

The Posthorn

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Plates and Types of Norway's 5 Ore Shaded Post Horn Issue

by Gustave Larson

This value, the 5 ore blue with shaded Post Horn (Scott No. 24) replaced the earlier 2 skilling value as the postal rate in Norway in 1876. The first printing was done in the period April-May of 1876 when a total of 4,055,700 stamps were delivered. This printing was characterized by the use of a poorly sized paper which is also somewhat porous. The original contract stipulated that the various values should correspond to a standard color scheme in which the 5 ore was assigned a color designated as ultramarine.

However, one notices immediately the apparent inability of the printer to maintain a standard color for the various printings, particularly on this stamp. It is found in a large assortment of shades of blue and ultramarine, as well as Prussian blue. Scott's Catalog does not list the latter shade, but perhaps they prefer to call it bright blue as they have such a shade listed. The **Katalog**



Fig. 1. 5 ore shaded post horn types

over Norges Frimerker lists the Prussian blue shade but does not mention the bright blue so this may be regarded as an error of description.

In the first printing period only the blue and ultramarine shades are to be found. Stamps from this printing are listed as #24 I in the above-mentioned Norwegian catalog, and may be separated from the same shades of later printings by the vertical position of the watermark. Because of the porous condition of the paper this watermark may often be seen without a detector. Both the blue and ultramarine shades from the first printing are known in full sheets and both appear to be from the same printing plate inasmuch as the twelve types of the small figure of value (Fig. 1) are distributed in the same order on both sheets. This is illustrated in Fig. 2. As a rule these types can be fairly easily distinguished from each other. The types B, D, E, F, G and H are quite characteristic and types A and C should not be confused except when the printing is not quite clear. Type I is characterized by the missing period after POSTFRIM. Types K and L may be confused at times and type M may be mistaken for types A or B. In addition, there are certain cliché peculiarities to be noted. Stamp #25 on this sheet is a type B which has the period missing after POSTFRIM. On #100, which is a type G, there is to be found a white dot between the O and R of Norge. These characteristics are to be found on other plates but in different positions, a certain proof that the clichés were loose and separable. No pairs or multiple pieces from the first printing have ever been found which do not conform to the foregoing scheme of arrangement. It must, therefore, be concluded that all of the 4,055,700 stamps delivered during the first period were printed from one and the same plate.

A	A	B	K	A	G	D	H	D	F
E	F	K	D	H	L	D	E	E	A
A	G	F	K	B	B	M	I	B	A
D	H	A	K	F	I	C	D	I	E
B	C	C	C	H	G	H	H	M	D
M	C	F	C	F	L	G	G	M	L
I	E	K	L	L	F	I	B	K	A
B	B	E	L	G	F	I	A	I	M
H	B	A	H	G	C	C	F	G	B
I	A	F	C	L	L	B	I	G	G

Fig. 2. Plate Chart, First Printing

The paper used during the second printing period (1878) is of better quality and is to be found in two grades of thickness. The watermark is now in a horizontal position with the mouth of the Post Horn facing either left or right, normal or inverted. When this printing was undertaken there seems to have been only a partial supply of clichés on hand, so an entirely new plate set-up was necessary. On this second plate one finds the same twelve types as on the first plate but the arrangement is quite different as is shown in Fig. 3. On this plate we find that it is #23 (type G) that has the spot between the O and R of Norge, while #72 is the type B with the missing period after POSTFRIM. It is also worthy of note that while the missing period is found in nine

G	L	H	I	A	G	H	E	K	G
E	F	G	H	H	A	C	C	K	E
K	F	G	L	D	A	H	E	E	G
A	G	I	L	L	H	A	A	C	A
C	B	M	I	I	K	E	E	A	A
G	M	G	C	G	C	H	C	H	C
M	K	G	A	G	F	K	E	G	H
C	B	B	F	M	F	G	A	C	F
E	A	B	L	G	H	K	F	H	G
E	F	M	L	L	B	E	A	G	C

Fig. 3. Plate Chart, Second Printing

positions on sheets from Plate I it occurs only four times on sheets from Plate II. The missing period variety on type B remains, however, the rarest of all as it appears only once on each plate. Stamps from this plate are listed as #24 II a in the Norwegian catalog (1947) and are to be found on thin paper only. They come in two shades—ultramarine and blue. There is no record as to how many stamps were printed from Plate II, or any of the succeeding plates of this printing period, but considering that the plates would soon have become quite worn, and possibly damaged, it would seem reasonable to assume that new settings were necessary from time to time. The Norwegian catalog mentions several but does not elaborate any further on the subject. It is possible that separate plates were assembled for each of the succeeding printings, and that the light ultramarine and the Prussian blue shades are the products of different plates. They occur only on thick paper and are listed as # 24 II b and # 24 II c respectively in the Norwegian catalog. Complete sheets of the last-mentioned shades are not known and pairs, strips and blocks are rather elusive, especially those of the light ultramarine shade. This is quoted at the equivalent of \$15 (mint) and 60 cents (used) in Norway.

