

The

POST HORN

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Whole No. 95

First Pelander Award to CARL H. WERENSKIOLD

The SCC Board of Directors, at its meeting in Atlantic City, N. J., in conjunction with SOJEX 1968, awarded the first "Carl E. Pelander Award" to SCC Honorary Member Carl H. Werenskiold of South Ozone Park, N. Y.

Carl is one of the SCC "pillars." He was among the first to join (No. 59) when SCC was still the "SCC of New York." In that organization he held a leading position, serving as officer in many capacities over the years, including Vice-president. In Chapter 7 (New York) he has held every office, including the presidency. He is also a member of Chapter 9 (North Jersey).

Carl is a true specialist of the stamps and other postal issues of Norway, as well as the other Scandinavian countries. But Norway is his "beat." The "title" of specialist has been misused altogether too often, and in many cases turns out to be a collector who limits his collecting to one special field or country. In other words, just a "limited general collector." Not so Carl Werenskiold! We once heard a definition of a specialist: A specialist is a collector who writes the text books. And that's exactly what Carl has been—and is—doing. His writings and research reports have been published widely in Norway, Denmark, and here. And his various contributions have been recognized by awards and honors, from Norway and from SCC. Most philatelic scholars would have "retired" long ago—resting on the laurels, as it were. But Carl just keeps on going! For example, his latest work (which will have collectors sit up and take note around the world!) is soon to appear in THE POSTHORN.

We are proud of you, Carl Werenskiold!

SOJEX 1968

More than 400 frames—outstanding exhibitions—an attendance to envy—meetings and conventions of many national societies, including S. C. C.—and that was SOJEX 1968, May 3-5, in Atlantic City, N. J.

In the Scandinavian Section, Hans Windfeld-Hansen captured two awards with his Danish bi-colors display: the SCC Trophy for best Scandinavian entry, as well as the SOJEX Section Trophy. Herbert Bernstein earned a Second SOJEX Section Award—as well as the Vineland Memorial Trophy for best single frame in entire show—for his Faroe Islands 1940 provisionals.

In addition to a SCC Board of Directors Meeting, a SCC Regional Meeting, hosted by Chapter 8, took place on Sunday (May 5), at which SCC Pres. Svend Yort reported on current and future SCC activities, and members from many places got a chance to meet. Of the 36 people attending, we noted many out-of-towners: Frank Shaug from Rhode Island (SCC Sec.); Bill Stericker, Philadelphia (SCC Governor); Fred Bloedow, Chicago, (Pres. Chap. 4); Vic Engstrom, N. J. (Pres. Chap. 9); Preben Johnston, Pa. (Pres. Chap. 2); George Koplowitz of N. Y. (Pres. Chap. 7); Wade Beery, Va. (MART Mgr.); Dan Vooy, N. Y.; Robert Brandeberry, Del.; and several more from N. Y.—N. J.—Pa.—Del.—Md.—Va.—Wash. D. C.—all to help Chapter 8 run a very comprehensive auction of Scandinavian material—and to partake of the refreshments.

We also noticed with pleasure that two SCCers from far-away helped with exhibits—Jim Wennermark (Pres. Chapter 15, Rochester), and Mark Snow from Ohio. Five SCCers also showed non-Scandinavian material.

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COMPEX 1968

The eleventh COMPEX lived up to the expectations that its predecessors have built up—an excellent show, an active bourse, and plenty of entertainment. Our Chicago chapter was the genial host, and provided whole-hearted hospitality.

A general meeting on Saturday afternoon was devoted mainly to discussion

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of plans for the 1969 Annual Meeting, which will be the first under our new by-laws. Plans call for a greatly enlarged exhibition—160 frames instead of our usual 68—and we are soliciting participation by the several Scandinavian governments through the Consul-Generals. To fill all these frames will require much wider support from the members than we have had hitherto, but there will also be more awards to compete for, so start now to plan your exhibit!

The general meeting was followed by a social hour preceding the COMPLEX banquet, and on Sunday afternoon there was the customary "kaffe klatsch." Among the out-of-town visitors were Harry Lindquist, who incidentally has promised to give us publicity in connection with the 1969 show, Bill Stericker from Philadelphia, Jack Banks and his charming wife from Toronto, Doc Sneller from Peoria, and Verner Andersen and Ken Brown from Detroit. Minnesota was well represented by Bob Frigstad, Whitey Johnson and Bill Pieper from Chapter 14, and Norman Welo from Hibbing. And of course your peripatetic reporter was there with his wife. We probably have missed several others—but it becomes impossible to remember everyone whom we see at these meetings, so we can only apologize for a poor memory.

There were many excellent exhibits in the show, and fortunately the judges had two trophies to award, as well as first, second and third place certificates, so the results were these:

Grand Award: Earl G. Jacobsen, Fourth Issue of Norway.

Reserve Grand: W. J. Banks, Denmark, Wavy-Line Issues, 1905-33.

First: Carl Malmberg, Swedish Revenue Paper and Stamps, 1723-1915.

Second: Paul Mead, Finland.

Third: B. H. Derf, U.S. A.P.O.'s in Greenland.

