

Branford 2414(4)

HARTFORD COURIER.

PUBLISHED BY

THE DIAMOND STAMP CO.,

715 Asylum Ave.,

Hartford, Conn.

VOL. I. NO. I.

DECEMBER 1908.

15c per Year.

How Some "Errors" Are Made.

A certain lady purchased some green stamps from the Berlin post office, and after using some, put the rest into an empty ink-well. The dried ink, however, emitted certain fumes which changed the green stamps into steel blue. She did not notice this and one of these stamps was used on a letter, but the change of color was discovered by the receiving post office in Danzig. The cause of the error was discovered. The remaining six changelings were taken back by the post office, and one of these stamps managed to get into the collection of a Berlin philatelist. Possibly some day a fancy price may be asked for it.—Fortnightly.



Thieving Among Collectors.

We have before us the November issue of the Philatelic West. Among the articles is one by Rev. J. W. H. Helsop of England, on "Stamps and Bad Practices." As this follows line with what we

have to say we quote the first paragraph.

"Any person who enters the arena of stamp selling quickly discovers the existence of defrauders. It is surprising how readily, a buyer, whose integrity in all other departments of life is perfectly sound, will yet yield to the temptation which a sheet of fine copies of stamps presents to him. An immaculate copy, we will say, meets his eye on the sheet; he already possesses a specimen of it—but his own copy is far inferior in condition; to exchange the two stamps is but the work of a minute, the substitutor probably heaving a sigh of relief when the transaction is done. His collection is perhaps a few pennies the richer, and his correspondent has suffered by being saddled with a stamp that may be unsaleable. It is a pity when this bad habit gets hold of a collector; it has an effect on himself which insidiously deteriorates his character; it also has some influence on the seller—it destroys confidence and creates suspicion on every transaction."

I have before me a set of ap-

proval sheets which have been returned by what we thought one of our most reliable customers. Not only has substitution taken place but stamps with no regard of catalogue value have been placed in the spaces where stamps have been taken. For instance, in the place of a five-cent stamp, one of the most common continental stamps have been placed. Then again some cheap stamps, not in our stock, have been placed in the spaces of the high values. What shall be done? This is only one of a few cases which have been referred to me.

All and any communications on this subject will be gratefully received.—EDITOR.



Making Stamps Valuable.

A remarkable scheme for making the price of postage stamps soar has just been found successful by the Servian Government. Recently a large number of stamps issued in 1903, which bear the obliterated head of King Alexander, were found in one of the warehouses of the postal department. For these stamp collectors offered \$29,000.

Before any deal was effected a brilliant idea struck one of the postal attaches, Nikola Toditch. He suggested that if half the stamps were destroyed the remainder would greatly appreciate in value. This scheme met with the approval of the Minister, and now, it is said, stamp collectors have offered \$330,000 for one-half of what they once rated as worth \$29,000. —Philatelic West.

The Fate of Reminders.

Mr. A. E. Glasswald, recently read a paper on the "Fates of Reminders." He said, "No wonder that the stamps of Schleswig-Holstein are scarce in the unused condition; 9,000,000 stamps were destroyed in 1867. That the Saxony 3-pfg. red is scarce is explained by the fact that 36,922 of these valuable scraps of paper were burned on the 10th of December, 1851. A similar fate befell the stamps of Hanover, when an official decree signed their death warrant which was executed on the 11th of October, 1886. No one will weep a single tear at the news that twenty solid packing cases of the famous, or shall we say infamous, Philippine reminders were accidentally burned on board ship in the harbor of Antwerp; in fact most people will be sorry there were not more cases on that ship."



JOIN NOW.

Every stamp collector should belong to some philatelic society. If you are thinking of joining any national society, consult with us. Application mailed free.



A humorous article in one of our magazines speaks of George Washington as the man who made the 2c stamp what it is, and says:

"Washington was a great man,
The world ne'er saw better;
He never failed to get there—
When stuck on a letter."

HARTFORD COURIER.

TID BITS FOR COLLECTORS.

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Subscription Price, 15c per year.

All subscriptions begin with current number. Back numbers will be furnished at 3c each. Remit by unused postage stamps or coin sent at sender's risk.

ADVERTISING RATES.

