



The

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The Radio Tax Stamps of Norway

by Frederick A. Brofos (497)

DET NORSKE TELEGRAFVESEN *no* Oslo stasjon, nr. *31074*

KRINGKASTINGBEVIS

Fullt navn: *Fru Fredrikke Brofos*

Full postadresse: *Callitvegf 1. TV. posthus*

Adresse for apparatet: *Callitvegf 1. TV. posthus*

De tillates herved på de betingelser som er angitt på dette skjemas bakside å opstille og bruke et radiomottagerapparat for kringkasting under ovennevnte adresse og i et tidsrum som er angitt på nedenfor påklebede merke utstedt av telgrafvesenet.

RADIO
2. halvår
1928
Krl. 10.00
AVGIFT

Husk!

Å fornye beviset i god tid. Avgiften må erlegges på forskudd.
 Å medbringe dette bevis eller opgi ovenstående nummer ved fornyelse. Derved sikrer De Dem en hurtig ekspedisjon.
 Innbetalingen skjer i Ekspedisjonshallen i telegrafbygningen (Inng. Prinsensgt.) i tiden kl. 9 - 19
 Å medbringe beviset ved kjøp av radiomateriell.
 Å innmelde adresseforandring til Telegrafkassereren, postboks 669, Oslo.

At De plukter å betale for neste termin, medmindre beviset er skriftlig opsgitt til Telegrafkassereren, postboks 669, Oslo, innen 14 dager for utgangen av den termin beviset er betalt for.

29.9 1928

Et. nr. 293 b.

Norwegian radio license from 1928

This January it is the 35th anniversary of radio broadcasting in Norway. As the interesting and elusive revenue stamps issued by the Norwegian Government for the sales and listeners tax on radios are not generally known, I have chosen this occasion to prepare a list of these stamps as well as some background information on broadcasting in Norway from its inception up until the present.

In writing about this subject I am fortunate in that it was my father, Einar A. Brofos, who was instrumental in introducing radio broadcasting to Norway back in 1923. I shall quote below some of his reminiscences from those early days.

"My activities in the radio broadcasting field date from the first months of 1922 when I began discussing this new technical development with the authorities in the four Northern countries. I had been considerably impressed with the reports I had received about the rapid introduction of this service in America and, after having become acquainted with the very efficient broadcasting equipments which Western Electric Company, in New York, had placed on the market, active steps were taken to interest the authorities.

"The early attempts to start this new service were not encouraging. I fear that, to begin with, a great deal of skepticism was exhibited in many quarters and radio broadcasting looked upon rather as a scientific toy which America could afford to play with. One question which occupied the mind in those days was how one could collect a revenue so as to make the service pay, considering that there would be no physical connection between the broadcasting station and receiving sets.

"To begin with, I believe the favored scheme was to collect a special tax on all radio sets and loudspeakers sold, but later this was expanded to include a yearly license fee for the use of radio sets.

"In view of the restrictions imposed on radio transmission in general, there were, of course, great obstacles in the way of having a commercial service started. In order to further the matter, we applied in the spring of 1922 for a concession to operate broadcasting stations in Norway, a special company to be formed for this purpose.

"Other applications of a similar character followed, but the authorities were not disposed to make any decision.

"However, matter developed very rapidly and as early as the summer of 1922, the Norwegian Telegraph Administration became greatly interested in the new service. But, since funds for a broadcasting station were not available and there was no decision as to how and by whom it should be operated, it was not possible to place an order for the equipment.

"As I was firmly convinced of the great future of the new invention, I proposed during the autumn of 1922 to the Norwegian Telegraph Administration that my company, Norsk A/S Western Electric, now Standard Electric Aktieselskap, should lend the Administration a trial installation so that the system could be tried out in practice. As I remember it, the Western Electric Company had three sizes, namely, 50-, 100- and 500-watt stations, the latter being considered a very powerful installation at the time. The Administration agreed to accept my proposal for a 500-watt station which, after some delay, arrived in Oslo at the end of 1922 and, during the following January and February, it was installed at Tryvandshøiden.* This station rapidly proved to be a complete success and functioned splendidly. It was the first complete

* A recent picture of this station appeared on the 30 øre value of the 1954 postage stamps commemorating the centenary of the Norwegian State Telegraph System.



broadcasting station in the Northern countries and, in fact, the most modern European station outside of England where an exactly similar outfit installed in Birmingham was placed in service shortly before, namely in November 1922.

