

The Posthorn

Sponsored by the
Scandinavian Collectors Club
of NEW YORK, N. Y.

Editor, Carl E. Pelander, 545 Fifth Ave., New York 17, N. Y.
Carl H. Pihl, Assistant Editor

Volume 6

January 1949

Number 1

DENMARK The Coat of Arms Type—1882-1905

By Richard G. Gibson (408)

Perhaps one of the more interesting issues for the student of Danish stamps is the "Coat of Arms" type that was in use for the period 1882-1905. In addition to the different perforations, $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ and 14 on the earlier issues and $12\frac{1}{2}$ and 13 on the issues from 1896 onward, there are of course, the different papers and watermarks.

1882-83

The first issue of the "Coat of Arms" type came in two values, 5 ore and 20 ore with the "Small Numerals" in the corners. At times, these stamps are confusing to the beginner if there is no comparative material at hand. They may be distinguished by studying the letter "M" in Denmark. On the stamps with the small numerals, the center stroke of the "M" is flat, on the stamps with the larger numerals, the center stroke of the "M" is pointed.

Both values are printed on thin paper, watermarked Large Crown (Scott's #112) and both values come with the watermark inverted, the 20 ore being the more common. Each value has three printings and each printing is of a different shade, the 5 ore being Deep Green, Green and Light Green and the 20 ore being Blue, Gray Blue and Light Blue.

1884-95

In 1884, the design of the "Coat of Arms" type was altered slightly so that the corner numerals are larger and the center stroke of the "M" in Denmark is pointed at the bottom. This is the issue that the 10 ore stamp first appeared along with the 5 ore and 20 ore.

Due to the fact that these particular stamps were in use for 11 years, there are many small varieties. However, the constancy as to position cannot be definitely established because the plates were made up of 100 individual clichés. Each printing has the varieties in different positions.

The 5 ore was printed in 13 printings and the main variety is the variety "5" which appears in the right center figure of value on Stamp #99 in one of the earlier printings. I believe that this damaged cliché was replaced shortly after it was discovered that it was damaged and therefore it is a rather hard variety to find.

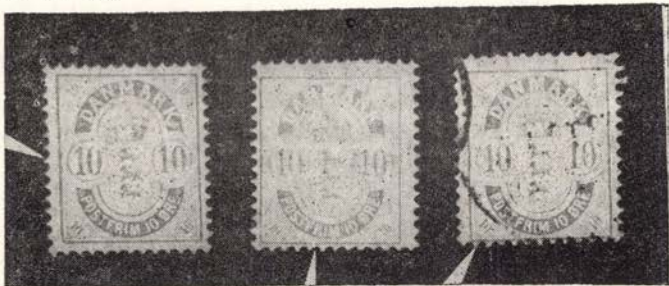
Due to the number of printings, there are many shades and at times, the perforations vary with the individual printings. Inverted watermarks are also known, but they are not too common.

The 10 ore brings to light a new type of variety, the 10 ore with small numerals in the corners. Either because there were three damaged postage stamp

cliches or through an error on the part of the printer, there were three postal card cliches inserted in the bottom row of the plate in positions 94, 96 and 97. I believe that after one printing, this mistake was discovered and corrected.

However, at the same time, there were two other varieties in the plate that were not corrected. The first was the scratch under the left "10" near the lowest lion in the center. This appears on Stamp #44.

The second variety appears on Stamp #74 where the "0" of the left "10" is broken at the tip.



Left to right: Broken "10", faulty "R" in POSTFRIM, and broken frame around "10" in lower left.

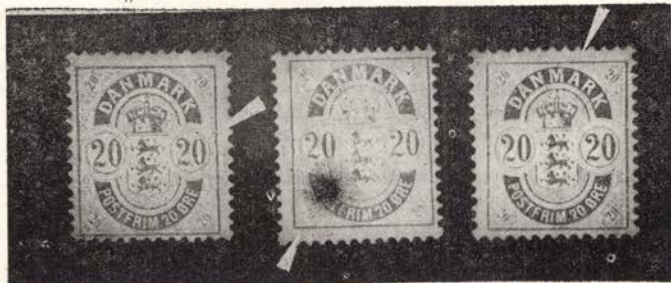
As is true of the 5 ore, there were several shades and inverted watermarks that can be found as well as perforation varieties. There were 19 printings.

Probably the most interesting of the three values is the 20 ore because there are many constant varieties.

The first variety of importance is much the same situation as on the 10 ore stamps with the small numerals. The small numeral cliches appear in positions 4 and 50 in Plate I, Print IX. Unlike the 10 ore stamps, these stamps cannot be distinguished from the 1882-83 issue unless se-tenant with a stamp of the normal design. The watermarks and perforation are identical.

To me, the lesser known varieties are more fun and much less expensive. They are numerous and most of them occur several times in the same sheet. In the same sheet of stamps as mentioned above (Plate I, Print IX) the following varieties are noted and their positions plotted:

- a. Broken Circle above right "20"
#2, 5, 11, 16, 17, 37, 38, 74, 75 and 94.
- b. Broken Oval under 2nd "A" in DANMARK
#48, 54, 77, 78, 80
- c. Short Tail, Lower Left "2"
#64, 90, 92
- d. Damaged Cliche, Lower Right Corner
#85.



Left to right: Broken circle over right "20", short tail on "2" in lower left, and broken oval (type b.)

There is still another variety that occurs and it is similar to the Broken Circle (a) with the addition that the right frame adjacent has a very definite break in it.

There were 14 printings of this stamp and of course, there are many shades and the inverted watermark appears as it does with all values in this series. All three values are known to be imperforate although they are very scarce.

1896-1902

With the change of perforation to 12½ or 13 we find most of the plate varieties still constant with the exception of the small numerals, the damaged cliché (d) and the damaged "5".

There were 19 printings of the 5 ore, 22 printings of the 10 ore and 15 printings of the 20 ore. As a result, there are many shades and the inverted watermark occurs on all values. In addition to the normal perf 12½ or 13, I have found a Rough Perf. 13 on the 20 ore stamp which will also be found later.

1901

In 1901, a new value appeared, that of the 24 ore. It was printed on paper with the same watermark as before. There was only one printing of this stamp but we find shades of its Light Brown color and at least two different perforations, 12½ and 13, and the inverted watermark is listed in some catalogs although I have not found one as yet.

1902-05

In 1902, the watermark was changed to a new type, the New Crown (Scott's #113) and the perforations remained the same.

During this period, we find two new denominations added to the "Coat of Arms" type, the 1 ore and the 15 ore.

The 1 ore was orange in color and there were 4 printings with the resulting shade varieties. This value has been found imperforate and although it is believed there was one complete sheet originally, very few copies are known to exist.

There were approximately 25 printings of the 5 ore with shades, but no noticeable varieties except the broken crossbar in the first "A" of "DANMARK." This is a very constant variety and seems to be a poor impression from a worn plate.

The 10 ore had about 15 different printings and I have found a new minor variety, that of a damaged "A" in the word "POSTFRIM." We also have the Broken "0" in the left "10" which we found in the 1896-1902 issue. A third minor variety is found in the lower left corner, a broken circle under the figure "10." I believe that this occurs several times in a sheet.

The 10 ore is also found with a Rough Perf. 13.



Rough perfs.

The second new value, the 15 ore comes in several distinct shades ranging from gray lilac to red lilac. It was printed in four different printings and so far, I have seen no constant plate varieties. The 15 ore is known to be imperforate but just how many exist is unknown to the writer.

The last value to be issued with the new watermark is the 20 ore Blue which comes in several shades ranging from light to dark and the varieties found are much the same as the previous issue of this value. We find the "Broken Circle," "Broken Oval," the "Short 2" and the Rough Perforation 13. In comparison with the other common values, there were very few printings of this.

