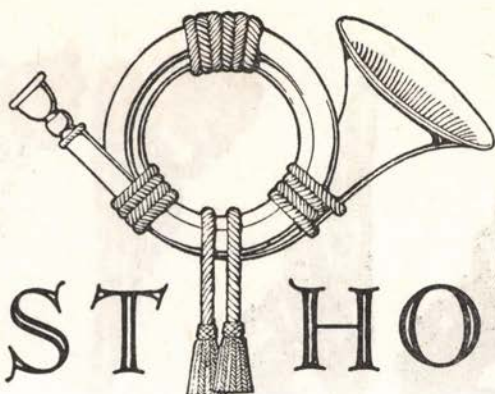


The

POST HORN



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SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB OF NEW YORK

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Number 1

NORWAY

A few notes on the 1893-95 issue

by Gustave Larson (224)

In selecting for my initial presentation a translation, in part from an article on the 3, 5 and 20 ore values printed by the Central Printing Company which was written by Felix Buttner and Th. Urdahl (published in 1934 in the *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*), I am certain that, although it may be an old story to many, it will prove new and interesting to many others.

Both the Central Printing Company, who supplied the stamps in the period between 1893 and 1895, and Chr. H. Knudsen, who took over in 1896, made use of the old original steel die, and both employed basically the same method in the makeup of their printing plates. A single impression would first be taken from the original die. After adding the small figures of value in the oval band, four impressions were taken from this secondary die and joined together to form a block of four. This block would then be utilized in making a sufficient number of cliches from which to construct a printing plate.

The original steel die was reengraved between Dec. 20, 1892 and March 12, 1893 but nothing definite is known of the extent of this work. While the inscriptions were changed from sans-serif to roman capitals, there is nothing to prove that the wings in the corners were also gone over. Rather, there are indications that they remained untouched. By accepting this hypothesis, we may be able to provide an answer to much which would otherwise perhaps have to remain unexplained.

For instance, it will offer a solution as to why as late as on a #77 (Plate I), printed by Chr. H. Knudsen, a stamp has been found on which the wing designs clearly resemble those of the original die. Similarly, it will explain the variations in the wings encountered on stamps of #58, 20 ore, perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$; #61 (Plate I), 5 ore, perf. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ and #63 (Plate I), 20 ore, perf. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$. However, like everything else, when conclusive evidence is lacking it must be considered only as a hypothesis, or theory, that will have to stand until someone either offers a better explanation or discovers stronger evidence pointing towards another theory. If the wings had remained untouched, or were only carelessly gone over, during this reengraving of the original steel die, the condition of the cliches would naturally be accordingly, which might explain why only 34,200 stamps from the so-called trial printing of the 3 ore value of the issue of July 1893 are known to have been accepted.

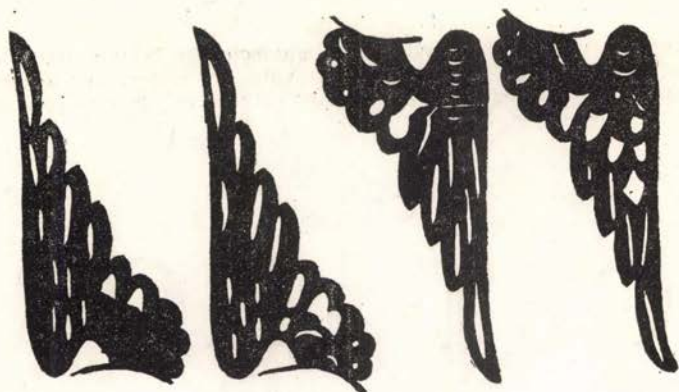


Fig. 1 — No. 56 (Plate I)

3 ORE ORANGE-YELLOW

The Norwegian catalog list this value printed by the Central Printing Company as follows:

#56. Perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ (issued Aug. 8, 1893) total 2,978,400.

Variety. Perf. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$. Total 34,200.

(Can be distinguished by the types of the wings and by the postmark date.)

#60. Perf. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ (issued in Spring of 1895) Total 1,953,900.

Beginning with #56 certain stamps show evidence of retouch in the wings. About twenty different have been discovered. The 4 wings shown on Fig. 1 are taken from different stamps. The fact that these retouches or re-engravings are relatively scarce, also that a large number of stamps occur where it is impossible to see the design clearly, suggest that in all probability only a small percentage of the cliches have been subjected to this treatment.

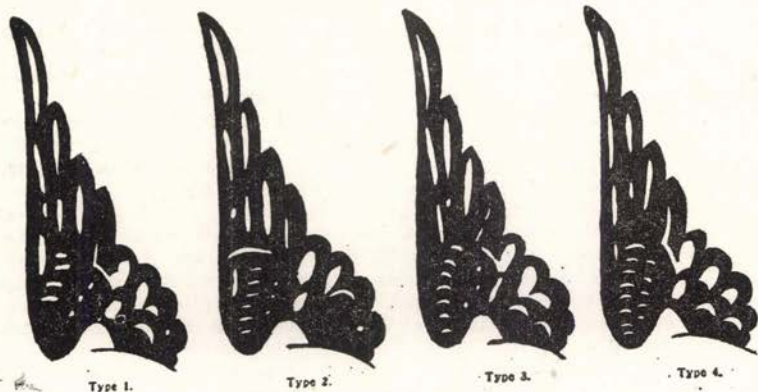


Fig. 2 — No. 56 (Plate II)

The majority of the stamps from this printing may however be assigned to 4 definite types. See Fig. 2.

