

The

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Sweden's First Air Mail

by Eric Hallar (55)



Fig. 1

In 1912 the transportation of mail by airplane was inaugurated in Sweden on an experimental basis. The initiative in this venture was taken by the committee heading up the "Barnens Dag" or "Children's Day" that year. "Barnens Dag" is a yearly event for the purpose of raising funds for the benefit of indigent Swedish children.

On September 21, 1912, a young aviator, Lieutenant Olle Dahlbeck, ascended in a monoplane from Ladugardsgardet, which at that time was the parade grounds for the guards regiments in Stockholm. He carried two bags of mail. Favored by brilliant weather, he flew over the Stadium at 2500 feet and was enthusiastically acclaimed by 20,000 people assembled there to witness one of the last events of the VI Olympiad. The flight was extended to Jarva, 5 miles distant, where the mail bags were dropped, loaded into an automobile and transported back to the city for forwarding.

On the following day, September 22, Dahlbeck attempted a new flight, which resulted in near disaster. The plane developed engine trouble and made a forced landing in Vartan, one of the many bodies of water surrounding Stockholm. The water-soaked mail bags were retrieved, however, and their contents dried out. When the salvage operation had been completed it was discovered that all handwritten letters were practically undamaged while the typewritten ones were in bad condition.

All letters carried on these flights were to have affixed to them a special adhesive (shown in Fig. 1) in addition to regular postage in the amount of 15 cre. The special adhesive, which had no indication as to denomination, was sold at 60 ore (15 cents) per copy. One printing of 10,000 copies, perforated 11, in lilac color was executed by Centraltryckeriet in Stockholm. There were no reprints made of this adhesive. The franking instruction was not strictly adhered to and, as a consequence, some letters were carried that bore only the special adhesive.

For the occasion a special canceler was used bearing the text "SVERIGES FORSTA FLYGPOST (Sweden's First Air Mail) September 1912," arranged as shown in Fig. 2. In cases where only the special adhesive was affixed, the can-



Fig. 2

cellation was struck on it. Where supplementary postage had been applied, in compliance with regulations, inconsistencies in canceling prevailed. Thus, the regular stamps as well as the special one were canceled as a rule, whereas in exceptional cases the special adhesive was left without a cancellation. The Swedish Philatelic Society does not recognize this special adhesive because of its unofficial origin. The cancellation, however, is official and its application makes the adhesive a desirable collector's item. Fig. 3 shows such usage on a post card.



Fig. 3

* * *

The above-mentioned adhesive was destined to again serve a worthy cause. The occasion was to celebrate in 1937 the Silver Jubilee of the first Swedish mail flight while the proceeds went to the Children's Day Association.

The approximately 4000 left-over copies of the 1912 adhesive were over-

printed in black "SILVERJUBILEET 1937" and the digit "2" below, which denotes the flight number. The adhesives were sold to the public September 6-11 at a price of 3 kronor (75 cents) each. The covers were canceled with a special official cancellation (see Fig. 4), the text reading "BARNENS O * 16.9.37 * FLYGPOST."



Fig. 4

On September 16 the covers were carried in a plane piloted by Captain S. Ljungfeldt from Barnens O to Stockholm. The Children's Day Association owns an island, Barnens O, (Children's Island) in the beautiful archipelago outside of Stockholm, where years ago a Summer Colony was established for poor and undernourished children.

The franking stipulations issued by the Postal Administration for this flight are noteworthy. The first ruling was that to each letter should be affixed at least one of the jubilee adhesives supplementary to regular letter rate franking. Secondly, for regular letter rate franking the 10 ore blue air mail stamp (Scott No. C 6) was recognized for the first time. Fig. 5 shows a piece carried on this flight.



Fig. 5

SALES DEPARTMENT

The Manager of our Sales Circuit, Anker B. Grumsen, reports continued activity and interest. Many members have reported to Mr. Grumsen their appreciation of this service. However, **more material** is needed, so send your duplicate Scandinavian material to Mr. Grumsen. He also keeps want lists on file and endeavors to fill them. For information or stamps address: Mr. Anker B. Grumsen, 4859 Long Branch Ave., San Diego 7, Calif.

REMINDER

If you haven't sent in your 1949 dues yet, do so at once to insure receipt of The Posthorn. Resident Members—\$2.00, Non-Resident and Foreign Members—\$1.00. Send your dues to the Treasurer: George Wiberg, 45 East 85th Street, New York 25, N. Y.

Colonial Denmark

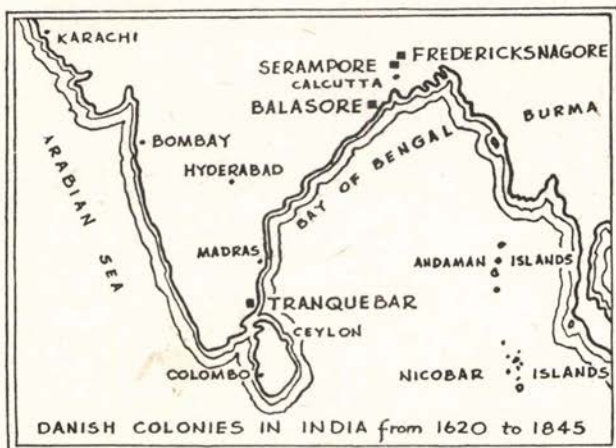
by Harry M. Konwiser (6)

An article signed W. D. W. (probably W. Dennis Way, Editor) which appeared in the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly" (London) for May 15, 1943, refers to the interesting story by Edwin H. Halvorsen, which appeared in the "Weekly Philatelic Gossip." The Halvorsen story concerned itself with Danish activities in Iceland, Greenland and the Faroe Islands, as well as the Danish West Indies. This inspired the writer, Way, to present an interesting, and possibly unknown, bit of information concerning Colonial Denmark in India and Africa which will certainly be of interest to those whose hobby is the study of Danish postal history.