The Retouched Plate

Plate II and succeeding plates do not seem to have lasted long. As added supplies of this value were required, the printer seems to have again taken the plate apart, selected the least worn or damaged clichés and, finally, subjected them to a retouching process. (See Fig. 4) This retouching involved the contours of the oval which, in turn, has altered the shading lines somewhat so that the vertical lines in the groundwork within the oval no longer reach the colored portion of the oval. Research has shown that there must have been at least two re-settings of this plate wherein the clichés have been more or less retouched. A complete sheet of the light ultramarine shade, listed as # 24 III a in the Norwegian catalog, reposes in the archives of the Norwegian Post Office Department. On this sheet nearly every stamp shows signs of retouching, in greater or less degree, and all positions have their own definite characteristics. For example, considering type F which occurs in several positions on the sheet, all of the stamps of this type show clear variations as to



Fig. 4. The 5 Ore Retouched Plate



Fig. 5

the extent of the retouching. Consequently, this sheet could be easily reconstructed provided one had access to sufficient material. There are still other stamps which cannot be identified with any of those on the last-mentioned sheet and which must belong to another plate upon which only part of the cliches have been retouched.

Only the thick paper was used during this printing period. The color of the stamps are light ultramarine and Prussian blue. As to relative rarity, the light ultramarine shade is scarcest, although not quite as valuable as its counterpart from the previous printing. It is listed at the equivalent of \$12 (mint) and 45 cents (used). The Prussian blue shade maintains parity with its predecessor at \$9 (mint) but drops somewhat below in used condition.

Up to now the same twelve types have been identified on all plates, but they are found in different positions, as has been pointed out. Finally, these cliches became too worn to be serviceable and it became necessary to provide an entirely new set of cliches for a new plate. Stamps printed from this plate, al-

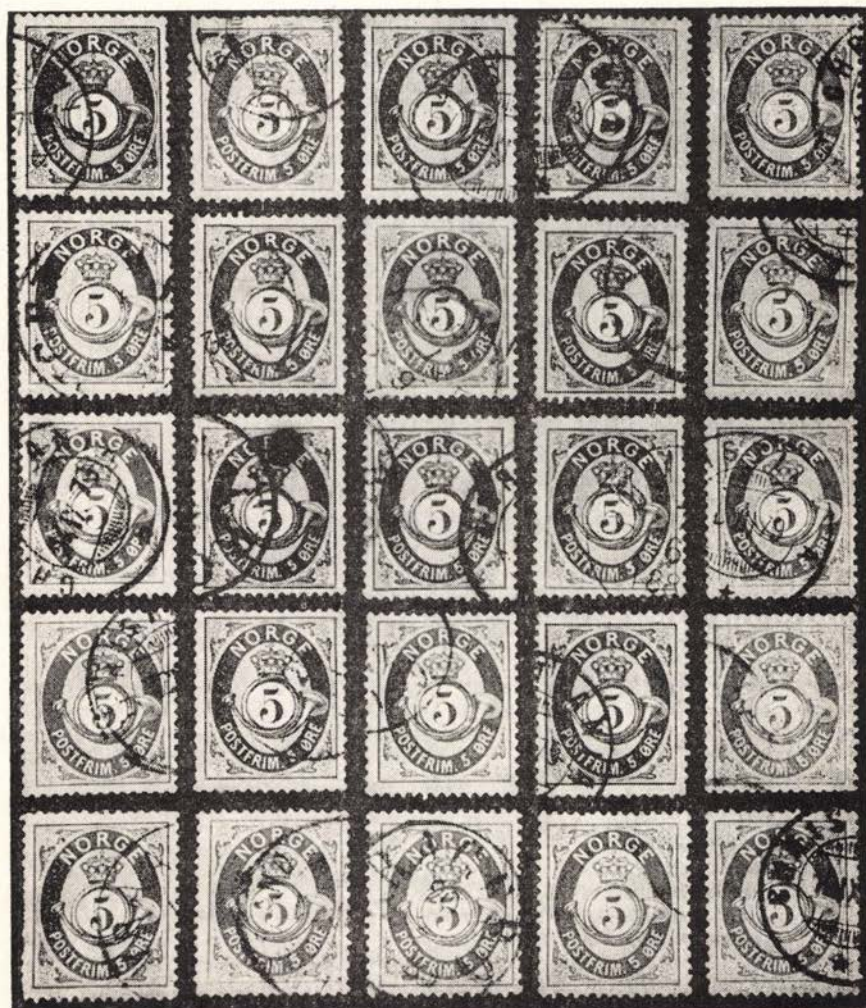


Fig. 6

though practically identical to the #24 and supposedly the work of the same printer, are accorded the distinction of a major variety in the Norwegian catalog, presumably because of the new method employed in making up the plate. Formerly known as the last plate of # 24 it is now listed independently as # 35 in the above-mentioned catalog.

