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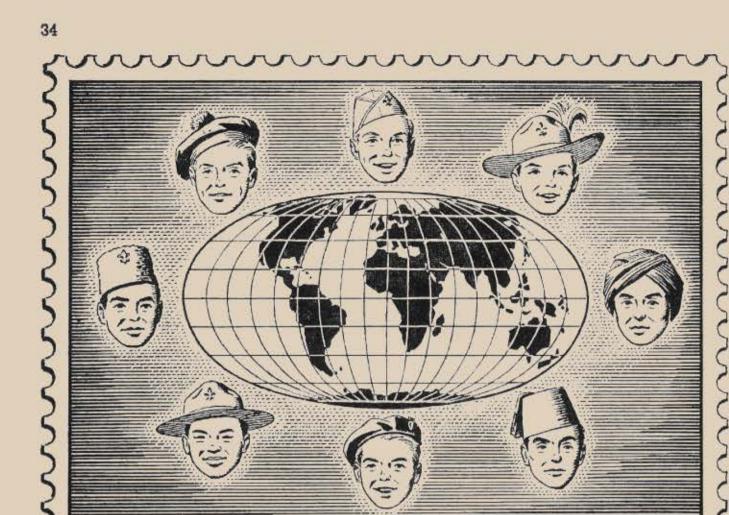
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#### THIS MONTH'S COVER

YOU TAKE TWO VITAL activities such as Scouting and stamp collecting, and sooner or later you find they have a meeting ground among people who, equally vital, embrace both activities. Cover artist Homer Hill has skillfully blended the elements that hint at the story. For the details, see Art McKinney's "Scouts on Stamps" on page 34. Art tells, among other things, how you can find out more about the Scouts on Stamps Society and the stamps that caused the society to be formed.

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# SCOUTS ON STAMPS

### By W. ARTHUR McKINNEY

**T**HE MOST PRONOUNCED trend in stamp collecting in recent years has been the growing interest in "topical collecting," in which a collection is limited to stamps related to a specific subject. For Scout stamp collectors, Scouts on Stamps has been a natural, and there have been many Scout stamps coming out of stamp issuing countries.

Actually Scouts on Stamps items are older than Scouting itself. The first recognized Scout stamps showing Baden-Powell appeared as local stamps for use in the town of Mafeking, Cape of Good Hope, in 1900. These three stamps are the classics of the Scout stamps. Others that can be called classics include four Czechoslovakia local stamps used on mail in the city of Prague by Sea Scouts during the liberation in 1918. And the nineteen semipostal stamps of Siam surcharged by the post office in 1920 for the benefit of the "Young Tigers" as the Scouts were called in that country. The last issue included six post cards. These classics are missing in most Scouts on Stamps collections. It is a tribute to Scouting that so many countries have honored Scouting with stamps. Up to the time of the Tenth World Jamboree, held in the Philippines in 1959, nearly two hundred stamps, ten souvenir sheets and seven special post cards have been issued by thirty-nine countries. This includes Boy Scout and Girl Scout stamps. World, sectional, and national jamborees have figured prominently in Scout commemorative issues. Since Hungary commemorated the Fourth World Jamboree in 1933, with a set of "leaping stag" stamps, every country that has been host to a world jamboree has commemorated the event by issuing one or more stamps. This has included the Netherlands, France, Austria, Canada, and Great Britain. The Tenth World Jamboree, completed last July, was commemorated by special stamps issued by the host country, the Philippines, as well as by Nationalist China and Indonesia.

The first national jamboree honored in this manner was held in Sibiu, Romania in 1932, with a set of six stamps. Since then national jamborees have been commemorated with stamps by Brazil, Cuba, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Lithuania, Pakistan, the Philippines, and the United States. There have been comparatively few sectional jamborees held around the world, but special stamps were issued to commemorate the Pan-Pacific Jamborees held in Australia in 1948 and again in 1952, and in New Zealand in 1959. Two Pan-Arab Jamborees have also been honored, one by Egypt in 1956 and one by the United Arab Republic for use in Syria in 1958.

