

**Magazin für Philatelistische Literatur
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Translation Digest

Translation produced by Betty Howarth for Brian J. Birch
33 Boar's Head Avenue, Standish, Wigan, WN6 0BH, UK
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MAGAZIN FÜR PHILATELISTISCHE LITERATUR

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Magazine and Sales List of **PHILAK**, the Philatelic Academy and Central Library,
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Translation Digest

(**Note:** A **Translation Digest** provides a translation of all the article titles and general headings of a complete issue of a specialised bibliographic periodical. It also includes full translations of all articles that appear to be of permanent interest to bibliophiles.)

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Introduction

In order to draw as close a connection as possible between my knowledge, my collector friends and philately, particularly the far too little known and appreciated philatelic literature, I will, starting with today's issue, set out my ideas for a magazine of philatelic literature, something we have lacked for so many years since the cessation of the journals *Der Philatelistische Bücherwurm* and later, *Die Philatelistische Literatur*.

In the *Magazin* will be found everything to interest the friends and collectors of philatelic literature; descriptions of all important new publications, news of special literature, questions and answers thereon, advice for the practical assembly of philatelic libraries, literature wanted and on offer, along with much also to interest philatelists. In these pages I will tell you, as my good friends, all about my work, my plans and concerns and questions arising, and ask you all

to reply to me with equal frankness with your views, wishes, questions and concerns. This kind of literature will be equally useful to all parties, correspondents and myself, and will make the *Magazin* lively and interesting.

I also urgently ask the publishers of philatelic works, catalogues, magazines, albums and handbooks, in their own interest, to supply me with their new publications as soon as possible after their appearance for mention in the magazine, inclusion in the literature catalogue and to build up a central library. Current market price (commission) expected!

The present unfavourable economic conditions in Berlin may make it appear risky to many people to undertake the sort of plans that I have in mind, and start a new magazine, where the needs of the times have led others to make sacrifices. I believe however that the worst period is behind us and "Readiness is all!" When all my friends, suppliers and customers support my endeavours vigorously, I hope that within a foreseeable time the *Magazin* will be a regular and much better journal to the joy of all collectors of literature and the service of all philately.

K. Sch.

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German Society for Philatelic Literature (DGPS)

Many older members have asked me to revive the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Philatelistische Literatur (DGPS) which after a successful start gradually faded out towards the end of the war because of my call-up for military service.

In the first 10 months of its existence the DGPS was able to set up a functioning exchange service, put in hand a catalogue and bibliography of German Philatelic journals with the help of a large number of voluntary and eager helpers, and initiate a whole series of preliminaries to carrying out its programme. The war and its consequences has unfortunately finally put an end to this work, and practical results, with the exception of the catalogue of literature, have been largely lost.

When I came back from my time as a prisoner of war and ensuing spell with the GPU (**Editor's Note:** Communist Political Police?) I tried to get in touch again with the members of the DGPS, but soon found out that taking up membership again was risky for everyone concerned, in the Russian zone. Perhaps more about this later!

Finally I had lost my property in the Eastern Zone and had to "relocate" to West Berlin. I had saved the greatest part of my collections and practically the whole of my philatelic library, so I now attempted to start a new existence with an institute for philatelic science and research in combination with a subject library and a philatelic service. The most valuable part of my collections had to go for financing. The currency reform made it for the most part impossible. To carry out my plans, at least for the time being. The money that had gone to the next premises was lost. What remained were the name **PHILAK** (Philatelic Academy and Central Library) as programme and guideline for the future the library, which had been considerably enlarged in the meantime, and finally my determination not to give up on my plans whatever

the cares and obstacles. After the calamity of the recent currency reform and despite serious doubts and warnings, a working and promotional union was established with the firm of **Eulen-Verlag**, which gave me a heavy workload and much responsibility, and led to much aggravation, disappointment and loss. At the beginning of this year I therefore dissolved the partnership and am pleased to find **PHILAK** now on a firmer basis, even though the lack of money due to the two successive currencies was particularly apparent and still gave me much severe worry. You will understand that under these conditions I had neither the wish nor the time nor the interest in reviving the DGPS. All essential points in the DGPS programme were taken up by **PHILAK** and have been carried out to some extent already. The central library, now numbering about 8,000 volumes, is available for use by all philatelists – unfortunately only minimally used. I have worked the entire year on the catalogue of literature, and have now got about 40,000 books, volumes of journals etc on cards, though unfortunately the planned publication in sections could not be started for lack of money. The task of providing literature is carried out by my specialised bookshop with its subsidiary lines: enquiry cards, tracing sources, supply of reprints and photocopies. The only completely new activity is the bibliographic survey of the German periodicals: for this I am still using a large number of reliable and interested co-workers.

Outside the programme of scientific work – which aimed at carrying out a research programme faster, better and with more prospects – the Society should aim to promote personal links between its members. Since the DGPS was not a local society, but had members all over Germany and sometimes abroad as well, those links could only be via the exchange of personal letters and the DGPS Rundschreiben (circulars). These links between people interested in philatelic literature will now be restored by the *Magazin*, which will be available to everybody. Everyone can also help in this direction by sending in contributions, questions and answers. Take what is given to you in the magazine and use it for your mental and material profit – but be prepared to share your own knowledge and experiences, since only then can the *Magazin* fulfil its task of being a link between the friends of philatelic literature.

Another way for you to aid further development of **PHILAK**, which will serve you all, is to use its facilities as often as possible: borrow from the central library, buy literature, albums and accessories from me, let me enter your desiderata and wants list on my search index, come to me with your questions on all philatelic matters, particularly those relating to philatelic literature.

