

The

POST HORN

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SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB

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A Unique Addition to Norwegian Philately

(after an article in *Frimerke Kontakt*, Horten, Norway)

The long lost but well documented Nyman essay of the Oscar issue has been found in, of all places, California, by one of the S. C. C. members Capt. Olausen. (An article by the captain appears elsewhere in the *Posthorn*.)

Because of the general dissatisfaction with Norway's first stamp, the postal authorities began almost immediately after its issue to plan for a more attractive and better executed replacement. La Rue & Co. in London and Count Sparre and P. A. Nyman in Stockholm were contacted for design and printing of a stamp (or stamps) which, according to the Postal specifications, should have a picture of the King (Oscar I), the words "Frimærke" on both sides, Norge on top and at the bottom, numbers and letters of value. All the designs submitted—4 from Count Sparre, 2 from J. Bagge, also of Stockholm, in addition to those of La Rue & Co.—were discarded in favor of the basic design in the Nyman essay. All of these subsequently disappeared, but now after 105 years, the Nyman essay pictured below has been found.



This essay is imperforated, on horizontally slightly yellowish laid paper (like the Nyman color proofs of this issue). In color it is slightly brighter red than the ordinary 8 skill stamp of this series. It measures 19.15 mm x 22.4 mm. It is made—typographed—from an original steel engraving by Nyman. The words on the stamp are in Swedish "Fyra", "Frimark". This and all other discrepancies in design between the essay and the stamp as it was finally printed, coincide perfectly with the official description in *Norges Frimærker 1855-1924*, so its authenticity seems unquestionable.

A certain amount of interesting speculation can be done about Mr. Nyman's steel die from this point. How did he rework it so it would produce the stamp as we know it? For with the exception of the central medallion and the spandrels formed by vertical lines, everything was changed: the upper and lower white framelines were shortened and brought closer together, the right and left white framelines shortened and brought farther apart. The outer frame disappeared and on the even border around the stamp the words "Norge" "Frimærke" were repositioned. Instead of the stars in the corners, ornaments were placed in the 2 upper corners, while numbers of value were placed in the 2 lower corners. The new stamp was shorter and wider than the essay.

Mr. Nyman could have redone his steel die by grinding off the unusable part of it and then adding new sides and reengraving them. Most likely, however, he produced a softer metal die—a 2nd original—from his steel die and repaired and reengraved this die to be the proto-type for the Oscar stamps. If this is so, there is really no steel engraving for this issue.

Here are its vital statistics according to the Norwegian catalogue:

1856/57 Portrait of King Oscar I after drawing by P. A. Nyman. Typographed by P. A. Nyman's Printing Office Stockholm. Sheets of 100. Cliches produced by the electrotype method. White paper from Tumba Papermill. Watermark lion and wavy lines in corners and sheet margin. Perf. 13.

Our congratulations to Capt. Olausen on his important find—it is just the kind of a thing we all hope will some day happen to us—and thanks to Frimerke Kontakt, of Horten, Norway, for the use of their material.

—E. G. J.

Norway No. 1—So-called Camouflages

Capt. Fredrik G. Olausen

I first read about camouflage of Norway No. 1 in the magazine STAMPS for April 26, 1947. The article was written by the late Mr. J. Jellestad, and he writes about his theory of the printers trying to conceal white flaws by inking the middle of the flaw. But towards the end of the article he writes the following: "My theory of 'camouflage' of white spots may be considered a bold one. But the four above mentioned varieties are the only ones I have seen, and I do not believe that there are any more of them. Should it later be proven that more exist, I shall be willing to withdraw my theory of the camouflage and call it ordinary retouch."

The next time I read about camouflages was in the Centenary of the Norwegian Postage Stamp "4 SKILLING 1855". However, here the camouflage of Norway No. 1 is no longer called a bold theory, but written up as an actual fact. On page 13 it reads as follows: "The printers made every effort to overcome the faults in the cliches (Fig. 21c). In some cases, trying to hide white spots and suchlike, they even retouched stamps on completed sheets (Fig. 23), just as a photographer may retouch a photographic print. Nos. B-8, B-36, D-35 and others are known with retouches of this kind, though the retouching was not, of course, constant and was done only when there was a very noticeable flaw which it was hoped might be concealed from the Controllers. In any event, even if the same stamp was retouched in two or more sheets, the retouching would never be exactly the same, so that any given stamp with a clear 'manuscript retouch' is, in effect, unique."

If Jellestad had been alive today, he would, in accordance with his article in STAMPS, withdraw his theory of "camouflage" on the completed sheet of

Norway No. 1. Type C8 camouflage which he described, and which mistakenly is called D-35 in "4 SKILLING 1855", exists in more than one copy. I have this variety myself in a pair, and it is C8 as Jellestad wrote, and not D35.

The possibility of camouflage on the completed sheet has for a long time fascinated me. One must admit that this could be done; but there is nothing to indicate that it was ever actually done. If it cannot be proven that it was done, I, for one, do not believe in camouflage on the completed sheets. My reasons are:

1. If the printers wished to conceal large noticeable flaws from the Controllers, why did they camouflage so few flaws, and those said to be camouflaged only fortuitous ones? I have seen several large fortuitous flaws that had not been camouflaged. Why were not large white flaws that occur constantly on normal types camouflaged? I am especially thinking of such types as A30, B4, C4, C9 and D34 primary. These flaws must certainly have been very noticeable to the Controllers. Other types that could take some camouflage would be types like A9, C5, C41, D16, D31, D34 secondary and D38. I have never heard of or seen any of these types camouflaged.

