

1887 ★ 75th Anniversary Year ★ 1962

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The American Philatelist



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"Got this one?"

The Journal of The American Philatelic Society

St., San Francisco. A perusal of the offerings indicates that member-dealer Hughes has gathered together an unusual group of East Asia stamps. Featured are specially items of Cambodia, China, Japan, Korea, plus some Japanese Occupation issues. Your request will bring a copy of *Oriental Special* free of charge.

L. SCHNEIDER, Box 3038, Philadelphia II, offers in this issue various British Empire Silver Wedding issues below face in mint condition. He will also send a complete price list of British Empire issues free on request by A. P. S. members. Please mention *The American Philatelist*.

RICHARD WOLFFERS, 127 Kearny St., San Francisco 8, Calif., prices some seldom offered European issues in this issue. He also fills want lists.

WASHINGTON PRESS, Maplewood, N. J., will release Sept. 15 a White Aes album for Japan, complete from the first issue of 1871 to date. Each page will be highlighted by a pictorial vignette featuring Japanese scenes, including an imposing view of legendary Mount Fuji and a brilliantly colored rising sun providing a striking contrast to the muted colors of the rest of the vignette. The display area of each page will be enclosed within a border of bamboo branches and other motifs. The 9½x11 pages are punched for a three-ring binder.

ROBSON LOFF, LTD., 50 Pall Mall, London SW1, England, reported in August that the July 28 sale at Bournemouth brought its 1961-62 auction season total to £350,157, an increase of £77,000 over the previous season, but short of the record set in 1958-59 when the Marquess of Bute collection dominated that season's total. Among the widely known collections sold by the firm during the past season were those of Egypt formed by Dr. William Bryant (£250,020) and Japan (first part) formed by Robert Levy (£22,090, with a complete sheet of the 1871 100mms. plate II realizing £1,350). Over 70 collections were sold during the season.

NOJEX Show Selects Judges

Col. Leonard H. Smith Jr., chairman of NOJEX 1962, which will be held in Newark, N. J., Sept. 21-23, has announced the selection of three distinguished philatelists as judges for the 250-frame exhibition. Chairman of the board of judges will be Fred Barwick, River Edge, N. J., a past president of the Society of Philatelic Americans. He will be assisted by S. Kelloug Stricker, curator, Philatelic Foundation, New York City, and Lt. Col. H. L. Halle, president of the Germany Philatelic Society.

Stanley Fryzynski Jr., president of the American First-Day Cover Society, and Dr. James J. Matejka Jr., president of the American Air Mail Society, will judge the special group exhibit. Both Fryzynski and Dr. Matejka are members of the Postmaster General's Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee.

Malcolm O'Reilly, vice-president of the Collectors Club, New York, will be the liaison officer between the NOJEX committee and the board of judges.

Imperforate Greek Sheet Found

A full sheet of 50 stamps of the 1900-1904 "Minerva" value of Greece's 1943 National Product issue has been discovered completely imperforate and with the light olive-green background inverted. The discovery is reported by APSer Pierson Ostrow of Burlington, Vt.

Topical Themes



By David Torres, A. P. S.

Thai Scouts 50th Anniversary and 4th Jamboree

OUR GUEST columnist for this issue is APSer Herbert S. Herman, of Bronx 67, N. Y., who has very kindly contributed the following information on Thailand's latest Boy Scouts series. In view of the vigorous demand for scout stamps—and particularly for Thailand's rare set of 1920—we know that readers will appreciate his interesting research on the subject. We are also hopeful that other collectors will follow his example by submitting similar data about their favorite topicals. Member Herman now has the floor:

Thailand's Post Office commenced its activities on November 1, 1961, with three stamps honoring the 50th anniversary of the Thai Boy Scouts, or "Tiger Scouts" as they were called by King Rama VI (King Vajiravudh), founder of the movement in that Southeast Asian country.

The 50 satang red stamp features the Tiger Scout insignia and a hand with the three-finger salute. Two scouts—one with the Thai flag and one saluting it—are depicted on the 1 baht green commemorative against a view of the encampment. Blue was chosen for the 2 baht denomination, which shows a cub, girl, and boy scout striding along in the background. In the foreground is a portrait of King Rama VI in his specially designed uniform as leader of the Tiger Scouts.

Although each stamp has a different design, the inscriptions other than the values are the same, with an additional inscription under the portrait on the high value. The common inscription, with a translation of the Thai, reads:

*Thailand
Thai Boy Scout Celebration 50 Years
Buddhist Era 1911-1961
Thai Scout
50th Anniversary*

The additional inscription on the 2 baht stamp translates as follows:

*An Act Royally Promulgated
Thai Boy Scouts
Buddhist Era 1911*

Designed by the Fine Arts Department in Bangkok, these commemoratives were engraved and printed by the Government Printing Bureau of Tokyo by the photogravure process, on the usual "zig-zag" watermarked paper common to all the stamps printed for Thailand by Japan since 1957. The over-all perforation was



Illustrated is an official first-day cover for Thailand's special 1961 issue honoring the 50th anniversary of Thai Scouts. Notice the special pictorial cancellation featuring the Thai Scout emblem.

