

The Quaker City Philatelist

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE WESTERN PHILATELIC UNION AND PENNSYLVANIA STAMP COLLECTORS'
LEAGUE AND PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA.

VOL. VII.

OCTOBER, 1892.

No. 10.

CHRONICLE.

BY R. R. BOGERT.

Austria.—A new band went into use August 1; value, 2kr.

Austrian Levant.—The 8pa. on 2kr. has been withdrawn.

Azores.—There have appeared for Angra and Horta, 5r. orange-yellow; 10r., lilac; 25r., green, and 50r., blue; for Ponta Delgada, the 25r. and 50r. of same colors.

The new card, type of Portugal, value 10r., has appeared for each province.

Bahamas—A new envelope is out, 2½d., blue; 150 x 88 mm.

Barbadoes.—A card has been issued with stamp of new type. 1+1d.

Bavaria.—The 5pf., green, card, watermark of vertical wavy lines, has the date "92."

Belgium.—The letter envelope of 10c. has been withdrawn.—*Postal Card.*

Bolivia.—The current postage stamps have been surcharged "TIMBRE" for revenue purposes. They are already reported used postally.

Bosnia.—The new cards have been issued; 5kr. and 5+5kr., carmine on buff.

Brazil.—It is said that the 500r. and 700r. of current type were issued to the public July 16.

Chile.—Official cards without value, black on orange, blue green, pale green, greenish white, gray, salmon, rose.

Colombia.—A new 20c. has appeared; arms in centre, 20 in small circle above and below; "Correos" at top; "Republica Colombia" on slanting labels on either side of upper 20, and "veinte centavos" similarly placed with lower 20; brown on blue.

The registration stamp is also changed to brown on buff.

The recently issued 2c. of new design, red on rose paper, is already withdrawn, and we have received the same type in green on white.

Congo.—It is announced that stamps of value of 50c., and 5, 25 and 50frs. will soon appear.

Fiji.—A new value, 4d., violet, is announced.

Gibraltar.—The stock of 25c. stamps being exhausted, the 50c. is cut in half and used for 25c. value.

Great Britain.—A new 4½d. stamp is expected, October 1, similar to those now in use; color, vermilion and green.

Gwalior.—The 1a. 6p. of India has been surcharged in black for use in this State.

Holland.—The 1 gulden, dark violet, with head of Queen Wilhelmina, is reported.

Honduras.—The issue for 1892-93 is now in use. They are very handsome. The design shows a statue representing the discovery of America. The stamps are 1c., slate; 2c., dark blue; 5c., light green; 10c., dark green; 20c., vermilion; 25c., brown; 30c., light blue; 40c., orange; 150c., brown; 75c., carmine, and 1 peso, purple.

The envelopes and bands have the central figure embossed. They are: envelopes, 5c., green; 10c., blue; 20c., vermilion; 25c., brown, all on amber.

The bands are: 1c., slate green; 2c., vermilion; 5c., green, and 10c., blue, all on manila.

The cards have an elaborately designed groundwork; stamp same as adhesive: 2c. and 2+2c., green; 3c. and 3+3c., blue.

Hungary.—A new card has been issued, value, 2kr., blue on pale blue, which is sold to the public at one-half price. On the reverse advertisements form a border, leaving the centre space for message.

India.—The following stamps of India have been overprinted in black for use here: 1a. 6p., 3a., 6a. and 12a., brown on rose; Service, 3a., 4a., 6a., 12a., and 1 rupee.

Liberia.—A double card, 3+3c., has been issued. In upper left corner appears the head of some negro notable in an oval, "Liberia" above, "three cents" below, 3 in each lower corner. In upper right corner on the shield is a coat of arms, and below, "The love of Liberty brought us here." Color, blue on buff.

For Inland use a letter card, striking in its simplicity. In centre at top, in Roman letters, is "Letter Card," and in small Roman letters in lower left corner is "Inland." The stamp in upper right corner is like that on U. P. U. card, with head of some other negro celebrity, black on buff.

Mauritius.—We are promised an entire new set, values as follows: 10c., 20c., 30c., 40c., 60c., 70c., 80c., 90c., and 1 rupee.

Morocco.—Whitfield, King & Co. say that the 15c. of France, surcharged "15 centimos," is not authentic.

Madeira.—A card, 10r., green on buff, type of Funchal stamp, card like those of Portugal.

New Caledonia.—The Fr. Colonies 30c. is now surcharged in black "IV—CE" in block letters "10" below in large numerals, below which is "centimes" in small letters.

New Zealand.—*Ill. Br. Journal* reports 2d., violet, official, hand-stamped "O. P. O. S." *Pbil. Record* questions its genuineness.

Orange Free State.—Provisional.—The 3d., blue, adhesive, has been surcharged 1d., placed in upper centre of a white card, and overprinted with arms, no frame.