Exhibits were also entered by the following:

Thomas E. Elnen, Denmark 1851-71.

Robert P. Stevens, Satellite Issues of Denmark—D.W.I., Greenland, and the Faroes, and, Iceland from 1873 to date.

Benjamin H. Cohen, Scandinavian Salute to the United Nations. (Not for competition).

Svend Yort, Norway, Skilling Issues on Cover (not for competition).

And so once again we say thanks to the Chicago chapter and all their diligent workers for their efforts not only in giving us a good show and wonderful hospitality, but in promoting the larger aims of the S. C. C. and Scandinavian philately.

Svend Yort.



A. JAMES WENNERMARK

SCC 543

President SCC Chapter 15, Rochester, N. Y.

With deepest sympathy to his family and friends from
all of SCC

Soldiers' Mail from Danish West Indies

By Dr. Verner Ekenvall

(Editor's Note: This article is a somewhat abridged version of an article which appeared in the Danish Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift, No. 2, 1968, with one addition for THE POSTHORN by the author, a Swedish Danish-West Indies specialist. Translated by Sven Åhman.)

In the literature about postal stationery, stamps, and postal conditions of the Danish West Indies available to me, I have searched in vain for information about what I would call "soldiers' mail." In my own collection I have two covers from army privates in Christiansted, franked with 3 cents instead of the normal 10 cents postage to Denmark. In one case, the address side has a hand-drawn text, in the other a printed one, both in the same pattern. Guided by the cancellation dates known to me, it was possible to pinpoint the time when the postal ordinance about the reduced rate must have been issued. At my request, Inspector H. M. Jensen of the Danish Postal Museum has kindly tracked it down for me.

The relevant regulation is to be found in the Danish "Official Notices from the Administration of Posts," No. 42, of December 24, 1886:

"The Directorate of Posts for the Danish West Indies Islands has adopted the rule, in force from January 1, 1887, that ordinary letters to addressees in Denmark from non-commissioned officers and privates, serving in the army force of these colonies, will be forwarded at the rate of 3 cents per weight unit, provided the letters are handed in franked at this rate and enclosed in envelopes, the address side of which is arranged as shown by the illustration overleaf and duly filled in under its respective headings." (Fig. 1).

Afsenderens	}	Navn:	Frimærker.
		Kompagni:	
		Charge eller Nr.:	
Til			
Forøvrigt Officers Navn:			Danmark.

Fig. 1: Prototype for soldiers' mail envelope. Purpose of distributing notice about them to post offices in Denmark was to notify them that letters of this nature were properly franked.

Judging from the cancellation dates, the regulation must have reached the garrisons in the Danish West Indies almost simultaneously with its publication in the Official Notices. The printing of the soldiers' mail envelopes was carried out in the islands and of course required some time. Necessity, however, is the mother of invention, and while waiting for the printed article, "hand-made" soldiers' envelopes were manufactured from 3 cents postal stationery envelopes, as shown in Fig. 2.

The letter shown was sent from Christiansted February 8, 1887, and FORFVIST for (checked by) H. Ostermann. On the reverse, it is postmarked "St. Thomas 8/2" (February 8) and "Frederik:berg 1 8/3" (March 8).

Comparing its appearance with the illustration in the Official Notices (Fig. 1), we find that the pattern of the notice was followed very closely. Even the double lines under AFSENDERENS are reproduced.

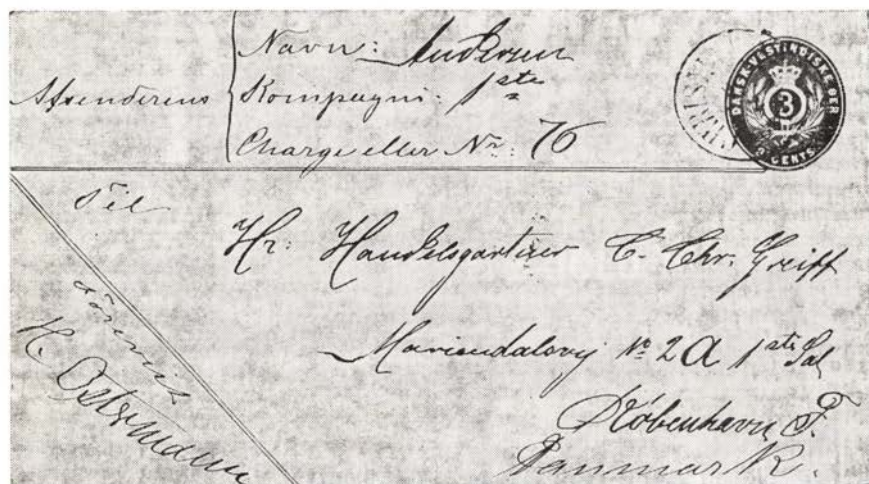


Fig. 2: "Hand-made" soldiers' letter very similar to prototype. Transit time was one month.

