



# The Finnish Philatelist

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## The Finnish Philatelist

*The Finnish Philatelist* is a newsletter published quarterly by the Finnish Study Group (FSG) of the Scandinavian Collectors Club (SCC).

The newsletter will be sent free of charge to all members of the FSG thru 2000. A \$5 contribution to cover printing/ mailing costs is appreciated. Contributions should be made payable to and sent directly to the Editor.

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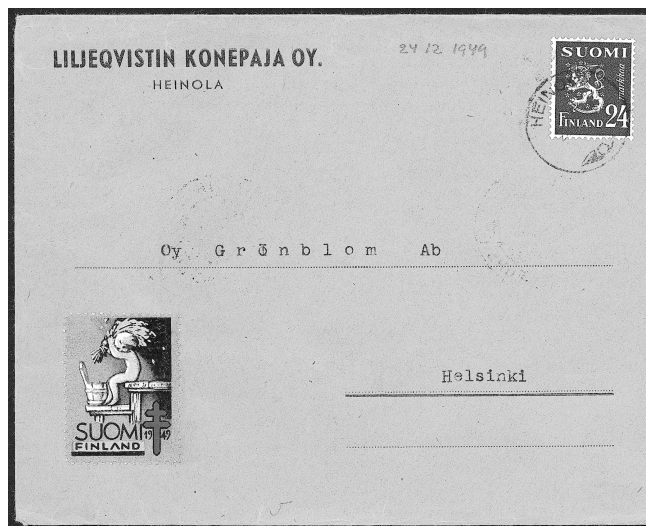
## Editor's Message

Looking back, this has been a busy and exciting year. I managed to attend an important Kaj Hellman auction in bitter cold Helsinki in January, and with Mrs. Quinby, travel to Nürnberg for IBRA 99. In September, I attended NORDIA 99 with Don Halpern and Ross Olson; there we met Carita Parker and her husband, Gary (also a SCC and FSG member), Jack Isaacson of Victoria, Canada and Gordon Morison, who was busy promoting NORDIA 2001. We also visited with many of our Finnish contributors, readers, dealers and friends. NORDIA 99 was an outstanding philatelic weekend and we thank our hosts for their gracious hospitality and friendship.

In Helsinki I visited the Post Museum Library and with the excellent assistance of the Library research staff, I found several articles for publication in future issues of TFP. Janne Sahlstein of Helsinki has also suggested articles for our newsletter. There will be four issues in 2000.

Your contributions help to offset some of the costs of printing and mailing the newsletter. At the present time we have a mailing list of 86 and a print run of 100. We appreciate your contributions as well as your comments and suggestions. We have applied for an ISSN number from the Library of Congress.

As we look forward to a new Millennium of philately, we wish you a joyous Holiday Season and a Happy New Year.



*The 24 Fmk stamp was issued on April 26, 1948. From January 1, until November 30, 1948 the inland letter rate was 12 Fmk. The registration fee for the same period was also 12 Fmk. The second weight (21 to 125 grams) letter rate from December 1, 1948 to June 30, 1950 was also 24 Fmk. This stamp used for a second weight letter (Heinola 24. 12. 49) is difficult to find. These secondary usages are one of the challenges of the 1930 definitive series.*

# Russia's 1915-1917 Money Stamps - Currency or Postage ?

By Erkki Larkka, Translated by Carita Parker  
from *Abophil*, No. 2, 1999



Figure 1. 1915 Money stamps: 10, 15, and 20 kopeks.



Figure 2.

A lack of raw materials in wartime Russia had forced the country to issue 10, 15 and 20 kopek “coinage” made of cardboard in 1915. (Figure 1) On the front of these were printed the corresponding values and images of Nicholas I and II as well as Alexander I, all of which originally had appeared on the 1913 Romanov postage stamp series. On the reverse side, the Imperial coat of arms and text: “Corresponds in value to presently used silver coinage.” (Figure 2)

The money stamps were printed on thin cardboard and like postage stamps 13 1/2 comb perforated. Initially the cardboard was white and of good quality, but eventually turned brown and more porous. Even the images on the final printings became so faint that the minor details had nearly vanished.

## Money Stamp Varieties

Some examples of the money stamps had filtered through inspections onto markets, such as double printings, background shifts, backside printing on the frontside, offsets and perforation shifts. Imperforated specimens have been discovered, although these might have originated from rejected issues stolen from the printer during the Revolution. There are also known forgeries of the cardboard coinage as well as propaganda stamps made in Germany with deliberately altered backside text. Editor’s Note: These varieties and errors of the money

stamps have not been reported with Finnish town cancellations.

Because of the use of money stamps by citizens to cover postage fees, the Post and Telegraph Administration officially approved of this practice in a circular on October 18, 1915. Philatelists in turn named this type of coinage “money stamps”.

## Authentic Mailings Uncommon

Collectors in those days were hoping that the money stamps cancelled would perhaps one day become valuable. This really has happened, however the majority of cancelled stamps are either cancelled



Figure 3. 1915 20 kopek money stamp on a second class registered letter from a mail box in Moscow, March 24, 1916. This cover is overfranked by 2 kopeks.



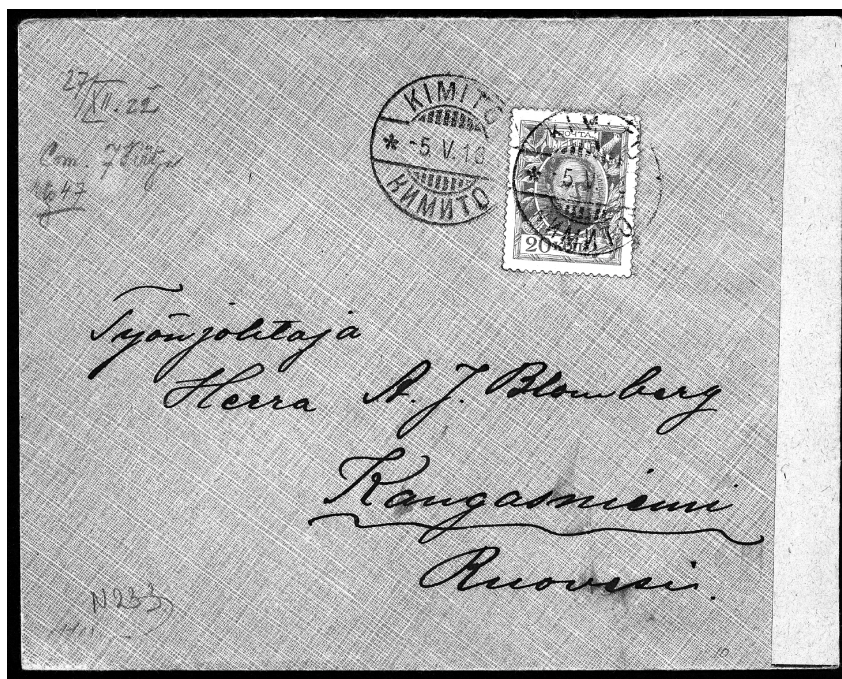


Figure 4. The money stamps were also used in Finland, although most certainly many of these covers are philatelic. This second weight cover was cancelled in Kimito, 5. V. 16, via Kuopio, opened and resealed by war censor, 7. V. 16, to Kangasniemi, backstamped, 9. V. 16.

to order with correct date marks or with reversed date marks not in usage during the time of the cancellation. Authentic mailings are rare indeed. Two covers, one from Russia (Figure 3) and the other

same manner as regularly registered mail. However, since the sender did not obtain a receipt as proof, he (sender) was not entitled to compensation in case of lost mail. Such a letter is introduced in figure 3. The letter is local and franked with a 20 kopek money stamp, which might have been for a second class letter and thus overfranked by 2 kopeks. On the envelope reverse side is marked "From mailbox," date 24. 3. 16 by postal worker and his signature.