Paraguay.—The current 1c., 2c. and 5c. stamps are said to be surcharged "1892." It is also reported that 1c., 2c., 5c., 7c., 10c., 15c., 20c. and 50c. are surcharged "official."

Philippine.—We hear of three more 8m., rose; 40c., slate; 80c., orange.

Portugal.—It is said the remainders of last issue will be overprinted "Provisorio" and used up. So far the 5r. and 10r. have appeared.

Seychelles.—A stamp of 2 rupees is promised.

Simoor.—The surcharge on official stamps is in smaller type.

Straits Settlements.—1c. on 4c. is reported.

South Australia.—2½d., blue, and 5d., olive, same type as 4d., 1890; wmk. S A and crown; perf. 11½.

Spain.—A new card, 5+5c., green on buff.

Surinam.—The 2½ c., rose, has been surcharged 1c., in black.

Transandina.—One of the States of the U. S. of Brazil has rebelled against the mother government and set up business on its own account. Stamps have appeared from there, the current issue of Brazil surcharged "Rep: Transandina." Its existence is likely to be transient.

Travancore.—Reply cards have been issued, 8+8 cash, carmine on buff.

Trinidad sends out a new registry envelope, 2d., gray, size G., perforated at the right. On the flap in red is "To withdraw contents, cut away perforated portion of envelope."

A PHILATELIC REVERIE.

(Written expressly for The Quaker City Philatelist.)

BY CANADENSIS.

There was a collector in Peru,
 Who said he had nothing to do;
 He sent me a stamp,
 Which gave me a cramp—
 I gave it to a Wandering Jew.

The stamp in question was one of those horrible uncatalogued Peruvian surcharges, Chilian arms, horseshoe, triangle, sunburst and all the other usual accompaniments. Here is some more poetry, warranted to kill around a corner :

There was a young man in Bengal
 Who had stamps to fill a large hall;
 But two bold Sepoys
 Hired some little boys
 And found that he had none at all.

And the philatelist in Natal,
 Who said that he had but one gal,
 On inquiry 'twas found,
 That this young hound
 Had nine gathering stamps for their pal.

That Natalite knew what he was about, but, you bet, I don't want nine summer girls all at once. Again—

A lady collector in Gloucester,
 Whose folks thought they'd lost her;
 But on the highway
 It was there she lay,
 For the stamp craze suddenly crossed her.

There was a publisher in France,
 By the name of Monsieur Bance.
 On stamp papers he lost—
 He never thought of cost,
 And he had to sell his pants.

Gentle reader, do not be surprised at anything in this poetical effusion. Prepare yourself for doggerel, as I throw rhythm to the four winds. Proceed—

There was a collector in Argentine,
 Who had a terribly broken spine;
 On reprints he'd croak—
 Such a beastly joke
 Is enough to make people whine.

There was a young dealer in Nepal,
 Who had the greatest of gall;
 Bogus stamps he'd sell,
 Guarantee them well,
 His stock was not worth a "sol."

Did you know that Uncle Sam's mail is very often unsafe? Last January I sent to Bethlehem, Pa., for a rare stamp. I did not get an answer until September 1. It was in the shape of a United States official letter, enclosing a torn envelope and signed by Postmaster B. F. Gentsch, of Buffalo, N. Y. It said:

"On January 27, 1892, a bag of Canadian mail was stolen at the railroad depot in Buffalo, N. Y. It was found later on the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh R. R., with two small packages missing. These packages were recently found in an outhouse near

the depot here, and among them the enclosed letter of yours in its present condition."

As luck happened, the rare stamp had not been enclosed. Walking down the street the other day, I met a collector, who, I really believe, had a jag on. He gave me the following "blue-mouldy gag:" "Say, old fellow, don't you pass by a bad stamp on the sidewalk without picking it up." "Why?" I said. "Because you will be arrested for passing a counterfeit." He can thank my summer girl for escaping with his life, but I still feel faint.

The dog days are over, so off with your muzzles! I'm a *yard* poet—cubic yard, not back yard. No one-horse, penny-a-line poet about me. Stamps and poetry are my hobbies, and when Brother Greene and I get the floor, look out, for——

There was a collector in Nantucket,
Who fell down a well in a bucket;
When asked to come out,
He answered with a shout:
"My album I'll have, or *tuck it*."

There was a society who tried for fame,
And wanted to win the brightest name;
Its officers fought—
Some say they were bought—
But their record was one of shame.

That society still exists, at least it is dragging on a weary existence. It is morally dead and awaits burial. At the brink of its own grave it wants some friends to do an act of charity and push it in. Unincorporated societies do more harm than good when their work extends over a thousand miles of territory. Once more:

My exchanging collector was in Hamburg,
Of reprint fame you've all heard;
He sent me a lot
Of frauds that brought
Me a name that my heart was stirred.