This, however, is no "First Day Cover." I know of two similar postal stationery envelopes, both hand-drawn and identical in all essentials with the one shown. One has the four-ring cancel used as an inter-island ship cancel and is marked on the reverse with a "C" (for Christiansted) and "St. Thomas 7/1 (January 7) 1887." The other is cancelled "Christiansted 1/2 (February 1) 1887" and postmarked on the reverse "St. Thomas 2/2 1887."

Eventually, the printed envelopes came into use. When this happened I have not been able to establish. What my own example looks like is shown in Fig. 3. The pattern, it will be noted, differs somewhat from the prototype in the Official Notices. Thus, there are double lines vertically in the "head" after NAVN etc., but not horizontally underneath Charge eller Nr. Furthermore, the word FOREVIST has been omitted below the slating line at the lower left.

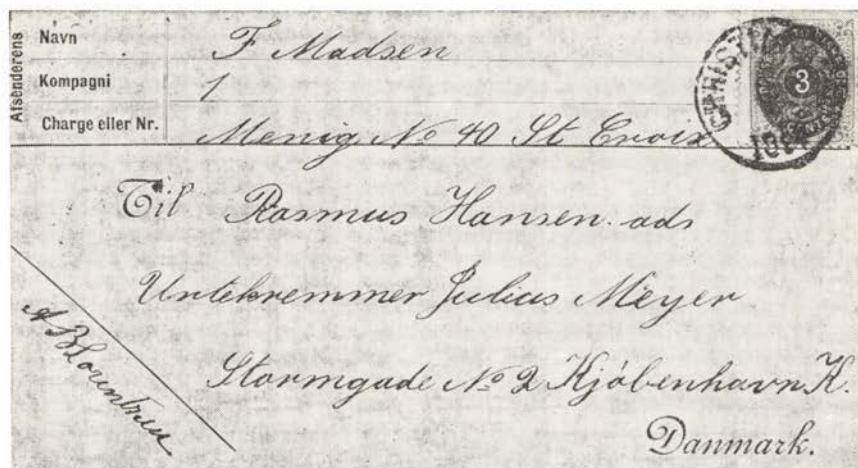


Fig. 3: Printed soldiers' letter from Christiansted. Transit time only 15 days.

My cover is franked with a 3 cents stamp of the seventh printing and postmarked "Christiansted 9/4 (April 9) 1894." On the reverse is a "St. Thomas 9/4 1894" and a Copenhagen arrival cancellation "K. OMB 2 24.4.94".

Since this account was published in *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*, I have proof that the soldiers' mail envelopes were printed at the various garrisons. This is shown by a soldiers' letter from Frederiksted, postmarked 24/10 1887. This envelope has the same printed text as the one in Fig. 3, but underneath the slanted line at lower left are the printed words FOREVIIST: (Officers Navn), which are missing on the Christiansted letter. The stamp is 3 cents, fifth printing.

Many questions remain to be answered about the Danish West Indies soldiers' mail. Are there earlier cancellation dates? When were the printed envelopes first taken into use? Have any soldiers' letters from other garrisons survived? How long did the arrangement remain in force?

If any POSTHORN readers have pertinent information, the author would be grateful to hear from them. His address is: Stubbeledsgatan 10, Gothenburg, Sweden.

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NORWAY—The Stereotyped Stamps of 1883-85 (NK Nos. 1-47)

By T. Soot-Ryen, Norway (1258)

(Ed's note: The author is a well-known philatelic student and writer of numerous articles on Norwegian postage stamps, postal stationery, and postal history. He has brought logical conclusions and facts to several areas which have long suffered from misinterpretations and confusion. His following article is based on a paper read at a 1967 meeting of the Oslo Philatelic Club. Translated from Norwegian and edited by Reidar Norby, with technical advice of Svend Yort. THE POSTHORN is proud to be the first to publish this important contribution.)

Since the articles in 1898 (by Wilh. Hiorth) and 1923 (by Justus Anderssen), very little has been published about the Norwegian stereotyped stamps of 1883-85. Yet, these stamps are very interesting, though perhaps difficult to study; and in addition, whole sheets are no longer available (with the exception of the 12 øre denomination) and even multiples are hard to obtain. In fact, study material—even in singles—is becoming scarce. Another difficulty in studying these stamps is that they were delivered to the Stamp Custodian for distribution long after they were received from the printer, and therefore those distributed first were not necessarily the first printed.

Based on the records of the Stamp Custodian, I can now correct some errors in earlier literature, and—almost by coincidence—prove that Justus Anderssen's explanation of the printing process rests on a mistaken premise. It is my hope that this article will perhaps motivate others to work with these stamps, so that by joint efforts a more complete story may be recorded. There is certainly much to be done . . .

THE PAPER

The stamps were all printed on paper manufactured by Thv. Moestue & Co. according to contracts of December 1880 and August 1884. This paper has a so-called impressed—or imitation—watermark, which is very difficult to see. It was first noted by Henrik Opheim, Jr. (see J. Anderssen 1925, page 56) who later (1928) also noted a different watermark, now known as Type III. He stated that the latter watermark has a mouthpiece (on the posthorn) and can thus not be a variety of Type II caused by damage. However, the first postal cards printed by Johnsen (6+6 and 10+10) show an impressed "watermark" with mouthpiece, although it is not quite the same as that found on the stamp paper.