### Revolution Changed Stamps

As the war dragged on, additional 1, 2 and 3 kopek money stamps were issued in 1916. The corresponding images were again taken from the Romanov postage stamps series, and on the backside was printed the Imperial coat of arms and the text: "Corresponds in value to presently used petty copper coinage." In January 1917, the 1 and 2 kopek money stamps were issued with the large numbers "1" and "2" printed on the front in black

arms and the text: "Corresponds in value to presently used petty copper coinage." In January 1917, the 1 and 2 kopek money stamps were issued with the large numbers "1" and "2" printed on the front in black



Figure 5. The 1917 money stamps with printing on the back. Of these stamps too there are exceptions such as double printings, front and backside shifts, offsets and imperforate.

posted in Finland (Figure 4) passed through the mails, although both may well have been sent by philatelists.

### Mailbox Registered Mail

Already at the turn of the century, the Russian postal service was in many respects quite progressive. For instance, a letter meant to be registered could be dropped into a mailbox and if sufficiently franked, delivered to the addressee in

ink. After the February Revolution, the backside printing was changed and the Imperial coat of arms was replaced with the numbers 1, 2, and 3 correlating to each value.

### Use On Mail Not Widely Accepted

Some conflicting information has been given in the literature about the official acceptance of the 1917 lower denominational money stamps on postal mailings. It appears that acceptance did not cover





Figure 6. 1 and 2 kopek 1917 money stamps on post card from Ugrojrjdy, 2. 28. 1918, to Miropolj. This card is underfranked by 2 kopeks.

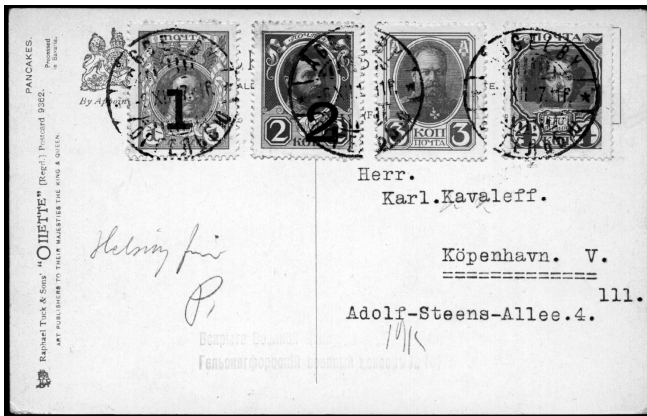


Figure 7. The 1917 Money stamps were never valid for postage in Finland, nevertheless they often passed through the mails unnoticed. The 4 kopek stamp was valid franking, but the 6 kopeks money stamps were mere decorations; the prevailing card rate was 8 kopeks to abroad; the card was 4 kopeks underfranked. Aggelby, 9. XII. 17, to Copenhagen.



all of the Empire. In some areas, however, the postal employees were instructed to accept the money stamps as payment for postage, and also to bring to the customer's attention the fact, that the stamps were legal tender and in reality not intended to be used as postage stamps.

Collector made post dated marks as well as cancellations to order are even more common on these stamps than on those in the first series. Because of postal rate increases, the demand for the 3 kopek and smaller denominations remained insignificant. Thus bona fide mailings are extremely rare in both Russia and Finland.

In figure 6, an apparently bona fide postal card mailing from Ugrojedy 4. 9. 1918 (September 4) to Miropolj with an erroneous arrival date 9. 8. 1918 (August 9). The postal rate had already risen to 20 kopeks, thereby making the mailing underfranked by 10 kopeks. The money stamps on the card are from the final series where the Imperial coat of arms already had been replaced by a number.

Editor's note: According to *Facit*, the money stamps, also referred to as "Exchange Stamps" or "Emergency Coins", were originally meant to be used only as coins, but the 1915 10, 15, and 20 kopek money stamps were officially permitted as stamps from October 21, 1915 until December 18, 1915. Cancellations with Finnish town postmarks during this period are extremely rare. Later cancellations, also of the 1, 2, and 3 kopek values, *may* have been caused by a shortage of stamps, but were more likely used by philatelists and cancelled by mistake.

Figure 8. The most common philatelic covers of the 1915 Money Stamps were produced by dairyman and philatelist J. Kavaleff. All of these covers are overfranked, including the registered covers, and none are known to have been cancelled prior to December 18, 1915. They have various town cancellations, especially Åggelby, Helsinki and Mikkeli; nevertheless, they represent the significant surviving covers of these issues with Finnish town cancellations. Figures 4, 7 and 8 are from the collection of Roger P. Quinby.



**THE POSTAL STATIONERY OF FINLAND - Part 6**  
**MORE ON THE FINNISH POSTAL CARDS**  
 by Juhani Pietilä, translated by Kauko Aro  
 reprinted from *Abophil*, No. 3, 1995

The brown 10 penni postal cards discussed in the previous installment form a clear turning point on the books of Finnish postal cards. Cards issued after them are no longer philatelically interesting in the same manner. The printings increase every time, the variations in paper stock remain minimal and the quality of printing is more uniform, all of which makes the collecting of the cards easier, but also more boring.

However, not everything is as straight forward as I just noted. The later cards have even great rarities which even in this matter supports the statement that exceptions confirm the rule. The following will represent a cursory look at postal card issues during the rest of 1800s without singling out each separate card.

#### 10 PENNI POSTAL CARDS OF 1885

Just as with stamps, the color of the value stamp changed in 1885. Now the color for 10 penni value stamp became red just as the color of the corresponding stamp of the same value. The card itself remained similar to the prior issue. Already over one million cards were printed. The color of the value stamp and the paper stock continue to show significant variation. The sale of the cards commenced on December 1, 1884; thus, 'false starts' are known.

New 10 penni cards with four numerals were still prepared in 1888 when the appearance of the whole card changed significantly. The frames were dropped off and the text was also simplified. The upper left corner of the card has a lion shield with a crown that provides two subtypes for this issue based on the number of the pearls. The total quantity of printed cards remained less than the previous card.

The design of the value stamp also changed to one with numerals only in upper corners in 1890. Three different types are known of which the last was placed into circulation in 1895. Nearly 10 million cards were printed in total; thus, they are very common.

In collecting, the attention and emphasis is placed with postal history, i.e., scarce cancellations, rate usages and exceptional destinations.

#### 10 PEN DOUBLE-CARDS FROM 1881

New 10 + 10 penni double-cards after the new 10 penni cards with four-numerals were first prepared in 1881. These cards were strong violet in color and with halves attached on the left, still without perforation. The color of the paper stock and the value stamp is the same. The text of the cards does not inform that it is a doublecard. Cards were only valid in domestic mail; the author does not know of any foreign usage. 6,000 cards were printed.

As the card supplies dwindled down in 1884, new cards were still manufactured in 1884 for domestic use. The new cards are slightly larger than the prior issue and their color also differs from the earlier. In September 1884 a batch of 500 cards were prepared which were attached on the left margin. A couple of unused cards are known and even used half cards are great rarities.

One more time cards had to be printed in 1884. Now the printing consisted of 2,000 cards and the cards greatly resembled the previous rare cards. Now the cards were attached at the right margin which thus separates the two printings of cards from each other. Also, the color of this card differs slightly from the prior issue which makes its identification easier. This card is clearly more common than the prior issue, but still not a card seen every day.



Figure 1. The late usage of the 1886 double-card with an attractive double-ring 'Nadendal' cancellation where it should have been '1.3.93' according to the 'ÅBO' arrival strike as well as the message on the reverse. The halves of the card are still attached to each other.