As previously mentioned, the Central Printing Company delivered a second supply of this value in the Spring of 1895, perforated $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$. (#60). A casual comparison between stamps from this printing with those perforated $14\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ "which types are shown above," might suggest certain resemblances between the two, but closer scrutiny will reveal differences that are too pronounced to conclude that the same plate could have been used for both printings. What happened is this: A block of 4 cliches were taken from the plate used

in printing #56 which after having been subjected to certain retouches, was used as a secondary die from which to mould the cliches for a new plate. This is the one from which #60 was printed. There are four definite types as shown on Fig. 3.

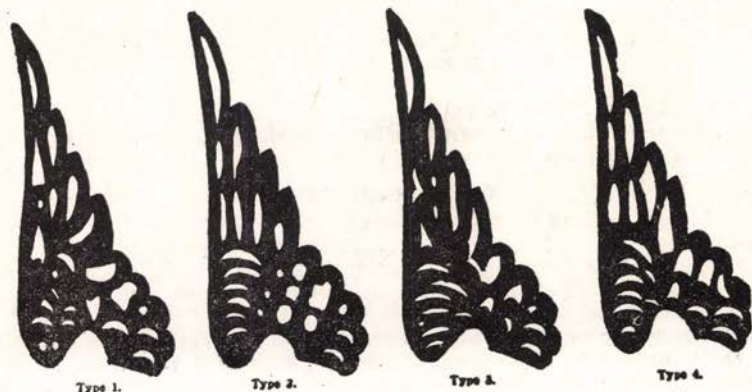


Fig. 3 — No. 60

Now a few words about the coarse perforated variety of No. 56, listed but unpriced in the Norwegian catalog. A lot of about twenty of this scarce stamp were obtained but the wings proved to be identical with these on No. 60, and all were postmarked in the Spring of 1895. Regardless of appeal to a number of philatelists who were thought might be in possession of this variety we were for a time unable to locate a single copy on which the design of the wings corresponded to those on No. 56. The entire quantity of the above stamps must therefore be assigned to No. 60 which points to a probable pre-distribution of a few sheets from this printing. In support of this statement we might refer to page 130 in Norges Frimerker of 1924, on which it is mentioned that a supply of 1,953,900 stamps, now perforated $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, were received from the Central Printing Company on December 21, 1894, and placed in circulation beginning June 14, 1895. "While this seems to be proof that the stamps in question were delivered as early as December 21, 1894, they are not supposed to have been officially issued until half a year later." There is, however, good grounds for suspicion that a few sheets, in some way may have been distributed ahead of schedule, and to have been used in the Spring of 1895. This is now regarded as an established fact, and has so been noted in the late editions of the Norwegian catalog. We were finally successful in obtaining a copy of the true variety of No. 56 (perf. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$). This was cancelled September 28, 1893, and had the same types of the wings as No. 56, perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$. In addition it proved to be a Type II from Plate II. The only dependable way of identifying the variety is by studying the design in the wings. Cancellations will not prove conclusive because errors in the dates sometimes occur, and the possibility that a copy might have been used as late as in the Spring of 1895 must be considered.

This variety of No. 56 Plate II is probably much rarer than previously rated, and unquestionably is scarcer than the early cancelled copies of No. 60. Both up to now have been linked to the so-called trial printing delivered July 5, 1893, but the question now is: What is this trial printing? This is virtually impossible to ascertain. A study of cancellations will not offer any solution because the regular supply was delivered along with the trial printing on Aug. 25, 1893. One might suggest that the trial printing could have been composed of the retouched varieties but this hypothesis seems a little farfetched. "What appears more plausible is this:" The stamps from the trial printing on account of faulty engraving presented a blurred appearance (without trace of design in the wings), a condition no doubt responsible for the large quantity rejected. Because of the limited time (July 5 to Aug. 28) a partial retouching of the plate was undertaken, and the printing resumed until a new plate could be made

ready. It is therefore an open question as to which stamps constitute the trial printing since in all probability only part of the plate was subjected to retouch. The fact that this perforation variety is now proven to have originated among stamps printed from the second plate it appears to be incorrect to call it a trial printing, or to attempt to establish the total number issued.

A revised listing would read like this:

No. 56. Printed by the Central Printing Company.

3 ore perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ issued Aug. 28, 1893, total 3,012,600.

Plate I. Partly retouched cliches.

Plate II. 4 types.

Variety: Perf. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$.

This is somewhat at variance with the listing in the Norwegian catalog, wherein the perforation variety is still considered as the trial printing.

5 ORE GREEN (SHADES)

This value is listed in the Norwegian catalog as follows.

#61. Perf. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ (issued Dec. 21, 1893) Total 14,939,000.

Plate I. Thin foot-stroke in "R" of "FRIM"

Plate II. Thick foot-stroke, and generally with white line below mouth-piece.

The Central Printing Company delivered in the period between December 16, 1893, and January 10, 1894, a total of 7,900,000 stamps of this value, which were officially placed in circulation as early as December 21, 1893. The following year the same printers made a second delivery of 7,039,000 stamps. "Both printings may be readily distinguished from Knudsens printings by a study of the small figure of value." Furthermore the stamps can be divided into two groups. The first group takes in all stamps with indistinct (blurred) design in the wings (see Fig. 4). The majority of these prove to be cancelled in 1894 and have to be assigned to the first printing. The second group embodies all stamps with clear designs in the wings. These are all cancelled after March 9th, 1895, and must belong to the second printing. A close scrutiny of the wings in the two groups reveal that the differences can hardly be attributed to irregularities in the printing of the stamps, but rather to variations in the cliches on the plate.



