

The

# POST HORN

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## Finland Number Eleven

by Bert Baker (501)



Type II                      Type III  
Fig. 1 — Genuine Roulette Stamps

One of Finland's most interesting early stamps is known as #11 in the Scott Catalog and has been so numbered for the past twenty years. It was during this period that the "a" variety was included in the listing.

Very little appears to have been written concerning this stamp and it is hoped that this resume will awaken further research on the subject.

This one mark stamp was officially announced in a Post Office Circular dated November 24, 1866 at Helsingfors, signed by Mr. A. Grippenberg (Director of Posts at that time) with the counter-signature of Mr. C. A. Perander, who seems to have been a deputy. The Circular is somewhat ambiguous and does not give a precise date-of-issue, the exact wording being as follows: ". . . those (stamps) of the value of 1 mark will be supplied (to Postmasters) as soon as the Government printers have been able to manufacture them." Considerable research indicates that the first issuance (to the public) occurred at Helsinki (Helsingfors) on May 9, 1867.

The lithographer by whom the 1 mark value was designed, displayed three rejected designs or essays at the Paris International Exhibition of 1867. They were lithographed in horizontal strips of six, two copies of each side by side, and all in different colors. Following is a listing of the varieties of these essays:

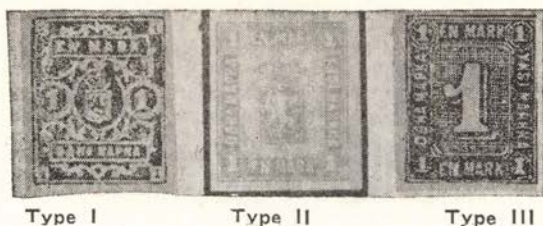


Fig. 2 — The Essays

First Type: Arms in a small oval, with a figure "1" in white in a pearly circle, at each side; at the top on a horizontal label, "En Mark" in Swedish. A second label below the arms has the equivalent in Russian. The ornaments are in white on a colored background, and a tiny figure "1", in a square, in each corner (See Fig. 1.)

Type Two: The second type is very similar to the adopted design, except that the lion is in white on a colored ground. The shield is not so wide and the crown is higher. Stars in the shield are replaced by white dots. (Fig. 2.)

Third Type: Rather than the "Arms" in the center, there is a large figure "1", on a ground of crossed lines. The frame is similar to the accepted design.

These essays were lithographed, as follows, on strips of white, green or mauve paper as the case may be:

#### First strip of 6 impressions

1. Type 1, brown and green on white.
2. Type 1, brown and green on green.
3. Type 2, Arms brown, frame green.
4. Type 2, green on green.
5. Type 3, lined ground brown, frame green.
6. Type 3, green.

#### Second strip of 6

1. Type 1, black and green on white.
2. Type 1, black and green on green.
3. Type 2, Arms black, frame green.
4. Type 2, green on green.
5. Type 3, lined ground black, frame green.
6. Type 3, green.

#### Third strip of 6

1. Type 1, mauve and yellow on white.
2. Type 1, mauve and yellow on mauve.
3. Type 2, Arms yellow, frame mauve.
4. Type 2, mauve on white.
5. Type 3, lined ground yellow, frame mauve.
6. Type 3, mauve.

#### Fourth strip of 6

1. Type 1, violet and green on white.
2. Type 1, violet and green on green.
3. Type 2, Arms violet, frame green.
4. Type 2, green on green.
5. Type 3, lined ground violet, frame green.
6. Type 3, green.

#### Fifth strip of 6

1. Type 1, mauve and black on white.
2. Type 1, mauve and black on mauve.
3. Type 2, Arms black, frame mauve.
4. Type 2, mauve on white.
5. Type 3, lined ground black, frame mauve.
6. Type 3, mauve.

## Sixth strip of 6

1. Type 1, green and yellow on white.
2. Type 1, green and yellow on green.
3. Type 2, Arms yellow, frame green.
4. Type 2, green on green.
6. Type 3, green.

These essays are also found in single copies, on white.

Type 1, black and green on glazed paper.

Type 2, violet on ordinary paper.

Type 2, lilac on ordinary paper.

Type 3, green on glazed paper.

So much for the essays of this stamp.

It is my personal opinion that the engraving of the 1 mark value may be attributed to C. M. Melgren, although this is pure speculation. In any event, the stamps were surface printed at the Senate Printing Office on thin, off-white wove paper. These stamps are found with both Type II and Type III roulette.

Those stamps with the Type II roulette are invariably found (by this writer) in only the yellow-brown shade, while with Type III roulette, two shades are found, viz: yellow-brown and dark brown. From this, it may be deduced that there were no less than three separate printings. Total printing came to 80,420 copies. A Post Office Circular dated January 15, 1877 instructs the various Postmasters to withdraw these stamps at the end (28th?) of February, 1877. Three years later in 1880, the remainders (some 2,576 copies) were officially destroyed.



Broken 'K'  
in MAPKA

Broken 'K'  
in MAPKA

Broken 'A'  
in MARKKA

Fig. 3— The Errors

(Illustrations courtesy of Mr. J. R. Parmi of Helsinki)

There are two noticeable plate errors which occurred on these stamps and they are confined to those rouletted Type III. The first, cataloged by Scott as the "a" variety, shows an almost total obliteration of the final "A" in the Finnish word "Markka," so that it appears as three dots. The second, and equally important variety is not cataloged by Scott, but occurs in the Russian word "Mapka," in which the lower right leg of the "K" is missing, thus forming a distorted letter "Y". I am unable at this time to assign plate positions to the above varieties, and this may be impossible to do because of the manner in which these stamps were printed.