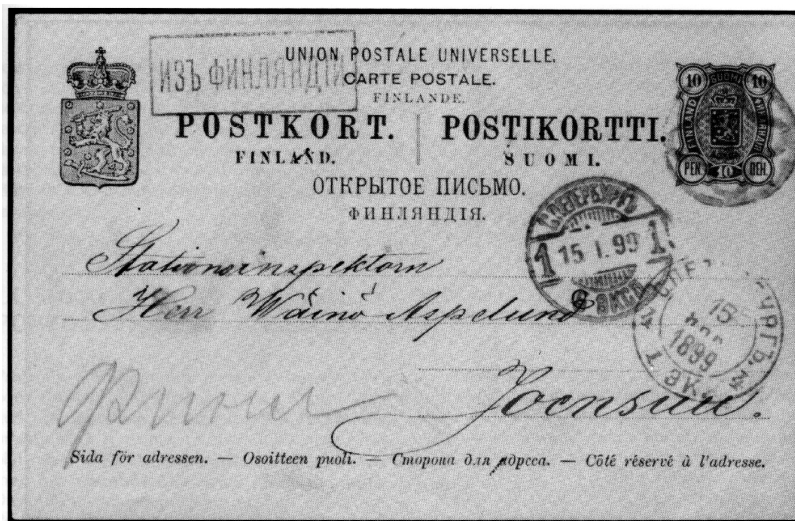


Figure 2. 10 penni card with numerals in upper corners was mailed in Helsinki according to the message and addressed to Joensuu. Card was mailed on board train and arrived at the Finland Station in St. Petersburg where it was cancelled with a numeral '7'. In addition, the card has two other St. Petersburg ring strikes and a scarce, rectangular 'From Finland' strike. A rather rare route for a domestic mailing.



## RED 10 +10 PENNI DOUBLE-CARDS

Also, the color of the value stamp on the doublecards was changed in 1885 to correspond with the color of the 'regular' 10 penni postal cards. Now the frame and the value stamp were red, but other text was in black ink. The appearance of the cards was similar to those before and they were valid only in domestic use.

The international mail also needed a doublecard. The preparation of such a card was started in summer 1886, and 14,000 cards were printed in total. Two types are found. The header has a text in four languages as required for international usage. Halves of the double-cards which are still attached are rarely found. Internationally used cards are desirable as the majority was used in domestic mail. A portion of the cards remained unused, and nearly 1,000 cards were sold in a Post Office auction. Unused cards are fairly common in any case.

Still, three more different types of 10+10 penni doublecards were prepared in 1800's, with a value stamp with both four numerals and numerals in upper corners. The latest types are also found with a 'Specimen' overprint as these were delivered to St. Petersburg to the Supreme Postal Administration for distribution to foreign postal authorities. This also applies to the 'regular' 10 penni cards.

Figure 3. Left Middle: The 'correct' usage of the 1886 international doublecard to Sweden. The card left Ekenäs June 17, 1889 and arrived in Stockholm two days later. Figure 4. Left: The registered usage of 1890 10 penni card with numerals in upper corners is a great rarity. In addition, the card was sent to Norway which adds to its value. Even the text is fascinating as the sender from Rauma is defending himself against complaints involving the exchange of stamps.



## THE POSTAL STATIONERY OF FINLAND - Part 7

### Return Receipts

by Juhani Pietilä, translated by Kauko Aro  
reprinted from *Abophil*, No. 4, 1995



Figure 1. A really early use of the first return receipt as the receipt was with a registered letter sent from Åbo to Helsinki dated November 15, 1871. Åbo has cancelled the receipt according to regulations with a single-ring blue canceller, but the arrival and departure strikes from Helsinki are missing. The arrival strike in Åbo is also blue and dated 19. 11.

After having described the postal cards issued during the past century, I will now move to examine another stationery form which came into circulation early in the program. Namely, the return receipts which were already mentioned in the March 1871 communication sent to the Czar of Russia and the Grand Duke of Finland wherein permission was requested for the adoption of postal cards to be used in internal mail.

The idea behind return receipts was to provide a confirmation to the sender that the letter reached its destination. The receipt could be appended to the letter as the left edge of the receipt was gummed. The printed text on the receipt acknowledged the receipt of a mailed letter, and it was returned to the sender after signature by the recipient. The receipt could be used with an ordinary as well as with a registered letter.

#### RETURN RECEIPTS OF 1871

The first return receipts were issued at the same time with the first postal cards. They were

pieces were destroyed the next year when a new receipt with brown value stamp was placed into circulation.

Both mint and used receipts have survived from the net issue of some 5,000 pieces for the pleasure of collectors, albeit less of the latter. I have seen two receipts used in 1871 with the rest of the used copies being from later years. The used receipt should have a total of four strikes, since both sending and receiving Post Offices were supposed to cancel the receipt. However, receipts cancelled in this manner are exceptions as most of them have 1-3 strikes. According to the Handbook of Finnish Philately, there exists a printing error where the value stamp was struck on the side of the Finnish text. I have not yet seen such a copy.

#### BROWN VALUE STAMP

Almost immediately after the printing of the receipts it was discovered that the red value stamp had been reserved for the 40 penni postal entire. Thus, it was decided that brown would be the new

also sent to the Post Office simultaneously, namely October 9, 1871. The receipt forms were supplied by Tilgmann and contained printing on both sides, one in Finnish and the other in Swedish. The 10 penni value stamp which was familiar from Finland's serpentine rouletted stamps was struck in the upper left corner on the Swedish side. The color of the value stamp was red and the printing quantity 10,200 units, although over 5,000



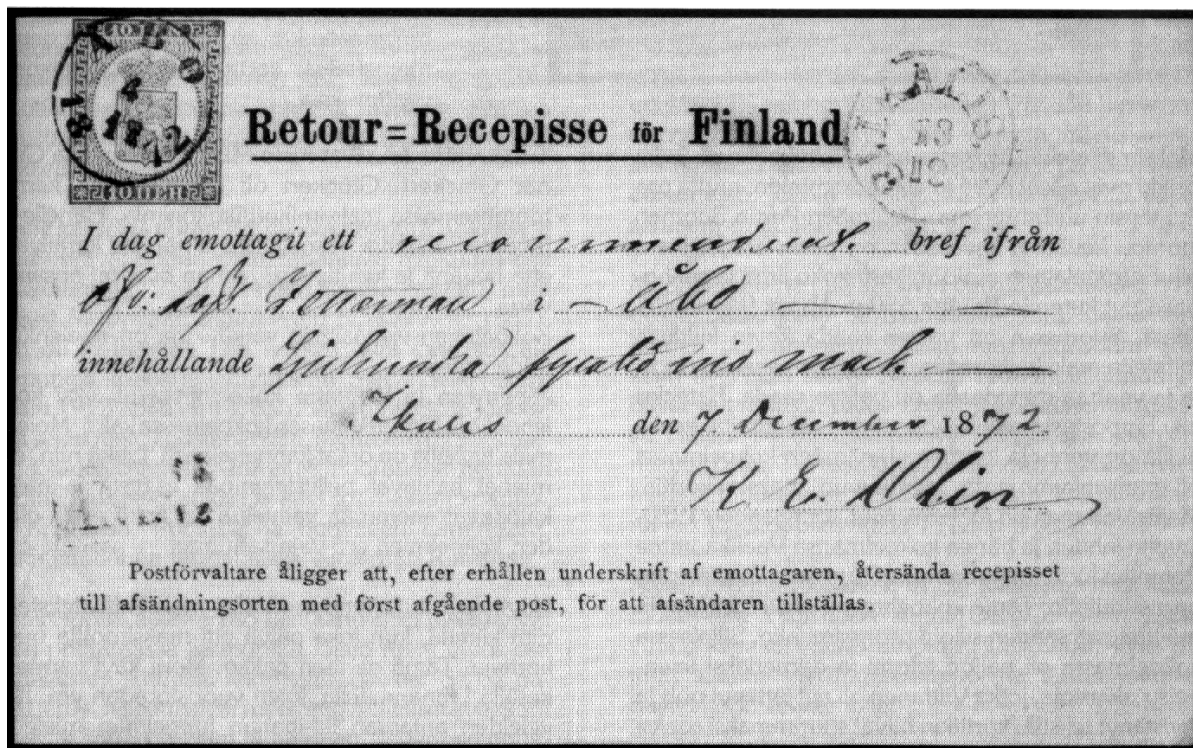


Figure 2. Brown return receipt from the second printing has also accompanied a letter sent from Åbo. The departing cancel is dated December 4, 1872. The letter arrived at Ikalis on December 12, and given a departing strike back to Åbo with a single-ring Ikalis-strike December 13, 1872. The Åbo arrival strike is dated December 15th.

