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Introduction

[Zum geleit]

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INTRODUCTION

Dear Readers,

ladies and gentlemen,

Although philatelic literature is quite often neglected, it is still after all one of the supporting legs of philately itself. It is inconceivable to build a respectable and precise stamp collection without primary and secondary philatelic literature. Unfortunately, it is still quite often the case that the acquisition of a missing stamp in the collection is preferred over an important philatelic book. Consequently, in the clubs of the Association, more work needs to be done in clarifying this. It would be helpful for clubs to have their own libraries, but also just to simply advise where to obtain or borrow philatelic literature. A small display of literature within the club with the possibility to "page through" can build motivation. It is important in our clubs to offer not only general books, but also scholarly literature. Literature which is difficult to understand, can scare off some collectors and block their entrance to philatelic literature completely.

The visitors to IBRA '99 will have the unique opportunity to look through philatelic literature from 25 countries in the largest philatelic library ever set up at a stamp exhibition. There are literary contributions for every imaginable field of collecting. No one's search will come up empty. It is important to note that titles still found in up-to-date offers from the appropriate publishers can be purchased.

In addition to the literature in printed form, literature is also kept on floppy disks or CD-Rom and on video tapes. Here also one will find a large selection which can be examined with the help of a computer or VCR as the case may be.

All titles at the IBRA-Library were furnished free of charge by publishers, individual authors, and particularly, study groups of the BDPh. For this we express our gratitude.

We wish all the visitors to the IBRA-Library an experienced-filled journey through the world of philatelic literature.

Franz-Karl Lindner
IBRA Literary Commissioner

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