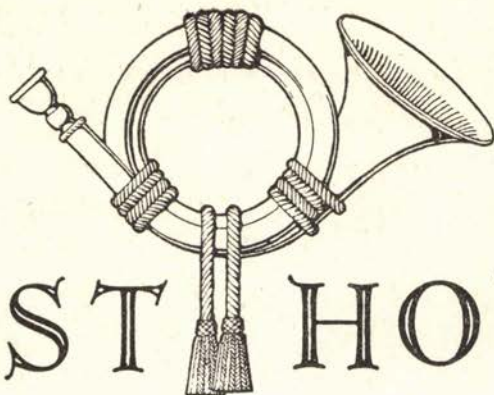


The

POST HORN



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The German Fieldpost Offices in Norway, Denmark and Finland during World War II

By Frederick A. Brofos (497)

In the period following the German invasion of Norway on April 9, 1940 and until the Liberation on May 7, 1945, twenty-two German fieldpost offices were in operation in Norway servicing the occupation forces and the quantities of troops that were trained in winter-warfare before being sent to fight the Bolsheviks on the Eastern Front. Two German FPO's are known to have operated in Denmark, and seven others in Finland. Ten more FPO'S have been traced to Scandinavia, but the actual country in which they were located is still a mystery. In all, a total of 40 different German fieldpost offices are known to have operated at one time or another in Scandinavia.



The German fieldpostmarks used in Scandinavia were of the same characteristic type as those used elsewhere. They may be divided into 2 main types: 1) FELDPOST—wide spacing and round "O"; 2) FELDPOST—narrow spacing and oval "O". Each office had its special distinguishing number which appeared ahead of, and on line with, the date in the postmark. Unfortunately, these numbers appear only in the postmarks used on registered letters, and registration was restricted to official business. For security reasons the FPO number was omitted when the postmark was used on ordinary mail and the symbols "___" or "000" put in their place. It is difficult to determine the origin of covers in this category unless other markings provide clues. Even the date in the postmark is often of importance, as many FPO's were not located all the time in Norway but moved there from, or from

there to, another country. If there were several postmarks at a fieldpost office, these were generally distinguished by letters: a, b, c, d, etc., which appeared just under the world FELDPOST.



Fig. 2

Unlike American APO mail which was addressed to the appropriate Army Post Office number, mail to the Wehrmacht was not addressed to the numbered German Fieldpost Offices but to the unit fieldpost number. Every German troop unit or command office had its special fieldpost number, and this appeared in its official letter-seal or "Briefstempel". This metal or rubber stamp with its identifying number was applied as a frank to all outgoing mail, both official and private. The fieldpost number in the letter-seal had five figures, and sometimes an additional letter to distinguish subsidiary units, for ex. A, B, C, or a, b, c. Higher letters like N, P, S, U-G, H-V-St denoted connected but not subsidiary units of the Wehrmacht. Fieldpost numbers with the prefix letter "L" were Luftwaffe (Air Force) units, and "M" were Kriegsmarine (Navy) units. Those without such prefix letters were generally Army units.



Fig. 3

Of particular interest are the special control marks which were applied to mail addressed to German soldiers that the German Fieldpost received for delivery from civilian postoffices in Norway. These marks were also occasionally applied to mail, written by the German military to Norwegian civilians or firms, and handed over by the German Fieldpost to the Norwegian postal authorities for final distribution. Three different marks have been noted, all of which were applied in red. The FN stood for: Feldpost Norwegen. Of FN type 1, the earliest date seen was from Sept. 11, 1942 and the latest from Dec. 1, 1943. For FN type 2, the earliest date noted was Jan. 4, 1944 and the latest Oct. 5, 1944. I have seen only one cover with FN type 3—dated Jan. 9, 1944.

A similar control mark was applied in red to mail of this type in Finland. Circular shaped, with a large F in the center (for Finland), and the word FELDPOST above, it was applied in Helsinki.

The "Feldpostleitstelle" was the transmission and receiving office for mail between the German Reichspost and Feldpost systems. The illustration

shows the frank stamp of the Feldpostleitstelle in Oslo. The small letter under the wreath is apparently an "O"—for Oslo. It appeared in red on a registered letter sent from FPO 459 (Oslo), dated Feb. 3, 1945, to Fp. nr. 41282 (Gericht der Kommandantur, Oslo).