Such imitation watermarks were pressed into the cardboard or paper by means of rubber stamps during the manufacturing (wet), or after (dry). The cardboard used for the postal cards was furnished in sheets and the watermark appears to be pressed into it by means of a plate with rubber posthorns, and was probably done in Norway because the cardboard was delivered three weeks after the contract was awarded. One can frequently see that the stamp impression on the postal cards is more distinct than the impressed watermark, and this would indicate that the impression was done on dry cardboard. To appreciate this, one can simply think of a heavily cancelled envelope with the impression of the cancel showing "through" on the back, in spite of the thickness of the stamp and perhaps a couple of sheets of paper inside the envelope.

The imitation watermark was impressed on the stamp paper with a device similar to a dandy-roll. It is not known if this was done in Norway on the finished paper, or in the process of manufacturing the paper, but indications point to it having been done on the dry paper. These "watermarks" are quite indistinct—so much so that some collectors have reported the 12 øre brown stamp without watermark. On some of the sheets I have inspected, the watermark is quite clear along the upper margin, but becomes increasingly indistinct vertically, and is practically invisible along the lower margin. Some of the distinct ones do appear to have a mouthpiece. These watermarks are poorly positioned in relationship to the stamp design impressions, so that frequently only portions of them are shown on the stamps. Carl H. Weren-skjold, who has worked extensively with this paper, has found that his "wet method" discloses 45% of the positions of the "watermarks," a result which I consider very impressive.

In 1884, Moestue was awarded a new contract for delivery of paper. It is supposed to have watermark Type III, but it is not known why a new type was introduced at that time, unless perhaps the earlier (dandy) roll was damaged or worn beyond use. However, the watermark on this paper is even more difficult to observe, and I wonder how many have really seen a distinct Type III watermark, even though it ought to be found on almost 22 million stamps. It would be desirable to study this aspect closely by means of new and improved techniques.

It is assumed that Moestue's first delivery totalled 1206 ris (= reams), 170 single sheets with watermark Type II, and that another delivery of 449 ris, 400 single sheets had watermark Type III. On July 3, 1883, a balance of 202 ris, 170 single sheets was left from the first delivery, after Johnsen had used this paper for his earlier deliveries of stamps. Moestue's second delivery took place July 30, 1884. On starting his printing for the period 1884/85, Johnsen received (June 19 and July 8, 1884) a total of 75 ris double sheets which must have originated from Moestue's first delivery, and the same is most likely true of the 26 ris double sheets he received on August 2. If this is so, Johnsen had received 202 ris single sheets from the first delivery, so that only 170 single sheets were left. From August 14, 1884, to January 8, 1885, Johnsen received 390 ris single sheets from Moestue's second delivery. Accordingly, there was a balance from this delivery (the second) of 59 ris, 400 single sheets, which, together with the 170 single sheets (from the first delivery), was used by Centraltrykkeriet. Therefore, the following accounting can be made for Johnsen's second printing:

Moestue's 1st delivery for 10 øre + waste	-----	202 ris=10,100,000 stamps
Moestue's 2nd delivery for 10 øre + waste	-----	218 ris=10,900,000 stamps
Moestue's 3rd delivery for 5 & 20 øre + waste	----	172 ris=8,600,000 stamps

Both deliveries from Moestue contained somewhat different quality of paper, but I have found nothing which can serve to separate them conclusively. The only thing I have noticed is that at least part of the last delivery is thin and porous, and absorbs water so that it becomes almost transparent.

THE CLICHES

As we know, the (original) steel die was cleaned and re-engraved in December 1881. The shading lines were removed from the posthorn, and four of the (vertical) background lines in the oval (to the left of the base of the crown) were cut through, probably by accident, which is seen on the stamp as a thin white line. This die was used for the 10 øre stamp (Norgeskatologen No. 38) and the postal cards, as well as the stereotyped stamps and all stamps printed by Centraltrykkeriet until a new die with Roman lettering was pre-

pared in 1893. The die of 1881 no longer exists, but a casting of it in type metal, with an inserted large numeral 10, does exist in the Postal Museum in Oslo. This casting shows the color areas of the design recessed and the white areas raised.



Fig. 1—Casting of original die with large "10"

For the production of the stereotyped clichés, an intermediate, or "second original," die had to be made for each denomination. These were most certainly made by pressing the original die into a lead plate (the impression would then appear as the mentioned casting). By electroplating, a copper duplicate (thin copper "film") was made, which would then show the design in reverse, and a base soldered on to it, whereupon the period (after POSTFRIM) and the small numeral of value were engraved (recessed lines). This was the customary method of producing "second original" dies.

But it is not definitely known how the casting of the (printing) clichés was done. Justus Anderssen (1923) quotes part of one of Johnsen's letters: "Isaksen, the typesetter, who has made the copper dies, has just received from Germany an apparatus for casting of clichés." We now learn that it was typesetter Isaksen who was to make the clichés, but nothing about the workings of his new apparatus. Anderssen stated that papier-mâché was used for the casting molds, but does not offer a source for this statement. The idea of casting in papier-mâché molds was probably a theory which Anderssen advanced, and which has since been repeated in the literature as fact. Most likely, the process was entirely different, as I shall explain below.