On November 19, 1620 Denmark acquired, by treaty with the Rajah of Tanjore, the city of Tranquebar (Trankebar) and surrounding district. This area was located on the legendary Coromandel coast of southeast India and was some 15 square miles in extent. Way writes that in 1835 the population was 23,185. At the same time the twin cities of Frederiksnagore and Serampore, just north of Calcutta, were also acquired by Denmark. This Danish possession boasted a college, a paper mill and a printing establishment. In 1840, the population was 11,953.

The fourth of the Danish Indian colonies, writes Way, was Balasore, lying just below Calcutta, which had a population of 250 (no date given). All of these Danish colonies were ruled by one governor, the last being P. Hansen who served during the period, 1830-1845. Other Danish settlements were established but the four mentioned were the only ones that survived for the entire period of Danish colonization in India. The four Danish colonies were sold to the East India Company about 1845, the price being £125,000, with the proviso that the Danish Mission (Dandeborg Fortress) at Tranquebar and the Serampore College should be retained by Danish interests.

Way suggests that there should be some INDIA handstamps used on the folded letters of the period, for certainly the Danes in India wrote to their relations and friends in Denmark. Here is a fertile field for research and study.



And how about the Nicobar Islands colony? Way states that Denmark claimed ownership of the entire group of islands, comprising some 635 square miles in area. These islands, lying out in the Bay of Bengal, were colonized by the Danes in 1650. Many of the Danes from the Danish colonies on the Indian mainland, following their sale to the East India Company, joined their countrymen in the Nicobar Islands. However, these islands were abandoned in 1848 because of the lack of support from the homeland. Denmark, however, did not relinquish its claim to these islands until 1866. Way opines that it is

entirely possible that some Nicobar covers are in existence.

Way reports further that the Danes settled in Africa in 1650, at first at Accra on the Volta River where Fort Christiansborg was erected. This fort is depicted on the Gold Coast stamps of 1928 and 1938. In 1783 the Danes erected Fort Kongesten and, in the year following, Fort Prinsenten. Way notes that the territory was extended to Teshi, in 1787, where Fort Augustaborg was built. As with the Indian possessions, the Danish government decided to dispose of its African colonies which, in due time (1850), were sold to Great Britain for £10,000 (a bargain in any money).

Mr. Halvorsen, among many others, seeks further information about these early Danish colonies. In the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly" for October 2, 1943, Gerald W. Bentley writes that the Danes missed their true path to greatness by relinquishing these far-flung colonies. He adds that the Danes should have sought fame via the sea rather than vying with the German Princes for the broad lands of Europe. In this article Bentley also discussed the Danish "Foreign Post Offices" in Hamburg, Lubeck, Bergedorf and Ratzeburg (No. 150) and mail activities of the early 1860s. Ratzeburg was a small town in the Duchy of Lauenburg.

The Thor Solberg Greenland Covers

by George D. Stribley (507)



Rare Angmagssalik Cover

On July 18, 1935, Thor Solberg, a Brooklyn manufacturer, with Paul Oscanyan, his radio operator, took off from Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn, New York, in a Wright Cyclone-powered Loening Amphibian plane with Bergen, Norway as their destination and goal.

Solberg's account of the flight appeared in the New York Times and may best be related by quoting the report:

"We took off from Cartwright, Labrador on July 28th and set our course for Julianshaab in Greenland. We flew for 600 miles through and above fog. The sun shone down on unbroken fields of ice. We did not see an opening during the entire trip. Eight hours after we took off we sighted the mountain behind Julianshaab straight ahead, which proved the compass and directional gyro were working perfectly.

"When we left two days later, we followed the coast south to Cape Farewell and then flew along the eastern shore to the north until we reached Angmagssalik. Finding a landing place in the ice choked fjords was far from simple. We radioed the colony for suggestions, and they advised us to try a large lake

in the upper end of the fjord. We climbed up to 10,000 feet to get over the highest mountain and found room to land among the scattered icebergs. We came down between mountain walls 7000 feet high.

"After leaving Greenland for Iceland we had not flown more than an hour before we found great banks of fog and low clouds ahead of us to the south and west. I shifted our course northward in an endeavor to fly around it and make for the northern part of Iceland. Conditions did not improve and we climbed from 500 to 7500 feet in our efforts to get above it. We descended to 1000 feet and flew by instruments through the now dense fog. About fifty miles from the coast we sighted some fish trawlers. Oscanyan tried to get them to radio their position but they did not answer. Instead they saluted us with three blasts from their whistle, as we could see by the white plumes of steam from their stacks."

They landed in Iceland a few hours later.