Fig. 4

In order to limit the sending of fieldpost by airmail, a special stamp was issued by the Germans on April 24, 1942. Four (later, eight) stamps a month were given to soldiers in Scandinavia, on the Eastern Front, in Greece and North Africa. Half of the stamps received were meant to be sent home for franking the replies. Picturing a German Messerschmidt plane, these stamps were originally printed at the Reichsdruckerei in Berlin. Clement* mentions (p. 33) that special printings of these "Luftfeldpost" stamps were made since 1943 in Oslo and Tromsø (Norway) and in Rovaniemi (Finland). I believe these were of the serrated milky-blue variety, as I have such a stamp on a cover sent from Norway, dated March 1, 1945. The original Berlin printings were apparently bright blue colored and perforated. All these stamps had a plate number and year date at the bottom of the sheet, and it would be interesting to know the plate numbers of those printed in Scandinavia.

The following lists are for the most part based on the invaluable book on the German fieldposts by Alfred Clement of Graz, Austria.

As will be observed, there are still ten numbers whose country of origin needs to be traced, and it would also be of particular interest to determine the towns where the other numbers were used. I would like to hear from anyone who could shed further light on the matter, however dim.

Bibliography:

* "Kleines Handbuch der Deutschen Feldpost, 1939-45", by A. Clement, 1952. "Fernsprechverzeichnis des Standortes Oslo", official publication of Wehrmachtnachrichtenkommandantur Oslo, 1941.

List of German Fieldpost Offices that operated in Norway

FPO No.	Letters in postmark:	Office in operation:	Date and location:
142	a	Sept. 43-Dec. 44	1943—Norway
199	abcde	Jan. 41-Sept. 44	1943/44—Norway
234	abcdef	1942-Jun. 44	1941—Oslo, Norway (1942/43—Tuntsa, Finland)
252	abc	Jul. 42-Jun. 44	1943—Norway
346	abc	Dec. 40-Sept. 42	1940/42—Norway
353	abc	Sept. 43-Nov. 44	1943/44—Norway
356	abcd	Nov. 41-Nov. 43	1943—Norway
436	abcdef	Sept. 44-Dec. 45	1943/44(?)—Oslo, Norway
459	abcd fg	May 41-Aug. 44	1941/45—Oslo, Norway
467	ab al cl	Dec. 40-Nov. 44	1942/43—Kristiansand S., Norway
531	abcd	1942-Nov. 44	1941/44(?)—Oslo, Norway (1944—Balkans)

545	abcd j	Mar. 41-1945	1941/45 Fauske (near Bodø) Norway
579	a cl	Oct. 43-Sept. 44	1943—Norway
612	abc	Mar. 41-Dec. 43	1941/43—Norway
765	abcdefg	Jul. 42-Aug. 44	1943—Norway
767	abcdefgh	Jan. 41-Aug. 44	1942/44—Norway (1941—France(?))
779	abc	Sept. 42-Sept. 44	1942/44—Oslo, Norway
856	abcdef	March 40-Mar. 44	1944(?)—Norway
875	abc al	Jul. 41-Jan. 45	1941/45—Norway
950	abcdefgh jk	Mar. 41-Oct. 43	1941/43—Norway
955	abcdefg	Nov. 43-Mar. 45	1943—Norway
996	abcdef	Mar. 40-Dec. 44	1940/43—Bergen, Norway

List of German Fieldpost Offices that operated in Denmark

FPO No.	Letters in postmark:	Office in operation:	Date and location:
317	abcdefg	Oct. 41-Aug. 43	1942—Denmark (Copenhagen?)
877	abcdef	May 41-Jul. 44	1942/43—Copenhagen, Denmark

List of German Fieldpost Offices that operated in Finland

FPO No.	Letters in postmark:	Office in operation:	Date and location:
228	abcde	1942-Oct. 44	1942/43—Kemi, Finland
234	abcdef	1942-Jun. 44	1942/43—Tuntsa, Finland (1941—Oslo, Norway)
279	abcd	Apr. 42-Sept. 44	1942/44—Finland
537	abcde ik	1940-Sept. 44	1941/42—Rovaniemi, Finland (1940/41—France; 1944 Italy)
677	abcd	Sept. 41-Dec. 43	1941—North Finland
688	abc	Sept. 41-Apr. 43	1941/43—North Finland
838	abcdef	March 40-Oct. 44	1942/44—Finland

List of German Fieldpost Offices that operated in Scandinavia
Whether in Norway, Denmark or Finland, unknown so far.