A Government reprint was produced in 1893 for H. I. H. the Grand Duke Alexis Michaelovith who died early in 1895. The Grand Duke was a philatelist himself and desired the reprints for exchange purposes. There were but 1000 of the reprints made and they are quite easily distinguished as they are a bright yellow-brown and are found on thick white wove paper. They were printed in sheets of ten (two rows of five stamps each). They have white gum and are rouletted Type I. These several characteristics were never used on the originals.



Panelli Forgery      de Sperati Forgery

Fig. 4 — The Forgeries

As is customary with virtually all high-catalog value stamps, this one has been several times counterfeited. Of the four bogus issues with which I am acquainted, I would attribute them chronologically to Elbe (of Dresden, Germany), Fourniere (of Geneva, Switzerland), Panelli (of Turin, Italy) and de Sperati (of Aix-les-Bains, France). The last three fakes are rouletted Type III so far as I am able to determine. For purposes of identification, I am listing the salient features of each in comparison with the genuine stamps:

**Genuine**

1. Shield has 31 shading lines.
2. Shield outline not much thicker than shading lines.
3. Stars all have five points and are of uniform shape.
4. Lions' tongue does not touch sabre in front of it.
5. The four corner numerals are wide with heavy bases.

**Genuine**

1. Cross at top of crown is in solid color.
2. On the right, pearls on the crown end at the scallops in clear detail.
3. Right hand line of shading is close to shield outer frame.
4. Upper right hand star is bounded by lines in shield and just touches them.
5. There are small dots in front of the circles around the figure of value at lower left.

**Genuine**

1. Printed on thin, yellowish wove paper.

**Genuine**

Investigation not yet completed but a very dangerous counterfeit. Fortunately, this is the only Finnish stamp forged by deSperati.

Fake cancellations found on above counterfeits:

1. Rectangular Wiborg.
2. Round with date, 1 circle, small cancel in black or blue, Nyslott 21, 10-5-71.
3. Round with date, 1 circle, large cancel, Helsingfors 2 - 1876 - 1.

**#1—Elbe Forgery**

1. Shield has 32 shading lines.
2. Shield outline is very heavy
3. Some stars have four points and are irregular.
4. Lions' tongue touches sabre.
5. Numerals narrower and bases not so heavy.

**#2—Fournier Forgery**

1. Cross of open lines.
2. On the right where the pearls meet the scallop there is a projection.
3. Right hand line of shading is away from frame of shield.
4. Right hand star at top is bounded only on the right and does not touch a line on the left.
5. There are no small dots in front of the circles around the figure of value at the lower left.

**#3—Panelli Forgery**

1. Printed on very white thin cardboard. Looks much like the reprint but roulette Type III.

**#4—deSperati Forgery**

## The Story of the "Little Norway" Stamp

by Jarle O. Stensdal (387)

Translated by Carl H. Werenskiold (59)

In the middle of July 1942 Major Reistad came to London and, in conference with State Councillor Frihagen, he presented the following plan:

1. That there be issued Norwegian stamps by the Norwegian authorities for use in Canada. (It had been suggested at one time that the Canadian authorities would issue stamps with Norwegian motifs from Little Norway, etc. This plan has now been abandoned.)

2. It is assumed that the use of the stamps to be issued by the Norwegian government will be permitted by the Canadian authorities on certain days of the year, such as May 17th.

3. It is assumed that the stamps will be sold and placed on letters only at certain post offices used by the Norwegian camps.

4. There must be evidenced in the text of the stamps a certain connection between Norway and Canada. Reistad was of the opinion that the word "Canada" must appear on the stamps for purposes of effective propaganda and necessary good-will in Canada.

5. Special motifs must be chosen for the designs of the stamps, different from those decided on for use on our ships.

This plan was discussed in government conference on July 21, 1942, and it was decided that Minister Steen should investigate the matter and present a report, since it was no longer a question of Canadian authorities issuing stamps with motifs from Little Norway, it was to be a Norwegian undertaking. The Legation in Montreal was, on July 23, 1942, informed in accordance with this decision.

A few months now pass, until the Foreign Department wrote the Commerce Department that it had received the following notice from the Legation in Montreal: "It would be desirable, if possible, that a stamp of the series be issued before Christmas. I therefore request authority to attempt putting the plan into effect and to take the matter up officially with the Canadian government. Lt. Col. Reistad has reported that guarantees have been given covering the costs of issuing the stamps. In accordance with the Department's letter of July 23rd, I have laid the matter before the Canadian postal authorities who, as far as I am able to ascertain, are favorably inclined toward the proposal regarding use of Norwegian stamps at Norwegian camps on certain dates."

The Commerce Department replied on October 3, 1942 that it is of the opinion that "special stamps for use in Canada, as proposed by Lt. Col. Reistad, ought not to be issued," but that an arrangement could now be made to use, also in Little Norway, the Norwegian stamps being printed in London.

The Legation in Montreal informed Lt. Col. Reistad of this reply, but he replied that Minister Steen ought to ascertain whether Canada is in agreement with the arrangement as proposed, and if not, the Government ought to present a rejection of his plan, which would not cost the State one penny, and give reasons for such rejection.

The Legation in Montreal, on October 22, 1942, sent the Commerce Department a copy of Lt. Col. Reistad's letter, and reported that it had "learned that the American military camps in Canada as well as in Newfoundland had received permission to use American stamps on their correspondence."

