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Swedish Local Posts in the 19th Century

by Roland King-Farlow (317)

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During the past two years a number of articles on Scandinavian local posts have appeared in the pages of this journal. I myself have endeavoured to give some description of the modern Swedish services at Halsingborg, Stockholm, Malmo and Goteborg,* while Herr Stian Sanness and Mr. H. R. Holmes have dealt most ably with the Norwegian byposts.† There remain the Danish byposts and the older Swedish local posts. The former, which were very numerous, are somewhat of a formidable proposition. Certain of them, notably the Kjobenhavn Bypost, undoubtedly did a huge volume of genuine postal work, but many of the others were probably mere speculations. Moreover, when the Danish byposts closed down, the dies and stones of many of their stamps came into the hands of someone who evidently realised their potentialities, since a host of reprints, errors, varieties and the like flooded the market. Accurate information regarding the Danish issues is hard to obtain, and nothing like a complete listing has ever been published in this country, though one or two fairly full catalogues have appeared in Denmark and Germany. I hope in time to get together a reliable account of the Danish byposts, but this must be left until some later date. Meanwhile, the previous articles on Scandinavian locals may well be supplemented by a description of the older Swedish posts.

As with the rest of the northern locals, literature on this subject is very scanty. Some three or four years ago, however, Herr Harald Thunaeus, of Stockholm, published in the "Svensk Filatelistisk Tidskrift" an admirable description of the Swedish local posts, both ancient and modern, and I must record my gratitude to Herr Thunaeus for his permission to reproduce parts of his article here. I must also thank Mr. S. C. Daft for his kindness in assisting with a translation from the original Swedish. Mr. Daft is also responsible for the notes on the sheet layout of the stamps of Goteborgs Private Lokalpost.

In the early days of the posts in Sweden, as in many other countries, the house-to-house delivery of mail was not officially undertaken. The custom

* "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain," Vol. XLIX, pp. 27-28, and Vol. L, pp. 2-5.

† Ibid. Vol. XLVIII, pp. 3 et seq. Reprinted in book form: "The Stamps of the Private Byposts of Norway" (1938).

gradually developed, however, of handing so-called "loose letters" to a postman on his rounds for delivery before he reached the next post office. "Loose letters" were also handed in at post offices for delivery by postmen on their way to the next branch post office. This custom eventually received official recognition, and in 1812 a special delivery rate of 1 skilling banco was fixed for such letters, the rate being altered to 3 ore on the introduction of the new currency in 1858. This fee did not go to the Post Office, but was retained by the postmasters, and even after the introduction of stamps the latter still received the cash value as a perquisite.

The first local stamp was the 1 skilling (3 ore) black "Frimarke for Lokalbref" issued in Stockholm in 1856. The issue of this stamp received Royal sanction, but nevertheless the cost of production was borne by the superintendent of the letter delivery service in Stockholm, who retained the entire revenue from their sale. In 1861, however, the State took over the local letter delivery service, replacing the black stamp by a brown one of similar design. The latter is therefore an ordinary Government issue, albeit used for a special purpose, whereas its predecessor was a private production. At various later dates, however, the Government made four official reprintings of the black private stamp, and these reprints were allowed to be used for franking local letters. Probably for this reason both the black and the brown stamps are generally regarded as being Government issues, and are listed as such in many general catalogues.

Ever since the post office was founded in the seventeenth century, there had been an understanding that the department possessed monopoly rights on all conveyance by post. This understanding, however, was not confirmed by any law or statute, and in any case the supposed monopoly did not include the transmission of letters from house-to-house in the same town. In 1774, therefore, approval was given to an application by a M. Bjorkdahl to carry on a local post service in Stockholm. However, so far as is known this service never actually materialised, while the same applies to the "Two-Skilling Post" of N. Kemners, which was approved in 1825 and which promised to facilitate the postal communication between the various parts of the town, after the pattern of the London Penny Post.

The first private local post in Stockholm which actually came into being was established by Lieutenant-Colonel C. de Mottoni and Captain F. L. Rosenqvist, of Akershuitt, for the carriage of both letters and parcels, and had its office in Kornhamnstorg. It had little success and soon closed down. Of greater durability was Mallen's "Foot-Post," which was established in Stockholm by Regimental-Commissioner Emanuel Mallen. The "Foot-Post" was opened in 1838 and at first dealt only with the forwarding of letters from the sender to the post office. As from 1844, however, letters and parcels were also carried between different persons in the capital. Mallen had two postmen who at stated times passed along certain streets to collect mail. They were equipped with a spiked helmet, a letter box slung from a strap over the shoulder and a hand-bell with which to announce their arrival. When it was dark they carried a lantern on a staff, in addition. In 1855 when the post office introduced postage stamps and set up letter-boxes, Mallen had to give up his business, which even at its best had afforded him but a poor livelihood. Fortunately for him, however, the State granted him an annual pension for the rest of his days.

Stockholm Stadspost

Stockholm expanded rapidly during the nineteenth century, and its population, which first exceeded the 100,000 mark in 1856, doubled itself in less than thirty years. With the increase in population and the expansion of the town, the exchange of local correspondence likewise increased. Yet the Post Office rate for local letters was as high as 6 ore, giving rise to general complaint, and by 1880 conditions were ripe for the introduction of a private post working in conjunction with the Post Office. The initiative in this direction was taken during the summer of 1887 by the then sub-editor of the "Aftenbladet," Anders Jeurling, afterwards founder of the "Stockholms-Tidningen." While on a visit to Copenhagen, Jeurling studied the Kjobenhavn Bypost and at the same time placed an order with the firm of Ferslew and Co. of that city for the postage

stamps required for the projected business.

