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Will You Help?

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Let us for a while look forward to the brighter hopes and expectations of our delightful pursuit. With the coming year cannot each individual collector try every week to do something of benefit to philately? Can he not induce some of his acquaintances to start a collection of the most fascinating of all collectable things, namely, postage stamps?

For a moment or two let us diverge from our subject, and view the last year's progress.

Has not our hobby gained in numbers? Has not the system of exposing fraudulent persons been greatly improved and perfected, and has not the number of this petty class of philatelists, if such we may call them, greatly diminished? Yes, *sans doute*, and many more benefits and pleasures of philately been introduced into our scientific hobby.

But now to return to our "iter inceptum." What we are seeking at present is a means of increasing the popularity, doubling, aye, if possible

tripling the vast number of partisans who now enjoy the acquaintance of our invincible philatelia. This can readily be accomplished by the each-one-for-himself method—if you will pardon the phrase. Doubtless some philatelists will say to themselves that, since many of their wide-awake brethren are gathering new contingents for our hobby, it is unnecessary that they should also strive to obtain new collectors. Ah, me! this is an almost unpardonable error. Let each man for himself try to bring new collectors amongst our numerous joys. It is possible, we are sure, for we have already tried it with successful accomplishments upon more than a single person.

There are many, many people whom you can with very little effort persuade to follow in the much-trodden path of philately. First get hold of somebody whom you know, and show them your own collection, explain all to them, let them examine your library of philatelic publications, tell them all about our societies, the good times we have, auction meetings, conven-