The P. C. A. collector in Brighton
Bought some old stamps that would frighten
A Samoan chief,
Or Corean thief,
And his correct name it was Byton.

A sample copy fiend in a Western State,
Sent out post-cards (size B) with a bait;
He got twenty papers
Of the worst shapers,
He took fainting fits and died right straight.

Some of those small-fry philatelic papers are really praiseworthy efforts. I say "some" advisedly for there are *some* I would not like to be found dead with. Did you ever see it? I mean the rubber stamp startler, blood-red ink, etc., "Sample copy, please subscribe!" The accent is always on the *please*. However, the splendid crop of last winter's papers has come to grief in the hot summer's sun, which reminds me that

Summers may come and summers may go,
But never another will be, I know,
So full of gladness, glory and gaieties,
So laden with errors and many rarities,
So full of surcharges—intangible lore—
Ah! there was never summer like this before.

This is also the season for stamp jokes as well as philatelic poetry. I recently saw by a paper that a young man fell head over heels in love with a young lady. He wrote her several notes and received no answer, and finally, becoming desperate, wrote that

she would find his cold and battered corpse on her front porch if she did not send him "one little line." She wrote:

"Dear Sir:—Do not be so foolish, but go and buy one of Mekeel's stamp albums and learn how to amuse yourself."

His answer was as follows:

"My Dear Miss:—I ate the stamp that was on your envelope, because it was touched by your sweet lips."

Her final answer:

"Dear Sir:—The stamp you ate was put on the envelope by my Chinese servant." This puts us onto poetry again, and here it is:

When first the mother gets her boy,
A kicking angel without wings,
A blessed bother and a joy,
Then all he wants is milk and things,
But when his mustache gets a start,
And hairy honor on him cringes,
He soon suspects he has a part,
And all he wants is stamps and hinges.

Bang!—whiz!—crash! A dull, sickening thud is heard on the pavement below, a weird cry breaks out upon the still midnight air (*à la* dime novel) and all is quiet. Stillness reigns supreme, and that particular philatelic poet is dead to rise no more. But what is the matter with Hamlet, who says:

All the world's an album;
And all the girls and boys merely collectors.
They have their whims and their fantasies,
And one in our time sees many stamps.

To be or not to be—
Whether 'tis better to purchase a \$1.50 album,
Or lie in wait for a blank affair;
The money? Aye! There's the rub!

Say, do you know that those Western philatelic papers of old were mighty independent? An editor was recently accosted and asked as to his views on the amalgamation question. He said: "The Bungtown *Philatelic Bladder* recognizes but one society, but we are no one-man, one-society crank, and will not be a lackey for any philatelic crossroad charlatan, or tin-horn stamp crank; as we are not built on a truckling or brass-collar thousand variety packet hypothesis. If there are any heavyweights or pudding-headed stamp fiends who think they can intimidate or bulldoze us by scurrilous remarks or base fabrications, they are blooming, meteoric, genuine reprinted liars and need grilling or embossing." Exit editor, third door E., left. Enter new spring poet, second door B., to right—advances to footlights—slow music, "The villain still pursued her!" etc.

The stamp papers provoke broad smiles,
They show us old issues galore,
And advertise them as new styles,
They're the same old stamp as of yore.

"We told him that this sample would not do, and gave him two hours to produce something. In the meantime we will have a talk. Chicago is a divorce centre. They say it is fast becoming a stamp centre. Here is an incident during the *Voute-Figaro* regime: A man enters the office and says, "I saw an advertisement in your paper published yesterday for a five-cent New York stamp. Can I sell it?" The stamp editor said, "Too late. The advertiser got one six hours ago, got married, took a bridal trip on a hand-car, pawned his album and is now suing for a divorce. Take a whack at our ten-cent exchange column!" However, I believe that St. Louis is a better stamp centre than Chicago. By the way, what the deuce is all the racket we hear about big feet and big mouths between those two cities?

I wonder if there are many collectors as mean as the man who will exchange stamps on a sheet, or who will replace a good specimen with a bad one. My candid, unadulterated opinion is that they would steal sheep if they had half a chance, and no bucking ram around. Look out for the foreign collector who says he can send you a few rarities *against good exchange*. He always sends his *maucoliste*, and you may be sure it consists of the choicest wants, while his own bill of fare is very meagre, the *rarest* generally turning out bogus. This individual is a robber, pure and simple, in disguise. He would enter your chamber at dead of night and take your whole stamp outfit intact, if he had a ghost of a show. I don't just love these foreign *monsieurs* and *señors*. They are too generous for me. They are willing to give you a whole pumpkin pie that is rotten for a quarter-cut of the genuine article. These gentry are experts at putting reprints on old pieces of letters and then canceling them with a forged date-mark. I'm onto their racket! Another dodge is to offer you a lot of genuine common stamps, among them will be one worth a few dollars, but which is always of the fraudulent type. You know the bad butter scheme worked by the market women—a little good on top and poison below. So these philatelic landsharks try to hide their rascality under cover of a common German 10 pf. or an English 1 penny red. Rarities don't come from across the big pond in this fashion. Larger prices can be had for them if genuine right on the spot.