The Commerce Department stated in a detailed opinion regarding this matter, on November 7, 1942: "One must, at the same time, be fully aware that it would possibly have a disturbing effect on other nations, and raise questions as to the sincerity of this undertaking and its propaganda effect, if already at this time, before issuance of the first stamps, one would issue a new series, even though under the control of the Government, for special use by Norwegian training camps in Canada."

The Legation in Montreal, on November 30, 1942, telegraphed that the General Postmaster had "already given aviation camp permission to issue and use here a 15 ore stamp," and proposed that it be included in the Government series. This telegram was shown to Mr. K. A. Brazdzionis (honorary philatelic consultant to the Government), and the firm Harmer, Rooke & Co. which was to

direct the sale of the London stamps to philatelists. Both advised against issuance of a special stamp in Canada.

On December 3, 1942, the Commerce Department therefore telegraphed the Legation in Montreal: "We absolutely forbid suggested issue in Canada." But Reistad still did not consider himself beaten, and on December 5th, the Legation in Montreal telegraphed the Commerce Department: "Reistad reports Canadian 3 cent stamps will be ready December 9th in a total of 50,000, and sales office has been established....soldiers' spokesmen present unanimous demand for its use for greatest enjoyment of all aviators."

The first telegram was taken up in Government Conference on December 4th, and there was no comment on the decision of the Commerce Department. The second telegram was considered in Government Conference on December 10th, and here the refusal was affirmed. In a note to this Government Conference, the Commerce Department wrote regarding this matter: "Such an issue would weaken confidence in the undertaking started here by the Government and there might arise a certain doubt among philatelists whether Norway was serious in regard to its new stamps or whether it had taken the road followed previously by several countries—of issuing stamps solely for sale to philatelists."

Foreign Minister Trygve Lie was again in New York in March 1943 and Minister Steen requested that he take steps to cancel the prohibition regarding use of the 50,000 stamps before the transfer of the Toronto aviation camp to Muskoka late in March. Foreign Minister Lie took the matter up in Government Conference on March 31st where it was unanimously decided to affirm the stand previously taken. The following telegram was then sent to the Legation in Montreal: "In order not to be placed same category countries speculating in issuing stamps cabinet unanimously upholds earlier decision regarding issue Norwegian stamps Canada."

The Commerce Department, in a letter of April 6, 1943, to the Legation in Montreal confirmed this telegram in these words: "With reference to this telegram the Department advises that when we have been unable to approve the issuance of Norwegian stamps in Canada, it is because we are running the risk of destroying our good name as a reputable stamp country. We have discussed the matter with the British GPO, with the highly esteemed stamp firm, Harmer, Rooke & Co. and with the honorary consultant to the Department in philatelic matters, Mr. K. A. Brazdzionis. All have held that issuance of a special series of Norwegian stamps in Canada very easily will be considered as an attempt at philatelic horse-trading, in which Norway would risk being placed in a class with certain small states which have the reputation of issuing stamps, not for postal purposes, but for the money in it. Norway has at this time a very good reputation among all stamp collectors as a country that has conducted its issuance of stamps along proper and clean lines. One ought not to risk destroying this reputation."

The Department regrets having to take a position of disapproval, but suggests that the 15 ore of the London series be used in Little Norway in connection with a special cancellation "which in its choice of motif and text would give expression to the cooperation between the two countries."

This proposal was either not taken up by the Legation, or could not be consummated. This stamp matter did not come up again before May 1944 when the Commerce Department, in a letter to the Legation in Montreal, requested that the 50,000 Little Norway stamps be sent to London in connection with the printing of the 40 million stamps on the invasion of Norway.

State Councilor O. Hindahl, in a note of May 2, 1944, decided that the final decision regarding issuance of the Little Norway stamps must stay in abeyance until Norway has been liberated, and must then be made by the Norwegian postal authorities.

It is evident that more important matters came up in the meanwhile, and it was not before December 1944 that the Legation answered this note. It then reported that the aviation camp advised against sending the stamps to London since they would only be of value when cancelled in Little Norway, and again it requested permission to use the stamps. This request was then for the last time denied in a telegram of February 13, 1945, from the Commerce Department.

To be continued

## Swedish Local Posts in the 19th Century

by Roland King-Farlow (317)

This article appeared originally in the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain

### PART II

#### Goteborgs Stadspost

According to the articles of association of the Stockholm Stadspost, its founders had planned to establish similar postal organisations in other towns besides the capital. Moreover, the articles gave no hint of the Government's intention not to extend the Company's concession beyond Stockholm. Despite the threat of serious competition, however, two different private postal undertakings were started in Goteborg.

In October, 1887, R. W. Lindhe, a merchant, had already begun to make preparations for an institution similar to the one already projected for Stockholm. Lindhe formed the Aktiebolaget Goteborgs Stadspost (Gothenburg Town-Post Company), petitioning the King to ratify the company's articles and to grant power to bring them into operation. Sanction, however, was a long time in coming and in the meanwhile N. J. Wiberg, a station clerk, informed the magistrates that his wife had opened a business for the forwarding of local letters, under the name of "Goteborgs Stadspost, Ellen Maria Wiberg." This firm began its operations on 24th April, 1888. Lindhe's undertaking, which now had to alter its name to "Goteborgs Privata Lokalpost," started up as a private company, but did not actually commence business until 1st June of the same year.