On this occasion the small figure of value was engraved by hand separately on each cliché with the result that there are now 100 different types of the numeral 5 in the oval band. These numerals are characterized as small and badly drawn in the Norwegian catalog. Unlike the #24, the small figure 5 has no ball and the large numeral 5 in the center leans slightly to the left. These last two characteristics are considered by the writer to be most dependable. The statement referring to the figure 5 in the oval band as "small" is not applicable to the entire plate for, while the majority may qualify for this description, quite a few appear as large, or even larger, than any type from # 24. In support of this claim are offered two illustrations each containing 25 varieties. Among these it is desired to call attention to #10, 16 and 22 in Fig. 5 and #10 in Fig. 6 as having particularly large figures. The 65 varieties that the writer has accumulated to date all seem to come under the definition "badly drawn," yet it is possible that among the 35 missing varieties one may find one that could be considered well executed. This stamp has never been plated and it is not known whether anyone has a complete set of all types. This stamp is also known in the variety without the period after POSTFRIM. The writer has this variety with four different types of the small figure of value but, as only one of each is available, it cannot be determined at present whether they are all constant or merely caused by spreading of the ink. They are shown as #15, 18 and 24 in Fig. 5 and #2 in Fig. 6.

This stamp, unlisted by Scott's Catalog, is evidently little known in this country. Careful perusal of lots of the #24 may reveal a copy or two, but they are far from common. Priced at the equivalent of \$20 (mint) and 90 cents (used) they are well worth looking for. Unused pairs are valued at \$50 with no price ventured for a block of four. The writer would be glad of an opportunity of acquiring additional copies of this stamp so that ultimately a completed plating may be presented to readers of The Posthorn.

The Horn Blower

Did you know these facts about our members; that Harold S. Palmer (234) in his spare time is Professor at the University of Hawaii * * * that Charles H. Johnson (13) is considered the outstanding living Mason in North America and for eleven years has served as Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the State of New York, he is also a rabid collector and his collections rank among the finest * * * that G. V. Synnerberg (380) served as Consul-General of Finland in Shanghai, China, he now conducts a very important import business in China, besides Finland he has fine collections of China, France and Germany * * * that the President of Chicago Chapter Roy Lynnes (198) is the publisher of a Poultry Magazine, we do not know how well he knows Poultry, but he is attempting just now to plate Norway No. 1 * * * that Arvo Riippa (227) between accounting and stamp collecting sings a deep basso profundo, which sounds like "Singing Sam" * * * that Robert G. Stone (40), is a professor of Meteorology, and through the war was associated with United States weather bureau, he collects D. W. L. Martinique, Guadeloupe and St. Pierre, and how! * * * that Nils Strandell (H3), is curator of the Swedish Postal Museum and one of the Worlds outstanding authorities on philately * * * and that Ferrars Tows (37) outside of being the President of the S. C. C. is also a Counsellor of Law, an ardent amateur gardener (his gardens in Norfolk are the show place in Connecticut) and possesses the worlds outstanding collection of United States Possessions.

The V Overprint on the Stamps of Norway

by Carl H. Pihl

When the Nazis invaded Norway in April of 1940 without warning King Haakon VII escaped to London with most of the Norwegian gold reserves. He set up a government in exile which effectively prosecuted the war effort until the German collapse five years and one month later. Almost immediately following the Nazi entry into Norway, the high value Norwegian stamps (1 kr., 1.50 kr., 2 kr. and 5 kr.) bearing a portrait of King Haakon VII (Scott Nos. 177 to 180) were destroyed and replaced by stamps of the same values with a Lion Rampant design, similar to the well-known motif used on stamps of lower values. It is believed that the plates were destroyed at the same time as the stamps.

Not satisfied with this, in the spring of 1941 all of the current Norwegian stamps, including the new high values, were overprinted with a black V. In addition, a 10 ore green stamp with a white V was issued (Scott No. 239) for use in stamp vending machines. Principal purpose behind these actions was undoubtedly propaganda. The Nazis probably hoped to counteract the highly successful Allied and underground campaigns which were employing the V-for-Victory symbol. As you may recall, underground short wave radio broadcasts utilized the opening notes of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony (Roman V for five) as their theme melody or signature. According to reports received from Norway and elsewhere the sale of these overprinted stamps in Norway was very disappointing to the Nazis. Even the subsequent adoption of a special V cancellation design failed to stimulate interest in these stamps. This is entirely understandable to anyone who appreciates what the Norwegian attitude was towards the Nazis.