There are more petty frauds and skin-games in philately's ranks than you can shake a stick at, and I am going to show up these in brilliant and lasting colors ere long. The campaign will last all winter. It's high time that the debauchers of our hobby should be brought to judgment. In this case I am going to be the whole court, judge and jury. We have passed the counterfeiting age—crossed the Rubicon—and we are now roaming in Elysian fields, the age of "fakes." Do you know what a faked stamp is? It is a doctored or altered stamp—changed from the original in a variety of ways. They are as much a fraud on philately as those 116 Hamburg locals were.

Speaking of locals reminds me that the crop of U. S. locals is exceedingly heavy. Whether half of these really deserve the name of "label" or "plaster" will be found out probably by a little trouble, but some I have seen, and *genuine* ones at that—as far as genuineness goes—I would not touch with a ten-foot pole. That is my personal opinion publicly expressed, and I may differ from ninety-nine in a hundred. I don't speak of the really necessary locals of scarce variety, but of those *spool labels* and "jampot plasters" which probably never would have had an existence only for philately. I tell you, they are imposing on our good nature to the advantage of their own pockets. Oh! dear, fair Goddess of Philately, please come down from off your high perch and smite the Philistine stamp fakir off the face of this mundane sphere, or deliver him to the mighty collectors who dwell in Mars.

But hark! a heavy tread is approaching. Enter the new poet—a confident smile plays gently over his classic brow. His alabaster forehead gently shakes back the hairy ringlets floating to the breeze. He announces the title of his final attempt. It is, "Hunting for Stamps," being a parody on an unknown author's effusion. Ready!—at point blank range—fire!!

A philatelic youth, quite a dudeling in truth,
 Made a visit for stamps to Fejee,
 Where he met, so they say, an indigenous *belle y*
 Whom it gladdened his optics to see.
 A *grill* to his heart did this vision impart,
 And before many minutes had flown,
 He the query did make, if the maiden would take
 Him forever and aye for her own.

She winked her left eye, and remarked she'd try;
 She caressed the dude with a stamp;
 And when well fricaseed, on the same she did feed
 And her vital department did cramp;

Which is proof, you'll admit, on appeal to your wit,
That when the philatelist embraced,
She the right did attain in the annals to reign
As a collector of exquisite taste.

We hire that poet for the season. Plagiarist or not he will do. He tells me that the Akhoond of Swat, Kahn of Bokhara and the Gaiekwar of Baroda are now doing England in grand style. I hear the Akhoond's coming issue of postage stamps are to be something gorgeous. The lowest value will be 1 loof, but my impression is that those who buy them will be "1 loof" spelled backwards. An interested dealer is manipulating this new native issue; but don't let your eyes run away, and think that Swat will be the only State that issues stamps through philatelic influence. If you do, you will be sadly mistaken.

Some people really don't know what they are talking of, or else they would as soon lie as eat. A short time ago I had a letter from a person offering stamps to sell. They were old and rare. All came off his grandfather's correspondence previous to 1800; and I suppose he would swear to that effect, no matter whether 1840 saw the first issue or not. However, I did not give him a chance to imitate Ananias, as he wanted one dollar apiece for some U. S. 3c. of 1861. He evidently thought collectors were fools.

Time is up. "Canadensis" has a week's work ahead getting snowshoes, moccasins, toboggans, and other winter gearing in order, so good-by for the present.

GLEANINGS.

BY LEROY D. WALKER.

The *Boston Transcript* says: "A fad is anything which arouses evanescent mentality. A cult is that which arouses permanent mentality." Therefore, in referring to philately in the future, we must call it cult, not fad. Philately surely excites "permanent mentality," if the victim has any "mentality" to excite; therefore, we are entitled the name if we see fit to adopt it.

Guido Fawkes in *F. P.* accuses C. H. Mekeel of being a "stampie." I doubt very much whether Brother M. would plead guilty to the charge, considering that he recently defined for the *Century Dictionary* the terms philately, philatelist and philatelic.

A statement emanates from Washington that the Post-office Department has some \$3,000,000 uncalled for in the Money Order Department. If this is so, the principles upon which the department is run are badly at fault and need amending at once. Think of it, \$2,000,000, to be conservative, virtually stolen from the public. If the party to whom the money order is sent does not call for it, the money ought to be returned to the sender, or at least he should be notified, and if he pleases, to return the order, the money being repaid him.

