

MARCH, 1965.

The Journal
of the
Scout Stamps Collectors Club



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MARCH, 1965.

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Well, well, well! How unobservant you all are! In the last issue we made a splash of the fact that it was the 50th issue of the Journal, and not one of you wrote to say that it wasn't! Due to the changing of the date 'Jan. 1966' to 'Jan. 1965' in various letters that passed between Wilf. and Howard, I took the earlier date as the Jubilee date, and only when checking through earlier issues did I find the error. Shame on the founder-members who could have easily discovered this --- and didn't.

I wonder how blind our members are? An item in the auction was given an estimated price that was less than its original 'New Issue' price, and which was a good item for exchange purposes ----- not a single bid on it!!!! On the subject of the auction, I would be pleased to know if members are interested in further auctions. I have had offers of other members' material to be disposed in this way, and as a supplement to the Club Packet (which is restricted to U.K. members) should prove a useful source of revenue to the Club from the commission angle, and also to the buyers and sellers alike. I have already had items sent which duplicate some of the lots in the January auction, and I shall be sending these off in the course of the next week or so.

It is still difficult to gauge the interest in various aspects of the Journal -- the correct weighting of use of space for such items as stamps, cancellations, labels, specialist studies etc. To give us some idea, will you consider the January and March issues and list out the items that were:

1. Of direct personal interest, and helped with your collection.
2. Of interest to read, but not directly concerned with you.
3. Items that you would not have minded if they had been omitted!

Now be honest about things, and let Wilf. or I have your comments. We appreciate your praise, but can only improve the Journal by having your criticism as well!

JOHN D. ROAKE.

FROM THE EDITOR'S IN-TRAY.

My grateful thanks to.....

.....T.BAXTER (member 544), for searching through his records of the 1920 Jamboree Camp held at Richmond Park., in an endeavour to answer the query raised by the Rev. Basil Bennett in our last Journal. He writes-- "I can find no mention whatever of the postal facilities - apparently the normal postal services were deemed adequate. What I did find in both the Jamboree Book and in a copy of the 'Daily Scout' dated Tuesday, August 3rd., were references to a Stamp Collector's competition and also a stamp stall at the Jamboree. Heading the winners of the Great Britain section was 'Scout F. Godden of the 28th. Beckenham Troop' I wonder if this was THE Frank Godden of the Strand? Unfortunately, I was unable to go to that Jamboree as I had my own Troop in camp at Rockingham, Northants, but I did have the pleasure of signing the log book of the Nottingham Troop's team in the Cycle Marathon as they passed through Rockingham on their way to the Jamboree". He kindly offered to copy cut the various articles mentioned for anyone interested. If any member would like to borrow them, will he or she please write to the Editor.

.....HARRY THORSEN (member 302) for kindly sending me particulars and an example of an envelope used for the National Expansion Campaign by the Boy Scouts Association of Jamaica which has an official free franking. He mentions that it could be the only example of this type of postal stationery now in use. In the United States, such a privilege is extended only to Senators, Congressmen and the Department of Government and to former Presidents and their widows during their lifetime. He has made a donation to this Campaign and has received a small supply of these envelopes and is willing to send one to anyone sending him a self addressed stamped envelope and any First Day cover of Scouting interest.

.....R.D. ALLEN (member 320) for drawing my attention to an omission on my part in the article on page 50 of the January Journal. I should have stated that the copyright of the article is by Capt. M.F. Stern, the author who is, of course also the District Commissioner concerned. I hope this correction together with my apologies will be acceptable. By the way, I should have mentioned that Mr. Allen is the Honorary Editor of 'The Springbok'.

.....A. GEERING (member 498) for sending me a tracing of a pre-war Scout's "Thanks Badge" which he had presented to him by the 23rd. Eastbourne Troop in 1932 for his services as Signalling Instructor. The design is a Swastika on which is superimposed the Scout fleur-de-lys. He was later presented with the current "Thanks Badge" by the 1st. Willingdon Troop. It is understandable, for obvious reasons why the design had to be changed, due to the association of idea with the Hitler-regime.

.....FRANCISCO VALADEZ (member 59) who once again has favoured me with copies of the last two issues of "Revista Scout De Las America". The latest number of this publication is devoted to last year's Jamaican Conference. My one regret is that I cannot read Spanish.

.....Dr. M. MOSER (member 717) refers to references to the Austrian "black prints" (page 74, May 1963 and page 93 July 1963) and writes:- "In the Journal I found wrong information given about the "proofs" (the "Schwarzdrucke" as we say) of the Austrian Scout stamps. In case you have not the correct information I add it here. Such black "proofs" are issued of every Austrian stamp in limited numbers. The actual number issued are of the Scout stamp 1951 (Michel 966); 800 copies, of the 1962 stamp 2000. The prices of these are here now about 450.- and 90.- Austrian schillings (1 pound is about 73 Austrian schillings).

.....FREDY SCHERB (Switzerland) writes:- W. Tom Holton informed me about an interesting card in his Swiss Scout collection, sent from Glarus the 18.VII.22, addressed to General Rob. Baden-Powell with a hand-drawing on the front (cub in mountains) and a seal (red + black print) on the back (mountain screen - Swiss flag - tent - Scout - 1912-1922). B.P. must have had fun!

The Surinam Girl Scouts already had a Kamppostkantoor cancel during their camp in 1961. Thus I supposed that a similar postmark would be in use during their "Bigi Kroetoe" Jamborette from August 20th to 30th 1964, sent the announcement folder (where the 20c+10 stamp is pictured - I put a real one on the opposite side) to Paramaribo and asked for such a postmark. The reply was prompt: I received the folder back including the cancel from camp "Kamppostkantoor) Zanderij Jamborette Bigi Kroetoe 20-30 augustus 1964" and 2 cancels from the near Airport "Zanderij-Luchthaven 2 30VIII64--".



IS CLOSED FOR THIS MONTH !