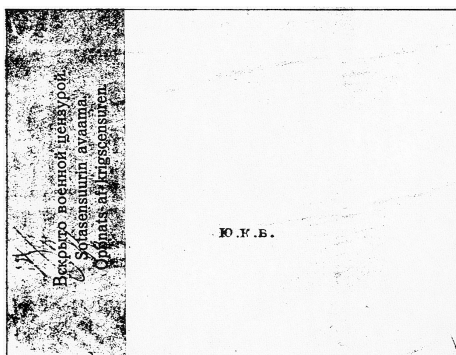
color of the receipt, and new receipts were already printed in October November 1871. Also, new receipt forms were acquired for this printing which have minor, but clear differences with the prior forms. The brown receipts were printed in two sets of 5,000 and 6,500 copies for a total of 11,500 receipts. The printings can be differentiated from each other according to principles presented by (late) Harri Sihtola. The value stamp of the first printing

is lilac-brown in color and pressure traces are strongly uneven. In the second printing the traces are weak and the color of value stamp redder.

The new return receipts are more common than the earlier ones. I have not seen a single receipt used in 1871. Here too, the Handbook describes another printing error when the gum may be on the wrong margin, wrong side or totally missing. I have not seen such receipts either.

## NEW HELSINKI CENSOR MARK CONFIRMED?

by Teuvo Termonen, from *Kurre*, No. 1, 1982  
translated by Carita Parker



I first introduced this mark as a new Helsinki censor mark in 1979. The cover had been sent by a young man in Rymattyla to a young woman in Helsinki. Since this censor mark carries the lettering U.K.V. in Cyrillic, I assumed that neither the sender nor addressee could have owned such a cancel, and I became intrigued by the possibility of having found a new mark. *Continued on Page 9*



## Charta Sigillata Printers' 20 Penni LABb

### Text, illustrations and translation by Heikki Reinikainen from *Filatelisti*, No. 4, 1995

Type 1875 is a real treasure chest because of all kinds of perforation variations found in the issue. New findings, however, are scant, and have not been published for a long time. In this respect, the issue appears to have been thoroughly investigated (note my article: New Perforation found in Type 1875, though). Unknown varieties which might exist but not found, are e.g., 20 penni SBA and LABb, because they both are known perforated in reverse order, i.e. SAB and LBAb. These stamps have been collected and investigated for more than 100 Years. Therefore, definitive information should be available.

Some time ago, however, a 20 penni LABb, AB-perforated ultramarine stamp of the Charta Sigillata second printing emission came to daylight. It was discovered by Mr. Herbert Oesch, Finland's acknowledged specialist on Type 1875 issue. Up to now, some 8-9 stamps of the same have been recognized. The pictured item came up accidentally in an auction, identified there as a first emission AB-perforated blue stamp, which is a fairly common variety. I happened to realize the mistake and managed to buy the stamp. For comparison, I include a picture of the first emission blue stamp (LABa). In addition to a color difference, pay attention to the color surfaces. In blue stamps it is usually a bit grainy and broken. The coverage of ultramarine color is better and sharply outlined. Smudgy edges or strong relief are - if they exist - in the lower, or sometimes upper edge of the blue stamps, in the ultramarine stamps always on vertical sides. Good luck in hunting! Finally, I should also note that the Senate BA-perforation has not been found to date. I am pretty sure that one day it will.



Figure 1. 20 penny LABb, i.e., AB-perforated ultramarine stamp of Charta Sigillata second printing emission, canceled -7.82. (., July, 1882)



Figure 2. For comparison, AB-perforated stamps from Charta Sigillata first and second emissions, side by side. In addition to the color difference, note the differences in the printing surfaces, and, especially, the strong and dark outlines on the left vertical side of LABb stamp.

Shown here is a second cover with the same initialed mark. This mark adorns a business envelope from Turku addressed to a trade organization in Helsinki. The enclosure strip attached to the envelope is of the Type I/b, in use at that time in Helsinki. The earlier (1979) mentioned cover carries the Type III/b resealing tape. The mark appears to have been in usage for one day only (25. 11. 14), because both letters were mailed on 24. 11. 14. The arrival marks on both covers are incomplete, the censoring was apparently done on November 25th.

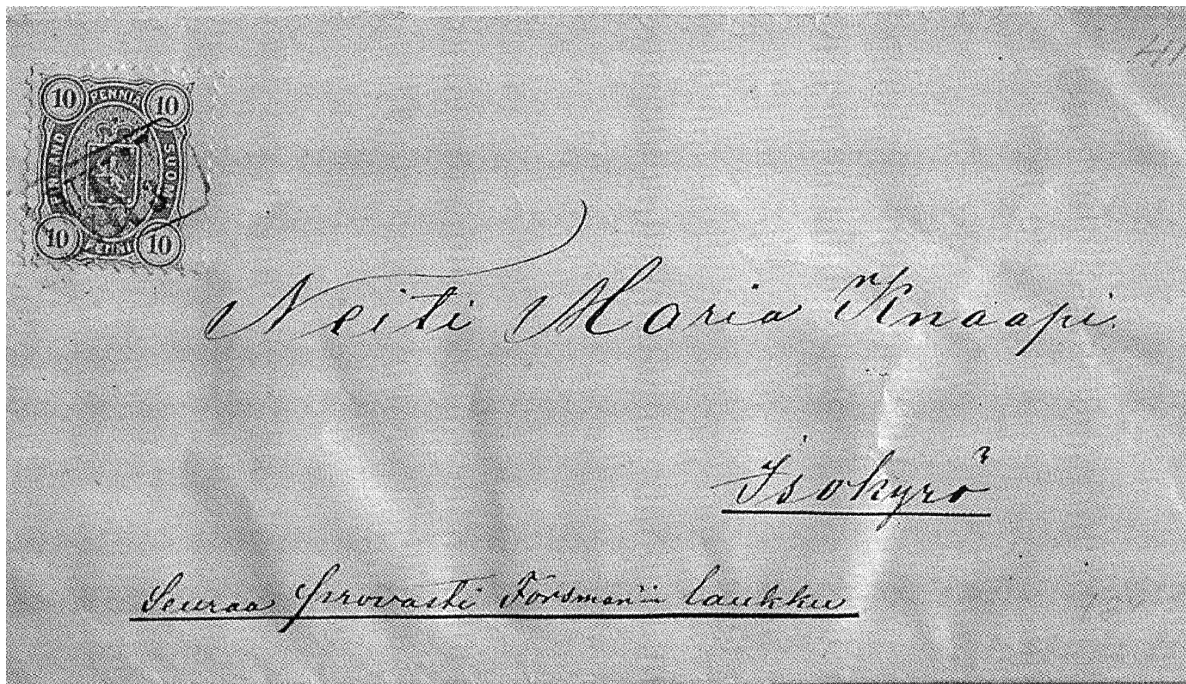
After the discovery of this second cover, I am nearly convinced that it is a censor's own initialed mark.

Editor's Note: Although the cover was difficult to reproduce, it appears that the censor also wrote his initials across the censor tape, however, I was unable to sharpen the image and bring the initials forward for accurate identification. If you have a censored W. W. I cover with unusual or unfamiliar markings, please send us a copy for review.



## Local Mail of Type 1875

Text, illustrations and translation by Heikki Reinikainen  
from *Filatelisti*, No. 9, 1998



Now we have another type of local mail specialty under evaluation. A Senate 10 penni SAA stamp has been used as a local letter postage fee, and is canceled ANK 27. 3. (March 27, 1882). At first, this letter is notable, because of a single 10 penni stamp is used. Such letters happen to be rare, expensive and difficult to obtain. The local letter rate of 10 penni became valid in July 1, 1881, but, the use of a new rate was at the start negligible. Therefore, compared to ordinary letters they are much more rare. Postal items with single Charta Sigillata 10 penni stamps are comparable to Senate letters. Some local mail affixed with 2 x 5 penni stamps, mostly Charta Sigillata, are known, too.