Catalogues of the third sale of Sellschopp & Co., of San Francisco, to be held October 8, are now out. The sale consists of the best part of Mr. Fred. Kordt's (San Francisco) collection and includes some very desirable stamps. I note the following:

U. S. envelope, 1860, 10c., green on buff.

Chili envelope, 15c., on wove buff paper.

Hong Kong, unsevered pair, 1890, 20 cent on 30 cent green, without Chinese surcharge.

Guadalajara, 13 lots on original covers.

U. S. Local Humboldt Express, 25c., brown, unused (Catalogue value, \$25).

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A Cross opposite this Notice signifies that your Subscription has expired.

WE have received the Standard Stamp Co.'s new Price-list, consisting of sixty-four pages and cover, fully illustrated.

It is very neatly printed and full of tempting offers.

The publishers inform us that they printed 35,000 copies and that the list will cost over \$1500, including postage, etc., undoubtedly the largest amount of money ever spent on a stamp price-list

They will gladly send a free copy to every collector who will address them at 925 La Salle street, St. Louis, Mo.

MULTUM IN PARVO.

A Condensed History of Posts and Postage.

The earliest authority we have on Postage is Herodotus, who describes the Persian method of forwarding communications by what they called "relays," couriers being stationed along the road, one man and horse to every day's journey. B. C. 483.

A somewhat similar course was pursued by the Romans in the time of Augustine, B. C. 31. Establishments of this kind existed in France under Charlemagne, Louis XI, and Charles V.

In England, royal messengers were employed under the name of Cokinus Nuncius and Garcio, for the conveyance of letters as early as A. D. 1252. A Sir Bryan Tuke exercised supervision over these officials, holding a position very similar to that of the actual Postmaster-General in 1553. In 1548 an Act was passed fixing the rate for post horses at one penny per mile. In Queen Elizabeth's reign, the first Postmaster of England was appointed, 1581. James I constituted the Office of Postmaster for foreign parts, which was bestowed upon Matthew de l'Equester, in 1619.

In 1632 Charles I assigned this office to William Frizell and Thomas Witherings, who were protected by royal denunciation against private adventurers.

The Letter office of England and Scotland was established in 1635, and a weekly conveyance to all parts of the kingdom was set on foot by Edmund Prideaux in 1649, which was opposed by the Common Council of London, but Parliament declared that the office was "in their sole power and at their disposal." The individuals who performed the work at a cheaper rate continued to flourish and expressed their determination "by God's help" we go on; but John Manley, Esq., having farmed it for £10,000 per annum—a very large sum in those days—the adventurers were forcibly put down in 1650, and an ordinance of the House of Commons in 1657 set forth that to confer the monopoly of post on the government would be the best means to discover and prevent many dangerous designs against the Commonwealth.

Farmed again in 1685 to Daniel O'Neal, for £21,500, the revenue was settled on the King's brother, the Duke of York.

In 1674 it was again let out to Sir William Petty, this time at no less a sum than £43,000. The Metropolitan penny post—q. v.—was established in 1863, the net revenue amounting in 1685 to £65,000.

A distinct postal system had been organized for Scotland in 1662, and in 1698 a Sir Robert Sinclair received a grant from William III of the whole revenue with a salary of £300 a year to keep up the establishment.

This system was reorganized and consolidated by 9 Anne, c. 10 (June 1, 1711). The cross posts were farmed in 1720 to Mr. Allen, who cleared out of his contract, £12,000 a year for 42 years. In 1724 the net revenue amounted to £96,339.

The privilege of franking—a system by which certain persons were given the right of using the Post-office free of charge, which system with its abuses will form the subject of a short article in our next month's issue—was confirmed and regulated by Parliament in 1764.

In 1782 a Mr. Palmer submitted to Mr. Pitt, the Prime Minister, a plan for the conveyance of letters by special mail coaches, which, in spite of the strenuous opposition on the part of the old-fashioned and prejudiced officials of the Post-office, was finally adopted in 1784, when the first mail coach was started from London to Bristol.

All previous Post-office Acts were repealed, their chief provisions being consolidated into one general statute by the following Acts of Parliament: 1 Vict., c. 32, 33, 34, 35, 36 (July 12, 1837), and 1 Vict., c. 76 (July 17, 1837). The London district postage was reduced to one penny on December 5, 1839, and on January 10, 1840, the uniform rate of 1d. came into operation, to the great satisfaction of the whole nation.—*Philatelic Monthly News*.

OREGON REVENUES.

The following is a supplementary list of Oregon revenues compiled by Mr. A. Greenebaum, of Branch 3, since the former list was printed some four months ago:

Perforate 12½, design poorly executed:

1 dollar, rose,	19 stars around shield.
1 dollar, vermilion,	19 " " "

Imperatorate:

10c., slate,	15 stars around shield.
20c., light yellow green,	16 " " " (var).
50c., dark blue,	19 " " "
1 dollar, rose,	19 " " "

—THE—
 Western Philatelic Union.