2. Then let us take a look at "4 SKILLING 1855" fig. 23, B8 camouflaged. Just why should the camouflage be put on so carefully that it would have a white frame all around and thereby show up quite clearly? If the intentions were to camouflage a white flaw in the solid blue field, it would be both easier and better camouflage to cover the whole flaw. Similar flaws occur constantly on types B12 and D33 and is in fact one of the marks by which these types are identified. A similar flaw occurs on type A31 during a certain stage of the printing.

3. For some time my thoughts have wandered back and forth as to the possibility of such camouflages. The flaw sometimes has a different shade than the rest of the stamp. But then I shall have to admit that this is also the case when similar flaws clearly are caused by thicknesses, fibres or other substances in the paper.

I write this about the camouflages despite the fact that I possess most of the described varieties in addition to others not described, and am fully aware that such an article will decrease the value of such varieties in the eyes of many a collector, although they still are extremely rare whatever the cause of the flaw.

(Editor's note: It is with mixed emotions that we print this article by Abraham Odfjell, honorary member No. 6 of S. C. C. We received two nice letters from him this summer, the last one dated August 19th, both containing a contribution to the Posthorn. So when the news of his death on August 31st came, it was a shock, in spite of the fact that Mr. Odfjell had easily reached what is generally considered his allotted span of years.

Few people attain the status of Mr. Odfjell. A success in business, he was also Norwegian Philately's Grand Old Man; maybe it would be more correct to dispense with the word Norwegian in this case, because Odfjell loved all stamps, and was rated as a top specialist in a variety of philatelic fields. In his lifetime he gave unstintingly of his time to promote our hobby—wrote innumerable articles and judged innumerable exhibits.

So the S. C. C. says with philatelists everywhere, "Fred med hans minde"—"Peace with his memory."

Postoffices in the Sogn og Fjordane fylke, formerly Nordre Bergenhus Amt, one hundred years.

When Nordre Bergenshus Steamship Line in 1856 commenced its own one hundred year old service there came a demand for mail service and new letterhouses were opened. By Royal decree of July 25, 1860, it was decided to open up letterhouses at Vadheim, at the Inner Holmedal (Bygstad or Sande), Naustdal in Sönfjord, Bremanged, Maalö (now Mälöy) and Stryn. These places have now had their postoffices for 100 years.

For Bramanger the decree stated: "that the hamlet should have weekly branch mail service with the letterhouse, connection with the common postal route arrangement. The branch mail route, Maalö-Bryggen, should be kept open the whole year, that is in case Maalö did not have a weekly mail carrying steamer." The same arrangement applied to Stryn with a branch mail route to Indvig. The yearly wages for these letterhouses were fixed by the same decree, Maalö 24 speciedaler, Bremanger and Vadheim 20 and the others 12 speciedaler. One speciedaler=4 kroner.

Before these letterhouses were established one hundred years ago the Nordre Bergenshus Amt had only a few letterhouses or postoffices, but after 1860 and 1870 their number increased so that in 1880 there were more than 30 in all.

One of the oldest letterhouses in Nordre Bergenshus Amt was Laerdal. It was on the old postal route Christiania-Bergen, which had been started in 1647. From July 1st 1890 the letterhouse Laerdal was raised to a postoffice which has been its title for 70 years.

(From a local newspaper August, 1960)

—Abr. Odjfell (H. 6)

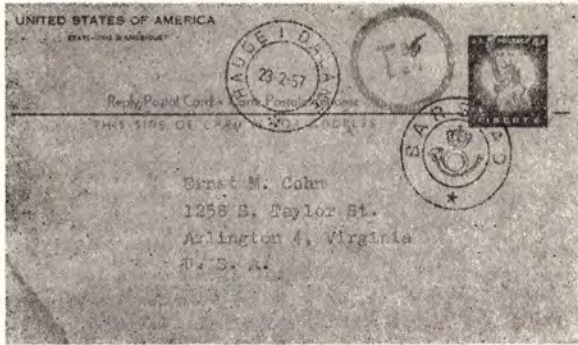
Norway's Forgotten Postmarks

by Ernst M. Cohn

In these days of First-day covers, first flight and all kinds of special cancellations, when every philatelic event is recorded in stamp journals all over the earth, one can hardly believe that a whole class of postmarks should have escaped the attention of collectors. Yet that appears to be true of Norway's crowned posthorns. The purpose of these notes is not to catalogue the cancels; for that, my information is much too meager. Rather, it is to stimulate some interest in this field, and particularly to appeal to Norwegian philatelists to take up the study of these cancels while most of the information about them is still relatively easy to obtain.

I sometimes visit a stamp dealer who knows of my interest in Scandinavian stamps, covers, and cancels, and who reserves for me such items as he thinks I might be lacking. About 3 years ago he sold me a copy of a Norwegian official stamp (Norgeskatologen T25) with a black 2-ring cancel containing a crowned posthorn in the center, Robøle between the rings on top, and a 5-pointed star between the rings on the bottom. Although I had seen Danish and Icelandic crowned posthorns, this was the first such Norwegian cancel I had been shown.

A search through *Norske Poststempler Etter 1845*, parts I and II, by Stian Sanness (Oslo, 1951) was fruitless. Of the leading Scandinavian stamp journals, only *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift* appears to have mentioned Norwegian crowned posthorn cancels: Oberstløjtnant Max Nørsgaard published two papers on Norwegian ship cancels (NFT 1940, No. 2, pp. 17-20, and NFT 1948, Nos. 4-5, pp. 57-65), in which he showed identical illustrations and gave lists of ships using the cancels. He mentioned both times that "Brevhusene" also got these cancels, starting with 1934, but deliberately restricted himself to ship lists, in line with the themes of both papers. Inquiries to philatelists



were fruitless; no one apparently collects these cancels.