As may be inferred from the foregoing newspaper account, the flight was made in easy stages. There appeared to be no other purpose for the flight except to satisfy an ambition of years on the part of Solberg to fly the Atlantic to Bergen, Norway. This ambition on the part of Solberg was realized when he set the plane down in the harbor at Bergen on the 16th of August, 1935, or approximately a month after the take off from New York City. Solberg named his plane the "Leiv Eiriksson," the adventurer given credit for the discovery of Greenland.

Flight covers were carried on this trip. The majority of the covers, the commonest, were franked with United States postage and were posted and cancelled at New York City. But some covers carried from New York were cancelled at Bergen, Norway with a large roller receiving mark with the date of August 16, 1935. All the covers had a printed corner card with a picture of Thor Solberg and the amphibian plane on the water, and were signed by Thor Solberg.

A few covers were carried from Iceland to Norway and have impressed thereon a green cachet:

"Solberg's-Flyg
1 August 1935"

These Iceland covers were cancelled at Reykjavik with date of August 8, 1935, and also bear the large roller receiving mark cancelled Bergen, August 16, 1935.

By far the rarest of the covers flown by Solberg are those carried from Greenland. Before leaving Angmagssalik, a few covers were prepared. The exact number of these Angmagssalik covers has not been determined. One of the flown covers from Greenland is illustrated in this article. Upon depositing the covers in the post office at Angmagssalik the covers were "cancelled" or imprinted with a straight line, all caps, sans serif "ANGMAGSSALIK." The covers do not have affixed any Greenland stamps. Stamps of Greenland were not necessary or required on letters from Greenland to the Copenhagen office of the Royal Greenland Trading Society which had jurisdiction of mail and commerce to and from Greenland. Letters were carried free. Under postal rules and regulations, letters carried from Greenland were to be delivered to the Copenhagen office; letters might be called for at the office in which event no postage was required; letters for delivery anywhere in Denmark and beyond were required to have regular Danish postage stamps affixed at the regular rates. The Solberg covers, upon receipt at the Copenhagen office, were back-stamped with the usual double lined oval with crown and Gronlands Styresle within the oval, the cancelling device in use at that time. The first class foreign mail rate in effect in Denmark in 1935 was 30 ore. 30 ore in Danish stamps were affixed to the Solberg covers either at Angmagssalik or Copenhagen and delivered to the Copenhagen "K" post office which cancelled the covers with the current double circle "Kobenhavn K 12:45 6 Sept. 1935" and forwarded the covers for delivery to the addressees.

Philatelic articles have recorded the Solberg U. S. and Iceland covers, but have not mentioned or referred to the Greenland covers, an interesting sidelight of the main flight of note to the collector of Scandinavia.

Finland Field Post Covers

by George Wiberg (177)

To the average American collector interested in the Finnish Field Post there is very little information available in the English language and the whole subject seems to be more or less of a puzzle to a great many collectors. Ever since my short article appeared in *The Posthorn*, Jan. 1947, (Vol. 4, #1) I have received several inquiries about the field post stamps and covers of Finland. Stampless FP covers seems to give most trouble to the writers. One lament in a letter: "The more of these I get the more bewildered I become. There doesn't seem to be any rhyme or reason to them." In the following I will try briefly to explain the usage and reason for the differently marked covers. I hope the information and facts on the subject presented here, although incomplete, will in some degree help the readers of *The Posthorn* interested in field post collecting.

Shortly after Finland emerged as an independent nation, on Dec. 6, 1917, Field Post was used in Finland for the first time during the War of Liberation. By a special government decree properly marked military mail was carried free by the regular Postal Services. Later, some time after the war, on July 8, 1919, the government passed a law authorizing and regulating the use of fieldpost in an emergency. However, to familiarize the military personnel with the handling of mail the Fieldpost was experimentally used from time to time during the peace time.

The first time the Fieldpost was experimentally used was during troop maneuvers at Kymenlaakso in August 1928. Special Field Post Offices, numbered 1, 5 & 6 were established; and an additional mobile FPO, #2, was operating on the Headquarters train. Special oval shaped cancelling devices, measuring 45x25 mm, were used.



Fig. 1—1928 Maneuver Cancel

Again in March 1937, during Winter Maneuvers at Jaakkima, the Fieldpost was in operation. New type round cancellers, for FPO #3 and 4, measuring 25½ mm. were provided at this time.

Shortly before the beginning of the 1939/40 Winter War, during the third general alert on the Karelian Isthmus, the Fieldpost was used for the third time, in August 1939. Field Post Offices in use: #1, 3 & 4. Round cancelling devices, similar to the 1937 cancels but slightly smaller, measuring only 23 mm., were used. Covers from all the above mentioned periods are very scarce.

On Oct. 9, 1939, a few weeks before opening of hostilities, the Fieldpost was established as a military controlled independent institution and operated for the first time under actual war conditions.

On Nov. 30, 1940, after the peace treaty with Russia was signed, the Fieldpost ceased to exist as an independent Army Department and during this short period of peace the regular Postal Administration handled all military mail, but when hostilities again were renewed in June 1941, the Fieldpost administration once more reverted to military control. At the same time on June 10, new Fieldpost regulations were adopted, (Kenttäpostioapas/41=Fieldpostguide/41.)