"In those days the ether was not, as now, jammed by high power broadcasting stations, and the result was that during the winter of 1923, the Christiania broadcasting station was a prominent one for the radio listeners in Europe, and many were the favourable reports we received from foreign countries.

"The year 1923 and the following winter was a very interesting period in broadcasting history in Scandinavia. The authorities and the public took an increasing interest in this new and far-reaching development, but how to operate and control it remained an unsolved problem for a long time."

The preliminary service was stopped in the autumn of 1923 when the trial station was purchased by the Swedish Telegraph Administration and installed in Stockholm. The same equipment was therefore used to start broadcasting in two countries.

Attempts to obtain a license from the Norwegian Government for a regular broadcasting service failed until February 1925, when "Oslo Kringkastingsselskab" was started. This broadcasting company was granted a license to operate one or more broadcasters within a radius of 150 km. from Oslo. Each listener in the service area paid a fee of 20 kroner, collected by the Telegraph Administration who kept 20% of the amount. There was also a stamp duty of approximately 10% of the retail value of all radio material sold, the duty being collected by the radio dealers. For controlling this arrangement and collecting the duty from the dealers, 20% of the total amount was retained by the Norwegian Government.

By 1928 there were three operating companies—in Oslo, Bergen and Tromsø, and the listeners licenses issued totaled 63,000, of which 48,000 belonged to the Oslo Zone. At the end of April 1930, the licenses numbered 77,555. By that time, the territory of the Oslo company had been extended to cover the greater part of the country.

The activities of the private companies were finally taken over by "Norsk Riks Kringkasting" (Norwegian State Broadcasting), which was given a monopoly in the field by the Broadcasting Act of June 24, 1933. "N.R.K." has the exclusive right to operate radio stations in Norway and the Norwegian territory of Svalbard in the far North. As there are no commercials or sponsored programs, its chief revenue is derived from the license fee paid annually by each owner of a radio set. This fee was 20 kroner until around 1954, and is now 25 kroner (about \$3.50).

The Listeners Tax stamps seem to have been superseded now by a Listeners License Certificate which is validated by postmark and signature at postoffices throughout Norway where the fee can be paid. In former years, when the radio tax stamps were affixed, it appears that the Post Office also helped with the fee collection. I have noticed the blue 10 kroner stamp (no's. 25, 28) and the Additional Fee stamp (no. 5) cancelled by Oslo postmark in 1938 and 1939. However, the cancellation generally seen is that of the Central Telegraph Office in Oslo.

There are at present about 1,480,000 registered receiving sets and an estimated 950,000 listeners. In 1940 there were 476,000 paid licenses, a figure which dropped drastically during the war years when the Germans confiscated the radios of every non-Nazi as the Norwegian broadcasts from London were too popular.

The Norwegian State Broadcasting is provided with a further revenue by the 10% stamp duty on the sale of receivers and radio parts. The special revenue stamps issued for this tax are affixed to the back of the equipment.

Radio license stamps for listeners in the Oslo Zone



192?. Coat of Arms. Text "K.N.T." (i.e. Kongelig Norsk Telegrafvesen) "Avgift betalt til-----" (i.e. Fee paid until -----). Perf. 11. Printed in sheets of at least 25 stamps (5x5), with one imperforate edge to the stamps around the borders and two imperforate edges on the corner stamps.

1. No value inscribed. Red and black on white.

The following stamps are inscribed "KRINGKASTING" and "RADIO AVGIFT" and are overprinted with the year date and value in black. Perf. 14.



1925.

2. 20 kroner light blue & black (for the whole year)
3. 15 kroner light blue & black (for the remaining $\frac{3}{4}$ year)
4. 10 kroner light blue & black (for the remaining $\frac{1}{2}$ year)
5. 5 kroner light blue & black (for the remaining $\frac{1}{4}$ year)

1926. Overprinted with additional text subdividing the year.

6. 10 kroner vermilion and black (for 1st half year)
7. 5 kroner vermilion and black (for 2nd quarter)
8. 10 kroner light green and black (for 2nd half year)
9. 5 kroner light green and black (for 4th quarter)

1927.

