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Boy And Girl Scout Philately



SOME SCOUT STAMPS AND COVERS. At the top left is a cacheted first day cover with the special postmark and the stamps issued by Jamaica for the first Caribbean Jamboree at Briggs Park Jamaica in 1952, top right are from the Philippines for the Silver Jubilee of Scouting in that nation. Center left is the Scout stamp issued by Austria for the large Scout gathering at Bad Ischl in 1951; center right is the United States Boy Scout stamp of 1950. Lower left the stamp, cachet and special postmark for the All Japan Boy Scout Jamboree; lower right the special cancellation and Scout stamp for the Pan-Pacific Scout Jamboree at Greystanes, Australia issued by that country. Covers are from the collection of Harry D. Thor-

The Story Of Mafeking Cadets And Their Boer War Carrying Of Local Mails

Harry D. Thorsen, Jr.

The founder of the Boy Scouts, Robert Baden-Powell, was honored in 1900 by the Cape of Good Hope with two postage stamps. This was seven years before he had started his first experiments of "Scouting for Boys." During his young manhood in England he saw city boys had little opportunity to learn the nature study, camping and woodcraft which proved so valuable and interesting to him. Especially when he served in the army in the southernmost part of Africa, did he realize that grown men knew little of forests, insects, birds, edible berries and fruits, so that they could hardly survive against the forces of nature.



to take over various duties that could release men for more dangerous tasks. During the siege of Mafeking, "B. P." with an army

Baden-Powell must have loved boys, for even during the Boer War he organized boy messengers

of 1200 men held the town for 215 days being relieved on May 18, 1900.

At this time the ingenuity of his men reflected the training he had given them in woodcraft, camping and hiking.

Because stamps were needed for the postal service within the town, one of his men, Captain Greener, engraved the image of Baden-Powell and it was reproduced by photography with a film negative on sensitized paper. Both stamps are the three pence value and appear in dark blue on blue paper, one 18½mm wide of which 6072 were printed, and the other 21mm of which only 3036 were printed. They were issued on April 10, 1900. (Continued on page 8)

Scouts On Stamps Society Sponsors Current Edition; **Organized In December 1951**

Scouts on Stamps Society was organized in December 1951 by Harold D. Bearce of Kansas City, Mo., and Harry D. Thorsen Jr. of Winnetka, Ill. More than 150 members in 28 states and six foreign countries are now enjoying the monthly bulletin, "S. O. S." as well as correspondence and trading of Scout material.

The real spirit of brotherhood in Scouting seems to account for the great interest in this combined group of Scouters and philatelists. They have found that there are other specialists like themselves who have believed they were the only ones to have a "Scout" collection.

The collecting of stamps honorthe world, has been expanded to include covers, Scout cachets, slogan meters, seals, fund raising labels, and Girl Scout stamps. Any check list of Scout stamps. ing Boy Scouts by the countries of check list of Scout stamps is al-ways out of date since SOS members are always discovering new material.

Since the founder of the Boy Scouts, Robert Baden Powell was honored on a stamp of the Cape of Good Hope in 1900 during the Mafeking siege, this is usually No. in a Boy Scout topical collection. However, less than 10,000 copies are known to have been issued in two sizes and the stamps are now auction items.

When Siam needed funds for Scouts in 1920 they overprinted many of their old stamps. However, counterfeits exist, and only experts can really be sure of genuine cop-

During the organizing of Cze-choslovakia after World War I, the Sea Scouts had the dangerous and thrilling task of performing the postal service for the newly-formed government. Their two stamps are listed by Zumstein as No. 1 and No. 2 of this country.

Since then, many countries continue to honor Scouting and the number of stamps seems to be increasing each year. Because of the same basic Scout Oath and Law, the movement has been a great "world peace" organization through their international Jamborees held every four years and their many national Jamboree encampments where the Scouts exchange camp ing ideas, swap handicraft and camp emblems and generally promote good will and understanding between Scouts of different colors, races and religions. Many cacheted covers have been issued for Jamborees.

After World War II, Scouts conducted postal services in the displaced persons camps in Europe. The Lithuanian, Ukraine, Estonian, Russian, and German Scouts all issued stamps, some showing their Scout badges, the receipts being used to maintain their postal service as well as Scouting in the D. P camps. While these stamps will never be in standard postage catalogs, SOS includes detailed information of all known history, usage and collections.