Our pictured item is of special interest, because

it had been mailed in a small place with no post office. It was delivered in a private mail bag in the service of rector Forsman to the post office and was there struck with an ANK arrival cancel in accordance with the standard postal regulations. (Mr. Karl Rudolf Forsman served as a rector of Ilmajoki parish from 1852 to 1882.)

The combination - 10 penny single use - local mail - private mail bag delivery - may be a unique item. I have no information of other similar letters.

The postal items as described above are highlights in any collection. They should be the prime targets when acquiring new material. When such an item comes by, do not let it go. They do not come often.

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## SCC Introduces New Website

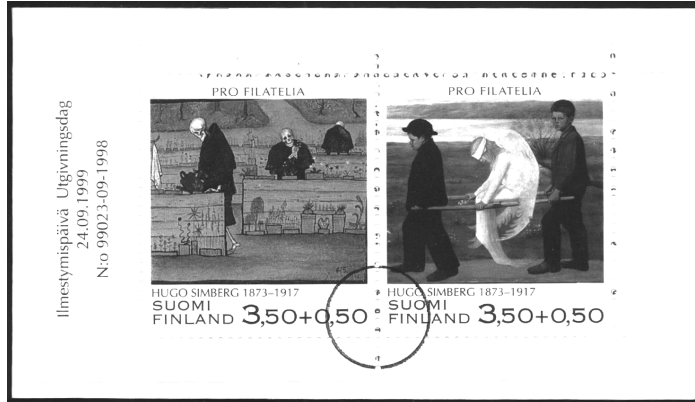
<http://www.scc-online.org>

In August 1999, the Scandinavian Collectors Club opened up a new Internet website with a more recognizable address: <http://www.scc-online.org>

The new site provides selected articles from *The Posthorn*, library information, details on membership benefits such as chapters, awards, and stamp circuits. The site also provides a directory of members online as well as easy connections to other important philatelic sites such as NORDIA 2000 and NORDIA 2001. Contact Webmaster Sandra Downs for more information at: [cybrscc@aol.com](mailto:cybrscc@aol.com)



## Hugo Simberg's Paintings "Wounded Angel" and "Garden of Death" Featured in Two Stamp Pro Filatelia Booklet Issued Sept. 24th at Nordia 99



Wounded Angel and Garden of Death, two masterpieces by Hugo Simberg, are featured on the two new stamps in the Pro Filatelia series. The stamps, each with a surcharge, were issued as a booklet on September 24th. The booklet sells for FIM 8.00. The postage value of each stamp is FIM 3.50. The surcharge of FIM 0.50 will be used towards the promotion of philately. The paintings were processed for reproduction on stamps by Pentti Rahikainen. Mr. Rahikainen also designed the covers of the booklet, the FDC and the First Day Cancellation. The cover of the booklet is illustrated by a color woodcut by Simberg, "Autumn".

The First Day cancellation of the stamps was arranged in Turku at the NORDIA 99 stamp exhibition held September 24-26, 1999.

Simultaneously with the Pro Filatelia stamps, a Pro Filatelia package, containing all the Pro Filatelia stamps hitherto issued, was placed on the market. The series, presenting masterworks of Finnish art, was commenced in 1991. Stamps in the series have been issued every two years. Art Atheneum shows solemn boys carrying an angel who has hurt her wing. The angel, a young girl sitting on a primitive stretcher, has a bandage covering her eyes and is holding a wilted bouquet of flowers in her hand. The atmosphere is solemn and mystic. A few years later, Simberg reproduced his impressive work in a larger format as a fresco in the Church of St. John in Tampere. Instead of the somber background of the painting, Simberg used a horizon featuring smokestacks from the industrial area of Tampere.

Garden of Death (1896, water color and gouache, 16 cm x 17 cm, the Museum of Finnish Art Ateneum) expresses Simberg's original thoughts on death. The

artist, who normally did little to make the interpretation of his works easier, wrote on one of his pencil sketches for the work that the Garden of Death depicts a place where the souls must go before they can enter Heaven. The painting shows skeletons shrouded in black carefully tending flowers, life, in the kingdom of Death. Simberg also reproduced the Garden of Death as a fresco in the Church of St. John in Tampere. He also used this motif in woodcuts and in an etching.

For Hugo Simberg (1873-1917), symbolism was the only way of expressing his own internal world. His artistic ambitions met with little understanding during his lifetime. The support provided by a master he adored, Akseli Gallen-Kallela, meant a lot. The famous master, who painted quite a few symbolic works himself, took on Simberg as a private pupil. He recognized the gifts of the youth, and encouraged him even when others publicly humiliated him. Only after the autumn exhibition of 1898, Finnish critics began to take Simberg seriously, and in the same year he was accepted as a member of the Artists' Association of Finland.

### STAMP FACTS

Issue date:	September 24, 1999
Face value:	2 x FIM 3.50 + .50
Issue:	500,000
Designer:	original paintings: Hugo Simberg graphic artist: Pentti Rahikainen
Perforation:	13.25 x 13.75
Format:	stamps: (2) 36 mm x 40.6 sheet: 100 x 54
Paper:	stamp paper 102 g/m <sup>2</sup>
Printers:	Joh. Enschede, Netherlands
Printing method:	stamps: offset 4/0 cover: offset 4/1
First Day Cover and postmark:	Pentti Rahikainen
Price of FDC:	FIM 10.50



## Guitar, Fiskar Scissors, a Timber Harvester, Compass, Ski Stick Among Finnish Products Shown in Six Stamp Booklet Released October 8



Finnish design and know-how development is the subjects of a six-stamp booklet released on October 8th. Music, sports, forestry, sailing and gardening are some of the examples of fields where these products combining agronomy, aesthetics and functionality are much appreciated.

The stamps feature a ZOEL/VERSOUL guitar, ERGO II/SILENTA hearing protectors, an EXEL AVANTI QLS ski stick, a SUUNTO compass, a PONSSE COBRA HS 10 harvester as well as FISKARS large gardening scissors, standard scissors and pruning shears.

Jaana Aartomaa, who was responsible for the design of the stamps' First Day Cover and postmark, also designed the booklet and the stamps.

All the elements of the ZOEL/VERSOUL guitar have one single goal: good sound quality. Both the forms and materials have been chosen to ensure the best possible quality, and the designer Kari Nieminen has succeeded in combining his own innovative thinking with old traditions of instrument design. The acoustic Zoel guitar is particularly valued as a performance and recording instrument.

The designer Jyrki Jarvinen has developed the ERGO II/SILENTA hearing protectors in cooperation with users as well as experts. Ease of use, comfort and, above all, a perfect fit are essential in ensuring maximal protection. The Ergo hearing protectors are anatomically correct, adapting to the size and shape of the head.

The EXEL AVANTI QLS ski stick brings power to skiing. The ergonomic handle and adjustable strap guarantee a firm grip and ultimate control. The efficiency of the drop shaped ring is based on careful

design work, conducted by Pasi Jarvinen, Matti Lyly and Mika Vesalainen.

The SUUNTO compass pilots sailors effectively through all kinds of waters. The steady and easy to read instrument is complemented by elegant design: plenty of information in compact size.

The PONSSE COBRA HS 10 harvester makes harvesting and thinning an environmentally friendly operation. The weight of the machine is divided evenly over its eight wheels, making the Cobra steady and agile at the same time.

The FISKARS large gardening scissors, standard scissors, and pruning shears were designed by Olavi Lindén. The carefully designed form and the tried and tested ergonomics make these tools safe to use and good to hold. Cutting is made easy with this perfect example of aesthetics at the service of practicality.

### STAMP FACTS

Issue date:	October 8, 1999
Face value:	6 x FIM 3.50 (FIM 21)
Issue:	600, 000
Designer:	Jaana Aartomaa
Photographs:	Jorma Marsito, Matti Lyly, Esko Koivisto, et. al.
Perforation:	13.25 x 13.25
Format:	mixed
Paper:	stamp paper CPL 1 cover paper: multiart silk 200g
Printers:	Setec Ltd
Printing method:	stamps: offset 5/0 cover: offset 5/1
First Day Cover and postmark:	Jaana Aartomaa
Price of FDC:	FIM 23.50



## Immortal Entertainers of the Past, Subjects of Stamp Booklet



On September 6th, Finland Post issued a booklet containing six stamps, dedicated to pioneer entertainers and star performers of the 1920s - 1950s. The booklet features the following persons: singer Georg Nalmstén, the vocal group Harmony Sisters i.e. Vera, Aaire and Raija Valtonen, composer Toivo Kärki, lyricist Reino Helismaa, tango king Olavi Virta, troubadour Tapio Rautovaara and folk artist Asa Pakarinen. Because of their long and fruitful cooperation, Kärki and Helismaa are shown together on one stamp.