-----ooOoo-----

I am afraid that for this month there is no contribution from our President. Roy has always said that his duties to his Scout Group and District must always take precedence to any other activity, and with the season of Annual General Meetings and Annual Accounts to be prepared, he has not had time for his usual 'chat' about the activities of the last few weeks. However, I will do the best to recount in Roy's style, some of the items he has discussed with me since the last issue.

..... JDR

R. E. R. "Well, 1965 is bringing its crop of visitors to this shore; Spent a very enjoyable evening with SHERMAN PRATT of Baltimore, U. S. A. when he passed through (or should it be 'thru') London in February. PETER DUCK, ERIC STEELE, JOHNNY ROAKE and myself were hard at it for several hours talking stamps, looking at stamps, and extolling the virtues of the S. S. C. C. Funny thing was that we all thought that Sherman was a member of the SSCC as well as SOSSI ----- and then we found he wasn't!!! Five minutes and two 'greenbacks' later, I Presidentially presided at his election as a member of OUR Club."

"All very confusing to have to divide my attentions between the two clubs -- I've now been elected a Director of SOSSI, although I haven't discovered what I have to direct! Does it mean that I will have to travel to the States for Board Meetings? I hope there's a late bus to get me home afterwards!"

"I was very interested to see the illustrated list that our friends of Healey and Wise have produced with the complete listing of the cancellations of Austria, and illustrations of each one. There are clear illustrations of the two types of cancel from 1951 (Bad Ischl) Look at the date-line of your copy --- Has the '9' of 1951 a straight leg or a curly leg? There are other subtle differences to look for."

"I was pleased to see so many folk at our last Roland House Meeting. These meetings are held every two months, and as well as bemoaning the arrival of all this Dubai rubbish etc., we do get down to solid discussion, and we have had many interesting displays. At the Jumble Sale last time, we had a real scrambles and it was interesting to see Commissioners and other dignified members of the Movement attacking wares with the fervour of dedicated bloodhounds!"

(Here follows a pause as the Assistant Editor's life to answer the telephone --- President Rhodes at the other end, full of apologies!

Roy tells me that there is an excellent article in the January issue of the Gibbons' Stamp Monthly concerning the Fiji Scout Stamps. He suggests you all try to get a copy.

What about the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan? What a hash they made of that issue. A note from PETER DUCK says that he heard from the Director of Posts in Jordan, in which the Director said that the Jordan Scout stamps were not available in the Post Offices of his country. Roy makes a disgruntled reply about this, and says that he was not surprised, and as for the min. sheet, it looks more like a jampot label or luggage label!

Perusing his stockbook, our President suggests that we all make use of the listing of German Cancels and complete them while they are in plentiful supply.

Concerning the Annual General Meeting the President would be pleased to hear from any members that are going to be available all day to do some work in getting things ready and organising various aspects of the day's jollifications.

On hearing from me that there was a new issue from Paraguay, and the high face-value involved, Roy nearly exploded the telephone line between London and Weybridge. His actual words were "Oh lor',..... (this part has been 'edited').....It can't go on!"

As a matter of interest, a certain dealer, who has a very high standard, refused to stock the first Paraguay issue on the grounds that it was a speculative issue, distributed through an agency at well above face-value. This was in keeping with the views of many of us concerning these types of issue. His customers then became rather upset that he did not have them for sale. What is one to do --- stop the supply? ... or stop the demand? Thirty Dollars or Ten Guineas for the current Paraguay will do one or the other, I'm sure!!!

JOHNNY ROAKE, assisted by
conversations with ROY E. RHODES.

THE SECRETARY – GENERAL WRITES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Please make a note now of this important event: The place : Baden-Powell House. The day : Saturday May 1st. The times : well, in the morning there will be a display and a chance for 'swopping' etc. The Official A.G.M. is timed for 2.30 p.m. but we should like to get the business through as quickly as possible so that we can proceed to the more interesting affairs. This year, rather than have a single display in the afternoon, we intend to divide into several "groups", with a chance for members to participate in all of them. Thus Mr. NICHOLSON and the Hon. Sec. will be dealing with the Club Catalogue; there will be a group-on some of the latest stamp releases, and a competitions section. We might even have an advanced study section dealing with Mafeking and/or Siam.

Tea will be available at 1/3d. Technically we have to vacate the library by 5.30 p.m. but it should be possible to obtain other accommodation at B.P. House so that the informal and friendly matters can continue. It may even be possible for those so inclined to adjourn thereafter to the shelter of a friendly hostelry - purely for business, of course!

If you wish to have lunch or dinner at B.P. House, please apply direct to the Warden. By the way, ROY RHODES (him big white chief) is in charge of organising the groups, so if you can possibly help please let Roy know now. It promises to be a good meeting - do come if you can, and bring a friend.

NEW ADDRESS.

The vigilat will have already spotted my address change. At my advanced stage of life (cor!) I have gone into the news agency, stationery, etc. business, hence my new address - 6 Claremont Road, Seaford Sussex. Very many members have sent me their best wishes. I am exceedingly grateful, and if ever you are passing, do "pop in". Coffee at 11 a.m. Tea at 4 p.m. If you are on time it's free - but we charge for the biscuits!

ACCOUNTS.

With this Journal we are enclosing a copy of the annual accounts. Funds have run a little low due to the recent bumper Journal, gradually increasing costs, and inflation in general. On the other hand we still have money to come from the President's Auction and the recent Auction Sale.

SCOUT STAMP ISSUE IN BERMUDA

by HOWARD L. FEARS.

In accordance with my policy of keeping in touch with Scout Associations which are likely to have commemorative postage stamps. I have been in contact with the Bermuda Branch of the Boy Scouts Association and in a letter from their Chief Commissioner received today I learn 'the arrival of your letter (i. e. mine) coincided with the decision of the Bermuda Government to print a commemorative 1s.3d. stamp in the week of July 17th to 25th which we have nominated as our 50th anniversary Week, and I am at the moment busily engaged in meeting a very close deadline for the design.'