Fru Wiberg issued circulars to describe her business, as follows: "Goteborgs Stadspost, with offices at Magasinsgatan 10, will forward ordinary letters, express letters, wrappers, packages, circulars and newspapers within the town of Goteborg, but not beyond Stigbergsliden and Nya Kyrkogargen. Letters not exceeding 125 grams, wrappers and postcards will be forwarded for 3 ore; packages for 10 ore, etc." The firm was permitted to set up a number of yellow-painted letter boxes on the walls of private houses and employed eight letter-carriers who wore the firm's name on a band around their caps.

Goteborgs Stadspost was beset with troubles from the first. At the instigation of Post-Director Broberg, an action was brought against Fru Wiberg, partly owing to the firm having erected its letter boxes without permission and in unauthorised places, and partly because it neglected to clear them. The Police Department, however, were unable to compel Fru Wiberg to discontinue operations or to remove her letter boxes, since these were affixed to private property.

Competition with the Goteborgs Privata Lokalpost became keen and Fru Wiberg sought to overcome it by lowering her rates. Discussions with a view to amalgamating the two concerns produced no results and the bad state of financial affairs, combined with lack of confidence on the part of the public, forced Fru Wiberg to close down the business on 23rd March, 1889, only eleven months after its foundation.

Goteborgs Stadspost made only one issue of stamps, in three denominations. These bore a full-face portrait of Gustaf II (Gustavus Adolphus) in an oval frame, with the inscription "GOTEBORGS STADSPOST," and the figures

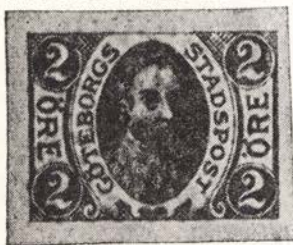


Fig. 1

1. 1 ore, dark blue to blue.
2. 2 ore, green.
3. 3 ore, red.

of value in circles in the four corners. The stamps were lithographed in sheets of 100 and were perforated 11 on all sides. "Goteborgs Stadspost" was embossed in two lines in the sheet margins. The exact numbers issued are unknown.

A postcard, inscribed "STADSPOSTENS BREVKORT," was also issued. This, however, had no printed stamp and had to be franked with a 2 ore adhesive.

The obliteration had the firm-name in a circle, with the date in the centre (e.g. 18 13/11 88). It was usually struck in black, but occasionally in blue. Stamps bearing the Goteborg Government cancellation are also found.

#### Goteborgs Privata Lokalpost

Goteborgs Privata Lokalpost, which was opened by R. W. Lindhe on 1st June, 1888, began its postal operations on the 4th of the same month from offices at Norra Hamngatan, 2. The letter-carriers, varying in number from nine to fourteen, were elderly men dressed in neat uniforms, which gave the concern a distinct advantage over its rival, who made use of young boys without uniforms.

From the first the Lokalpost's rate for forwarding letters was 3 ore, since although the first postage stamps were inscribed "5 ore," they only cost 3 ore apiece provided not less than five were bought at a time. The greater part of the mail was forwarded for 2 ore per item, while unaddressed circulars and the like were carried for only 1 ore each. The rate for express letters was 21 ore. Letter boxes in the accepted sense did not exist, but matter to be forwarded had to be taken to one of the different collecting depots, where stamps were also sold.

Lindhe continued to forward sealed letters, even after the monopoly had been established. However, the energetic Post-Director Broberg personally caught one of the Lokalpost's letter-carriers red-handed, and seized a number of sealed letters he was about to deliver. The seizure was regarded by Lindhe as unauthorized and illegal, since no such measures had been mentioned in the monopoly proclamation. In a communication to the General Postal Directorate enclosed with the Post Director's account of what had taken place, Lindhe admitted that he was still continuing to handle sealed letters. However, he stated that ever since 1st October, his carriers had abandoned their fixed rounds and were only sent out at irregular intervals. He further requested an explanation as to the correct interpretation of the phrases "regular delivery" and "otherwise sealed letters." Nevertheless it appears that Broberg's report on Lindhe's activities resulted in a formal order for confiscation.

The undertaking was reorganised in 1890 as a limited company, and as late as 1893 was still carrying on with the forwarding of newspapers and accounts, the collection of debts, and such like.

Lindhe was evidently satisfied with the design of his first postage stamp, since no alteration was subsequently made. However, the denomination varied



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



as well as the colour and the perforation, and the curtain came down with a number of surcharges. The stamps were triangular, and showed a reproduction of Molin's statue "The Wrestlers," which stands outside the National Museum at Stockholm. The public liked to pretend that this design was meant to symbolise the struggle between the two rival private posts at Goteborg. In the frame surrounding the picture were the words "LOKAL/POST/GOTEBORG," with the figures of value at each angle, while "GOTEBORGS PRIVATA LOKALPOST" appeared in small lettering below the whole design. The stamps were lithographed locally in sheets of 100, every other row being tete-beche. They were normally perforated 11½, though two values were also issued imperforate.

The first stamp was issued on 1st June, 1888, in dark blue to blue, with a face-value of 5 ore. Owing to the competition from the Stadspost, however, it was sold at 15 ore for five copies. Ninety thousand copies were issued perforated as well as 10,000 imperforate. The latter came on issue on 6th June, 1888, and were used on the Lokalpost's own mail and other matter that was forwarded free of charge. They can thus be regarded as a sort of Local Official stamp. Proofs exist in red, brown and light blue. A few sheets must have escaped complete perforation, since I have in my collection a vertical pair imperforate between. I have also a single copy with a double perforation along the base.