All values with the New Crown watermark are found with the watermark inverted although the 10, and the 15 ore are more elusive than the commoner values.

Experiences in Stamp Hunting All Over the World

by Captain Carl P. R. Dahlstrom (43)

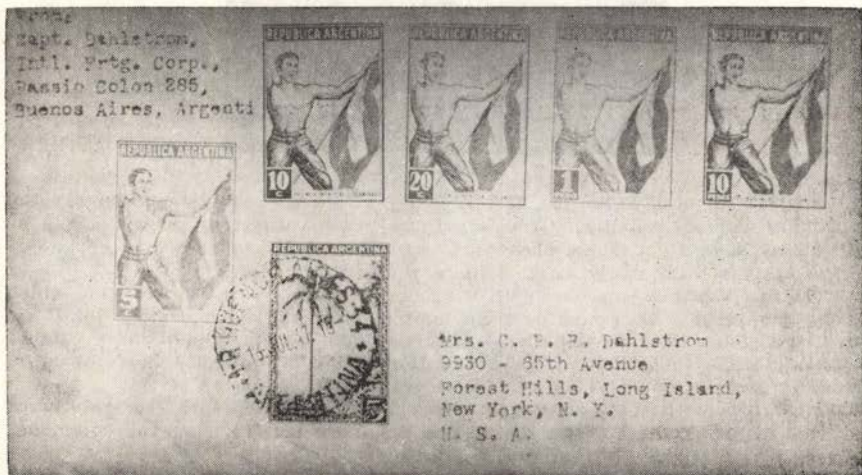
My experiences in stamp hunting all over the world during 35 years as a seaman have been most intriguing and interesting to me and it is suggested by the editors of The Posthorn that some of my philatelic adventures from Vladivostok to Patagonia might also prove of interest to readers of this publication. While I am not as much at home in front of a typewriter as on the bridge of a ship at sea, here goes:

One of the most frequent obstacles encountered when seeking stamps in post offices in various countries of the world is the difficulty of obtaining complete sets, even those that are still current or which have been issued recently. In too many places one can find only odds and ends for sale. However, in many countries, particularly England, complete issues are nearly always available. Post Office clerks in England and many British Colonies that I have visited are most cooperative and generally provide special attention to philatelists.

In South America you will find that the various countries have different laws relative to the sale of postage stamps. In Chile, the post office clerks are very courteous and most anxious to help you obtain everything that is available. In contrast, when I was in Peru the complete set of a current issue was not available at the post office but could be purchased at a dealer located just around the corner.

When I visited Venezuela in 1939 they had a postal regulation which stipulated that all postage stamps were to be sold in commercial or business establishments who had contracts with the government for that purpose. One day while I was there I desired to buy some sets of air mail stamps in order to send covers to various friends. Having with some logic presented myself at the post office, I was politely told to go to a store and purchase the stamps, then return and mail the letters. After quite a few inquiries I located the store which had the contract for that locality—a combination grocery and grain store. At this place I was able to get only some of the denominations of what was at that time a large set of air mail stamps. It was necessary to hunt out another store, and yet a third in order to get the complete set.

Last year while I was in Argentine there was for sale in the post office a set of stamps inscribed "Pro-Monumento al Descamisado" (To the Monument of the Ragamuffins). I bought a set, affixed them to a letter to my wife, and endeavored to mail the letter shown below. However, they would not accept



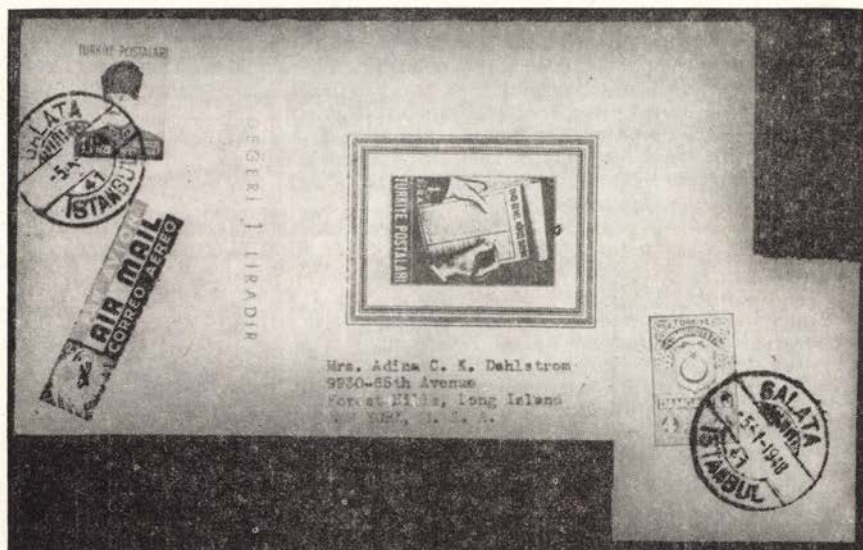
the letter or cancel the stamps as they had no franking value. It was necessary to add a regular 5 peso stamp before they would accept it.

In 1934 the Netherlands West Indies issued a surcharged air mail stamp—10 cent on 20 cent red—at the same time that I happened to be there. I had quite a time trying to sell the postal clerk on the idea of permitting me to purchase more than one copy of this stamp, as I had a hunch that the stamp would prove a good investment. Apparently I didn't speak the right kind of Dutch. While in Holland last year I tried to buy the high values of the current set—2.50, 5.00 and 10.00 Gulden—which I wanted in mint condition. But under no circumstances would the clerk sell them to me unless they were cancelled first, which he did, doggonit.

The stamps of Greece, depicting so much of their ancient history, have always fascinated me therefore I was very glad when duty took me to Greece early this year. The post office employees were very hospitable, invited me into the office, and let me have my pick of the material at hand which was most interesting. I found the Greek people to be enthusiastic philatelists although the dealers are quite expensive to deal with. In Greece the President Roosevelt set issued by the United States was most popular, but I found this to be true in nearly all foreign lands I have visited.

My most recent voyage was made to Istanbul in Turkey and I found this city to be one of the most interesting places I have ever visited. The people are very kind and similar to the Greeks in outlook. However, in the post office I could obtain only a few values of the current issue, which seemed to be the stamps issued in 1943, with a scattering of various commemoratives. In order to complete any sets of stamps I had to visit the dealers who are as plentiful in the Rue de Pere as they are on Nassau Street in New York City.

During my stay in Istanbul I tried to send a registered letter with the 1945 Souvenir Sheet attached but found that it was invalid for postage and they would not cancel it. The fee for registered mail is paid by affixing a stamp called "Damga Pulu" (Stamping Duty) which is not listed in Scott's Catalog. Both are shown below.



During the war it was extremely difficult to obtain the various provisional stamps that were issued by the Allied Military Governments and I had to procure almost all of them from dealers. For some unknown reason, in the post offices in Italy I could find only stamps up to 50 centimes in value.

However, all in all, I find that my hobby pays me double dividends. While

I am in foreign ports I have a great deal of pleasure in poking around looking for stamps, then when I get home I have many more hours of pleasure and relaxation in studying the stamps and arranging them in my albums.

Editor's Note: The author, Captain Dahlstrom was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, highest award of the United States Maritime Service, for heroism in line of duty when on December 3, 1943 in Bari, Italy, he took his burning ship, loaded with explosives, out of the port which was under enemy air bombardment, and later returned the ship and cargo to port. Captain Dahlstrom, born in the township of Fliseryd, near Oskarshamn, Sweden, went to sea at the age of fifteen and during the first World War was captured by the Germans and spent several months as a prisoner of war. For a complete biography of this outstanding member see "Who's Who in the Maritime Industry."