The year 1957 combined two great events in Scouting and accounted for the largest number of Scout commemoratives in any single year. That year was the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting, and the fiftieth anniversary of Scouting. It was also the year of the World Jubilee Jamboree. Great Britain, the host country of the jamboree, brought out a set of three stamps, the first time that nation has ever issued stamps to honor a non-governmental movement. This set of three was also overprinted for use in Bahrain, Muscat, and Qatar. The fourteen other countries which issued stamps to honor Baden-Powell during the jubilee year were Belgium, Brazil, Cuba, China, Netherland Antilles, Dominican Republic, Finland, Formosa, Iran, Korea, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Nicaragua, and the Philippines.

Finances have also been a strong influence for the issue of Scout stamps. The most recent example of this has been the three air mail and two regular stamps of the Philippines commemorating the Tenth World Jamboree. All of these stamps were semipostals, with an overcharge being turned over to the Boy Scout movement to help defray the expenses of the jamboree. Semipostal stamps had previously been issued for the benefit of Scouting by Curacao, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Hungary, Indonesia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Netherlands, New Zealand, Romania, and Siam.

The ten official miniature souvenir sheets, issued over the years, are interesting collector's items. Egypt issued a perforated and an imperforated miniature sheet for the Pan-Arab Jamboree in 1956 but required the purchase of two hundred sets of the stamps along with each pair of sheets. This was a limited printing and those not sold were destroyed by the post office. Ten sets of stamps were required by the Dominican Republic for each purchase of the four miniature sheets of their Scout issue. The recent Philippine souvenir sheet could be secured only with the purchase of a full set of the stamps. This method of distribution accounts in part for the high cost of many of these sheets. Nicaragua issued two souvenir sheets, but no package deal was required. The much sought after Korean souvenir sheet was not issued for postal purposes but was a presentation sheet handed out as a souvenir to public officials on the first day of issue. Only a few hundred of these were believed to have been printed.

The two smaller value stamps of the recent Philippine issue were also printed *tetebeche*. That means that they were printed upside down in relation to each other. These stamps were printed on white paper while the same stamps of the regular issue were on yellow paper. The jubilee year pair of Liechtenstein were printed *se-tenent*, which means that two different stamps alternated with each other on the sheet.

Four countries which have issued Scout stamps in the past are no longer members of the Scout family of nations. Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Lithuania, and Romania, which have accounted for some of the most interesting of the Scout stamps, are now behind the iron curtain where Scouting is no longer permitted.

Interest in Scout stamps has become so great that several hundred Scout stamp enthusiasts have organized themselves into an International Scouts on Stamps Society. It is a completely non-profit organization and the modest fee for membership makes possible the publication of a monthly journal that keeps the members (*To page* 85)

The color photos on the opposite page were taken by Charles W. Miller Sons Studio, of Manila, during the 1959 World Jamboree held in the Philippine Islands. The lucky fellows who were there met Boy Scouts from all over the world. But you can get an idea of what Scouting is like in other lands without attending a World Jamboree. Each of the countries whose Scouts are shown here has honored Scouting with a commemorative stamp. These stamps will give you a picture of what foreign Scouts look like, what they wear and what they do.



## **Scouts on Stamps**

(Concluded from page 34)

informed on matters of interest to the hobbyist.

While the collection of Scout stamps and covers is the primary concern of Scouts on Stamps collectors, as a side line many collectors have found interest in the many interesting Scout seals and labels issued by the various Scout associations. These seals have no postal significance but have been used by Scout organizations for money raising purposes or to publicize special events. In the case of some of the Scout organizations which were established in Displaced Person Camps after the war, such labels were sometimes used to guarantee delivery of mail within the camps. These labels have a real place in postal history.

Collecting Scout stamps can be an expensive hobby or it can be within the limits of the average collector. The earlier issues are expensive and almost impossible to find, since there are so few and are mostly in the hands of collectors who want to keep them. Most of the Scout stamps of recent years are still relatively common, but each year adds to their scarcity. The time to start collecting is now and work backward. Countries are alert to the popularity of Scout stamps and many of them will take advantage of Scout events, knowing that Scout commemoratives can produce income for the country. We can anticipate new Scout issues during the years to come. The Postmaster General of the United States has already announced that a special Scout commemorative stamp will be issued February 8, 1960, to honor the fiftieth anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. A complete check list of all Scout stamps or information about the Scouts on Stamps Society is avail-able from Boys' Life. Send a stamped, self addressed envelope to Art McKinney, 18 Ryan Rd., Highland Park, N. J., for a free copy.