The legends are shown in a bluish haze. Besides his or her portrait, each one also has the name of a great success printed in gold; the only exception being the enormously productive Tolvo Kärki with two songs: "Liljankukka" and "Täysikuu". The other songs are: "Sinitaivas", "Pennitön uneksija", "Kulkurin iltatähti", "Lentävä kalakokko", "Sulle salaisuuden kertoa mä voisin", and "Päivänsäde ja menninkäinen".

The face value of each stamp is FIM 3.50, thus the booklet sells at FIM 21.00. Janne Tuominen and Tapio Vapaasalo designed the stamps as well as the cover.

### STAMP FACTS

Issue date:	September 6, 1999
Face value:	6 x FIM 3.50 + .50
Issue:	600, 000
Designer:	Janne Tuominen, Tapio Vapaasalo
Photographs:	Various contributors
Perforation:	13.25 x 13.25
Format:	stamps: (4) 30 x 34.5 mm (2) 60 x 34.5 mm sheet: 145 x 69
Paper:	stamp paper: CPL1 cover paper: multiart silk 200g
Printers:	Setec Oy
Printing method:	stamps: offset 6/0 cover: offset 46/5
First Day Cover and postmark:	Janne Tuominen, Tapio Vapaasalo
Price of FDC:	FIM 10.50

### New Stamp Orders

New stamp issues may be ordered from the :

Finland Post Ltd.  
Philatelic Centre  
Box 2  
FIN-00011 Posti  
Finland

New stamp issues may also be ordered from several stamp dealers specializing in Nordic and Scandinavian philately. We strongly urge our readers to support the dealers and auction houses which advertise in *The Posthorn* for all their philatelic purchases including classic stamps and covers, postal stationery, literature, and supplies.



## Helsinki Post Museum Delivers its Unique Machine-Vended Stamps To Order

Finland Post introduced the renewed 10-key Frama stamp vending machines on September 1, 1999. A vending machine carrying the Museum's own four-color stamp is in use at the Post Museum. Stamp vending machines have serial numbers, and the machine at the Museum prints out number 3.

The pictorial motif of the Post Museum's Frama-stamp portrays the first postal van (Adler), which was acquired in 1911 by Finland Post. The van was used to empty letterboxes in Helsinki. The Adler is at the moment on show in the Post Museum's exhibition in the Helsinki Main Post Office building. Photographer Jaakko Savolainen photographed the Adler for the frama-stamp and the stamp was designed by Jarmo Niinimäki.

The smallest postage value available from the Frama vending machine is FIM 1.00 and the largest FIM 9.90. The Museum delivers uncanceled stamps only.

There has been a self-service vending machine type TVM-624 (Dassault) in use at the Post Museum from May 10, 1995. It also carries the Museum's own stamp. However, due to the numerous service failures of the machine and the uncertainty of its use, the Post Museum will take the vending machine out of service on January 14, 2000.



In October 1991, two self-service vending machines of the type Dassault were introduced in Finland. One of the vending machines was placed in Leppävaara in the city of Espoo and the other in the city of Turku. The self-service vending machine type TVM 624 was in use in Espoo from 1991 until the end of February 1995.

The smallest postage value available from the Dassault is FIM 2.00 and the largest FIM 120.00. The Museum delivers uncanceled stamps only.

Orders and inquiries: Post Museum, PL 9, 00011 FIN-POSTI or postimuseo@posti.fi, tel. + 358 204 51 4908. Payments with Visa, Eurocard or Mastercard credit cards (quote your credit card number). The Post Museum collects a delivery and posting fee of FIM 50 for the orders.

## Two Helsinki Resealing Censor Tapes Added to Complete Listings

### Helsinki Censor Tape No. 7

Вскрыто военной цензурой в г. Гельсингфорсѣ.

Avattu sotasensuurissa Helsingissä.

Öppnadt af krigscensuren i Helsingfors.



Type: W/ Helsinki ID  
 Shape: Straight line, text in three languages  
 Russian, Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Russian text: 68 mm  
 Finnish text: 49 mm  
 Swedish text: 54 mm  
 Text: Opened by war censor in Helsinki  
 Paper color(s) White and yellowish papers  
 Comment:  
 Dates of use: All text printed in 8 point Petit Antique.  
 White paper: 11. 02. 1916 to 11. 19. 1916  
 Yellowish course paper:  
 11. 01. 1916 to 2. 06. 1917

### Helsinki Censor Tape No. 8

Вскрыто военной цензурой в г. Гельсингфорсѣ.

Avattu sotasensuurissa Helsingissä.

Öppnadt af krigscensuren i Helsingfors.

Type: W/ Helsinki ID  
 Shape: Straight line, text in three languages  
 Russian, Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Russian text: 94 mm  
 Finnish text: 59 mm  
 Swedish text: 67 mm  
 Text: Opened by war censor in Helsinki  
 Paper color(s) White and yellowish papers  
 Comment: Russian text printed in 12 point Cicero  
 Antique and the Finnish and Swedish text  
 is printed in 12 point Korpus Antique.  
 Date(s) of use:  
 White paper: 11. 13. 1916  
 Yellowish course paper:  
 8. 24. 1917 to 11. 20. 1917

## 1999 Christmas Issues Feature Joint Issues With Italy

This year's Christmas Stamps were issued on November 5th. Two of the three stamps are joint issues of the posts of Finland and Italy. This Christmas, the Italians will admire a Christmas stamp designed in Finland, whereas the pictorial subject of the Finnish Christmas stamp is of Italian origin. Two identical pictorial subjects will adorn the Christmas stamps of both countries. The face values in Finland are FIM 2.50 and 3.00. The third Finnish Christmas stamp, priced at 3.50 is not a joint issue.

The choice of the Post of Italy for the joint publication was a painting by an important Italian painter, Giorgio de Chirico (1888-1978), called "la Nativita" (watercolor, cardboard, 50,8 x 36,4 cm.) The design is by Pirkko Vahtero.

De Chirico was one of the founders of the so-called metaphysical style. He was a great influence on the surrealists, who considered him a forerunner of their school of painting. De Chirico was born in Volos, Greece and studied in Athens, Munich, Florence and Paris.

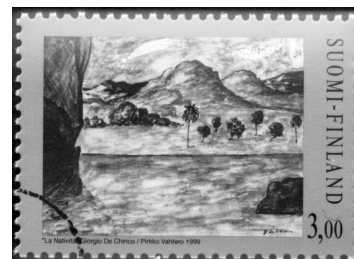
La Nativita is currently on display in Rome and is owned by the De Chirico Foundation. Originally, the painting is a sketch setting for Ottorino Respighi's oratorio, "Lauda per la nativita del Signor".

The stamp's face value, FIM 3, equals that of a first letter or a Christmas card in Europe, EU countries excluded.

Finland's contribution to the joint publication is a stamp designed by Pirkko Vahtero and featuring Santa Claus with his herd of reindeer, pictured in the majestic arctic landscape of Lapland under a sky ablaze with northern lights. The stamp is priced at FIM 2.50.

Pirkko Vahtero is also the designer of the FIM 3.50 Christmas stamp, depicting two hares in a winter landscape, admiring stars twinkling over snow-covered mountains. The stamp's face value equals that of a postcard or a first letter (max. 50 g) in Finland.

All Christmas stamps were issued in sheets of 20. Buyers of an entire sheet of the FIM 2.50 stamp (special Christmas card fee) are entitled to a special price of FIM 45, FIM 5 off the regular FIM 50 price. All the other sheets are sold at the normal price, i.e. FIM 70 for a sheet of 3.50 stamps and FIM 60 for a sheet of FIM 3.