Philatelic Sweden in the Philatelic Press

by Harry M. Konwiser (62)

Interesting philatelic facts are often buried beneath a mass of detail and sometimes escape notice. Therefore, the following data on Swedish stamps may prove of interest to collectors who missed the original stories when they appeared in print—in other years. Besides being a refresher course for the veteran collector, these tid-bits should be a fertile source of information to newcomers in the philatelic fraternity.

Naturally, in discussing Swedish stamps the Three Skilling Banco Error must not be overlooked. This very rare stamp, without doubt Europe's rarest, instead of being printed blue green—the correct color for Sweden No. 1—was printed yellow, and has been a center of interest for generations.

In the August 1935 issue of "Stamp and Cover Collecting," then published by August Dietz at Richmond, Va., the Three Skilling Banco "yellow error" of Sweden is discussed along with the Two Reales of Spain (1851) color error, the Baden Nine Kreuzer of 1851 and the Austrian Three Kreuzer of 1867. The American story is based on an article in the Austrian journal "Die Postmarke" by Herr Direktor Orvar Olsson of Halsingborg, Sweden.

Olsson reports that the only known copy is in an excellent state of preservation, the print being sharp and clear in a pleasing pale orange-yellow color. The stamp is nicely centered and the postmark is light and legible. The cancellation showing on the stamp is:

N. KOPP

13

18

7

which has been identified as the postmark for N(ya) KOPP(arberget). The color, every investigation has proved, is genuine; it is unquestionably the color with which the plate was originally charged and impressed on the paper. Mr. Dietz, who translated the article, is very familiar with the German language and the statements made here are exactly as he wrote them in his splendid stamp periodical in 1935. (Editor's Note: In all probability a cliché of the Three Skilling Banco stamp was erroneously inserted into the plate of the Eight Skilling Banco stamp, hence the error in color.)

Mr. Dietz continues by writing that the history of the stamp goes back some years. It was found by a fourteen-year old lad—the present (1935) Lieut. Colonel G. W. Backman—in Boras, Sweden while the boy was rummaging through his grandfather's correspondence. He was delighted to sell it to a dealer (H. Lichtenstein) in Stockholm for 7 Kronor. Shortly thereafter this dealer refused an offer of 300 Kronor but in 1894 he sold it to a Viennese dealer (Friedl) who in turn sold it to Ferrari for 4,000 Gulden. This was the highest price paid for a postage stamp up to that time.

When the Ferrari stamps were sold at auction, the Swedish "color error"

was purchased by the Swedish philatelist, Baron Erik Leijonhufud, for the comparatively low figure of 32,250 Francs. Several years later the stamp was sold to C. A. Tamm for 20,000 Kronor. Tamm sold the stamp to Johann Ramberg of Goteborg, Sweden for 37,500 Kronor, the equivalent of \$10,000 (U. S.)

In 1937 the stamp was sold by H. R. Harmer of London at private treaty with the price placed at £5,000, according to a British stamp periodical. The buyer's name was not disclosed. On December 26, 1936, there appeared in the New York Sun a report, emanating from Stockholm, that the stamp owned by Johann Ramberg was on exhibition at the jubilee exhibit of the Swedish Philatelic Society. At this time the society issued a booklet, extracted from its handbook, entitled "Det Svenska Fargfeltrycket 3 Skilling Banco Gult" (The Swedish Color Error 3 Skilling Banco Yellow). This booklet was illustrated with a colored reproduction of the stamp.

Invest in Swedish Stamps

John Mayne, writing in the S. P. A. Journal in December 1943, urged consideration of Swedish stamps for their interest, personal value to collectors and the dramatic history that they mirror—all of these things adding up to Desirability Plus.

Sweden, he notes, might have had the honor of introducing the world's first postage stamp in 1823, but the Parliament (Riksdag) of the day killed the bill. So, despite the fact that someone in Sweden conceived the idea of an adhesive postage stamp, Sweden did not enter the group of countries that issued postage stamps until some years later—1855 to be exact. Mayne mentions the Three Skilling Banco color error, which was discussed earlier, and states that it was sold at a London auction for \$25,000.

The Mayne article notes that early Swedish stamps are valued in Skilling and not Ore; that the Skilling belongs to an older Swedish monetary system in which 48 skilling equaled One Riks Daler. In the present (1948) decimal system, 100 Ore equal One Krona, which is the monetary unit. One Krona was worth 27 cents (U. S.) at par in 1943, approximately as it is today.

"Every penny spent on Swedish issues is therefore not a speculation but a sound investment," writes Mayne. Continuing, Mr. Mayne says, "The investment is sound in that it repays immediate profits in intrinsic interest and the ineffable satisfaction of collecting with a reasonable expectation of ultimately succeeding in making the collection complete without going bankrupt."

Local Post of Stockholm

Anders Jeurling operated the Stockholm Local Post in 1887, following his trip to Copenhagen where he studied the Bypost in operation in that city. Jeurling was a newspaperman and his original intention was to service Stockholm for the delivery of parcels as well as newspapers. He began operations in October 1887 and in December of the same year he extended services to cover letters and postcards. Jeurling employed neatly uniformed messengers and by Royal decree he was permitted to erect letter boxes.

Registration, insurance and special delivery service was also provided and one report states that he handled an average of 2,500 pieces of mail each day, clearing the 102 letter boxes six times daily. A writer in the "Weekly Philatelic Gossip" in 1942 (per clipping at hand which does not state the author's name) said that after the Post Office Monopoly proclamation in 1839, the Jeurling business dropped off and all its assets were taken over by the General Post Office.

Collectors have noticed that the first Stockholm "locals" as printed by Ferslew in Copenhagen have the Danish "O" in Ore (line through the "O") instead of the Swedish "O" (two dots over the "O"). These were rejected and a small printing, bearing the correct type "O", was rushed through in time for the official opening. The incorrectly engraved stamps were retained, apparently, as they were used later.

Editor's Note: We would welcome a complete article on the Stockholm Local Stamps. There were at least 16 stamps, three envelopes and the same number of postal cards.

When Philately Turned Cupid

A True Story

How often have you wondered, when looking over your stamps, why a particular stamp was issued? Generally, if one delves deep enough into the subject, one can find a story hidden there. Perhaps it is a story of heroism, inspiration or love; sometimes there is unfolded a tale of human weakness, selfishness or sin. Nevertheless, behind many stamps can be found drama, and there is no greater reward for a philatelist than to uncover such a story.

It is to be doubted whether any greater story of love and happiness can be found than that which concerns the discovery of the inverted surcharges on the Provisional stamps of Sweden, 12 ore on 25 ore (Scott No. 100a), issued in 1918. While this true story has appeared in print previously, it is presented here because of its wide interest to Scandinavian stamp collectors, many of whom may not be familiar with it.

Let us take you back to 1918 and far up north in Sweden to the small town of Gullksberg in the Province of Vasterbotten. Here lived a golden-haired, blue-eyed young maiden, named Christina Larson, daughter of the local judge who was also the richest man in town. Christina was in love with her childhood sweetheart, Erik Johansson, who was a fine young man with only one drawback, namely, he was a poor hired farm hand with little prospect of being able to support a wife.

In his spare time Erik had been studying forestry and when he received his appointment as a Government Forester he approached Judge Larson, requesting Christina's hand in marriage. The Judge commended Erik for his ambition in improving his position but pointed out that his daughter had never done any hard work and would hardly be capable of making good as a forester's wife. He suggested that they wait awhile and made them a proposition. He said that he owned a farm just outside the town which was worth 5,000 Kronor and if Erik would go to work as a forester, as soon as he had saved 2,500 Kronor—half the value of the farm—he would give the couple the farm plus his consent to their marriage.