10. 10 kroner yellow and black (for 1st half year)
11. 5 kroner yellow and black (for 2nd quarter)
12. 10 kroner violet and black (for 2nd half year)
13. 5 kroner violet and black (for 4th quarter)

1928.

14. 10 kroner blue and black (for 1st half year)
15. 5 kroner blue and black (for 2nd quarter)
16. 10 kroner light brown and black (for 2nd half year)
17. 5 kroner light brown and black (for 4th quarter)

1929.

18. 10 kroner scarlet and black (for 1st half year)
19. 5 kroner scarlet and black (for 2nd quarter)
 - a. Variety: broken "l" in "kvartal"
20. 10 kroner green and black (for 2nd half year)
21. 5 kroner green and black (for 4th quarter)

1930.

22. 10 kroner blue and black (for 1st half year)

There may have been a 5 kroner stamp for the 2nd quarter of 1930, but I have never seen such a stamp.



1930. Somewhat changed design. Star removed from under lion, and 4 new stars added around the circle. New lettering too. The value is now included in the basic design, not overprinted as before. Perf. 11½.

23. 2.50 kroner red to scarlet
24. 10.00 kroner blue

1939? Same, but perforated 11.

25. 2.50 kroner red
26. 5.00 kroner chocolate brown
27. 10.00 kroner blue

Radio license stamps for listeners outside the Oslo Zone

1928. Design as the Oslo Zone stamps. Overprinted in black with just the year date and value. Perf. 14.

1. 5 kroner light brown and black



1929. Additional overprint of year division.
 2. 2.50 kroner scarlet and black (for 1st half year)
 3. 2.50 kroner green and black (for 2nd half year)

1930.

4. 2.50 kroner light brown and black (for 1st half year)

There may have been 5 kroner stamps in this series for the years 1926 and 1927, and a 2.50 kroner stamp for the 2nd half year of 1930, but I have never seen them.

Additional Fee stamps

These revenue stamps were apparently used for additional fees. An extra fee of Kr. 2.00 was charged when the regular radio fee had not been paid in time.

192? Small size. Text "KRING KAST", "OPKR. GEBYR BETALT Kr. 2". Perforated 14x13 $\frac{3}{4}$.

1. 2 kroner green



192? Similar to no. 1, but text changed to "KRING KAST", "TILLEGGS AVGIFT kr. 2.-". Perforated 14x13 $\frac{3}{4}$.

2. 2 kroner green

192? New design. Text "TILLEGGS-AVGIFT Kr. 2.00 KONTROLL". Perf. 14x13 $\frac{3}{4}$.

3. 2 kroner green



193? Arms type. Small size. Text "KONTROLL".

4. No value indicated, chocolate brown, perf. 11.
 5. No value indicated, blue, perf. 11.
 6. No value indicated, blue, perf. 11x10 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Tax stamps for the sale of receivers and radio parts

1924. The design shows a crown, the star and lightning emblem of the Norwegian Telegraph Administration, a head phone, and the text "RADIO AV-GIFT". The value was overprinted in black. These stamps were printed in



rolls with 2 stamps across the width and a blank tab at the bottom edge which occasionally bore a control number in black. The stamps are perforated 11 on the sides and rouletted 7 at the top and bottom except for the outer stamp which is imperforate at the top. Small size.

1. Kr. 0.50 green
2. Kr. 1.00 green
3. Kr. 1.50 green
4. Kr. 2.00 green
5. Kr. 2.50 green
6. Kr. 3.00 red
- 7a. Kr. 6.00 red
- 7b. Kr. 6.00 rose
8. Kr. 10.00 red
9. Kr. 12.00 red
10. Kr. 15.00 red
11. Kr. 20.00 mauve
12. Kr. 25.00 mauve
13. Kr. 30.00 mauve
14. Kr. 40.00 mauve
15. Kr. 50.00 mauve



1925. The same design, but in a smaller size and without the fancy border. Probably printed in sheets of 100 stamps. The value overprinted in black. Perforated $14\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

16. Kr. 0.25 green
- 17a. Kr. 0.50 green
- 17b. Kr. 0.50 yellow-green
18. Kr. 1.00 green
19. Kr. 1.50 green
20. Kr. 2.00 green
21. Kr. 2.50 green
22. Kr. 3.00 red
23. Kr. 6.00 red
24. Kr. 10.00 red
25. Kr. 12.00 red
26. Kr. 15.00 red

- 27. Kr. 20.00 mauve
- 28. Kr. 25.00 mauve
- 29. Kr. 30.00 mauve
- 30. Kr. 40.00 mauve
- 31. Kr. 50.00 mauve



1927?. With additional overprint "For salg inntil ___kr." (for sales up to ___ kroner). A 3 kroner stamp, for example, would pay the tax on a radio costing up to 30 kroner. The tax rate was 10%.