13½mm and the following quantities were issued:

| | | |
|-----------|-------|-----------|
| 50 satang | Red | 1,000,000 |
| 1 baht | Green | 500,000 |
| 2 baht | Blue | 500,000 |

AN OFFICIAL first-day cover was printed and prepared by the Thai Government. This cover—the second officially cacheted cover created since the Letter Writing Week issue of Oct. 9—was a pre-stamped and canceled limited edition of 3,000. The cacheted covers were sold at the Bangkok General Post Office at the rate of three to a person. By 11 a.m. on Nov. 1, 1961, all these covers were sold out, and early in January the market price was already 6 baht.

The cancellation on the face of the official first-day cover translates as:

*50 Years Location of Thai Boy Scouts
Buddhist Era 1961
1911 1961
Royal City*

In the upper left-hand corner of the cover is a stamp-like black rectangle with simulated perforations. At the left side of the "stamp" is a line sketch of a boy scout in uniform and at the top the scout insignia with dates. The commemorative cancellation appears on the back flap of each cover as well. Normal first-day covers were prepared by several stamp firms; these covers, however, received an ordinary postmark.

From Nov. 19 to 25, 1961, the Thai Scouts celebrated their 4th National Jamboree in Lumpenee Park, Bangkok. An encampment was made at the park and scouts of various nationalities participated. Among the nations represented were Australia, Burma, Denmark, Great Britain, Laos, Malaya, Pakistan, Singapore, Thailand, and the United States.

A temporary post office was set up in Lumpenee Park to service mail to and from the scouts. This post office had a postmaster, a clerk, and two carriers. Hours of operation were from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with mail delivery commencing at 12 noon. Collections from local post boxes began at 4 p.m. All letters collected at the site were taken to the GPO for postmarking and transmission at 11 p.m. each evening.

Although the Lumpenee Park post office was not equipped with a cancelling die, it did have two rubber stamps for cachets. A small dark green cachet was applied to all mail originating in Lumpenee Park during

the week of the Jamboree. This cachet had the Thai scout symbol in the center and a circle around it with appropriate inscriptions. The second cachet, in light purple, was considerably larger; it was used only for thirty minutes on the last day (Nov. 25) and only as a backstamp.

WITH THE approval of the Thai Government, the Thai Scout Commission prepared cacheted envelopes for the use of all scouts. These envelopes, made in Norway, were sold and handled entirely at Lumpenee Park. Two types of envelopes were available, one for surface mail and one for air mail. The surface envelope is made of thin white paper which appears gray due to the cross hatched printing on the interior of the envelope. The air mail envelope, also measuring 3 9/16 by 6 1/2, is white with blue cross hatching on the interior and the familiar red and blue border.

Registration of mail was also provided by the Lumpenee Park post office. Only 216 pieces of mail were registered at this post office during the entire week. On the first-day it was open, only six pieces were registered. The registration labels used at the station had the words "Special Scout Post Office" written in Thai.

Lumpenee Park was created by King Rama VI for a national exhibition. His untimely death, however, ended that dream. A full length statue of the monarch in a dress uniform stands in the park. Color picture postal cards showing the King's statue were also mailed at the Special Scout Post Office.

A collection of all the possible items—first-day covers, special cachets, special envelopes, and postcards—should provide the specialist and topicalist with quite a tussle, particularly if one desires items other than those cancelled to order. And who doesn't?

A. P. S. Chapter Stages Largest All-Topical Show in Southwest

Atropex '62—the Southwest's largest all-topical stamp exhibition—will be staged Oct. 25-28 at the gigantic Glendale shopping center, 19th Avenue and West Broadway Home Road, Phoenix, Ariz. Glendale is one of the world's largest shopping centers, and the entire block-long Mall will be surrounded with frames of Indian postage stamps.

The expected 300-frame show is amply sponsored by the Arizona Society of Topical Philatelists—the only all-gender chapter in the A. P. S. The show's theme will again honor "Indians Tribes of North America." The AS-TP is currently studying the 44 tribes of Arizona and the October show's cachets will feature the Hopi Indian tribe.

The cache is will be reproduced in full natural color and the art and craft items of the Hopis. The set of three multicolor cachet covers posted in the capital village of the Hopi nation is priced at one dollar. Orders should be sent or made to Mrs. Mildred Duder, 2926 E. Maricopa, Phoenix 16, Ariz.

New York Grotto Convention Cachet

Keder Eban Grotto, M. G. V. P. E. R., of Syracuse, N. Y., will issue a special cachet cover to commemorate the 40th annual convention of the New York State Grotto Association, Sept. 20-22, in Syracuse. Serviced covers are priced at 13 cents, or two for 25 cents. Send orders immediately to: Fred Schell, 309 Montgomery St., Syracuse 2, N. Y.