FPO No.	Letters in postmark:	Office in operation:	Date and location:
120	abc	Dec. 40-Oct. 44	1942/44—Scandinavia
208	abcd	July 42-Mar. 44	1942/43—Scandinavia
257	ab	Jul. 41-Sept. 43	1943—Scandinavia (1941—France)
360	abcdefg	Oct. 41-Dec. 43	1943—Scandinavia
409	abc	Oct. 40-Nov. 43	1942—Scandinavia
476	abcde	Feb. 41-Feb. 45	1941—Scandinavia (?) (1944/45—Balkans)
738	abcdef h	Sept. 41-Sept. 44	1943—Scandinavia (1941—Holland)
803	abc	Apr. 44-May 44	1944—Scandinavia
850	a	Feb. 42-Jul. 44	1944—Scandinavia
867	abcd	Oct. 40-May 44	1942—Scandinavia

Note

Unfortunately lack of space in this issue has forced us to omit a number of items. New issues will be fully covered in the October issue. J. D. Peterson's articles on Sweden's First Postal Cards will be completed as well as continuation of F. A. Brofos on Norwegian Postal Stationary. Further information has been obtained for listings of Books and Journals on Scandinavian Stamps, and will be included at that time.

Finland 1917 Lion Type Issue

By George Wiberg (177)

(Continued)

1917—First Issue

Perf. 14. The 40 p. value is also known perf. 14¼-14¾.

In printing the 1 mk. value, three different plates was employed for printing the frame and two for the Lion, creating 4 types: Identifying the different types seems to cause no end of trouble to most collectors, as the differences are only minor. In Parmi's Finnish Catalogue they are described as follows:

Type 1—Lettering and numerals narrow, wavy lines solid,

“ 2—Lettering and numerals thicker, wavy lines broken,

“ 3—Lettering and numerals same as in type 1 with sharp colored outlines

“ 4—Same as type 3 with lion re-engraved.

5, 10, 20, 25, and 50 penni values withdrawn June 1, 1920, 40 penni Oct. 1, 1925.

The 1, 5, and 10 mark values were valid for postage until Jan. 1, 1931, when all stamps of this design were rendered obsolete.

5 penni green. Oct. 1, 1917—48,670,000 issued. Plates 1, 9, 14, 16, 25, 34.

Varieties:

Glazed paper, rough perf.

10 penni carmine. Oct. 15, 1917.

57,073,000—Pl. 2, 10, 19, 21, 29, 36.

Varieties:

Imperforate (90), glazed paper, rough perf.

Pl. var. #1—color spot in right “O” in 10 (44)

Pl. var. #2—two small color lines in the left “0” in 10.

20 penni orange yellow, buff. April 19, 1918.

13,762,000—Pl. 12, 20, 30.

Sharp perf. glazed paper.

Pl. Var. #3—Small bump on Lions back. (9)

25 penni blue. Oct. 25, 1917.

22,116,000—Pl. 3, 11, 24, 31.

Rough perf.

40 penni lilac, violet. Dec. 18, 1917.

57,415,000—Pl. 8, 15, 26, 37, 50, 51, 54.

Perf. 14¼-14¾, plate 37. vertically bisected, rough perf.

¾ of marginal wmk. showing on the stamp.

Pl. var. 4—Rosette in front of crown covered by color and line through the head of Lion (70)

50 penni brown. Nov. 20, 1917.

20,946,000—Pl. 4, 22, 28, 38.

Pl. var. #5—Lion with ruffled mane, color line connects lower rosette and sword. (68)

Pl. var. #6—Color line connecting lower right rosette with the Lion (38).

1 mark rose and black. Nov. 20, 1917.

Type I; brown carmine. Nov. 20, 1917.

55.1 mil.—Pl. 6, 13, 23, 27, 41, 47, 66

Type II; carmine rose. 1921/24.

28.4 mil. Pl. 69, 72.

Type III; pale rose. 1922/24

69.3 mil. Pl. 77, 79, 86, 87, 96.

Type IV; bright rose. 1925.

21.4 mil. Pl. 97.

Varieties: glazed paper (Pl. #41), marginal wmk.



W I.



T. I I. II



W II.

	Perf. 14		Perf. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{3}{4}$	
	W1	W2	W1	W2
10p.			o	o
20p.	o	o		
25p.	o	o		
30p.	o	o	o	
T. I				
40p.	o	o	o	o
T. II				
40p.	o	o*	o	o
50p.	o	o	o	o
60p.	o	o		
1mk.	o	o	o	o
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mk	o	o	o	o
2mk.	o	o	o	o
3mk.	o	o		
5mk.	o	o	o	o
10mk	o	o		
25mk			** o	o

Plate varieties



2.



5



8



9.

*) Known used only. Very scarce.

**) 25mk. with W1 is quite scarce.

Fig. 2



W1.



W2.



W3.



W4.