Early in 1956 I wrote to the Oslo post office, asking whether a list was available of towns using the cancels. In reply I was told that a new issue of Norges Poststeder (N. kr. 3,10 postpaid) would appear in August 1956, in which Brevhusene (the smallest post offices) using this cancel could be found; the ship cancels were not mentioned. This list of Norwegian post offices shows the symbol ☒ to indicate ordinary and ☒I to indicate first-class Brevhusene. Ship names are listed separately. About 1000 ordinary and 270 first-class Brevhusene exist. In two supplements, a number of new names and changes are given. Here, then, was a starting point for finding out something about Norwegian crowned posthorn cancels.

The easiest means for obtaining cancels is to send paid reply postcards—if one can buy them. International reply cards were rather difficult to find, probably because they are not in great demand. With only limited supplies, if any, at ordinary city post offices, the best source was the Washington philatelic agency service.

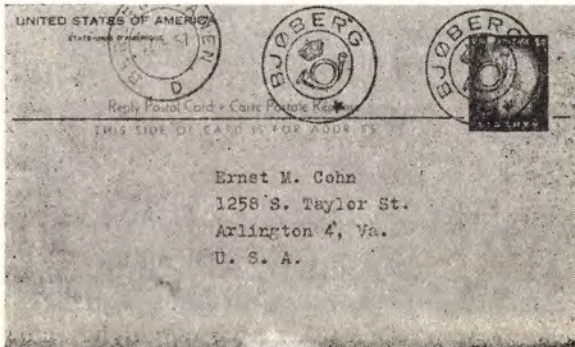
A total of more than 1300 Brevhusene and ships are listed in Norges Poststeder, and this would have meant a cost of more than \$100 for the cards, not counting the time for writing addresses, return addresses, and messages. To limit the cost and time, I sent cards to 85 Brevhusene listed on the first six pages. Later, another shipment of 40 cards went to all those Brevhusene that are only open during the summer months and to the first two ships named on page 78 of the list.

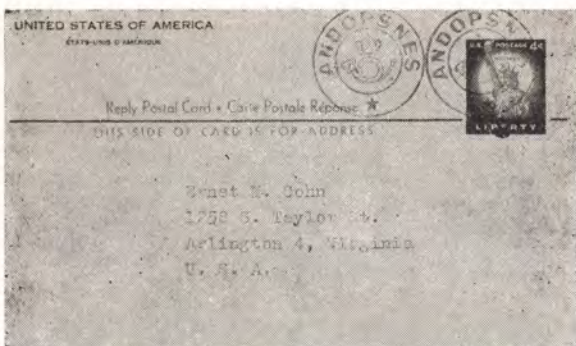
Each card had a short message in English:

Dear Sir: Please return the attached card cancelled with your crown-and-posthorn cancellation. Thank you very much.

Yours truly, E. M. C.

Exactly 100 cards were returned, or 80% of those sent. Perhaps the response





would have been even better to a Norwegian message. However, in at least one case the card was returned by a postmaster who wrote (in Norwegian) that he knew no English; he had a friend translate the message. Incidentally, one card returned more than one year after it had been sent.

Most of the returned cards looked as I expected they would. However, a few came back with the original card still attached. One card was returned by air mail, with three new Norwegian commemorative stamps added around the American 4-cent imprint. One card had an extra 5 øre stamp affixed, another bore a 25 øre stamp, and one was marked with a purple postage due notice "T 35 cts.", even though the international reply card is fully prepaid. One card, purposely sent to a discontinued station, was returned intact with a black "Retur" cancel and, in ink, "opphørt" and "ceased".

On some cards, the postmaster had placed one or more cancels on the back as well as one or more on the front. A number of postmasters had signed their names; some sent short messages or simply greetings in Norwegian or English; and one wanted to know more about me, so we corresponded a few times, he in Norwegian and I in English. One summer resort sent greetings in English and advised me of its scenic attractions; I hope to be able to visit it sometime. If any postmasters of Brevhusene or ships who returned cards to me should happen to read this paper, I want to thank them again for their kind cooperation.

The name of the postmaster is often the same as that of the post office. For example, I have signatures from Olav Aasgard at Asgard; Arth. Aune at Aun; Nils Berdal, Jr., at Berdal; Arve G. Berg at Bergtun; Andreas Björnøy at Bjørnøysund; and Andr. A. Brakstad at Brakstadrend. A prominent British collector to whom I wrote about this thinks that the forbears of these people may have adopted the names of the places as their family names some 100 or 150 years ago.

Of the 97 cards returned by Brevhusene (not counting the two ship cards and the one sent to the discontinued post office), only 63 bore crowned posthorn cancels. The others had dated cancels, 1-ring, 2-ring, and so-called Swiss types; a special tourism cancel was applied at Nordkapp. Thus, only 65% of the responding Brevhusene used the undated cancels. The reason for this difference is not apparent to me. In general, the first-class Brevhusene had dated cancels and the ordinary ones did not, but I noted two crowned posthorns from first-class and twenty dated cancels from ordinary offices, so that this rule is not without many exceptions. Furthermore, one cannot conclude that the trend is toward dated cancellers and away from posthorns, because two new post offices that were first established in 1956 have crowned posthorns.

