



Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Cardiff Philatelic Exchange, the Oxford Stamp Exchange, the Palatine Stamp Exchange, the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange, the South of England Stamp Exchange, the Ladies' Stamp Exchange, the "Unused" Stamp Exchange Club and the Travellers' Stamp Exchange Club, The Beginners' Stamp Exchange, the Imperial Philatelic Society, the Imperial Stamp Exchange, The Northern Stamp Exchange Society, The Stamp Exchange Protection Society, The Enterprise Philatelic Society, The One and All Stamp Club, The Palace Philatelic Exchange Society, The British Empire Stamp Exchange Club.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

The Hong Kong Surcharge "D.P."

In reply to a correspondent's query in the Christmas *Fortnightly*, regarding Hong Kong stamps, surcharged "D.P." we have had solutions to the mystery from Mr. A. C. Constantinides and from Mr. H. M. Campbell.

The former refers us to a statement made in a contemporary that Hong Kong stamps are surcharged "D.P." in the office of a local newspaper, the Hong Kong "Daily Press." Our other correspondent, Mr. Campbell, tells us that he has the 2 cents of 1900 bearing this surcharge.

Cash for Stamps. (2636)

The privilege of exchanging postage stamps for cash at post offices was withdrawn at the end of last year, and they will now only be repurchased under stringent limitations. No smaller amount than one pound's worth will be accepted, the person selling them will have to fill up an elaborate form, and payment will be made by an order to be subsequently sent to the address of the vendor from the chief office. The commission will be raised from two and a-half to five per cent.

The change (remarks a business contemporary) is a step in the right direction. The facility with which the stamps in small amounts could be disposed of over the counter has encouraged pilfering in business establishments to a larger extent than is generally known. The new arrangement will check the practice, without any inconvenience to the public,

as postal orders can now be obtained from sixpence to one pound, and there is no necessity whatever for remitting small amounts in postage stamps.

Stamp Trade Protection Association.

THE Annual General Meeting of the above Association was held at 63/4, Chancery Lane, on Monday, December 21st. There was a good muster of members, including Mr. W. Hadlow (Chairman), Messrs. F. Oliver, J. H. Telfer, A. Boucard, C. T. Reed, E. J. Bridger, A. B. Kay, and others. Also a number of proxies were received from members unable to be present.

The following gentlemen were unanimously elected as directors for the coming year in the place of those retiring:— Messrs. E. Dry, H. Griebert, J. H. Telfer, E. J. Bridger, E. Cooper, J. Martin and Chas. Nissen.

A number of questions relative to rendering the services of the Association capable of wider application will be considered at a meeting of directors the 1st week in January.

The Association during the past six months has been instrumental in the recovery of goods and cash amounting to considerably over £110, and enquiries carried through have prevented (in many cases) the incurring of bad debts. Foremost amongst these was a case where a matter of £70 was involved.

The assistance of members in immediately advising the Secretary of any cases of fraud is especially invited and also in making the Association more widely known. The objects of the Association are:—

- The prevention of fraud and assistance to members in prosecutions when of general interest to Philately.
- The prosecution of enquiries.
- The collection of debts.

The Association is in need of greater support and the Secretary hopes that all Philatelists both dealers and collectors will interest themselves in the Association.

Readers of the *Fortnightly* may be assured that enquiries relative to the Association will receive the immediate attention of the Secretary, Mr. J. Stanley Telfer, who should be addressed at 63/4, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.