However, the V overprints caused considerable confusion and uncertainty in this country as well as in Norway—and continue to do so. When they were first issued collectors in this country could not obtain them easily due to the disruption of normal channels of communication. Later, restrictions by the United States Government against trading with the enemy or enemy-occupied countries prevented their importation. Meanwhile, both during the latter years of the war and after VE Day, various rumors concerning these stamps received wide circulation in philatelic circles. Some claimed that all of these stamps had been destroyed, others said they were being held by Nazi officials for future disposal while still others reported they were being sold by the Nazis in order to obtain foreign exchange. In any case, very few of these stamps found their way to this country.

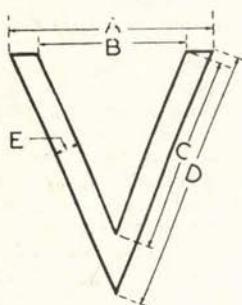
According to Thorsten Ingeloff the true story regarding the V stamps is as follows. When these stamps proved so highly unpopular to the Norwegians, the Germans attempted to obtain them for sale abroad but Quisling and the Norwegian Postmaster General tricked Terboven, the German Governor, by hiding some 13,000,000 stamps, in 70 sacks, in a basement vault of the Royal Palace in Oslo. Recovered after the German withdrawal, approximately 11,500,000 of the stamps were recently destroyed by burning in the Bank of Norway. The balance, consisting of 50,000 sets, are to be "evaluated and sold by and for the National Welfare Association." The 1 ore and 40 ore values watermarked (Scott Nos. 207 and 217) are available only in limited quantities while the supply of the 50 ore value watermarked (Scott No. 218) and the 10 ore "white V" (Scott No. 239) has been exhausted for a long time.

During the past two years these stamps have been generally available in this country with the exception of the 50 ore watermarked stamp, which is rapidly becoming a "good" stamp. At the same time there have been reports that these overprinted V stamps were being counterfeited despite the fact that, with the above-mentioned exception, their prices did not seem to warrant it.

However, copies recently received from Switzerland have all of the earmarks of forgeries. These stamps have been carefully examined by the writer whose findings are tabulated below. Principal differences discovered when these suspected stamps were compared with genuine copies are slight varia-

tions in the measurement of the overprinted letter V. Generally, the forged V dimensions are $\frac{1}{4}$ mm. smaller than those of the genuine issue except for the thickness of the letter itself which is just the opposite. In other words, the forged V is $\frac{1}{4}$ mm. thicker than the authentic V. This is discernable to the naked eye and is especially noticeable on the 1 ore stamp. All of these differences do not show up on all values but they are consistent enough to permit definite identification. As a further check, when the stamps are compared by being held up to a strong light the forged overprints appear much blacker and denser—as though a heavier ink had been used—than the genuine overprints which seem slightly translucent.

Following is a comparison of the genuine V overprints and the suspected forgeries:



A	$9\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	$9\frac{1}{4}$ mm.
B	$6\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	$6\frac{1}{4}$ mm.
C	$8\frac{3}{4}$ mm.	$8\frac{1}{2}$ mm.
D	$12\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	$12\frac{1}{4}$ mm.
E	1 mm.	$1\frac{1}{4}$ mm.

Below—Genuine overprints at left, forgeries at right.



The Post Horn in Congo Cancellations

by Arthur I. Heim

Since the earliest days of postal history, the Post Horn has played a significant part. Leading in its use as a postal symbol are the stamps of the Scandinavian countries, with Norway in the van. Stamps using the post horn design have been in continuous use in Norway for over 75 years. No doubt this has been an important factor in the acceptance of the post horn as a symbol for postal service throughout the world.

Perhaps no country in the world is more different from the Scandinavian countries in every respect than the Belgian Congo. One third the size of the United States, it has a population of only 10,000,000 of whom less than 20,000 are whites. It is no wonder that used stamps of this country are not too plentiful. Lying smack on the equator, it is intensely tropical, a circumstance which perhaps discourages letter writing. There have been only 218 postoffices in the entire country, including the mandated provinces of Ruanda and Urundi, known as Belgian East Africa. Of these 218 postoffices, some 175 are in operation today, and of these 153 are currently using the postmark we propose to discuss. Certain it is that to get a clear cancellation from each of these 153 towns is no mean achievement. The writer is a long way from its accomplishment. Many of the towns have names of historical interest, such as Stanleyville, but the principal fascination lies in the quaintness of some of the native names such as Popokabaka, Yumbi, Vivi, Banga-Tshela, Etoile du Congo (Star of the Congo), etc.

The postmarks of the Congo have been carefully studied by M. Andre de Cock of Brussels, who wrote a fine book on the subject. The book was published in the early 30's and is now out of print. In this book, M. de Cock has illustrated the postmarks quite completely, and a system of classifying them has been devised by Mr. R. E. Morrison of Chicago. The last type in M. de Cock's



book is type 8, and consists of a circle 29 mm in diameter, with the name of the town at the top, the date and time across the center, and the word "Postes" between stars at the bottom. Since the publication of the book, a new type has appeared, first used in 1936, which may be called type 9, in which a Post Horn has been substituted for the word "Postes."