5 cents a line. 40 cents an inch.
6 words to line. 10 lines to inch.

Cash with order.

Forms for next issue close
December 25th, '08.

With our next issue we will start an EXCHANGE Department. The moderate price of one cent for two words will be asked. Each sign or initial counts as a word.

Advertisers, you better send in your ad. for our January number of which we will distribute sample copies freely.

**Editorial.**

As you read this our first number of the Hartford Courier, we hope we have something which will inspire you in your hobby of stamp collecting.

This paper will be used as a house organ in some respects but all are invited to advertise in our columns.

Exchanges with any paper will be gratefully received. Send all copies to our main office.

The subscription price of this

paper is very meagre when you deduct postage, so please help us by patronizing the advertisers and sending in subscriptions.

**With Our Advertisers.**

Louis Bohn, Jr., is a dealer in Pittsburg who comes to us as a coin dealer but he has some corking stamps.

Charles King, of New York, is a dealer of no little repute. When a dealer wishes to buy stamps, he must do some business. One of the recent offerings of his was the Complete British New Guinea O. G. set.

Harry L. Perkins, one of America's enterprising dealers, is with us. He has a very complete stock of medium priced stamps which he sells cheap for the quality.

Frank P. Brown, and his new issues are with us. Now those who wish to fill the vacant spaces get busy because he has bought the great Tiffany Collection.

Small dealers with frugal circumstances should heed the ad. of Co-operative Exchange.

As this is to be a house organ in some respects we have our ad. among the rest.

**The Stamp Papers
of the Hour.**

We have received the West, which claims to be and is the largest collectors' monthly in the world.

Mekeel's is still at the head of all other U. S. stamp papers. Its work with A. P. S. is most notable. As we go to press, we notice that A. P. S. has reached the 1600 mark.

Redfield's is one of the most helpful journals for the beginner. Editor Quackenbush is behind it and it hums.

Philatelic Flashes for October contains several interesting articles. They promised 14 pages for November.

The much heralded Canadian Collector is out. Very good line of notes. One of the most notable features is the quality and quantity of ads. from England.

Hartford Philatelist, claims to be the only stamp paper published in Connecticut but with ours her honors are divided. Full of interesting notes. See ad. elsewhere.

W. C. Phillips & Co., of Glastonbury, Connecticut, issue their 14th Bulletin. Do not fail to get one.

Publishers! Attention!

We are desirous that all publishers and collectors of philatelic literature will help us out. We wish to find out the original publishers, number of pages, kind of articles, and growth of all American publications. Please send articles about the past as well as the present. All articles will be gratefully received.—EDITOR.

WHOLESALE!

We are overstocked with many lines of good stamps, single and in sets. We will send responsible dealers selections on approval, providing they send good reference. Prices will be right.

CO-OPERATIVE EXCHANGE,
1461 Bedford Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y.

Coin Collectors! Attention!

FREE. Rare coin over 100 years old, send for mailing. Note Special Offerings as follows:

10 var. Foreign Silver Coins, size of dime,	62c
5 " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	65c
2 " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	1/2 dollar, 75c
100 " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	Copper, Nickel, and Silver Coins,
	the kind you pay dealers 5 and 10c each for, only \$3.

LOUIS BOHN, JR., 702 Duff St., Pittsburg, Pa.

MINT.

Brunei '08, 1, 3, 5c	17c
Bulgaria 1902 Jubilee, complete	10c
Gambia Mult. 2d	5c
" " " " " " " " " " " " " "	4d
Grenada Ship, 3d	10c
Guatemala '08, 1, 2, 6	9c
Jamestown, complete	5c
U. S. '02-3, 1c, imp., pair	12c
" " " " " " " " " " " " " "	2c,
	5c
	10c

Want list please. Postage Extra.

THE DIAMOND STAMP CO.,

715 Asylum Avenue, Hartford, Conn.

WANTED.

I want to buy old issues of U. S. commemorative and current 3c to \$5 in quantity. Want Civil War Revenues; Match and Medicine stamps; encased stamps. Fractional currency; good coins; Hard Time Tokens. State what you have and what you want. Be sure and enclose 2c for reply. I sell job lots to dealers, also exchange. Square dealing for 20 years.