At the end of 1888 stamps of 3 ore face-value were ordered by Lindhe to be ready by New Year's Day. However, the existing stock of the 5 ore stamps was already used up by Christmas Eve and it therefore became necessary to make use of a few sheets of the new 3 ore stamps although these had not yet been perforated. Thus 1,000 imperforate 3 ore stamps came into circulation between 24th and 28th December, 1888. The perforated stamps, of which 248,000 were printed, came into service on 29th December. After the 3 ore came into general use further supplies of the original 5 ore were obtained, but these reverted to their proper face-value and were used for the payment of higher rates.

The new 3 ore was again in dark blue and of identical design to its predecessor save that the figures of value were changed. The sheet lay-out was also the same, each alternate row being tete-beche owing to the triangular shape. A fresh stone, however, was prepared, and each row of five stamps showed five distinct types, as follows:

- (a) Stop after "GOTEBORG" in lower tablet.
- (b) Centre of "o" of "post" in right tablet is nearly filled in.
- (c) Projection from back of "K" of "LOKAL" in left tablet.
- (d) Projection from outer frame-line between "P" and "O" of "POST" in right tablet.
- (e) Coloured circles round figures of value at base are retouched and partially doubled.

In the top line these types appeared in order, i.e., a, b, c, d, e. This order was maintained in the second line although, since the stamps were inverted, it was reversed. In the third line, however, the order was c, d, e, a, b, with a corresponding reversal in the fourth (inverted) line. This four-line lay-out of twenty stamps was repeated five times to form the complete sheet. It is possible that other lay-outs existed. A marked variety occurs only on stamp number 46 of the sheet, in which the mantle and back of one of the fighters is striped with oblique coloured lines.

A change of colour though not of design took place on 22nd February, 1889, when some bright yellow "official" stamps appeared. These had no value indicated, the figures in the angles being replaced by five-pointed stars. They were intended to frank correspondence which was not subject to the normal rate, but which was carried under some special agreement. 250,000 copies were printed and perforated, but the greater part were subsequently surcharged. Imperforate copies are proofs. After the postal monopoly law came into force there was no further need for the 3 ore letter-rate stamps, but new values were required to cope with the alteration in the concern's business. Accordingly the yellow "officials," of which there was a plentiful stock, were overprinted by hand with a triangle, having circles at the corners which blotted out the five-pointed stars and which showed the new values—1, 2 or 10 ore. The new value

was also shown in words within the triangle. The surcharges were applied in violet or in blue, and although they were handstamped, I have seen no cases of double prints. I have, however, in my collection one very curious used copy of the 2 ore surcharge in which the surcharged value in the bottom left corner is again blotted out with a neat coloured five-pointed star. I have not been able to find any explanation for this. The 1 and 2 ore values were used for franking the carriage of newspapers and circulars, and the 10 ore for paying the commission on debt collection.

The full list of the adhesives of Goteborgs Privata Lokalpost is therefore as follows:

1. 5 ore, dark blue to blue. Perf. 11½. Issued 1/6/88.
2. 5 ore, dark blue. Imperforate. Issued 6/6/88.
3. 3 ore, dark ultramarine. Imperforate. Issued 24/12/88.
4. 3 ore, dark ultramarine. Perf. 11½. Issued 29/12/88.
5. No value, yellow. Perf. 11½. Issued 22/2/89.
6. 1 ore, violet on yellow. Perf. 11½. Issued 17/2/90.
7. 2 ore, violet on yellow. Perf. 11½. Issued 17/2/90.
8. 10 ore, violet on yellow. Perf. 11½. Issued 17/2/90.

The Lokalpost also issued a number of stamped envelopes and letter-cards, with printed stamps similar in design to the adhesives. Most of these carried advertisements.

Only one cancellation was employed, a large oval rubber stamp containing the inscription "GOTEBORGS—13 MRS. 89—PRIVATA LOKALPOST," in four lines. It was struck in blue, red or violet.

A number of the yellow triangular stamps were subsequently overprinted "STOCKHOLM," and utilised as the first issue of the Stockholms Privata Lokalpost, in 1925 (see P. J. G. B., January 1940).

To be continued

#### GALA AFFAIR SCHEDULED

New York members of the S. C. C. will journey to Philadelphia for their regular December meeting. They will be the guests of Philadelphia Chapter No. 2 on Dec. 7th. Following dinner they will attend the special Scandinavian exhibit at the Philatelic Museum in the Quaker City. This will consist of 200 frames being shown by S. C. C. members from Philadelphia and elsewhere. It is expected that members from every chapter will be present. Make your plans to attend now. This may be the beginnings of an annual or biennial S. C. C. convention and exhibition, fulfilling the hope expressed by The Hornblower in this issue.

And DON'T FORGET that MAMMOTH AUCTION SALE to be held by the SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB on October 12th, 1949, at the Collectors Club in New York.

#### STAMP CIRCUIT

Station SCSC calling (Scandinavian Collectors Sales Circuit). Wanted all good Scandinavian duplicates for the circuit, large demand especially for older material, with the new season just started there is a chance to turn these duplicates into cash with the department (commission only 10% on sales). We also at present have some very fine material here ready to go to members for the asking. To save members expense and looking at a lot of material the sales manager keeps on file a want list for each and every member that wants it, and as besides the circuit he has access to a fairly good stock of Scandinavian material. These want lists usually get results, have already filled some of them about 90%. We sell material from 1c and so far the largest single stamp sale in the department has been \$110.00 so there is a wide spread for each one using the circuit. So far around \$2000.00 has been sold in this department. Let us hear from each and every member with his want list, and don't forget the 2c items, we possibly have them also.—Anker E. Grumsen, Box 565 Ocean Beach Station, San Diego 7, Calif.