20p. 40p. 50p. 1mk. 1½mk 2mk. 3mk. 5mk. 5mk. 10mk 25mk

T.I T.II

Perf. 14	W1			o	o		o*					
	W2			o	o		o					
	W3											
	W4			o*								
Perf. 14½-14¾	W1	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o
	W2	o	o	o	o	o	o*	o	o			
	W3		o*	o	o	o	o*	o	o*			
	W4		o		o*	o		o*	o*		o	o

*) Known in used condition only. Very scarce.

5 mark, violet/grayish black or black. Dec. 18, 1917.
6,686,000—Pl. 7, 17, 32, 55, 74, 84.
Rough perf., marginal wmk.

10 mark, brown/grayish black or black. Nov. 11, 1917.
1,576,400—Pl. 5, 18, 33, 56.

1919 Provisional Issue:

Dec. 10, 1919.

Four values of the 1917 issue surcharged with new values, perf. 14. All values of this issue are also known with sharp perforation. Rendered obsolete Aug. 1, 1925. Numerous breaks of minor importance are found in the surcharges on all values.

10/5 penni, green. 12,030,000—Pl. No. 34.

20/10 penni, carmine. 8,727,000—Pl. No. 36.

Variety: glazed paper.

50/25 penni, blue. 5,484,000—Pl. No. 31.

75/20 penni, orange yellow. 13,138,000—Pl. No. 30.

1919. New Colors:

Re-issued in new colors, perf. 14; the 50 p. value is also known perf. 14¼-14¾. This perf. variety is quite rare as probable less than two dozen copies are known to exist. It was not discovered until about 1938, 20 years after the stamp was issued. The 10, 20 and 50 p. values were withdrawn Aug. 1, 1925, the 5 p. and 25 p. values were valid for postage until Jan. 1, 1931. All values except the 50 p. are known with sharp perf. 14.

5 penni, gray. Dec. 24, 1919.
39,713,000—Pl. Nos. 40, 44, 48, 52, 68.

10 penni, green. April 16, 1920.

10,700,000—Pl. Nos. 42, 43, 49, 57.

Varieties. Marginal wmk. Pl. var. No. 1. (as previously described)

20 penni, red. May 7, 1920.

22,324,000—Pl. Nos. 45, 53.

Glazed paper. Pl. var. No. 3.

25 penni, light brown. Dec. 12, 1919.

15,000,000—Pl. No. 39.

IMPERFORATE HORIZONTALLY at the top.

Glazed paper.

50 penni, blue. Jan. 15, 1920.

15,034,000—Pl. Nos. 38, 46.

Perf. 14¼-14¾. Glazed paper. Marginal wmk.

Pl. var. No. 5 and No. 6.

Provisional issue of 1921.

Issued Feb. 10, 1921. Perf. 14. 30/10 and 60/40 p. values were valid for postage until Aug. 1, 1925. 90/20 and 1½/50 were rendered obsolete Jan. 1, 1931.

30/10 penni, green.

16,900,000—Pl. Nos. 43, 49, 57.

Sharp. perf. Marginal wmk. Pl. var. No. 1.

60/40 penni, lilac, violet.

7,485,000—Pl. No. 54

Shifted overprint. Offset printing of the overprint on the back.

90/20 penni, red.

4,841,000—Pl. No. 53.

Shifted overprint. Glazed paper. Pl. var. No. 3. Marginal wmk.

1½mk/50 penni, blue.

14,300,000—Pl. No. 46.

IMPERFORATE (200), Plate var. Nos. 5 and 6, Thin "2" in "½", occurs 10 times in each sheet, marginal wmk, shifted overprint.

1921. New colors and values.

Unwmkd wove paper. Perf. 14. All values of this issue were valid for postage until Jan. 1, 1931, except the 2mk value, which was withdrawn Aug. 1, 1925.

10 penni, blue, chalky blue.

April 13, 1921—31,153,000—plate Nos. 62, 75, 88.

Plate var. No. 1.

50 penni, olive green.

July 6, 1921—25,215,000—plates Nos. 63, 81, 98.

Plate var. Nos. 5 and 6. Rough perf. Marginal wmk. Glazed paper.

60 penni, violet, lilac.

Dec. 2, 1921—45,273,000—plate Nos. 67, 70, 73, 80, 83, 94.

IMPERFORATE (400), plate No. 83.

75 penni yellow.

April 18, 1921—4,660,000—Plate No. 58.

Sharp perf.

2 mark, blue green or yellowish green/grayish black.

March 7, 1921—4,935,000—plate Nos. 61, 64.

Plate var. No. 7—Top rosette on right broken (5).

3 mark, pale blue/grayish black, gray blue/black.

March 7, 1921—4,925,000—plate Nos. 60, 65, 89.

Plate var. No. 8—Line through "S" in "Suomi" (36).

Plate var. No. 9—Line through "I" in "Finland" (6)

25 mark, red/orange yellow.