Jeurling then formed the Aktiebolaget Stadsposten (Town-Post Company), obtaining the king's ratification of its governing articles on 7th October, 1887. The object of the company was stated to be the carriage and distribution of newspapers, periodicals and lighter packages of all kinds within the capital, and possibly within some of the other towns of the kingdom. The concession stipulated, however, that His Majesty should state the terms under which the delivery of letters and postcards could take place by means of a separate declaration. The company duly presented such a petition and, in a resolution given on 18th November, and executed on 2nd December, the king approved the conditions proposed by the General Postal Directorate and agreed to by the company, the conveyance of letters and postcards being provisionally limited to the town of Stockholm. The company was given the right to issue its own stamps and to set up its own letter boxes, provided that these were so designed as to obviate any confusion between them and the Government stamps and boxes. In this connection the company had to undertake to observe any requirements found necessary by the post office.

Jeurling became director of the company and appointed as manager C. Kellgren, who, however, was soon succeeded by G. F. Ljunggren. The office of the Stadspost was situated at Karduansmakaregatan, 14. Stamps were issued on 5th December, and business was commenced on the same day.

In the company's printed postal regulations it was laid down what material could be handled and through what department delivery would be carried out. It is apparent from this that the Stadspost only dealt with mail for the central parts of the town, leaving the Post Office to attend to the outskirts, where delivery was more costly. For letters up to 125 grams and for postcards, the rate was 4 ore. For wrappers and printed matter it was 3 ore, or in large quantities, 2 or even 1 ore. Parcels up to 1 kilogram were charged 10 ore; up to 3 kilograms, 20 ore; and up to 5 kilograms, 30 ore. An additional 15 ore was charged for articles despatched by "express." If the sender required a receipt for letters or postcards, the charge was increased to 10 ore. Compensation was allowed at a special rate for lost or damaged parcels or receipted letters, as well as in certain special cases when a receipt had not been obtained. Purchasers of at least Kr. 5.00 worth of postage stamps were allowed a rebate of 5 per cent., given by means of additional stamps. Later on all sealed letters, irrespective of weight, were forwarded for 4 ore.

The letter boxes at the street corners were painted yellow and were smaller than those set up by the Post Office. The mail matter was distributed by young men, who were attired in an "especially neat and appropriate" dark blue uniform with red facings on the collar, and a cap with gold lace.

It is clear that the Stockholm Stadspost fulfilled a real want. During the first five months of its operations it delivered no less than 367,900 articles, at an average of 2,500 a day, and even the official authorities began to avail themselves of its services. The concern employed from 30 to 120 letter-carriers who cleared 102 boxes and took away the out-letters six times daily, though this was later cut to five times a day.

The Stadspost was regarded by the Post Office with anything but a favourable eye, and the public's continual confusion of the letter boxes of the rival services—there were about 150 cases every day—became a further source of irritation. Accordingly, the question of the Post Office's claim to a monopoly was brought before the Parliament of 1888, it being contended that the concession already granted favoured an enterprise competitive to the Post Office. However, State-Secretary Lovren, who handled the matter, was able to show that no statute had ever existed concerning a post office monopoly on the delivery of local mail, and the Government was therefore unable to repudiate the concession granted to the Stadspost. Later, in a letter to the king, Parliament asked what steps might be taken for the introduction of such a monopoly, and in a proclamation of 23rd December, 1888, the Post Office secured "... exclusive right to arrange for the regular forwarding of sealed or otherwise fastened letters and postcards not only between the interior and abroad, but also between two inland places in the same area, where the Post Office would make the arrangements for the forwarding of local letters." By this means the private

postal services were limited to open letters, newspapers and parcels, which were not included in the new monopoly. The coming into force of this decree, on 1st October, 1889, foreshadowed the end of the private postal enterprises, since by degrees they were forced to discontinue their business.

So far as the Stockholm Stadspost was concerned, a Royal Decree, dated 10th September, 1889, authorised the General Postal Directorate to purchase its entire effects for the sum of Kr. 3,143.00, and the firm thereupon ceased to operate.

In its brief two years of activity the Stadspost issued two definitive sets of postage stamps of six denominations each, as well as a couple of single values in different designs, together with a number of stamped envelopes, postcards and lettercards. They cannot really be accused of speculation, however, since the duplication of the definitive issues was forced upon them by their printers, while the single values only appeared when stocks grew low and opportunity was taken to try to improve upon the original design.

The original design was oblong, showing a head of Saint Erik in an oval scroll bearing the inscription "STOCKHOLMS STADSPOST," with the value below as well as in each corner. The stamps were lithographed by C. Ferslew & Co., of Copenhagen, in sheets of 100, and were perforated 11, although a few were issued imperforate. Unfortunately Ferslew's did not submit proofs of the stamps and when the first supplies arrived it was found that the word "ore" had been printed with the Danish "o" instead of the Swedish "öre." These were naturally rejected and a small printing with the amended lettering was rushed through in time for the official opening, further supplies being received later. The first issue, then, appeared on 5th December, 1887, as follows:—



1. 1 ore, ultramarine (shades).
2. 2 ore, light yellow-brown.
3. 3 ore, red.
4. 4 ore, blue (shades), with St. Erik in gold.
5. 5 ore, yellow-brown, St. Erik in light green.
6. 10 ore, light green, St. Erik in red.