Nørgaard's general description fits all the Norwegian crowned posthorns I have seen. However, at least three different styles exist of this cancel:

- (a) What appears to be the original type, with more elaborate shading and thick loop in posthorn; long, thin tubing between loop and mouth piece. The fillet of the crown is surmounted by a spade-shaped rib in the center that supports the top cross ("Barstad type"). The lettering is thin.
- (b) Same as (a), except that the lettering is fat ("Andopnes type").
- (c) Less elaborate shading and thinner loop in posthorn; short, thicker tubing between loop and mouthpiece. The fillet of the crown is surmounted by a cross-shaped rib in the center that supports the top cross ("Bjøberg type"). The lettering is thin.

The color of cancellation is usually black, though I received three purple and one dark blue cancels.

So far I have not sent any cards to the railroad and steamship post offices listed on pages 84 to 86 of Norges Poststeder 1956. Perhaps some of them use crowned posthorns, also.

These cancellations are just as decorative as the Danish and the very popular Icelandic ones, and it is somewhat of a mystery to me why they have been so completely neglected. Those cancels belonging to post offices that no longer exist are probably quite rare because of this lack of interest. I hope that this little introduction to the Norwegian crowned posthorns may inspire Norwegian philatelists to make a more exhaustive study of the subject.

The above paper was sent to the editor of Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift and published in Norwegian in Volume 17, No. 5, May 1958, pp. 78-80. It was translated from the English by Mr. Hans Kvaal who sent me the following additional, unpublished information concerning these cancels.

Brevhus: These are often very small sub-offices in very thinly populated and out-of-the-way places, and some only handle a few letters now and then. The "post office" is often a little room that can be locked and is only opened if a customer happens to pass by. Very often there are no regular opening hours, and letters sent through these small sub-offices frequently bear the "Brevhus postmark" and also that of the nearest "big" office.

Brevhus open only part of the year: Some of these are places high in the mountains such as small hotels, guest houses which only are open to visitors in summer or for the skiing season and summer. (Skiing season usually begins in about February.)

Names of postmasters/brevhus: Names of many out-of-the-way places often had a bearing to a prominent feature of the landscape or some peculiarity connected with the place. For instance, the likely origin of the name Bjørnøysund—bjørn=bear, øy=island, sund=sound (or straight). This island was called Bjørnøy, possibly, because there were a lot of bears on the island in the olden days. The village was probably settled on the shore of this island facing the mainland (by the sound). People were often called by their Christian names and who's son (or daughter) they were and where they came from. For example, Niels Nielson Bjørnøy=Niels, son of Niels of Bjørnøy. Here in Norway, you often find that the largest (or formerly largest or most prominent) family (and relations) often bear the name of the district or village or place. These might go back several hundred, or perhaps a thousand years. Maybe Aasgard—aas=ridge, gard=farm (?); thus farm on (or near) the ridge. Berdal—ber=berries (?), dal=valley; thus, maybe, valley of berries.

Railroad post offices: As far as I know, these do not exist with the crown/posthorn postmark.

Steamships: Those that have the crown/posthorn always (as far as I know) have the name of the ship in quotes, preceded by D/S for steamship (damp-skip) or M/S (motor-skip).

New Issues

DENMARK



On the occasion of the 10th meeting of the regional committee for Europe of the World Health Organization held August 16th-20th, 1960, in Copenhagen, a 60 ore (blue) postage stamp was issued to commemorate this meeting. For its motif a mother with a sucking baby.

The design of the stamp was made by Henry Thelander and engraved by Birger Ekholm, the Finnish engraver.



On the occasion of her Majesty the Queen's 25th anniversary as a girl guide a special stamp of the denomination of 30+10 øre will be issued on the 25th of October, 1960. The color of the stamp is red and the premium is to aid "The Scout's Fund for the Benefit of Needy and Sick Children and Children in Difficult Circumstances."

On June 3, 1960, Scandinavian Airlines Jet DC-8 had a first flight from Copenhagen-Greenland-Los Angeles.



To mark the anniversary of the formation of the European Post and Telecommunication Conference a special postage stamp will be issued on September 19th, 1960.

The design was made by P. Rahikainen, the Finnish artist, and engraved by Reijo Achren, the Finnish engraver. The value will be 60 øre and blue in color.

FINLAND



On September 3rd, 1960, issued a postage stamp to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the President of the Finnish Republic Urho Kekkonen. It was 30 Mk, designed by Olavi Vepsalainen and engraved by R. Achren.



As is known, several countries in Europe will release stamps with European motif. To bring about this stamp, an international competition was arranged, from which the design submitted by the Finnish Postal Administration and designed by Pentti Rahikainen was selected. The theme is composed of the Latin name Europa, where the letter O is formed as a mail-car wheel. The spokes symbolize the European cooperation and correspond numerically to the number of member countries in the CEPT.

There will be two stamps, a 30 mk and a 40 mk. The stamp was engraved by R. Achren, first day of sale was September 19, 1960.

ICELAND



To commemorate the founding in 1959 of the European Conference of Post and Telecommunication (CEPT) issued two stamps on September 19th, 1960. 3.00 Kr. green and 5.50 Kr. blue.

Printing was done by the firm Courvoisier S/A. la Chaux de Fonds, Switzerland.

NORWAY



Norway will issue 5 new postage stamps in the values of 20 øre (gray), 25 øre (green), 45 øre (red), 55 øre yellowish brown), and 90 øre (blue). The design will be of ships from the type used by the Norsemen to the latest type of steamship.

Printed by Emil Moestue A/S, Oslo. Paper from Alvoens Papirfabrik, Bergen. Designed by professor Arne E. Holm.



In connection with the foundation of the "European Conference of Posts and Telecommunications" the Norwegian Post Office will issue a postage stamp, the value 90 øre and the color will be blue. Printed by Emil Moestue A/S, Oslo. Paper from Alvoens Papirfabrik, Bergen.