CHARLES KING, 111 E. 10th St., N.Y. City.

RECENT ISSUES.

MINT.

Canal Zone '06, 1c	3c
Cayman Is. '06-7, 1/2, 1, 2 1/2, 3d	22c
Denmark News '07, 13	2c
Ecuador '08, 2c	5c
Fiji '03, 1d	5c
Grenada '08, 3d	10c
Northern Nigeria '02, 1d	6c
Switzerland '08, 2c	2c
" " " " " " " " " " " " " "	15c
Zanzibar '08, 6c	5c
Cash with order.	5c

Postage Extra.

HARTFORD PHILATELIST

Only 15c per year. Many interesting little notes each month. Perf. gauge FREE to all new subscribers mentioning "H.C." Sample copy free on request. My new price list is free. Got one?

HARRY L. PERKINS,

Box 176, Hartford, Conn.

NEW ISSUES.

Switzerland 20, 35, 50, 70	
Crete "Hellas Set"	
Madagascar sets to 1 franc	\$1.30
Newfoundland "Map" 2c	3c
Surinam 7 1/2-22 1/2	

OLD ISSUES.

THE FAMOUS

TIFFANY

Collection. Lacked only some 20 great rarities up to 1890. No matter whether you want to spend \$1.00 or \$1,000.

Why Not Write Me.

FRANK P. BROWN,
339 Washington St., Boston, Mass.

HARTFORD COURIER.

PUBLISHED BY

THE DIAMOND STAMP CO.,

715 Asylum Ave.,

Hartford, Conn.

VOL. I. NO. II.

JANUARY 1909.

15c per Year.

Reduced Rate For Letters To Germany.

2 Cents an Ounce, Beginning
January 1, if Sent Direct.

The following order of Postmaster General Meyer has been received at the Hartford post office:

"Pursuant to a special agreement between this department and the postal administration of Germany, it is hereby ordered that, commencing on January 1, 1909, the postal rate applicable to letters mailed in the United States for Germany and dispatched by sea direct and not via England or France shall be 2 cents an ounce or fraction of an ounce. When such letters are unpaid or short-paid the deficient postage shall be collected on delivery at double the above rate."

"Letters for Germany shall not be dispatched via England or France at the above rate, even though specially addressed to be so dispatched."

"This order applies only to letters mailed in the states and territories of the United States, including Alaska, on the mainland of North America, and does not extend to letters mailed in Hawaii, Porto Rico, the Philippines or other possessions of the United States."

The rate of letters to Germany was 5 cents for the first ounce, and 3 cents each for additional ounces.



Sled Couldn't Be Mailed.

Nobody has yet handed an automobile in at the Hartford post office to be sent by mail for a Christmas present, but a sled found its way there. The person who had it in charge desired to send it by parcel post to England. The gift wasn't far outside the size limit, at that, but it was just a little too big and some little English boy will have to get his American sled in another way.



Drop a Coin and Get a Postage Stamp.

Post Office Department Has the
Machine.

If one can drop a penny in a vending machine and obtain a piece of chewing gum or a handful of peanuts, why not be able to drop in a coin and get a postage stamp? That is just what the post office department wants to make a popular feature of its service, and in an order issued, announcement was made that the department is now prepared to issue limited quantities of postage stamps in rolls of 500 or 1,000 for use in stamp vending and stamp

affixing machines. Postmasters desiring to try the new proposition are requested to make requisition to the department.



Are These Standard Varieties!

"The supply of New Caledonia 5c and 10c stamps having given out, the Governor requested the Director of Posts to send him a list of the stamps which remained in the reserve stock and were in little demand in order to take some sheets of them for surcharging purposes. The Director sent to the Post Office printer one sheet of 2c brown on straw, one sheet of 30c, and one sheet of 40c, (1893 type) each containing 150 stamps. The printer had two surcharges applied to the sheet of 2c stamps, namely 75 of 5c on 2c, and 75 of 15c on 2c, and then sent this sheet to the Governor, who, on the pretext that two surcharges on the same value were unsentable; kept half the sheet for himself while the Director took the other half."

"The consequence is that these precious surcharges are only to be found in the hands of a few privileged ones and friends of these gentlemen."—*Revue Postale*.