March 7, 1921—379,000—plate No. 59.

Marginal wmk.

1922-25. New colors and additional values.

Unwmkd wove paper. Perf. 14. Rendered obsolete Jan. 1, 1931.

20 penni, brown.

June 28, 1924—4,400,000—plate Nos. 90, 93.

Plate var. 3 (previously described)

Plate var. No. 10—Broken "0" in left "20". (66).

30 penni, yellow green, olive green.

June 9, 1923—15,011,000—plate Nos. 78, 85.

40 penni, blue green.

June 28, 1924—4,428,000—plate Nos. 91, 92.

Plate var. No. 4. (70)

1 mark, orange.

Oct. 6, 1925—380,000—plate No. 104.

2 mark, blue.

Nov. 6, 1922—12,890,000—plate Nos. 76, 82, 95.

Plate var. No. 7 (5).

1925-27. Watermarked Multiple Swastika.

Perf. 14 and 14¼-14¾. Two distinct types of 40 penni value known, viz: Type I thin "40" and Type II thick "40". (See illustration) For perforation and wmk. positions see chart. Rendered obsolete Jan. 1, 1931.

10 penni, dull ultramarine.

Dec. 9, 1926—1,800,000—plate No. 117.

Plate var. No. 1.

20 penni, brown.

Oct. 6, 1925—4,000,000—plate No. 99.

Plate var. Nos. 3 and 10.

25 penni, orange brown.

Feb. 1, 1929—2,000,000—plate No. 105.

30 penni, green, yellow green.

Feb. 13, 1925—12,161,000—plate Nos. 100, 108.

Offset printing.

40 penni, Type I, blue green, dull blue green.

Jan. 20, 1926—17,413,000—plate Nos. 106, 109, 112, 115, 118, 122.

Plate var. No. 4.

40 penni Type II, dull blue green.

1927—10,763,000—plate No. 126.

50 penni, dark olive green.

Oct. 6, 1926—9,982,000—plate Nos. 111, 125.

Plate var. No. 5. Lions mane retouched, but with color line connecting rosette with sword remaining.

Plate var. No. 6. Plate Number error "152". Diamond perf.

60 penni, lilac.

Oct. 6, 1925—10,000,000—plate No. 103.

1 mark, orange.

Oct. 6, 1925—39,442,000—plate No. 104.

1½ mark, blue green/violet.

April 10, 1926—54,832,000 plate Nos. 110, 116, 119, 124.

Plate var. No. 11—color spot in left "2" in "½" (71)

2 mark, indigo blue.

Oct. 12, 1925—9,987,000—plate Nos. 102, 120.

3 mark, chalky blue/grayish black.

Jan. 31, 1926—4,980,000—plate No. 107.

Plate var. Nos. 8 and 9.

5 mark, violet/black.

June 12, 1925—4,580,000—plate Nos. 101, 113, 121.

10 mark, orange brown/black.

July 14, 1927—198,000—plate No. 114.

25 mark, orange/yellow.

July 14, 1927—40,200—Plate No. 123.

1927-29. Watermarked Posthorns.

Perf. 14 and 14¼-14¾. In printing of the 5 mark value the old as well as a second plate with re-engraved Lion was employed, thus creating two types. Several of the watermark varieties are very rare. See chart for perf. and wmk. positions. Rendered obsolete Jan. 1, 1931. Also, new plate with re-engraved frame was employed in printing the 3 mark value and plates with re-engraved Lion for 1½, 10 and 25 mark values.

20 penni, brown.

Feb. 23, 1929—890,000—plate Nos. 147, 153.

Plate var. 3 and 10.

40 penni type II, blue green.

Feb. 15, 1928—24,825,000—plate Nos. 136, 144, 151, 159.

50 penni, olive green.

June 22 1928—4,974,000—plate Nos. 140, 145.

Plate var. No. 5. Lions mane retouched as in previous issue.

Plate var. No. 6.

1 mark, orange.

Sept. 13, 1927—38,199,000—plate Nos. 128, 139, 141, 148, 158, 161.
IMPERFORATE, 400 copies known, plate 128, watermark 2.

1½ mark, blue green/lilac.

Feb. 2, 1928—55,749,000—plate Nos. 129, 142, 143, 152, 157.
Plate var. 11 (71)

2 mark, blue.

July 4, 1928—3,985,000—plate No. 138.
Plate number error "13" instead of 138.

3 mark, ultramarine/black

Sept. 13, 1927—4,980,000—plate Nos. 127, 146.

5 mark Type I, (old plate) violet/black

March 8, 1928—1,995,000—plate No. 137.

5 mark Type II, violet/black.