In one of the display cases in the Postal Museum are shown—together with the mentioned casting of the original die—several casting molds. They are labelled 1877-78. I have seen them many times in passing, and have not paid particular attention to them, as I am sure has been the case with others. But it struck me that the denominations match the stereotyped stamps, and when I was allowed to study them closer, it became evident that these are indeed the casting molds for these stamps. There are two molds for the 3, 5, 10, 12, and 25 øre denominations, and one for the 20 øre. The molds are 3½ mm deep, 18.6 mm wide, and 22.8 mm high. They are surrounded by walls of copper 3 mm thick, and the entire unit (mold and walls) encased in type metal, measuring either 34 mm or 53 mm (there are two sizes), housing included. The thickness is about 15 mm.

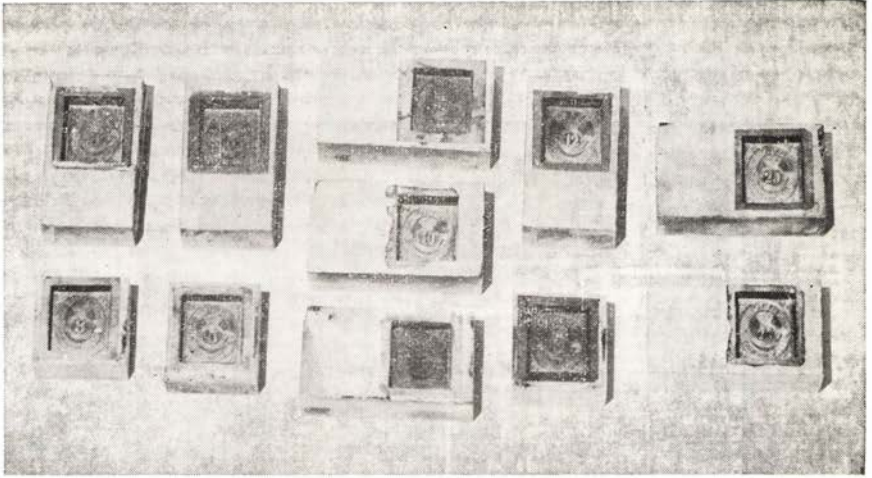


Fig. 2—Molds for the stereotype clichés

The bottom of the molds shows a right-reading design, but all areas to be without color on the stamp are raised, so that a cliché cast in the mold would show a reversed design.

I am not clear on how these molds were made. Perhaps the second original (intermediate) die was pressed into the bottom, since it does not appear to



Fig. 3—Close-up of one of the 12 øre molds

have been attached afterwards. If so, the second original die could hardly have been used more than once. Supporting this thought is the fact that none of the duplicate molds are identical. In other words, a second original die has been made for each mold. However, only one mold for each of the denominations was used for the casting of the (working) cliches. Perhaps one die was made from each mold and impressions of these shown to the Postal Administration for selecting one of each. However, this is only an assumption.

It is obvious that all cliches made in this manner would be alike, with the exception of possible damages in the casting process. Also, it would be an easy and swift method of making cliches. Therefore, it does not seem logical that time was spent on re-engraving single cliches, apart from perhaps removing ink, since it was much simpler to make new ones. We must then figure on a large number of cliches having been used for the printing.

Justus Anderssen also stated that after the 3 øre stamps were printed, the cliches to be used for the large issues of the 5 øre and 10 øre stamps were furnished with a galvano-plastic coating to improve their durability. And further that Johnsen did not use such coating for the period 1884/85.

Anderssen believed that the impression from cliches with electrolytic coating tends to be more coarse and indistinct than from cliches without such coating. However, people in the trade inform me that it would rather be the opposite. The effects of the electrolytic coating are therefore not clear. Before the 3 øre stamps were printed, stereotyped cliches were used for the printing of the 5 øre postal cards in October 1882.

The cliches for the 3 øre stamp were cast in type metal, but it appears that the printer has experimented and found that rubber* cliches could be used. There is actually a rubber cliche for the 12 øre stamp in the Postal Museum.



Fig. 4—The "rubber" cliche for the 12 øre

*Editor's note: The word "rubber" is used to mean a rubber-like substance (gutta-percha?). In answer to my question about this, the author advises that the material of the cliche appears to be identical with the covering of the color roll of the printing press which Johnsen used.

The rubber cliché itself is 3½ mm thick, as it would be in the mold. It has an attached metal base to make it of proper height for printing. There can be no doubt that the two deliveries of the 12 øre brown stamps and the 12 øre green stamps in January 1883 are printed from rubber clichés. Such clichés, after some usage, would indeed leave the coarse and indistinct impression which is typical of these stamps. I also believe that rubber clichés were produced for use in preparing the first printings of the 5 øre stamp, but that clichés of type metal were soon after employed, and continued to be used for all later printings. The use of rubber clichés in Norway at this early date may well have been unknown until now.