From The Editor's Pen.

Is Scott's catalogue a standard basis for all stamps? Of course, one can not expect a dealer in publishing a catalogue to price every stamp out, when standard varieties are dropped from his catalogue—what can one do?

A dealer near Hartford had, when Scott dropped Nicaragua Nos. 331-335 of 1908 catalogue, every one of the so called forgeries on original covers. Can any dealer, therefore, put full confi-

dence in any such catalogue? The Ecuador provisionals are given little or no prominence in Scott's. Why is it?

Because only a few dealers have them in stock.

The eyes of many will be turned towards the Convention of the leading M and M Collectors to be held at the home of Th. L. Hamburger, to determine the true market value of M and M stamps.

Geo. J. Carter, says, "I believe the Scott Co. have neglected revising prices on M and M stamps for several years because their stock is about exhausted—indeed, I question whether they now carry them at all."

How many of our readers know that Boyd's City Dispatch is still in existence? It is, and I have before me their list No. 35. This is a catalogue of various names they have collected and listed under headings for the use of manufacturers in distributing their catalogues, samples, etc. This is one of the headings: "250 names of Wealthy Heiresses in New York City. \$5 00."

Philatelic literature collectors are becoming more and more every day. Since 1903 27,500 books of Mr. F. I. Melville have been published in England besides the 10,000 of "A Penny All the Way" reprinted by Warren H. Colson, the American agent of that work. Harry L. Perkins has most of Mr. Melville's books in stock and would be glad to fill your wants.

We want more people to avail themselves of our Exchange column. The rate is moderate.

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EXCHANGES: We desire to exchange with all papers having to do with stamps.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: In notifying us of change of address, please give OLD as well as NEW address.

ADVERTISING RATES.

5 cents a line. 40 cents an inch.
6 words to line. 10 lines to inch.

Cash with order.

Forms for next issue close

January 25th, '09.

EXCHANGE COLUMN.

RATE, 1 cent per two words, no display. Initials and figures count same as words. This column is intended for the use of our customers and subscribers who have any class of goods they desire to sell, buy, or exchange.

Will trade unused 1, 2, 3, 5, 10c U. S. postage due, for the same amount postage plus 25 per cent. Fred, P. Holt, P. O. Box 112, Hartford, Conn.

Lock Seals Wanted.—Reconstructed sheets lock seals. What have you? For sale or exchange, reconstructed sheets, brown series A and C and ultramarine Z. Write me if interested. W. W. Norton, Lakeville, Conn.

Wanted.—Approval selections of U. S. especially 1st issue perf. revenues. No foreign. Stowell Hinds, Mt. Hermon, Mass.

Editorial.

The October report of Publicity Committee of A. P. S. at hand. The committee has furnished 2,000 packets of stamps for free distribution to The American Boy. Also an article by W. D. Burroughs, on "Postal Possibilities of the Balkan Mix-up." So far the committee has received \$390.53. Any further information will be furnished by

H. S. Adair, Box 691, Columbus, Ohio.

J. W. Weissheimer, has begun in earnest recruiting new members for the various philatelic societies. This month he reviews the virtue of the A. P. S. Next month the S. P. A.

This is to thank all who have subscribed to our paper, also the advertisers. Our time is limited so we have not sent a personal letter so accept this acknowledgment.

**Received With Thanks.**

- No. 2.—The Philatelic Tribune.
 " 3.—Hartford Philatelist.
 " 79.—Redfield's Stamp Weekly.
 " 938.—Mekeel's Stamp News.
 " 3.—Carter's Messenger.
 " 406.—Alfred Smith's Monthly.
 " 17.—Mekeel's Trade Circular.
 " 8.—Philatelic Flashes.
 " 6.—International Exchange.
 " 8.—Reed's Stamp Circular.
 " 22.—American Philatelist.

- Vol. 43, No. 3.—Philatelic West.
 H. F. Bowker's 2d Auction Catalog.
 P. G. Doane's 2d " "
 H. L. Perkins' Fall Price List.
 Chas. Nissen's Wholesale List.
 Toledo Stamp Co.'s 25th Auction Catalogue.
 H. F. Colman's 1909 Price List.