The exact number of stamps with the Swedish "ö" is unknown. A small number of copies appeared imperforate, and were valid for franking purposes in this condition. It is probable that the bulk of these imperforates were sold to the stamp dealer H. Lichtenstein. In an early article on the Swedish local posts the numbers of the imperforate stamps issued were given as 2,505 of the 1 ore; 2,332 of the 2 ore; 194 of the 3 ore and 2,479 of the 4 ore. No mention



was made of the two higher values being issued imperforate, but they definitely exist in this condition, although they, along with the 3 ore, are very scarce. I have never seen a used imperforate copy.

Thanks to the early success of the Stadspost, the small first consignment of "ore" stamps did not last long, and stocks of the 3 and 4 ore values began to run short before further supplies could be obtained. Accordingly the company was forced to make use of the original delivery, with the error of the Danish "ore." At first only the 3 and 4 ore values were issued, but eventually all denominations came into service. Even after the arrival of further supplies of the correctly printed stamps the Stadspost continued to use up the errors for franking items of mail that were handed in at the Road-office. Thus occurs at the end of December, 1887, the second "definitive" issue, identical with the first, save that "ore" is spelled with the Danish "o". 10,000 copies of each denomination were issued, all perf. 11.

7. 1 ore, light blue.
8. 2 ore, yellow-brown (shades).
9. 3 ore, dull red (shades).
10. 4 ore, blue (shades); St. Erik in gold.
11. 5 ore, greyish yellow-brown (shades); St. Erik in green.
12. 10 ore, green; St. Erik in light red.

When the stamps printed in Denmark began to run short, Jeurling decided that he had had enough of foreign printers and entrusted the Central Tryckeri, Stockholm, with the preparation of a fresh design. Moreover, mindful of his experience with the Danish printers, he asked for proofs, both for a stamped letter-card and for a 3 ore adhesive. The adhesive proofs were lithographed on both white and rose papers, impressions being submitted in carmine rose, dull red, light brown and red-lilac, with an additional die-proof in black on thick white card. The design was still oblong, showing a bust of St. Erik surmounted by a scroll with the firm-name. The values appeared in the top corners and below the bust. Finally the design was accepted, the carmine-rose impression on white paper being the variety chosen, and the stamps were issued on 7th August, 1888.

In December of the same year supplies of the original 4 ore stamp also began to run short and the Stadspost therefore asked for proofs for a new supply in the same style as the latest 3 ore. Four types were supplied, one in black and three in blue and gold, each of slightly different design. One of the latter three was accepted and first appeared on 1st January, 1889. The design differs only in minor detail from that of the 3 ore. Both values were lithographed in sheets of 100 by the Central Tryckeri, and were perforated 11, though a number appeared imperforate.



13. 3 ore, carmine-red. Ordinary paper, with brown or white gum. First issued, 7th August, 1888. Printed in two editions of 50,000 each, the first on 1st August, 1888, the other on 28th February, 1889. A very small number was also issued imperforate, in dull carmine-red.
14. 3 ore, carmine-red. Chalky paper. This stamp is very scarce and may have been a paper-trial for No. 15.
15. 4 ore, blue and gold; also dark blue and bronze. Chalky paper, toned brownish on back, with yellow, uneven gum. Issued 1st

January, 1889. 50,000 were printed, of which 2,000 were imperforate.

16. 4 ore, dark blue and gold. As last, but ordinary paper, with white, even gum. Issued 27th February, 1889. 100,000 were printed, with a very small imperforate issue.

Nos. 15 and 16 were both printed from the same stone and show a couple of regular type varieties. On the 8th and 38th stamps on the sheet (and possibly on others) the small square in the right-hand lower corner is defective, while in several stamps in the first and seventh horizontal rows there is a notch in the stem of the figure "4" in the bottom right-hand corner. Both varieties occur in the eighth stamp of the sheet.

Besides adhesives, the Stadspost issued a number of stamped envelopes, postcards and letter-cards. The postcards, having been printed in Denmark, show the same error of the Danish "o" as do the adhesives, though an amended version was also issued. The envelopes were very numerous, most of them bearing an assortment of advertisements for local tradesmen. These envelopes with advertisements were ordered by a private individual as a personal speculation, since the revenue he derived from the advertisements enabled him to sell them at less than face value.

At first stamps and stationery were cancelled by means of a rubber stamp, applied in red. The impression comprises the word "STOCKHOLM" with the date below ("6 Dec. 87"), enclosed in a rectangular frame. Another, less-used, cancellation consisted of the inscription 'STADSPOSTEN/[date]/STOCKHOLM' in three lines, without frame. This was generally struck in violet. When these stamps wore out, towards the end of December 1887, a round metal stamp was obtained, similar to those employed by the post office, having the word "STADSPOSTIEN" round the ring with the date in the centre. This was usually struck in black. Later on stamps were cancelled with a plain Roman figure, I to V, indicating the number of the round on which the letter was delivered, while the date stamp was added on the cover, alongside the adhesive.