SWEDEN



To celebrate the centenary of the birth of Gustaf Frøding—on the 22nd of August, Sweden issued two new postage stamps, the values 30 öre (brown) and 1.40 öre (olive green). Both of these stamps were issued in coils of 100. The 30 öre was also issued in booklets of 20 stamps. The design, which is the same for both stamps was made by Stig Asberg, the text by William Peterson and the engraving by Czeslaw Slania.



On September 19th Sweden issued two new stamps saluting the organization which was created last year by Administrations of Posts and Telecommunications in 19 European countries. The values are 40 öre and 1 kr.

The stamp picture was designed by the Finnish artist P. Rahikainen and is used by all the member-countries, which will be issuing the stamps simultaneously. The Swedish stamps were engraved by Czeslaw Slania. The 40 öre stamp will be blue and the 1 krona will be red.

To celebrate the centenary of the birth of Hjalmar Branting the Swedish Post Office will issue, on November 23, 1960, two new postage stamps of 15 öre (red) and 1 krona 70 öre (bluish grey). The design, which is the same



for both of them, has been made by Harald Sallberg and engraving by Czeslaw Slania.

Hjalmar Branting has built up the political Labor Movement in Sweden. From the start of the Labor Party (socialdemokratiska partiet) in 1889 until his death in 1925 he was the foremost leader of the party. Branting was Prime Minister three times during the period 1920-1925.

As a political leader he was characterized by a strong idealism, an impassioned love of liberty and had a great talent for reconciling. In the League of Nations he worked hard for the independence of this organization from coalitions of the Great Powers and for international disarmament.

Norwegian Railroad and Steamship Parcel Stamps

by Frederick A. Brofos (497)

PART VI

The Bygdø Ferry Company (Bygdøfaergenes Skibsaktieselskab)

These ferries ran between Skillebaek (Kristiania) and across the bay to Framnaes (Bygdø). At Framnaes is located the large museum building which houses the famous polar exploration ship "Fram".

Date? The value in the four corners. Across the top is a band with the text "FRAGT-MAERKE" (i.e. Freight Stamp). In the center appears one of the old ferry boats, inscribed "FRAMNAES". In the background at the right is the Holmenkollen hill which rises behind the capital, and at the left is "Oscarshal"—a summer palace built by King Oscar I, now a museum. Perforated 11.



1. 5 øre blue

2. 10 øre red
3. 25 øre green

Date? Similar, but redrawn design. Perforated 11.

4. 10 øre red

Date? Similar to no. 4, but now a coil stamp, imperforate at the sides. Perforated 10½ at top and bottom. Each stamp is overprinted with a different control number in black across the face (for example "54374").

5. 10 øre red
6. 20 øre red

These parcel stamps were cancelled by black pencil or colored crayon. The design of stamp no. 4 differs from no. 2 mainly in that the ferry flag at the right points up to the LEFT of the scroll tail above it, while on no. 2 it points up directly BENEATH the scroll tail.

The material left to present-day collectors of the following Norwegian railroad stamps is very scanty indeed. Pairs, strips, and blocks of the various issues are naturally more valuable than the individual stamps and therefore should not be torn apart as they will be of importance in reconstruction of the sheets. For the same reason, margins should not be removed either.

The Norwegian Main Railroad (Norsk Hovedjernbane).

1881. Numeral in center surrounded by frame of dots. Inscribed "NORSK HOVED-JERNBANE" in non-serifed letters. Apparently printed in sheets of 10 stamps (2 vertical rows of 5 stamps). As there were no margins, all stamps have one side imperforate, except corner stamps which have two sides imperforate. Perforated 8. Seen cancelled by a cross in red ink.



1. 5 øre black on blue paper
2. 10 øre black on yellow paper

1891. Same design as previously. Apparently printed in sheets of 10 stamps (2 vertical rows of 5 stamps). However, this time there are margins around the sheet, so none of the stamps have any imperforate edges. Perforated 11½

3. 5 øre black on greenish-blue paper
4. 25 øre black on light violet paper

The Norwegian State Railroads (Norges Statsbaner).

1884. Similar design to the first issues of the Norwegian Main Railroad, but the numeral in the center is surrounded by a wavy-line border (which varies on the different stamps in the sheet). Inscribed "NORGES STATSBANER" in serified letters. "ØRE" is also in serified letters. The outer border contains a dotted line. The sheets are without margins, the stamps are therefore imperforate on one side (corner stamps imperforate on two sides). Perforated 13. Seen cancelled with ink line or blue crayon cross.



1. 5 øre black on blue paper
2. 10 øre black on lemon yellow paper
3. 50 øre black on pale green paper

1884. Same design, but the stamps have no imperforate sides. Apparently printed in sheets with separate margins around. Perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$. Seen cancelled with 3-ring numeral POSTMARK in black, (number illegible).

4. 10 øre black on lemon yellow paper

1884. Similar design, but numeral in center is surrounded by a border of small hatched lines. The inscription reads "NORGES STATSBANER." in serified letters and with period now. "ØRE" is in non-serified letters. The outer border contains a wavy line, of which I have noticed two main types in the sheet. There were no margins to the sheet this time, so the stamps are imperforate on one side of each stamp (corner stamps on two sides), the imperforate sides corresponding with the edge of the sheet. This applies to the 5 øre value, a copy of which I have seen imperforate on one side. As for the 50 øre and 100 øre values, I have seen them only perforated on two sides and imperforate on two opposite sides, so it appears that these latter two values were printed in single vertical strips. This applies also in the case of the large 500 øre value. I have seen it imperforate at left and right and also at the top, (top stamp of the strip). The 500 øre value is of the same general design as the other values but is larger and differs in various details (see illustration). The perforation of the stamps in this set varies from 7, 8, $10\frac{1}{2}$. (Stamps perforated $8\frac{1}{2}$ to 9 have been recorded by other collectors.) I have also seen a combination on the 50 øre—perforated 8 at top and 7 at bottom, and the 5 øre perforated 10 at top, $9\frac{1}{2}$ on the right and 9 at bottom. On this issue I have noted cancellation by means of red crayon or by blue or red ink cross.