The beginning of the Winter War found the Fieldpost poorly organized and equipped, with no general guide regulating its use, which caused considerable confusion in cancelling and marking military mail. During this period various devices were used to identify Fieldpost mail, some Army units even using their

Official Seals or Insignias for this purpose and the civilians in addressing mail to the front spelled the different Army units names out in full. For security reasons, and to eliminate this dangerous practise, on March 1, 1940 all Army units were assigned a code number and after this date no other identification of Army units was allowed on military mail. All covers from this period of the Winter War have either a handstamped cachet, or Kenttâpostia, written on the front of the cover. Also several types of censor marks appear quite regularly.

It must be kept in mind that all the mail from the front throughout both wars was free and unrestricted and that no stamps were required at any time. However, due to the Fieldpostguide, adopted in June 1941, all mail from the front had to have the "Kenttâpostia" cachet handstamped on the front of the cover together with the Field Post Office cancellation, before the mail could be forwarded to its destination. Due to carelessness and difficult war conditions a few covers reached their destination with one or the other or both of the required markings missing. These oddities, freaks or whatever you may call them, are not too plentiful and are much sought after by the FP specialist. I have in my collection a cover which shows that the receiver had to pay the regular postage due on a letter because the required markings were missing, also others which were returned to the sender for the same reason. These covers prove that the regulations were enforced.

All stampless Field Post covers showing a manuscript or printed "Kenttâpostia" plus a town cancellation are letters mailed by the civilian population to the soldiers at the front and used prior to Oct. 16, 1943. Up to this date all mail to the front, except parcel post which was carried at a reduced rate, was free and unrestricted.

To regulate the ever-increasing civilian free mail to the soldiers, on the above mentioned date, a Field Post stamp for letter use was issued (Scott's M5) and each member of the armed forces was limited to receive 8 free letters a month. Parcel Post stamps had been in use from Nov. 1, 1941 and each soldier was entitled to 4 of these parcel post stamps a month. Simultaneously with this free stamp a set of two stamps, 2mk for postcards and 3½mk for letters, of the regular Lion type overprinted "Kenttâposti-Faltpost," were issued. These stamps were sold at their face value and after Oct. 16, 1943 only these stamps and the free stamps were valid on mail to the front. On the same date a postal card of a 2mk denomination was overprinted to be used in similar manner.

The weight of FP letters was limited to 40 gr. and for letters exceeding this limit the regular additional postage due was collected. This is the reason that covers frequently are found with regular or overprinted stamps in addition to the required markings. Regular stamps were sold at the FPO for this purpose.

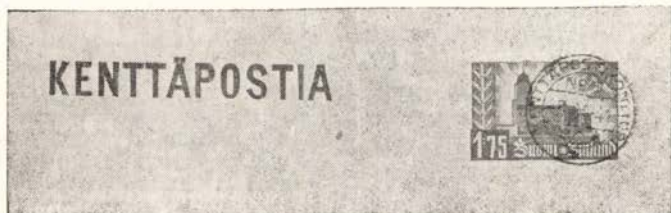


Fig. 2—Overweight FP Letter

After the Field Post was officially terminated on Dec. 4, 1944, the remainders of the small green stamp (Scott's M6) were used by the Army during the Lapland campaign against the Germans and remained in use until the conclusion of the campaign on Aug. 1, 1945. Only this time it was used to carry mail from the front to the civilian populace. The letters were collected at Army headquarters, where stamps were affixed, then forwarded by regular mail to their destination. There was no set limit to the numbers of letters each soldier could send. FP letters from this period are found with the town cancellation only, without any other identifying markings.

Each FPO was designated by a number and during the Winter War 30 different FPOs were in use: numbered from 1 to 29 and 18A, and during the 1941-14 period 42 different FPOs were established: numbered 1-36, 38-40, 51, 53 and 55. Fieldpost Offices numbered from 1 to 10 were the main permanent offices, the others were more or less temporary affairs, assigned to different army units in the field or sections of the front. Some were in use a limited time only, due to the shifting of the front or the movement of army units. Some Post Offices were discontinued and new ones established as the needs changed. Post Offices numbered 51, 53 and 55 were set up on the Karelian Isthmus during the Russian big push at the end of the war in the summer of 1944 and were in use only a short time. Consequently covers with those FPO numbers are exceptionally hard to find. Also cancellations from FPO 18A, in operation during the Winter War for about one week only, are very scarce.

As a rule all ordinary mail was sent to the main FP offices in bulk to be sorted and cancelled and only Official Military mail, registered letters, money orders or mail that needed special handling were postmarked at the temporary FPO, therefore covers with these high numbered cancels are relatively scarce. Seven distinctly different types of circular cancellations are noted in use during the two wars, each with numerous sub types. The size of the cancellations range from 23 to 29 mm in diameter, with the space between circles varying from 2½ to 5 mm. Several types of machine cancellations were used, six with different propaganda slogans are known.