If you are interested in membership in Scouts on Stamps Society write to Willard H. Boyles, secretary, Shelby, Ohio. Dues are only \$2.00 per year. (or \$5.00 if membership in American Topical Association is included.)
Harry D. Thorsen Jr., 925 Elm

St., Winnetka, Ill. is president of SOS. He is an Eagle Scout, former Scout master and Commissioner and in 1952 was awarded the Silver Beaver for outstanding service to boyhood. He is author of the book "Boy Scout Stamps of the World."

For N Z. Healths

Postmaster General Broadfoot of New Zealand has announced that the 1953 edition of the Health semipostals will feature Scouting, Boy and Girl. The organization which has the girls is called Girl Guides.



The 1½d plus ½d pictures three Girl Guides marching, the foremost carrying the unit's flag.

On the 2d plus 1d is pictured three Boy Scouts one tending a cooking fire and two in the background before a tent. The postal



administration states this is the first appearance for Boy Scouts in the design of Health stamps.

The first day of issue will be early in the fall.

In commenting on the selection In commenting on the selection of pictures for the stamps, PMG Broadfoot said, "It is appropriate that we feature Girl Guides this year for this year marks the 13th anniversary of the establishment of the movement in this country. In 1944 our Health stamps showed Ouener Elizabeth, then Princess in Queen Elizabeth, then Princess, in the uniform of the Sea Rangers and Princess Margaret in that of the Girl Guides."

Officers Of The Scouts On Stamps Society

President-Harry D. Thorsen Jr., 925 Elm St., Winnetka, Ill. Vice President and Treasurer-Milton Rogers, 3300 Griswold Ave., New York 61, N. Y.

Secretary-Willard H. Boyles, Shelby, Ohio.

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Polish Scouts Plan Camp To Camp Mail In England

Andrew J. Goszczycki

Ever since 1947 the Bolsheviks decided that Baden Powell was nobody but an English fake, and that Stalin would be a better idol for the Polish Scouts to look up to. But the "real" Polish Scouts have gone into hiding, and continue their work secretly in Poland; and those Scouts who found themselves outside of Poland, or who escaped since the above date, are still fighting for their country's freedom. Though in exile the Polish Scouts are doing whatever they can, wherever they are, to help Poland.

At the present time the head-quarters of the Polish Boy Scouts and Girl Guides associations are in London, England, with about 27,000 members scattered all over 27,000 members scattered all over the world outside the boundaries of Poland. There are four different Scout magazines issued monthly, and many other Scout activities for the Polish Scouts to enjoy while in exile.

But like any other Scout, the Polish Scout always dreams of going to a scout camp where he can learn to become a better person so that some day his Poland

son so that some day his Poland may be proud of him. And each year in every country where there are Polish Scouts you will see their camp with the Polish flag over it

In England every summer about 11 different Scout troops organize their own camps with about 800 members attending, all such camps being located in an area about a hundred miles square.

about a hundred miles square.

This English-Polish Scout camp situation, then, makes it necessary that a means of official and private mail delivery be in operation. So this year a Scout Post has been proposed—to serve all of the camps which would come into the postal area and it is believed that postal area, and it is believed that the service will go into effect dur-ing the coming summer, and so the problem of communication between the various camps will be solved.

For this postage service, a set of seven stamps has been pro-posed, the design or designs of the stamps are not yet known. The

the stamps are not yet known. The values indicated in English currency will be: 1½d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 5d and 6d—the face value of the whole set being 2 shillings.

Each camp will also have a different special cancel with the words in Polish reading "Polish Scout Post" and the date in the center of the cancel. The stamps will be sold only at camp post offices to the attendants of each offices to the attendants of each

camp, and they will be used to prepay postage letters sent from one camp to another.

No stamps will be available to the public except charity stamps which will be issued to raise funds for the camps. Of the official postage stamps an estimated 1 000 postage stamps an estimated 1,000 sets are expected to be printed—they will be used for concurrent years as well as for the summer

at hand. As yet no definite way of performing this postal service has been announced, but it is bethat each camp will have its own official mail carrier who (probably on a bicycle) will carry the mail from one camp to the one next nearest. After which he will return with the mail (incoming) to his own camp, and the out-going mail will go from one camp to the other, via the relay method, until it will reach its destination.