5. 5 øre black on blue paper
6. 50 øre black on dull green paper
7. 100 øre black on dull pink paper
8. 500 øre black on dull green paper

1884. Same design as previous issue. The sheets now apparently have margins, and there are no imperforate sides to the stamps. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$. Seen cancelled with red or blue crayon or handstamp in violet reading "KASSER-ET" in serified letters. Examples have also been seen cancelled by ink cross

or by handstamp in violet of the station "Røiknes" in joined letters. The figure in the center of the 5 and 50 øre values can vary a bit in position (higher or lower). This corresponds with the two main types of the outer border wavy line. There is also some variation in the thickness of the straight line of the outer border. The 50, 100 and 500 øre values are also known in imperforate condition (from a proof sheet?).



9. 5 øre black on various shades of blue paper
10. 10 øre black on yellow paper
11. 50 øre black on emerald green paper
12. 100 øre black on pink paper
13. 500 øre black on light green paper

Sweden S. G. 34

10 öre King Oscar II with Blue Posthorn on Back
by Dr. C. P. Heywood

This stamp was first issued on 24th February 1886 and during the following five years 182 million copies were printed; it is therefore a very common stamp, so common, in fact, as to escape the serious attention of many stamp collectors. There must have been a considerable number of printings, but 3 main groups can be readily distinguished:

1. 1886
 - a. dull violet carmine, on white paper
 - b. pale violet carmine to violet rose, on white paper
 - c. carmine, on white paper

The two shades (b) pass over into each other insensibly and both are merely faded forms of (a); stamps of all 3 shades can be found from 1886 and from each subsequent year to 1889.
2. 1890—dull rose on yellow paper;
the color was not fast, and stamps of this printing always have a pronouncedly faded appearance (so much so that one is tempted to discard them).
3. 1891—carmine, on yellow paper.

A number of minor varieties of this stamp are described by Olsson and Benzinger:

1. Break of 0.5 mm in top frame line near left corner (No. 27)
2. Top outer frame line missing for 1-3 mm at right hand corner and sometimes also at the left.
3. White flecks on the righthand posthorn together with white fleck between R and I of SVERIGE. (No. 77)

4. White dot between E and R of SVERIGE
5. Acute accent over G in SVERIGE
6. Dot in the bottom frame line under 0 of 10
7. Dot over E of lefthand ÖRE and thickening of bottom frame line under R of righthand ÖRE
8. Break in pearl frame line under last E of SVERIGE (No. 88)
9. Larger red dot in dotted background between righthand posthorn and upper right corner.

All these varieties are smaller and fainter than the description would lead you to expect, but can be found easily and frequently enough with a magnifying glass.

Stamps postmarked 1888 can be found on thick (carton) paper.

References:

1. Handbok över Sveriges Francetecken 1855-1946 (Sveriges Filatelist-Förning, Stockholm)
2. Svenska Postverkets Franketecken, Del 3 King Oscar IIs Porträttfrimärken Olsson and Benzinger. Stockholm, 1947.

Tids and Bits in Philately

from Stockholm in the Autumn of 1960

Now that everybody has recovered from the April exhibition in Barcelona and July in London—meeting old friends and making new ones and being very "philatically" all the time—all the claws are out again. July was rainy and all records were broken. As early as about the 20th of August we had had more rain than in any other August since 1785 when official meteorological statistics first were made. For the first time in memory of myself, or any other man or woman I know, the Cray Fish Festivities did not dominate the second week of August. The Cray Fish as found in lakes and rivers in Central Sweden and Finland is more important in Swedish Folk Life than lobsters and clams together in North America. It rained so much that people had to stay at home 12 nights out of the 14 that the semi-official season lasts. So we got none of these beloved miniature lobsters. We had to stick with the stamps and stay home.

First with the 1961 catalogs was Sveriges Filatelistförbund (SFF for short), issued by the association of philatelic clubs in Sweden. This catalog has many bright points but also a few that are less bright and need much more polish, if that is sufficient. A miniature post horn instead of the price for a mint stamp means that it is still available at the Philatelic Agency; but alas, several of those so indicated in the 1961 catalog were sold out during the summer of 1960, thus causing a lot of meaningless trouble. A large "M" instead of the price for a used stamp means that it is "massvara" and so common that it scarcely has any value at all. This is very useful and about the best feature of the SFF. Concerning prices, this catalog is useful for bartering between members.

The biggest catalog is FACIT, which is published by Frimärkshuset in Stockholm. It is, at least as far as prices for Sweden are concerned, fairly accurate and has been very efficiently improved every year. These improvements include valuable additions with quotations for objects collected internationally.

The general principle of FACIT has been to get away from the innumerable doubtful shades and varieties, which made the old Wennberg catalog as well as the SFF difficult to use for anybody but the most advanced col-

lectors with full equipment of magnifiers, quartz lamps and other similar accessories.

FACIT gives prices for pairs, strips and blox, mint and used, including all the Oscar stamps. The editor claims that prices for other blocks—including those for which pairs are quoted from 1938—will come into the catalog "as soon as possible."