Members may rest assured that the supply of first day covers will thus be secured and as a single stamp is involved this should keep the cost within reasonable limits.

As the Journal goes to press, I have been advised in a further letter from Bermuda that the stamp may be of a 2/- denomination.

' STOP PRESS'

Commemorative release for Jamaica. During April it is rumoured that Jamaica will issue a set of five Girl Guide stamps. Efforts to secure the recent Paraguay set at a reasonable price have been frustrated by shortage of supplies in South America. The new Liberia set should be available as supplies come to hand.

SOME NOTES ABOUT THE MAFEKING STAMPS AND THE POSTS

By the Editor....Continued from Volume 9, No.1, page 10.

The catalogues and specialised articles on these stamps usually refer to the paper used as "plain laid paper, unwatermarked". Dr. Freund, the specialist and authority on these stamps, to whom I am indebted for much of the information which has been given in this series of articles, considers that it would be more correct if the cataloguers were to describe them as being printed on "laid paper batonne" which, according to the glossary of philatelic terms is paper having a watermark of close parallel lines at right angles to the spaced lines: in the Mafeking stamps the close lines i.e. horizontal, are 1¼ mm apart and the spaced lines i.e. vertical, are spaced on an average distance of 25 mm from each other. From this it will be obvious that the majority of stamps will show a vertical line when viewed from the back, either to the left, the centre or the right. The watermark is indicated in Fig. 1. on Page 75.

Dr. Freund, after research and enquiries found that this type of paper is in general use for legal documents and for the better class stationery; undoubtedly there were stocks of this paper in the besieged town: there were certainly no means available in Mafeking to manufacture such paper specially for printing this issue and he therefore concluded that the authorities commandeered what they required and treated and sensitised the paper for the ferro-prussiate process.

His research also led him to another discovery; he found that a few of the stamps also bore traces of a watermarked letter and in rare cases a complete letter was discernible which led him to suppose that the paper also invariably had a papermaker's watermark indicating the class or type of paper. He was able to reconstruct with single stamps a complete watermark which when viewed from the back was as follows: the top word OCEANA in old English Outline, the letters being 17½ mm high except for the O which was 23 mm high, the overall length of the word being 10.3 cm; the bottom word FINE in Roman Capital Outline, the F being 14½ mm and the remaining letters 11 mm high with an overall length of 5.6 cm. This is shown in Fig. 2. on Page 75.

Since this type of paper is usually put on the market in sheets of double foolscap with the watermark appearing once on each part, only some of the sheets of stamps i. e. 12 stamps of three rows of four, would fall on a watermark portion of the paper. Again, the position of the watermark naturally varies on each sheet and he found in the majority of cases it would appear it either started somewhere in the bottom row of stamps only or finished just in the top row. From his research he considers that about 8% of the Mafeking stamps show part of this watermark; he has never seen it reversed, all copies he examined having it normal and inverted.

This discovery was of importance since the presence of part of this watermark provides, in a manner of speaking, a certificate of genuineness. Furthermore, the measurement of $1\frac{1}{4}$ mm between the horizontal lines described in paragraph 2 of this article is a further check and can be used for comparison with photo-lithographed forgeries printed on different types of paper.

Not all specialists agree with Dr. Freund's theories particularly with regard to his description of the paper and the terminology he uses, but until someone brings forward a better alternative suggestion, I for one am prepared to accept them. I doubt very much whether any other theory will ever be put forward for how many people have access to dozens of copies of these stamps, especially in blocks and complete sheets? It would be absolutely necessary for a considerable amount of material to be available for detailed study and one would have to be immensely rich to be able to purchase large quantities IF they could be found. I think we should be grateful to Dr. Freund for publishing the results of his researches and so making the information available for those who are interested in knowing as much as possible about these stamps.

In the final article of this series, I shall discuss the hand-stamp used during the siege from March 1900 onwards.

(To be concluded).

(Re-reading what I have written recalls to my mind Bill Bourke's query raised in "Random Notes II" in the Journal for September last. Perhaps he might like to make a further examination of his two 1d. "Cyclist" stamps and see if the marks he mentions are in fact part of the watermark. W.G.N.) (Having seen them - they're not!
J. D. R.)

DUBAI.... SOME ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE SCOUT AIR LETTER SHEETS.

Reluctantly, penned by the Editor.

What I thought was the first - and for that matter, the final word about the recently unheralded issue of the three air letter sheets for this new State, was given on page 123 of Volume 8, No. 5 of the Journal. How wrong one can be!!

I have now seen three further air letter sheets of the same pattern but having imprints of the stamps in different colours from those previously described, although of the same values and design, namely:-

20 N P, sage green instead of orange; 30 N P, grey instead of brown, and 1+0 N P, violet instead of red.

And this isn't all!!! In addition, three other items of postal stationery have been seen: these are postcards of different colours also having imprinted stamps of the following values and colours:-

(a) Blue postcard with imprinted 10 N P postage stamp in red; design as for the 20 N P air letter stamp but without the words 'AIR MAIL'.

(b) Yellow postcard with imprinted 15 N P air mail stamp in brown; design as for the 40 N P air letter stamp, and

(c) White postcard with imprinted 25 N P air mail stamp in grey; design as for the 30 N P air letter stamp.

This brings the number of postal stationery items - which of course includes air letter sheets - that I have seen up to nine! I have yet to see any used commercially or even philatelically. Surely the postal authorities of Dubai haven't forgotten there is hidden untold wealth awaiting them in the issue of registered envelopes, wrappers and such like? That would be the last straw!!

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.....B.D. KITTS (member 362) asks if the Yemen stamps exist on commercial mail. Yes, I have a cover - official air-mail from the "Yemen Arab Republic - Ministry of Communication", sent from Sana'a on 12th July 1964 with the 16 B. Air Mail value and backstamped in Asmara. Also a blue rubber handstamp with the text "General Departments Posts, T. & T. Sana'a" and same text in Arabic.