To be continued

Additions to the Library

The Librarian wishes to acknowledge the following additions to the Club Library and, on behalf of all members of the club, express sincere thanks to the donors. From Fritz Billig: Billig's Handbooks No. 9 and 10. From F. Benzinger: King Oscar II issues of Sweden (Benzinger). From Roland King-Farlow (317): Bibliography of the Postmarks of Denmark (King-Farlow). From Kobenhavns Philatelist Klub: Special Printings Iceland Postmarks (Norgaard). From Fritz Kuhl (233): Standard Katalog for 1946 and various Exhibition catalogs. From Einar Ernst (47): Danish Star Cancellations (Andersen), Danish Meters (Ohlhues-Schlederman-Larsen), Gronlands Postvaesen (Ohlhues-Schlederman-Larsen), Danske Saerstempler of Forstedags Stempler 1901-1947 (Norgaard) and Danmarks Jernbanefrimaerker 1865-1947 (Jensen). From Carl E. Pelander (H-1): Classic Stamps of Old German States (Schloss), U. S. Postage Stamps 19th Century, Part I and II (Brookman), Hawaii Stamps (Meyer), The Postage Stamps of Canada Vol. I and II and The Postage Stamps of Newfoundland (Boggs). From Nils Stalhandske (299): Postage Stamps of Sweden 1920-1945 (Menzensky) and Wennbergs Specialized Catalog of Sweden 1855-1948. From Jarle Stensdal (387): Norsk Philatelistisk Tidsskrifts Special Printings No. 2 (Norge 10 ore 20 mm. Plate IV 1885), No. 3 (Islands Frimerker), No. 4 (Sveriges Frimerker) and No. 5 (Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of Norway). From Harry Walli (303): Sweden Handbook 1920-1924. From Valdemar Weiergang (149): Sample copies of Den unge Frimaerkesamler and Junior Ledernes Blad. From George Wiberg (177): Finlands Stamp Catalog and Finland Frimerkesamslarkalender. From Svend Yort (158): Norges Katalogue. From Uno Soderberg (H-5): Postage Stamps of Sweden 1920-1945 (Menzensky) and other literature. Trygve Larsen (25) is given a special vote of thanks by the club for the splendid gift of a bookcase which was needed very much.

Einar Ernst, Librarian

The Story of the "Little Norway" Stamp

by Jarle O. Stensday (387)

Translated by Carl H. Werenskiold (59)



Fig. 4—Preliminary sketch

This article is dedicated to the memory of those gallant members of the Royal Norwegian Air Force who gave their lives for the preservation of Freedom during World War II

When I look at the "Little Norway" stamp, now so well known and cherished by us all, I have difficulty in reverting to the feeling of anticipation that I had when Consul Berg, in the summer of 1945, told me that there were in existence 50,000 Norwegian postage stamps, printed in Canada during the war, that had never been issued. Many questions immediately suggested themselves. Why had such a stamp been printed? Why had it not been used? Who had designed it? Who had printed it? What was its denomination?—etc. The answer to some of these questions came quickly, for others it took longer, but only recently can it be said that our information regarding this stamp is reasonably complete.

Mrs. Katrine Aas, a sister of the well known aviator brothers Johan and Werner Christle, and engaged as a photographer at the Little Norway camp, wrote me that her room-mate, one Mrs. McCart, originally suggested this stamp. Mrs. McCart was an ardent stamp collector, and at a Christmas party in 1941 she proposed the issuance of a "Little Norway" stamp to the then Major Reistad. He became interested from a propaganda standpoint and turned the matter over to Mr. John Darnell who at that time was attached to the Office of Press and Propaganda.

Originally it was contemplated issuing a whole series of stamps, and a Canadian artist delivered sketches based on the following motifs: Prince Harald, Princesses Ragnhild and Astrid, H. M. the King, the Merchant Fleet, The Norwegian Lion, "Vi Vil Med" (We Join), and the Spirit of Norway.

This approach was, however, soon abandoned in favor of concentrating on one stamp. Regarding the motif for this, Captain Edvard Omholt-Jensen wrote on March 15, 1946 to the (Norwegian) Postal Department: "A more detailed description of the motif for one of the stamps—the front page of the well known pamphlet "Wings for Norway"—may now be of interest, since the honorable



Fig. 5—Artist's sketches of proposed issue

(Norwegian) Postal Department has made us happy regarding the issuance of the stamp. The idea for the design came to us at the Information Office of a Canadian newspaper, "Daily Star," from their Saturday issue, where there was depicted a great Viking leading two sailors. The idea was developed further by us, and a Canadian advertising agency delivered the first drawing based on the original sketch. Certain difficulties arose in regard to the Viking who had been given a somewhat peculiarly exotic appearance with large horns on the helmet. Discussions with the agency resulted in the trimming of the beard, and the Viking now strongly resembled a quite well-groomed French diplomat. Renewed efforts led to a face reminding one of a friendly church deacon from Toten. It became clear that one had, perhaps, jumped across the brook for water, and that it might be preferable to employ a Norwegian artist. The chief of the radio department in Little Norway, Captain Nicolaysen, who on several occasions had distinguished himself as a designer, then attacked the problem, assisted by earlier sketches by the artist and fighter-aviator Ulf Wormdal, who is one of the boys on the pamphlet, and who was later to lose his life. Captain Nicolaysen succeeded in creating a Viking who in many respects reminds one of a wash-proof, angry lumberjack from Vegardsfjaeringen, and it was decided to accept this design."