Fig. 4 — No. 61 (Plate I)



II.

Fig. 5

This is further supported by other variations such as the "R" in "POST-FRIM." In this letter the right hind leg is fairly thin and of even thickness on the first group, while on the second it grows thicker towards the bottom. (See Fig. 5).

This leads to the conclusion that new cliches must have been made for the second printing, at which time the wings were also given a going over. The same procedure was followed, as has been previously described, in that a block of four has been assembled on which the wings have been retouched, resulting in four distinct types. (See Fig. 6.) The types are, as will be seen by the illustrations, quite readily distinguished from one another. As previously mentioned the two plates are listed individually in the Norwegian catalog. A com-

parison of prices might prove interesting to collectors not having this readily available. Plate I is quoted at the equivalent of \$.50 unused and \$.03 used, while Plate II is valued at \$4.00, mint and \$.25 used.

For those who take the watermarks seriously it may be mentioned that stamps from Plate I may be found with the watermark in vertical (4 positions) as well as horizontal positions, while stamps from Plate II are known only with horizontal watermark. Copies are also known with double perforation.

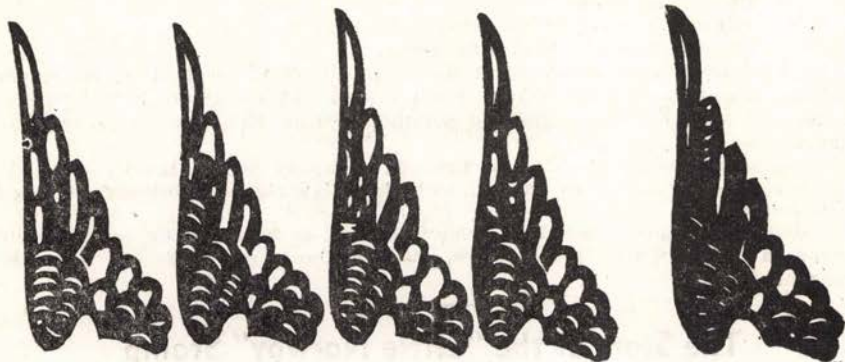


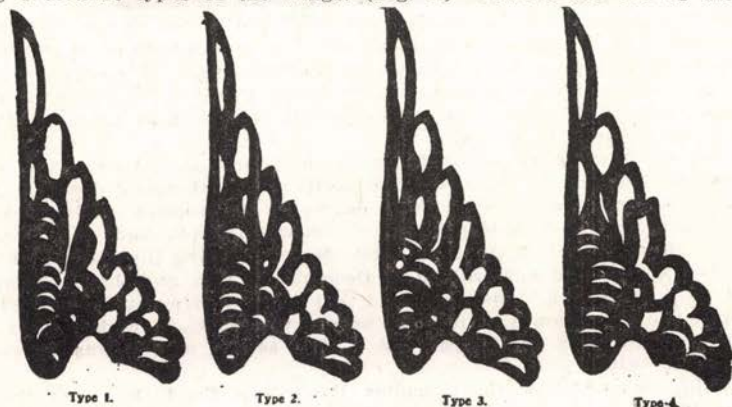
Fig. 6 — No. 61 (Plate II)

Fig. 7

20 ORE ULTRAMARINE

The Central Printing Company supplied 5,920,000 stamps of this value between November 29th and December 13, 1893. They are perforated $14\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ and listed in the Norwegian catalog as No. 58. A second supply was delivered between September 11th and November 6th, 1894. This consisted of a total of 2,976,700 stamps, now perforated $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ and are listed as No. 63. Stamps from the first delivery were placed in circulation December 16, 1893, while the second supply was not brought into use until October 9, 1895. The stamps are easy to distinguish from those of the next printing, as the color throughout is distinctly paler. The small figures of value are absolutely characteristic, especially the little crooked "0." "The shape of the small figure '2' is also different." A closer study of the two printings reveal that two plates were used. (Plate I, see Fig. 7.) This has probably been employed for printing the entire quantity of the first and part of the second supply. The presence of the same plate-flaws on stamps with both types of perforation appear to confirm this.

Later on, during the second printing a new plate had been employed, now showing 4 distinct types of the wings. (Fig. 8.) Toward the end of the last



Type 1.

Type 2.

Type 3.

Type 4.

Fig. 8 — No. 63 (Plate II)

printing a few individual cliches appear to have been retouched. They may be found on any one of the 4 types.

The proper listing would be as follows:

#58. 20 ore ultramarine. Perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

Plate I. Without distinguishable types.

#63. 20 ore ultramarine perf. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$.

Plate I. As above.

Plate II. 4 types of the wings.

Plate II. Variety. Retouched types.

A few words about prices might not be out of place. Scott lists this stamp with the $14\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ perforation at 35 cents unused. This may not be too far out of the way for a copy from the last printing by Chr. Knudsen but grossly inaccurate for any other.

Stamps printed by the Central Printing Company perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ are selling in Norway at 4 dollars unused, with the $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ perf. bringing as high as 6 dollars.

Some years ago I tried, but without success, to have Scott's correct their erroneous listing of this issue. A few notes on the 10 ore value will follow in the near future.

The Story of the "Little Norway" Stamp

by Jarle O. Stensdal (387)

Translated by Carl H. Werenskiold (59)

PART III



The first supply of 50,000 stamps was delivered by the Canadian Bank Note Co. of Ottawa in December 1942. It consisted of 1,000 sheets of 50 stamps each. All expenses in connection with engraving and printing of this supply were paid by the well-known Norwegian-American Georg Unger Vetlesen of New York. One sheet marked "Specimen" was presented to General Carl Erichsen, Norwegian military attache in Ottawa.