- 32. Kr. 1.00 green (for sales up to 10 kr.)
- 33. Kr. 1.50 green (for sales up to 15 kr.)
- 34. Kr. 2.00 green (for sales up to 20 kr.)
- 35. Kr. 3.00 red (for sales up to 30 kr.)
- 36. Kr. 4.00 red (for sales up to 40 kr.)
- 37. Kr. 5.00 red (for sales up to 50 kr.)
- 38. Kr. 6.00 red (for sales up to 60 kr.)
- 39. Kr. 7.00 red (for sales up to 70 kr.)
- 40. Kr. 8.00 red (for sales up to 80 kr.)
- 41. Kr. 9.00 red (for sales up to 90 kr.)
- 42. Kr. 10.00 red (for sales up to 100 kr.)
- 43. Kr. 15.00 red (for sales up to 150 kr.)

1928?.

- 44. Kr. 12.50 mauve (for sales up to 125 kr.)
- 45. Kr. 15.00 mauve (for sales up to 150 kr.)
- 46. Kr. 17.50 mauve (for sales up to 175 kr.)
- 47. Kr. 20.00 mauve (for sales up to 200 kr.)
- 48. Kr. 25.00 mauve (for sales up to 250 kr.)
- 49. Kr. 30.00 mauve (for sales up to 300 kr.)
- 50. Kr. 40.00 mauve (for sales up to 400 kr.)
- 51. Kr. 50.00 mauve (for sales up to 500 kr.)



193?. Same design, but overprint in new type. The word "inntil" is now split up—"inn-" on the first line and "til" on the second. Also, "kr." in front of the figure in the second line instead of behind as previously. I have only seen the following 3 values in this type, but it is likely that the whole set exists.

- 52. Kr. 1.00 green (for sales up to 10 kr.)
- 53. Kr. 1.50 green (for sales up to 15 kr.)
- 54. Kr. 25.00 pale mauve (for sales up to 250 kr.)

Tax stamps for the sale of radio receivers

Date? New design in a large size.

These stamps have the price limit of the radio (including tax) and the amount of the tax itself added by a black overprint, unless otherwise described (i.e. no's. 1, 2, 31, and 32). Printed in sheets of 50 stamps.

Black overprint "KRYSTALL FAST AVGIFT Kr. 0.25" in three lines.

1. Kr. 0.25 green and black (for crystal radio set)

Black overprint "FOLKEMOTTAGER" (People's radio receiver), price and tax.

2. Kr. 1.00 green and black. Radio price not over Kr. 129.07



Black overprint of the price limit of the radio and the tax amount.

3. Kr. 12.50 green and black. Radio price not over Kr. 146.67
4. Kr. 15.00 green and black. Radio price not over Kr. 176.00
5. Kr. 17.50 green and black. Radio price not over Kr. 205.33.
6. Kr. 20.00 brown and black. Radio price not over Kr. 234.67
7. Kr. 22.50 brown and black. Radio price not over Kr. 264.00
8. Kr. 25.00 brown and black. Radio price not over Kr. 293.33
9. Kr. 27.50 brown and black. Radio price not over Kr. 322.67
10. Kr. 30.00 light blue and black. Radio price not over Kr. 352.00
11. Kr. 32.50 light blue and black. Radio price not over Kr. 381.33
12. Kr. 35.00 light blue and black. Radio price not over Kr. 410.67
13. Kr. 37.50 light blue and black. Radio price not over Kr. 440.00
14. Kr. 40.00 vermilion and black. Radio price not over Kr. 469.33
15. Kr. 42.50 vermilion and black. Radio price not over Kr. 498.67
16. Kr. 45.00 vermilion and black. Radio price not over Kr. 528.00
17. Kr. 47.50 carmine and black. Radio price not over Kr. 557.33
18. Kr. 50.00 light violet and black. Radio price not over Kr. 586.67
19. Kr. 52.50 light violet and black. Radio price not over Kr. 616.00
20. Kr. 55.00 light violet and black. Radio price not over Kr. 645.33
21. Kr. 57.50 light violet and black. Radio price not over Kr. 674.67
22. Kr. 60.00 light violet and black. Radio price not over Kr. 704.00
23. Kr. 62.50 light violet and black. Radio price not over Kr. 733.33
24. Kr. 65.00 light violet and black. Radio price not over Kr. 762.67
25. Kr. 67.50 light violet and black. Radio price not over Kr. 792.00
26. Kr. 70.00 light violet and black. Radio price not over Kr. 821.33
27. Kr. 72.50 light violet and black. Radio price not over Kr. 850.67
28. Kr. 75.00 light violet and black. Radio price not over Kr. 880.00
29. Kr. 77.50 light violet and black. Radio price not over Kr. 909.33
30. Kr. 80.00 light violet and black. Radio price not over Kr. 938.67