A new cliché will give clear and sharp contrast between white and color details. The color details originate from the raised and inked portions of the cliché, and the white (colorless) areas from the recessed portions. When a cliché becomes worn through usage, it becomes "lower" and the white (colorless) areas become narrower and thinner, while the inked areas tend to "widen" and "flow together." The white "flowing-out" letters are accordingly not created by mechanical wear of the clichés. Remnants of printing ink might perhaps cause chemical corrosion. It is known, for example, that cinnabar will attack the edges of recessed areas of clichés, and other ingredients of printing inks will probably do the same. And the printing itself might cause irregularities, such as the dies (clichés) being slanted or not all on the same level.

Irregularities of the clichés may occur during the casting, and such damages are not uncommon in a large number of these stamps. If a foreign body should drop into the casting mold before it is filled with type metal, an opening will appear in the die (cliché), and will show up as a white spot on the stamp. If something fills in the small spaces between what appears as color lines of the stamp, the lines will be broken—something which occurs quite frequently, especially in the oval. White spots can also be traced to defects caused by small gas bubbles formed during the casting. The study of casting imperfections can yield valuable information about the printing, and is in itself an interesting field.

Other damages are relatively easily caused in the soft type metal, such as bent frame lines, defective corners, scratches, breaks, and also depressions of weaker parts of the cliché. Ink accumulations in the oval or between the outer and inner frame lines occur now and then. Generally, this issue offers a multitude of great and small imperfections of the clichés, which proves that many clichés were used for the printing. It is the study of all these varieties which can help us to know more about these stamps.

The actual printing also has a lot to do with the appearance of the stamps. If hard underlay is used, the stamps show good contrast and the color appears "dry." This is the most difficult method, but it reduces wear on the clichés. To use a soft underlay is easier, but thinner ink must be used, and the greater pressure creates more wear on the clichés. The lines become coarser and the design loses contrast and "life." Because of the greater pressure, the design is often visible on the reverse.

The following chronological list of all deliveries of the stereotyped stamps from the printer is useful to appreciate the order of the printings, and it also shows some errors in previous lists. Letter cards were printed between the

two printing periods, and the extended periods between some of the deliveries probably have to do with the making of clichés.

Stereotyped Stamps					
Deliveries from Johnsen's Print Shop					
December 1882—July 1883			August 1884—February 1885		
Paper: Moestue's 1st delivery			Paper: Moestue's 1st and 2nd deliv's		
Date	Øre	Quantity	Date	Øre	Quantity
1882			1884		
Dec. 19	3	1,052,200	Aug. 2	10	2,700,000
1883			Aug. 14	10	2,700,000
Jan. 2	12 (brn)	1,337,300	Aug. 26	10	3,000,000
Jan. 30	12 (gr.)	214,800	Sept. 2	10	1,936,600
Mar. 6	5	1,400,000	Sept. 25	10	850,000
Mar. 13	5	1,200,000	Oct. 9	10	1,000,000
Mar. 21	5	1,200,000	Oct. 28	10	1,800,000
Mar. 29	5	583,700	Nov. 6	10	1,800,000
Apr. 4	5	1,500,000	Nov. 13	10	1,800,000
Apr. 12	5	2,100,000	Nov. 20	10	1,800,000
Apr. 17	5	513,900	Nov. 26	10	1,262,400
April 17	3	1,044,000	Dec. 4	5	1,800,000
April 25	12 (brn)	1,539,600	Dec. 16	5	2,100,000
May 23	25	1,030,400	Dec. 23	5	1,481,700
May 31	10	1,600,000	1885		
June 19	10	1,800,000	Jan. 27	20	1,500,000
June 26	10	1,800,000	Feb. 10	20	1,593,200
July 3	10	1,800,000			
July 17	10	1,500,000			
July 24	10	1,350,000			
July 27	10	1,016,500			

THE VARIOUS DENOMINATIONS

It would be desirable to have a comprehensive description of each of the denominations, including the many errors and varieties, but too little is known.

Therefore, I have to limit myself to a short and rather general description of each stamp, staying as much as possible within the order of deliveries from the printer.

THE 3 ØRE STAMP

This stamp was delivered from the printer in two installments with four months interval, during which both the 12 and 5 øre stamps were delivered, and thus the 3 øre stamps must have been made in two printings—not one as is stated in the literature. Almost a year passed before the stamps were delivered to the Stamp Custodian, who received the first portion on November 16, 1883. Even though there was a balance on hand on January 1, 1884, of 200,000 copies of the 3 øre stamps from Petersen, some of the new stamps must have been distributed in 1883, as cancelled copies are known from Trondheim 7-83. It is not known if one or two printing forms were used, nor if the last printing was done from new cliches.

The color varies between orange and yellow, but as yet it is not possible to determine which shade originates from which printing. The net quantity is 2,088,200 copies, as 8,000 copies were destroyed.



Fig. 5—Left to right: line over N; dot in G; break in posthorn at left

THE 12 ØRE STAMPS (brown and green)

The first delivery of stamps of this denomination was made on January 2, 1883 and most probably only in the brown color. 214,800 green stamps were delivered on January 30, 1883.