When the Norwegian authorities, after the liberation, agreed to the issuance of the Little Norway stamp, it was due partly to the aforesaid decision of State Councilor Hindall and also in a high degree to the appeals made by Minister Daniel Steen and the American friend of Norway John P. Darnall, who was attached to the Information Office in Little Norway during the war. A new supply of 1,000,000 stamps was ordered on December 1, 1945, and the Canadian Bank Note Co., on December 5, 1945, affirmed that it will deliver "an additional 1,000,000 Little Norway stamps which will be exactly the same with respect to paper, design and color as the first lot." This second supply was delivered on January 16, 1946.

Making an exception, the Canadian Bank Note Co. turned over the plates for the Little Norway stamp to the Norwegian Postal Department and these plates are now in the safekeeping of the Norwegian Postal Museum.

Opposing interests came into play with respect to the issuance of this stamp.

One side stood with Lt. Col. Reistad representing those who, with this stamp, would advertise the contribution made by Norway and provide some funds for the aviation camp through the sale of the stamp. It is easy to understand Reistad's views and sympathize with them but he was not an expert in this field and was not aware of the international conventions regarding postage stamps. One receives a clear impression of this by reading the documents cited in the foregoing.

The Norwegian Government in London stood on the other side. It would be quite understandable if it had been infected in some degree by the stamp policy followed by the governments of certain other occupied countries. However, it was not infected thereby but carried on the old traditions of the Norwegian Postal Department. It had an eye for the future also in this field and would not risk—to cite the letter of April 6, 1943, from the Commerce Department to the Legation in Montreal, "that Norway would be 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." We have every reason to be grateful to the men who, in those difficult years, continued sponsoring this view.

But we should also be happy that the Little Norway stamp was finally issued, not as an object of speculation, but in a sufficient number to satisfy everyone's requirements. In that way it became the best propaganda for the contribution made by the Norwegian aviators. No one has written more beautifully about the Little Norway stamp than John P. Darnell in an American magazine: "As Ulf Wormdal and Bernhard Malmoe seem to come toward us, we may in our thoughts easily see rows upon rows of all those who followed them, the dead in the shadow of our memories, the living in the shining light of liberated Norway."

In conclusion, I should like to mention that the Norwegian Postal Department reimbursed the entire amount of the sales of the first printing—7,500 Kr.—and a corresponding amount toward the sale of the second printing—in all 15,000 Kr.—to the "Aviation Aid Fund." In this manner, the original purpose of the stamp was fulfilled—advertising the contribution made by Norway—and raising funds for the dependents of those who lost their lives.

It remains only to thank the Postal Department for their courtesy toward philatelists through me, by permitting me to consult all documents concerning this matter. It is proof of the understanding attitude of the Postal Department toward our hobby and of the cooperation existing between the Postal Department and our organizations which, I hope, will continue to the pleasure and benefit of both parties.



PHILANDER THE PHUNNY PHILATELIST SAYS:

The increasing use of postage meter machines, not alone in this country but throughout the world, should be a considerable cause of concern to philatelists. Besides, it will throw a lot of stamp lickens out of work. And now they have automatic postage meter vending machines in post offices in large cities. Just the other day my Uncle Phreddie, who knows a bargain when he sees one, dropped some pennies into one of those contraptions...thought he was getting a plug of tobacco, so he did...he says life is getting too consarned complicated. But to top it all off, so to speak, a few weeks ago there arrived through the mail some propaganda from the Universal Postal Union (in Switzerland) concerning their 75th Anniversary currently being commemorated and...you guessed it...the envelope was phranked with postage meter adhesives instead of stamps.

Swedish Local Posts in the 19th Century

by Roland King-Farlow (317)

This article appeared originally in the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain

PART III

Malmö Gamla Stadsbudsexpedition

The fourth of the old Swedish private stamp-issuing concerns was the Malmö Gamla Stadsbudsexpedition (Malmö Old Town Messenger Service). This undertaking, however, did not handle letters, but only parcels, and very little is known about it. Andree and Rommel both mentioned it in their writings on Scandinavian private posts, yet strangely enough none of the commercial directories and handbooks of the time give any information about it.

Although it is believed that the firm started operations in Malmö about 1880, it was not until 1888 that stamps were first employed. Even then Andree did not regard these issues as being for postal use in the accepted philatelic sense. "They cannot be placed on a level with postage stamps," he wrote, "when they merely acted as a sort of receipt attached to articles which were delivered in the town. They were not placed on sale, and consequently cannot be said to have been used for franking in the strict sense of the word." It rather looks as if Andree's valuation of the Malmö issues was a true one, since they do not appear to have much more claim to postal status than do, say, the present-day labels of Messrs. Carter, Paterson & Co. However, they are generally classed among local stamps and may therefore be described here.

The stamps were lithographed in Copenhagen, probably by Ferslew & Co. There were two issues, each of seven values similar in type though differing in size. The design comprises an upright oval band containing the firm-name and, at the bottom, the words "Bud Uthyses" ("messengers for hire"). In the centre were the arms of Malmö and the figure of value, with "öre" on a band in between. The exterior part was filled with ornamental scroll work.

In the first issue of 1888, in large upright format, all stamps were bi-coloured, and perforated $1\frac{1}{2}$ all round. They were printed in sheets of 120, in 12 rows of ten stamps each. There were ten types of each value, forming a block of five vertical pairs repeated twelve times to form the full sheet, the lay-out being constant for the seven values.

