

EDITORIAL

The article which follows takes the place of the Editorial this time: no comment from me, is, I'm sure, needed.

Flog a Willing Horse

By the Hon. Secretary

It is more in sorrow than in anger that I write, but I do feel that the willing, voluntary services of the few in the running of our Club - yes, yours and mine - are not being appreciated by all our members. The Club exists for the pleasure and benefit of all members, and as a means of making these benefits available to many, a small band of workers give freely of their time and activities. I might almost repeat that last sentence in another way: the running of the Club is undertaken by four people who receive no payment whatsoever for their efforts, despite the fact that they may each give up as much as ten hours per week of their spare time - for the benefit of you, dear member.

Why, then, the complaint? Unfortunately some of our members seem to be under the impression that we exist merely to serve their convenience. It is wrong that the Assistant Secretary should have to send four reminders re the payment of an outstanding subscription, and I regard it as discourteous for a person to fail to send at least a postcard signifying that they no longer wish to continue their membership, if such is the case. Another loyal member addresses and sends out all the Journals - 250 of them - within a day or two of receiving them. It is, therefore, churlish of a member - to say the least - to write and complain that his Journal arrived a few days late. As Secretary, I suppose I must expect most criticisms to come to me but, frankly, I am at times astounded at the things members expect for their ten shillings per year subscription. Some of the requests made you would not even expect your very best friend to be lumbered with, let alone the Hon. Sec. who, entirely in his spare time, may have as many as 15 letters a day to write about Club business. If an item offered by the Sales Bureau is sold out by the time you get your order in, don't write and complain. You could have written earlier, or you can gain your wisdom the hard way and expect to pay a little more by purchasing from another source.

The free advertising facilities are also abused. The intention is that you can have about four lines of free advertising per year, and if you want any more you must pay for it. If your first advert. doesn't bring much business it's no good complaining and saying you refuse to pay for another; the simple answer is that your first advert. didn't offer what members wanted, and if you want to try again, then you must

pay for the privilege.

Finally, for the price of about one cigarette a week (by U.K. prices) you receive a Journal every two months, membership list, priced check list, free advertising, cancellation reproductions, an advisory service, and a chance to secure items at real bargain prices. Members near London have the additional chance of attending meetings and displays. All this for ten pence a month. Just remember, will you, that if you flog a willing horse too much you might kill it. When an activity which started as a pleasure becomes a millstone there is a warning signal. And now, having got all this off my chest - on behalf, also, of my colleagues - the remedy lies, dear member, with you.

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A PERSONAL NOTE

from the Hon. Sec.

Since the Club began early in 1957, I have been privileged to know many members as friends. In some cases, this friendship has grown and ripened, and I have felt that I have really known the member all my life. One such member and I corresponded for a long time, telling each other about our homes, friends, Scout troops, and the like, as well as dealing with Scout stamp matters. It is, therefore, with the greatest regret that I have to record the death of this member, WALTER BUBEN, of Chicago, U.S.A.

To his wife and family we send our heartfelt sympathy, and it is with deep satisfaction that we record that the members of the Troop Committee of which Walt was a Scouter have instituted a fund to assist in the education of his children. To those of you who knew him I recommend your support; remittances should be sent to the Walter Buben Trust Fund, Troop Committee, 2325E, 83rd. Street, Chicago 17, Illinois, U.S.A.

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THE MAFEKING BADEN POWELL STAMPS

by the Editor

In the first two issues of the-Journal I discussed the Mafeking B-P stamps at some length. Whilst looking through some old stamp magazines the other day I came across a notice which appeared in the "Mafeking Mail", dated April 8th. 1900 and reproduce it here with some comments of my own.

"NOTICE

The new issue of stamps bearing the Colonel's photograph will be produced on Monday, the 9th. inst. These stamps can only be issued on production of letters addressed locally (Mafeking & Forts). No person can at present be allowed to hand to the

officer in charge of the Siege Post Office more than one letter per diem.

J. V. Howart, Postmaster.

Mafeking, April 7th. 1900."