These stamps were all printed from rubber cliches and from the same printing form with two panes per sheet. The poor printing is especially apparent on the green stamps.

The next delivery, April 25, 1883, consisted of stamps in brown, but printed from type metal cliches in single sheets of 100. These stamps show the well-known color dot in the oval to the right of the crown. This defect is clearly apparent in the mold and can hardly be called a transfer error.

Almost a year passed before the Stamp Custodian received the first portion of these stamps on November 16, 1883, and they were most likely brown. The next delivery took place on January 2, 1884, and the record clearly shows that 170,000 green and 233,000 brown stamps were delivered. This is evidently the only delivery of green stamps, and it is not strange that 44,800 were destroyed. Of the brown stamps, only 4,300 were destroyed, and an additional 4,600 from the last printing.



Fig. 6—12 øre: at left: brown and green stamps resp. from rubber clichés; at right: the brown stamp from metal cliché

The Stamp Custodian's record of stamp distribution shows that on January 1, 1884, there were still on hand 1,500 stamps with shaded posthorn. During the period 1884 to and including 1886, 600,700 stamps were issued, of which 599,200 must have been stereotyped. Deducting the 170,000 green stamps and those returned by the post offices, the net quantity of the brown stamps should be 406,550—which, together with the 472 stamps on hand in 1888, would make a total of about 407,000 stamps.

The errors and colors are well described by Jellestad.

THE 5 ØRE STAMP

This stamp was delivered in two portions with more than 1½ years interval. The first were printed on the original Moestue paper, and the second on paper from Moestue's second delivery.

It appears that the first stamps were printed from rubber clichés, and that the use of type metal clichés was introduced during the printing. However, a great number of stamps is needed to clarify this question.

The somewhat dull bluegreen and almost olive-green colors vary considerably, but were probably used for the first printing. They show blunt corners and a dull (coarse) print, while the stamps from the later printing show sharp corners and mostly a sharp print; and the color varies from dark to almost light bluegreen. Stamps from the two printings cannot be distinguished by color alone, although stamps from the first printing are generally somewhat darker. All stamps cancelled before May 29, 1885—and perhaps even before September 1885—must be of the first printing. The Stamp Custodian received the first portion on September 13, 1883, and the total quantity was 8,245,000.

The last printing was done in December 1884, and the Stamp Custodian received the total quantity of 5,315,000 stamps on May 29, 1885. New clichés were probably made for this printing. The color is generally lighter than that of the first printing, and the stamps appear to have less contrast. Also, the lettering is heavier, perhaps especially noticeable on the small numeral 5. In the mold, there is a somewhat lower thickening below the crossbar of the small 5, and this is perhaps the cause of the deformed numeral. However,



Fig. 7—5 øre mold—note small “5”

these characteristics do not appear exclusively in this printing, although they seem to be more common. If it were possible to conclusively distinguish the watermark, it would be easy to separate the two printings, but as it stands now, such separation can hardly be made.

THE 25 ØRE STAMP

There was only one delivery of this stamp, and the Stamp Custodian received it about a half year later. They were probably issued during January 1884, since as of January 1, there were only 164,400 copies of the Petersen 25 øre stamps on hand. The net quantity is 1,029,400 stamps, because 1,000 were destroyed.

The color is dull violet and the printing is well done. It is possible that only one printing form was used. It is curious that this stamp should be scarcer than that of Centraltrykkeriet which was printed in a smaller quantity.

THE 10 ØRE STAMP

This denomination, as was the case with the 5 øre stamp, was printed in both of Johnsen's printing periods, with about one year interval.

Let me at once point out two characteristics which are almost always distinct and which typify this stamp. They are described and illustrated by Jens Sviggum in the N.F.T.* (1966): There is a small dent in the outer horizontal frame line in the upper right corner, and there is a small dot (white spot) in the oval band between E (of Norge) and the bell of the posthorn.



Fig. 8—From same cliché: left carmine, right aniline. Note dot between N and O

The dent is caused by a thickening of the upper wall of the mold, and the dot by a small sharp projection in the oval band. These characteristics of the mold which was used, show very clearly that the same mold was used to produce the clichés for both printings. Another interesting aspect is that two types of ink were used. First a carmine which appears bluish-red under ultra-violet light, and then an aniline red which shows up in the second printing and which appears yellow-brown under ultraviolet light. The colors are very easily distinguished in this manner, although both colors vary considerably when viewed in daylight, and often appear surprisingly similar.

Some 5-6 months after the stamps from Johnsen's first printing had been delivered, they were turned over to the Stamp Custodian, from January 2, 1884. In all, a total of 10,713,000 stamps were accepted (approved) and were distributed immediately. On January 1, 1884, only a little more than 1 million copies of the older issues were on hand. The stamps were printed on paper from Moestue's first delivery and the color is carmine in many shades from pale to a full red. All stamps cancelled in 1884 must originate from this printing.

The stamps from the second printing were delivered from August to November 1884. They were turned over to the Stamp Custodian on January 2, 1885—not September 25, 1884, as has previously been stated. The total quantity was 20,450,000 copies and almost 2 million copies were distributed during the first quarter of 1885.