Evidently the original issue was found rather unwieldy, for a second issue in the same values and design, but in greatly reduced format followed in 1889. The stamps were still perforated $1\frac{1}{2}$, but the sheet size was reduced to 100, ten rows of ten. There were again ten types of each value, except in the case of the 35 öre, arranged in the same manner as in the first issue, and it is most curious that the characteristics of the types are very similar to those of the corresponding types of the first issue. This would seem to indicate that some mechanical means was used to reproduce the larger dies in reduced format. The first vertical pair of the 35 öre seems to have been damaged in the process, since no corresponding type occurred in the small stamps, which were arranged



as follows:—

1st and odd rows: Types 2, 3, 4, 5, 2, 3, 4, 5, 4, 5.

2nd and even rows: Types 7, 8, 9, 10, 7, 8, 9, 10, 9, 10.

In the second issue only the two highest values were bi-coloured.

I have not been able to ascertain what cancellation, if any, was employed by the Malmo Gamla Stadsbudsexpedition nor, indeed, have I ever seen anything but mint copies.

The check list of these stamps is as follows:—

1888. Large Arms type.

1. 10 ore, green and lilac.
2. 25 ore, black and rose.
3. 35 ore, dark blue and yellow.
4. 40 ore, pale red and dark green.
5. 50 ore, blue and brown.
6. 75 ore, silver and dark blue.
7. 1 kr., gold and red.

1889. Small Arms type.

8. 10 ore, green.
9. 25 ore, dark ultramarine.
10. 35 ore, grey-brown.
11. 40 ore, light red.
12. 50 ore, yellow.
13. 75 ore, silver and blue.
14. 1 kr., gold and red.



by Agent No. 42
Staff of the Old Sleuth

Elections have been held and holidays gone by since I last discoursed on the merits of various members in the club—and lots has happened since, so let us see what some of the elite in the S. C. C. have done * * * Ferrars H. Tows suffered a serious sprain to the muscles in his back during late summer when he slipped in his garden in Norfolk, Conn. We are happy to report his recovery and that he is his usual genial self * * * rumors have it that Harry L. Lindquist is slated for Presidency in the New York Athletic Club—if true, stamp clubs will see very little of Harry during the coming year * * * and our seafaring member, Capt. Carl Dahlstrom, is again braving the seven seas—last we heard from him he was in Korea * * * our past and present treasurers have both joined the ranks of “cracked pot hunters”—Bob Read won the trophy for best in the show at Central New Jersey Federation exhibition last September and again at Stampex he captured the Stephan G. Rich trophy, both times for Danish cancellations; George Wiberg at Stampex was awarded a trophy and second best in the show for his Finnish Military Post collection—and while on the subject of our new treasurer, Bob Read, he was recently elected President of the F. S. C. of New Jersey, the Federation consisting of eleven clubs * * * and Arthur Heim, the famous S. C. C. auction manager, stuck his head into the lion's den when he sent his collection of Congo to the International in Brus-

sels, but like Daniel he came out O. K.—a silver medal no less—perhaps the boy has a collection after all * * * we are sorry to note that the eyesight of our old friend and member, **Adolph Weber**, in Berkeley, California, has had a setback, and last heard from he was to undergo an operation for cataract. We sincerely hope the operation was a success * * * and now to divulge a deep, deep secret—the old familiar stork has been seen in and about Albertson lately. Don't be surprised if he will visit the home of a well-known Editor of the *Pöst Horn*—and is this a relief to **Roland Morse** * * * it was nice to see our far away visitor at the Club auction, namely **Gustaf Johansson** from Gothenburg—he enjoyed the evening immensely * * * while on the subject of auctions **George Stribley** recently got himself an agent to represent him at a sale, but the agent quit and he lost his lot. **Phil Grabfield, Jr.** was overjoyed and stated, "I hope he keeps his agent." * * * **Norman Welo** of Hibbing, Nebraska, not only collects the stamps of Norway, but recently had to journey to Norway to collect himself a bride—and speaking of Norman, he really is a fine collector, both of stamps and brides, because he possesses one of the most unusual lots of Norway No. 4, plated, and each position on a different cover * * * and this summer the **Purple Passion (Fay Jordan)** got herself a new Lincoln. She got tired of her old Packard because one of the servants of the State of Connecticut handed her one of the State's tokens of their esteem. Yes, she is at large, so no cards or letters of sympathy are needed * * * as you probably know, **Roland King-Farlow** recently went to Denmark to brush up on his Danish—or perhaps he had heard that the food was almost as plentiful in Denmark as in the U. S. Anyway, R. K-F. is now extremely fond of Danish proofs and essays, so if you have any floating around, send them along. He writes the nicest thank you letters! * * * it is rumored that some little while ago good **Dr. Sneller of Peoria, Ill.**, received a bulky shipment via express—yes, his dreams had materialized. At last a mystery box arrived—and was it a mystery! Just write him. We understand the good Doctor has given up the Confederate States and now concentrates on "Penalty covers." * * * **Doris Stericker**, from the city of Brotherly Love, is still a glutton for punishment—she has found more stamps to plate in D. W. I. I guess Bill is too busy to make what it takes, so he has to take a back seat with his stamps. * * * **Bill Foulk** and **Frank Maybury** recently invaded Washington with a showing of how a real collection of Denmark should look. While there Frank was invited to look over a lady's etchings, but the coward came straight back to New York * * * well, this could go on and on, so I guess we'll close for now and a **HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL!**

CARL E. PELANDER IS FETED AT SPRINGFIELD

On November 21st I visited the newly-formed Springfield Chapter No. 6, and was more than pleasantly surprised at the cordial welcome I received upon my arrival.