In "Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift" No. 3, 1946, I presented a few particulars regarding the other persons shown on the stamp, but it may be well to repeat these here to complete the picture. Sergeant Ulf Wormdal, to the left on the stamp, was born at Hamar June 21, 1918. Wormdal was accepted into the Air Defense July 15, 1940. After attending the Recruiting School in Little Norway

in Toronto he became a Student Aviator on December 1st of the same year. After examinations with very high marks he was ordered to England, where he arrived July 31, 1941. Here he attended Fighter Aviation School and was promoted to sergeant June 20, 1942. On September 30th of that year he was ordered to join Squadron 331, a Norwegian branch stationed on the Orkney Islands. On March 16th his plane joined British planes in a large scale maneuver. During this maneuver Wormdal lost his life when his plane fell into the ocean.

Quartermaster Henry Bernhard Malmoe, to the right on the stamp, was born May 10, 1917 in Sandefjord. Malmoe was accepted into the Air Defense January 16, 1941 and served the ten months in Little Norway as carpenter. On November 10th of that year he was ordered to join Squadron 332 and on June 9, 1942, Squadron 330. Here he received training as aviation gunner. Malmoe was promoted to corporal on Jan. 15, 1942 and, on Sept. 1, 1943, to quartermaster in the Marine Aviation Service. Henry Malmoe lost his life on October 12, 1943 flying patrol in a Sunderland four-motor Navy plane belonging to Squadron 330 stationed in Scotland. Wreckage of the plane was found in the North Sea about 100 km from the northernmost point of Scotland, and a few days later several bodies, including that of Malmoe, were found. He was buried with military honors in Aberdeen on October 19, 1943.

In the meanwhile it was important to obtain the approval of the (Norwegian) Government to issue the stamps. State Councilors Nielsen and Hjeltnet were in the U. S. A. at the beginning of 1942, and Major Reistad apparently discussed the matter with them. At any rate the (Norwegian) Foreign Department on Feb. 7, 1942 transmitted to the Commerce Department an announcement it had received from the Consulate General in New York regarding the issuance of Canadian stamps with motifs from Little Norway. The purpose behind the issuance of these stamps was to be threefold:

1. To advertise Norway's participation in the common fight,
2. To emphasize the cooperation existing between Norway and Canada, and
3. To raise "not inconsiderable moneys for use by our forces".

The stamps were to be sold only at the Post Office in Little Norway. The announcement stated that Canada had shown interest in the project, without binding itself, however, and that the matter would have to be worked out between the Norwegian and Canadian governments.

The (Norwegian) Commerce Department replied on February 10th that work is under way on the issuance of a series of Norwegian stamps in London and that the request for issuance of Canadian stamps with motifs from Little Norway will be considered in connection with that project. However, in order to expedite the matter, Major Reistad stated in a letter to Foreign Minister Trygve Lie: "I have no doubt that it is all meant good and well, and that some day the question of our stamp policy and what we should properly do will be duly clarified, but the chance of shaking money out of philatelists from the whole world as a result of the reputation gained for Little Norway will then have evaporated, and we shall have neglected to take advantage of nailing one of the Norwegian activities into stamp collections for all time."

Foreign Minister Lie transmitted this letter to the Commerce Department, and State Councilor Frihagen took up the matter in Government Conference on April 8, 1942, where it was decided "that the committee handling the issuance of Norwegian postage stamps should come to a decision regarding the proposal of Major Reistad." This committee consisted of Bureau Chief Balstad of the Commerce Department, Editor Bratland, chief of the Illustration Bureau of the Information Office, and the artist Johan Bull. The matter was discussed at the committee meeting of April 11th, and it was decided that "this undertaking could be viewed as quite independent of the question of issuing our own Norwegian stamps."

As a result of this decision, the Commerce Department, on April 14, 1942, sent the following letter to the Foreign Department: "Matter of Issuance of Canadian Stamps with Motifs from Little Norway. Referring to the Royal Department's letter of February 7th of this year, J. No. 1995/42 and to decision in Government Conference on the 8th, we request that the Legation in Montreal be notified by telegram that the Government is agreeable to the proposal of

Major Reistad that the Canadian authorities be requested to issue Canadian postage stamps with the motifs from Little Norway, and the Legation is instructed to give all possible aid to the Major in his negotiations with the Canadian authorities and in the consummation of the plan. The Commerce Department requests that it be kept informed regarding progress in this matter."

To be continued

Questions and Answers

Abraham Odfjell (H-6) replies: to Thomas Blinn's question about the flaw in 25 ore Denmark (illustrated in the last issue of The Posthorn) as follows: "This and similar varieties are in abundance on the Danish bi-colored stamps. I have a collection of 8 ore 1875-1895, and in this collection there are numerous stamps with this flaw."

Gustave Larson (224) replies: to Robert Wulff's query as to how to distinguish the eight sub-types of Norway #53 by sending him the stamps with the description printed below. This nice gesture by Mr. Larson exemplifies the fraternal spirit among philatelists.



Block A, Plate IV

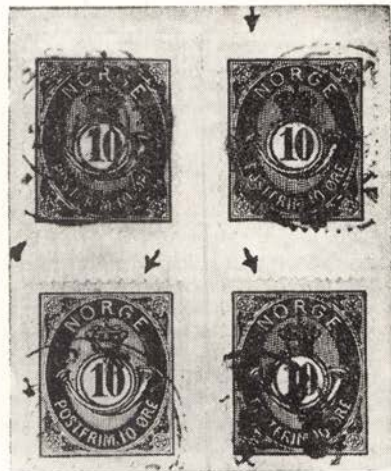
Subtype I (Type I) often has a color dot between upper frame lines above the "N" in Norge.