I have left a description of the rarest of all the FP covers to the last, because it requires a chapter of its own. When the first parcel post stamp (Scott's M1) was placed in use in 1941, it was also planned to extend its use to FP letters and orders to this effect were sent out. The order was recalled a few days before Dec. 1, 1941, the date the stamps were to be available for postage, and the same thing was repeated over again. This time the order was revoked only one day before the order was to take effect—on Jan. 1, 1942. Before all the Post Offices received the cancellation of the orders, quite a few of the red parcel post stamps had been used on letters. Covers cancelled between the periods: Dec. 1-15, 1941 and Jan. 1-15, 1942 are considered authentically used. Very few of these covers, however, survived destruction in the dugout stoves at the front, because, due to the strict security regulations, all mail had to be destroyed after reading, to prevent any possible information contained in them from falling into the hands of the enemy. This stamp was made obsolete on June 30, 1943. The Field Post stamps were not made available for letter postage use before Oct. 16, 1943, as mentioned earlier.

Another interesting collectible item in connection with FP are Easter and Christmas greeting cards. To encourage the populace to send greater numbers of holiday greetings to soldiers at the front the postage rate was reduced from the regular 2mk rate to 50p. These reduced rates were in force for one month during the 1943 Christmas season, from Dec. 10 to Jan. 10 and for the 1944 Easter season with no specific time limit. The current 50p. stamp was used in paying postage for the cards.

PHILANDER THE PHUNNY PHILATELIST SAYS:

One of the oldest chestnuts, among collectors of Danish stamps especially, concerns the "rare chestnut brown" of Denmark, issued in 1854. Every once in a while guys bring in stamps that are chocolate brown, bistre brown, yellow brown, orange brown, olive brown, red brown, gray brown, lilac brown, brown violet, dark brown, light brown, pale brown, dull brown or just plain brown—and claim that they have that "rare chestnut brown." This "browns me off" because the solution is so simple. Stop on any street corner in a big city and buy a bag of chestnuts, take them home and spend an evening on research or a "brown study," as it were. Trouble today is that philatelists don't know how to really research like the old timers....besides chestnut horses are rare today, too.

News of Interest

Svend Yort (158) reports: by a strange coincidence, some Danish booklets recently offered me from Denmark are precisely those which were offered in the price-list of a well-known Danish firm in 1939—and which I unfortunately did not get at the time because greater events intervened. But it occurred to me that the readers of the "Posthorn" might be interested in a comparison of the prices then and now.

Booklet	1939	1949
Hafnia & Phoenix (1 Kr.)	7.00	35.00
Berlingske Tidende (1 Kr.)	5.00	35.00
Galle og Jessen (1 Kr., with No. 210)	3.00	25.00
Rundskuedagen 1931 (2 Kr.)	8.00	37.50
Post Office Advertisement	3.25	35.00
Cancer Stamps (B-3 to B-5)	6.50	50.00
Christian X Silver Jubilee (Nos. 258-60)	2.50	20.00

All prices are in Danish kroner, officially 5 Kr.= \$1. Discount the present-day Kroner as much as you like for inflation and artificial currency-control, and they still represent a healthy increase, which shows what can happen in a particular field when it suddenly strikes the public fancy.



Arvid Dahlwig (253) of Worcester, Mass., sends us a clipping from a Swedish newspaper bearing an illustration of faulty perforation on a Swedish stamp—the 10 ore violet Gustaf V type—which we reproduce here. This illustration was headed, "Philatelic Rarity," and aptly so because modern Swedish stamps are noted for the high degree of accuracy of their perforations.

George D. Stribley (507) writes: The Nov.-Dec. issue of the SEAPOSTER, official publication of the Maritime Postmark Society, lists a number of covers with ship cancellations from various parts of the world, received by members of the Society. Maritime and ship cancellations are an interesting sideline of the postal history of most countries belonging to the Universal Postal Union. Those covers reviewed in the SEAPOSTER of interest to Scandinavian collectors, are:

MS PARRAMATTA, cover contained SL ship mark as cancel on Swedish stamps.
MS HALLAND, cover received circular ships cancel on Swedish stamps.

MS TOMMA, SL ships mark in purple on Norse stamps.

DS HELGELAND, MID-HELGELAND F cancel on Norse and SL ships mark.

SS KARMSUND, BERGEN-HAUGESUND YTRE LED A cancel on Norse and SL ships marking.

DS HAAREK, MID-HELGELAND D cancel on Norse and SL ships marking in purple.

The Maritime Postmark Society renders many services to its members; sales circuits, members volunteering to help beginners in the field; furnishing of mint foreign issues for use on covers to be mailed on foreign vessels out of foreign ports, and members who will service three classes of covers for maritime markings; Class I, with foreign stamps; Class II, with USA stamps; and Class III special summer service with US Stamps. The service charge made by the members is very reasonable, i.e., Class I, 11 covers with foreign postage included for \$1.00. S. C. C. members interested and desiring further details may communicate with C. E. Ceder, Manager, Cover Service Department, 802 South Yakima Ave., Tacoma 3, Washington.

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From Thomas W. Blinn (215) of Detroit, Mich., we have received a photograph of the "Luftpost" letter sheet used in Denmark for airmail letters. This sheet, which is $7\frac{1}{2}$ by 11 inches, contains a small map of Denmark with Danish and English names thereon. It is printed in two colors—red and blue—on white paper and also has two artistic scenes—a farm and a seacoast view. Mr. Blinn sends us a translation of the message in this letter with permission to print part of it as it may be of possible interest. It is from a family in Aalborg who state that everything is quite expensive and there is considerable unemployment, as there is in many other places in Denmark. Taxes are extremely high, even for the working man. He relates that a 1930 Ford costs 9,250 kroner and a new American car costs 60,000 kroner. They are all so glad the war is over and that they are rid of the Germans. They are hoping for good times and do not believe there will be another war, at least not in the near future.