After being duly installed at Hotel Kimball and greeted by Roland and Mrs. Morse, (cocktails and all), Marcus White and yours truly were ushered to a private dining room where a sumptuous banquet was served. This was attended by most of the members of the chapter, their wives and a few visitors.

Following the festivities, President Leon Webster called the meeting to order, dispensing with all usual business and called upon me as guest speaker. My showing consisted of four volumes of Danish West Indies loaned to me by Mr. Ferrars H. Tows, which took in the early combination covers, British, French and German stamps used in the islands, also forwarders and the first four stamps issued for the D. W. I.

During my talk I made several feeble attempts at converting some of the ladies present into the realm of philately, all of them being so very attractive that their presence certainly would boost the membership of the Springfield Chapter with new collectors of Scandinavian Philately.

—C. E. Pelander

Book Reviews

SCOTT'S 1950 CATALOGUE:

To specialists in Scandinavian stamps, the new catalogue will prove the soundness of their collecting, especially after noting the drastic cuts that several of the Central European countries have had in Scott's 1950 catalogue.

Most of the price changes this year are of very little importance, and a quick glance at the following table will indicate the number of gains as well as losses:

	Gains		Losses	
	mint	used	mint	used
Danish West Indies	—	—	—	—
Denmark	35	27	37	23
Finland	79	70	17	6
Finnish Occupation of Russia	—	—	—	—
Karelia	1	4	5	3
North Ingermanland	5	4	1	1
Greenland	7	7	2	—
Iceland	34	32	4	10
Norway	12	13	11	14
Sweden	30	66	—	15

The losses in the majority of instances are chiefly in the lower priced brackets and of recent issues.

It is far from my intention to quarrel with those who edit the catalogue, which in itself is a huge task, and it is almost impossible to arrive at absolutely correct figures in all instances, yet constructive criticism is in most cases welcome.

In going over the Scandinavian countries a few discrepancies can be found and I shall attempt to give a fair and unbiased opinion on these.

DENMARK: The Faroe Islands Stamps all saw a cut in price, and this was rather surprising, certainly I saw no reason to cut #155, the smallness of the issue (15,500) and the large demand should have warranted the retention of the old quotations. As to the 1940-41 provisionals, the price on these have more than doubled abroad within the past six months and the demand seems larger than the supply. I do believe that about 80% of the entire issue is now located in the United States. Other stamps that in my opinion received unnecessary cuts were #128-9, 131-33, J24 and Q10-11; all of these stamps being obsolete and scarce enough to retain their former price range.

In **FINLAND** the charity issues saw a considerable boost as did #16 which went up \$5.00 either way. However, some minute reductions in the 1917-29 issues are rather hard to understand; take a stamp like #95 which is practically impossible to obtain abroad and now listed at 3c mint—it's just one of those things. The biggest mystery in Finland are Nos. 21f and 21g, two Tete Beche pairs of 1875-81 issues; #21f is one of the greatest rarities in this country. Less than 15 pairs exist, yet it is listed at \$125.00* (I have never seen a mint pair) and \$75.00 used. Then again we come to #21g (perf. 12½) listed at * \$150.00 and used at \$100.00, this being the most common of all the Tete Beche varieties and seldom brings over \$40.00 at auction. Out of curiosity I looked up the last auction price on #21f and noted a pair sold in 1944 for \$265.00. In view of this I feel that something should be done regarding these two items. Another thing that is unusual is the "Aunus" set in Finnish Occupation of Russia, N5 and 6. Each was issued in the same quantity (4,000 copies each) yet the 50p is priced at \$3.50 either way and the 1m at \$5.00. The difference of face value should not make this difference. As to the used price on the 5m value \$6.00—this also seems strange since the ratio of used copies compared to mint copies is about 1 to 20.

KARELIA #1-15 is "in again and out again" as far as price is concerned—it is now priced at \$5.75 per set. For a genuine set this is a real bargain because I retail this set (when in stock) at \$15.00 and can sell all I have at that

price. Here again we have a rather strange way of pricing. The 5p to 1m of which 20,000 copies were printed are priced from 35c to 50c each, and the high values of which only 15,000 were printed at 30c each.

NORWAY prices as a whole are fair, but some of the reductions were unwarranted as in Nos. O9-21. These are some of the hardest stamps to obtain at wholesale, and especially so #O12 and O13a. I shall be happy to pay three times the catalogue for either. The "Abel Error," #147a, priced at \$5.00 mint and 15c used must be a slip somewhere. In two of my recent auctions this error has sold from \$7.00 to \$10.00 mint, and used I note that the Norwegian catalogues price it even higher than mint. I also note that #128 remained stationary at \$8.00. This stamp certainly warranted a boost as did the entire "V" issue. Another stamp that seems underpriced is #1 in mint condition; this stamp is nearer the \$150.00 value than the \$100.00 quoted.

GREENLAND had nothing of note—the current issue is up, the obsolete down.

In SWEDEN there were no changes in the first 94 stamps, but the commemoratives of recent years saw substantial boosts. It seems to me that with the official destruction of the remainder of the 55 o. and 80 o. stamps (Nos. 90 and 92), a substantial boost would have been in order, as they retail in Sweden mint at 800 Kr. each and used at 1,000 Kr., or approximately \$160.00* and \$200.00 used. Other stamps, to take a few at random, that should have been upped are #37, 133, 161 and 165. Another criticism of Sweden concerns the imperforate stamps in the 1876-78 issues and also the imperforate Postage Due and official stamps. These inflated prices have been in the catalogue so long and yet they mean nothing when compared with the prices they bring at auction. Take Wennberg's catalogue—there these same \$100.00 to \$150.00 stamps are priced at from 75.00 Kr. to 250.00 Kr. each, which is more like their real values.