We can draw some interesting conclusions from this notice. Firstly, that the stamps were definitely introduced for local use only; secondly that it was intended that their use on letters was to be restricted. I wonder if the Siege Post Officer kept a check during the first few weeks following the promulgation of this notice, to see that only one letter per day was posted by any one person and that these letters were local ones? I rather doubt it, because it is well known from covers which exist that he, or members of his staff, allowed letters bearing these 'local' stamps and addressed to places outside the town to be handstamped and conveyed by native runner and then by train to the Cape - the charge for conveyance of such mail by this route was understandably high for it involved the native mail runners risking their lives in passing through the Boer lines. That many attempts were successful was undoubtedly due to the scouting ability of these runners!

Although the notice states that the stamps would be available on April 9th., some of the 3d. B-P stamps, small size, are known to have been used on the 7th. April, the date the notice appeared in the press.

Perhaps it would be fair to say that there was some excuse for the Siege postal staff to act contrary to regulations. The conditions under which they worked were most hazardous and must have been very grim, and, at times, sufficiently disturbing for them not to worry about postal instructions. Maybe one or more of those employed in the office, being interested in philately, allowed such mail to pass - par complaisance - they may have even despatched some themselves! Whatever the reason, these souvenirs still exist today and are much sought after and prized by those of us interested in Scout stamps and by those who collect campaign covers.

Although nothing to do with these notes, it may be of interest to members to know that these Mafeking stamps have again received a boost in price in the latest S.G. catalogue: these figures are now, S.G. 20 ... £12 mint, £9 used, G.S. 21 or 22 ... £25 mint, £12 used.

These prices are, of course, for well centred copies and, as I have already said in previous articles, not all of these stamps can be found in perfect condition.

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### SWISS SCOUT POSTMARKS

by Howard Fears

I had known for some time that a prominent gap in my Scout collection was in respect of material from Switzerland. Hard

work on the part of a dealer in that country has eased the position, by supplying-me with the following:-

Cover from the first National Swiss Scout Camp held at Berne in 1925. The camp cancellation is inscribed - "I SCHWEIZ PFADFINDER-LAGER \* BERN 1925."

Next on the list are two covers connected with the 3rd. National Camp in 1938. The first is a cover with a pre-camp slogan cancellation "SCHWEIZ PFADFINDER - BUNDESLAGER ZÜRICH. 25.VIII,1938." At the actual camp, a mobile Post Office was in use with cancellation "SCHWEIZ AUTOMOBIL - POST BUREAU, 2. A handstamp in red bears the wording "ZÜRICH 3 Schweiz Pfadfinder - Bunderslager, 1938."

The next event commemorated is the 5th. National Camp in 1956. Four examples of pre-camp slogans were sent, the slogan reading - Bien venue au 5<sup>e</sup> Camp National des Éclaireurs Suisses Saignelégier - 24 juillet - 2 août 1956". Examples of this slogan came from Le Locle, Neuchatel, Bienne and La Chaux-de-Fonds. From the actual camp at Saignelégier comes the special cancellation on the cover confirming "5<sup>E</sup> CAMP NATIONAL DES ÉCLAIREURS SUISSES" .

These acquisitions have helped to fill the gaps in the period up to 1957. I already had material from two other Scouting events -

A camp cover from the 2nd. National camp in Geneva in 1932. Not only does the cancellation show the camp's nature, but the registration label - first day, its number is 005 - has written on it, in mauve - "GENÈVE 2<sup>D</sup> CAMP NATIONAL DES ÉCALIREURS SUISSES".

Two covers from the 5th. International Rover Moot held at Kanderstag in 1953. Apart from the cancellation of the 2nd. Mobile P.O. there is also a handstamp with a leaf design inscribed "ROVER MOOT KANDERSTAG 29 JULI - 8 AUGUST 1953".

This had reduced my pre-1957 gaps to two as far as I can trace. These are the special cancellations - and registration label - from the first Rover Moot at Kanderstag in 1931 and the handstamp and mobile P.O. cancel from the 4th. National camp held at LUGANO - TREVANO in 1948. I am, hopefully, on the track, but have o objection to assistance if anyone is keen enough to help! If you think I -have missed any, do let me know, or, better still, send me an example - and if you add "You can keep it for your collection" you'll be my friend for life... some hopes!

(If you can add anything to the above, please drop me a line. Editor)

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### INVESTMENT GUIDE

by Howard L. Fears

After a lapse for the last two or three issues, it's about time we had a look round at the Scout Stamp Market.