Date? Super tax. 3-line black overprint "N.R.K. SUPER AVGIFT Kr. 5.-" in Antiqua letters.

31. Kr. 5.00 green and black

Date? Overprint in black "FOLKEMOTTAGER", price limit and tax amount.

32. Kr. 1.00 green and black (Radio price not over Kr. 134.44)

Black overprint of the price limit of the radio and the tax amount.

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 33. | Kr. 12.50 green and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 152.78 |
| 34. | Kr. 15.00 green and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 183.33 |
| 35. | Kr. 17.50 green and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 213.89 |
| 36. | Kr. 20.00 brown and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 244.44 |
| 37. | Kr. 22.50 brown and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 275.00 |
| 38. | Kr. 25.00 brown and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 305.56 |
| 39. | Kr. 27.50 brown and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 336.11 |
| 40. | Kr. 30.00 light blue and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 366.67 |
| 41. | Kr. 32.50 light blue and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 397.22 |
| 42. | Kr. 35.00 light blue and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 427.78 |
| 43. | Kr. 37.50 light blue and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 458.33 |
| 44. | Kr. 40.00 vermilion and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 488.89 |
| 45. | Kr. 42.50 vermilion and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 519.44 |
| 46. | Kr. 45.00 vermilion and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 550.00 |
| 47. | Kr. 47.50 vermilion and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 580.56 |
| 48. | Kr. 50.00 light violet and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 611.11 |
| 49. | Kr. 52.50 light violet and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 641.67 |
| 50. | Kr. 55.00 light violet and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 672.22 |
| 51. | Kr. 57.50 light violet and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 702.78 |
| 52. | Kr. 60.00 light violet and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 733.33 |
| 53. | Kr. 62.50 light violet and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 763.89 |
| 54. | Kr. 65.00 light violet and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 794.44 |
| 55. | Kr. 67.50 light violet and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 825.00 |
| 56. | Kr. 70.00 light violet and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 855.56 |
| 57. | Kr. 72.50 light violet and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 886.11 |
| 58. | Kr. 75.00 light violet and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 916.67 |
| 59. | Kr. 77.50 light violet and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 947.22 |
| 60. | Kr. 80.00 light violet and black. | Radio price not over Kr. 977.78 |

Tax stamps for the sale of radio equipment



Date? Design similar to the radio receiver tax stamps but now in small size. These stamps have the price limit of the radio equipment (inclusive of the tax) and the amount of the tax (face value of the stamp) added by a black overprint. Perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

1. Kr. 0.25 green and black. Price not over Kr. 2.93
2. Kr. 0.50 green and black. Price not over Kr. 5.87
3. Kr. 1.00 green and black. Price not over Kr. 11.73
4. Kr. 1.50 brown and black. Price not over Kr. 17.60
5. Kr. 2.00 light blue and black. Price not over Kr. 23.47

6. Kr. 3.00 vermilion and black. Price not over Kr. 35.20
7. Kr. 4.00 vermilion and black. Price not over Kr. 46.93
8. Kr. 5.00 carmine and black. Price not over Kr. 58.67
9. Kr. 6.00 carmine and black. Price not over Kr. 74.40
10. Kr. 7.00 carmine and black. Price not over Kr. 82.13
11. Kr. 8.00 carmine and black. Price not over Kr. 93.87
12. Kr. 9.00 carmine and black. Price not over Kr. 105.60
13. Kr. 10.00 light violet and black. Price not over Kr. 117.33
14. Kr. 12.50 light violet and black. Price not over Kr. 146.67
15. Kr. 15.00 light violet and black. Price not over Kr. 176.00

Date? Price limit changes.