—Carl E. Pelander

A. F. A. FRIMERKE KATALOG for 1950:

This European catalog, issued by Aarhus Frimerkehandel, Aarhus, Denmark, is again in the convenient size (5¼x8 inches) as in previous years, although with 880 pages it is nearly twice as thick as it was a few years ago. This is due to the inclusion of practically every European country and the profuse illustrations. In Denmark, for example, there are over 100 illustrations of errors and 24 illustrations in a section devoted to the newly discovered differences in the steel engraved stamps issued since 1933.

The Danish section includes price lists of tete beche pairs, automat pairs and numerous other specialties. There is a list of First Day Covers of Denmark, Norway and Sweden. Since the catalog went to press before the devaluation the prices are low according to the present rate of exchange. There were only a few changes in prices listed compared to the 1949 edition. The A. F. A. catalog is a "must" in Denmark and many collectors of Danish stamps in this country may find it very valuable. A small separate edition, containing only the Scandinavian countries is also issued as well as a price list of Danish stamps in blocks. The catalogs are well printed and the standard of the illustrations is high.

—Einar Ernst

DECEASED

We deeply regret to report the death of three of our members.

- 321 G. E. Heine, Lake Forest, Ill.
 432 Frans Rudolph Ekdahl, Stockholm, Sweden
 488 Carl Mullert, Paterson, N. J.
-

New and Recent Issues

by Carl E. Pelander



DENMARK:

August 24th, 1949

Engraved

Unwmkd.

Perf. 12¾

Supplementing the new King Frederik IX issue.

40 o. deep blue

The above stamp appears to have been re-engraved, many of the shading line having been strengthened. This appears also on the recently re-issued 15 ore value.

October 9th, 1949

Engraved

Unwmkd.

Perf. 12¾

Commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Universal Postal Union.

40 o. dark blue

October 26th, 1949

Parcel Post Stamps

Stamps of the Frederik IX series overprinted "POSTFAERGE"

30 o. orange

40 o. deep blue

Postage Due Stamps

Supplementing the 1914-23 issues (Scott type D1)

40 o. claret

FINLAND:

September 13th, 1949

Centenary of the College of Technology Issue

Engraved

Unwmkd.

Perf. 14

15 m. blue

This stamp has been reported to us as issued, but as yet not received. It features the seal of the College and was designed by Mrs. Signe Hammersten-Jansson and engraved by B. Ekholm.

October 8th, 1949

U. P. U. Commemorative Issue

Engraved

Unwmkd.

Perf. 14

15 m. blue

Designed by Aarne Karjalainen and engraved by B. Ekholm. Total issue 1,000,000 copies.

November 1st, 1949

Change of colors

Typographed Unwmkd Perf. 14
 Due to currency devaluation five new values have been issued of the
 "Lion Type" (Scott A26)

8 m. green (for printed matter)
 9 m. orange (domestic card rate)
 12 m. red (foreign postcard rate)
 15 m. violet (domestic letter rate)
 20 m. blue (foreign letter rate)

ICELAND:

October 9th, 1949

U. P. U. Commemorative Issue

Engraved

Unwmkd.

Perf. 14

25 a. green
 35 a. carmine rose
 60 a. deep blue
 2 kr. orange red

Various scenic designs, printed by De La Rue and Company, Ltd., London, England

NORWAY:

October 9th, 1949

U. P. U. Commemorative Issue

Photogravure

Unwmkd.

Perf. 13

10 o. green and black
 25 o. rose carmine
 40 o. blue

SWEDEN:

October 9th, 1949

U. P. U. Commemorative Issue
Coil Stamps, Perf. 12½ Vertically

Engraved

Unwmkd

10 o. green
 20 o. red

Perf. 12½ Horizontally

30 o. ultramarine

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

10 o. green
 20 o. red

The above issue was designed by Mark Sylwan and engraved by Sven Ewert.

New Members

RESIDENT

592 Herbert James Callister, 7004 Ridge Crest Terrace, Brooklyn 9, N. Y.
 (D., U. S.)

NON-RESIDENT AND FOREIGN

584 Eric Holmstrom, Box 1107, Teg, Sweden (Scan., U. S., Holland)
 585 William Barbier, 2917 W. Columbia Ave., Philadelphia, Pa. (F)
 586 Orville L. Evenson, 206 N. 7th Street, Marshalltown, Iowa (N., U. S.)
 587 Harry Poulsen, Brunngade 33, Aarhus, Denmark (Danish Cancels)
 588 Olaf S. Leifson, 226 College Drive, Reno, Nevada (N., I.)
 589 Phillip H. Ward, Jr., 1616 Walnut Street, Philadelphia 3, Pa. (Early multiples & blocks of world)
 590 Myron E. Timmons, 811 No. Custer Avenue, Miles City, Montana (U. S., Scan., Americana)

591 Leon Seaf, 1273 Hope Street, Springdale, Conn. (Scan.)

RESIGNATIONS ACCEPTED

- 48 Paul Bluss, New York City
 275 Ewald B. Nygwist, New York City
 351 Alfred Diamond, Chicago, Illinois
 413 Robert B. Jansen, Chicago, Illinois

News of Interest

George Wiberg (177) says it is reported from Finland, that the design for the new high value Air Mail Stamp, which has been under consideration for a long time, has been approved by the postal authorities and, that the stamp is expected to appear shortly after the new year. The new stamp, in the size of the regular commemorative stamps, is arranged vertically and somewhat resembles the Finnish U. P. U. stamp. The design depicts a wintry scene after a heavy snow fall with a "Dakota" type mail plane in flight overhead. The stamp is primarily meant for heavier overseas air mail pieces and will be of 300 markka denomination and printed in blue color. This will be the first time in the Finnish postal history, that a stamp is issued for regular air mail use. Finland's only air mail stamp (C1) were a special issue and valid only for mail carried on "Graf Zeppelin's" return flight from Finland to Friedrichshafen, Germany and C2 erroneously catalogued as an air mail stamp, is a commemorative issued in honor of the Finnish Commercial Air Line—Aero O/Y—commemorating 20 years of regularly operated flights.

