

advantage of the opportunities offered by the petty states, and enter as equal partners with them in schemes for the enrichment of themselves to the detriment and loss of the community at large.

True, Messrs. Scott have a little corner in their catalogue where they pretend to consign the speculative, fraudulent and unnecessary issues, but what a farce it is! Why single out a few dozen of such issues and leave a *hundred* of similar nature in the body of the catalogue purporting to be legitimate issues? Why not do the thing honestly and thoroughly, and brand the Seebeck's and the miserable commemorative issues, and the unnecessary values and all of that ilk, by their true name?

"I am not philatelist enough to put Seebeck's in my album," said a prominent philatelist to the writer a few months ago. What a world of wisdom is expressed in this quaint assertion. Were all other collectors like you, Mr C., philately had been better off. A man who would collect Seebeck's would collect discarded liver pads. The Seebeck evil is one the greatest we have to contend with, and it is pleasing to note that the tide of public opinion is setting steadily against it.

So imminent and pressing has the danger become, that prompt action seems necessary. A determined effort would stamp out the speculative hydra. If no Seebecks, remainders, or speculative issues were admitted on the exchange books of our societies, and if publishers refused to print advertisements offering such for sale, success would be assured. The means for giving speculators in postal issues their quietus lies right in the hands of the philatelic community; if they know their own interests, and act upon this knowledge, the matter is settled.

With this spectre laid, philately could progress on a healthy basis, and could reasonably expect a rapid evolution in the right direction.

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### The Conventions.

THE result of the Dominion Philatelic Association convention was the election of the Muirhead Ticket by good majorities, the only defeat being that of Mr. Bishop in his candidature for Vice President of the United States. This is the Association's loss, not Mr. Bishop's and we regret very much that a better choice was not made. The vote was taken by proxies, a very unsatisfactory method. As a result of this method, the vote was small. With the exception of Mr. Severn, the other side was very much not in it; a practical back-down was made before the Convention, owing to inability to get candidates. No readable account of the Convention has as yet appeared, and we are forced to go to press without same. The