(News sent by FREDY SCHERB).

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By the Editor.

I expect most of you have been given or have bought stamps which are still stuck on portions of paper -- stamp collectors refer to these as 'on piece'. How can they be removed? Now there are several ways of doing this so let us discuss each in turn. The first method is to try to tear them off; invariably you will damage the stamps and they will only be worth putting into the waste paper basket instead of your album, so NEVER use this method. The second way, which can be used with safety in the majority of cases, especially with modern stamps and providing the paper on which the stamps are stuck does not have ink marks - remember, these marks when soaked in water could make the ink run and so spoil the stamps - is to float the pieces, a few at a time in a bowl of cold water: after a while the stamps will detach themselves from the paper and can then be taken out and placed face downwards on a sheet of clean blotting paper to dry. The third method which is perhaps the best, is to soak a sheet of clean blotting paper or pad of cotton wool in water and on it place the pieces of paper with the stamp face upwards. The result will be the same as method two but will take a little longer. The advantage is that the face of the stamps will remain dry if not left too long on the blotting paper and thus this method can be used for stamps printed in fugitive inks, i. e. inks that run when subjected to moisture. Stamps soaked off in this way will still have to be thoroughly dried before mounting in your album otherwise if the gum which still remains on the back is still sticky, the stamps will stick to the album page.

Another method is to use a chemical gum solvent obtainable from most stamp dealers. The stamps are laid face downwards on a clean sheet of paper and a few drops of the solvent applied to the paper: in a short while it will have soaked through the paper and acted upon the gum so that the stamps can be removed.

One final word of advice. Whichever way you adopt, do take your time and never try to rush things. Well, good soaking until the next time.

THE STORY OF AN UNUSUAL SCOUT SEAL

Contributed by our Danish correspondent,
G. RASMUSSEN (637).

Have you heard of the Island of Elleore which lies near Roskilde (Zealand)? Even if you have, I doubt if you know much of its history and that last year it issued a set of Christmas seals, one of which shows a boy Scout! Let me recount briefly the quaint story behind it as I am sure it will interest those who collect this type of material.

Early in 1900, a film in which there was a lion hunt was made on the island; an old lion was accidentally shot and this caused the film producers a lot of trouble. Some time later, the island was purchased by the pupils from a school in Copenhagen and they started their own Kingdom: they formed their own army and provided, among other facilities a post office and then produced their own 'stamps', all of which have one thing in common -- the design in all cases aim at making a joke of actual stamps that have been issued.

I have suggested many times to those responsible for producing these 'stamps' that one showing a Scout should be issued, for it would be very popular. I am now able to report that one such 'stamp' has just made its appearance; it forms one of the set of 1964 Christmas seals.

(Let me take over from our correspondent. He very kindly sent me a printed illustrated catalogue of all the 'stamps' that have been issued from 1953 to 1963. I notice that quite a number of them are now quoted as being rare but this is perhaps understandable since not only are these seals very popular with collectors in Scandinavia, but also with those in many other parts of the world. He also enclosed a specimen of the Scout seal and also an envelope sent him from the island on which two other seals of this Christmas set were affixed. The envelope also bore a Danish 35 Øre stamp and one can therefore assume that the seals have no postal validity, it least outside the Kingdom, which is of course, understandable.

I appreciate the trouble he has gone to in getting this information and agree that it will interest our many and increasing number of Scout seal and label collectors. I do hope that our Assistant Editor who is the master mind behind the idea of including pages of very excellent illustrations with each issue of the Journal will be

able to reproduce this Scout seal. The colour of the paper used is yellow, the design being in red as are the other examples of the set seen; the seal is perforated and the paper is gummed; the wording at the top -- GLAEDELIG JUL -- means 'Merry Christmas'. Editor)

(Yes! Yule (sorry, You'll) find the illustration on Page. 75. -- JDR.)

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NEW ISSUE : COSTA RICA

by HOWARD L. FEARS.

I have recently been in contact with the Headquarters of 'Asociacion de Scouts de Costa Rica' regarding the possibility of a special stamp issue and in a reply dated March 3rd, the International Commissioner for the Scouts of Costa Rica tells me 'I wish to assure you that it is only with the greatest difficulty that I have been able to learn anything in Costa Rica about present stamp issues or future stamp issues.' At the moment of writing in fact nothing has been arranged but one may be astonished to learn in a further extract from the letter 'I have just learned of a letter received in the Costa Rican Scout Office from an American who, apparently, makes it his business to promote commemorative issues. He was calling to the attention of the Scout Office that the Costa Rican Boy Scouts were organised in 1914 and so are entitled to a 50 year commemorative stamp. Whether he is offering his services to promote this for a fee or just what the story is I do not know I at the moment.'

Surely it is remarkable that a situation of this sort should arise but as club members and those interested in the Permanent List may rest assured, I am in close touch with the situation.



BÄVEN

RANSBERG

HOLMSJÖ

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

10th
WORLD JAMBOREE



MAKILING NATIONAL PARK
PHILIPPINES



AIR MAIL



SWEDISH CANCELS DURING 1964

by JAN HENRIK BERGQVIST, member 96.

Knowing that many of you perhaps would like to know more about the Scout cancels that appeared during 1964 in Sweden, I am forwarding those lines to you.

Among the five 1964-cancels the first one was in use on May 31st, one day only. On the cancel you can read VINGÅKER, which is the village where the responsible post office is situated. The reason of the cancel was the inauguration of KJESÄTER FOLKHÖGSKOLA (Public High School). A few words of its interesting background.

Kjesäter is a castle, which in 1960 was donated by the Vingåker Community to Svenska Scoutförbundet, SSF (the Swedish Girl Guides and Boy Scouts Association). As the association was in need of a leaders institute and to make it economical possible, Kjesäter was, decided to become a Public High School, which would work during seven months of the year. The other five months it could be used for the training of Scout leaders, a growing necessity.