Most booklets are remembered, but the accurateness is far from that of Rogers, and most prices are just the price per single mint copy multiplied by the number of stamps. The scarcity of the booklet is a factor that the publisher does not consider.

The third Swedish catalog is VIKING, published by E. V. Larssons Frimärksaffär in Stockholm. This is a neat and compact catalog, which is preferred by anybody who is not familiar with Swedish because it is free from many superfluous particulars and descriptions of unimportant things that most collectors have seen far too much of. VIKING is published more or less on the lines of SCOTT and is very much more useful than any other Swedish catalog for the general collector. VIKING is also useful for many specialists. Descriptions of shades of classic stamps are easier to follow.

For cancellations, FACIT is vastly superior to the others and gives all information of importance.

We have a new public auctioneer this year. It is KIHSTRÖMS FRIMARKSHANDEL in Stockholm, owned and run by Franz Obermüller, who has been active as a stamp dealer for 25 years or more in Stockholm. He is a man about fifty and well-known for his thoroughness and ample knowledge of philately. Results are published in full. Kihlströms is a family shop where all members are active and hired help seldom is seen in the shop itself.

Collectors here are turning more to mint stamps than ever before. They are also paying more attention to blocks and strips as well as covers. The reason for this, or one of them, is perhaps that used stamps often are very ugly. They are sometimes hiding repairs with cancellation ink on single used stamps. Larger units are scarce used but not quite so scarce in mint condition.

The number of advanced collectors of cancellations on classic stamps including all 19th Century issues has increased considerably. All those issues have risen in price and some are very hard to find. This is another reason why the general collector, who finds items like Sweden No. 1 in good condition far beyond his purse, turns to larger units and covers when he is looking for new fields.

—Nils Stålhandske

The editors of S. C. C. would like to receive more newsy articles from other Scandinavian correspondents similar to the above.

Flash

From all indications it looks as if we will have another Complex Philatelic exhibit in 1961. Better get your exhibits ready for it.

WANTED—2 Kr. block mint Official Parliament Millenary issue of Iceland, Scott O65. Roger Swanson, 5952 W. Rice St., Chicago 51, Illinois.

WANTED—Material for plating Norway No. 3. Dr. E. G. Jacobsen, 231 S. Lombard Ave., Oak Park, Illinois.

WANTED—Scott No. 8 on cover with 1858-1859-1860-1861 cancel. R. E. Danielson, 19 Harrison St., Oak Park, Illinois.

Official Call for the 1960 Annual Meeting

To the members of the Scandinavian Collectors Club.

Pursuant to Article 4, sec. 2 of the By-laws notice is hereby given that the Annual meeting of the Scandinavian Collectors Club will be called to order in the private dining room of the Drakes Restaurant, 131 North Dearborn Street Chicago, Illinois, on Tuesday evening, December 8, 1960, at 6:30 P.M. (local time) for transaction of such business as may be brought before it for legal action, for the election of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and one director, and for the discussion of all matters pertaining to the Club, including annual reports and such other business as may be presented.

The Annual meeting shall remain in session until business is completed and adjournment is moved.

In witness whereof I have set my hand this first day of October, 1960.

(Signed) Roger A. Swanson—President

The editor had a chance to visit with Mr. and Mrs. Carl Pelander a few weeks back. After the concern we have felt for him for a while, it was nice to see him back at his office looking spry as ever.

Waldemar Nielsen, one of the Chicago chapter's oldest members, departed for his native Norway this summer. He had fine collections of Norway, Finland and U. S. A. and could always be relied upon to show some interesting material at our meetings. So far his intentions are to spend his retirement in Nordland. Lots of luck to you, Waldemar!

Our Editor Danielson, as usual won everything in the Stamp exhibition at the Illinois State Fair this summer. As he can't be broken up like the Yankees, there is talk through Illinois of barring him from further participation in the show.

COLLEGE GETS SWEDISH MAPS

Augustana has become the permanent home of a Swedish map exhibit, the only one of its kind in the world. It was presented to the college during Centennial Commencement weekend in recognition of its contribution to Swedish culture in America.

Valued at several thousand dollars, the exhibit was donated to the college by the Swedish American Lines.

The display was set up in the college gymnasium, and was viewed by thousands during the Centennial Synod of the Augustana Lutheran Church, held in Rock Island, Illinois, June 6-12.

Title of the exhibit is "Seå Gården Dar hemma," which translated means "See the Old Homestead." The display consists of more than 500 maps, some 250 of which are so detailed that one can see footpaths, streams, houses and churches. The maps took more than three years to assemble, and had to have military clearance before they could leave Sweden.

Also included in the exhibit is a reference library on Sweden. This library contains telephone directories for every part of Sweden, maps of all cities, a state directory listing every official in Sweden, and a commercial directory which gives information about the smaller communities.

CHICAGO CHAPTER 4

The first meeting of the season of the Chicago chapter of S. C. C. was held September 22nd, with 13 members present.

Waldemar Nielson our oldest member who is 80 years old but looks like 60 left our city to live in his native Norway.

In discussing the new catalog values of stamps, we learned that the demand in Europe for Scandinavian stamps has caused a sharp rise in value of same.

Glen Larson spoke on his trip to Mexico City when the Mexican collectors club of U. S. visited the Mexican club of Mexico, where they enjoyed the hospitality of our southern neighbors.

—O. A. Olson, Secy.

The Scandinavian Collector's Club of Detroit concluded the 1959-60 season under the presidency of Floyd W. Warner, with a total of fifteen members.