We wish more of the publishers and collectors of philatelic literature would help us out in preparing a series of articles on "The Growth of American Philatelic Literature." This is wholly a new field and if you all lend your helping hand, we may be able to publish an interesting set of notes.



If you wish to help this paper grow, send in your subscription or ad. for we are going to keep the four-paged paper until we have sufficient subscribers to obtain second class rates. Be a "Good Samaritan."

Coin Collectors! Attention!

FREE. Rare coin over 100 years old, send 6c for mailing. Note Special Offerings as follows:

10 var.	Foreign Silver Coins, size of dime,	67c
5 "	" " " " " " " " " "	quarter, 67c
2 "	" " " " " " " " " "	1/2 dollar, 75c
100 "	" " " " " " " " " "	Copper, Nickel, and Silver Coins,

the kind you pay dealers 5 and 10c each for, only \$3.

LOUIS BOHN, Jr., 702 Duff St., Pittsburg, Pa.

The Hartford Philatelist

Only 15c per year, and the best little stamp paper issued. When requested I will give a stamp cataloging \$1.00 free to new subscribers.

MELVILLE STAMP BOOKS

Eight books to the series, and one book each month. They are gems of art and will be sure to delight. The first two books dealing with **Great Britain Line Engraved Stamps, British Central Africa and British Nyassaland** are ready. Better send me \$1.00 for the eight books now and be sure to have each one as issued. You'll never regret the small sum spent when you consider the great results.

Other Melville books carried in stock. Send me your wants.

HARRY L. PERKINS,

Box 176, Hartford, Conn.

The International Exchange.

An international paper for collectors of stamps, post cards, coins, etc. Goes to every country on the globe. Exchange Notices of Foreign collectors. A great opportunity to get in touch with foreign countries. Sample copy for a postal. 25c a year.

A fifteen-word exchange notice free.

Advertising rates on application.

9A Eliot St., Somerville, Mass.

A.P.S.

A cordial invitation is extended every stamp collector in the world to join the

American Philatelic Society

as it is the leading stamp society in America, and should be supported by every true stamp collector. Every member receives besides MEKEEL'S, the leading stamp weekly in U. S., a Year Book which is obtainable in no other way. If you join now you will get the 1908 edition. Besides the By-Laws and Minutes of the last Convention, it contains interesting articles by John N. Luff, and other leading philatelists. DUES are only \$1.20 a year; foreign \$1.80. Society year begins Sept. 1st. Applications received after the opening of year should contain 10c per month, foreign 15c for the rest of the year. To this added \$1.00 for one share of stock which is really an initiation fee. Consider this carefully and then write me, either for more particulars or an application blank. If you are thinking of joining any other stamp society consult me. Full particulars furnished free. Next month I shall review the A. P. S. J. WARREN WEISSHEIMER,

715 Asylum Ave., Hartford, Conn.

One amusing article in the last issue (No. 2) of the Hartford Philatelist, was the announcement that they were the only stamp paper published in Connecticut. In the same issue appeared a notice of the Hartford Courier.

Older and wiser heads than ours are cordially invited to send in their criticisms on our paper.

There is an old adage which says: "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." This doesn't mean that we are better than any other two papers but it means your subscription is needed. It will be worth it.

At the Hartford post office Tuesday and early Wednesday, Christmas week, over 75,000 post cards were mailed. This means that each person in the city mailed three-fourths of a card in twenty-four hours. These, if stretched along in rows face to face or piled on top of each other would make a pile of about 750 feet.

CUBA

and S. Australia, well mixed	100-15c; 1000-25c
Germany or Austria, 25 diff.	10c
100 diff. Foreign stamps, only	30c

Post Free. Cash money order.

JOHN MEIER,

21 Davids Place, Montreal, Canada.

SCOTT'S 1909 CATALOGUE, 50c.

60c postpaid
MELVILLE'S

"A PENNY ALL THE WAY,"
only a few copies left. 17c post paid.

CAPITOL HINGE.

Only square die cut hinge out.
A trial thousand for 15c; five thousand 60c, postpaid.

The Diamond Watermarking Cup
22c postpaid.

Tell us what you want and we will get it. Most all new issues.

THE DIAMOND STAMP CO.,

715 Asylum Avenue, Hartford, Conn.