Through a great many ways the members collected money to repair the castle and to build houses for pupils and teachers to live in. The total cost was approx. £242,000! Several Scout Districts took the responsibility of particular rooms, which were called up after the donors. At the moment money is collected for building a chapel. The walls can already be seen.

On Sunday May 31st in presence of representatives from the Church, the Cabinet, the School Department, Vingåker Community etc., His Majesty King Gustaf Vith Adolf inaugurated Kjesäter for its purpose.

Mail for the special cancel was collected in a mailbox put up for this special purpose. I tried to arrange registered covers from this event. As the inauguration was on a Sunday the Post Office was closed, why no registered letters could be received, the Post Master replied on my question. The P.O. of course have their instructions. However, I suggested them to manipulate the covers for registration on the following Monday, June 1st. That worked! The covers got the Kjesäter-cancel of May 31st without the common Vingåker-cancel of June 1st added. My wants were certainly questionable. The covers received registration labels numbered 01784 - 01794 - only 10 covers exist!

During June 24th - July 1st a District Camp called HOLMSJÖLÄGRET (Holmsjö-camp) was arranged by Medelpad Scout District, SSF. Anundgard P.O. was responsible for the mailboxes. The camp badge, a fiery-cross, is seen in middle of the cancel.

POHJALA-LÄGRET, duration July 18th - 27th, Estonian Refugees' 5th National Jamborette. Approx. 800 Scouts from seven countries did take part in this camp and so far away countries as Australia, Argentina, the United States and Canada were represented. All were sons and daughters of Estonian refugees and did talk Estonian, "their mother language", although none of them had seen Estonia. The Girl Guides and Boy Scouts were camping at Lake Lygnern near Gäddvik, Fjäras. The camp badge in the cancel shows a well known star picture from the northern starry sky, "Little bear" and the large star in the Guide - and Scout badges is the Polestar. Göteborg 1st P.O. was responsible for the mailbox at this camp

RANSBERGSLÄGRET, July 28th - August 6th, National Scout Camp of NTO-Scout Association at Ransäter. At this camp was opened a temporary P.O. which received registered letters. This P.O. was organised by Karlstad 1st P.O.

1400 Girl Guides and Boy Scouts did take part. The food store was in the house where our Prime Minister Tage Erlander was born.

BAVENLÄGRET, a camp for Huddinge Scout Group at Lake Baven. Duration August 3rd - 13th, Stjärnhov P.O. was responsible for the mailbox. Registered mail was received, I have registered cards with the labels numbers 807 - 812.

At all those events rubber handstamps have been in use. If you know anything more about those cancels, do tell me or the Journal, which is a very excellent magazine, which we members are thankful to receive.

(Thank you JAN HENRIK for the compliments. I have printed your notes in your own excellent English, but would query your knowledge of the stars. His URSA MAJOR (not MINOR) on the cancel, and the star you say is POLARIS, is in fact, DUBHE, which with MERAK, form the well-known "POINTERS" to POLARIS.)

J. D. R.

NEW ZEALAND SEA SCOUT REGATTA.

(relayed by HOWARD FEARS).

What may well prove to be one of the rarest of Scout cancellations in recent years was in use for a short time at the beginning of 1965 and in giving the following details I can only add a recommendation to members to keep a very close look-out for possible samples.

The 10th Dominion Sea Scouts Regatta was held at Ngati-toa, historical domain, Paremata, New Zealand from January 6th to January 13th 1965 when approximately 800 Sea Scouts were present. On Monday 11th January Club Member Len Moss was speaking to some sea Scouts in the town and enquired if there was a Post Office in the camp and the sea Scouts were very vague. On the morning of Tuesday 12th January Len received a cover from one of the sub-camp Chiefs who knew of his interest and then Len visited the Regatta during the afternoon. He mentions that the regatta was some 15 miles from the city and when he arrived there he found that a mobile post office had been set up. Thus he decided then to send himself a few covers. On the last day, Wednesday 13th January, Len again went to the Regatta for the final celebrations and had an opportunity for a discussion with the Postmaster. The latter advised that very little was known about the setting up of the mobile post office and that very little mail had gone through. Len thought that he was the only one who didn't know about the special cancellation but suddenly realised at the last moment that exactly the opposite was the case. In point of fact he was probably the only person who really did appreciate its significance.

Thus half an hour before the closure of the mobile post office he got down to the subject of covers and managed to push through a number for himself. At the time of writing I am hoping to secure as many spare ones as he has available for PLD etc. The Postmaster indicated that a handful of mail was posted each day and sometimes only 60 items per day were involved. Approximately 12 pieces were received for date-stamp and reposting. About 100 copies of the January Journal of 'Historical Places' was sent through the mail and the total number of registered items was 48

only. To the best of his knowledge no dealer posted any correspondence.

Further to this, the official report of the Chief Postmasters Office advised that for the outward mail there were about 150 items daily and inwards approximately 200. The total sales of stamps at the mobile post office which included stamps for telegraph forms was only £26. 5. 6. and it will be appreciated how little was done to secure samples by and large.

Apart from the cancels themselves there are receipts for registered mail with the registered number and the Dominion Sea Scout Regatta cancel. These would also be of very real interest to collectors.

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THE AUSTRALIAN JAMBOREE

(relayed by HOWARD FEARS).

Club Member Eric Sargeant from Australia who was at the Australian Jamboree reports on the position at the Post Office. He states that December 29th, 1964, was the first day of the Post Office but December 31st was the opening day of the Jamboree. January 8th, 1965, was the official closing day but the Post Office itself did not cease business until January 11th. However by this time the camp would have been empty.

The Post Office was a large iron building and seemed to have a large staff. On one occasion Eric counted at least twelve persons but forgot to check with the authorities. Three handstamps were used and although one was damaged this was repaired. All of the handstamps show slight differences and some of the covers being distributed via the Permanent List will actually incorporate all three different strikes.

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Fig. 1 -FULL SIZE

Oceania

FINE

Fig 2
FULL SIZE



R A N D O M N O T E S - I I I

by BILL BOURKE.

