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**Philatelic Bibliography**  
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**PHILATELIC BIBLIOGRAPHY**

The idea of Charles Diena concerning the issuance of a "philatelic bibliography" seems to proceed towards its materialization faster than previously thought. The value of such a work of reference is so evident that its earliest appearance is not only to be wished for but its promotion should be the duty of any serious philatelist.

We ourselves, recognizing the importance of Diena's idea, never lost the opportunity to promote it in several articles demonstrating its importance and appealed for the collaboration of the great German societies. Fr. Blossfeldt lent his pen in this endeavour striving for its realisation and therefore this matter progressed so far that the publisher of this journal, E. Heitmann, decided in cheerful recognition to take over the publication of this opus, particularly the section concerning "The bibliography of the specialist German literature".

The next question now is: The organisation of the text in a uniform manner, not only for the author of the German version, but for the arranger of parts in foreign languages. Here it is necessary that the editors develop a procedure applicable to all parts of the opus. We admit freely that we envision as suitable arrangers the strength of the biggest societies; these societies ought not only take on this obligation in good faith but also vigorously commit themselves to it. The division of labour should also be left to them. Surely their libraries are so complete, that we can expect with certainty, a work without omissions, which is essential for the wished for value of the opus. Just as the uniform plan provides for all sectors and is uniform not only for the German part but also for others, such as the philatelic bibliographies of France, Belgium, Italy, Spain, England, America, etc., a main condition is that the publishers of the foreign parts agree on a common format and paper, so as to create a uniform appearance and enables the joint binding of the different parts. To achieve this uniformity is again the task of the societies. who, because they appointed themselves reciprocally corresponding societies, thereby stood in a certain brotherly relation, will easily find the right way to the goal. We shall neither anticipate nor make prescriptions about formulating the uniform plan to the societies - or arrangers. Competent forces will dedicate themselves to this

work, who will surely accomplish this feat. The only thing we dare modestly to suggest is that such voluminous material requires striking keywords.

As Diena's idea takes on tangible form, but it will be some time before its realisation, and it will take some time, it is obvious that there will be other voices for this nice opus, not only to warm up the philatelic world and thereby to secure in advance a certain guarantee for the cost of the publication, but also to discuss the plan with regards to its execution, which in general has been explained clearly by several parties, needs still more explanation of specifics. Therefore good advice is solicited and will find thankful acceptance in all involved circles.

We once praised prophetically society organisations as one of the main pillars of the philately of the future. What were many of the first societies once? What eminent significance have they become now when they are cognisant of their high calling? If our societies will take care to work on the bibliography, advance this work assiduously, not only by recruiting collaborators from their midst, but also providing for the dissemination of the opus - then will Diena's idea become reality and succeed. May it be granted to us to proclaim soon, further progress in this significant endeavour

Dr. Moschkau

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