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A Warning to Booklet Collectors: In "Stamps" magazine recently, there was an announcement of the discovery that the first issue of Swedish "Landstorm" stamps (Scott's B-1 to B-10) were issued in booklets. For the benefit of those who many not have seen the original mention, there seem to have been three denominations of these booklets, namely:

- 3 Kroner, containing one pane of 5+5 ore and one pane of 10+10 ore.
- 5 Kroner, containing three panes of 5+5 ore and one pane of 10+10 ore.
- 10 Kroner, containing five panes of 5+5 ore and three panes of 10+10 ore.

All panes were ten stamps, torn from regular sheets, as was the customary way of making Swedish booklets at the time, except that one pane of 10 ore in the last mentioned was apparently only a strip of five, this booklet containing according to the report, fifty 5 ore stamps and twenty-five 10 ore; but it still counts as a "pane," and makes no difference in our calculations to follow.

Now, what is immediately apparent to the collector of Swedish stamps, although not mentioned in the article referred to above, is that there are five different stamps on which the "5+5" was surcharged, and five different surcharged 10+10. Taking the simplest case, the 3 Kr. booklet, which has only one pane of each value, since each pane can be any one of five different, it is theoretically possible that there are 5x5 or 25 different booklets of this value for collectors to strive for.

But it is the 5 Kr. and 10 Kr. booklets that will arouse the curiosity of the mathematically minded collector. With three panes of 5 ore stamps, and five different stamps to choose from, it is possible to assemble 35 different sets of three. Since each of these can be combined with any one of the five different 10 ore stamps to make the 5 Kr. booklet, we have a possibility of $35 \times 5 = 175$ different booklets. Nor does this make any distinction as to the arrangement of the panes in the booklet; it is enough for this purpose that the combinations shall be different.

And now the 10 Kr. booklet! Here is a field! With five panes of 5 ore stamps, there are 126 combinations, from all of one kind to all five panes different, and covering all combinations in between, while the three panes of 10 ore, as with the 5 ore in the preceding booklet, will give us 35 combinations. Combining each of these with each of the 5 ores, gives us a grand total of 4,410 different possibilities!

Do they really exist? Nobody knows; there is apparently no record of how many were issued or how they were assembled. But if they don't, the Swedes really missed a golden opportunity: such an array should be enough to satisfy the most avid collector of booklets.

Sartor Resartus

* * *

Einar Ernst (47) reports on Danish "sand" cancellations as discussed in an article by Svend Koppel that appeared in the 10 Year Jubilee Exhibition Booklet issued by the Sundby Frimaerkeklub in October 1947. In order to prevent some unscrupulous persons from removing cancellations on used stamps, several postmasters added sand to the cancellation ink. Thus, if an effort was made to remove the cancellation the stamp would be scratched and defaced. To date these sand cancellations have been found on stamps with target cancellations and on three ring cancellations from Ebeltoft (13), Nibe (45) and Stubbekjobing (69). Mr. Ernst would be glad to learn if any of these cancellations have been found by any other members of the club.

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Gunnar Benson (410) of 30 Kungsgatan, Varberg, Sweden, writes: In response to the appeal for information on Stockholm Locals in the last issue of The Posthorn, the full story has been told by H. Thunaeus in "Svenck Filatelisk Tidskrift," vol. 1936, pages 71, 99 and 147; and by Roland King-Farlow in "The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain," vol. 1940, pages 168 and 183. The 14 stamps are varieties are also listed in Hurt & Williams' "Catalogue of Local Postage Stamps." Mr. Benson has a small stock of these stamps in complete sets if anyone is interested. Price: One dollar.

IN MEMORIAM

Arvo Ilmari Riipa (277) died on February 6th after suffering a cerebral hemorrhage a few days previously.

Mr. Riipa had been crippled since early childhood, following an attack of infantile paralysis. He was survived by his wife, parents, three sisters and one brother.

APPRECIATION

Your Editorial Staff wishes to express appreciation for the fine response to our appeal for material for The Posthorn, it is most heartening. However, this must be a continuous process to insure uninterrupted publication, so please do not relax your efforts. We would like to have at least one major article from each chapter each year. Beginning in the next issue we are privileged to reprint Roland King-Farlow's excellent work, "Swedish Local Posts in the 19th Century."

Questions and Answers

Editor's Note: In response to several inquiries we are inaugurating this Question and Answer Column for the membership, whereby it is hoped that this exchange of information will prove helpful. So, send in your questions, perhaps one of your fellow members has the answer. We plan to print all answers and questions pertaining to Scandinavian Philately. We ask that replies to questions be sent to the Editor so that they may be published for the benefit of other members.

Robert Wulff (184) has two copies of Norway's 6 skilling stamp (No. 20, Norges Frimerker Catalog) on which the cross bar of the "G" in Skilling is missing so that it looks like a "C." They are both on type one and, although he has a book on errors, he cannot find them listed. Can anyone supply information about this variety. Another question from Mr. Wulff: Norway No. 53, plate IV (same catalog) is listed as having two types with four sub-types each. How does one distinguish the sub-types?