Subtype II (Type I) has a color spot between upper frame lines above upper left wheel.

Subtype III (Type II) has no special identifying mark but cannot be confused with Subtype I (when color dot is missing) as that stamp is a Type I.

Subtype IV (Type II) has the familiar break in the left frame.

To find the rare Type I and II post card cliches, examine Types AI and AIII. They must measure the same as Type III post card and show no plate flaws.



Block B, Plate IV

Subtype I (Type II) has small color spot in lower left wheel.

Subtype II (Type I) has uneven and thickened inner frame line near the upper left wheel.

Subtype III (Type II) has color lines in "G" in Norge.

Subtype IV (Type I) has a white spot between "N" and "O" in Norge.

Don't forget the S. C. C. AUCTION SALE to be held on Oct. 12, 1949. Material must be received before Aug. 15th by Arthur I. Heim, Box 437, Albertson, N. Y.



by Agent No. 42
Staff of the Old Sleuth

A gala performance was held by the S. C. C. at their June meeting—to have a galaxy of star performers like Ferrars H. Tows, Harry L. Lindquist and Bill Foulk speak on the same night comes only once in a lifetime—it was a show long to be remembered, both by our British guest, Roland King-Farlow and the large attendance present * * * our good friend, Abr. Odfjell in Norway has written us a nice letter, offering to send one of his collections to be shown at the S. C. C. and the various chapters, this is the right spirit and we wish more members would do similar things * * * Frank Baker went down to Hot Springs, Ark., to drink the waters, but time hung heavy on his hands and the water apparently was not to his taste, so back he went to Toledo—we know he was lonesome for all the telephone calls to New York and Frank Maybury * * * and Chris Zoylner's speech on "happiness" at the Masonic Stamp Club dinner was really something—part of it certainly could not be printed * * * we wonder why so many collectors are fishermen.—Axel H. Anderson completely forgot the last Pelander sale—all on account of fishing in Maine—we hope he at least got a fish, or better yet, a story * * * something fishy went on recently when Bill Foulk and Frank Maybury hastily made a journey to Washington, D. C. to see Valdemar Wiergang—we know they came back all smiles—plus a lot of new Danish acquisitions—Bill's collection just keeps growing and growing * * * Pelander's May sale looked like a meeting of the S. C. C.—beginning with Foulk, Maybury, Tows, Pihl, Read, Zierau, Black, L. Stone, etc., just about everybody was there—and prices—think of people paying 80 bucks for a double foot of Norway—60 for a Denmark #10—100 for a Sweden #5—and not to forget a complete volume of the Posthorn at 13.—just taking a few lots at random—yes, that's what they did * * * in spite of the early season, the European exodus is already on—the first to go were the Whitney's of Philadelphia, who took their car along and will make a motor tour of Europe—next in line was John Hall, Jr. and family, who will visit jolly old England and the continent—Mrs. Cromwell however, went the other way and is now in sunny Hawaii—Age Paag soon will be leaving for Denmark and Hans Lundberg has been flying regularly between Canada and Scandinavia—Carl Pelander is trying to acquire a Harvard accent by commuting between Boston and New York. Recently, he was seen there in the company of the City greeter and plans on going next month to the Y. D. convention, then the A. S. D. A. and A. P. S. Conventions * * * we note that Carl Englund has now gotten a yen for the Pacific Islands—it sure is a long way from Scandinavia to Samoa—but that's what he likes now * * * and what has happened to the old butter and egg man, B. I. Christensen, we have not seen him of late? * * * too bad about Einar Ernst—he slipped on a newly waxed floor and broke his arm—the library has been neglected of late, but he is now a lot better * * * Olaf Nagel has now retired from the stamp business—we hope that his good wife, Anna, soon will regain her health and wish them the best of everything in the years to come * * * and speaking of illness, we understand that C. M. Dutcher of Hyde Park is ill—we hope he will soon be his old cheerful self * * * Dr. Sneller's visit from Peoria to New York caused a slight boom in the Stamp Mart in New York—the good Doctor went back home with a lot of stamps and pictures but minus a lot of cash * * * and the good neighbors from Albertson, Carl Pihl and Arthur Heim are again pursuing

their agricultural hobbies—the “West forties” are all planted—only the other day, Barbara, (Carl's daughter—a Yankee fan) told us that only yesterday Daddy planted some tomatoes—and now they are so high! * * * the Rev. E. S. Ford is going to have a real stamp vacation in Maine this year, at least he is going away for the month with six Sundays in it, however, the stamps go along * * * I guess this could go on and on, but space in the Posthorn is much too valuable—so so-long again for now.

News of Interest

George Wiberg (177) reports: Finland has recently issued an interesting new type of postal paper: a set of Postal Motor Coach parcel post stamps. Their use is limited to the parcel post carried on Mail Motor Coach routes to towns and villages not reached by train. The stamps are not sold to the public at the Post Offices. The driver on the Mail Coach collects the proper postage and attach the equivalent in stamps to the parcel canceling them with indelible pencil. Later each route will be furnished with a special canceling device. The set consists of 3 values, shown below:



1mk green & black, 5mk red & black and 20mk orange & black, issued in booklets of 10 panes of 6 stamps. Stamps on each pane is numbered from 1 to 6 and also shows a serial number.