1929—594,000—plate No. 160.

10 mark, brown/black.

Dec. 21, 1927—180,000—plate Nos. 132, 150.

25 mark, orange/yellow.

Dec. 21, 1927—187,000—plate Nos. 133, 149.

1929 Issue.

Unwatermarked wove paper, with marginal wmk "Suomen Leimakonttori" and "Finlands Stempelkontor". Perforated 14 and 14¼-14¾. Regularly used copies of the 10 mark value are quite scarce as only 2100 copies was sold before all stamps of this design were rendered obsolete on Jan. 1st, 1931.

20 penni, red brown. Perf. 14¼-14¾.

Dec. 12, 1929—395,000—plate No. 164.

Plate var. No. 10.

40 penni, Type II, bluish green. Perf. 14 and 14¼-14¾.

Nov. 5, 1929—4,441,950—plate No. 168.

50 penni, olive green. Perf. 14¼-14¾.

Sept. 9, 1929—1,989,000—plate Nos. 163, 167.

Plate var. No. 5, retouched, as previously described.

Plate var. No. 6.

1 mark, orange. Perf. 14.

Sept. 10, 1929—2,047,220—plate No. 169.

1½ mark, blue green/lilac. Perf. 14 and 14¼-14¾.

Sept. 9, 1929—11,830,100—plate Nos. 162, 170.

Plate var. No. 11. (71).

2 mark, deep blue. Perf. 14¼-14¾.

Oct. 8, 1929—494,000—plate No. 166.

10 mark, brown/black. Perf. 14¼-14¾.

Nov. 16, 1929—96,000—plate No. 165.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

In compiling this article, the following reference works have been used:
Several articles published in Suomen Postimerkkilehti, (Finnish Stamp Magazine)

J. R. Parmi's Finnish Stamp Catalogue,

Postal Issues of Finland by Carl E. Pelander,

Korrigering av och komplettering till Kohls Briefmarken handbuch, 11 auflage. By Erik Wahlstrom. Published in Helsingfors Frimarkssamlare Forening's 50 Anniversary Album.

I am also very grateful for data and other valuable information gathered by Lt. Col. Rainer Ahonius (503), which he graciously placed at my disposal.

FIPEX Awards

The many fine collections of the members of the Scandinavian Collectors received considerable attention in this the greatest International Exhibition, held at the Coliseum in New York, during April 28th to May 6th, 1956.

Best 20th Century Trophy

To Mrs. Prentice Cromwell (General)

Gold Medal with Diamond

William F. Foulk (Denmark)

Gold Medals

Gen. Robert J. Gill (Classic France)

Gen. Robert J. Gill (Classic Belgium)

Hans Lundberg (Early Classics)

Silver Gilt Medals

Michael Miller (D. W. I. Classics)

Mrs. P. Cromwell (U. S. 1901-07)

Gen. Robert J. Gill (St. Vincent)

Marcus White (U. S. Nesbit Issues)

Silver Medals

Barbara Mueller (U. S. History of Registration System)

Carl E. Pelander (Tonga)

Mrs. D. Stericker (Bi-colored D.W.I.)

Lauson H. Stone (Sweden)

Marcus White (Gr. Brit. Postal Stat.)

Geo. Wiberg (Finnish Cancellations)

Bronze Medals

J. U. Edgren (Sweden Pre-stamped covers)

Arthur Heim (Congo)

Vincent Lopez (Air Mails)

M. Miller (U.S. Stampless covers)

Dr. G. Philip Grabfield (Malta)

Dimitry Moore (Greece)

Lt. Col. Rainer Ahonius (Finnish Field. Post)

John D. Peterson (Sweden)

Carl H. Pihl (Norway 1856)

Capt. Robert W. Scherer (Iceland)

Capt. R. W. Scherer (Iceland Fl. Cov.)

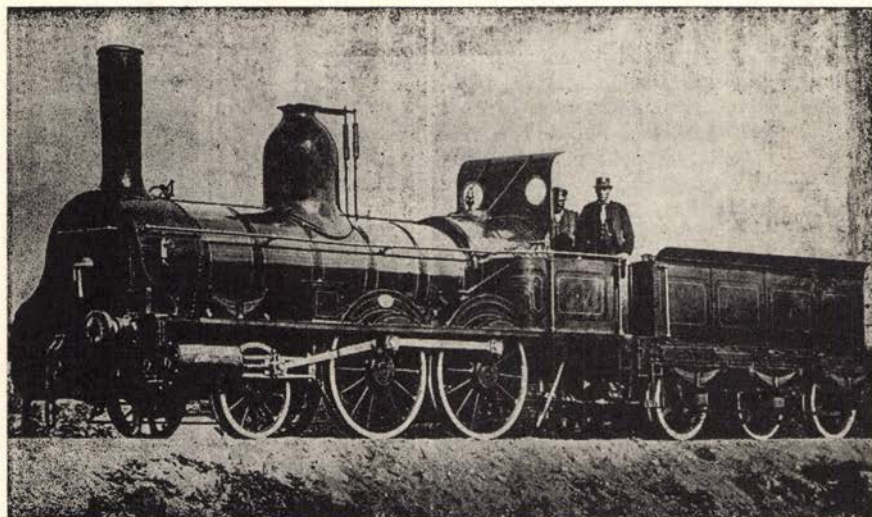
Lauson H. Stone (Associate Group of Finland)