## News of Interest

### Carl E. Pelander (H-1) and Einar Ernst (47) report:

A Joint Norwegian, Swedish and British Scientific Expedition will journey to Queen Maud Land in the Antarctic, this fall. The expedition is under the auspices of the Norwegian Polar Institute in Oslo, which reports that the Expedition will probably return to Norway sometime in 1952.

Collectors that desire specially cacheted envelopes may order the same now. There will be two different markings and all covers that are now ordered will be forwarded by Registered mail upon the return of the Expedition in 1952.

The covers will be specially printed by the Norwegian P. O. Dept., who will also take care of addressing of the same. The price for each cover is Norwegian Kr. 2.00, and prepayment should be sent prior to October 15, 1949 to "Postverkets Frimerkesalg til Samlere, Oslo, Norway." Payments may be made by bank check on Oslo, International Reply Coupons, currency, or by International Money Order.

The exchange rates are as follows:

Currency	\$1.00 = Kr. 4.90
Int. Money Order	\$1.00 = Kr. 4.87
Bank Check	\$1.00 = Kr. 4.40
Each Reply Coupon is worth	Kr. 0.40.

When ordering your covers, please type or print your name and address clearly.

### Rainer Ahonius (503) of Finland reports:

On the occasion of the 300th anniversary of three cities, founded in the year 1649 by Count Per Brahe, who was the Governor General of Finland in 1637-40 and 1648-54, each town was honored by a commemorative stamp. (Count Brahe is also known as the founder of the first Postal-Service in Finland.)

July 30, 1949. Kristiinankaupunki-Kristinestad Commemorative Issue.

In the middle of the last century Kristinestad was an important shipping center, with the third largest mercantile fleet in the country, however, today it has lost its importance and is chiefly known as a lumber exporting harbor. Population: 3,000 persons.

The stamp depicts a scene from the harbor, showing the Town Hall and the Old Church. Designed by Mrs. Signe Hammarsten-Jansson, engraved by A. Lauren, 1,000,000 stamps issued.

Aug. 6, 1949. Lappeenranta-Willmanstrand Commemorative Issue.

Lappeenranta is picturesquely situated on the southern shore of Lake Saima in southeastern Finland. After the second World War when Finland was forced to cede most of the province of Karelia with its principal town of Viipuri to the Russians it has gained in importance and is today the chief cultural, trading and manufacturing center of Southern Karelia. Population: 16,000. The stamp shows a harbor view of the town. Designed by Aarne Karjalainen, engraved by A. Lauren. Edition: 2,000,000 copies.

Aug. 13, 1949. Raahe-Brahestad Commemorative Issue.

In 1869, before the steam ship had wrested the supremacy of the seas from the sailing ship, Raahe was a great shipping port with the largest sailing vessel fleet in the country, but today it is best known for its many schools and its modern wood products exporting and shipbuilding facilities. A statue of the founder of the town is pictured in the foreground of the stamp with the town church in the background. 1,000,000 copies printed. Designed by Aarne Karjalainen and engraved by B. Ekholm.

Each stamp was released on above indicated dates in Helsinki and the following day in the celebrating city except the Lappeenranta Stamp which was simultaneously released in both cities. Post Office also provided special cachet's for each celebrating town.

**Eric Siden (537)** Secretary-Treasurer of Boston Chapter No. 5 reports that the June meeting was held at the home of Mr. Theodore E. Stevenson and was featured by an enjoyable showing by Mr. Henry A. Jenks. Officers for 1949-1950 were elected as follows: President—J. Urban Edgren, Vice President—Henry A. Jenks, and Secretary-Treasurer—Eric Siden.



by Agent No. 42  
Staff of the Old Sleuth

Your sleuth has just returned from the A. P. S. Convention in Boston, and from the number of members present, from all over the country, it may as well have been a S. C. C. convention, because no matter where one looked there they were.