Uno Soderberg (H-5) of Sweden, sends the following: In the eighteen seventies high rates and imperfect co-operation between the countries still made the international postal communications difficult. The possibilities of dispatching a letter from one country to another depended upon whether these countries had made an agreement of postal exchange and the postage rates were calculated according to distance. Sometimes it was not possible for the sender to pay the rates for the whole way. Already in the beginning of the nineteenth century the idea had arisen to remove the difficulties by coordinating the different countries in a General Postal Union. But it was not until 1874 that such a union came into being. In that year, representatives of 22 countries met in Switzerland, to discuss a draft of a universal postal union, submitted by the director general of the German Postal Service, Dr. Henrich von Stephan, and on October 9th the same year the treaty was signed, by which the Universal Postal Union was founded. All countries that are members of the Universal Postal Union form one single postal territory. As a principle, the international postage rates shall be the same all over the world. Every country is obliged to convey another country's mail as quickly as its own. The Universal Postal Union is the largest of all inter-state unions and since many years all countries are incorporated. In spite of wars and revolutions it has succeeded in subsisting and containing its activities ever since its foundation.

Rainer Ahonius (503) reports from Finland: An air letter "Aerogram" was also released on Oct. 8, which however was not valid for use till the following day, Oct. 9. Due to the new postal rates, effective Nov. 1, made necessary by the devaluation of the markka, the Aerogram was issued without any imprinted value. The rate for the air letter sheet was established at 15mk and raised to 20mk, after Nov. 1, in accordance with the new rates. A price of 3mk was charged for the Aerogram sheet. The Air letter will eventually appear with an imprinted stamp.

DON'T FORGET TO PAY YOUR DUES FOR 1950. This year we have adopted a convenient envelope for this purpose. Don't put it off, **SEND YOUR DUES TODAY!**

Club News

The Scandinavian Collectors Club in New York started the new season off with a bang on September 14th. Our Program Chairman, Richard Gibson, exhibited and commented most ably on his excellent study of the bi-colored issues of Denmark. On October 12th, we held the auction sale which was a great success, in fact, it is planned to make this an annual event. A total of \$88.85 was realized for the POST HORN fund. A list of prices realized is enclosed with this issue of The Post Horn. At the November 9th meeting we were privileged to see the prize-winning (See The Hornblower) collection of Finnish Military Post assembled by George Wiberg. Many of us knew that George was working on this but no one realized how completely he has covered the possibilities of this subject.

Chicago Chapter No. 4

There is not much recent news as our local Chapter does not meet during the summer months. At our April meeting, Ben Reeves gave a talk illustrated with examples, on fakes of the stamps of the Scandinavian countries in particular with side-lights on fakes in general and how to detect them. At our May meeting Tony Risso gave a very interesting talk on printing methods. He illustrated his talk with diagrams, samples of a lithographers stone, engraving plates, etc., with stamps printed by all the various processes. Our last meeting in June was social with a dinner at the Kungsholm Restaurant. We were saddened by the death of Mr. Heine just a few days earlier, which you no doubt have read about in the stamp magazines.

Springfield, Mass., Chapter No. 6

Mr. Leon Webster was host for our September meeting. The evening had been designated as SWAP NITE, with most of the members bringing along a supply of duplicates. Everybody in attendance decided it was a profitable evening as each found several new acquisitions for his collection.

Our October meeting was held with Mr. and Mrs. Roland Anderson in their new home in Westfield. Roland has fixed up his cellar in a very attractive fashion for his philatelic activities. He has a workshop and a very pleasant meeting room. Entertainment for the evening was provided by Mr. Louis E. LeDuc of Holyoke. His presentation was entitled "Fifty Interesting Covers from Fifty Sources Around the World."

At the meeting November 21st, the chapter had the pleasure of the company of Carl Pelander for dinner and the evening. The meeting was held at the Hotel Kimball, Springfield and was attended by seven members and nine guests. As the first order of business Carl presented our president, Mr. Webster, with a presiding officer's gavel, much needed, as evidenced in our October meeting when we tried to make plans for this November event. Carl showed us Mr. Ferrars Tows magnificent collection of Danish West Indies. All the members and guests felt they had enjoyed an unusual opportunity in examining this collection and hearing Carl explain it. Mr. Marcus White (SCC #196) of Worcester was also a guest of the club. Marcus is acquiring a reputation as a roving delegate for New York stamp organizations. Last May he attended a meeting of the Springfield Stamp Club at which he was a delegate from the Collectors Club.

The ladies who dared venture forth for this meeting were presented with corsages. An attractive souvenir of the evening was distributed to everyone present. The souvenir was in the form of a small card on which had been placed a copy of the Swedes and Finn commemorative stamp of 1938, cancelled with the chapter's "Killer." Carl Pelander very obligingly autographed these souvenirs.

THE POSTHORN

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