THE EARLIEST BRITISH SCOUT LABEL ?

On the previous page is illustrated a label, obviously British, of a good deal of interest and rarity (it may indeed be unique), showing three Belgium Scouts "who captured German spies". This is printed by a two-tone process in dark blue and red - and for various reasons I think it can only date from the early months of the First World War.

In the September issue of that year the "Headquarters Gazette" (the original name of "The Scouter"), contains an article on the great work the Belgium Scouts were doing. This includes an extract from "The Times" newspaper which says: "The Boy Scouts of Liege have been disbanded by the Germans, who call them 'enfants terribles' and are rather hostile to them - on account no doubt of the number of German spies they have tracked."! An extract from "The Daily Express" speaks of "A Boy Scout who helped to capture a German cavalryman near Liege last week".

It may be remembered that it was the German attack on Belgium which brought Great Britain into the war and certainly there was great public sympathy for the Belgians, and in particular for the refugees, during the earlier months. It was not to be long before Britain had plenty of troubles of her own to think about, but at the beginning it was the Belgians - and many voluntary efforts to raise fund for their relief were made. Taunton & District Scouts, for instance, held a "Belgian Favour Day", selling little bows of black, yellow and red for a penny or more (they sold 24,000 and raised £150 !). Perhaps these labels were another such effort? The pages of both "The Scouter" and "The Scout" have yielded nothing further - but maybe someone still has some information and can let me know? As it is, the search has its rewards in the unforgettable pictures those old pages conjure up. Some on the graver side, as of the Belgium troop train, packed with the 11th Infantry Regiment, stopping just five minutes at a station - every man calling for water, and the Scouts refilling every man's water-bottle. Others lighter, as of the grey-bearded general at his doorway in H. Q. shouting "Boy Scout", doubtless to be answered promptly!

MADAGASCAR, 1964 SCOUT ISSUE.

An F.D.C. of this (to me) attractive stamp has for some unknown reason the additional interest of having five cachets on the reverse, apparently the official rubber handstamps of the various Scout and Guide Associations in the island. All are circular, with some form of badge in the centre and wording round the edge as follows :-

- (i) "KIADIN' I MADAGASIKARA / VONONA" (ex "Eclaireurs de France");
- (ii) "MPANAZAVA / ETO MADAGASIKARA" (Guides - Trefoil badge);
- (iii) ".....(?) MADAGASIKARA / TANANARIVE" (also Guides, apparently the offshoot of the Guide counterparts of the "Scouts de France". The badge is upside-down to the wording !);
- (iv) "TILY ETO MADAGASKARA / FOIBE" (ex "Eclaireurs Unionistes");
- (v) "QUARTIER GENERAL / ANTILIN' I / MADAGASKARA" (apparently with the badge of the "Scouts de France", but the impression is blurred).

It may be noted that the name of the country, as given in its native language, underlines the fact that it is still (as before) Madagascar. Oh, that the stamp trade, and some others, would stop calling the place "Malgache" or "Malagasy", which are merely the adjectives, French and native (also English), in the name the state uses on its stamps - the Malagasy Republic.

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WORLD JAMBOREES - REGISTERED MAIL

For some little time I have been collecting information about the registered posts at Jamborees, with the object of publishing the results in the Journal. Many of you have already sent me details of covers in your possession, but if others (including the editorial staff !) can let me know of any others, I shall be grateful. All World Jamborees except Sutton Park, 1957 and Marathon, 1963 - Date, Registration No., Type of Label or numbering, Cancellation figure or letter (where appropriate), Destination (Town, Country). Thank you !

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by the Assistant Editor.

New Issues for 1965 have got off to a good (?) start. The Nigeria set which was planned for late 1964 appeared on Jan. 1st 1965, and in February there appeared a miniature sheet of four copies of the 1/3 val. which are imperf with simulated printed perforations. It sells at a normal percentage above face-value and appears to be in good supply.

The Jordan issue of the same date comprises seven stamps with various designs showing Scout activities, and each stamp is triangular. The price for the set seems to have settled at about 4/6 to 5/- in the shops now, with the imperforate sets at £4 - plus, and the miniature sheet, that has been described as more resembling a luggage label than a stamp, at about 25/-.

Now for the latest set of horrors. Unheralded and unsung comes some more items from Paraguay. A set of eight stamps in three designs, which I illustrate on page 75, to commemorate the 9th International Patrol Camp that was held at (of all places!) the Botanical Gardens in Asuncion, Paraguay, Jan 15th to 24th 1965. Two other such camps have coincided with stamp issues -- the First Patrol Camp in Brazil in 1954 and the Fourth, also in Brazil but in 1960. The set is similar to the 1962 set in that there are a few low values, useful for the 'packet trade' as it is called, and some high values to mulct the hard-earned cash of collectors. Oh, yes there are imperf's as well (in different colour combinations -- which are pretty ghastly anyway) and perf. and imperf. miniature sheets which have illustrated in the surrounding design on orchid (always a good 'touch' for thematic collectors of flowers!) a leopard and an ostrich (another strong thematic field!) When you see a set just take a look at the white-faced Scout on the 0.10 G., 0.50 G., and 36.00 G. vals. Either he has been dining on the efforts of a tender-foot's cooking, or else he is hastening away from the stamp shop after seeing the price for this load of wall(?)-paper!

The Ryukyus issued their Scout stamp on Feb. 6th. and it shows a Scout in uniform which looks more American than the Americans. A modest price is asked for this stamp, and with sheets comprising 20 stamps with an attractive border and imprint, the expenditure for a complete sheet is less than ten shillings.

What news in the general pricing of Scout stamps? Some Rumania came up in auction recently, and the prices realised were such that a complete set from 1931 to 1936 in fine mint condition cost £7.15.0! Mafeking items are eagerly sought after in the auction rooms, and I believe I have seen representatives of a well-known firm purchasing at prices HIGHER than their published catalogue value!