To begin with the various committees—J. Urban Edgren and Dr. Philip Grabfield just about ran the Show—poor Phil (Dr. Grabfield) was Chairman or Co-chairman of no less than four committees, and loved it!—besides that, he acted as host to the two British visitors, namely, Robson Lowe and Major Hopkins and in his spare time was seen swapping stories and extolling the virtues on the Y. D. (26th Division, W. W. I) with Carl Pelander, where they served in the same outfit \* \* \* the stamp show, even tho' the exhibits appeared slightly out of order, was as a whole, composed of first class material, which no doubt, was the cause for the jury to take two days before reaching a final decision—and speaking of the jury, no less than five S. C. C. members were present on this panel of eighteen experts—and of course, it had to be one of the Scandinavian exhibits, namely, president Robert Scherer's Iceland collection which was the cause for the delay in reaching a decision on the grand award. We understand that after some forty odd ballots, the above collection was still in the running, but finally, this award was rightfully presented to Mr. William O. Sweet for his magnificent specialized collection of U. S. 1847 issues, which at "CIPEX" was the runner up to the Grand Award. In the balloting for the second best exhibit in the Show and the Bell Telephone Trophy, there was a unanimous vote by the jury to have this award go to Lt. Scherer. From the viewpoint of a Scandinavian collector, the Show was somewhat of a disappointment as besides Lt. Scherer's Parliamentary Issue of Iceland, there were only two other collections shown, both of Sweden, namely, "Swedish Postal Markings" by J. Urban Edgren and a collection of "King Oscar Heads" by Dr. Arthur Swenson, each exhibit receiving a second award \* \* \* this sleuth doubts that there was any party or special meeting held during the convention, at which some of our members did not attend—looking in on the impressive luncheon given by the British Postal History Society, we noted present, Arthur and Margaret Pierce, David Lidman and Carl Pelander—also at the several other functions, our members seemed well represented \* \* \* in making my rounds of the Statler Hotel, some of our members were much in evidence; Valdemar Wiergang and Svend Yort from Washington seemed to have a fine time and of course, Mike Miller with Mrs. Miller were there from Baltimore \* \* \* Dr. Sneller from Peoria, Ill., looked more like a candid camera man than the physician he is, taking pictures wherever possible \* \* \* and I believe that all our members were elated to see our past president, Eddie Elkins and his charming wife, Anna, having the time of their lives—the reason for our joy was the marvelous recovery of Anna after her several years of illness—Now we hope to see them back again in our midst in the near future \* \* \* Paul Vignos of Canton, Ohio, was running all over the place looking for the treasurer to pay his dues, he was under the impression it was a S. C. C. convention \* \* \* and Marcus White of Worcester felt rather sad as his beloved Postal Stationery was very little in evidence \* \* \* young Phillip Grabfield, Jr., did not think much of the bourse, because none of the dealers had any Greenland material for sale, wherever he inquired, the only answer he got was "never heard of it!" \* \* \* O.

A. Olson of Chicago, Illinois, represented the Chicago Chapter and was full of news of their activity \* \* \* and was Arthur Swenson's face red when sonny boy (age 12) took the Junior trophy and pappa had to be satisfied with a second \* \* \* Bernard Davis of Philadelphia Philatelic Museum fame had an informal meeting of the S. C. C. regarding the Scandinavian Exhibit at the museum in December. All of the Chapters except Seattle, were represented and from all present was promised 100% support. At the same time, Mr. Morse of Springfield Chapter suggested interchange of visits between the New York organization and the Chapter. This was accepted, and the suggestion well received, perhaps other Chapters may do likewise in the future, that is, those that are within travelling distance from each other \* \* \* and so much for this most enjoyable convention, which like all other conventions closed with a banquet, the toastmaster of which was none other than our own Harry L. Lindquist. I trust that the several dozens of other members I saw in Boston will forgive the omission of their names here, but as usual, space does not permit anything further. So, I close with So-Long for now \* \* \* I hope that in the near future, we may hold the first S. C. C. convention and Show! How about it?

## New and Recent Issues

by Carl E. Pelander



### FINLAND

June 6th, 1949  
Anti T. B. Issue

Designed by Mrs. Signe Hammarsten-Jansson, depicting floral designs.  
Printed by Finland Banks printing works, 700,000 sets issued.

Engraved	Unwmkd.	Perf. 14
	5 m + 2 m green	
	9 m + 3 m rose	
	15 m + 5 m olive brown	

June 15th, 1949

Commemorating the Third World Forestry Congress, held June 15, 1949.  
Designed by Arne Karjalainen.

Engraved	Unwmkd.	Perf. 14
	9 m violet brown	
	15 m blue green	

July 16th, 1949

Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Finnish Labor Party also known as the Social-Democrats.

Engraved	Unwmkd.	Perf. 14
	5 m green	
	15 m scarlet	

1949

Issued in commemoration of 300th Anniversary of the founding of three Finnish Cities.

Engraved	Unwmkd.	Perf. 14
	Kristiinankaupunki (Kristinestad), 15 m. blue, July 30th, 1949	
	Lappeenranta (Millmanstrand), 5 m. green, Aug. 6th, 1949	
	Raahe (Brahestad), 9 m. rose violet, Aug. 14th, 1949	

The above probably are the forerunners of a series of nine cities that were founded in 1649 by Pehr Brahe, Governor-General of Finland, who also instituted the Postal Service in that country.

The names in parenthesis are the original Swedish names, those preceding them are the Finnish equivalents.

## ICELAND

June 8th, 1949

Charity Issue, printed in sheets of 50 subjects, by De la Rue & Co., Ltd., London, England. The surtax is for the benefit of various charities. The design by the Icelandic Artist, Stefan Johsson, in Reykjavik. The number of stamps printed were of the 10 aur 400,000, other values 300,000.

Engraved	Unwmkd.	Perf. 14
	10a+10a green (Child Welfare)	
	35a+15a red (Red Cross)	
	50a+25a ultramarine (old age)	
	60a+25a violet brown (hospitals)	
	75a+25a slate (marine disasters)	

## NORWAY

July 30th, 1949

Photogravure	Regular Issue, change of color	Perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x13
	Unwmkd.	
	30 o. slate gray	

## SWEDEN

July 27th, 1949

Commemorating the second "Lingiad" (World's Gymnastic Exhibition). Designed by Georg Lagerstedt and engraved by Sven Ewert.

Recess Printing, Coils	Unwmkd.	Perf. 13
	5 o. ultramarine	
	15 o. brown	
	Perf. 13 on 3 sides, in booklet panes of 20	
	15 o. brown	

## New Members

## RESIDENT

- 575 George T. Turner, 34-52 73rd St., Jackson Hts., N. Y. (Philatelic Literature)  
 583 Lars G. Carlsson, 10 Grover Road, New Canaan, Conn. (Scan.-Imperfs.)