In the high-finance department we must place the Mafeking stamps. Whether you go in for overprints or only Sergeant-Major Goodyear and B.P.'s head, the prices are going up and up. It isn't only Scout people who want these stamps, and I feel that in a few years only those with deep pockets will be able to afford more than a representative selection. Snaffle up any odd values that come your way; not so long ago you could take the basis of one-third of Gibbons' prices, but now you may have to pay half of their latest figures - and they represent quite an increase in themselves.

Scout and Guide material from Hungary is restricted, and covers from the 1933 'Godollo' Jamboree are commanding a good price. The 1939 Guide stamps, especially on cover, are also in demand, and don't forget that even apparent duplicates may really be quite different. The use of different cancel letters means that the full set is difficult to obtain, and some of these "letters" are harder to trace than others. Thus unless you are really 'in the know' you may pay an excessive price for a common item, or get away with a cheap price for a rarity. Perhaps one of our members who has made a study of the subject would care to give his views on the relative scarcity values.

Coming to the present; the Jubilee of Guiding is attracting renewed interest in Guide stamps. If there are any gaps in your collection to date, fill them now, and keep abreast of the new issues by buying them when issued - don't leave them until later, because then you will find the price has gone up. The Viet-Nam stamps and covers seem most elusive. Perhaps the supply is taking a long time to come through. By comparison the market is flooded with covers of the U.S. and Canal Zone stamps. I have heard of U.S. members with about 60 different cachets in their collection. Every man to his taste, but I don't think I should want to do that.

One final comment. Do you remember the New Zealand Scout and Guide pair? Plenty of them about at a reasonable price. Soon after issue there was a N.Z. Jamboree with a special cancel. All very straightforward, and by no means expensive. But covers with that cancel seem to have been absorbed by the market, and I detect an increase in the price of the stamps themselves. Don't say I never give you a reasonable tip.

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### ANNUAL AUCTION

Contributed by the President

You will recall that a few months ago our worthy Secretary, Mr. H. L. Fears, organised an auction of material contributed by our members in aid of the Baden-Powell House Fund.

This year we again propose to run a similar auction, again in aid of an excellent cause, namely, the Scout Stamps Collectors Club! In the course of the next twelve months, our Society, in order to maintain, nay improve the standard of efficiency, must incur a number of financial liabilities. Briefly, these liabilities are:-

1. Initial outlay to cover Mr. Fears' Sales Bureau scheme.
2. A moderate sum to cover expenses incurred by our newly elected Publicity Officer (high time we blew our own trumpet anyway).
3. January 1961 is the date for the revised edition of the Club catalogue (very expensive).
4. Looking further ahead, the Committee hope to compile a mammoth volume containing listings of all known Scout material - country by country. Not only ambitious, but a costly undertaking.
5. If there is any surplus after the foregoing (pew, the nerve of the man!) there are also such pleasantries as Membership Cards, printed stationery for our two hard-working secretaries etc.....

We feel sure that you will all rally round in order to consolidate the workings of the Club. Have a good old root around in your swop box and send whatever you can spare to ROY E. RHODES (about time he did something to earn his keep). The Auction will appear in the September issue of the Journal (we hope). However, please get your contribution in promptly, just to make life easy for the poor old soul.

R. E. RHODES, 38 RICHMOND AVENUE, HIGHAMS PARK, LONDON, E. 4.  
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Another selection of weird stuff on which your offers are invited. Closing date will be the last day of June, when successful bidders will be notified. (\* not philatelic.)

1. 1952 Portugal. Blue label of 9th. National Camp, Coimbra.
2. 1913 France. Rare Scout label showing rescue from drowning.
3. 1949 Japan. Scout stamp mint block of 9.
4. 1957 Nicaragua. Pair of imperf. miniature sheets.
5. 1952 Jamaica. Pair mint in IMPRINT blocks of 8.
6. 1957 Liechtenstein. Complete mint sheet of 12.
7. 1957 Cuba. Jamboree pair in half sheets of 25.
8. 1948 Nicaragua. 2 cent blue. Sheet of 25.
9. 1957 Cuba. Jamboree set official G.P.O. folder.
10. 1958 Austria. Card bearing 2nd. Skiing Championship postmark and specimen of rejected essay of 1957 stamp signed by the designer.
11. 1946 Sweden. Bjorkolagret pmk. on card.
12. 1946 Sweden. Gransolagret pmk. on card.
13. 1947 Sweden. Orebro N.T.O. camp pmk. on cover.
14. 1951 Sweden. Kramfors Vildmarkslagret pmk. on cover.
15. 1953 Liechtenstein. Set of 4 used on special card.
16. 1957 G.B. Jamboree pmk. (10th. Aug.) on Swedish reply card.
17. 1937 Austria. Internat. Scout Exposition, Vienna pmk. on card.