Thus, it will be very similar to the American "Pony Express" which served this country so well for so long.

The designs will be chosen from submissions made by the Boy Scouts in England. All that is needed for this postal service to go into effect is the decision of

> **BOY SCOUT STAMPS** OF THE WORLD

Hobby book every Scout collector will elcome. Stories and illustrations (album spaced) of stamps honoring Baden-Powell, Scout Jamborees, and emergency

Over 100 illustrations of Scouts and Scout activities on the stamps of 19 countries and the U. S.

Send \$1.00 to

Boy Scout Stamps of the World 925 Elm St., Winnetka, III.

the Polish Scout headquarters, but it is believed that the permission will be granted as this postal service is a necessity for the good of the Scouts attending the camps in such a wide area.



WEEKLY STAMP

GEORGE W. LINN...

CARL P. RUETH......Associate Editor

tion with the National Boy Scout Jamboree at the Irvine Ranch in California has been certified. It will be used at the Santa Ana, Calif. post office from July 17 to 23.

Stories Of Scout Stamps In Brochure

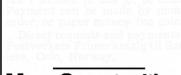
Probably the most complete treatment of the topic of "Scouts On Stamps" is to be found in the 32-page brochure by Harry D. Thorsen, Jr. titled "Boy Scout Stamps of the World."

It has what the active and curious collector needs most when putting them in his album, the story in back of the issue. Mr. Thorsen describes and pictures the stamps of the nineteen nations which have produced Scout stamps.

Included are the Mafeking Baden-Powell siege issue and how they came about, the Scout mail service of Czechoslovakia which lasted for nineteen days and the vexing overprints issued by Siam.

Also shown and described are some of the special postcards, postmarks and cacheted covers released throughout the world for

Scout Jamborees and encampments
Cost of "Boy Scout Stamps of the
World" is one dollar postpaid from
Mr. Thorsen, 925 Elm St., Winnetka, Ill.



Slogan cancellations are to be

31. Mendota, Ill. is another town

Mendota, III. is another town celebrating a centennial. Its slogan will be used to August 15.

Also announced by the Post Office Department is the continued use of the Ohio Sesquicentennial slogan at Columbus, Ohio to August 31, 1953.

The expected slogar in connection

More Opportunities For Slogan Fans

placed in use at the following post offices. Collectors can obtain an impression of them on their prepared envelopes which have a 3c

stamp, a name and address and contain a stuffer. Postal cards will also be serviced.

Massena, N. Y. will mark the 50th anniversary of powered flight to June 20.

Orion, Ill. will publicize its centennial from July 1 to December 31.

The expected slogan in connec-

A Scout Show Of Living Stamps

Willard H. Boyles

The area-wide Circus of the John-The area-wide Circus of the Johnny Appleseed Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, was rapidly approaching, and Troop 3 of Shelby, Ohio was still debating whether they would be represented by acrobats, clowns, animals — or what? Something DIFFERENT was urged, but what would it be? It was finally settled on the theme of "Living Stamps," a demonstration of Scouts acting out the parts in of Scouts acting out the parts in pantomine of the characters shown on postage stamps, using subjects of both United States and foreign stamp designs.

A script was written showing the mail service touching the life of every scout, every member of his family, in fact, everybody. The job of Master of Ceremonies was assigned to the Assistant Scout Master, who was to read the script in a spot light, the light then being turned to the stamp itself. One stamp was shown at a time, bestamp was shown at a time, be-

stamp was shown at a time, between huge velvet curtains.

The Circus was scheduled for the Ashland High School Auditorium, which offered seating for a large crowd of Scout fans, and families of Scouts. Waiting in the hall for the program to begin was too much for one Scout who remarked that he had heard a lot of the "Scout movement," and hoped that some of it "would begin now!"

Large frames had been prepared by the Scouts of the Troop, made of wood strips in the same proportion as to length and width as the stamp to be shown, and covered with cardboard. Stamp designs were drawn on the cardboard, and

were drawn on the cardboard, and painted in proper colors, leaving a cut-out space for the principal stamp character or subject. Once the project was under way, the Scouts were eager beavers in fin-

ishing the job.