## NON-RESIDENT AND FOREIGN

- 572 P. D. Willis, P. O. Box 688, Pasadena, Texas (Scan.-Austria-France)  
 573 Donald D. Finlay, 202 W. Walnut St., Rome, N. Y. (Scan.-U. S.)  
 574 Gordon H. Torrey, 1210 Wilamette, Eugene, Ore. (N.-I.-China, France-  
 Early Greece)  
 576 Bernard Davis, 1520 Spruce St., Philadelphia, Pa. (Covers of World)  
 577 Mrs. Helen Kingsbury Zirkle, 2307 Secane Rd., Secane, Pa. (Scan.-Japan-  
 Manchukuo)  
 578 Dr. M. Wall, Frederiksborgg 3, Copenhagen K, Denmark (Denmark-U. S.)  
 579 Frederik Thorvald K. Caroe, 3 Latham Rd., Cambridge, England (D-DWI)  
 580 Tom L. Gustafson, 104 N. 13th St., Olean, N. Y. (Scan.-Switz.)  
 581 George W. Flanagan, 12 Oakhurst Circle, Brecksville, Ohio (N.-Can-Topical  
 582 Martin J. Bredvold, 4428 44th Ave. South, Minneapolis 6, Minn. (Scan.-  
 U. S. Commems-General)

## RESIGNATIONS PENDING

- 48 Paul Bluss, 51 W. 46th St., New York 19, N. Y.

## Club News



Principals at the big June meeting of the S. C. C. in New York. From the left: Harry L. Lindquist, publisher of STAMPS; Richard G. Gibson, program chairman; Carl E. Pelander; Ferrars H. Tows; Roland King-Farlow, outstanding member from England; and William F. Foulk, vice-president of the club.

### Detroit Chapter No. 3



Members of Detroit Chapter No. 3 with their wives during visit to Life Member Edward Forsberg at River Park, near Ludlington, on Lake Michigan. From the left: Thomas W. Blinn, Mrs. Blinn, Mrs. Forsberg, Arthur Rydquist, Mrs. Anderson, Edward Forsberg, "Papa" Rydquist (from Sweden), Mrs. Sarenius and "Big Bill" Sarenius. In the background is the Sauble River.

President A. E. Anderson called the June 18th meeting to order at the home of Carl Holmes, Farmington, Michigan. Members J. Nagy and Dr. Waldbott were absent.

A delicious dinner was served by our host and his wife, which was appreciated by all members present. Being the leafy month of June all members held the meeting in the beautiful back yard under the apple trees and over the rustic benches of our host and hostess, who also served the dinner thereon.

A speedy meeting was held with the minutes of the last meeting and the

report of the treasurer were all approved in an orderly manner.

Comments on our Ladies Night Dinner was given by the chairman Carl Tordup and his able assistant Oliver Wantin, both of which were thanked for the splendid job they did to make it such a good success.

A motion was made by Arthur Rydquist to make a trip or outing to visit our only life member Edward Forsberg who resides at Ludington, Michigan. This was seconded by Tom Blinn. Arthur Rydquist to act as chairman and make all arrangements, also notify all members at a later date.

The following are our officers for the coming year:

John T. Kroon, President.

Carl Tordrup, Vice-President.

Thomas W. Blinn, Secretary-Treasurer.

The invitation to visit Dr. Waldbott's Farm was postponed until next year. The next fall meeting to be held at Oliver Wantin residence Sept. 24th, 1949.

### Springfield, Mass. Chapter No. 6

In order to bring the readers of THE POSTHORN up to date on the news from the Springfield Chapter we had best start from the beginning, since this is the first report from this chapter. On December 1, 1946 three members of the Scandinavian Collectors Club residing in the Springfield, Mass., area first met. Over a period of two years these three members continued to get together occasionally and to carry on a membership campaign to secure the required ten members for a chapter charter. Finally in December 1948 an application with the signatures of the ten members residing in the area was forwarded to the club in New York.

The first meeting of the new chapter was held February 14, 1949. The following were elected officers for 1949: Leon Webster, president; Roland Morse, vice-president; Roland Anderson, secretary-treasurer.

The club has adopted the third Monday of the month as meeting night, meetings having been held monthly thru May. The schedule will be resumed again in September with a full program planned for the fall and winter months. Meetings are held at members homes. A set of By-Laws have been adopted by the club and are similar in most respects to the By-Laws of the New York club.

The March meeting of the chapter was designated Norway Nite and we had the pleasure of viewing Mr. Webster's collection and an exhibit of covers of Mr. Sheldon. At our April meeting we had as our guest speaker Mr. Grant Bulkley of Longmeadow who exhibited and talked on Falkland Islands. The collection had been secured principally thru correspondence with a native of the Falklands who had supplied much additional material besides the stamps. At our May meeting Roland Morse showed a collection of Danish booklets.

On April 27th the club held a special meeting on the occasion of a visit from member Ray Lottinville of Kankakee, Illinois, who stopped in Springfield for a day while on a pleasure trip east to Boston. Mr. Lottinville showed us his prize winning collection of STOCKHOLM and OTTAWA prints. A most enjoyable evening was had by both our chapter members and our visitor as the occasion served as a realization to all of us that the fellowship of the Scandinavian Collectors Club was by no means a local affair.

We wish to encourage any other members who happen to arrive in the Springfield, Mass., area to contact us and it is more than likely we will attempt to convene special meetings.

#### THE POSTHORN

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