Lauson H. Stone (Greenland)

Robert G. Stone (Guadeloupe)

Dr. A. Swenson (Sweden 1892-1910)

Paul Vignos (Montenegro)



The above picture was omitted by oversight from the article "Early Norwegian Railroad Cancellations" in the April issue. It shows Norway's first locomotive, which ran between Christiania and Eidsvold. This was the line which used the manuscript cancellations (illustrated in the aforementioned article) and the 1-ring postmark "HOVEDJERNB: POSTEXP:". The locomotive has been featured in the designs of the 45 øre value of the 1947 postal jubilee set as well as the 20 øre value of the 1954 Norwegian railways centenary issue.



by Agent No. 42
Staff of the Old Sleuth

Well, did you miss me in the last issue?—the editors wanted to keep the Posthorn clean, so out I went * * * now I am back again with lots of savory tidbits about various goings on in the S. C. C. * * * “FIPEX” is now memory—that greatest of All International shows saw a great deal of our members, many serving on various committees, jury, etc. * * * one of the saddest things that could have marred this great event was the sudden illness of our honorary member Abraham Odfjell, who was stricken with a coronary attack just before the show * * * our lounge at the show was always well populated with out of town members, those faithful in attending and answering questions in regards to the club were, Messers Bendixen, Brofus, Reuter Lorenz, Summerfield and Tate. The four club frames also attracted considerable attention, especially the splendid display of B. Reuter-Lorenz; others who loaned stamps for this display were Lauson Stone, Philip Grabfield, Eric B. T. Kindquist, Fred Brofus, Carl H. Pihl, George Wiberg, Carl Werenskiold, Mr. Bendixen, David Summerfield, Leon Seaf and Albert Tate—in the club lounge we meet with many of our long distance members, among whom we can remember lovely Agda Pade, as charming as ever — Kai Hansen, who, now that his girls are all over their accidents, is going to build a new home — Charlie Orgel and Paul Vignos (the bird watchers) were very much in evidence — Arthur Rydquist was all agog about those wonderful Swedish exhibits — Roger Swanson and Dave Summerfield were too busy swaping information on Iceland cancels to even bother about the show — Bob Scherer just out of the hospital, was the workhorse of the bin-room, he sure did a great job — Eigil Rathje, Bill Stericker and Svend Yort, highhatted most of us, being on the jury — Lauson Stone is making a special collection of “FIPEX” awards, he only got three — Capt. Frederick Olausen had just one day at the show—our special foreign correspondent or snooper, reports him to be just now in Goose Bay, Labrador, with a possibility of going still further north to Baffin Island and Foxe Basin—brrr! must be cold up there even now * * * and so I must forget “FIPEX” even tho I know several of our good members were overlooked * * * the next important Philatelic event that is close to us, is “FINLANDIA 1956”, the S. C. C. has donated a special trophy for this show—Mr. Arnstein Berntsen and Bernard Davis are representing our club on the International Jury. Several others are on the various committees, among those most active are Harry Walli and Lt. Col. Reinert Ahonius * * * when we last saw Bob Stone he was telling us about the magnificent mansion he was building in Virginia—must be money in that weather business * * * we also have a report that Toini Jarvinens daughter Anneli was recently married, congratulations, we hope to call you grand-ma the next time you come down to the club * * * our sympathy goes out to our past President George Wiberg, whose wife has been ill for several months, we sincerely hope she will soon recover * * * the June meeting of the S. C. C. was held at the home of our President, Eric and Mrs. Kindquist in Port Washington, L.I., it was a lovely day and 21 members