Officers for the coming year, starting with the October 2, 1960 meeting are:

President—K. Seiffert

Vice-President—Oliver Wantin

Secretary-Treasurer—E. W. Jones

Sergeant-At-Arms—Nels Otterson

Meetings are held monthly at the homes of the various members, usually on the first or second Saturday evening of the month between October and July. A summer recess in activities occurs between July and October.

Regular activities of the club include participation with the Northwest Stamp Society of Detroit in an annual stamp exhibit held in March, and the Ladies Day in June at which time members entertain their ladies and guests at a dinner party.

The group consists of fifteen men with a common interest in the philately of Scandinavia, whose enjoyment in each other's company is attested by the complete membership attendance at every club function.

A cordial invitation to visit our meetings is extended to any members of the Scandinavian Collector's Club who are in this area at the time.

—E. W. Jones, Secretary-Treasurer

18515 Coyle, Detroit 35, Mich.

Scandinavian Collectors Club, New York Chapter 7, met on Wednesday, Sept. 14, 1960, at 7:30 on the second floor of the Norwegian Seaman's House, 62 Hanson Place, Brooklyn, N. Y. The place is within short walking distance of L. I. R. R. Atlantic Avenue Station and the Lafayette Ave., Atlantic Ave. and Pacific Street subway stations. The President talked on Scandinavian languages. This was followed by a "lightning" sale of philatelic items and the usual swapping session.

Chapter Charter No. 8 has been issued to the Scandinavian Collectors Club of Southern New Jersey. The chapter came into being largely through the efforts of Mr. Herbert Bernstein of Vineland, N. J., who is its first president. Your editor had the pleasure of being the guest of the Bernsteins, and of attending a chapter meeting at his home September 20. It was indeed a privilege to see the new members so full of enthusiasm! In the future the chapter will meet at the Slate Bldg., Sixth and Wood St., in Vineland on the 1st Tuesday of the month. They have 2 rooms and a kitchen yet! Here is

the list of officers, President—Herbert Bernstein, Vice President—Alice Ludwick, Secretary-Treasurer—Helen Rocco.

We of the Posthorn extend to the new chapter our best wishes for the future.

GREENLAND POSTMARKS SINCE 1938

The Editors of the Posthorn are happy to announce a special bonus for the membership of Scandinavian Collectors Club.

Mr. R. King-Farlow and Eric Wowern—both eminent students of Greenland philately—have collaborated in a new study of this country's postmarks. Their information is undoubtedly both accurate and complete, and this pamphlet should be an important addition to your library.

At a meeting of the board of directors of the S. C. C. held September 22, 1960, it was voted to publish a new membership list with a revised version of the constitution and by-laws in the spring of 1961. This revision became necessary by the reorganization of the club last year. By then most of the problems—and there were some real ones—will be ironed out and the basis for the future stability of the S. C. C. should be firmer.

NEW MEMBERS

- 874—Hilmer Hendrickson, 322 Park Avenue, Freehold, New Jersey.
 875—Panarello Biagio, 240 Railroad Avenue Hammonton, New Jersey.
 876—Dr. Roland H. Osborne, 1030 20th Street, Santa Monica, Calif.
 877—Mrs. Ethel E. Swift, Garrison Road, Vineland, New Jersey.
 878—Oliver W. Wantin, 6358 DeSoto Street, Detroit 38, Michigan.
 879—Clifford F. Bieber, 11 Tilford Road, Somerdale, New Jersey.
 880—Lawrence Fralick, 49 Montrose Terrace, Vineland, New Jersey.
 881—Knud J. Jespersen, 4110 47th Street, San Diego 5, Calif.
 882—Mrs. Helen Rocco, 405 North 8th Street, Vineland, New Jersey.
 883—Frank Cannon, 80 Greenleaf Hill, Great Neck, New York.

CLOSED ALBUMS

- 285—Anker B. Grumsen, San Diego 7, Calif. — July 9th, 1960
 377-H-6—Abraham Odfjell, Bergen, Norway — August 31, 1960

THE POSTHORN

Editor: Ralph E. Danielson, 19 Harrison Street, Oak Park, Illinois

Assistant Editors: Dr. Earl G. Jacobsen, Roger Swanson, and
 Frederick A. Brofos

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

Please Print or Type

Please read this blank carefully before filling it out

To THE SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB _____ 19__

Mail to: Glen Larson, 3207 Fremont St., Rolling Meadows, Ill.

I hereby apply for admission to membership in The Scandinavian Collectors Club. I agree to be bound by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society. \$1.00 admission fee is remitted herewith, together with the dues and subscription to The Posthorn for the current year at \$2.00. These amounts to be refunded to me if my application is not accepted.

Name _____ Age _____

Street _____

Town _____ Zone No. _____

State _____ Occupation _____

Directory Classification Desired—Collector?____ Dealer?____

I Collect _____

Member other Philatelic Societies? _____

Do you wish to join a local Chapter? _____

Applicant's signature _____

References

NOTE — Each Applicant shall furnish references, not necessarily stamp collectors or dealers, as to his character and financial responsibility.

1. Name of bank reference _____

2. Address _____

3. Person to contact _____

4. Names of two character references:

Name _____

Address _____

Connection in which you know him _____

Name _____

Address _____

Connection in which you know him _____

I herewith endorse the above application and propose:

Mr. _____ for membership

Proposed by

I am (am not) personally acquainted with applicant.

Membership No. _____

Secretary _____

Membership No.-----

APPLICATION

of

For Membership in the
SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB

Received -----

Admitted -----

Membership card mailed -----

Admission Fee \$1.00
Dues \$2.00
Total \$3.00

The above blanks are for the exclusive use
of the Executive Secretary