This was a hard blow to the couple but they decided that Erik could save the necessary money in about five years so they resigned themselves to the postponement. The young man prepared to leave for his new duties, and the day before his departure he went to the local post office and bought a sheet of 12 ore stamps. Not being a stamp collector, he did not notice that the surcharge was inverted. Erik used these stamps on the daily letters he wrote to his beloved Christina who, equally faithful, saved all of the letters. However, the bundle of letters, tied in blue ribbon, became quite bulky so Christina removed the letters from the envelopes and destroyed the covers, not realizing that the stamps were valuable. This went on for many weeks until one day the Postmaster noticed the inverted surcharge on the stamp affixed to a letter addressed to Christina. He notified a local collector who immediately communicated with one of Sweden's foremost dealers. When Christina was approached she had only five envelopes intact, but said she thought she could obtain the rest of the stamps from that sheet when advised that 150 Kroner would be paid for each stamp.

As soon as Erik was advised of this he returned with the 30 remaining stamps which, plus the covers saved, netted the young couple 6,000 Kronor. This was a tidy sum that not only provided the lovers with the required money for the farm, but gave them a fine wedding and a sizeable nest egg for future use.

Thus did a sheet of stamps bring happiness into the lives of two young lovers and we may conclude that they, like so many others before them and since, lived happily ever after.

Sweden's "Mobilization" Charity Stamps in Booklets

Translation from an article in "Frimarksnytt"



Lately the interest in collecting booklets has increased considerably, which is chiefly due to the listing and pricing of such items, previously issued, in specialized catalogues within the past year. There has, however, always been a question as to the existence of booklets of the "Mobilization" stamps of 1916, but as yet none has been mentioned in any known listing.

"Frimarksnytt" (Stamp News), is now in a position to illustrate one of these booklets, and one glance at the records show that no less than three different booklets were issued. The "mobilization" stamps, as is known, cannot be classed in the same category as those of the regular postal issues, inasmuch as the overprints were not made with complete official sanction, even though the Post Office Department did acknowledge them at their face value on inland mail. It is well known, that a special committee took the initiative to print these stamps—the long and official title of this body was "Central Advisory Bureau for H. R. H. Crownprincess Society for Volunteer workers for the Inducted Soldiers Clothing, etc."—and the stamps were distributed in parts by the Centralbureau distributing agency. In this way the agency controlled the distribution of the entire issue that were printed or surcharged on remainders of the "Postage Due Stamps," whereas those surcharged on re-prints of the "Ring-type" on watermarked wavy line paper, were also sold through the post offices. The herewith mentioned booklets of the "mobilization" stamps, even though of the "Ring-type," came in the same category as the "Due Stamp" issue, namely that they were solely distributed by the central-bureau, that also lists them in their circular.

The booklets came in three types:

Booklet "A" contained 10 5 ore and 10 10 ore charity stamps, and was sold at 3 kr.

Booklet "B" contained 30 5 ore and 10 10 ore stamps and the price was 5 kr per booklet.

Booklet "C" contained 50 5 ore and 25 10 ore stamps and the price was 10 kr per booklet. It is one of these we are illustrating above.

As perviously mentioned, the booklets were made up of stamps from the first issue, that is of the "Ring Type," printed on watermarked wavy line paper.

DUES! DUES! DUES!

When you receive this issue of The Posthorn, your dues for 1949 in the S. C. C. will be due. You will receive no further notice, so send your dues immediately to the Treasurer: George Wiberg, 45 East 85th Street, New York 25, N. Y. And remember, there is an initiation fee of one dollar on all new memberships.

Helsinki Philatelic Exhibition Stamp

by Lt. Col. Rainer Ahoniug



Accepted Design

For some time it has been the custom to commemorate International Philatelic Exhibitions with special stamps, however, it has seldom been the good fortune that collectors have had the opportunity to select their own designs and method of printing, but such was the case with the above named exhibition, and the entire work was entrusted to the committee so as to create greater interest in this issue.

The committee entrusted with the selection of a suitable design found their work rather difficult as many ideas and designs had already been used on stamps for various shows. We may recall the "Post-chase" used on the "WIPA" stamp, the architectural design for "IPOSTA," the re-issue of the 5fr "Peace and Commerce" design used at "PEXIP," the modernistic designs for "DAPOSTA" and the King design miniature sheets used in Romania and Bulgaria. All better known scenic views of Helsinki had already been used on various stamps as had many famous men, presidents and the coat of arms.

In looking over pictures of mail carriers of the 17th century in the National Museum, the breast-plate or shield used by the carriers of that period attracted the attention of the committee as a possible design. The committee invited two of Finland's outstanding artists and stamp designers, Mrs. Signe Hammarsten-Jansson and Aarne Karjalainen to each submit five designs for the approval of the committee, each artist to submit at least one design containing a drawing of this shield.

We are here illustrating the various essays submitted:



Three of four original designs by Mr. Karjalainen



Design #4 for stamp submitted by Mr. Karjalainen



Three of four revised designs by Mr. Karjalainen

In the essays submitted by Karjalainen, No. 1 depicts a well known fountain with the central figure of a woman, commonly known as "Havis-Amanda," which was designed by Ville Vallgren, it is located at the South Harbor in Helsinki, No. 2 depicts a philatelist at work, No. 3 the above mentioned carrier shield surmounted by the old Grand Duchal crown, No. 4 the well known design of a "Post-rider." Design No. 3 was finally decided upon and the artist was instructed to remove the crown, which was not approved by the authorities, and submit a redrawn design of this stamp. He later submitted four new designs, the one with the head of the Lion from the Coat of Arms, surmounting the medallion, was accepted (see illustration heading this article).



Three stamp designs by Mrs. Hammarsten-Jansson

The designs submitted by Mrs. Hammarsten-Jansson, shows 1. the head of the Lion from the Arms of Finland, 2. the requested design, 3. "Havis-Amanda." This artist also submitted two essays for the exhibition seal, one of which

was adopted after minor corrections in the name from "SUOMI-FINLAND" to "Helsinki-HELSINGFORS," it shows a view of the city.



Design for Exhibition Seal by Mrs. Hammarsten-Jansson



Design for Exhibition Seal by Mrs. Hammarsten-Jansson



Selected design for Exhibition Seal by Mrs. Hammarsten-Jansson



First Day Cover

Carl E. Pelander is Honored by Finland

All members of the Scandinavian Collectors Club will be glad to learn that Carl E. Pelander was recently honored by Finland, the country of his birth, for his untiring efforts in war relief during Finland's war against Russia in 1939. As many members may recall Mr. Pelander donated the entire proceeds from the sale of his Handbook on the Postage Stamps of Finland towards the alleviation of suffering of innocent victims of that struggle.

For this and many other activities, Mr. Pelander was made a Knight of the Order of the Lion of Finland, First Class. This is an exceedingly high honor and it marks the first time that it has been presented a person who is not a Finnish National. The presentation was made by His Excellency K. T. Jutila, The Minister of Finland to the United States, at a dinner in New York on November 11, 1948. Present at the dinner were: Mr. and Mrs. K. T. Jutila; Mr. R. Seppala, Consul General of Finland, and Mrs. Seppala; Mr. and Mrs. Carl E. Pelander; Mr. and Mrs. Harry L. Lindquist; Mr. Ferrars H. Tows; Miss Fay Jordan and Mr. and Mrs. V. O. Jarvinen.