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BREAK-UP OF MY GENERAL COLLECTION

To finance my plans for the further development of **PHILAK**, I needed money, even a lot of money. Since I have neither the time nor the means to carry on or extend my wide collections under the existing conditions, I shall use them now to finance **PHILAK**. I lack the time to sort through this very extensive material – an estimated 50-60,000 stamps, thousands of entire, letters, pre-philatelic letters, special cancellations etc., especially since most of the stamps are loose and unclassified in paper bags. Some of the better material and the duplicates were put up for sale before the currency reform in exchange packets and were catalogued (according to Michel, 1943 and 1942). The catalogue value of the stamps alone should come to about 40-50,000 marks, and they include several hundred items of more than 10 Marks. To give only

some examples of the best items, there are the France No. 7 (x2), Nos. 32, 38, etc., although I have already sold my special collection of France. I now put together from the material available 1000 lots from the lesser and average material, each with a catalogue value of about 20 M. the higher-value material made up about 500 of these lots. The material with special cancellations, entires, pre-philatelic letters, for which a catalogue value is not easily obtainable, was divided between the total number of lots. About half the lots could thus be valued at about 20 to 25 Marks, the other half at about 30 to 500 M, with an average of about 60 to 70 Marks (1943 or overseas 1942) per lot. The lots would thus be good exchange material for every collector, and for many of them they would be good value for extending their own collection. On top of that, the following prizes were allotted: the 1st, 250th, 500th and 750th person to order will get a coupon to buy anything they want from my Sales List in values of DM 20, 111, 222, and so on, up to 999. for every coupon above DM 10. The coupons are valid up to 31st December of the current year.

Every lot has its receipt, which I ask to be returned completed. The receipts are numbered in order of entry: anyone with the numbers 100, 200, ... to 900 will get a free lot. The receipts will be stored as a foundation for regular development, and every participant can inspect them here at the end of the sale.

Price per lot DM 3

(5 lots DM 14; 10 lots DM 26)

Sent only on receipt of payment or cash on delivery; post and packing free for 5 lots.

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DUTY ON THE GERMAN IMPERIAL POST FROM 1871 TO TODAY

After getting rid of my general collection I retained only the one I mentioned, divided up according to the period of validity of the individual duties. The development of the postage rate and the extra handling charges for all types of consignment (with the exception of telegrams, parcels and money orders). Also, the various possibilities for the exhibition of the postage rates within the individual tariff periods were studied and set out. For the further development of this collection I seek out examples of all types, particularly combined postage rates (e.g. letters, cards of all types with inscriptions, returns, fast mail, collection fees, "poste restante" foreign letters, letters containing money, railway letters, etc). I ask for your offers or orders. – I have found that the postal rates shown in various catalogues and philatelic works are often inaccurate and misleading. Collectors, interested in working on this interesting and varied branch of postal history are asked to get in touch with me.

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INFLA-BERLIN e.V. has again come into action in the place of its great past. On 29th March 1950 the first general meeting of the reconvened Infla-Berlin e.V. took place. After the great services done by the West German branch of "Infla-Berlin" under leadership of its chairman **Sk. Gardy**, in acting as the rallying point for West German Infla members and guardian of the Infla tradition in bad times, a committee was elected: Chairman **K. Scharfenberg**, Berlin W 30; Deputy Chairman **Sk. W. Gardy**, Homberg/Nrh; Treasurer **Sk. E. G. Greve**, Berlin-Charlottenburg, Westendallee 92a, Business Manager and Secretary **Sk. J. v. Koschitzky**,

Berlin-Tempelhof, Alboinstr.43. In acknowledgement of their services to Infla, comrades **W. Gardy** and **E. Peschl**, Passau, were given honorary membership. Further details will be found in brief in the Society journal, the DBZ [Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung] (Kuhn, Dassel). Enquiries to **Sk. V. Koschitzky**, please!

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NEW LITERATURE

This is simply reviews of new publications.

pp.1-13 (Unnumbered)

Editor's Note: These unnumbered pages would appear to be Scharfenberg's Sales List rather than an integral part of the magazine.

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I. VOLUNTARY LITERATURE AUCTION OF "PHILAK", ON 15th JUNE 1950

AUCTION CONDITIONS

With the exception of those with an x before the number, all lots are offered anonymously and on commission.

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If you have philatelic literature to dispose of, please get in touch with me. Because of the present market conditions, only readily saleable articles can be considered for cash purchase. All other items, albums and desiderata, will be exchanged for stamps or, for valuable items, will be sold on commission or disposed of in my auctions. Always state the price or an estimate of it.

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ALBUM SALES LIST: Nr.1; 1st April 1950

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SALES LIST OF PHILATELIC LITERATURE (New and antiquarian)

The appearance of this list (1st April 1950) coincides with the introduction of new, significantly lowered prices. For lack of space, only a part of the existing stock could be given. Less saleable literature, especially that of only bibliographic interest to the pure literature collector, has been omitted. In any case, I ask for your requests and wants lists to be put on my card index if I cannot satisfy them right away. Fee for entry: 0.10 DM per title. You will be notified immediately if I am in possession of the item you want: the search fee will be refunded on purchase.

To order you need only quote the order number.

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Over 1000 **INDIVIDUAL NUMBERS** of philatelic journals from home and abroad are available. The list cannot yet be prepared and given here. Let me have your wants lists. Exchanges also possible, please ask for the offers and wants lists.

Since in recent years I have often had very trying experiences, often only getting paid after months and numerous reminders, I am now compelled to my great regret, to adopt new conditions for order and payment, and I ask that you note them. I ask for your understanding, as I too have obligations to meet. The slowness of my debtors has again placed me in an awkward position. Under the stressful economic conditions of today, I simply cannot bear any more losses.

Conditions of Business

Offers always subject to availability and prior sale. Many of the offers in the list are only available as single copies: indicating possible alternatives is recommended.

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