to warfare; and now has taken to philately. He has personally drawn a sketch for a postage stamp, which is to be introduced throughout the Empire this year. It is intended to glorify the union between Northern and Southern Germany, and will show two soldiers—on one a Prussian, the other a Bavarian—shaking hands beneath the patron saint of the Germans, St. Michael, who soars

towards heaven. To either side of soldiers there is a landscape, one Alpine scene from Southern Bavaria, the other a rocky cliff on the shores of the Baltic on the Island of Rugoo.

The sale of another big European collection is reported in London. M. F. Breitfus, of Russia, has purchased the Northolt collection, paying about \$50,000 for it. It is in thirty-six volumes. It is Mr. Breitfus' intention to augment the collection with his own. When this is done it will probably be the third best in the world, the two better ones being those of M. Ferrari, of Paris, and that in the British Museum.

The Fernando Po stamps with the lady head are evidently destined for a large advance in price. Seventy francs is asked by an Eastern firm for the 3c slate, which is catalogued at five cents. Although there are only two dozen postage stamps listed for this country, it has never been a very popular country with the average collector.

A few sets of newspaper and political stamps still remain for sale at five dollars the set. The demand now chiefly comes from foreign countries.

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The Prince of Stamp Collectors

The prince of stamp collectors is undoubtedly M. Ferrari, of Paris. Virtually priceless are the stamp collections of this gentleman, and his devotion to the hobby may be gauged from the fact that he keeps three secretaries especially to look after the precious bits of coloured paper, which are arranged and catalogued in luxurious libraries. M. Ferrari possesses no less than eight specimens of the famous "Post Office Mauritius," the rarest stamp in the world, of which only fourteen copies are known to exist. The actual value of this stamp—which has been known to fetch privately the large sum of \$1000, more than 90,000 times its face value—arises from the fact that it bears the words "Post Office" instead of the regulation "Post Paid." It was issued in 1847, and is so very highly prized that not long ago a wildly enthusiastic collector advertised that he was willing to correspond, with a view to matrimony, with a lady possessing a copy of "Post Office Mauritius," 1847. The 2 penny blue "post paid" Mauritius is another very valuable stamp, and at an auction a copy of it has actually realized \$700—the highest price ever paid for a stamp sold in this way. His particular specimen was uncancelled, but even a cancelled copy has been sold for \$460.

Mention this paper when answering ads

U. S. Notes.

There was recently a large sale of carriers' stamps from the F. W. Hunter collection in New York. The largest buyer was H. L. Calman, of the Scott Stamp Company who represented over a hundred collectors. J. C. Bidwell was a heavy buyer also on behalf of a large number of philatelists.

The lots offered at sale were of carriers, newspaper, unpaid letter; telegraph and local stamps, wrappers, envelopes and plate numbers, which, while rare are not so much desired by collectors and do not bring such good prices as postage stamps. The carriers' stamps brought the highest prices. Mr. Bidwell buying a New York carrier's stamp—two cent on three cent, on original cover—the only copy known, for \$261, the highest price paid at the sale. H. L. Calman bought a New York carrier's stamp of 1848 49 type (26 two cent red, cut close at left, pen cancelled, for \$125. Other notes were made but too numerous to mention.

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Chas. Bachman,

Berlin, Ont.

THE PHILATELIC SPECTATOR.

—GEO. E. MUELLER—

BERLIN, ONT.

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Subscription and advertising agent,
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THE PHILATELIC SPECTATOR,
BERLIN, ONT.

Editorials.

The Saturday Mail and Empire have discontinued their stamp department owing to the commencement of so many stamp papers and the Saturday Globe has commenced one.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of an Auction Sale Catalogue of U. S. and Foreign stamps, No. 19. It is from C. H. Holden, Cedar Rapids, Mich. It contains 140 lots of stamps cataloguing from 60c to \$30.00. It was to be and most likely was held on February 25th.

The Mount Royal Philatelist is announced from Montreal, Can. Editor—C. E. A. Homes.

The Buckeye Philatelist has discontinued publication.

Energy has been changed to a strictly philatelic paper. (Something better is expected Bro. Weaver.)

The Ohio Philatelist is now Official Organ of the Canadian Philatelic Club. The publisher also announces that his paper shall be enlarged to 3 x 7 with next issue and we hope that it proves successful.

We have received another neat little price list of Canadian and foreign postage stamps from A. R. Magill of Montreal, Can. This is a very well gotten up price list and the prices are reasonable. It is worth sending 2 cents to A. R. Magill for postage for such a price list.

If you receive a sample copy you are to subscribe. Only 15c per year.

○○○○○○○○○○

LEISURE HOURS.

PART II



Can Tin you'd from litch
time. Und dot vos go
hoam mit der roat, und he
say, der Deo itcher he say,
say he, you Ginn mer skul
ers go mit in der Shtor und
ple dad Grim mer pook so
you all vos ape el du know
is off buy your hard ple to

more-row, ven you come to skule again
do fern me dose Engierech long wiche
frum dot goot pook He say, will you
do dot? und ve all say mit von a cord
yes her-br, we vill, und der Dretcher
he say, der price vos on ly d'went he
fife sence, und he say dad vos only ah
numb E Neil some, fure-o goot ah pook
was dad, pecaws ve all effery won of us
wood drife grate Bonnyfts frum it in
beaf ore nit her ears. ven wee vos groan
up. Vel wes awl taught der same
Sow wee awl put our yung in teller
gents he's do get her, und ve awl egg
ree dot is v is pest en ass vot der Dret
cher say So e awl go mit von a nun
er each h'v is mn or, he's selfe und go
to dot p'ox shtor to ple won of dose
Eoghs! Grey mares Bud ven i Sauer
kraut Michel oder wise Lampburger
Haines vos got to dad shtor, vot you
gall him? You no. He vos just lif
write a cross dot shtreed vot wee comb
frum, just like dose shtreeds bot run
on a pare oh! tell of won you are an
oster, ser miller just like dose eggarace
ya' dot vos so. It now shtruck mine
mind wen dot odder fell her hid me on

der shtueller, ach mine grey she hoise
dot vos funny Dot shtor's name vos
Hennerte Say loon und chair money
quetich i will debt you best If U will
gall round on mine Gin rail ni comb a
rows Imp roar E yum shtor Ach
tear oh me, dot booty eggs press on
mit dose sign on dot shtor vos near lay
take der bread frum me away for Sau
ekraut Hannerses contin sti too shun
vos was some Delhigate onnie away
take dake away bread sign inlarge Cold
en tet hers vos der name on per shtor
lews, bud aber pare vos annodder,
shunawler von, a treadle forder down on
dot Sir loon shtor, witch add for ties
awl der fowl low lug koots in eggs
casas. Vell! Hear it vos een fool

No Teas! Der unner stued mit
dose ginrail shtor vill egg janes alitraw
hoade, rale alo und all pale, to boat
snout & Lean, Lager steer, cooly Brood
me in Mants old von last you lie, only
to send a glass, vell dot vos sheep in
wolf, hafe un bef, und vot vill U haf?

i will haf der same Million hair ess
farr der Lay does mit a red Fowler und
a Oats chief on top, awl died do get
her mit a booty full yellor und Green
alpon

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

NOTICE

WE WILL PUBLISH THIS
MONTH'S REVIEW IN NEXT
ISSUE

THIS PAPER AND A 25 WORD
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