One of the stamps selected was the U. S. 14c blue Indian head of 1922. The Scout wore the headdress of an Indian Chief. His head dress of an Indian Chief. His head the special in the appropriate made by appeared in the aperture made by cutting out the center of the design in the same position as that of the Chief on the original stamp.

the Chief on the original stamp. While this was to be pantomine, the Scout representing the Chief could not resist putting his hand to his mouth and withdrawing it to make successive war whoops which "brought down the house." Another design was the U. S. Liberty Bell stamp of 1926. One of the Shelby merchants John R. Kingboro, loaned the pioneer Wilson Family Dinner bell, which was used to call the first settlers of Shelby to their meals. This bell has a handle on it and a Scout showed the to their meals. This bell has a handle on it and a Scout showed the bell in the cutout space, and rang it to emulate the ringing of the original Liberty Bell to proclaim Liberty throughout the world. This too made a big hit.

A third stamp was a living Scout bugler blowing taps through the stamp frame, as shown on the Scout stamp of Turkey.

An incandescent lamp as depicted on the Edison stamp of the

ed on the Edison stamp of the United States Electric Light Golden Jubilee Issue of 1929, flicked on and off, natural as life. A Scout athlete off, natural as life. A Scout athlete posed as the runner at the starting mark, as shown on the 3c value of the 10th International Olympic Games issue, of 1932 in Los Angeles; Representing the reverent side of Scouting was the praying General George Washington, on the Valley Forge Issue of 1928.

While there were a few others the climax was the Mother's Day stamp, illustrated by the Whistler painting of his mother. A Scout in dress, and lace cap (made from an old lace curtain), sat in the aper-

an old lace curtain), sat in the aperture and rocked as any mother of that day would have done. The Day but a short time away, created a beautiful atmosphere for the M. C.'s tribute to Scout mothers, well applauded by the audience.

applauded by the audience.

Area officials stated afterward that "Living Stamps," an unexpected "dark horse" entry, had stolen the show.

The "act" or "stunt" or whatever one may want to call it, produced inquiries as to the details of production from as for every or

production from as far away as Connecticut. It could be used for

stamp exhibits, stamp club meetings, school entertainments, junior stamp club and boys' club work; or any other type of meeting desiring something unique and different.









Scout Stamp Check List Harry Thorsen

(Note: All numbers are from the Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalog unless indicated otherwise).

Austria-569.

Australia—216 (also 1952 issue). Cape of Good Hope—178-180. *

Czechoslovakia - 1-4 (Zum-

stein).*
Dutch Indies—B30-31
France—587, (also post card 1950, Scout archer).
Hungary—481-485, 551-554, B85, B110 B132.**
Iran (Persia)—937.

Iran (Persia)—937.
Jamaica—150-151.
Japan—467.
Liechtenstein—B12-13.
Lithuania—B47-50.
Netherlands—206-203, B195-196.
Nicaragua—718, C307 (also miniature sheets).
Philippines—528-529, 528a-529a,

Philippines—528-529, 528a-529a, Poland—334. Romania—B26-30, B31-36, B44-49, B50-54, B63-65. Siam—B12-30. (also post cards overprinted like stamps).* Turkey—809, RA105, RA143. United States of America—974,

Private Posts (D.P. Camps after World War II):—Estonia, Germany, Lithuania, Russia, Ukraine.

* Counterfeits are known to

exist.

** Imperforate copies may be reprints under Russian rule.

Liechtenstein expects to issue 3
Scout stamps in 1953.
Cacheted covers exist on most of the stamps since 1937.

There is no Scouting in Communist countries.









MAFEKING CADETS (Continued from page 1)

There is a story that this por-trait on the British stamps dis-pleased Queen Victoria, since only members of the royal family had been pictured on the colonial stamps.

Although the design had been made without Baden-Powell's knowledge, he realized that it might be misinterpreted, so that a new one was added showing his boy messenger on a bicycle for a 1 men were firing down this street, and I were to tell one of you to take a message across to a house on the other side, would you do it? I am sure you would. But probably you wouldn't like doing it.

But you want to prepare yourself

penny stamp value.

A group of boys had been organized as a Cadet Corps and was commanded by a youth known as Sergeant Major Goodyear, whose picture was used. This stamp also appears in blue ink on blue paper of which 9476 were printed.