Scott No. 32—Normal

Scott No. 32—Variety

Thomas W. Blinn (215) sends a photograph of Denmark No. 32 (Scott) with a plate flaw to the right of the first "A" in Denmark, illustrated above, and he wants to know whether any other Denmark collectors have this variety, and has it ever been listed anywhere?

Book Reviews

FINNISH PHILATELIC GLOSSARY:

The S. P. Glossary, edited by Lt. Col. Rainer Ahonius, has recently been published by J. R. Parmi (Finland) as a supplement to the Finnish Stamp Catalog, particularly to assist collectors outside of Finland in using Parmi's catalog. This glossary contains some 400 philatelic expressions translated into Swedish, English and German as well as 200 color definitions. In addition, it contains a cross index of Parmi's (Finnish), Scott's, Yvert's and Zumstein's listing of the stamps of Finland. If this glossary proves popular, it will be enlarged and probably included as an added feature of the catalog. Price is 50 mk.

SVENSKA POSTVERKETS FRANKOTECKEN:

Dr. Hugo Olsson and Consul F. Benzinger, two well-known Swedish philatelists, are making a detailed study of the postage issues of Sweden on a comprehensive scale and the first volume of their work has just been published. All material concerning all issues has been exhaustively studied and much new information is expected to be brought to light. The first volume, Number III, deals with the issues from 1885 to 1911 which bear the portrait of King Oscar II and it contains an extensive number of essays and proofs of these stamps. It also deals with other contemporaneous issues. This work is in Swedish and will comprise four or five volumes. Later, it is hoped to publish this authoritative work in the English language. Price is 7 Kr.



by Agent No. 42
Staff of the Old Sleuth

Axel Anderson dreams of a snug little nook on Cape Cod * * * Waino Lana thinks he is pretty lucky, by coming to New York he saved 3 bucks on 2 stamps * * * Frank Baker blew into town the other day, accompanied by his body-guard (Frank Maybury), good old Frank seemed fine and more chipper than ever, and now tells us his Norway collection is about to be mounted * * * and Einar Ernst has had a busy time since Trygve Larson fixed up the new library book shelves * * * and speaking of the club library, some 40 books have been bound in fine library binding, new and valuable books have been added—the club now owns over 200 fine bound reference books plus several hundreds of pamphlets * * * Elmer Magee is now the Grand Master of Nebraska F. & A. M. * * * Apologies are due Arthur Knoll (#296) he also exhibited at the Helsinki International Exhibition—also we understand Thomas Wilcox (L9) had a fine exhibit there * * * Well, that visit to Bill Foulk finally materialized—much to the disgust of Bill—the bill at Great Neck Country Club for food and drink was enough to buy a few more “double foot” stamps—while on the subject of Bill, after seeing that travelogue at the last meeting of the club, he at once decided to fly to Norway, because seeing is believing—perhaps he could dig up some stamps while there—well, more about this later * * * while snooping around Chicago, we found Al Diamond all agog about the Marianas in the last Tows Sale * * * Julius Westphal tells of digging Indian relics in his back yard * * * Olaf Nagel leading a quiet life—and dreaming of retirement * * * Henry Kuhlman full of pep * * * yes, the old burg seems just about the same awaiting the next Shrine convention—then who knows * * * Ferrars Tows and Fay Jordan have been seeing a great deal of Atlantic City lately—we don't know if Fay snores, but the other night a piece of plaster fell down on her nose * * * Abraham Odfjell, one of the world's foremost philatelists, was elected honorary member of the club—Mr. Odfjell has been a member of the club for several years and a regular attendant at the meetings of late. We are all proud of him * * * and Preetzmann-Aggerhold, while visiting his brother in Haiti suffered a sun stroke, but is now better and visiting New York—he invites all our members to Ciudad Trujillo, but only between October and April—speaking of Dominican Republics, we have heard that good-looking blondes are at a premium * * * our good member Robert H. Davis won second prize at the exhibition of the Oneonta Stamp Club of Alhambra, Calif., for his pages of Sweden from 1940 to 1945 * * * and member Warren Rosenlund of Pittsfield, Mass., would like to talk with any amateur radio operators (hams) in the club, his call letters are W one JGY * * * we wondered what Toini Jarvinen did to hubby when he had to get her that diamond ring * * * and did Carl Pihl get razed at the Ad Post for making the Yankee Division the 29th—I daresay he'll never forget it was and still is the 26th * * * and speaking of the new editor, he tells me there is little space for the hornblower in this issue, so I guess I'll blow—So Long!

NEW AND RECENT ISSUES

As there was only one new stamp issued since the last issue of The Posthorn—Sweden's Strindberg Issue on Jan. 22, 1949—this section will be omitted. The July issue will provide news about the Strindberg and other issues.