Uno Soderberg (H-5) reports: Since I have been invited to contribute to your worthy paper, I would like to point out a few details regarding the printing of the Strindberg stamps. The so-called coil stamps were printed in Sweden from 1920 to 1936 on the American Stickney rotary presses, similar to those employed by the American Bureau of Printing and Engraving to date, hence, the similarity in stamps printed by both countries. In 1933, a new method of wiping the plates with a solution of potash proved helpful in cleaning the plates, so that no color was left on the engraved surface, leaving the margins white instead of toned, which had occurred on previous printings. This new method gave an entirely new appearance to the stamps, somewhat hard, harsh and more machine made. When, later in 1937, a new press was ordered from the Goebbel's firm in Dramstadt, it was equipped with two types of wiping, one for dry and one for moist wiping with potash solution. Both methods were used simultaneously.

In the printing of the Strindberg stamps, it was intentionally attempted to use both methods combined, which in my opinion, resulted in a more artistic printing. The design appears softer and the paper, even though it still remains white, appears toned in the color of the stamp. The general appearance is a much more beautiful stamp. Whether this method is going to be continued has not as yet been decided, due to several difficulties regarding its use.

Due to the continuous increase in stamps as well as postal savings coupons, a second printing press has been ordered from Switzerland. This is now being assembled and it should not take many months before stamps will be had from this new printing press. The old Stickney Rotary-press is now in the Postal Museum where, no doubt, it will be assembled for the benefit of visitors.

New and Recent Issues

by Carl E. Pelander
and Thorsten Ingeloff

DENMARK



June 5, 1949
Constitution Issue

Commemorating the Centenary of the Danish Constitution. The central design by Viggo Bang, depicts "The Constituent Assembly of the Kingdom" from a painting by Constantin Hausen. The engraving was made by Swen Ewert of Stockholm.

Engraved

Unwmkd
20 ore red

Perf. 12½

Serial No. 233

FINLAND

April 1949
General Issue

Engraved

Unwmkd.
35m. purple (Scott Type A57)

Perf. 14

May 5, 1949
Red Cross Issue

The motif for this year's issue, depicts various scenes from the Finnish Bath Houses (Sauna). The Bath House or Sauna, is a national institution in Finland, dating back several centuries, and each farmer or property owner, no matter how small, would not be without one. The Bath House usually consists of two parts, a dressing room and a steam room, the latter being heated by means of a cobble stone stove-like structure. When the stones are sufficiently hot, water is poured over them, creating steam and heat said to reach as high as 115 degrees C. or 239 degrees F. The interior of the steam room has two or three shelves on which the bather sits, the higher shelves naturally get the most heat. When the victim is perspiring freely, then the body is beaten with specially made birch brooms on which the leaves remain, then follows a cleansing bath and usually a dip in a lake, in the winter, the hardy ones roll in the snow.



Engraved

Unwmkd

Perf. 14

- 5m+2m green and red (girl making the birch brooms)
 9m+3m rose and red (the cleansing bath)
 15m+5m ultramarine and red (steam issuing from Bath House)
 30m+10m violet brown and red (the dip in the lake)

The surtax is for the benefit of the Red Cross Society.

NORWAY



April 1945

Provisional Issues

Photogravure

Unwmkd

Perf. 13

Regular Issue

25 ø/20 ø red

Official Stamps

20 ø/20 ø red

May 9, 1949

Kielland Issue

Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the birth of the famous author, Alex L. Kielland. The design was taken from a photograph by E. Hohlenberg of Copenhagen and printed by E. Moestue A/S. in Oslo.

Photogravure

Unwmkd

Perf. 13

20 ø. rose lake

40 ø. Prussian blue

80 ø. yellow brown

SWEDEN

Jan. 22, 1949

Strindberg Issue

Issued in commemoration of the centenary of the birth of the internationally known author and playwright, August Strindberg. The stamps were designed by the artist, Akke Kumlien, Ph.D., from a well-known portrait of the author, painted by Richard Bergh. The engraving was done by Sven Ewert.

Coil Stamps

Unwatermkd

Rotary Press Printing

Perf. 13

20 ø. red

30 ø. blue

80 ø. olive green

Perf. 13 on 3 sides, in booklet panes of 20

20 ø. red

WOT HOPPENED?

If you are puzzled by some phase of your philatelic studies, perhaps some of your fellow members can help you. Maybe they know what happened. Some of the greatest philatelic experts in the world are members of this club. Send your questions, as well as answers to questions, to the editor of The Posthorn.

New Members

Resident

- 566 George C. Anderson, 49-12 217th St., Bayside, N. Y. (Gen.)
 571 David W. Summerfield, 35 Orange St., Brooklyn, N. Y. (Scan.)

Non-Resident and Foreign

- 562 Charles D. Sneller, M. D., 320 Jefferson Bldg., Peoria, Ill. (Scan.)
 563 Preben K. Johnston, 1405 So. 58th St., Philadelphia 43, Pa. (Den.-Scan.)
 564 Ernest H. Rankin, 194 E. Bridge St., Berea, Ohio (Nor. Fin-US- Canada-
 Swiss & Trains)
 565 Harald A. Andersson, Sodermalmsgatan 12, Vastervik, Sweden (Scan.-Es-
 tonia-Germany)
 567 William Windey, 9847 Essex Ave., Dearborn, Mich. (Gen. Scan & Early Bel.
 568 Lewis J. Laury, 478 Spruce St., Pottstown, Penna. (Scan.-Finland-Aus-
 tralia-N. Zealand-U.S.)
 569 Philip Little, Jr., R. F. D. No. 4, Wayzata, Minn. (U.S.-Canadian Revenues
 & Proofs-Dan. W. Indies)
 570 Elmer C. Susemichel, 2733 Preston St., Louisville 13, Ky. (U.S.-Scan-Neth)

Reinstated

- 159 James I. Keary, 72 1st St., New Westminster, B. C., Canada
 199 August J. Nilson, 326 W. 78 St., Seattle 7, Wash.