As I mentioned in the beginning, paper from Moestue's first delivery was used first, and paper from his second delivery was used subsequently and with about equal quantities of each. In the beginning of his second printing period, the printer used the same ink as he used in the first printing period, so that the stamps are identical as far as color and paper are concerned. Later, the printer started to use the aniline red ink, which fluoresces yellow-brown under ultraviolet light. I have a stamp which shows both fluorescences, so I believe the printer simply filled the ink fountain with the new ink before the old was completely used up.

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But how many stamps were printed in the aniline color? I only have 1/10,000 of the total quantity of stamps and have used that as a basis for an estimate. Although this quantity is not sufficient, it still gives a slight indication. The result is that almost 18,000,000 copies from both printing periods should be carmine, and some 13,000,000 copies should be aniline red. In other words, some 7,000,000 from the second printing period (on paper from Moestue's first delivery) should be carmine, and about 3,000,000 copies (on the same paper) should be aniline red. However, these figures are offered with reservations.

All 10 øre stamps on paper from Moestue's second delivery are in aniline red, and this print is usually "fuller" and visible on the reverse of the stamps.

Some of the cliches with typical errors might well have been used in the printing of stamps in both colors.

THE 20 ØRE STAMP

This denomination was the last to be printed and the stamps were turned over to the Stamp Custodian on May 29, 1885. The total quantity was 3,080,000 stamps, all printed on paper from Moestue's second delivery. They were soon distributed.



Fig. 9—20 øre: clear (left) and worn (right) prints

Copies from the beginning of the printing are sharp and clear, and frequently somewhat lighter than those printed later, in which the text shows evidence of some corrosion of the cliches from effects of the ink, and the wings are also covered by ink.

It is not known whether single or double printing forms were used.

In conclusion, I would like to mention that so much remains to be done with these stamps before we will know anywhere near as much as we do about the stamps from Centraltrykkeriet, for example. All material may be of help in this connection, and it does not matter if such stamps are damaged, as long as enough of them is left or intact for study purposes. All who enjoy working with stamp problems will enjoy working with these stamps.

Such work might perhaps not increase the value of one's collection, but one will certainly have the satisfaction of knowing that one has contributed to the solution of the problems.

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* S * C * C *

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Virgin Islands, U. S. A.

By Roger B. Preston (1075)

After some fifty years of negotiations, the Danish West Indies were purchased by the United States in 1917, the sum of \$25,000,000 being paid to Denmark. Previous to the sale, a plebiscite had been held in which the residents had expressed their agreement to the transfer of nationality. The formal transfer took place at St. Thomas at four o'clock, March 31, 1917. Thus, March 1967 represented fifty years of association of the islands with the United States of America.

Extensive celebrations were planned to commemorate the semi-centennial year. As early as October 1966 the *Virgin Islands View* magazine suggested a contest to develop designs for an appropriate semi-centennial postage stamp.



Fig. 1—Two designs submitted by Arthur C. Jones. They were not accepted.

Although residents of the Virgin Islands (U.S.A.) are U. S. citizens, they have no vote in national elections, nor do they enjoy representation in Congress. Perhaps their desire for a special commemorative postage stamp was not submitted to the authorities in sufficient time, or perhaps not to the proper officials. Who can tell what actually happened? However, a special commemorative postal card was issued which created an overnight flurry in St. Thomas, but will probably not fit into too many collections—the interest in postal stationery not yet being as great as in postage stamps . . .



Fig. 2—The design of the Virgin Islands 6c postal card

SCC

CHAPTER REPORTS

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Secretary: Miss Harriet Hintze, 1312 University Street, Seattle, Wash. 98101

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Meets every third or fourth Saturday, at homes of members on a rotation basis.

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Our 1968-69 officers have been elected and the following will serve: President: Ed ones, Vice-Pres.: George Baerries, Secretary-Treasurer: Oscar E. Mittelstaedt, Jr., with Ken Brown as Correspondence Secretary and Nels Ottersen as Sergeant at Arms.

We combined with the North-West Stamp Society to again present the annual exhibit and bourse at the newly renovated K of C Hall this past March. This time we played host to the Peninsular State Philatelic Society's Convention and Show, which is an annual affair attended by the federation of Michigan stamp clubs.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Swanson of Chicago attended the second day of the show. Once before in 1961 they honored us with their presence.

In the Scandinavian section, Ken Brown earned the Gold Award with "Air-mails and Aerograms of Scandinavia," which also took a First in the State competition. Verner Andersen got a Silver with "Europa Covers" and the Bronze was won by our newest Detroit member, George Baerreis.

Ken Brown, with two other exhibits in the North-West Society's section won two gold awards for the "History of The Finnish Coat of Arms" and for "Japanese National Parks." The Finnish exhibit also took a Second in the State competition, while the Japanese won a First and also the popular award.

Next year's show is planned for March 8-9, and will see two additional club exhibitors, The German Club of Detroit and The Great Lakes Chapter of Scouts on Stamps. Looks like we are slowly working towards a "Detroit Complex" . . . time will tell!

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