In this current type 9, there are almost as many different shapes of Post Horns as there are towns. The accompanying illustrations show the principal variations. Besides the wide difference in the shape of the Post Horn itself, the following interesting variations may be noted:

Black solid stars instead of open stars—LISALA (this variation also occurs in the postmarks of ten other towns; Buta, Dilolo, Elisabethville, Kasongo, Kongolo, Lusambo, Nizi, Port Francqui, Usumbura and Watsa.)

No stars—LEOPOLDVILLE 1

Full year date—PUNIA

Scandinavian Lindberghiana

by George D. Stribley

In Greenland there are about sixty settlements each of which is the focal point for nearby posts and hunting stations. Each settlement, including the surrounding posts and hunting stations, are governed by a representative of the Royal Greenland Trading Society. The office of the representative of the Danish Government corresponds to that of a mayor of an American community, but in Greenland this representative is referred to as "Governor."

Some years ago Arnold Rasmussen was the Danish representative, or "Governor," of the settlement of Holsteinborg on the West coast of Greenland, just above the Arctic circle. In the summer of 1933 Mr. Rasmussen planned a vacation with his family in Denmark. The house was being closed and readied for the vacation, when the Rasmussens received unexpected and distinguished visitors—Col. Charles Lindbergh and his charming wife, Anne Morrow Lindbergh. There being no hotel in Holsteinborg, Mr. Rasmussen, as the official Government representative, promptly threw his home open to the Lindberghs for the duration of their stay. Anne Morrow Lindbergh relates of her stay with the Rasmussens in her article "Flying Around the North Atlantic" in the September, 1934, issue of the National Geographic Magazine, pages 277-279.

The Lindberghs were in Greenland on one leg of their North Atlantic Exploratory Flight. The Germans had sent several expeditions into Greenland for "scientific" information. Our government sent Col. Lindbergh for the same purpose and also to keep up-to-date on events and conditions in the North Atlantic.

Anne Morrow Lindbergh wrote a book, "Listen, the Wind" published in 1938 by Harcourt, Brace & Company, New York, relating her experiences on this flight. In the appendix (Page 273) is recorded the log of the trip. As a portion of this log will be of interest in connection with the philatelic aspects of this article, that portion concerning the flights over Greenland is presented herewith:

July 25, 1933	21:10	Landed Holsteinborg
July 30	15:03	Took off Holsteinborg
	20:08	Landed Holsteinborg
August 3	13:21	Took off Holsteinborg
	17:15	Landed Holsteinborg
August 4	14:42	Took off Holsteinborg
	22:00	Landed Ella Island
August 5	10:46	Took off Ella Island
	12:10	Landed Eskimonaes
August 6	12:05	Took off Eskimonaes
	20:18	Landed Angmagssalik

August 8	15:08	Took off Angmagssalik
	19:27	Landed Godthaab
August 12	14:42	Took off Julianehaab
	19:33	Landed Angmagssalik
August 15	15:27	Took off Angmagssalik
	20:44	Landed Videy, Iceland
August 26	16:18	Landed Copenhagen, Denmark

The comings and goings of the Lindberghs not only upset the vacation plans of the Rasmussens, but might result in worry to the relatives in Denmark if they did not arrive as planned. So, it was only natural that the Rasmussens asked the Colonel to carry some postcards to the folks back home. The Colonel granted the favor by taking six cards by air to Copenhagen, Denmark. This courtesy on the part of Col. Lindbergh created a trans-Atlantic "cover" not only sought after by the philatelist, but by the collector of Lindberghiana. While not verified, it is believed the six view postcards sent by the Rasmussens, were the only type of cover actually and officially carried by the Lindberghs from Greenland.

The cards were written by Mr. Rasmussen signed "Arnold and Anna," and are dated July 30, 1933. Anna is the wife of Arnold Rasmussen.

Each of the cards bore at the top a typewritten cachet in Danish, "Sendt med Oberst Lindbergs Flyvemaskine fra Holstensborg, Gronland", or "Sent with Colonel Lindbergh airplane from Holstensborg, Greenland." The cards are the usual view postcard of the type the tourist would use to write home to say "Having a good time, wish you were here."

Each of the cards had affixed a green 7 ore Danish stamp, which may have been affixed by the Rasmussens before delivery to Col. Lindbergh. The Greenland Parcel Post stamps prepaid letters and packages to Copenhagen only, and matter addressed to points beyond required regular Danish postage, so it may be assumed the Governors of the settlements stocked the regular Danish stamps in current use.

One card is addressed to "Herr Charles Rasmussen, Lombardigade 1 - 4, Kobenhavn, DANMARK" with a message, translated:

"Dear Chas. and all. Lindbergh has now been our guest for five days together with his wife. They are cheerful pleasant human beings to have in our house. We are all well and have packed everything in the house so it is a little awkward to have guests in this way now. We are only waiting for a ship so that we can get away but I am not due in Denmark until September 25 (in two months). Greetings to all of you. Anna and Arnold."