Constant study of auction catalogues has shown that there are never any really scarce items coming up under the hammer. The last one I remember was the Siam 1st set of o/pts on a Telegraph Form, and the India Rocket covers that were on sale in Switzerland, and upon which I have reported earlier.

The interest in the Club Auction has been very good and over 50 bid forms have been received to the date of writing. Bidders have written to say how pleased they were with the great range of material offered, and subject to continued interest in this direction, I will repeat the venture. In the next issue I will publish a list of prices realised for those items sold. There were virtually no bids for the Scandinavian covers (lots 251 to 324) and so I am extending the auction of this section for another two months, send your bids in today!

Some members were not very clear that this was not a "Fixed Price" auction. For instance, if a lot was valued at 10/- and one bidder bid 12/- and another 18/-, then the lot went to the second bidder at the next bid above his nearest underbidder, in this case-13/-

Some lots were bid on by as many as ten bidders, and although some lots have been subsequently duplicated, I'm afraid there will be some disappointments. I am pleased to say that my Multiple Bidding system worked very well, for although some members bid on as much as four times the maximum they wished to spend, the lots upon which they were successful barely came to their maximum total expenditure. One or two members put in bids amounting to only a third or half of valuation, and these had to be rejected due to 'reserves' being higher than their bids. Will members please pay their auction accounts promptly, applying such parts of the Scout Law to the situation as is appropriate.

A few details of the Jordan stamps have just come to hand. Designed by V. Whitly and D. Slater; Offset printed by Harrison & Sons; 24,000 sets printed and 10,000 min. sheets. The Nigeria stamps were also printed by Harrison's.

Already I have heard of four other members who will be looking in on 'STAMPEX' on the opening day. I look forward to seeing others of our membership there. If we all meet up at a certain dealer's stand we may get entertained to a cup a tea. (Hint!)

EVENTS OF THE PAST - I

by Bill Bourke

Background information about the events which give rise to Scout stamp issues and cancellations is undoubtedly one of the main aids to enjoying our hobby to the full, and also to interesting those to whom we show our treasures. Unfortunately such information is often not easy for most of us to find, especially in the case of the earlier events, but in fact there is quite a surprising amount surviving - in the pages of old journals and reports, and in the memories of some. It is therefore hoped that a series of short accounts will help members to get the most out of their collections, starting with some of those classic events whose philatelic souvenirs are now amongst our greatest prizes. And even if we have none of those souvenirs yet ourselves, I am sure the events will have a good deal of Scouting interest in the meantime!

CZECHOSLOVAKIA - The Slav Jamboree, 1931.

Although often spoken of as a National Camp, this was in fact a Jamboree for Slavonic Scouts generally (others of course being welcomed), though organised by the Boy Scouts of Czechoslovakia. Held from the 27th June to the 4th July, in a beautiful park some three miles outside the capital city of Prague, it was attended by about 6,000 Scouts. Though mainly from the host country there were also contingents from Jugoslavia, Poland, Roumania and Great Britain, with delegates from a number of other countries. The British Contingent (all-in cost £7 each) numbered 33, led by Major W.S. Hooker, D.C. for Worthing, Sussex.

Also at the camp was Mr. Hubert Martin, International Commissioner at Imperial Headquarters in London, who was given a very warm welcome by both the Czech Scout and national authorities. Crowds packed the railway station for his arrival in Prague, to be received by Dr. Svojsik, the Chief Scout, while bands played the two National Anthems. Then he was borne in a procession of cars (headed by one of the bands), through waving crowds to his hotel - such was the tribute they wished to pay the man who had come from British Scouting and from B.-P.

On the 28th June some 10,000 Scouts bearing their flags took part in a march through the main streets of Prague, lined by cheering crowds, to the Castle. There they were massed in the huge courtyard, together with several thousand Girl Guides. Greeted by tremendous cheers, President Masaryk came out on to the balcony, accompanied by their Chief Scout, Hubert Martin and Dr. Benes (then Foreign Minister). After a speech by the Chief the President himself spoke, describing Scouting as "the finest educational system in existence" and paying a glowing tribute to B.-P.

The camp was organised on lines already made familiar by the World Jamborees, each district or country running its own camp with central supply and administration. From photographs it seems that ridge tents of the Patrol type were in general use - not the bell tents that would probably still have predominated in this country. Each day Displays described as "extremely good" were given in the Stadium. On the first day alone 30,000 people paid for admission to the camp. The weather was ideal, fine and very hot, and Hubert Martin (in the log cabin built for his use by the Moravian Scouts), summed up the camp in these words : "Definitely good : very clean and tidy : plenty of good gadgets made by the boys, and a very happy spirit throughout".

The success of this camp led the Czechoslovak Scouts to confirm their invitation for the 1933 World Jamboree to be held in their country - an invitation which would almost certainly have been accepted had not economic circumstances later compelled them to withdraw it.

Before the camp the postal authorities in Prague employed the fine slogan roller cancellation (now so rare), embodying the figure of a Scout, while at the Jamboree itself a special circular date-handstamp was in use. Both these cancellations were illustrated in the Journal in May last year (Volume 8, p.p. 72-3), reprints being available from the Sales Bureau.

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PETER'S POT-POURRI
by PETER DUCK.

Recently I have been trying to obtain as many Scout stamps as possible, used on genuine commercial covers, preferably addressed to myself. By writing to the Postal authorities of the countries concerned I have received, THROUGH THE POST, such gems as the two Sharjah sets and the min. sheets, the Panama set on one large cover, the Libya sets of 1962 and 1961, and Dubai. However such countries as Afghanistan and the Yemen seem a little loathe to use their Scout stamps on mail! Occasionally I have been able to secure some of these stamps on letters between banks in the Middle East and London, and they are more attractive to me than the unaddressed FDCs that figure in many dealers' windows.