18. 1940 Hungary. Air set of three superb used on card.
19. 1939 Hungary. I PAX TING set used on two pieces. Stamps in poor condition but cancellations good (Type B).
20. 1948 Philippines. Imperf. pair used on F.D. cachetted cover with Manila Scout pmk.
21. 1954 Israel. Ramat Gan camp pmk. on cover.
22. 1954 G.B. 1st. Seaford Scout Summer Camp cover posted in Jersey, Guernsey and Herm Island.
23. 1959 Philippines. Jamboree miniature sheet used on last day cover with special cancellation.
24. \*1937 Holland. Somewhat faded but desirable World Jamboree pennant.
25. \*1955/7 Collection of 6 pennants, i.e. 1955 Canadian Jamboree, 1957 Sutton Coldfield, 1957 Gilwell, 1957 Valley Forge Jamboree (huge), and Roland House and Yorks Wood.
26. 1940 Hungary. Air set of 3 in mint blocks of 4.

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RESEARCH TOPIC: GEORGE ROBEY STAMPS

by Howard L. Fears

Any survey of English Scout material will have to include the few labels which have been issued over the years. The most intriguing of these labels, in my opinion, are the George Robey "stamps", and by recording the small amount of information in my possession about these stamps, I am hoping that other members will contribute their knowledge to fill in the gaps.

In the era "between the Wars", George Robey was a well-known comedian, his name being a household word. In my collection I have a block of 12 stamps, each showing a portrait of Robey, each stamp including the inscription "GEORGE ROBEY STAMPS" at the top, and "To help PRINCE of WALES BOY SCOUTS FUND" at the bottom. Each portrait is different, showing head and shoulders, but the first three show Robey in Scout hat, shirt, and neckerchief (apparently before the days of woggles). All the remaining nine portraits have no apparent connection with Scouting other than the inscription - George is shown in various comedian's outfits or "as himself".

Did the whole sheet consist of 12 stamps? I can't say. One side of my block has a margin, and someone, at some stage, has obligingly written thereon: "These were sold when first issued at 1/- the set to help the fund". I must add that it cost much more than one penny per set when I purchased them; the set of 12 cost me about 25/-!

Who was the printer? What was the date of issue? And what about the fund set up by the Prince of Wales? It is half in the hope that someone else can answer these questions that I pass them over to you.

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FROM MY COLLECTION - SWEDEN

An interesting group in my collection is formed by the Swedish section. Sweden has proved to be a prolific source of material, despite the fact that it has not yet produced a special Scout or Guide stamp. The Swedish Postal Authorities have, however, co-operated with the Scout and Guide movements by producing special commemorative postmarks for Jamborettes and other special events. Lists of these have been given in previous issues of the Journal. A special Post Office is normally set up in the camp, as well as using a special postmark, there are often also special registration labels available. The movements themselves often issue special labels for the camps for affixing to outgoing mail. These are always bright and attractive and their gay colours show up to advantage in a black leaved album.

In 1955 the Swedish Scout Association (Sveriges Scoutforbund) held six special camps and for each of these there was a special cancellation and label. The cancellations were the same design in each case, the only difference being in the name of the camp. The labels also had the same basic design, an outline map of Sweden in yellow on a blue background, and on this was placed the camp badge. A recent example is the Amundo Jamborette held by the Swedish Y.M.C.A. Scout Association last year. A special postmark was used by the camp Post Office and special registration labels were available. The camp authorities provided a special camp label, based on the camp badge, for affixing to outgoing mail and also issued a special cacheted First Day Cover.

A number of Girl Guide (Sveriges Flickers Scoutforbund) Camps have also been honoured with special postmarks. A recent example was that of the Vastgotaresan Camp held last year. A special post office was set up with its commemorative cancellation, and special registration labels, while the association provided a special camp label. Similar facilities were provided for the Tromtolagret held in 1954.