Another card dated Hbg. 30/7/33, addressed to Fru Mariane Rasmussen, Vi brandtsvej 8 - 1S, Kobenhavn, DANMARK" carries the message in Danish:

"Kare Moder! Hermed en lille Hilsen med den forste Flyvemaskine som gaar fra Gronland ostover, forhaabentlig helt Kobenhavn. Lindberghs har boet hos os siden Ankomsten, og bliver her endnu et Par Dage. Vi haaber selv at vaere i Kobenhavn omring 20-30 Septbr. Kaerlig Hilsen fra os begge, Anna & Arnold."

Information is not available to the writer as to the addresses of the other four cards, or as to the messages. A translation of the message quoted in Danish would be appreciated.

The 7 ore stamps are cancelled with a circular Kobenhavn K 2:45 23 Aug. 1933 killer with a slogan in an oblong single line frame "Almindelige Brevforsendelser Maa Ikke Indeholde Penge."

A study of the flight log and dates on the card, including the cancellation date at Copenhagen, August 23, 1933, poses a question and it is hoped the answer can be obtained.

The cards were written, or at least dated, by Mr. Rasmussen on July 30, 1933. The Flight log records:

August 4, 1933	14:42	Took off Holsteinborg
August 15	20:44	Landed Videy, Iceland
August 26	16:18	Landed Copenhagen.

The question is how did the cards arrive at Copenhagen three days before the Lindberghs. According to the cancellation, the cards arrived August 23rd; the Lindberghs landed August 26th. Yet the cards bear no postal markings aside from the August 23rd cancellation. The international date line is not a factor, at least not a three day factor.

It may be, that upon arrival at Videy, Iceland, the Colonel arranged for the transportation of the cards by boat, plane, or other means to Copenhagen. It is logical to assume that if the cards were posted at Iceland, stamps of Iceland would have been affixed. An inquiry was made of Mrs. Lindbergh for an answer to this question, but so far, a reply has not been received.

In any event, the Rasmussen cards make an interesting story and are covers which do not scream "Made to order for the collector" as so much of the Greenland material on the market is stamped.

News of Interest

Information has just been received from a prominent philatelist in Finland, also one of our members, that the long-awaited Red Cross set is scheduled to appear on May 13. These stamps will mark the 100th Anniversary of the day that **Maamme** (Our Country), the Finnish National Anthem, was sung in public for the first time. This was at the students "Flower Day" festival on May 13, 1848.

The values and quantities issued will be as follows:

- 3 mk-1 mk green 1,000,000—Portrait of Zachris Topelius, noted author
- 7 mk-2 mk red 700,000—Frederik Pacius, composer of the anthem
- 12 mk-3 mk blue 700,000—Johan Ludvig Runeberg, author of the anthem
- 20 mk-5 mk lilac 700,000—Portrait of Fredrik Cygnaeus, famous poet

There will also be a new 24 mk stamp shortly, designed to take care of the registered letter rate. It will be of the regular Lion Type and gray in color. It is also rumored that a 500 mk stamp will be issued soon, although what practical use would be served by a stamp of that denomination is not clear at present.

—George Wiberg

* * *

After having read about one particular Swedish pre-stamp letter described by Mr. Cohn in Vol. 5, Nr. 1, I made a search through my own collection. Subsequently I found several letters that had been sent out from the office of Barclay & Co., Gothenburg, to London. These letters cover the period 1831-1844.

It is evident from these letters that Barclay & Co. were exporters of Swedish iron. The English name, however, does not necessarily imply that one of the owners, Barclay, was born in England. There are a number of families in Sweden with English or Scottish names, whose ancestors settled in Sweden 300 years ago.

As to the meaning of the tonnage mentioned in Mr. Cohn's letter, I have the proof of that 16000 tons were the total shipments out of Gothenburg that year. One of the letters in my possession, dated April 1, 1837, contains a very detailed printed statistical review of exports and imports at Gothenburg during 1836. This review states that 16636 tons of iron were shipped to U. S. in 1836 in 35 American and 18 Swedish vessels.

The exchange rates noted on the letter dated Dec. 10 are worded as follows:

London RB 12:4s./ - 90 d/d

Hamburg 128./ - 70 d/d

In order to understand these quotations it is necessary to know the monetary units used in Sweden and in the city of Hamburg at that time. In Sweden 1 Riksdaler Banco (RB) = 48 skillingar while in Hamburg 1 Mark = 16 schilling. Thus in London 1 Pound sterling was worth 12 Riksdaler Banco

and 4 skillingar while in Hamburg 1 Pound sterling equalled 128 Hamburg schilling. The d/d after 90 and 70 obviously is an abbreviation for "days." Perhaps some other S. C. C. members can contribute additional information in regard to some of the other questions puzzling Mr. Cohn?