—Organized April 15, 1889—

President, LIEUT. J. M. T. PARTELLO, Recruiting Rendezvous, New Haven, Conn.

Vice-President,

Secretary and Treasurer, A. P. HOSMER, 168 La Salle Street, Chicago, Ill.

Exchange Superintendent, BREWSTER COX KENYON, Long Beach, Cal.

Purchasing Agent, W. SELLSCHOPP, 1040 Farrell St., San Francisco, Cal.

Official Editor, MILLARD F. WALTON, Box 38, Philadelphia, Pa.

Any Philatelist desiring membership application blanks, can have them sent post-paid, by addressing the Secretary. All members are entitled to vote, irrespective of age.

Members desirous of participating in the Exchange Department should apply to the Superintendent to be placed on circuits.

The Exchange Department is for the use of members only. Blank Exchange Sheets can be had of the Superintendent at five cents each. A charge of five per cent. made on all **sales**.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER.

APPLICATIONS.

Mrs. Helen H. Dyer, Fort Bliss, Texas; References, B. C. Kenyon, Lieut. J. M. T. Partello.

John W. Weston, Blue Island, Ill.; References, H. McConnell, A. P. Hosmer.

RESIGNATIONS.

The following resignations have been received, and, if no objection is made, will be accepted in thirty days:

William E. Lay.

C. E. Severn.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

R. W. Kinsey, Box 37, Los Angeles, Cal.

W. H. Turner, 139 Centre Ave., Chicago, Ill.

I am pleased to submit to the Trustees two applicants for membership this month, and I hope that from now on the number will be increased materially.

A few resignations will be noticed. These, however, are due to the amalgamation scheme, and not to any grievance against the association.

Of course, many collectors have refrained from joining on account of the unsettled condition of the W. P. U., while dealing with amalgamation.

Now that the voting is over, there is no doubt that we shall again resume our former activity. There is no reason that I know of why we should not double our membership by the first of May, next. Indeed, one enthusiastic member writes me that he is willing to wager that the W. P. U. will be the leading society in a short time.

Let this be our purpose. Let us resolve to become the *leading* society; not, perhaps, in numbers, but in the amount of benefits which we can render one another. To accomplish this requires the united efforts of all. The Exchange department needs your support; the library needs your assistance; there are numerous ways in which you can help a little.

It has been decisively shown that we are to remain an independent body for all

time. It is, indeed, gratifying to see the interest shown by our members on the subject, and as long as this is made manifest, we need have no fear as to the success of the W. P. U. in the future.

As in all elections, the will of the majority rules, so let us all, leaving the past behind us, strive to make our society even better than before. Instead of finding fault with the various departments, let some of these kickers lend a helping hand and I am sure that in a short time there will be no cause for complaint.

Mr. Kenyon has assumed control of the Exchange department since my last report, and all those who are not already on the list should send their names to him at once.

The amount of business done by this branch during the past year was more than done by any other American society, if the reports are correct.

In another portion of the society reports, I enclose a letter from Mr. Pearson, on the question of a convention in 1893.

I should be pleased to hear from any or all of the members on this interesting subject, and any suggestions will be considered by the Trustees.

A. P. HOSMER, *Secretary and Treasurer.*

OCTOBER 1, 1892.

EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

Since the last report of my predecessor, 154 filled sheets have been received, valued at \$1035.37. This is a good showing for a midsummer month, but we can handle ten times that amount just as well, so do not hesitate to send in any good stamps you may have.

The following circular has just been issued from this office and is of more or less interest to all, although it is particularly intended for *new* members:

“ EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT WESTERN PHILATELIC UNION.

“ The manner of conducting this department in a philatelic society is too well known to need explanation here, but the following suggestions may be of service to new members:

“ Books of stamps are only sent to those members particularly requesting them. Parties who so desire, can circulate sheets of stamps through this department, drawing cash for all stamps disposed of, less the usual 5 per cent. commission, or they can have books sent them from which to purchase, without having stamps of their own in circulation at the time. When a member has a number of sheets of stamps to send in at one time, it would be advisable to group the stamps of one country together, as far as possible, as it facilitates comparison with the collections of prospective purchasers. Sheets of stamps, to be thoroughly circulated among members, will necessarily have to be out from three to four months, but, if so requested, they will be put on short circuits, although the sales will not be as satisfactory. The amount of sales depends far more on the prices at which a member marks his stamps, than on the amount of circulation given them by the Superintendent, as common stamps, *i. e.*, such as can be bought at a few cents per hundred, will not sell at ANY price, and should not be put on sheets, while the better grades should be marked from 10 to 50 per cent. off of catalogue rates, according to their scarcity and condition.

Scarce stamps, that are damaged or heavily canceled, must be marked down accordingly, if the owner expects them to sell, while exceptionally fine specimens of this grade will occasionally bring full catalogue rates.