Although the original "B. P."

stamp was produced to amuse the garrison as a special one of their own for local mail only, the postal adhesive did get abroad, and for a time it was believed it might hinder the advancement of the young officer who had become a general. Some authorities question the biography from which this story was taken since the 1 penny stamp was issued only two days after the

Baden-Powell stamps.
Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell organized his first troop of Boy Scouts in 1909 in England.
Through his efforts Scouting be-

came internationally known and adopted for boys of nearly all coun-tries. He died on January 8, 1941

at the age of 84.

Baden-Powell's own account of the "Mafeking Cadets" is presented herewith excerpted from his "Scouting For Boys." It reads:—

We had an example of how useful boys can be on active service when a corps of boys was formed in the defense of Mafeking, 1899-

Mafeking was quite a small or-dinary country town out on the open plains of South Africa.

Nobody ever thought of its being attacked by an enemy, any more than you would expect your town (or village) to be attacked — the thing was so improbable.

But it just shows you how you must be prepared for what is possible, not only what is probable in war; and so too, we ought to be prepared in Britain against being attacked by enemies; for though it may not be probable, it is quite possible as it was at Mafeking.

Well, when we found we were to be attacked at Mafeking, we told off our garrison to the points that they were to protect — some 700 trained men, police, and volunteers. And then we armed the townsmen, of whom there were some 300. Some of them were old frontiersmen, and of them were old frontiersmen, and quite equal to the occasion; but clerks, and others, had never seen a rifle pefore, and had never tried to learn to drill or to shoot, and so they were hopelessly at sea at first. It is not much fun to have to face an enemy who means to kill you, when you have never learned to shoot.

Altogether, then, we only had about a they and more all told to

about a thousand men all told to defend the place, which contained 600 white women and children and about 7,000 natives, and was about five miles round.

Every man was of value, and as their numbers gradually got less, owing to men getting killed and wounded, the duties of fighting and keeping watch at night got harder for the rest. It was then that Lord Edward Cecil, the chief staff officer, got together the boys in the place and made them into a cadet corps, put them in uniform and drilled them; and a jolly smart and

useful lot they were.

We had till then used a large number of men for carrying orders and messages and keeping look-out, and acting as orderlies, and so on. These duties were now handed over to the boy cadets, and the men were released to go and strengthen the firing-line.

And the cadets, under their sergeant-major, a boy named Good-year, did right good work, and well deserved the medals which they got at the end of the war. Many of them rode bicycles, and we were thus able to establish a post were thus able to establish a post by which people could send letters to their friends in the different forts, or about the town, without going out under fire themselves; these letters which had on them a picture of a cadet bicycle orderly. (Also one of Baden-Powell)

I said to one of these boys on I said to one of these boys on one occasion, when he came in through rather a heavy fire: "You will get hit one of these days riding about like that when shells are flying." And he replied: "I pedal so quick, sir, they'd never catch me." These boys didn't seem to mind the bullets one bit; they were always ready to carry out orders, though it meant risk to their life every time.

life every time.

Would any of you do that? If an enemy were firing down this street, and I were to tell one of you to

But you want to prepare yourself for it beforehand. It's just like taking a header into cold water; a fellow who is accustomed to bath-ing thinks nothing of it; he has practised it over and over again, but ask a fellow to do it who has never practised it, and he will flunk it.

So, too, with a boy who has been accustomed to obey orders at once, whether there is risk about it or not; the moment you order him to do a thing on active service, no matter how great the danger is to him he does it, while another chap who has never cared to obey would object, and would then be despised as a coward even by his former friends.

But you need not have a war in order to be useful as a scout. As a peace scout there is lots for you to do any day, wherever you may





SOS Convention At Scout Jamboree July

Scouts on Stamps Society will hold their first national convention at the Third National Jamboree, Sunday 2 to 4 p.m. at Santa Ana,

Calif.

An exhibit of rare Scout covers and Stamps will be under the direction of Glenwood F. Penslien, Jamboree Scoutmaster, Troop 4, Section 19.

All interested Scouts, leaders, and collectors are invited. Non-competitive exhibitions of Scout collections are welcome. They are to be sent to G. F. Penslien, 20 Walter

Ave., Tonawanda, N.Y.

SOS president Harry Thorsen will discuss counterfeits of Scout