DUBAI AIRLETTERS. Two series in each of the three values, which I list with the colour of the printing used for the imprinted stamp design:

20 np.	I.	Orange.	II.	Dark Grey.
30 np.	I.	Light Brown.	II.	Light Grey.
40 np.	I.	Red.	II.	Purple.

There are also three postal cards:

10 up.	Blue card with stamp design in red.
15 np.	Yellow card with stamp design in brown.
25 np.	White card with stamp design in olive-grey.

Now, if they permutate the colour of the cards, the three values already employed, and the three design colours --- then we are due for another twenty-four cards.' They wouldn't date!!!! (or would they)

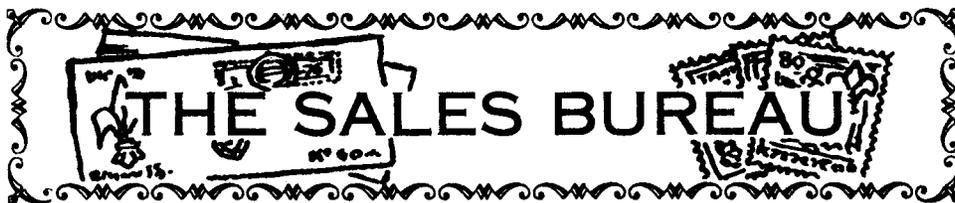
PHILIPPINES

It now appears there were two cancels in use for counter staff, and illustrations in this issue shows the differences: One with a five-line extension and reading '19 JUL 1959' the other with four-lined extension, which may be broken or badly-impressed, with the date reversed 'JUL 18 1959'.

NEW LABELS FROM ICELAND

A new sheet of 'Skatermerki' issued in late 1964, and comprising four designs in a strip of four, there being five such strips per sheet. Designs: 1. A candle. 2. Girl Guide badge. 3. Christmas Tree, 4. Scout Badge.

NIGERIA 1964. Or was it 1965? Stamps were scheduled for Dec. 29th 1964 but my FDCs are dated Jan. 1st 1965, and the registered ones are the same, but re-posted by registered mail on Feb. 5th. Earliest 'Cancelled to Order' stamps that have been seen are dated Jan. 20th, 1965.



At the Counter ----- CHARLES SEATON

Back Numbers of the Journal	1/- each.
1961 Jan., March, May, Sept.	
1962 Jan., Nov.,	
1963 Jan., March, July, Sept., Nov.,	
1964 Jan., March, May, July, Sept., Nov.,	

Index to vols. 1 & 2 of the Journal.....	3d. each.
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Stamps and cancels of Czechoslovakia.....	6d. each.
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COVERS AVAILABLE.

SWITZERLAND	Chur, Winterthur, St.Gallen or Sion slogan cancels (1963)	1/9	"
W. GERMANY	Konigswinter or Noer..(1932).....	1/7	"
"	Berlin, Reichenberg or Namborn (1964)...	1/9	"
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"	Paul Siple card.....	1/9	"
"	National Jamboree (1964).....	1/8	"
SOUTH AFRICA	1964 Jamboree with seal.....	1/3	"
TRINIDAD	1964 Girl Scout Camp cancel.....	1/10	"
SWEDEN	1960 Sandhem cancel.....	4/-	"
"	1962 Sandhem, Bjorko or Siljan.....	1/5	"
PANAMA	1964 Set of 10 on two FDCs.....	3/6	pr.
PAKISTAN	1964 Founder's Birthday.....	1/8	each.
N. ZEALAND	1962 Jamboree.....	1/4	"
FORMOSA	1963 Cancel.....	1/7	"
PAKISTAN	1963 3rd National Jamboree.....	3/6	"
LIBYA	1964 set on F.D. Card.....	3/6	"
"	1964 Min. Sheet on F.D. Card.....	5/-	"

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JAPAN	1962	Boy Scout MIHON (Specimen overprint)	1.50
		Also in complete sheet of 20 (EXTRA RARE) Price on request	
JAPAN	1963	Girl Scout MIHON overprint	1.50
JAPAN	1964	Cacheted cover -- Boy Scout Day at the Olympics	.40
ST. VINCENT	1964	Cacheted First Day Cover (Not plentiful)...	1.35
SURINAM	1964	Registered cover from the Camp site with special cancellation (See Jan. Journal as to rarity of this item) I also have a few sets of 'All days' ea	1.75
TRINIDAD	1964	Girl Guide Assoc. Official brochure with set affixed and cancelled	2.00
ZAMBIA	1964	Independence set FDC with Scouting cachet (reg)	2.00
RYUKYUS	1965	Boy Scout FDC on official Govt. brochure....	1.25

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If there is any item that you particularly need, and it is not included in our list, then write to us today --- don't be disappointed tomorrow.

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AUSTRIA.	1956-1962	Siix different Scout postmarks	10/-
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DUTCH INDIES.	1937	World Jamboree (2) mint.....	10/-
FINLAND.	1947	Westend Camp pmk. on illus. cover.....	38/-
FINLAND.	1948	Vierumaki Camp pmk. on cover	35/-
FRANCE.	1947	Moisson Jamboree card with spec. cancel FDC.....	40/-
HAITI.	1964	Olympic Games o/ps on Scout set etc. (5v.) mint	13/6
HAITI.	1964	As above but o/ps on the 4 Scout stamps only.....	5/9
HUNGARY.	1933	Godollo Jamboree set (5) mint	20/-
METHERLANDS.	1937	World Jamboree pmk. on cover with single stamp	10/-
PARAGUAY.	1965	9th International Patrol Camp (Jan.15-24) set of 8 stamps (each perf. and imperf) and the 2 min. sheets (perf. and imperf)	£10.10.0

STAMPEX -- 1965.

From March 19th to March 27th we shall be at the Central Hall, Westminster, S.W.1. and expect to see many club Members at our stand. If you have not been before, do come and make our acquaintance. Our extensive stock of Scout material will be there for your perusal. We will also welcome any offers of scarce material and can give best prices for such items.

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By addressing your enquiries or correspondence to
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