—Eric Hallar



To call attention to its existence and aims the Danish nationwide society, "Mental-Hygiejnen" (Mental Hygiene), under the patronage of H. R. H. Prince Aksel, recently made arrangements with the Post Office authorities to use the machine cancellation slogan illustrated above.

However, after a very short period of use the Post Office withdrew the cancel claiming that the large number of queries by the public were overburdening postal employees. The society is endeavoring to find a solution to this problem together with the Post Office Officials but, meanwhile, this cancellation is probably quite scarce and will remain so unless it is again put into use.

—Thorsten Ingeloff

Announcement is made of the issuance of a Price Catalog and Handbook of the Scandinavian Countries (Sweden, Norway, Denmark and dependencies, Iceland and Finland), 1851-1947, edited by Harry Wennbergs Frimarksaffar A.-B., with collaboration by many well-known philatelists. It is crammed with useful information abundantly illustrated, contains much data for the specialist. Written in Swedish, it consists of 356 pages bound in heavy paper in a handy pocket size. There are 18 pages of listings for the prices of Swedish cancellations alone. Issued by one of Sweden's oldest and largest stamp dealers, it is hoped that this catalog will regain a position of supremacy in that country.

—Thorsten Ingeloff

PHILANDER THE PHUNNY PHILATELIST SAYS:

Latest propaganda from the poopdeck concerns another rare philatelic phind: AN INVISIBLE OVERPRINT! No phoolin', a very prominent philatelist (he shall remain nameless, Cousin Philomena) reports that he has a stamp with one normal overprint, plus another inverted overprint which he can't phind. But he insists the stamp is a double overprint. Consequently, ipso phacto, the overprint is invisible. Now we have heard of albinos, offsets, etc. but this is too much. Yet, we recall sadly, some very phunny things have been done with the 55 ore and 80 ore surcharged stamps of Sweden, resulting in what might be termed "invisible overprints." By the way, to be serious for a moment, Philander recently had an operation for a perforated ulcer and wouldn't pay the physician until he told him what gauge the perforations were. What a phellow!

New and Recent Issues

**Denmark:**

February 12, 1948

KING FREDERIK IX ISSUE

The first of the new stamps bearing the portrait of His Majesty King Frederik IX, which will replace the regular issue showing the portrait of the late King Christian X, was recently received in this country. This stamp was designed by Viggo Bang, engraved by Sven Ewert of Stockholm and printed by the Post Office Printing Works in Copenhagen. Other denominations will be issued as the current stamps are exhausted. It was announced that the 10 ore stamp will revert to the waveline numeral type (Scott A 32).

Engraved 20 ore red Perf. 12½

Finland:

Two new stamps of the current Lion Type have been issued, one is a change of color, the other a new value.

Engraved Unwatermarked Perf. 14
3 mk deep green
12 mk (surcharged on 10 mk) purple

Sweden:

Several new values and colors of the King Gustaf V and Three Crowns designs have been received.

Scott Type A 55
Coil Stamps, perf. 12½ vertically
5 ore Orange
10 ore green

Scott Type A 56
Coil Stamps, perf. 12½ vertically
55 ore yellow brown
80 ore olive green
110 ore violet
140 ore deep green
175 ore green blue

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

Our eagle-eyed beagle, Philander the Phunny Philatelist, is really confused and we can't say that we blame him. In the last issue of The Posthorn, in the section devoted to new and recent issues, we reported the new Jacobsen Memorial Issue of Denmark and blithely stated that this philanthropic gentleman died one year and five months before he was born. Maybe it is this atomic age we are living in, or maybe we have had too many beers, but whatever the reason, we can assure you that we are properly embarrassed. To set the record straight, Mr. I. C. Jacobsen, the Danish brewer and art patron, was born on Sept. 2, 1811 (not 1888) and died April 30, 1887.

New Members

RESIDENT

- 514 Joseph M. Wise, 108-14 65th Road, Forest Hills, N. Y. (Gen.)
 515-L7 Jeffrey Foulk, P. O. Box 214, Manhasset, N. Y. (D.)
 521 Arthur I. Heim, 91 Amherst Road, Albertson, N. Y. (Congo, South Af., Scan.)