Each year the Svenska Scoutanionem (S.S.U.) issue a special seal in aid of their funds and these also make an interesting addition to a collection, as they are attractively produced and well designed. In recent years a different design has been used for each seal but in previous years the same design was retained and only the colour changed. This occurred in 1945/49 when the design was St. George and the Dragon and in 1949/50 when it was a sketch of Count Bernadotte.

A number of special seals and labels were issued prior to 1945 but information regarding these is difficult to obtain. I would therefore be pleased to hear from any person who has any information regarding these. I could then gather it into one article and thus make the information on this subject more readily accessible.

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AUCTION SALE - entries to Mr. H. Fears by June 30th., giving maximum bids. Some of the items are really good, as you will see.

1. World Jamboree at Birkenhead; 1929. Registered cover with 2 distinct strikes of the "ARROWE PARK" cancel.

2. 1937 All-India Jamboree. Rocket Mail. Price List sent by rocket on Feb. 1st. 1937, with cancel and signed by Stephen H. Smith, the organiser. 150 only exist.
3. 1937 World Jamboree in Holland. Cover bearing 12½ c. Scout stamp sent by air-mail to France, with 2 very clear Jamboree cancel strikes.
4. A George Robey label (for Prince of Wales "Scout" fund).
5. 1957 U. S. Valley Forge Jamboree. 3 covers with different cachets, 2 with Scout stamp, and all bearing Jamboree cancels.
6. 1956 First Day Cover from 2nd. Pan Arab Jamboree; with cachet, full set of 3 Egyptian Scout stamps and camp cancels.
7. 1947 France. World Jamboree. Scout card with Jamboree emblem, Scout stamp and camp cancel.
8. 1956 U. S. A. Scout Fair. Cover with cancel "Boy Scout Fair Convention Sta., Reading, Pa."
9. F. D. C. from Pan-Pacific Jamboree. New Zealand Jan. 1959. Registered label showing scarce wording "Pan-Pacific Scout Jamboree". Scout stamps and Jamboree cancels.

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#### MONEY

by the Hon. Treasurer

The closing of the third financial year on Feb. 27th. 1960 showed that counting the credit balance carried forward from the previous year, gross income from all sources (including subs., donations, Sales Bureau and auction realisations) totalled £117. 12. 7. Expenses (including printing, postage, purchases of material for the Sales Bureau, Advertising, Stationery and sundries) for the same period came to £90. 2. 9½. The carry forward balance of £27. 9. 9½ compares with a figure of £6. 10. 2½ twelve months before.

We have certain outstanding liabilities at the time of writing (28.2.60). The next Journal will include a revised Members' List, and counting the postage, the cost of this will probably exceed £10. From a number of sources monies are owed to the Club, and the total of these credits is more than £5. In addition renewal subscriptions paid to Mr. Blunt during February will not show as an entry on my book-keeping record until March.

The composite picture is, therefore, more favourable than at the end of either of our previous years. We still have to watch expenditure carefully, but at least we have got (permanently, I hope) beyond the stage of having to make loans to the Club to help with the bills.

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SALES BUREAU

by the Hon. Sec.

Permanent List. The response from members has been most gratifying, proving that this List will provide a most useful service. If you want to join (and for details see the March 1960 Journal) kindly send 10/- or \$2.00 straight away.

Publications. The issues reprinted and detailed in the last Journal are still available.

1957 Jamboree Booklet. Completely sold out.

Offers. Although supplies of the Greek Scout set on cover and also the Canadian Guide stamp on cover should have reached me by the time this Journal is published, they have not done so as I write, and I am thus unable to give prices. All those on the Permanent List will get them for sure, however, the current offers are as follows:-

1. U.K. Scout H.Q. Official slogan meter franks on covers. Set of 6 covers covering years 1951 to 1955, for 5/- the lot, plus post, or \$1.00 post free.
2. I have secured another very small "remainder" lot of the 1958 cacheted cover for the 32nd. Annual Gilwell Reunion. 6d. each, first come, first served, and I cannot hope to get any more after this.
3. Cuba 1957. The Scout pair, 4c and 12c mint. As the result of a very advantageous purchase, I can offer the pair at 2/3d., or block of 4 at 8/6d. The total stock is only 20 stamps, so if you want a block larger than four, write quickly.
4. Offers 1, 2, and 3 all in one. Would cost 7/9d. plus post, but if you buy one of each, will clear at 7/6d. including post.
5. Philippine Scout set complete on 2 cacheted covers. Both covers have Scout cancel, and the 6c and 25c values are included both as singles and tete-beche pair. Normal price 30/- at least. I have only one pair of the covers, and the first remittance for 21/- will secure.