Although Mr. Pelander was born in Finland, he has made America his home since he was a youth. During the first World War he served overseas with the 29th Yankee Division of the United States Army, emerging as a captain. Some of the newer members of the Scandinavian Collectors Club may not be aware of the fact that Carl Pelander is one of the outstanding members of the club. It was largely due to his efforts that the club was organized and has grown to be such a prominent organization in the philatelic world today. In addition to being the mainspring behind the club he has been the editor of The Posthorn since its inception. Congratulations, Carl, for a job well done and for the well-deserved honor you have just received.



by Agent No. 42
Staff of the Old Sleuth

You remember that this old sleuth suggested, in the July issue, that the two Gentlemen of leisure should visit Chapter #3. Well, it brought results, not only did they go to Detroit but to Philadelphia as well. Why not get busy Seattle and Springfield—who knows? * * * when Frank Baker visited Bill and Frank M. in their hotel room the morning after the meeting in Detroit—what a sorry spectacle—too gruesome to even report * * * and then there were two gentlemen of the S. C. C., members of the Union League Club in New York—oh, but what stories we could tell—perhaps it will be better to let their conscience bother them a while * * * Henry Redfield was promised a life membership on his 100th birthday by the club—we also promised to send him another bouquet of flowers, this time at the expense of the club * * * and speaking of Henry R., if in Hartford call on him to see his extensive collection of Scandinavia—a grand surprise is in store for you * * * and have you heard the story of the five gentlemen (not from Verona) who almost invited themselves to a luncheon and showing of stamps at Bill Foulk's home in Manhasset—yes they did and would they have eaten—the five uninvited guests were Harry Lindquist, Ferrars Tows, Abr. Odfjell, Frank Maybury and Carl Pelander. Everything was all set for Dec. 19th—and then came the snow. Fate saved Bill a rude awakening. * * * Hilda Isola was the only member of the S. C. C. from the U. S. to show at the International Exhibition in Helsinki—unfortunately Hilda could not see the show as her boat left two days prior to the opening of the show * * * Lauson Stone spent the summer vacation with his family, touring Europe, while there he also visited the International show in Switzerland * * * and Bob Stone bought himself a new home—due to this foolish idea—part of the stamp collection had to be sacrificed * * * and we wonder why it is so hard to keep up with Emil Lundstrom—he always seems on the move * * * and Roland Morse and all the little Morses were snowed in—this may be last winter's news, but we have not heard from him since * * * Roy Hill of San Francisco seems to enjoy riding buses all over the country—he made his annual visit to New York last summer * * * and were the Rydquists hungry when they returned from Sweden this fall—Arthur confessed to dreaming of nice juicy steaks all during his stay * * * and as if you did not know—our member King-Farlow is the secretary and librarian of the Royal Philatelic Society in London * * * we heard about the wonderful driver Gustaf Johansson of Gothenburg, Sweden, is—driv-

ing along a highway in a brand new car (well anyway practically) and only one other car within the radius of 20 miles, he just had to have a collision and ruin that (practically) new car—he claims the other guy was a Norwegian * * * of course you know that Gus von Gross is now the curator of the new Philatelic Museum in Philadelphia—since the museum is connected with the Temple University, we suppose "Professor" is in order * * * and we also hear that Robert Bechsgaard of Copenhagen is atoning for his sins—he recently got married * * * Bob Scherer has been confined to the hospital at Fort Slocum with pneumonia—we are all happy that Bob is well again * * * and since we are on the subject of illness and distress, we may report that Fay Jordan (also known as the Purple Passion) had a gum boil which kept her quiet for several days—tough luck * * * after what seems like ages to all, we are happy to hear that Theresa Kenton's home finally is finished—well stamps sure took a severe licking in that family too—but then you know the high cost of building * * * Carl Pihl and Arthur Heim (the new landed gentry) were busy cultivating their west forties all summer, which of course caused them to neglect their stamp collections in a most scandalous way * * * and so the space runs out and "HAPPY NEW YEAR" and good philatelic hunting till we meet again.

News of Interest

Thorsten Ingeloff (344L5) reports:

In conjunction with the Norwegian Aero Club Exposition, the Post Office Department participated with a very extensive Air Post exhibit. They also had a branch P. O. on the premises at Kontraskjaeret (just outside Oslo), and a special cancel for the occasion "NORSK AERO KLUBB SEPT. 9 - 15 FLYUT-STILLING 1948." Among other things shown was the original letter box from "Little Norway" in Canada.

Sweden:

The semi-postals for King Gustaf's 90th birthday were issued in the following quantities:

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| 10+10 ore coil stamp | 2,513,500 |
| 20+10 ore coil stamp | 3,798,500 |
| 30+10 ore coil stamp | 955,800 |
| 10+10 ore booklet stamp | 1,692,000 |
| 20+10 ore booklet stamp | 1,422,000 |

A new high regarding first day covers was attained with this issue, 52,900 covers being serviced.

From the small quantities issued this set no doubt will soon become scarce, especially in used condition, as the public does not particularly favor to pay a surtax with the present high postal rates.

* * *

Printing of the following stamps was discontinued on April 1st 1948:

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Scott 301 | 5 ore green, coil stamp | 415,196,700 printed |
| 299a | 5 ore green, booklet stamp | 116,337,000 |
| 302 | 10 ore violet, coil stamp | 328,138,400 |
| 300b | 10 ore violet, booklet stamp | 102,430,000 |
| 304 | 25 ore orange, coil stamp | 55,329,900 |
| 283 | 85 ore dark green, coil stamp | 9,704,500 |
| 284 | 90 ore lt. blue, coil stamp | 25,068,100 |
| 287 | 120 ore rose violet, coil stamp | 9,247,300 |

* * *

A suggestion for a Count Bernadotte commemorative stamp is favorably considered by the Post Master General, with a small surtax for the benefit of the Red Cross.

As the P. O. Dept. only has access to one steel engraver, Mr. Sven Ewert,

this stamp can hardly be expected until next summer. Mr. Ewert is now engaged in the engraving of the commemorative stamps of the famous author and dramatist August Strindberg, which are to be released in January 1949.

* * *

Norway:

The number of stamps printed for the Forestry Issue in 1948, were as follows:

25 ore 4,000,000 80 ore 2,000,000

* * *



The above illustrated slogan cancellation was used for the Red Cross drive, and reads "THE RED CROSS WEEK + 18-25 SEPTEMBER."

* * *

Robert W. Scherer (102) reports that the latest offer for help on the catalogue committee comes from the eminent authority on Scandinavian local stamps, Mr. E. F. Hurt, who places at our disposal all of the material he has had published plus additional material gathered of late.

* * *

Robert G. Stone (40) also reports that all of his material on early D. W. I. (original research) will be held intact for our disposal.

* * *



From Mr. K. Roewade in Montclair, N. J., comes this herewith illustrated label, with the following comment, "Issued in 1885 to aid Defenses of Copenhagen. Sold in schools and other public places—from the proceeds a cannon was donated to Gardenhoj Fort." See "How Copenhagen was Fortified" in Professional Memoirs—Corps of Engineers U. S. Army, Vol. III, Oct.-Dec. 1911.

* * *

George Wiberg (177) reports: "On Sept. 13th 1948, due to increased postal rates 400,000 sets of the 1947 Anti-Tuberculosis issue were surcharged with new values. On the 24m+6m value two distinct types may be found:

Type I, the two bars under mk extend 1 mm to the left of m.

Type II, the bars are even with m in mk.

In each sheet of 100 stamps there are 75 copies of Type I and 25 of Type II, this last type occur on each odd horizontal line in position 1, 3 and 5 and in even numbered lines in 2, 4 and 6.



Bjarni Sigursson from Reykjavik sends us the above illustrated cover of the first commercial flight Reykjavik-New York, Aug. 25th 1948.

* * *

From a recent issue in Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift we note the following regarding The Posthorn: "periodical for the Scandinavian Collectors Club of New York, has in their April number a much worth-while article on "Plates and Types of Norway's 5 ore blue (1877)." The authoritative description as well as the fine illustrations is by the well known American philatelist Gustave Larson. There is also a description of the "V overprints" as well as an article on "Scandinavian Lindberghiana."

"The writer has for several years been a member of the S. C. C. and in spite of not being able to get the advantage of attending the meetings (unless you visit New York, when one is cordially welcome) The Posthorn has given me untold pleasure which has more than compensated the annual dues of \$1.00. Besides the propaganda afforded our Nordic stamps, through showings and lectures in various chapters in several American cities, is extremely helpful. It is always helpful to follow everything concerning our stamps, especially to note, how on the large continent and in the United States, they look upon our philatelic endeavors. During this century there has been a constant flow of Nordic stamps to America—and ironically enough some have also come back in the form of collections as well as wholesale. — A. O."