NON-RESIDENT AND FOREIGN

- 516 Anker Hertz, Fanogade 102, Copenhagen, Denmark (U. S., D., S., N.)
 517 C. L. Johnson, 1015 East 82nd Street, Chicago 19, Ill. (Scan., Canada)
 518 Hans E. Sahlin, 1412 South 7th Avenue, Maywood, Ill. (S.)
 519 Jan Hansen, 3055 North Newland Avenue, Chicago 34, Ill. (U. S., D., N.)
 520 Earl Grant Jacobson, 231 South Lombard Ave., Oak Park, Ill. (Scan.)
 522 Frederik G. Olansen, Apt. B, 419 North Vine Ave., Ontario, Calif.
 523 Hugo R. Norman, 324 9th Avenue, Haddon Heights, N. J. (S.)
 524 Christian Norbach Nielsen, Oppermannsvej 19, Odense, Denmark (Gen.)
 525 Lauro Viljo, Reposaari, Finland (U. S., F.)
 526 Arthur George Stephen, Arp Hotel, Cheyenne, Wyo. (Gen. Scan.)
 527 David B. Russell, 1541 Randolph Rd., Schenectady 8, N. Y. (U. S. Comm.,
 R. P. O., Scan.)

In Memoriam

The Scandinavian Collectors Club has, during the past month, lost two of its older members, and Philately in general has lost two of the foremost collectors in this country.

Olaf J. Olson

Olaf J. Olson (81) of St. Paul, Minn. passed away at the Miller Hospital on March 1, 1948, at the age of 74. He is survived by his wife Anna, three sons and a daughter.

Born in Karlshamn, Sweden in 1874, he came to the United States when he was six years of age. He was the co-founder of Holm and Olson, one of the largest wholesale florist firms in the Northwest.

As a philatelist, Mr. Olson ranked among the best. It was only about four years ago that he disposed of the major portions of his vast collections through Spencer Anderson of New York.

Arthur B. Levis

Arthur B. Levis (312—Life 3) recently passed away at his home in Ocala, Florida at the age of 56. He had long suffered from a severe cardiac ailment which caused his retirement at the early age of 40. He is survived by his wife and daughter.

After his retirement, Mr. Levis went to Ocala, Florida to live where he purchased citrus groves and took up citrus growing as a hobby. He was the first grower to experiment with DDT for the extermination of ants which are so harmful to citrus fruit. These experiments proved so successful that his methods have been adopted by all citrus growers in that part of Florida.

Mr. Levis was well known in philately as a collector of British Colonial stamps. Due to his Danish ancestry he also collected stamps of that country.

Club News

In December the Scandinavian Collectors Club of New York received a very nice Christmas present when they were treated to a showing by Bill Foulk of the unparalleled collection of Danish stamps he has assembled for his grandson, Jeffrey. Abounding with rare covers and strips, the collection contains copies of every known block of Danish stamps (with possibly one or two exceptions which will soon be corrected) and is, without doubt, one of the most remarkable Danish collections in existence.

Sidney F. Barrett treated the club to a showing of his famous Masonic Collection in January. A large number of members braved the snow to see these interesting cancellations. At the February meeting the evening was devoted to an accumulation of business and a lengthy discussion of the possibility of concluding the work necessary to the issuance of a Specialized Scandinavian Catalog by the club. A committee is studying certain details and you will hear more about this later. At the March meeting the members were privileged to see Harry Konwiser's superb collection of the Texas Republic, a CIPEX gold medal winner.

REPORTS FROM CHAPTERS

Philadelphia Chapter No. 2

The regular December meeting was held on December 5, 1947 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Von Gross with eight members and one guest present. Following the business meeting, the members studied some of the variations in the 1885 issue of Finland.

Detroit Chapter No. 3

December meeting was held in the home of Mr. Sarenius with one guest present. Members swapped stamps and pored over approval books from Anker Grumsen. Recognition was given to members Johnson, Kellogg and Rydquist for their work in connection with the exhibition at the American Philatelic Congress. Mr. Johnson acted as chairman of the exhibition.

Chicago Chapter No. 4

Meetings are now held at the offices of the Stamp Auction Service, 127 North Dearborn Street, through the kindness of members Olaf Nagel and Henry Kuhlman. At the January meeting the following officers were elected for 1948:

President	Ralph E. Danielson
Vice President	Robert P. Stevens
Treasurer	Niels Clausen
Secretary	Paul C. Mead

Despite the sub-zero weather, there were 15 members present. Those who braved the cold were well rewarded by a showing of one of the volumes of Sweden by Ralph Danielson, newly-elected president. Mr. Danielson exhibited numerous varieties, shades and cancellations that evoked a great deal of interest.

At the February meeting Bill Foulk, who had traveled all the way from New York for the purpose, showed his two CIPEX gold medal collections—Norway Number One and Denmark—to an enthusiastic gathering. Arranged by Olaf Nagel, most of the Chicago members agreed it was a "red letter day" for Chapter No. 4. Everyone will be glad to know that Roy Lynnes, first president of the Chicago Chapter, is fully recovered from the illness that prevented his attendance at several meetings last fall.

Boston Chapter No. 5

Just as we were going to press we received word that Chapter No. 5 of the Scandinavian Collectors Club was organized in Boston, Mass. on April 3, 1948. The first meeting was held in Edgren Studios, 84 Chestnut Street through the kindness of Mr. J. Urban Edgren, one of the members most active in the formation of this new chapter.