For your wants, write to the Hon. Sec.

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NEW MEMBERS. A big welcome to the following new members: we hope they will enjoy being with us.

No. 256 2.4.60 The Badgers Club, c/o W.E. Amiss, 92 Chapel St., Luton, Beds.

No. 257 4.4.60 Anthony Branwhite, 14 Ickniel Way, Tring, Herts.

- No. 258 4.4.60 David Johnson, 31 Woodlands Avenue, Berkhamsted,  
Herts.
- No. 259 4.4.60 Michel Van-Enst, Flat 6, Lagley, High St.,  
Northchurch, Berkhamsted, Herts.

(The last three are Juniors)

DELETIONS: - Please delete from your list the following: -  
3, 17, 103, 108, 149, 177, 185, 190, 191, 193, 194, 195, 204 & 207.

CHANGES IN NAME and/or ADDRESS

- No. 8 Should read W.A. Collins, 292 B, Poulton Rd., Fleetwood, Lancs.  
No.20 " " W.J.Reddin, Aitken House, U.N.B. Fredericton,  
New Brunswick, Canada.
- No.60 " " Flight Lieutenant D.C.D.Potter, Officers Mess,  
Royal Air Force, Driffield, Yorks.
- No.47 " " Frank Ford, c/o Wilson, 29 Havelock St., Glasgow,W  
No.250 " " A.H.Scott, 119 Humberstone Rd., Luton, Beds.

GONE HOME: We regret to report the death of member No.142 - W.Buben  
- kindly delete his name from your membership list.

FUTURE CHANGE: As from May 2nd. Member No.61 - Mr. A.H.Nicholson  
will reside at 16 Munn's Drive, Burgess Hill, Sussex. When writing  
to him please use full initials to avoid any confusion.

We are very pleased to add to our ranks the Editor of the  
Badger's Club, Mr. W.E.Amiss. If you wish to know anything about  
Scout badges, whether they are associated with Great Britain or  
any other country in which there are Scouts, I suggest you write  
to Mr. Amiss and ask for particulars of joining the Badger's Club.

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Some of you will undoubtedly have a few unused postcards,  
either of places you have visited or of where you live, and also  
copies of Scout Magazines you may not now want. I suggest you  
could very well do a good turn by sending these postcards and  
Scout magazines to Mr. Colin Mc.Arthur who has, for twelve years,  
been confined to a wheel chair. His address is "Weernale",  
Royal Ryde Home for Incurables, Morrison Road, Ryde, New South  
Wales, Australia. Do what you can, won't you.

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The late circulating of this Journal is due entirely to my  
having to go away on duty unexpectedly, just at the time it should  
have gone to print, and being away for a fortnight; it shouldn't  
happen again - in any case, I shall "Be Prepared" next time!

Yours sincerely,

WILF NODDER.

ADVERT:

Wanted: Copy of 3d, B.P. Mafeking stamp, large - Harry A. Harchar, Editor "Boy's Life", New Brunswick, New Jersey, U.S.A.

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STOP PRESS FROM THE HON. SEC. (So urgent it has been sent direct to the Printer!)

1. In August the World Scouters' Indaba is being held in Holland, and amongst other arrangements a special Scout cancel will be employed. Member Wim Six has suggested that if enough members of S.S.C.C., (or our sister society, S.O.S.S.) are available, a special meeting can be arranged. If you are likely to attend the Indaba, or to be available in Holland on August 2nd. please write AT ONCE direct to Mr. W.SIX, LINNAEUSLAAN 27, HAARLEM, HOLLAND.
2. Within a few days of writing this the first Permanent List distribution will be made. It will include Canadian Guide F.D.C. at 1/3d, and cacheted Viet-Nam F.D.C. at 11/-. At this stage I cannot say whether supplies will be sufficient to make a general offer; the best way to be sure is to join the Permanent List. Deposit 10/- or \$2.00 - contact the Hon. Sec. NOW.

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