* * *

Sweden sells postage stamps by the yard:

In 1914 when a new type of stamp booklets were concocted from regular sheets of stamps (10x10 subjects), Scott #77 and 80, the top and bottom strips of twenty stamps were separated from the sheets and split into panes of 4 (2x2), the margins or selvage being used for binding or stapling. The remainder of the sheets, 60%, was torn into horizontal strips and pasted together into hand-rolled coils for use in the newly developed automatic vending machines.

Thus appeared coil stamps for the first time in Sweden, even though perforated all around. Coils as we know them today, perforated vertically were only introduced into Sweden in 1920, after Postmaster General H. Juhlin returned from his journey to the United States, where he had studied postal conditions in general and became enthused with the stamp vending machines in use there. He visualized their possibilities and advantages for the Post Offices as well as public use and when the Stickney Rotary Press printing machines were placed in use these new type vending machines were also installed.

Like all new innovations, the coil stamps and vending machines alike, met with a great deal of ridicule both by the general public as well as postal employees, however, the former were soon appeased by the introduction of book-

lets and the latter by boxes in which the coils could be kept orderly and also by a graduated scale at the edge of their desks, which facilitated the counting and selling, so in this way everyone was soon happy and satisfied.

The evidence of the final acceptance of the coil stamps, or "selling stamps by the yard," was when the "War Emergency Issue" was released, consisting of 5, 10 and 15 ore stamps, printed in sheets of 100 for more suitable and convenient storage in bomb-proof shelter, the public refused them as awkward and the postal department had to use them for internal service.

In order to have their allotment of these stamps used up quickly, the branch office "Stockholm 3" concocted up similar booklets to those used in 1914. The sheets were broken up into panes of 20 (2x10) perforated all around and stapled in respectively green, blue and light red covers from postal blanks. Parts of the printing is sometimes found on the inside cover, whereas the outside is blank with the price written in blue crayon on the face, viz., Kr. 1:—, Kr. 2:— or Kr. 3:—, occasionally the branch circular cancel "STOCKHOLM 3 - 25.2.48" is found on the front.

As these booklets were never authorized, they are technically not collectors items, but are of interest to students of Swedish booklets.

As to the interesting Swedish coil era, 1920 to date, accurate data and details are recorded in the book published by the G. P. O., English edition, beautifully bound and illustrated, entitled "Postage Stamps of Sweden 1920-1945." This book may be had from this scribe for the sum of \$1.10 (bill plus mint stamps).
—Thorsten Ingeloff.

Book Reviews

I FILATELISTENS VARLD:

Nils Strandell's new 290 page book "I Filatelistens Varld" (In The Philatelist World), published by Wahlstrom & Widstrand in Stockholm, is one of the most interesting books on Philatelic Adventures or Misadventures ever written, based on the author's long and interesting experience in the Philatelic realm.

The author starts the first chapter with his boyhood adventure in the hobby and his first dealings with the professional, Georg Zechmeyers, after this brief introduction he carries the reader on throughout the Philatelic World of bygone days, when great stamp finds were made, also making your acquaintance with famous and eccentric collectors, such as Count Ferrari and others, counterfeiters, various well-known stamp frauds, etc., bringing us up to date with the "Century of the Postage Stamp" and International Exhibitions, all written in a masterful and fascinating manner, ending the book with the author's present activities in the Postal-museum in Stockholm.

It is regrettable that this book, which is of great interest to both the initiated Philatelist as well as the novice has not as yet been translated into the English language, as I am certain it would find a large following in the English speaking world.

Price: paper cover edition Swedish Kr. 25.00, cloth bound Sw. Kr. 34.00.

NORWAY PLATINGS:

Billigs Philatelic Handbook, volume IX, contains a remarkably well written and richly illustrated study of the plating of Norway No. 1, as well as the platings of the 3, 4 and 8sk stamps of 1857. These studies that have previously appeared in print in various publications, such as "Stamps," "The Collectors Club Philatelist," "The Posthorn" and leading foreign publications, have been compiled by such famous students of philately as J. Jellstad, Abr. Odfjell and Dr. Justus Anderssen, with the assistance of Harry L. Lindquist and a host of other specialists in early Norway.

Mr. Billig has done a splendid job to get all of this much valued material within the covers of one of his now famous handbooks and we would recommend this as a MUST to all collectors of Norway.

Cloth bound edition \$4.00; (Fritz Billig, Jamaica 3, N. Y.)

SCANDINAVIAN CATALOGUES:

Harry Wennbergs specialized Sweden 1855-1948; makes its appearance in the English language, having been translated by Dr. Nils Stalhandske. There are a great many improvements in this new English edition as it also prices stamps in blocks of four as well as on the original covers. We do not wish to quarrel with the editors of this fine catalogue, but note that stamps on the original covers of the first and second issue as well as the Stockholm locals are only priced at 1½ to 2 times the price of the stamps off cover. It has been our experience that nice clean covers of this period are getting increasingly more popular and in many cases are bringing as high as 15 to 20 times the price of the stamps off cover. Notwithstanding, the catalogue is well edited and reflects the true retail value of Swedish stamps in the present market, and as such should be a MUST to all Swedish collectors.

Paper bound edition Swedish Kr. 5.40 (H. L. Lindquist, 2 W. 46th St., New York 18, N. Y.)

Facit 1949; a specialized retail catalogue of Scandinavia, printed in Swedish, contains a number of changes and price revisions. As in previous editions the prices in most instances reflect the true market values, however, the listings have been jumbled "a la Scott," namely that all stamps of a similar design have been listed under one heading regardless of date of issue. This may be helpful to the novice collector and also save printing space, but to the advanced collector and specialist this is confusing to say the least.

A helpful innovation has been added in a four language cross index of Philatelic terms (English, French, German and Swedish). This glossary will be helpful to collectors not familiar with the Swedish language.

We recommend this catalogue as a fine handbook and price list on Scandinavian stamps.

Price \$1.25 post free (C. E. Pelander, 545 Fifth Ave., New York 17, N. Y.)

Carl E. Pelander.

Nordan 1949; This the pioneer of specialized Scandinavian catalogue, formerly known as "DAN," but after change of ownership rechristened to "NORDAN," is still going strong, and in spite of several rumors regarding its death, is now out with its 1949 edition, corrected and improved with over 50 added pages richly illustrated. Besides listing and pricing stamps and their specialized varieties, this handbook carries an extensive listing of cancellations, that has proven very useful to collectors. In short this is the most comprehensive Scandinavian catalogue ever issued and is liked by the specialist as well as the novice. As in every catalogue some of the prices could come under closer scrutiny.

Another dealer-catalogue is the "Viking Scandinavian Catalogue." This list is nicely illustrated and in a handy size, however, the publishers seem to be unable to make up their mind if they should issue a specialized handbook or a commercial list, with the result that this is neither. The prices in this catalogue are well in line with the publishers' needs.

The number of competitive catalogues published in Sweden, has left the Philatelic Society no peace until a price-list has been supplemented to their splendid "Handbook of Swedish Stamps." To offset the much criticized renumbering in the last edition of the Handbook, the price-list furnishes both the old and the new numbers. This price list was most unfortunate and should have been left to the professionals, because as it is now, the collectors are influenced by these listings and the professionals refuse to sell them at these ridiculous prices. In most cases dealers are happy to pay full prices quoted, especially for the modern issues.

Summing up the situation as it is to-day, the Swedish catalogue business is in a bit of a tangle, and it is hoped that within another year all the chaff will be weeded out.

Thorsten Ingeloff.