Deceased

- 260 Capt. Frederick H. Ringer

Resignations Accepted

- 64 Sidney S. Jalkut

ITEM

Believe it or not, the Scandinavian Collectors Club recently received a bill for \$64.17 for kennel charges for a Great Dane. Could they mean Chris Zoynler?

Club News

There was a large crowd in attendance at the April meeting when the members were treated to an exceptionally fine showing of United States stamps. Ignatz Reiner exhibited selected pages from his unparalleled collection of Black Jacks and provided the interesting story of how he came to begin this collection and some of the experiences he has encountered in gathering it. The next speaker was Charles W. Brooks, outstanding U. S. collector noted for his insistence that only superb copies of stamps are collectible, who showed pages from his collection of 19th Century U. S. issues, including proofs, essays and a vast amount of most interesting source material. Both showings were thoroughly enjoyed by those present.

Another big turnout featured Denmark Night at the May meeting when Vice President William F. Foulk presided. Carl-Emil Buyer showed his collection of Denmark 4 RBS, presenting many lesser known facts about these stamps. Next, Richard G. Gibson exhibited pages of his 4 RBS stamps featuring a close study of the plate varieties. Bill Foulk's showing from his fabulous collection of Denmark was highlighted by the numerous multiple pieces and other rarities of the 4 RBS issues. Bob Read of Elizabeth, N. J., exhibited his superb collection of Danish numeral cancellations. Everyone was impressed greatly by Bob's original and effective method of mounting.

The club trotted out its biggest guns for the June meeting when it had the pleasure of a visit from Roland King-Farlow, one of our members from England, who is an outstanding philatelist and a keen student of the stamps of Denmark. A large attendance was at hand to see and hear Ferrars H. Tows, Harry L. Lindquist and William F. Foulk present their specialties which are generally conceded to be among the finest in the world, bar none. As the irrepressible Hornblower says, "such a night comes only once in a lifetime."

REPORTS FROM CHAPTERS

Philadelphia Chapter No. 2

Alpheus McCloskey was the host for the meeting on Jan. 7th at which seven members were present. There was an informal discussion as to plans for securing a permanent meeting place and the possibility of obtaining permission to hold meetings at the Philatelic Museum was mentioned. This will be investigated and a further report made. The remainder of the evening was devoted to examination of circuit books and stamp talk.

The February meeting was held on Feb. 4th at the home of Dr. and Mrs. William Stericker with eleven members present. It was decided to omit the March meeting, since a number of the members would be unable to attend, and make the April meeting a dinner meeting—to be held at the Swedish Restaurant at 1725 Spruce Street, Philadelphia. There was further discussion on the possibility of holding meetings at the Philatelic Museum and it was decided that the Secretary write a letter requesting this. Following this the members present examined the circuit books and engaged in discussions.

Detroit Chapter No. 3

President A. E. Anderson was the host for the March 26th meeting and served a delicious dinner prior to the meeting. Floyd W. Warner thanked the members for sending the plant when he was ill at home. Note was made of the activity of Thomas W. Blinn who has given talks at the Flint Stamp and Coin Club and the Edison Stamp Club, among others, on his specialty—Michigan postal history. Announcement was made that two members won awards at the Wayne Stamp Society Exhibition held on March 23-24. Charles Johnson won the Grand Award with his fine Finland collection, while William Sarenius, Secretary, won a first in the U. S. section and a first in the Novelty Class with his Postal Stationery of Finland.

The 68th Meeting on May 7th was held at the home of Charles Johnson who, in keeping with the very pleasant and enjoyable custom recently adopted, served a most delicious dinner, or rather, Mrs. Johnson did. Arrangements were made for Ladies Nite and it was decided to hold the event in the Harmonie Hall in downtown Detroit, the details to be worked out by the committee. It was reported by the Secretary, William Sarenius, that the club members received six trophies out of nine at the Peninsular State Philatelic Society Exhibition in Ferndale. Thomas W. Blinn won three trophies, Charles Johnson and William Sarenius got one each and the club received the Inter-Club Trophy for its showing of Scandinavian stamps. Mr. Blinn reported on the Dearborn Stamp Club Exhibition, where he received first prize in the U. S. group.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rydquist entertained the members at the May 21st meeting, preceding it with a delightful dinner. The Ladies Nite Committee reported that everything was in order for the banquet to be held on Saturday night, June 4th. Carl Forsberg was unanimously elected an Honorary Life Member of the club. Following the meeting, Mr. Rydquist showed movies taken on his recent trip to Sweden and Finland.

Calling Seattle, Chicago, Boston and Springfield

We would like to have a report from each chapter for each issue of The Posthorn. Send us either a brief report of each meeting or a summary of activities for each quarter. Closing dates for copy are as follows: Sept. 1st (October), Dec. 1st (January), March 1st (April) and June 1st (July). This is your paper and we believe news of your activities should be included in each issue.

THE POSTHORN

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