

Editorial  
[Éditorial]  
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**EDITORIAL**

Giving the most accurate possible account of the contents of the magazines in the world's philatelic press is certainly a very difficult task. Multiple difficulties get in the way of carrying out this obviously ambitious programme: on the one hand, the diversity of languages and the irregularity of publication and transmission, and on the other the need to hold a balance between a mixture of simple translations and the juxtaposition of tables of contents. There is also the difficulty of arranging this diversity of publications by their subject, frequency and contents. However, we think we have carried out our programme as well as possible, and though improvements have already been made during these months, it is possible that others will follow to make this publication still more useful to collectors.

Nevertheless it must be stressed that this Review of Reviews strives to be something more than just a list of titles: it attempts the tasks of making its analysis of the issues of magazines lively and readable; it hopes to leave its readers in a position to judge from its accounts the importance and interest of the papers mentioned.

Obviously, getting hold of an article can be difficult for anyone lacking the essential data on the magazine that published it. This is inevitable given the standard method used of classifying by nationality and language of the journal. It is thus appropriate to draw the attention of collectors anxious to carry out their own researches, to the existence of a publication complementary to *Filatelia*. This is the *Répertoire Bibliographique de la Presse Philatélique Mondiale*, a catalogue of all the articles produced each month grouped by subject. All articles relating to a given country are grouped under the same heading and arranged by language: each article has its bibliographic data given according to the rules of international bibliography. It is thus a valuable collection which rounds off and completes our publication.

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Casting an eye on the philatelic press world-wide, we may say that its activity shows no sign of flagging. In practically every country philatelic magazines are flourishing and giving signs of a long and brilliant career.

New journals are appearing all over the place: some have been interesting but short-lived (such as *Lectures Philatéliques* and *Philatélie Universelle* in France), others have shown every prospect of thriving (*Il Mondo Filatelico* in Italy, the *Colombe de Bâle* in Switzerland for example), still others are appearing in countries represented hardly or not at all in the philatelic press. In South America particularly we must respect the courage shown in publishing new titles when so many of their predecessors have fallen on stony ground; *Chile Filatelico* in Chile, *El Timbre Postal* in Mexico, and many others.

On the other hand, there have been disappearances which often leave gaps difficult to fill; the *Stamp Herald* has gone under in Canada, to be followed by the *Canadian Philatelist* which is doing its best in difficult circumstances; what was practically a veteran disappeared in South Africa just after the Durban Exhibition. The *Filatelia Portuguese* has vanished in Portugal, but *Portugal Filatelico* has arisen, still tottering, in its place. Romania has tried to show itself capable of supporting a philatelic periodical with *Colectionarul de Marci Postale*. Finally, the Far East remains fairly inhospitable to philatelic journals and does not enable them to multiply excessively.

Happily there is good stability overall for the philatelic press and the number of soundly-based publications goes on increasing from year to year. This enables us to predict a rosy future for the philatelic press, which is generally responding to a very real need.

The number of magazines dealt with in the following has been increased not only by the appearance of new titles, but also by the reception of long-established journals. Once can only hail this progressive increase in our field of action and hope there will soon be no magazines that do not want the honour of appearing in our columns. We wish to express warm thanks to all the magazines which have taken part in our scientific studies and have faithfully helped us to erect this monument of scientific research. Thanks to all the magazines which in doing this have worked for the good of Science and Philately.

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