

Xmas shopping in comfort

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LONDON SWISS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At their October meeting, held at 35, Fitzroy Square, the above Society admitted a new member, bringing their total membership up to 79 — a very creditable performance for a Club which has not yet a fourth candle on its birthday cake!

On the conclusion of the official proceedings, a well-illustrated talk on the stamps of Great Britain was given by Mr. Emil A. Gotz, the Society's indefatigable Display Organizer. Admitting that the general collector would be unable to specialise in the early "Victorians," Mr. Gotz drew the attention of members to the fact that even the current issues can provide collectors with much interest and fun. It came as a surprise to many members to learn that during the period 1937-1940 three kinds of experimental 6d. stamp booklets had been issued by the Postmaster General.

Mr. Gotz particularly stressed the financial gain which accrues after a comparatively short time when stamps become obsolete and cited as examples the 2/6 brown and 10/- indigo which were issued in 1939 and respectively replaced by the current green and light blue stamps three years later. The former is now quoted at 7/6 and the latter at 30/-, an increase of 200% on the face value in four years. To emphasise this angle, Mr. Gotz displayed a block of six of the 2½d. Silver Jubilee stamps which were Prussian blue instead of the normal blue. These stamps, which are now catalogued at £55 each, he was lucky enough to purchase at 5d. each as soon as a few of this abnormal shade appeared in 1935. In this case he did not indicate the appreciation in value as a percentage of his outlay and we leave it to interested readers to work it out for themselves!

This latest proof of Mr. Gotz's contention that, with a little luck, even modern issues will yield a good profit, made such a profound impression on his hearers that the local Post Office would doubtless have been besieged by a crowd of bargain hunters had it not closed its doors before the meeting ended at 7.30 p.m.

F.G.F.

FOOTNOTE.

Philatelically-minded readers of the "Swiss Observer" who would like to widen their circle of "friends of a feather" should get into touch with the Hon. Secretary of the L.S.P.S. (Mr. Fred G. Ebbutt, 18A, Park Hill, Carshalton), who will be pleased to

supply them with a copy of the Society's Rules, also an application form in case they would like to become members.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

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XMAS SHOPPING IN COMFORT.

Those of our readers who wish to avoid the Xmas shopping rush with its hustle and bustle and its queues, should pay a visit to the Christmas Bazaar of the Unione Ticinese (Ladies' Section) which is to be held on Saturday, November 30th, 1946, from 2—9 p.m. at Swiss House, 35, Fitzroy Square, W.1., where a large choice of suitable Xmas presents can be had to suit every purse and every taste.

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