### STAMP FACTS

Issue date:	November 5, 1999
Face value:	FIM 2.50; 3.00 & 3.50
Issue:	2,000,000
Designer:	"La Nativita", Giorgio de Chirico; design, Pirkko Vahtero: "Santa Claus" & "Hares", Pirkko Vahtero
Perforation:	14 x 14
Format:	24,48 x 34,56 mm, 2 x 34.56 x 24.48
Paper:	stamp paper CPL 1
Printers:	Setec Oy
Printing method:	offset 4/0
First Day Cover and postmark:	Pirkko Vahtero
Price of FDC:	FIM 11.50



## Letter Mail Between Finland and The Americas 1939 - 1946

### Postal Routes, Restrictions, Rates, and Postal Censorship

#### From Esko Seitsonen's Exhibit

Beginning with this issue of *The Finnish Philatelist*, we will present pages from Esko Seitsonen's exhibit, *Letter Mail Between Finland and the Americas 1939-1946*. While it is not possible to reproduce the pages as they appear in the exhibit, we have reproduced the illustrations (covers) and the text from the pages shown; however, some text has been reorganized to fit the format of TFP. We have made no attempt to show the reader how to organize or present this material for exhibition, or to indicate what material should be shown.

The purpose of Mr. Seitsonen's exhibit is to present the influence of W.W. II on the conveyance of letter mail between Finland and the Americas. Surface, air mail and combination air-surface mail will be described. The names of the exchange offices, in bold type, rates, and the closing and reopening of

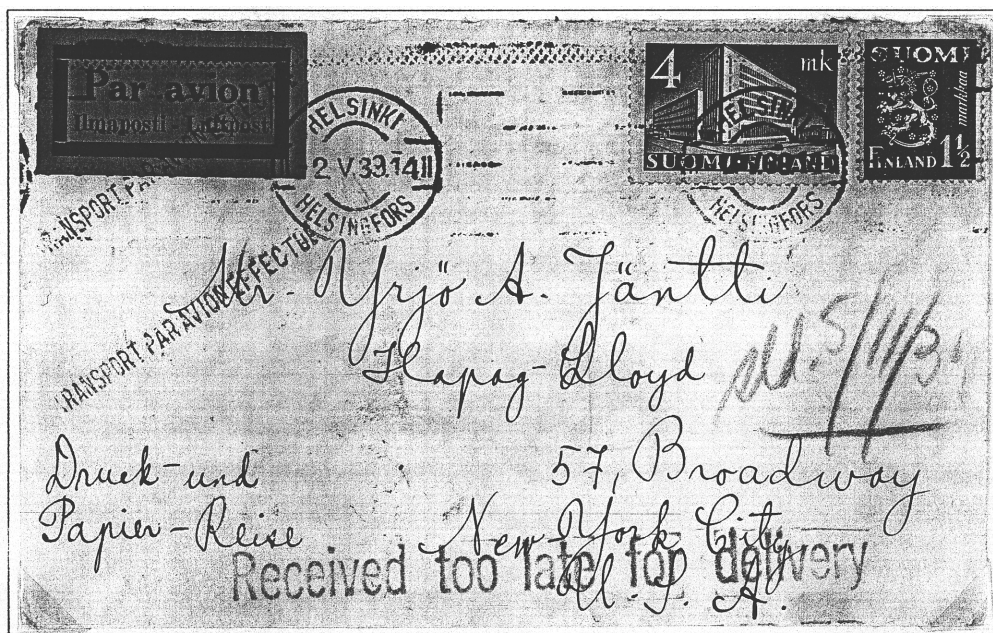
routes will be shown. Covers from the prewar period through the restoration of normal air and surface postal services in 1946 are described.

The material illustrated represents Mr. Seitsonen's personal research of circulars and bulletins of the Finnish Postal Administration to the exchange offices, published postal rates, contemporary newspaper articles and articles in the Finnish philatelic journals.

Each cover presented in this series explains how the mail was sent from Finland to the Americas or from the Americas to Finland. We believe Mr. Seitsonen's personal research of this interesting period will provide collectors with the postal history of the conveyance of the mail during the wartime period. We hope you will find this series interesting and informative. *Roger P. Quinby*

#### Air mail from Finland to New York City until August 31, 1939

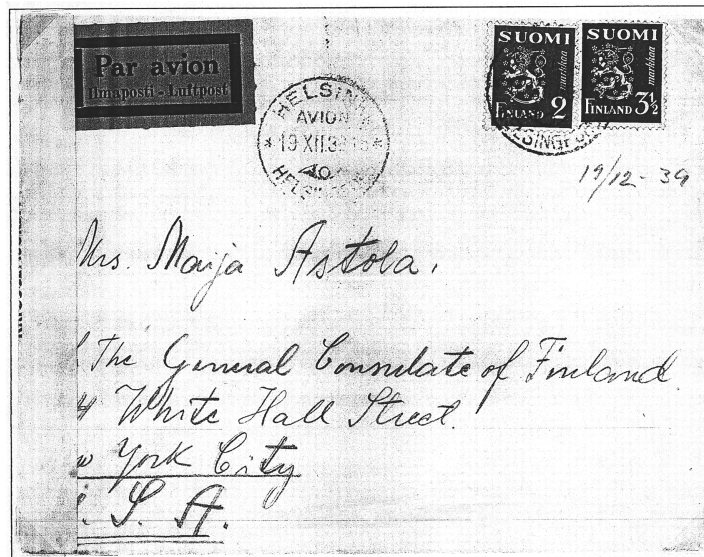
Mail from **Helsinki** and **Turku** through Stockholm on the air routes provided connections in the European harbors of Gothenburg, Bremenhaven, Cuxhaven, Cherbourg and Le Harve; further conveyance by ship which had the quickest connection to **New York**. This letter from Helsinki, May 2 via Paris, May 5, to New York, May 11, 1939.



Letter rate to abroad from November 1, 1936 to September 30, 1942: -20 grams = 3.50 Fmk  
 Air mail in Europe from November 21, 1929 to July 21, 1940: -20 grams = 2.00 Fmk

**Air mail from Finland to New York City Via Sweden & Norway: Sept. 1, 1939 to April 9, 1940**

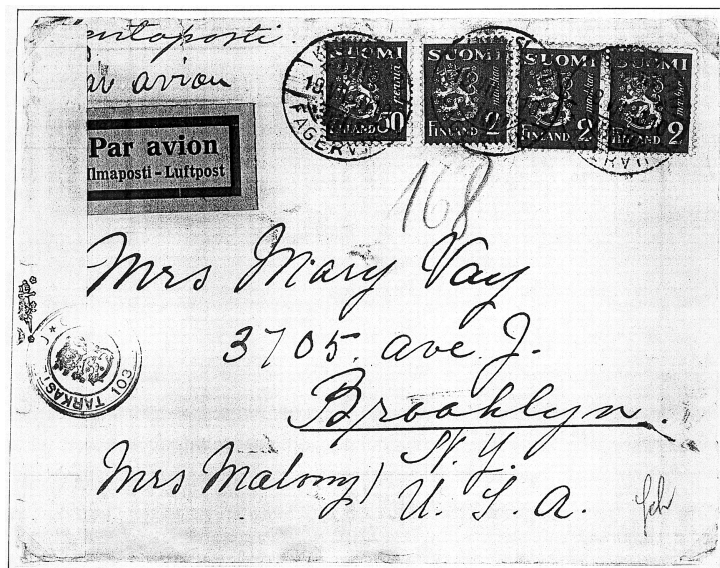
Direction: By air from **Helsinki** and **Turku** to Stockholm and from there through Gothenburg or Bremen by ship to **New York**.