(Any of these catalogues may be had, as well as Mr. Strandell's book, from Thorsten Ingeloff, Postfack 597, Stockholm, Sweden.)

When ordering any of these books, please mention The Posthorn,

Charles Henry Johnson

by Carl E. Pelander



Dr. Charles H. Johnson

As I sat at the service of my old friend Charles Henry Johnson, in the vast Grand Lodge Room, and listened to the opening remarks of the eulogy delivered by Past Grand Master Froessel "A GIANT OAK HAS FALLEN," I felt a void in my heart and knew that I as well as the world had lost a friend that would be irreplaceable. Seldom does a man create the multitude of friends, from the crowned heads of Europe to the friendless individuals he helped rehabilitate, as "Charlie" did, and this was clearly evident at this service attended by a host of peoples from all walks of life.

Born in Brooklyn, N. Y., 78 years ago, of Danish parents, he was obliged to leave public school at the age of twelve. During his apprenticeship as an office boy and stenographer he decided to study for the ministry. With this in mind he entered Harvard University at an age when most men had long since finished school. Here he secured his B. A. degree *cum laude*, and later he received his degree Bachelor of Sacred Theology from Boston University. Later in life Alfred University conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

His work as a minister was rather shortlived and instead he found that welfare work was more to his liking. This became his life work and soon established him as the leading authority in the care of wayward children, mental defectives and generally underprivileged offenders against our penal laws. His many lectures and several books on these subjects are all outstanding. His rapid rise in this chosen profession was remarkable, and after serving as Deputy Warden in Sing Sing Prison, he was appointed New York State Commissioner of Social Welfare (1916-32), serving under Democratic as well as Republican administrations. During this period he made his home in Albany, N. Y.

In the fraternal order of Free and Accepted Masons, his rise was as rapid as it was in welfare work. He was raised a Master Mason in 1911, six years later he served as District Deputy Grand Master and in 1930 he was elected Grand Master of the State of New York. At the end of his term, in 1932, he was appointed Grand Secretary, which office he held until 1947, when he retired with the rank of Grand Secretary Emeritus. His work within the craft is so well known and so vast that it would fill volumes. Among the many well known accomplishments is that of forming the first Masonic Lodges in Finland, following that country's independence, also among the latest honors bestowed

on him was the Medal of Liberation presented to him by the late King Christian X of Denmark.

From his early boyhood days "Charlie's" interest in stamp collecting as a hobby never left him and at his death his modest beginning had grown to an impressive 45 volume collection. Naturally his main interest was in the stamps of United States and Scandinavia, but later he also formed a specialized collection of the Near East, which was due to his organization of Masonic Lodges in Lebanon and Syria. Besides these specialized groups, he was also one of the few remaining general collectors, this part of his collection being strongest in Central Europe, Netherlands and Colonies. In my long association with "Charlie," I have yet to find a more enthusiastic collector of stamps. He loved stamps for what they meant to him, not for their intrinsic value and would sit and gloat over a penny stamp as much as he would over a stamp valued at a hundred dollars, to him both stamps were of equal importance. I am certain that his enthusiasm was responsible for hundreds of new collectors as seldom did a day go by without some new victim being initiated into the mysteries of philately.

"Charlie" was a well known figure in the S. C. C., being one of its pioneer members, his number 13 was of his own choice as he was entitled to an even lower number. His last public appearance before the membership was his talk on relief work in war-torn Europe, after his inspection tour of these countries on behalf of our Government. He was also one of the organizers of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York and was for many years a member of the Collectors Club.

His life was not without its tragedies, because in 1918 he lost his only son Lt. Orville Johnson at Chateau-Thierry, while he was serving with the 26th "Yankee Division" during World War I. During the past three years his health was gradually failing, yet he always minimized his own condition and even then was always willing to extend a helping hand to someone in need.

Mr. Froessel ended up his eulogy with a most fitting remark, which I knew only too well to be true;

"He was not afraid of death, for he recognized that

'Death's but a path that must be trod

If man would ever pass to God'

"He now belongs to the ages, and to our precious memories."

New Members

Resident

547 Ernest J. Raberg, 918 East 27th St., Brooklyn, N. Y. (Scan.)

Non-Resident Members

540 Philip R. Grabfield, 12 Bolton Gardens, Bronxville, N. Y.

541 Rolf Gummesson, Kungsgatan 55, III, Stockholm, Sweden (I.-D.W.I.)

542 Mrs. Ingeborg Gade Frick, 7 Graigie Circle, Cambridge, Mass. (Gen.)

543 A. James Wennermark, 75 South Fitzhugh St., Rochester, N. Y. (Scan.)

544 Warren Brody, 38 Crescent Ave., Grantwood, N. J. (Scan. on and off cover)

545 Robert D. Shannon, P. O. Box 72, Fort Logan, Colorado (Scan.)

546 John A. Olson, 1019—6th Ave., Council Bluff, Iowa (U. S.-Scan.)

548 M. Luydweg, Boerhavelaan 56a, Schiedam, Netherlands (U.S.-Can.-S.-D.)

549 Axel Leaf, Box 431, Buckley, Wash. (Scan.)

550 Hans Stendahl, Namsos, Norway (U. S. Commems-N.)

551 Mrs. Stiena E. Benson, 173 Newbury St., Boston, Mass. (S.-U.S.)

552 T. J. Hellsten, 135 Ohio Ave., W. Springfield, Mass. (F.-D.-N.)

553 Robert H. Davis, 2338 Highbury Ave., Los Angeles 32, Calif. (Scan.-U.S.-N.Z.-Australia-Fr.Col.)

DON'T FORGET YOUR DUES FOR 1949. Send it now. See page 9 for details.

New and Recent Issues

by Thorsten Ingeloff



DENMARK

1948

Supplementing the new King Frederik IX Issue.

Engraved Unwatermarked Perf. 13
 25 ore brown (Oct. 21, 1948)
 30 ore orange yellow (Nov. 18, 1948)

Other values that are still planned for this series are 35, 40, 45, 50, 60 and 75 ore.

FINLAND

July 1948

Change of colors of the Lion Type Stamps.

Typographed Unwatermarked Perf. 14
 6 mk green for printed matter
 7 mk orange domestic post cards
 9 mk red foreign post card rate
 12 mk violet Domestic letters
 15 mk blue foreign letters
 Previously reported:
 24 mk maroon domestic registry rate

September 13th 1948

Anti Tuberculosis Issue

Stamps of the previous T. B. Issue of 1947, surcharged with new values. The surtax on these stamps is used to combat the spread of tuberculosis.

7 mk+2 mk / 6 mk+1.50 mk red
 15 mk+3 mk / 10 mk+2.50 mk brown
 24 mk+6 mk / 20 mk+5 mk dull violet

October 2nd 1948

Bible Commemorative Issue

Engraved Unwatermarked Perf. 14

Issued in commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the translation of the New Testament into the Finnish language by Michael Agricola.

7 mk dark red violet 12 mk blue green

Michael Agricola (1508-57), was a religious reformer and disciple of Martin Luther. He was known as the father of Finnish literature and wrote many books both spiritual and secular, in the Finnish language. His most noteworthy achievements were the translation of the first reader and the Bible into Finnish.

Oct. 15th 1948

Sveaborg Issue

Commemorating the founding of the fortress Sveaborg in 1748, once known

as the Gibraltar of the North, but now of little military value, except for its historical background.

Engraved Unwatermarked Perf. 14
12 mk dark green (entrance to the fortress)

Oct. 27th 1948

Philatelic Exhibition Issue

Commemorating the International Philatelic Exhibition in Helsinki.
Engraved Unwatermarked Perf. 14
12 mk blue green (150,000 issued)

For illustration and further information see special article regarding this stamp in this issue.