“ See that your stamps are securely fastened to the sheets before they are sent out. Directions for marking sheets, forwarding books, etc., will be found on all sheets. The members of the W. P. U. have not been put to the expense of incorporation, but are equally as well protected from all losses by a reserve fund.

“ The Superintendent will at all times be glad to furnish any information that is within his power.”

Another suggestion I would like to make is the following :

In all philatelic associations of any magnitude, an occasional dishonest person will creep in who will attempt to substitute *cheap* stamps for *rare* ones, and *used* for *unused*. Now the only way to guard against this is to mark over the stamp the name of the country and *number* as taken from some standard catalogue, preceding it with a *cross* when the specimen is *unused*. For example, "Antigua, + 12," would indicate that the stamp was an unused 4d. blue, 1882; Antigua, watermarked crown and C. A., provided the Scott Stamp and Coin Co.'s catalogue was used.

I object to advertising in this manner one firm's catalogue any more than another, but as all must acknowledge that this particular publication is more generally in use in the United States than any other, I would advise using their numbers. Where more than one stamp of the same country appears on a line the *name* of the country need only appear over the first specimen.

Of course, all this involves considerable work, but it is a safeguard that should nevertheless be universally adopted, at least with the more expensive stamps, and the first member on a circuit noticing any apparent discrepancy between a description and the stamp under it, should at once report the same to this office. We intend to protect our members against fraud, provided they will help us as far as lies in their power.

Regarding the resolution of Branch No. 4 *in re* counterfeits, etc., in exchange books, this same matter came up some two years ago, and at that time we had made three stamps, "Counterfeit," "Reprint" and "Proof," which were struck *under* each specimen of the class designated while on the sheets, the stamps being left thereon for examination, as in removing them, members had no example brought before them as to what to guard against.

I shall take the liberty of again adopting this rule until otherwise instructed by the Trustees, as I believe this will meet with the approval of all of our members.

I do not wish to assume the office of Counterfeit Detector without authority, but I will be pleased to do what I can backed by an experience of twenty years' collecting.

BREWSTER C. KENYON, *Sup't. of Ex.*

LONG BEACH, CAL., September 23, 1892.

THE W. P. U. LIBRARY.

I cannot report as much progress as I had wished for August.

Members generally seem unwilling to donate any papers as long as there remains a possibility of amalgamation.

When the result is made known, I shall commence at once to get all papers into shape for ready reference, and I think that contributions will come more freely from everywhere.

34 WIELAND ST., CHICAGO, ILL.

B. S. ROSS, *Librarian.*

COMMITTEE REPORT.

CHICAGO, September 14, 1892.

LIEUT. J. M. T. PARTELLO :

Sir :—Your committee appointed to send out the ballots and count the vote of the members of the Western Philatelic Union upon the question of amalgamation with the American Philatelic Association, beg to report :

The ballot was prepared and sent out to each member, each being requested to record his vote as for or against the amalgamation of the two societies.

At the time of the closing of the polls, 87 votes had been received, 73 of which were against and 14 for amalgamation; this showing that it is the wish of the majority of the members not to incorporate the two societies.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

A. S. PIERCE, *Chairman.*

A. P. HOSMER.

B. S. ROSS.

F. N. MASSOTH, JR.

C. E. SEVERN.

RESIGNATION AND ACCEPTANCE.

LONG BEACH, CAL., July 27, 1892.

TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE WESTERN PHILATELIC UNION:

Gentlemen :—I herewith beg leave to tender my resignation as Vice-President of the Western Philatelic Union, same to take effect immediately, subject to the approval of your honorable body.

Very truly yours,

BREWSTER C. KENYON.

LONG BRANCH, CAL., August 18, 1892.

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE WESTERN PHILATELIC UNION:

Gentlemen :—I take pleasure in accepting the appointment of Superintendent of Exchange for the balance of Mr. Koenig's unexpired term; and shall do my utmost to make my management acceptable to all our members. Thanking you for the honor conferred, I am

Very truly yours,

BREWSTER C. KENYON.

Mr. Kenyon's acceptance of the office of Superintendent of Exchange has been received as above and our Exchange Department will continue to run as smoothly as ever.

Heavy sales have been reported during the summer, especially from Chicago, where the W. P. U. exchange books appear to have a clear field, as no other society appears to be circulating lots.

The office of Vice-President is at present vacant, which vacancy will be filled as soon as possible by the Trustees.

CHICAGO BRANCH, No. 1.

The meeting of Branch 1 of the W. P. U. which was held on August 25, at the Auditorium Hotel, Club Room No. 2, was called to order by the President at 8.45 P. M., with the following members present:

Messrs. Massoth, Berquist, Ross, Glass, Cady, Pierce, Lamp, Hosmer and Ferris.

Minutes of last meeting adopted as read.