16. Kr. 0.25 green and black. Price not over Kr. 3.06
17. Kr. 0.50 green and black. Price not over Kr. 6.11
18. Kr. 1.00 green and black. Price not over Kr. 12.22
19. Kr. 1.50 brown and black. Price not over Kr. 18.33
20. Kr. 2.00 light blue and black. Price not over Kr. 24.44
21. Kr. 3.00 vermilion and black. Price not over Kr. 36.67
22. Kr. 4.00 vermilion and black. Price not over Kr. 48.89
23. Kr. 5.00 vermilion and black. Price not over Kr. 61.11
24. Kr. 6.00 vermilion and black. Price not over Kr. 73.33
25. Kr. 7.00 vermilion and black. Price not over Kr. 85.56
26. Kr. 8.00 vermilion and black. Price not over Kr. 97.78
27. Kr. 9.00 vermilion and black. Price not over Kr. 110.00
28. Kr. 10.00 light violet and black. Price not over Kr. 122.22
29. Kr. 12.50 light violet and black. Price not over Kr. 152.78
30. Kr. 15.00 light violet and black. Price not over Kr. 183.33

Radio Tax Exemption Stamps

Date? Imperforate. Coat of Arms and text "N.R.K." (standing for "Norsk Riks Kringkasting"—Norwegian State Broadcasting) and "Stempelavgift ikke betalt. Det er forbudt å bruke apparatet i samband med kringkasting"—i.e. "Tax not paid. It is forbidden to use the set in connection with broadcasting." New design in larger size.



1. No value indicated, blue and red on white.

Date? Radio tax exemption stamp for receivers owned by the State (Radio?) Commission Black overprint in 3 lines "Fri stempelavgift RIKSUTVALGETS". Printed in sheets of 50 stamps. Basic design as the radio receiver tax stamps.

2. No value indicated, yellow and black.

Bibliography

Radiobladet, February 17, 1933.

Electrical Communication, July 1933—"The Childhood of Broadcasting in Norway."

Verdens Gang, April 14, 1954—"Han var førstemann på norsk i eteren."

Aftenposten, Arbeiderbladet, April 12, 1954.

Western Stamp Collector, December 15, 1954—"News from Scandinavia."

It would be interesting to hear from anyone having radio tax stamps from the other Scandinavian countries. Below is pictured one from Sweden with a postmark from 1937.



For postmark fans

Here are some scarce postmarks to keep a look-out for. The 4 pictured below are from Norway. The first two were used on the route Kristiansand-Frederikshavn (Denmark), the first one being very rare indeed. The next two I have not seen listed before. One is apparently from a ship route (Håøya is the little island behind Oscarsborg fortress in the Oslofjord); the other is from "Kristiania Omkarterings Kontor." I wonder if this postmark was used on the Kongsvinger Railroad, like its 1-ring ancestor (see The Posthorn, Vol. 13, no. 2, p. 38-39). F. A. B.



News of Interest

For those readers who saw the article on this subject in the July 1955 issue of this magazine, I thought it would be of interest to hear about two more stamps in this category which have since come to my attention.



As the illustrations show, one is a blatant copy of the well known Finnish design first used on July 1, 1875. The copy was produced by the German Local Post "Express Brief Beförderung" of Crefeld, Westphalia, who issued a 2 pfennig stamp in green on December 13, 1886. The other one is a 3 øre rose colored stamp issued in February 1888 by the Local Post of Copenhagen. As one will notice, the frame design has been "borrowed" from the early Hong Kong stamps which first appeared on December 8, 1862. Incidentally, the "M du N." on the sides of the Danish copy mean that they were used at the "Magasin du Nord," the big department store in Copenhagen. It was a special issue just for their use.



The August '57 issue of "Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift" contains an interesting article entitled "The Black Ceres" which lists the stamps copied from the famous French 20 centimes stamp of 1848. The Finnish serpentine-rouletted issues of 1860-67 as well as the Oscar I stamps of Norway were modeled on this design.