showed up—all with good appetites, so there was no lack of customers for the charcoal broiled hamburgers, hot dogs, coffee and Danish pastry served, not to mention of the quantities of beer and soft drinks, for all this Eric and Carol were rewarded with a bouncing baby girl on June 29th—just goes to show that there is nothing the S. C. C. cannot accomplish * * * Dr. A. R. Abarbanel has just returned from a lecture tour of Europe, speaking in Oslo, Stockholm, London, Madrid and Rome, where he received high awards for his research work—however stamps he found were as difficult to get as diamonds * * * Bill Foulk came to the picnic in a brand new custom built German car—practically all motor—boy, how that fellow gets around * * * and the Chicago Chapter just celebrated their tenth anniversary with a fine dinner, the main speaker was Mrs. Earl Jacobson, from the looks of things she is one of those long suffering stamp-widows * * * in concluding this ramble, I would like to say that those of you that did not get to “FIPEX”, surely missed some of the finest Scandinavian collections ever seen, just to mention a few of outstanding caliber were Jacob Engel’s (Denmark), Joel Olsson’s (Sweden), Ake Jonsson’s (Sweden), Aage Biering’s (Sweden) and the outstanding display of early Sweden by Dr. Georg Menzinsky.

TALK BY MRS. EARL JACOBSON AT THE CHICAGO CHAPTER
ANNUAL DINNER MEETING JUNE 8th, 1956, AT SMILOID SINGING
CLUB

How I became an S.O.P.

Good evening, gentlemen stamp collectors and ladies, who are, whether you know it or not, also my fellow-members of S. O. P. And what is an S. O. P.? Why, Spouse of Philatelist, of course!

Tonight, on the happy yearly occasion when we are invited to be with you, let me speak briefly for that forgotten silent group—the Spouse of Philatelists. Each of us got to be members in different ways, but this is my little story.

Only dimly now I recall the days, some 18 years ago, when I was Earl’s only hobby! After our house was settled and our first boy was born, we drifted quietly into the first Jacobson hobby—collecting recordings of classical music. A true collector even then, Earl made sure the records we decided on were perfect—superb, even.

As shellac, however, became a scarce item during the war, this first embryonic hobby had to be abandoned. We were running out of shelves, anyway.

What was not scarce during the war? Why, tropical fish, our second venture into the field of hobbies. So, from a small general collection, Earl rapidly picked up steam which culminated in a room full of tanks full of baby Bettas, who just never got their fill of water, fleas and worms.

I’m sure Earl’s brother was relieved to have this hobby blow over, because he was fish feeder during vacations. With stamps, at least you can close the books and leave at any time!

About this time there came a historic day for the Jacobson family. Very casually one day, Earl remarked “You know, Erik’s growing big enough now. I think I’ll get together a few stamps for him to play with!” This turned out to be the understatement of the year. For Erik’s few stamps have gotten to be quite an item. In fact, if I were telling my sad story in rhyme, this part might go like this:

And since the day that remark was made,
For stamps he has paid and paid and paid.

To this very day Earl shows no signs of losing interest or completing his

collection. If I were singing my story this evening, I could use the old favorite "Sometime" and paraphrase. "Some day, some day he'll have them all—Norway, Sweden, Denmark too—". But that day seems to still be very far off.

Being a S.O.P. has had, however, some great benefits. For example, it develops the virtue of patience. I recall the many happy times when the children were small, when we parked outside a dealer's shop. In those early days we used to stop, even on vacation trips, wherever the magic sign "Stamps" reared its ugly head. And, when the children were tired of waiting and started to fuss, my patient refrain "I'm sure daddy will be out soon now—any minute, boys".

Other advantages of having a stamp-collecting husband are these three:

1. Physical fitness, resulting from frequent trips to the P. O. with registered mail; also weight-lifting exercises, carrying out bales of auction catalogs.
2. Social popularity—well, not exactly popularity, but on the days when Earl has to leave for the office before the mailman comes, I can count on a telephone call to check to see if "anything exciting" arrived in the mail. And must I be brief and businesslike on this type of toll-call? No, I can wade through paragraph after paragraph of hard-to-read Norwegian long-hand, and Earl listens practically and with abated breath. Good for the ego!
3. Freedom of action in my own choice of outside activities, because no money or time I spend can match the dough and hours that Earl puts into Philately, so how could he, with justice, complain? And he doesn't!

In conclusion though, and seriously for a moment, let me say for the record that I really am grateful and glad to be an S.O.P. Earl is home nights with his stamps and us, or he's here with all of you, his fellow-collectors, so he's in fine company. Content in his chosen hobby, he is happy. And it goes without saying that a happy father makes for a happy wife and family.



Enjoying themselves at FIPEX, the candid camera of Capt. Scherer shows the SCC lounge with, from left to right, P. Reuter-Lorenz, Doris Stericker, Fred Brofos, Lauson Stone, Dr. Stericker, Fred Brofos, Lauson Stone, Dr. Stericker, Evald Nielsen, and George Wiberg.

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