New Members

Resident

561 Arthur Thorwald, 650 East 231st St., New York 66, N. Y. (S.)

Non-Resident and Foreign

554 Edwin L. Waite, 68 Bow St., Lexington, Mass. (F.-S.-U.S.-Switz.)
 555 Dr. George Waldbott, 1144 Balfour Rd., Grosse Pointe, Mich. (Europe)
 556 Max Uorgaard, Bredgade 43, Copenhagen, Denmark (Gen.)
 557 Dr. John H. Peters, Highland Rd., R. D. 9, Pittsburgh 16, Pa. (Gen. D. N. S.)
 558 Oliver Wantin, 6409 Ellsworth, Detroit, Mich. (F.-U.S.-Hong Kong)
 559 Eric A. Carlson, 7 Academy Pl., Gloversville, N. Y. (S.-Jamaica, Vt. covers)
 560 Denwood Kelly, 315 Overbrook Rd., Baltimore 12, Md. (Lat. Am. prior to
 1875—Locals of world)

Deceased

277 Arvo Riipa, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Resignations Accepted

257 Dr. Theodore Allen, Tuckahoe, N. Y.

Dropped for Non-payment of Dues
Resident

278 Arvid Hult, Hollis, N. Y.

329 Edward Trench, New York City

Non-Resident and Foreign

99 E. Youngstrom, Standard, Calif.
 103 Milton I. Lundsten, Duluth, Minn.
 146 Einar M. Johansen, Seattle, Wash.
 159 James I. Keary, New Westminster, B. C., Canada
 188 Hugh F. Johnson, Cincinnati, Ohio
 199 August J. Nilson, Seattle, Wash.
 250 Kenneth F. Olson, Milwaukee, Wisc.
 276 Harold J. Robey, Minneapolis, Minn.
 289 Miss Julia E. Mattson, Grand Forks, N. Dak.
 213 Arvid Nelson, Jamestown, N. Y.
 223 Carl Werner Astrom, Stockholm, Sweden
 361 John C. Griffiths, Toronto, Canada
 269 Frank C. Payn, Jr., Tacoma, Wash.

FOURTEEN YEAR MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY:
From Organization to December 31, 1948

Total enrolled membership (all classes) 561

Losses:

Deceased 16
 Resignations accepted 26
 Dropped for non-payment of dues 11
 Dropped for other causes 7

Total Losses 60

Membership as of Dec. 31st, 1948 501

Division of Membership:

Honorary 5
 Resident Members 100
 Resident Members (Life Members) 3
 Non-Resident (U. S.) 310
 Non-Resident (Life Members) 3
 Foreign Members 78
 Foreign Members (Life Members) 2

Total 501

Club News

Following the usual business session, the January meeting was turned over to Arthur I. Heim who showed his most interesting collection of South Africa. This was scheduled as a demonstration of what can be accomplished by a thorough study of moderate-priced stamps, as there are few great rarities in this country. Mr. Heim has classified all of the various plate varieties and different printings in a most effective manner. It was thoroly enjoyed by all present.

At the February meeting we were privileged to see the superb collection of Norway No. 1 formed by William F. Foulk. This collection is without parallel as all who have seen it will agree. Incidentally, Mr. Foulk is well on the way to a double plating of this stamp. At this meeting Abr. Odjfell related the story of how this stamp was originally plated, a tale which proved of great interest to everyone present.

The March meeting provided a surprise in the form of an excellent motion picture of Norway in color. We are indebted to Trygve Larsen for this showing. Following this Eric Hallar treated us to a showing of his excellent collection of Swedish stampless covers, providing a most complete documentation of Swedish postal history up until 1855 when the first stamps were issued. At this meeting Abr. Odjfell of Norway was unanimously elected an Honorary Member (No. 6) of the S. C. C. Mr. Odjfell, an outstanding Scandinavian philatelist, was present and responded in a gracious manner. He departed for Norway a few days later thus terminating a stay of some six months in this country, and it was a great pleasure for us to have had him present at almost every meeting during his stay.

REPORTS FROM CHAPTERS

Detroit Chapter No. 3

Floyd W. Warner was the host for the Jan. 8th meeting and served an enjoyable dinner prior to the session. There was only one member absent, but a guest, Mr. Carl Tordrup, balanced this. Following an a tive discussion of various business matters, Thomas W. Blinn gave a most interesting address about the early Postal History of Jackson, Michigan. The Jan. 28th meeting was held at the home of Dr. Waldbott and was preceded by a delicious dinner, which innovation is proving most successful and enjoyable. There was a round-table discussion about stamps followed by a business meeting. On Feb. 26th the meeting was held at the home of Nels Otterson, who served an enjoyable repast to all of the members and one guest—Dr. Olson. Carl Tordrup was voted membership in the club and Kai Hansen was handing out cigars, further report on the new arrival to be forthcoming later. Various other business matters were discussed. Arthur Rydquist presented an idea that the S. C. C. and the various chapters inaugurate an annual exhibition, rotating between different cities each year. More about this later.

Chicago Chapter No. 4

Despite the fact that it was raining cats and dogs, 18 members attended the meeting on Jan. 27th in Room 731 at 127 North Dearborn Street. Highlight of the evening was the talk and showing by Dr. Earl Jacobsen of his early Norway stamps, principally Nos. 1 to 23, exhibiting many varieties and cancellations. The annual election of officers was held and the following were reelected:

Ralph E. Danielson	President
Robert Stevens	Vice President
Paul Mead	Secretary-Treasurer
Carl Swanson	Chairman of Publicity
G. E. Hiene	Chairman of Membership
Olaf Nagel	Chairman of Program Committee

THE POSTHORN

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Carl-Emil Buyer, Eric Hallar, Harry M. Konwiser and Carl E. Pelander.

Staff Photographer: Arthur I. Heim

All material and communications concerning The Posthorn should be sent to the editor, address above.