Letter rate to abroad from November 1, 1936 to September 30, 1942: -20 grams = 3.50 Fmk  
 Air mail in Europe from November 21, 1929 to July 21, 1940: -20 grams = 2.00 Fmk

**Air mail to New York City via the Arctic Ocean, June 12 to August 1, 1940**

Direction: From **Petsamo** by the ships of the Thorden Co. to **New York**. When the war expanded in 1940, Linahamari (Petsamo) was the only neutral seaport in Northern Europe for the conveyance of mail and other traffic. August 1, by the ship "Ester Norden", captured by the Germans, to Berlin, censored, to Moscow, and Siberia to New York, October 11, 1940.



Letter rate to abroad from November 1, 1936 to September 30, 1942: -20 grams = 3.50 Fmk  
 Air mail in Europe from November 21, 1929 to July 21, 1940: -20 grams = 2.00 Fmk  
 Airmail to Petsamo from June 21, 1940 to September 30, 1940: -20 grams = 1.00 Fmk



### Air mail to New York, from there by ship across the Atlantic to Finland until August 31, 1939

Direction: On the internal US airmail routes to **New York**, from there by ship on the fastest route to the European harbors of Gothenburg, Bremerhaven, Cuxhaven, Cherbourg, and Le Havre, from there by air to **Stockholm** and Helsinki, There were about 16 connections a month. This route was obtained on the regular lines of the transport of mail from all countries except: Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, the Falkland Islands and South Georgia.

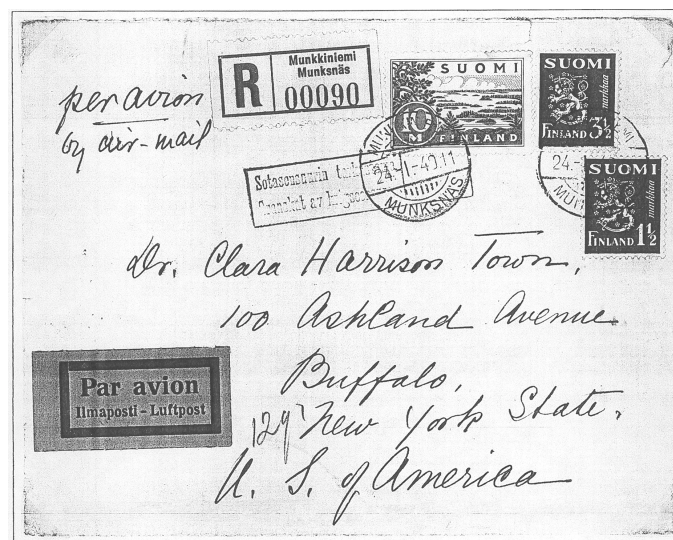


Letter from Duluth, MN, February 17, 1939 to Helsinki, backstamped March 2, 1939.

Letter rate to abroad -20 grams = 5 cents. Air mail within the USA = 6 cents.

### Air mail within Europe and then by ship across the Atlantic to New York and from there by air: September 1, 1939 to April 9, 1940

Direction: By air from **Helsinki** and **Turku** to **Stockholm** with further conveyance through Gothenburg or Bergen by ship to New York and from there by air to final destination.



Registered letter, Munkkiniemi, January 24, 1940 to USA via Stockholm, January 25, then by ship to New York, February 13, then by air to Buffalo, February 13. Route discontinued July 22, 1940.

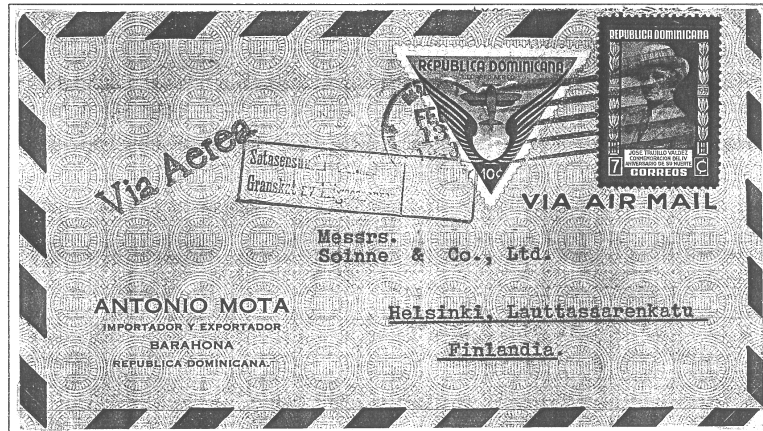
Letter rate to abroad from November 1, 1936 to September 30, 1942: -20 grams = 3.50 Fmk

Air mail to USA, April 15, 1935 to July 21, 1940: 11-15 grams = 9.00 Fmk

Registration. December 1, 1931 to September 30, 1942 = 2.50 Fmk

**Air mail to New York, from there by ship across the Atlantic to Finland from September 1, 1939 to April 9, 1940**

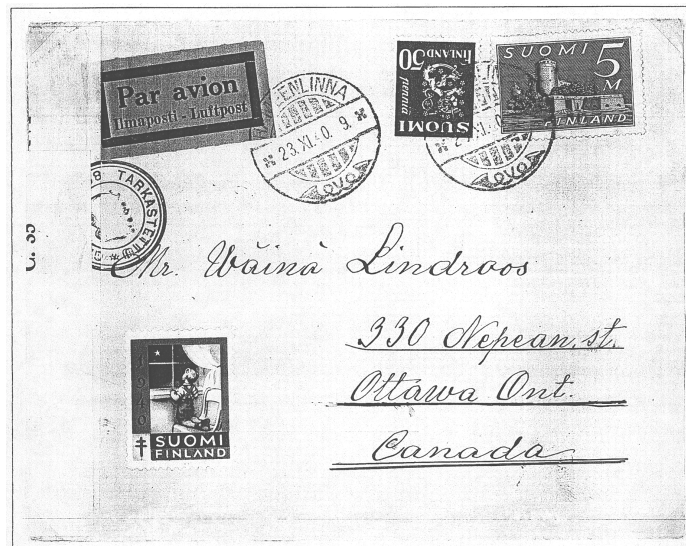
Direction: On the internal American air routes to **New York**, from the Dominican Republic on the route San Pedro de Macoris to New York. From New York, once every month or two, through Bergen or Gothenburg to **Stockholm**, then by air to Turku and Helsinki. From all countries in the Americas except: Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, the Falkland Islands and South Georgia.



Letter from Barahona, Dominican Republic, February 13, 1940 to Helsinki, March 18, 1940.  
 Letter rate to abroad -20 grams = 7 centavos. Air mail within the Americas = 10 centavos.  
 Censored in Helsinki.

**Air mail to Moscow, then by surface routes to Canada, Dutch, British & French Colonies from July 13, 1940 to April 14, 1941, ( Finland to the enemy countries of Germany in America.)**

Direction: Helsinki and Turku to Stockholm and from there by air via Riga, Velikije Luki to Moscow, then by rail across Siberia, then by ship to Canada.



Letter from Hämeenlinna, November 23, 1940, via Stockholm, November 24, to Ottawa.

Letter rate to abroad from November 1, 1936 to September 30, 1942: -20 grams = 3.50 Fmk  
 Air mail in Europe, August 29, 1940 to April 14, 1941: 1-20 grams = 2.00 Fmk  
 Censored in Turku and in Canada.



### Air mail to Finland via Moscow, from Canada, Dutch, British & French Colonies, August 1940, to June, 1941

Direction: From Montreal via Japan to Hsinking (Manchuria), from there by rail to Moscow, then by air via Velikije Luki, Riga, Tukholma to Turku and Helsinki.



Letter from Toronto, September 17, 1940, via Moscow, to Helsinki, January 22, 1941.  
 Air mail letter rate to abroad: 1/2 ounce = 30 cents.  
 Censored in Canada and Helsinki.

### Mail traffic between Finland, Canada and the British Colonies suspended from June 28, 1941 to March 5, 1945

Direction: Mail addressed to Canada and the British Colonies was returned from the exchange post office to the sender.



Letter from Kuopio, December 2, 1941 to Toronto, Canada  
 Returned by the exchange post office in Turku, February 28, 1942 with handstamp -  
 "Palautetaan lähettäjälle. Postiyhteys toistaiseksi keskeytynyt"  
 = "Return to Sender. Postal Service Suspended"