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Pithy Philatelic Points.

Sayings and Articles of Noted Writers Carefully Condensed.

As philately progresses we find that it becomes imperative for the average collector to confine himself to some specialty, and in looking around for a nice and interesting study, we find few things of greater interest than postal cards, and complete unused envelopes and wrappers.—J. Zahn.

I never see an unused stamp in an album without thinking that it must somehow have missed its opportunities of usefulness or aimlessly strayed from its purpose and got ignominiously impounded. I have, unfortunately, far too many of such clean visaged smart looking individuals in my collection.—W. H. Wilson.

While it is not for me to say whether you shall collect surcharges or whether you shall not, it is within my province to remark that it is not wise to do so. Surcharges spoil the appearance of a collection and as the average surcharge is comparatively easy of imitation their genuineness is clothed with uncertainty.—L. H. Benton.

The writer believes it possible, by giving the matter careful attention and study, to buy stamps, ninety per cent of which will increase steadily and rapidly in value as the years roll by. You cannot do this by shutting your eyes and plunging in headlong, as it were, buying whatever

comes along, and trusting to luck and guess work. You must give the matter study. Use your own reasoning faculties. You will find that it will pay you.—S. A. D. Cox.

It seems to me very reasonable to take such issues as the St. Anthony issue of Portugal and decree that only specimens that have been used postally shall be collected. This would at once remove the largest share of the profits of those governments in the habit of making use of such means of raising revenue.—D. W. Osgood.

Every business man must adapt his business to the markets. If these stamps (Seebecks) are objectionable, the proper place to obtain a reform would be to go to the representatives of those particular countries and not make it a personal matter.—N. F. Seebeck.

It is the popular opinion that one can never become an advanced collector unless he has at least a collection of eight or ten thousand varieties. This notion is by no means the case, for an advanced collector is not measured by the size of collection, but by the extent of his knowledge and information regarding stamps.—Raymond S. Baker.

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