F. A. B.

Scandinavian material at 11th Caspary Sale

At the 11th sale of the Alfred H. Caspary collection by H. R. Harmer, the following interesting realizations occurred (the names in parentheses are the buyers):

DENMARK, 1851 4 rs. dark red brown, o.g., marginal pair, \$525 (Vajda); 1854-57 8sk., o.g., corner block of 12, with slight creases \$850 (Vajda).

FINLAND, 1856 5k., 10k. in o.g. tete-beche blocks of four \$7250 ("G.R.H."); 5k. used strip of three on piece, postmark only, \$1700 (Wingfield); strip of 5 and single, pen-cancelled on letter \$2000 (Vajda); 10k. used tete-beche pair, pen and postmarked \$1700 (Wolf); 1860 laid pair, error in horizontal tete-beche pair, on piece with single and pair of 5k. \$2600 (Wolf).

SWEDEN, 3sk., two singles and pair on cover with 24sk. \$5250 (R. E. Anderson); 3sk., four singles on letter \$1700 (R. E. Anderson).

Prices did not stop European collectors and dealers from obtaining much of the material offered.

New and Recent Issues

by Carl E. Pelander

FINLAND:

1957

Supplementing the new General Issue.

Engraved

Unwmkd.

Perf. 14

100 m blue green (Helsinki South Harbor)



Dec. 6th, 1957

Independence Issue

Commemorating the 40th anniversary of Finland's Independence. The design is by Olavi Vepsäläinen and the engraving by B. Ekholm.

Engraved

Unwmkd.

Perf. 11½

30 m blue



Dec. 8th, 1957

Sibelius Memorial Issue

Issued in memory of Finland's great composer Jean Sibelius, who died on Sept. 20th, 1957. The stamp was released on Dec. 8th, 1957, which would have been his 90th birthday.

The design by Olavi Vepsäläinen, is from a bust sculptured by Vaino Aaltonen and the engraving of the stamp is by R. Achren.

Engraved

Unwmkd.

Perf. 14

30 m black

2,000,000 copies of each of these two commemoratives were issued.

ICELAND:

November 16th, 1957

Jonas Hallgrímsson Issue

Commemorating the 150th anniversary of the birth of the great Icelandic poet Jonas Hallgrímsson.

The stamp was designed by the artist Stephan Jonsson and the engraving and printing by De La Rue & Co., Ltd., London, England.

Engraved

Unwmkd.

Perf. 14

5 kr. green and black

Issue: 10,000 sheets of 50 subjects.

Support the S. C. C. by getting your friends to join

New Members

Non-Resident

- 809 Willars H. Lunn, 10537 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles 64, Calif.
 810 Richard N. Clark, Box 10, Fort Steilacoom, Wash.
 811 Robert B. Brandeberry, 58 West Salisbury Drive, Wilmington 3, Del.

Change of Address

- 767 Charles F. Johannesen, 3309 Emerson, Palo Alto, California.

Club Officers for 1958

The following elections occurred at the club meeting of December 11, 1957:

President: I. E. Black
 Vice President: D. Summerfield
 Secretary: Election postponed to January meeting
 Treasurer: Mrs. E. Pelander
 Editor: F. A. Brofos
 Librarian: A. Tate
 Auditors: L. Stone, D. Summerfield

L. Stone was elected to the Board of Governors for a term of 3 years. The other Governors at present are W. Sheppard and G. Wiberg. A. Tate was elected Chairman of the Program and Auction Committees.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 1958 DUES?

Dues are still only \$3.00 per year for Resident Members and \$2.00 per year for Non-Resident and Foreign Members. Please send your dues post haste to the Treasurer: Mrs. E. H. Pelander, 545 Fifth Ave., Room 807, New York 17, N. Y.

Corrections and Additions

North Cape article in July/Oct. 1957 issue: On p. 36, type 1 has since been seen dated July 26, 1897. On p. 37, change type 6 in lines 6 and 8 from the top to read type 7, and in line 9 change type 8 to read type 9. On p. 39 strike out "in" at the end of line 16 from top, and "Oslo, Bergen and Trondheim and at the ship postoffices" in line 17.

THE POSTHORN

Editor: Frederick A. Brofos, 137 West 74th St., New York 23, N. Y.
 Associate Editors: Carl E. Pelander, Carl H. Weronskiold, George Wiberg
 Staff Photographer: Arthur I. Heim

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