ICELAND

September 1948
Engraved Unwatermarked Perf. 11½
10 Kr. yellow brown (Karlsefni)

December 3rd 1948

Mt. Heckla Issue

Engraved Unwatermarked Perf. 14
12 our violet black
25 aur green
35 aur rose carmine
50 aur brown
60 aur ultramarine
1 Kr. yellow brown
10 Kr. gray violet

NORWAY

December 1st 1948

The 1945 Red Cross stamp 20 ore+10 ore red (Scott B42) has met with less popular success than anticipated. In order to meet with the increased postal rates, remainders of this stamp will be surcharged in black.

25 ore+5 ore / 20 ore+10 ore red (Red Cross Nurse)

In Memoriam

It is with deep regret we report the loss of three of our members, who have passed to the great beyond. Philately has suffered a great loss in their passing away.

Swante W. Moller

Swante W. Moller (353), passed away at his home after a long illness on June 4th 1948 at the age of 56. He is survived by his wife and one son.

Mr. Moller was greatly interested in the activities of the S. C. C., and had planned on forming a chapter of the organization in the San Francisco area, only poor health prevented this from materializing.

Edwin P. Seebohm

Edwin P. Seebohm (470) at the age of 69 passed away at the home of his brother in Burlingame, Calif.

Mr. Seebohm was one of America's pioneer stamp dealers and auctioneers having organized his business in 1908. Due to his genial personality and honest dealings he soon ranked as one of the outstanding dealers on the Pacific Coast. He was a member of the Collectors Club and other leading philatelic organizations, as well as the Swedish National Stamp Society.

We are happy to note that Mr. Seebohm's able assistant Mr. Roy Taylor, who has been with him since 1927, will continue the business.

Charles Henry Johnson

Charles Henry Johnson (13), after a brief illness, passed away on October 28, 1948. He is survived by his wife Mrs. Mary B. Johnson.

A Letter from the Editor

You may have wondered why The Posthorn was omitted for October? The editor of this publication feels that an apology is due, but it was impossible to get the issue out due to lack of suitable material. Both Mr. Pihl and yours truly have written all over this country, as well as abroad, for suitable material, but without any noticeable results. We have also urged the officers of the various chapters to request their members to write and contribute to this magazine and we trust that something will result from all of this.

I doubt if many of you realize the work and difficulty it is to give you 16 pages of solid meat every three months, without inserting a lot of tripe. The editorial work and typing alone takes several Sundays and Holidays for each issue, which could and should be used in other channels. Then it must be seen to that the material is sent to the printer, the mailing of close to 600 pieces and typing or stenciling envelopes, yes it is quite a job, without worrying about the material besides.

It is over five years since I started The Posthorn, which has been acclaimed second only to the Collectors Club Philatelist. The work, I assure you, has been gratifying and has given me a great deal of pleasure, because I feel my efforts, such as they've been, have not been in vain, as I have seen the S. C. C. grow from a mere handful of members to an impressive 550 plus and now that increasing pressure of my business prevents me from continuing, I feel satisfied that I am turning over this job to a man who is well qualified in every way.

I trust that the membership will get behind the new editor Mr. Carl H. Pihl and his board of assistants to help and continue to make this the outstanding club organ in the United States, because it is yours and without you it cannot continue.

With this I want to thank you all for the help you have extended me in the past five years, and also wish you one and all A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

Carl E. Pelander

Club News

In September the club again resumed its general activities with an informal showing and a general get-together gathering. The October meeting was set aside for a showing of French Rail-Road postmarks by David Bull. This was surely a treat to all of us and proved that Dave is a philatelist of first rank.

The November meeting had Bill Foulk as guest speaker, showing a magnificent lot of early Denmark, Norway and Finland stampless covers. We were happy to have our old friend and member Abraham Odjell from Norway present at this meeting. Perhaps the most instructive and interesting part of this meeting was the informal discussions and interpretations by various members on the different types of postmarks that were shown on Bill's covers.

The December meeting being the Annual Meeting of the club, the slate that had been presented at the November meeting was voted upon.

The following officers were elected for 1949:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Robert W. Scherer | President |
| W. F. Foulk | Vice-President |
| Albert Tate | Secretary |
| Elm Park, Irvington, N. Y. | |
| George Wiberg | Treasurer |
| 45 East 85th St., New York 25, N. Y. | |
| Einar Ernst | Librarian |
| Carl H. Pihl .. | Editor of The Posthorn |

Associate Editors: C. E. Pelander, H. M. Konwiser, Carl E. Buyer, Eric Hallar.

For the Board of Governors, to serve for three years:

Frank W. Maybury

To fill the unexpired term of W. F. Foulk:

Ferrars H. Tows

After the election a showing was made by Carl E. Pelander of the late Dr. Charles H. Johnson's gold medal collection of the Associate Group of Finland,

which was generally well received by those present.

We were all happy to see one of our youngest members, Henry Redfield of Hartford, Conn., present. Mr. Redfield will soon celebrate his 84th birthday.

REPORTS FROM CHAPTERS

The only two of our Chapters that have reported regularly to us are the Philadelphia and Detroit chapters. We would like to hear from the others as well so as to let the membership at large know of your activities. Secretaries should send their reports directly to the Editor of this magazine.

Philadelphia Chapter No. 2

Mr. J. D. Peterson, secretary of the chapter reports that meetings were held all through the summer. At the June meeting the roving Ambassadors of the S. C. C., W. F. Foulk and Frank Maybury, visited the chapter and were entertained for dinner by Mr. and Mrs. G. A. von Gross. At the meeting Mr. Foulk showed parts of his famous Denmark collection. The July meeting was a picnic held on the lawn of the home of the secretary Mr. Peterson at Lansdowne, Pa. At the Sepad show held in November the chapter had their usual club exhibit.

Detroit Chapter No. 3

Mr. Wm. Sarenus, secretary of the chapter reports a very active season of this live chapter. At the June meeting the following officers were elected:

A. E. Anderson President
 Oliver Wantin Vice-President
 Wm. Sarenus Secretary-Treasurer
 917 Kensington Rd., Detroit 24, Mich.

At the October meeting Mr. Blinn reported on the SPA convention where Chas. W. Johnson won the Stephen G. Rich trophy for best foreign exhibit, early specialized Finland, second award went to William Sarenus (SPA research) for Finland 1856-85, Mr. Blinn was awarded a third for his showing of U. S. Private Perforations. At the November meeting the roving ambassadors (W. F. Foulk and F. Maybury) came to spoil the tranquility of this chapter. After being duly dined and wined (editors note), Bill showed some early Denmark and Finland, need more be said. From all reports of this meeting we know a wonderful time was had by all. The November meeting had a new wrinkle added, in the feeding of the members by their host, prior to the meeting. This surely will bring out the members, as I know that food more than stamps will bring them out. We here in New York wonder just what would happen if we duplicated this feat, no doubt a 100% attendance would result. Just think of it feeding 125 hungry people?

Philander the Phunny Philatelist Says:

It isn't phunny the way some dealers will pool the unsuspecting non-collector who comes into their shop. My Uncle Phreddie, that's the one who doesn't drink (water), was scouting around for a Norway Number One (which I need for my collection) as a Christmas present for me. Do you know what happened? This guy talks him into buying a defective copy of Norway Number One and soaks him 85 clams (dollars) for it. He told him it was a VERY RARE stamp on account of the lion had two paws where one was supposed to be. Doublepaw, I think he called it. Now I don't believe this for a minute and sort of hate to put this stamp into my album because, even if I say so myself, I am pretty phussy about condition. I would appreciate any readers who are Norway collectors and know about this to write and advise me if two lions' paws are better than one. CAVEAT EMPTOR!

WANTED

Articles are needed for The Posthorn if we are to continue publication. Read "A Letter from the Editor" on page 20. All material for future issues should be sent to: Carl H. Pihl, 77 Amherst Road, Albertson, N. Y. or to Carl E. Pelander, 545 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.