

THE WISCONSIN FEDERATION OF STAMP CLUBS
May, 1935.
BULLETIN
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To our old friends and new -
Affiliated with our Federation.

Greetings:

Well - we are still on the job, and maybe you don't think that we are proud to be able to serve you for still another year.

Naturally, and without any peradventure of a doubt, the one thing uppermost in most of our minds is a report on the Green Bay meeting and show. If I were a poet, I'd sing you a song of pretty words and sweet music thereof, but being just another stamp collector gone wrong, I can only use every day English, as she is spoke.

Daughter Dorothy and Vernon Davies, in company with myself, kidded ourselves that we out-did everyone up there in the way of long hours and long driving, but a letter from Howard Kuhr, a friend from Chicago, put the damper on that. We put in 25 hours hard and sleepless hours to make the show and Howard comes forward with the information that he put in thirty hours of even harder effort, and Howard was just a visitor - that's how our Young Federation is beginning to attract outsiders.

To begin with, your secretary has received with this month's allotment of the Bulletin, a complete report on the business meeting held at the Hotel Northland on the afternoon of April 6th, 1935. We are sending copies of this report to your secretary to put in your club files so that it can be referred to when necessary. I do not think that there will be any doubt in the minds of anyone but that we accomplished a good deal not only in the amount of legislation transacted, but also in matters pertaining to the good "of the Order". The thing which surprised me more than any other one thing was the complete and unanimous harmony that existed between all of the delegates and their very evident desire to see that our beloved Federation be put on a firm and substantial foundation. You will note that I have used a new name - that was one of the bits of labor performed - we changed the name of the old Association.

Some of us have been fortunate in having seen and competed in a good many stamp shows, but I have never yet seen a better layout than was on display at Green Bay. 171 frames of stamps were tastefully mounted and well lighted for the ~~and~~ hundreds of visitors who came thru the rooms Saturday afternoon and evening. I do not believe that a better or larger show of this kind has ever been held in Wisconsin, and when I say that, let us all stand up and take off our hats to the Green Bay folks for their untiring and wholly unselfish efforts to provide the best annual meet that the Wisconsin Federation has ever held. And lest we forget - a whole of a vote of thanks and appreciation is hereby conveyed to them and Olaf Arthur Olson. Olson did the lion's share of the work, got all the knocks and spent a lot of his own money to put this meet over - that takes a great heart and a big desire to make his efforts a success, without thought for his own reputation. Some said that Ole was bull-headed, but I think that he had but one thought and that was to put this affair over in such a manner as to leave no unpleasant thought in the minds of those who attended, and to this end he hued to the line and took what came without complaint. Two votes of thanks for Olson. Mr. Kralovec and Mrs. MacDonald did Spartan work and we must not forget them. Harry Thew did himself proud with the auction too. Lets give three rousing cheers for the Green Bay Philatelic Society and don't forget to drop them a line of thanks for that good time we had.

Thus far we haven't mentioned the banquet or the auction. The best is always saved until the last. The Green Bay Press Gazette reported that about 125 sat down to the banquet at six P.M., but for a positive fact, I counted 145 people at the main tables and who else were seated

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At the small tables in the end of the banquet hall, I cannot account for, so I feel quite confident in saying that at least 150 were seated, and that, fellow collectors, is a lot of Philatelists to get together all in one room in the state of Wisconsin - it marks a mile stone in the history of Wisconsin Philately.

The eats were excellent, that cannot always be said of public feasts of this sort - but it took a dyed in the well stamp collector to figure out the names that were attached to the many dishes served - it even had me stumped until I discovered that no matter what name it may be given - chicken is always chicken when its set before you.

The speeches were all good - I say this with reservations - mine probably was not so hot, but then, you cannot expect too much of the president when he has undergone such a tempestuous afternoon as we had that day. Harry Lindquist, president of the National Federation was the principal speaker and believe you me, he had us all eating out of his hand before he finished. That boy is good and don't let anyone tell you different. Everyone who attended the banquet were unanimous in the statement that we were fortunate indeed to have been able to have Harry with us.

As to the auction, I am still in doubt as to who donated that bag of mixture that was palmed off onto me as something other than a gift. It was a bag of mixture but, ye Gods, I like to find something in my mixture when I sort it out. It just wasn't right. So I figured it out all by myself that it must have been done on purpose.