After a short session of business, the auctioneer, Mr. Ross, disposed of some eighteen lots of stamps, and after a somewhat excited discussion between Mr. Cady and the auctioneer, relative to the value of the stamps being sold, the meeting adjourned at 10 P. M.

At the meeting held on September 9, in Club Room 1, of the Auditorium Hotel, the following members were present:

Messrs. Pierce, Ferris, Ross, Turner, Hoyt, Hosmer, White, Smith, Cuttlow and Berquist.

The minutes of previous meeting were read and approved.

The Committee of City Service handed in their report, which was accepted and Committee discharged.

Mr. Turner then spoke of our auction sales, particularly of the sixth sale, which was held last April, which was a "howling success."

After viewing such stamps as the members had with them, swapping and talking stamps, the meeting adjourned at 10.45 P.M.

Our auctioneer, Mr. Ross, is at the present gathering together and arranging the stamps for the next sale and would be pleased to hear from any member desiring to dispose of his stamps.

T. R. FERRIS, *Local Secretary*.

OCTOBER 1, 1892.

SEVENTH AUCTION SALE, BRANCH 1, W. P. U.

Branch 1 will hold its seventh advertised sale at an early date and a large number of good specimens will be sold.

If any have lots which they wish to place in this sale, they will be accepted if forwarded at once to the Auctioneer, Mr. Ross.

The success of our former sales has been such that sales will undoubtedly be held monthly during the coming winter, notice of which will be given through the official journal.

NOTES ON THE AMALGAMATION QUESTION.

As will be seen by the Committee's report, consolidation has been defeated by a vote of 73 to 14.

While expecting that amalgamation would be defeated, no one anticipated such an overwhelming majority, which we are sure will convince everybody that the W. P. U. has faith in its ability to go alone.

In Chicago, joy reigns in the camp of Branch 1, and ceremonies befitting the occasion will doubtless have taken place ere this. When this question was first agitated, a committee of four was appointed by the Branch, which immediately took hold and commenced work, so that when the voting commenced there was no doubt about Chicago.

Considering the season of the year a remarkably full vote was polled; about 85 per cent. of the members voting, a decided contrast to the P. S. of A., which only cast four votes.

Since the result was made known in *Mekeel's Weekly*, congratulations have been coming in by every mail, not only from members, but from outsiders as well.

All say it was a glorious victory, of which the W. P. U. may well feel proud.

Branches 2, 3, 4 and 5, all cast nearly their entire vote "against," which explains the large majority given above.

Every member of Branch 1 voted, with a single exception. It was no small task to obtain this result, and the committee of four have the thanks of all for their efforts.

Now that we have settled this question, let us get down to work and make up for the valuable time we have lost, so that when we meet in Chicago in 1893, whether formally or informally, we can show some good results.

Work on the W. P. U. library will be resumed at once, now that the crisis is over. Mr. Ross will again receive contributions to this department, as the vote has shown him that the W. P. U. has decided by a large majority to remain an independent society.

BOSTON, September 20, 1892.

A. P. HOSMER, ESQ.:

Dear Sir:—Through the various philatelic journals, I have seen accounts of the conventions held by different societies and resolutions in regard to future ones to be held in Chicago during 1893.

Now with these facts in mind, why cannot the W. P. U. hold their first convention in Chicago next year at such time as may be determined upon later?

Our flourishing society has never yet held a convention, and I am sure that such an occasion could not fail to be of great interest to our members.

Chicago as a convention city during 1893 will be without an equal; being centrally located, railway fare will be reduced to a nominal figure, and I am sure, in the matter of accommodation, that Branch 1 will see that all members are taken care of in some way.

Nearly every member of the W. P. U. will visit Chicago at some period of the summer, and a formal gathering at some appointed time will without doubt be long remembered by those whose acquaintance at present is limited by correspondence.

Trusting that this may be the means of interesting the members on this subject, I remain,

Very truly,

WM. PEARSON.

GRANTS, OREG., September 30, 1892.

Fellow-members :—Amalgamation is defeated. We who urged and advocated it are defeated. You who opposed and denounced it are victorious. Amalgamation is defeated, but not conquered. The principles of union and patriotism, which were the foundation of it, still remain, and, *mark my words*, you will some day realize your mistake.

But the die is cast. So be it, and I wish the W. P. U. and her adherents nothing but good fortune. My motives in advocating amalgamation were not personal in any respect, and were intended to help, advance and strengthen our mutual cause. Therefore I bear no person ill will on account of any part taken against amalgamation, and trust my actions were received in the same spirit. I shall soon sever my connection with you as a society, but hope our personal relations will continue as in the past.

I want it understood that I am responsible for my actions, and that I am ready to defend them at any time, and if any one has anything to criticise, or anything to say about them, out with it.

Very respectfully,

LEROY D. WALKER.

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