As to the prizes and ribbons - spare me. The judges report covers four whole pages similar to these I am using - what a Bulletin this would be if we had to include all of that. Suffice it to say - Herman Kerst, Jr. of Madison won the grand award, a beautiful Scott's loose leaf album. He also won a special award consisting of a book of Collecting. Lawrence "Count" Masche, (in case you don't know who he is - he was the fair haired lad who sold me that bag of mixture at the auction, in other words, that auctioneer) won the President's cup put up for the best display of precancels. Count is going to use that cup for the purpose of training his son, "the Baron", to reach for things he cannot quite touch. Russell Broderick was awarded the Savard cup. That was a cup worth anyone's effort. Charley Achtenberg was awarded the grand prize for the precancel section of the show. A beautiful Hoover precancel album. Green Bay won the Fond du Lac cup for the best club standing, Fond du Lac came second and Madison third.

Looking back, after three weeks of hectic efforts trying to catch up with our correspondence, house cleaning what am, and getting a garden started, there are some high lights of the Green Bay meeting that I would like to point out. 1st. The wholesome and wholehearted cooperation that was apparent. It shows that our Federation is decidedly on the up-and-up. 2nd. The show was a marvelous thing to see. 3rd. Those Wisconsin Tercentenary medals they used for place cards at the banquet marked a rather finished touch to the banquet. Did you notice it? 4th. The judges were worked so hard and got so little praise. If there is one man in our Federation who deserves praise for his conscientious labor, its Albert Draves. And lastly, did you notice that worried look on Olson's face all day?

Two new clubs were added to our membership roster - Waupaca and Kenosha and both had representatives at the meeting. I did not meet the Waupaca boys until after the banquet but Mr. Cummings of Kenosha was there for everything and if he is a sample of what the Kenosha club has - there is a club.

And the F. F. of W. came into being. Watch for their smoke. Nuff said.

With the passing of the Annual meeting, we find that it is time to consider and begin the coming year's work. Firstly, the annual dues are due - have your secretary get them paid to our Secretary-treasurer -

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Vernon Davis, 513 W. Main St., Madison. This is important. The Federation dues are 10¢ per member. The maximum is \$5. When you send in your dues, kindly send a list of all members in good standing, their addresses and what each one collects - this information is for this year's Year Book. I urge you to get this to us within the next month so that we can begin work on this little book at once. It is a little too early to prophesy about this booklet, but it will be bigger and better than our first effort.

The Beloit Stamp club is staging their first show this coming week. From advance press notices, it will be a fine little show and worth coming to see. If you can, I ask that you try to get over to Beloit either Saturday or Sunday, May 4th or 5th. Neal Brigham is working hard to make this, their first effort a success and we sincerely hope that they will come thru.

The Sparta lvs send down word the other day that they were postponing their first show until next fall. For any club to even contemplate staging a stamp show, indicates an up-and-coming spirit, and having met some of the boys from Sparta, we know they are all of that.

Have we anyone that can work on the Wauwatosa club? We need those boys in our Federation. And has anyone any suggestions to make that will help us in working out a solution of the problem of the un-attached collector who desires to gain membership. We want to offer these collectors something more than merely a membership in the Federation.

Very little has been reported from the several club secretaries as to club activities this month. Guess everybody took it for granted that the Green Bay shindig would provide sufficient entertainment for everyone. Herbert Burgett, of Oshkosh remembered us with a line. Incidentally, the Oshkosh boys were on the firing line at the Bay, big as life and twice as important, but they did themselves proud in the way they supported the Federation. And the little misunderstanding we had last winter proved to be all for the best in the end.

Our next year's meeting will be held at Sheboygan. From present indications, it will be another big event, for when those prime movers - Rentless Rudolph Hoffman and Ray Van Handel go to such lengths as to get the mayor of the city and the Secretary of the Association of Commerce to extend personal invitations to us - it means that these boys do mean business. We'll be there - how about you? Better plan or you'll hate to miss another good time such as we had up at the Bay.

Don't forget the annual dues. Don't forget that list of members, their addresses and collection habits. And include the meeting dates of your club and the officers for the coming year - as soon as you can get them to us. And remember the place for our next year's meet - Sheboygan.

In closing, your president tells me that he will put up an even better cup next year and again it will be for the best precancel exhibit. He intends to make the Wisconsin collectors precancel conscious, even if you don't care to collect the pesky things. What strings he intends to put on his cup for next year, he hasn't decided upon yet, but he will let you know in plenty of time. Now is the time to begin work on next year's show material.

One more bulletin on the first of June - then a three month's vacation.

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Charley Achtenberg
President - Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs

