



The

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Whole No. 100

THE 'VIKINGS' SAIL AGAIN "Alfred the Great" to Cross the Atlantic And bring with her "Scribe" cacheted covers!



North Atlantic Crossing 1969

"Alfred the Great"

(Exact replica of viking ship found at Gokstad, Norway)

(Story on page 26)

'Alfred the Great' . . .

As some of you may know, an exact replica of the Norwegian Gokstad ship will sail from Norway about the middle of May—and trace the journeys of the Vikings across the Atlantic to America.

Named "Alfred the Great," and built by MGM for the movie by the same name, the ship will be commanded by the well-known explorer and adventurer Robert F. Marx. With a crew of eight, he will sail from Bergen, making calls at Faroe Islands, Greenland (weather permitting) and Iceland before arriving at "Vinland."

By special arrangement, the ONLY philatelic mail will be the (6¼ size) cacheted envelopes illustrated on the front cover (blue print), franked with their new Norden stamps (the ones with the five viking ships) of Norway, Denmark, Iceland—as follows:

Cancelled on departure from Bergen, and franked with Norway's 65 and 90 øre stamps—

Cancelled on departure from Thorshavn (Faroe Islands), and franked with Denmark's 60 and 90 øre stamps—

Cancelled on departure from Reykjavik and franked with Iceland's 6.50 and 10 Kr. stamps.

Thus, there will be THREE "types" of covers:

- (1) those cancelled in Norway (Bergen),
- (2) those cancelled in the Faroe Islands (Thorshavn),
- (3) those cancelled in Iceland (Reykjavik),

and—for distribution purposes—they will be available in two categories:

- (a) in sets of three, one from each point of departure, and
- (b) in singles, cancelled on departure from Bergen.

All covers will be back-stamped with a special cachet indicating the various departure and arrival dates and (if possible) signed by Robert F. Marx himself. They can be ordered from **Scandinavian Scribe**, Box 175, Ben Franklin Sta., Washington, D. C. 20044, at only \$2.50 per set of three, or \$1 for the Bergen singles. Please make checks or MO's payable to **SCANDINAVIAN SCRIBE**.

We believe this to be an unusual opportunity to secure a unique memento of this historic and scientific venture of today's "Vikings." The last time a viking ship replica crossed the Atlantic was in 1893—and who knows when the next one will be sailing

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COMPLEX 1969

We hope all members have gotten the message. At least we have tried as best we can to spread the news about the SCC activities at COMPLEX in Chicago in a few weeks. In articles and notices in THE POSTHORN and in the "Scribe," as well as mentioning it repeatedly at chapter meetings over the past several months, we have urged as many as possible to enter their best exhibits in the competitive stamp exhibition—and as many members as possible to attend the various meetings and functions. We hope that our appeals have been heard, and that the first (inter)national convention of SCC will be the kind of success we expect

At the time of writing this, the dead-line for entering exhibits is behind us, but we will be looking forward to the "proof of the pudding" when we

meet in Chicago. And at the time this is being read by all of you, it will still be time to decide to attend, however, and we sincerely hope that the attendance by SCC-members—from all over the continent—will prove to everybody that when SCC calls a meeting of such scope as this one, the membership will respond to the fullest !

And why is it so important to attend? Do we have to "prove" something?

In answering these questions, we need only refer to what has happened to SCC in the last few years. We have swelled our ranks—we have changed the by-laws—we have added services which only a few years ago most members were laughing at as "pipedreams"—we have added so many chapters that even the most optimistic of us would have doubted some years ago—we have stepped up the publication of THE POSTHORN to become bi-monthly—in short, we have **ADVANCED**. The attendance and discussions at COMPLEX will determine if we are on "the right track" and in accordance with the wishes of the membership as such. And we shall have the opportunity of planning for the future, meeting new members, exchanging ideas and information, viewing good and instructive exhibits, and as we always do at these gatherings—use our hobby as the vehicle to promote friendship and understanding.

All SCC officers look forward to COMPLEX 1969 and are grateful for the preparations and hosting plans of SCC Chapter 4 Chicago—and bid you welcome to the SCC Convention May 30, 31, and June 1!

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The American Academy of Philately

An Editorial

We have briefly reported the proposed Academy (POSTHORN, December 1968), and while no official SCC statement has been issued, we have nevertheless put SCC "on the line" in favor of this great idea, supported as it is by a number of SCC members from many parts of the country.

But the Academy has come under attack. Seems as if a few are not fully in agreement with the plans and the goals. In fact, some have openly—and in print—opposed the Academy. The most critical is Mr. Henry M. Goodkind in his editorial in the March 1969 issue of *The Collectors Club Philatelist*. So unfair and unfounded in fact is this editorial, specifically in the areas of philatelic libraries and philatelic museums, that we—as editor of the *Scandinavian Scribe*—have seen fit to publish a "counter-editorial" which we feel sets things straight, based on facts. This editorial, entitled "Smithsonian's Role in Philately. A Reply to the Critics," is available as a 20-page pamphlet (supplement to the April 1969 issue of the "Scribe"), and we invite interested readers to write for it. Economy reasons prevent its free distribution, but 25c will get it to you via first class mail (this cost is merely postage + cost of printing). The address of the "Scribe" is Box 175, Ben Franklin Sta., Washington, D. C. 20044.

As editor of THE POSTHORN, we wish to refer to the "Scribe" editorial and fully support the idea of the proposed American Academy of Philately. We urge all SCC members to also support the Academy. It is the kind of idea that is long overdue—and once in operation, just can't miss in rendering all kinds of benefits to ALL who are interested in matters philatelic. And that includes us!

Reidar Norby

A Message From the President

COUNTERFEIT COMMITTEE

The suggestions advanced by Victor Engstrom in THE POSTHORN of August 1968 (Vol. 25, No. 4) regarding counterfeits have aroused quite a bit of interest, and the Board of Governors has decided to try to put some of them into action.

Briefly, this involves appointing a committee of experts to pass on material submitted, asking the members to donate or at least submit for examination all spurious Scandinavian material, and recording (with photographs if possible), and publishing descriptions of this material for the guidance of our members. Any material donated will be held by the Club for future study and comparison purposes, and will help to remove these "weeds" from circulation.

As a beginning, the Board has appointed **John Siverts** of Wilmington, Delaware, as Chairman of this committee. He will act as the clearing house and route all material submitted to the appropriate examiners. A set of rules has been drawn up, and will be published in full after the Board has approved it. It remains to select a group of examiners—preferably two or three for each of the Scandinavian countries or specialized fields. If you would like to volunteer for this work, please get in touch with me.

Svend Yort, President

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New SCC Chapters in the Making

One of the most encouraging events in SCC's forward movement is the establishment of new chapters. Whenever the number of members in any specific area reaches the point of being able to support a local chapter, and when such chapters are formed, we feel that our self-imposed goal of promoting and furthering Scandinavian philately has been advanced by another step.

Such is now the case not only in one location, but hopefully in three! The first is the Los Angeles area in California. We have long had more than enough members and Scandinavian-interested collectors up and down all of California to warrant perhaps two or three chapters in that state alone, but it was not before **James Burgeson** joined SCC that things started to move. The first meeting of the "Southern California Chapter" (No. 17—unless some other group beats it to it!) will take place on May 13 (8 p.m.) at the Los Angeles Philatelic Club, 417 South Alvarado Street, Los Angeles, Calif. Needless to say, we urge all members in that area to contact Mr. Burgeson (3670 Valleybrink Road, Los Angeles, Calif. 90039)—and wish the new chapter luck and success.

Next—Phoenix, Arizona. Here, SCC "old-timer" **Samuel G. Frierson** (# 320) is trying to gather enough members and Scandinavian-enthusiasts to form the first chapter in that state. We feel that there is enough interest there to enable the establishment of SCC Chapter 18. Interested collectors should contact Mr. Frierson at 3041 North 44th Street (Space C-48), Phoenix, Arizona 85018, or phone him at 959-5503.

And then—Memphis, Tennessee. There, we have "fireball" **Joe F. Frye** as the contact-man, better known to all of us perhaps as Midland Stamp Company, a proven friend of SCC. We are a little shy on actual members in Memphis, but some recruiting among the "Scandinavians" there will undoubtedly produce the desired results in the near future. Joe Frye may—if our advance information is correct—soon be joined by an experienced SCC-organizer from the "North," and if so, we predict another chapter soon to become reality.

A Little Bit of Denmark—in Africa

By Gerald M. Knudsen (840)

The first stamps of the former British colony of Gold Coast (now Ghana) to feature something other than the royal portrait, were issued in 1928. In addition to the medallion of George V, the stamps pictured Government House in Accra—which, curiously enough, is of interest to collectors of Scandinavia.

For Government House, or Christiansborg Castle, as it is otherwise known, is the last and most monumental existing evidence of a Danish presence in Africa!



The story began in the middle of the 17th century. A Dutch financed Swedish trading colony was fighting a losing battle to establish itself on the Guinea coast at about the same time that a similarly financed colony was carving New Sweden out of the American wilderness. A Danish sea captain, Carloff by name, became increasingly disgruntled at the mishandling of the colony by his Dutch-Swedish employers. In disgust, he returned to his homeland to interest his countrymen in such a colony.

Thus it was, not long afterward, that the Danes appeared on the Ashanti coast and set up shop. The promontory on which Christiansborg now stands was purchased from some African chiefs in the area for seven gold bars. In 1661, the castle was built with ballast stone from the holds of Danish ships, which on the return voyage were loaded with less hardy, but presumably more profitable cargo—slaves.

Despite the castle's stately grandeur, life at Accra was not all fun and

profit for the men from the North. In the years from 1700 to 1750, only four of the 24 governors Denmark sent out, survived their tour of duty. It was not unheard of for the entire garrison of the castle to succumb to fever between the departure of one vessel and the arrival of the next!

And, of course, the Danes were not left alone to do as they pleased. The Portuguese once took the castle away from them, but the Danes took it back. And the Dutch and the English were always hovering in the background. In 1664, Courlanders (Latvia) became neighbors for awhile; and from 1683 Biandenburgers (Prussia) set up shop to give the Danes a little competition. Christiansborg also fell into the hands of intrepid Africans. The leader of these warriors was an Akwamu tribesman named Asamani. In 1693, he strode the halls of Christiansborg wearing the Danish governor's uniform, enjoying firing salutes with the fort's cannons. He entertained lavishly and did a profitable business with both the English and the Dutch. The £7000 he gathered in was probably the best in the early years of the fortress. He was persuaded to haul down his flag and depart for a small "consideration" (£1600)! And by the 18th century, the Swedes were back again but did as badly as they had done before.

By this time, the Danes had additional forts at Fingo, Adda and Quetta; but as time went on the British became more and more dominant. Finally, in 1850, Denmark abandoned her holdings in Ashanti by selling them to the British for \$50,000.

At first, the new owners used Christiansborg as a lunatic asylum; the long cold tunnels in the massive walls, the dark slave barracoons, the bitter salt moisture seeping continuously through the walls, and the ceaseless crashing of the waves against the towers, made it exactly right for this purpose! At the turn of the century the castle was restored to its original splendor (additions were added in 1921) and it became the official residence of the British governor. In 1957, Prime Minister Kwame Nkrumah took up residence until he, too, was required by the new occupants to find a new home, rather suddenly, outside Ghana.

Still, after 300 years, the magnificent old castle with its glistening walls appears to rise out of the sea, defying it, time, and man. And carved, high into those walls, is a tiny reminder of the days when a little bit of Denmark came to Africa—the royal cipher "CVII 1787" for King Christian of Denmark.

Checklist of stamps picturing Christiansborg Castle:

- Gold Coast Scott #98-107 (issued in 1928)
 - Gold Coast Scott #115-27 (issued 1938-41)
 - Gold Coast Scott #131 (issued 1948)
 - Gold Coast Scott #149 (issued 1952)
 - Ghana Scott #6 (issued 1957)
 - Ghana Scott #302 (issued 1967)
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(References: Gunther: INSIDE AFRICA; A HISTORY OF WEST AFRICA; Gatti: THE NEW AFRICA; Langer: ENCYCLOPEDIA OF WORLD HISTORY; HISTORY OF ALL NATIONS, Vol. 6; THE HISTORY OF NATIONS, Vol. 19; Meeker: REPORT ON AFRICA)

Scandinavian Stamp Mart

Report for 1968 (Feb. 24-Dec. 31)

The MART had a successful first year's operation under the aegis of the SCC, as can be seen from the following (condensed) financial report as per Dec. 31, 1968:

257 MART books received from Chapter 9 Feb. 24, 1968	-----	\$ 8,235.11
205 MART books received (from members) 2/24-12/31 1968	-----	15,504.26
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462 MART books as working stock	-----	\$23,739.37
186 MART books retired (entry value)	-----	4,950.84
<hr/>		
276 MART books on hand 12/31/1968 (entry value)	-----	\$18,788.53
Total sales 1968	-----	\$3,193.95
Commissions earned 1968	-----	\$638.79
Expenses 1968	-----	448.19
Net Profit 1968	-----	\$190.60

Balance Sheet, December 31, 1968

Debits: Cash on hand	-----	\$ 26.10
Cash in bank	-----	2,278.24
Accounts Receivable	-----	42.69
Blank sales books at invoice value	-----	150.00
		<hr/>
		\$2,497.03
<hr/>		
Credits: Accounts Payable, SCC	-----	\$ 250.00
(Cash advance \$100, blank sales books \$150)		
Accounts Payable, due owners on 1968 sales	-----	1,808.66
Sales of blank sales books	-----	57.10
Overpayments (to be refunded)	-----	.07
Commissions due Manager	-----	190.60
Surplus	-----	190.60
		<hr/>
		\$2,497.03

The MART can be one of our most successful undertakings, but we need the help of as many members as possible to make it the success it CAN be.

This can be accomplished very easily. The MART is established to sell members' stamps, and without stamps we cannot do business. Thus, we do need more filled books from YOU—in order to serve YOU! Recently, the MART has received 95 books of material, but we also have 37 books soon to be retired to owners, and this means that we do not have enough material to circulate among ALL chapters and individual members. I can use on an immediate basis—to fill specific requests from all over the United States—some 50 books of Icelandic material—40 books of Norway—40 books of Finland—20-25 books of early Denmark—all the Danish West Indies that can be submitted—as well as Greenland (which I read to mean "Pakke Post" and the pictorial issue of 1945, including the inverted overprints, wrong colors, and regular overprints). 19th century covers have also been requested. 20th century covers are not in great demand, but we will accept two such covers per sales book (modern FDCs are NOT on lists of requests). Swed-

ish LOCALS (since they are well catalogued in FACIT) are in demand, and the listing of Christmas Seals in AFA has spurred an interest in the entire range of Scandinavian Xmas seals. FACIT and other albums now provide spaces for Swedish coil pairs and booklet pairs—which has spurred interest in these items. So please take a few minutes to look over your stock of duplicates, and mount a few MART books for entry in our sales system. Blank books are available at 15c from me or your local chapter MART Representative (you can also buy them at 7 for \$1—postpaid in the U. S.).

During the past year, I have been asked many times how stamps should be priced in the MART books. This is extremely difficult to answer, but in my opinion, each stamp should be priced according to its own condition. A poor copy of a 3c catalog stamp will not sell, but an extra fine copy might well. The same applies to older issues and the classics. The better the condition, the better sales and the higher prices that can be asked. I believe, in all fairness, that an owner should not price a stamp at more than he himself would pay for that particular item.

The SCANDINAVIAN STAMP MART is really a three-way service of SCC: A means of disposal for members of their duplicate material to other members—A source of Scandinavian stamps for our members—and a way of earning money for the Treasury of SCC to finance projects that otherwise would be beyond our capability. Thus, the MART serves not only all SCC members, but the Club itself. Please support it by USING it!

Wade H. Beery, MART Manager

115 Amelia Drive, Manassas, Virginia 22110

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Treasurer's Report for 1968

Receipts:

Dues and fees	\$1,827.55
Single PHs and publications	116.85
POSTHORN advertising	106.26
Interest income	98.80
Total receipts 1968	\$2,149.46

Expenses:

Publication of POSTHORN:	
Printing	\$960.45
Mailing	147.96
	\$1,108.41
General office expenses, stationery, etc.	129.99
Membership expenses (dues postage, labels) ..	250.75
Exhibition expenses, awards, chapter grants ..	139.58
Total expenses 1968	\$1,628.73

Net gain 1968

\$520.73

NET WORTH, December 31, 1968

Bank balance (Beverly Bank, Chicago)	\$ 330.78
Bank balance (Imigrant Savings Bank, N. Y.) ..	1,689.81
Advance SCANDINAVIAN STAMP MART	200.00
Advance SCANDINAVIAN PHIL. LIT. SERVICE	1,442.13
	<hr/>
	\$3,662.72

Robert P. Stevens, Treasurer (1968)

Fundamental Aspects of Philatelic Type Collections

By Carl H. Werenskiold (H-10)

Ed's Note: We publish the following article for the benefit of those who would like to know something about the forming of a "type" collection (otherwise known as "plating," a much misused term for sheet reconstruction), and thus be prepared for the difficulties—and challenges—involved.

The mathematics are valid and are not as fearsome as they may appear at first glance. But if you are not mathematically inclined, just skip the formulae and concentrate on the tables. The conclusions of the author explain why you have so much trouble in finding the last two types to complete your sheet reconstruction of Norway No. 4!

Few hobbies, if any, offer as much variety as the collecting of stamps and other philatelic items, whether it be in the vast number of different issues or in the various methods or presentations employed in the setting up of such collections. Collecting as many types as possible of certain issues has also become an interesting by-line for many more or less advanced collectors. An attempt will be made in this article to develop a fuller understanding of the nature of such type collections.

The word "type" in this article will be defined, in its narrow sense, as a stamp, or other philatelic item, having a more or less recognizable characteristic appearance, which differs in a systematic relation from that of other items of the same issue. (The expression "type collection" has occasionally also been used in a broader sense to signify a form of simplified collection involving only one stamp of each basic design. With this we are not concerned in this article.)

Issues suitable for type collections are to be found predominantly in the classical period and up through the nineteenth century. Among the more obvious examples may be mentioned the classical issues of Great Britain with their corner letters and plate numbers, and the old issues of Japan with their syllabic characters. Collecting by plate number is also widely practiced in even the more recent issues of various countries.

CLASSES OF TYPE COLLECTIONS

The possibility of collecting types exists in the following situations:

- A. All stamps in a given sheet (or sheets) are different, with obvious characteristics, such as corner letters, corresponding to known positions in the sheet.
- B. All stamps in a given sheet are different, with more or less subtle distinguishing characteristics corresponding to known positions in the sheet.
- C. All stamps in a sheet are different, with more or less subtle distinguishing characteristics corresponding to different, but unknown positions in the sheet.

- D. In the production of certain printing plates, a stepping-up process was employed from one original die or design through a small number of second originals, say 4 or 10, to the total number, say 100, of similar objects in the plate. As a result, a number of types may recur in the stamps, which exhibit the same small differences or imperfections as in the second originals.
- E. The several plates used in an issue are differentiated by plate numbers or other characteristic features in the stamps.
- F. The several plates used in an issue are differentiated by plate numbers in the sheet margin.
- G. Various other situations involving such items as postcards and other postal stationery.

The number of types may vary, depending on the issue, from a small number, such as 2 or 4, into the hundreds or even more. The actual total number (whether known or merely inferred) in a given issue will be referred to here as a **type system**.

The assembly of stamps, or the like, to reconstruct a sheet, whenever the characteristics of all positions are known or can be ascertained, is generally referred to as **sheet reconstruction**, or less accurately, as **plating**.

AVERAGE AMOUNT OF MATERIAL REQUIRED FOR EXAMINATION IN COLLECTING TYPES

It is customary, before setting out on a long voyage, to consult maps and to enlighten oneself as to distances, time required, travelling costs, etc. The type collector, however, usually embarks blithely on his "trip" without adequate planning or knowledge of what his prospects may reasonably be. Since there does not appear to be any information in the literature regarding such prospects, I investigated this matter some years ago, and developed and published two useful, yet relatively simple mathematical approaches, probability calculations, which I called the **proportion method**¹ and the **increment method**². As far as I am aware, these are the earliest introductions of mathematics into philately, aside from simple statistics.

The question arises: How many stamps, in a random mixture, will be needed for examination, on an average, to build up a complete collection of a given number of types? The increment method, based on the gradual growth of such a collection, points out the answer to this question. The principle underlying this method may be demonstrated by a simple example, as follows:

Let us imagine a very small "issue" consisting of 40 stamps, of which there are 4 types, 10 stamps of each. How many stamps shall we have to examine, on an average, before we can expect to acquire at least one stamp of each types, so as to complete our type collection? For the first stamp taken from our stamp supply, our chances of finding one type are, of course, 40 in 40, i.e. $\frac{40}{40}=1$, meaning certainty. We now have one type, and of the remaining 39 stamps only 30 can be of other types. For the second type our chances are now $\frac{30}{39}$, and the number of stamps to be removed from our supply will be expressed by the reverse fraction $\frac{39}{30}=1.30$. (Do not let the dec-

imals upset you, we need them for exact calculation). We have now "used up" $1+1.30$ stamps, 2.30 in all, and there remain only $40-2.30=37.70$ stamps in the supply. The third type thus requires the removal of $\frac{37.70}{20}=1.89$ stamps, and the fourth type, in like manner $\frac{35.81}{10}=3.58$ stamps. We thus need in this particular case $1+1.30+1.89+3.58=7.77$ stamps, i.e. about 8 stamps, or about twice as many as the number of types. The exact factor, in this case, is $\frac{7.77}{4}=1.94$.

A practical check was carried out with playing cards. The picture cards were removed, leaving 40 cards of 4 suits or "types." The cards were shuffled thoroughly, then laid out one by one until there were at least one of each suit. The average of 100 such tests was 7.75 cards, factor 1.94. A corresponding calculation was also made for 10 types in 40. Considering the aces as one type, the deuces another, etc., the average of the practical tests with cards again showed remarkably close agreement with the calculated figure. We must therefore conclude that the method of calculation is correct. If we now expand the size of the issue upward into the more realistic millions, we arrive, by corresponding calculations, at the following simple formulas:

$$\text{Number of stamps required for 4 types} - 4 \frac{(1+1+1+1)}{1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4} = 8.333$$

$$\text{factor } \frac{8.333}{4} = 2.083$$

Number of stamps required for 10 types —

$$10 \frac{(1+1+1+1+1+1+1+1+1+1)}{1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4 \ 5 \ 6 \ 7 \ 8 \ 9 \ 10} = 29.29$$

$$\text{factor } \frac{29.29}{10} = 2.929$$

The number of stamps required for examination is thus the number of types in the system multiplied by a corresponding factor. The factor in each case is the sum of fractions in a so-called harmonic series, the sum of reciprocals starting with $\frac{1}{1}$ and ending with the reciprocal of the number of types. We have thus found a means of determining what number of stamps will likely be required for examination in the setting up of a complete, or reasonably complete, type collection.

If one is satisfied with a 50% complete collection, a "half-way" collection, the "half-way" factor is calculated from the last half of the fractions, i.e. in the case of 10 types, the sum of $\frac{(1+1+1+1+1)}{6 \ 7 \ 8 \ 9 \ 10} = 0.65$. Here we thus need only $10 \times 0.65 = 6.5$ (i.e. 6 or 7) stamps for 5 types out of 10, leaving 1.5 (i.e. 1 or 2) duplicates, on an average. The first half of the collection thus requires but little material for examination, and the number of duplicates is small. It is the second half, and particularly the tail end of large complete collections, that requires much material and leads to much, in some cases overwhelming, duplication. Many collectors have started on large type collections, finding it easy in the beginning, but progressively worse, and almost intolerably troublesome toward the end, and have wondered why they ran into such difficulties. The following table will elucidate why this is so, and will show the relatively small number of stamps to be examined for setting up "half-way" collections, as compared with the very much larger number required for corresponding complete, or reasonably complete, collections.

Table 1

Number of types T	For complete type collection			For 50% complete ("halfway") type collec.		
	Factor C	Stamps required	Dupli- cates	Factor H	Stamps required	Dupli- cates
4	2,083	8.3	4.3	0.583	2.3	—
10	2,929	29	19	0.646	6.5	1.5
50	4,499	225	175	0.683	34	9
100	5,187	519	419	0.688	69	19
200	5,877	1175	975	0.690	138	38
300	6,282	1885	1585	0.691	207	57

This table also shows that complete type collections should be relatively easy to set up, provided the number of types is low, say not more than 10, and provided also that the stamps are not scarce. For collections of larger numbers of types, we note that the duplication becomes progressively worse, and becomes a very serious consideration in the 300 system, even if the stamps be relatively common.

The calculations described above presuppose that all types are equally available in a random accumulation of stamps to be examined. Occasionally, however, some special variant or type is listed separately in the catalogs, with the result that this variant is collected preferentially by many collectors. It may thus be missing from the average accumulation available for examination. The calculations thus refer to either an actually complete type collection, or to a reasonably complete one, as the case may be.

The increasing difficulties toward the end of a type collection may also be shown by the use of the following very useful formula:

$$x = \frac{T}{T-t+1}$$

in which

x=number of stamps needed for finding type #t after the acquisition of previous types.

T=total number of types in the system.

t=the type sought at the moment.

Let us assume, for example, that we have found 8 types out of a total of 10(T) in the system, and we want to know how many stamps (x) we shall expect to examine before we find the 9th type (t).

$$x = \frac{10}{10-9+1} = \frac{10}{2} = 5$$

We shall accordingly, on an average, need 5 stamps to acquire our ninth type, and 4 of these will be duplicates.

We now need the tenth type in order to complete our collection.

$$x = \frac{10}{10-10+1} = 10 \text{ stamps, of which 9 will be duplicates.}$$

In larger systems the situation gets even worse. For example, in a system of 100 types, we find in the same manner:

For the 50th type, about 2 stamps, 1 being duplicate

For the 98th type, about 33 stamps, 32 being duplicates

For the 99th type, about 50 stamps, 49 being duplicates

For the 100th type, about 100 stamps, 99 being duplicates

The relative ease at the half-way mark is here shown to be in sharp contrast to the severe "braking" effect near the finish line.

HOW MANY TYPES ARE THERE IN A GIVEN CASE?

In certain issues where the types are of unknown positions in the sheet, the number of types discovered may be more than enough for one plate of say 100 types. When the excess number is small, the explanation may be that certain worn or damaged clichés were removed from the plate and replaced with new ones. However, a large excess of types should ordinarily indicate the use of more than one plate. The question then arises: How many plates were used? Or, in other words: How many types are there of the stamp in question? The answer can be found in two ways, by the increment method or by the proportion method. In the **increment method** we need a number of fairly accurate "complete" factors C, as provided in Table 2.

Table 2. "Complete" factors C

Number of types T	Factor C	Number of types T	Factor C	Number of types T	Factor C
2	1.500	50	4.499	180	5.772
3	1.833	60	4.680	190	5.826
4	2.083	70	4.833	200	5.877
5	2.283	80	4.965	210	5.926
6	2.450	90	5.082	220	5.973
7	2.593	100	5.187	230	6.017
8	2.718	110	5.282	240	6.060
9	2.829	120	5.368	250	6.100
10	2.929	130	5.448	260	6.139
12	3.103	140	5.522	270	6.177
20	3.598	150	5.591	280	6.213
30	3.995	160	5.655	290	6.248
40	4.278	170	5.715	300	6.282

The factors C for higher systems (T) than listed in the table may, if required, be calculated from the following formula, which gives satisfactory results for system above 300, but more or less low results below 300.

$C = \text{Natural logarithm for } T + 0.5772$ (Euler's constant)

We shall assume, by way of example, that we have already found 140 types, and that we suspect that either 2 or 3 plates were used, or that there are in all 200 or 300 types to be considered. We now continue patiently until we have increased the collection to 150 types, and keep count simultaneously of the number of duplicates accumulating between the 140 and 150 types.

First assume 200 types total:

$$200 - 140 = 60$$

$$200 - 150 = 50$$

$$\text{Factor C for } 60 = 4.680$$

$$\text{Factor C for } 50 = 4.499$$

$$\text{Difference } \quad \quad \quad 0.181$$

$$200 \cdot 0.181$$

of which placed in collection

Number of duplicates

$$= \text{ab. } 36 \text{ stamps}$$

$$\quad \quad \quad 10 \text{ stamps}$$

$$\quad \quad \quad \text{ab. } 26 \text{ stamps}$$

Next assume 300 types total:

300—140=160	
300—150=150	
Factor C for 160=5.655	
Factor C for 150=5.591	
Difference	0.064
300x0.064	= ab. 19 stamps
of which placed in collection	10 stamps
Number of duplicates	ab. 9 stamps

Since we have kept count of the actual number of duplicates, the above calculated results should be helpful in indicating the real total number of types. This procedure may be repeated as the collection continues to grow.

If we have kept count of all duplicates since the beginning of the type collection, the calculations can be carried out at once without waiting for the extra 10 types above 140.

Assuming 200 types total:

200—140=60	
Factor C for 200=5.877	
Factor C for 60=4.680	
Difference	1.197
200x1.197	= ab. 239 stamps
of which placed in collection	140 stamps
Number of duplicates	ab. 99 stamps

Assuming 300 types total:

300—140=160	
Factor C for 300=6.282	
Factor C for 160=5.655	
Difference	0.627
300x0.627	= ab. 188 stamps
of which placed in collection	140 stamps
Number of duplicates	ab. 48 stamps

As before, we compare with the actual number of duplicates to get an idea of the total number of types. These calculations thus serve to determine the otherwise unknown distance to the "promised land."

If one is working on a type collection of **unknown** number of types, it is obvious that the keeping of a **continuous record** will be valuable in subsequent **determining** the total number of types in the system. Such record, in order to show the situation at any given time, could contain—in columnar form—such information as date, number of stamps examined on such date, number of new types and duplicates in the stamps examined, and the size of the total system indicated as of such date.

We can check our findings, and determine our "position" on our "voyage," by another method, the "sextant" in this case being the **proportion method**, which operates as follows:

Suppose you have succeeded in setting up a collection of 100 types in an issue where the total number of types is unknown. You now obtain a mixed lot of say 80 stamps of the same issue. On comparing these with the types in the album, you may encounter one of two typical situations:

- a. All of the new stamps prove to be type duplicates of the stamps in the collection. This would obviously indicate that your type collection is complete, or at least reasonably so.
- b. Half of the new stamps are found to be type duplicates, while the other half are new types. This would evidently indicate that your type collection is only about 50% complete, and that the total number of types, in this case, would be about 200.

This can be reduced to a simple formula:

$$T = \frac{K(D+N)}{D}$$

where

T=Total number of determinable types in the system.

K=Number of known types in collection.

D=Number of type duplicates among the new stamps, as compared with the known types in the collection.

N=Non-duplicates among the new stamps, i.e. new types for the collection.

The calculation, for the above examples, would be:

$$a. \quad T = \frac{100(80+0)}{80} = 100$$

$$b. \quad T = \frac{100(40+40)}{40} = 200$$

The main principle here is that a comparison is made between two groups of stamps, namely:

- A. A carefully checked type collection (no duplicates), and
- B. A random lot of new stamps, or another collector's type collection.

I have used both of these methods of calculation successfully in type collections of 4, 10, 100 and 300. These two calculating methods thus constitute, in a way, two "crystal balls" for looking into the future of unfinished type collections. The methods have one interesting feature in common, they let the stamps themselves, through their own "behavior," point out the answers, one might say the stamps speak for themselves, if given a chance to do so.

HOW MUCH COMPARISON WORK IS INVOLVED IN TYPE COLLECTIONS?

Usually, each new stamp must be compared with some or all of the previous stamps in the type collection to determine whether it represents a duplicate or a new type, and the number of comparisons required naturally increases as the type collection grows.

The type collector usually underestimates, by a wide margin, both the material to be examined and the comparison work required for setting up collections of many types. The following Tables 3 and 4 provide convenient summaries of data on the number of stamps required for examination and the number of stamp comparisons involved in setting up either complete or half-way type collections. Note exceptions for Class A, E, and F, where the number of comparisons are much smaller, being equal to the numbers of stamps required.

Table 3. Number of stamps to be examined, and comparisons required in complete collections.

Types, total number T	Factor C	Stamps required for examination T x C	Comparisons required (except Classes A, D, and E) a
2	1.500	3	2
3	1.833	5.5	6.5
4	2.083	8.3	13.5
5	2.283	11.4	24
6	2.450	15	38
8	2.718	22	76
10	2.929	29	129
12	3.103	37	197
20	3.598	72	640
50	4.499	225	5,074
100	5.187	519	abt. 23,600
200	5.877	1175	abt. 108,000
240	6.060	1454	abt. 160,000
300	6.282	1885	abt. 260,000

The figures in column "a" for systems 2 to 50 are exact, since they were obtained by a direct summation method. The corresponding figures for systems 100 to 300 were determined by graphic analysis and are thus of lesser accuracy, but sufficiently reliable for proper orientation.

The enormous comparison work in large type collections is readily apparent.

Table 4. Number of stamps to be examined, and comparisons required in half-way collections.

Types, total number T	Types in half-way collection $\frac{T}{2}$	Factor H	Stamps required for examination TxH	Comparisons required (except Classes A, D, and E) b
2	1	0.500	1	0
4	2	0.583	2.3	1.3
6	3	0.617	3.7	4
8	4	0.635	5.1	7.8
10	5	0.646	6.5	13
12	6	0.652	7.8	19.5
20	10	0.669	13.4	58
50	25	0.683	34	384
100	50	0.688	69	abt. 1,575
200	100	0.690	138	abt. 6,400
240	120	0.691	166	abt. 9,300
300	150	0.691	207	abt. 14,500

As before, the figures in column "b" for systems 2 to 50 were obtained by direct summation, and the corresponding figures for systems 100 to 300 by graphic analysis.

DISCUSSION OF PRACTICAL EXAMPLES OF TYPE COLLECTIONS

Class A: All stamps in sheet are different, have obvious characteristics, such as corner letters, and positions in sheet are known.

The classical example here is the Penny Black of Great Britain, in which the sheets consisted of 240 stamps arranged in rows of 12 subjects horizontally and 20 vertically. Letters in the two lower corners of each stamp indicate its position in the sheet. Letters A - B, for example, refer to upper row (A) in the sheet, and second stamp (B) from the left. Other early (1858-1884) British stamps show a modification of the same general system, with letters in all four corners. Most of these issues had 240 stamps in the sheet. The "complete" factor C for a system of 240 is 6.060 (see table 3), and the "half-way" factor H is 0.691 (see table 4). The stamp material likely to be required for complete and half-way collections is therefore about 1454 and 166 stamps, respectively, as shown in tables 3 and 4.

The number of stamp comparisons will in this case be the same as the number of stamps required for examination, since we know the position of each stamp from its letters and therefore need only refer to that particular position in the type collection to ascertain whether we have before us a new type or a duplicate.

For the early British stamps with plate numbers incorporated in the stamp design, see Class E below.

Class B. All stamps in sheet are different, with subtle characteristics corresponding to known positions in sheet.

Good examples here are Norway, Norw. cat. numbers 1-5, 39, 40I, and 531V (Scott #1-5, 43, 44a, and 40b).

The probable material requirements can easily be calculated, and are shown in tables 3 and 4. The number of comparisons required in classes B, C, and G becomes much greater than in Class A, since the characteristics of each type are mostly rather subtle and minor variations in the design of the stamp. This usually makes it necessary to compare each item under consideration with many or all of the previous types in the collection. Referring to table 3, it should be noted that large complete type collections like the ones referred to require not only considerable material for examination, but also a truly enormous number of stamp comparisons. Half-way collections in large systems (table 4), while not requiring excessively large material, still entail considerable comparison work.

Class C. All stamps in sheet are different, with subtle characteristics, but the corresponding positions in sheet are not known.

A good example here is Norway 10 øre posthorn, Scott #40, which however covers three separate issues. In two of these, Norw. Cat. #36 and #38, a short-cut was made in the preparation of the plates, making it necessary to engrave the period after POSTFRIM and the small figure 10 separately on all 100 clichés of each plate. Since this work was done by free-hand, the shape and position of the small 10 and the period after POSTFRIM varied, so that each plate comprised 100 engraving types. The number of plates in each of these two issues was not definitely known for a long time, until my proportion and increment calculations—based on the progress of my type col-

lections—proved that three plates were used in each case, corresponding to 300 types.

In these two cases (Norw. cat. #36 and #38) it was possible to reduce the comparison work to something like one-fourth by measuring the position of the period after POSTFRIM on each stamp to the nearest tenth of a millimeter horizontally and vertically, and using the resulting figures to place the stamps in "period position" groups, making it unnecessary to compare the individual stamp with the stamps of drastically different groups in the existing type collection. The details of this method have been described elsewhere³. It stands to reason that a reduction of the comparison work, by this or other means, will be possible only in a minority of instances.

In the two cases described, the calculations during progress of the type collections pointed consistently to 300 as the total number of types in each system. The average results of the calculations were actually slightly below 300, about 295, which means, of course, that we are dealing with **determinable** types, a small number of types being so alike that they cannot safely be set up as separate ones. A small amount of such unavoidable false duplication is therefore to be expected in such cases.

Class D. Limited number of types recurring in sheet.

This situation is frequently encountered, particularly in typographed and lithographed issues.

In stamp typography, an original die may serve as starting point for several issues of the same basic design, but of different denominations. The original die in such cases would be incomplete, lacking the part referring to the denomination. The die would usually be reproduced a limited number of times, say 4 or 10, in a stepping-up procedure, to form second original dies. Each of these second originals, being incomplete like the first original, would have to be engraved to incorporate the missing part, and would then be reproduced in a second stepping-up process to provide a sufficient number of clichés for the printing plate (plus a few reserves). Any imperfections or variations, particularly in the parts engraved in the second originals, would then reappear, usually several times, in the stamps of the sheet. Each second original would thus give rise to an **engraving type**, and the number of such types would be equal to the number of second originals.

In other cases, only one second original would be produced and its missing part completed by engraving. This complete second original would be reproduced a limited number of times as third originals. These would then be reproduced in a final stepping-up process to provide a sufficient number of clichés for the plate (plus a few reserves). In this case there would be only one form of the engraving, so we cannot speak of any engraving types. However, the several third originals may exhibit some more or less subtle accidental differences, and these will recur in the stamps, making it possible to distinguish as many so-called **matrix types** as there were third originals.

In these cases, it is customary to set up collections of the **engraving** or **matrix** types, without necessarily going further to investigate all positions in the sheet.

Not every speck or flaw in a stamp makes it a type. Note the limitation "systematic relation" in the definition of the word "type." It is important, therefore, to determine whether a given flaw, etc., possesses any systematic relations. The various systematic stamp characteristics in Class D may be summarized and distinguished as follows:

Primary—Flaws and the like in an original die or a single second original, prior to the first stepping-up stage. Such characteristics will appear on all types and individual stamps of the same issue, and may serve only to distinguish from other issues.

Secondary—Flaws or differences produced in the first stepping-up stage, as in the multiple second or third originals, and characterizing the various engraving and matrix types.

Tertiary—Additional flaws and differences produced in the final stepping-up stage, and characterizing individual positions in the sheet.

In cases where more than two stepping-up stages are employed, the terminology should be extended in the same manner. It should be noted, however, that the literature is quite inconsistent in its terminology on this subject. Terms like "plate flaws" are frequently used indiscriminately whether the flaws in fact originate in a plate or not, and if so, whether they represent either types (secondary) or individual positions (tertiary) in the plate or sheet. It is also frequently overlooked that a type may occasionally be characterized by the lack of any obvious flaw.

Good examples of Class D are found among the 19th century Norwegian posthorn stamps, which usually exhibit 12, 6 or 4 engraving types, or 4 or 8 matrix types. The expectations in such systems of 4 to 12 engraving or matrix types can readily be calculated and are shown in tables 3 and 4. It is evident that the setting up of complete type collections in cases of this kind should not be too difficult.

A similar situation exists in the preparation of a lithographic stone for the printing of stamps. In the simplest or basic form of this process, a stamp design is transferred, with the aid of so-called transfer paper, a limited number of times, from the original stone to an intermediate, or second original, stone. A final stepping up may then be performed by repeated transfers from the second original to the printing stone. The multiple subject transfer paper from the second original is known as a report, and irregularities or differences in the subjects of the report will reappear as types in the stamps.

Excellent example here are the second arms issues of Norway, Scott #6-10. Refer to the literature⁴ for further details.

The lithographic issues of Hamburg, such as 1¼ schilling, Scott #9 and #22, are also of interest in this connection. The 2 stones were each based on reports of 12 stamp designs. The lines between the stamps from the first stone (Sept. 1864) are heavy, while those of the second stone (Oct. 1864) are thin and broken. Refer to the literature⁵ for further details.

In certain lithographic issues it becomes apparent, upon investigation, that several intermediate stones have been used in preparing the printing stone. There may thus be a first stepping-up from the original design to a second stone with say 4 subjects. These may then be transferred several times in a second stepping-up to a third original stone with say ten subjects. These are then transferred several times to the printing stone. In such cases we shall find four main types originating in the second original, and ten subtypes in all, distributed among the main types and exhibiting characteristics originating in both the second and third originals. This method was used for the Norwegian State Railroad parcel stamps. It will be noted

that the main types are secondary, the subtype characteristics tertiary. Any additional flaws characteristic of only an individual stamp in the sheet will, of course, be quaternary under these circumstances. It is obvious that it is important to keep these distinctions in mind for a proper understanding of the subject.

Class E. Plate numbers shown within the stamp design.

Excellent examples are afforded by the early issues (1858-1881) of Great Britain. Most of the issues involved the use of several plates, the plate number usually being incorporated in the stamp design. The number of plates varies within wide limits, from 2 to the 152 listed for Scott #33. In the latter case, with 240 stamps (with corner letters) in the sheet, we therefore really have $152 \times 240 = 36,480$ types to contend with. It is obvious that to set up type collections, in this case, comprising all positions of all plates, from random accumulations of stamps, is a practical impossibility. Even to acquire enough for all positions in any one plate would be quite a difficult task. However, considering the plate numbers as types, the collection of one stamp of each plate number (perhaps by-passing the expensive plate 77) should be more within reasonable possibility. In issues where the number of plates is small, collecting by plate number should not be very difficult, of course, provided that the stamps are not too expensive. The expectation as to material to be examined can readily be calculated or estimated from data in tables 3 and 4. The number of comparisons will be as in Class A.

Class F. Plate numbers shown in sheet margins.

The well-known U. S. plate number blocks (and singles) are good examples in this class. The plate number usually appears in several characteristic places in the original press sheet, which is then cut into individual panes. This fact must, of course, be taken into consideration in determining the total number of types in a comprehensive collection of this kind. In stamps of more than one color, several plate numbers may appear in the sheet margin, leading to further complications in defining the number of types. The number of comparisons will be as in Class A.

Class G. Postal stationery and similar cases.

Postcards, for example, are usually printed in multiple in large sheets, which are then cut into individual cards. Small imperfections or differences can frequently be discovered in the various cards, making it possible to distinguish as many types as there were cards in the sheet. The distinguishing characteristics may be either printing flaws or differences in relative position and size of certain printed details, including the stamp design itself. Even the absence of anything unusual in a card may serve as an identification of its type. Accurate measurements, by a method described elsewhere⁶, are most effective in locating otherwise unknown types, which can then be scrutinized for various distinguishing features in addition to the measurement figures. With the aid of such measurements I was able to identify 117 types (of a probable 120) in a single Norwegian postcard issue⁷, where available catalogs listed at most three⁸. The accurate measurement approach thus opens up possibilities of discovering the true number of types in even complicated cases in this class.

RECORDING OF TYPE COLLECTION DATA

The record should cover general information on the issue being collected, and also detailed data on the various types in the collection. Where type distinctions are subtle, such as in engraving and matrix types, photographs of the pertinent parts are usually far more useful than free-hand illustrations and mere descriptions.

The various types of unknown positions in a sheet will usually have to be listed in a simple numerical or similar sequence. However, if it is possible to separate the types into logical, distinctly separate groups, it will be found expedient to assign a number to each group and to add a letter for each type within the group, using type designations such as 3B and 4A. This method is also eminently useful for types and subtypes. It may even be extended to the individual stamp or card position in the sheet, using a designation such as 4C90. The method is particularly logical for the designation of types in terms of secondary (first number), tertiary (letter) and even quaternary characteristics (last number). The use of alternating numbers and letters permit a compact connotation, more practical than for instance 4-3-90, and more informative than a straight single number.

The use of large drawings, frequently in skeleton form, is standard practice. The various type characteristics described in the record, such as spots, dents, broken or bent lines, are made part of the drawing. The type designations are entered in the nearest margin together with short lines (rather than arrows) pointing toward the type characteristics.

USEFUL READING

The type collector should be thoroughly familiar with the literature on the various methods of plate making and printing⁹, so that he can properly evaluate whether the miscellaneous "fly-specks" he runs into on stamps are in fact representative of types or merely one-time printing accidents of a non-recurring (non-constant) nature. He should be aware of the various printing freaks resulting from metal chips, hairs, rags, water droplets and the like falling onto the plate during printing, and he should exclude all such and other freaks from consideration as types.

ATTITUDE OF TYPE COLLECTOR

The purposes of type collecting are two-fold:

- 1) Diversion and intellectual challenge.
- 2) Growth of philatelic knowledge, particularly if results are published, so as to lend lasting value to one's work.

It is obvious that the greatest overall results may be obtained through co-operation between several collectors. Since one truly comprehensive type collection and one or more additional smaller ones is a better overall result than several mediocre or average collections, two or more collectors should preferably work together on a given issue to produce a master collection for one of the collectors and lesser collections made up from the duplicates for the other collectors. In a spirit of co-operation, they may even work on type collections of several issues simultaneously in such a way that each collector, by mutual agreement, receives preferred treatment in regard to the particular issue chosen by him. The possibilities of efficient arrangements along these and similar lines are almost endless, and such co-operative endeavors are, of course, conducive to the warmest of philatelic friendships.

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- 9—Among the best books on these subjects are:
Williams: Fundamentals of Philately.
Easton: Postage Stamps in the Making.
Sefi: Introduction to Advanced Philately.
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Tullberg: Handbok för Filatelister (in Swedish).
Whetton: Practical Printing and Binding.
Kubler: A New History of Stereotyping.
Frimärkets Bok (in Swedish).
Consult also articles in various encyclopedias.

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For Postal Purposes?

A Discussion of Stamp-issuing Practices and Introduction of an Index

By Preben K. Johnston (563)

Philatelic Disapproval

Much has been written about the stamp-issuing practices of various countries, states, mini-states, colonies, dukedoms, an other political divisions and jurisdictions more or less sovereign. Most of what has been written has been to show that this, that, or the other entity has issued stamps without sufficient justification, such as issuing Olympic commemoratives where the country in question has not fielded any teams. The question always is, of course, whether a given stamp issue has been produced for postal purposes or whether the primary intent has been to obtain revenues through the sale of pretty pictures to unwary stamp "collectors" or "investors." The American Philatelic Society has rendered a signal service through its "black blot" program which identifies stamp issues that appear to have undesirable characteristics such as limited printings, unwarranted high values, or oddities. The APS also publishes a "tread with caution" list of entities that habitually show certain abusive practices such as mass-producing cancelled-to-order material, or who are continually drawing "black blot" assessments. However, the APS disclaims any intent to "tell collectors what to collect," and it would indeed be presumptuous of any organization, however prestigious, to dictate to governments what stamps to issue or to collectors how to spend or waste their woney.

Catalogs

Publishers of stamp catalogs may seem to be in a powerful position since they can show their disapproval of an issue by not listing it. But what happens in many cases is that one catalog will omit an issue, but other catalogs will list it, and eventually the issue will be blessed by all. A case in point are the so-called American issues of the stamps of Greenland (Scott 8-25). In 1947 the Danish DAKA catalog had this to say (my translation): "As to the philatelic significance and value of these stamps, no adequate information is available at the present. The issue seems entirely unnecessary, and those stamps with the overprint DANMARK BEFRIET 5. MAJ 1945, which also occur with overprint variations, must be presumed to be privately issued stamps." R. King-Farlow in the English-language STELLA catalog (based on the 1947 DAKA) has no adverse comment on the original issue, but says: ". . . The circumstances connected with this overprinting have been much discussed and strongly criticized, but it now seems clear that the issue was a legitimate one. The inverted overprints and errors of color are, however, very suspect and probably have little or no philatelic importance." The latest AFA (Danish) and Facit (Swedish) catalogs show all the stamps listed (regular, overprints, wrong colors, inverted overprints) without comment, as does the 1968 special GRØNLAND-FAERØERNE catalog. Scott has from the beginning listed all except the inverted overprints.

Number of Issues

From time to time statistics have been published on the number of stamp issues of various countries, giving a first-hand impression that a country which issued, say, 25 stamps in a given year must be more larcenous (having

collectors in mind) than one which issued 10 stamps. But suppose the country with 25 stamps had a population ten times as large as the one with 10 stamps, then, in relation to size, it has actually only one-fourth as many stamps as the smaller country. My thought here is that the larger a country is, say as to population, the more people it has to honor, and the more events, both past and present, to commemorate.

Quantities Printed

Factors to determine the quantities of stamps printed include the interest of people in other lands due to cultural or religious affinities. Thus, the stamps of Israel are of great interest to many Jewish collectors around the world, and the stamps of Vatican City have a particular interest to more Roman Catholics than could be squeezed into St. Peter's Square, although it has been known to hold 400,000. This writer (who happens to be a Protestant) has bought stamps in both Israel and Vatican City for his stamp collection rather than for postal purposes, and therefore would be the last to say that quantities printed should be related only to the postal needs of an entity's own population.

The Search for a Criterion

If one could find a stamp-issuing entity as pure as Cesar's wife one could establish that entity's practices as a criterion. This would be a country which had never issued stamps with collectors in mind. So let us search. Take for an example Switzerland, a country whose bankers are trusted by people of many nationalities; but Switzerland advertises its stamps in philatelic publications even in the United States. Or Denmark, certainly a purist (philatelically speaking) country; but separate stamps are issued for Greenland (an integral part of the realm) and these stamps have even been sold (up to 1961) in cancelled-to-order sheets. Or Iceland; but remember the Parliament issue of 1930 produced by private speculators, later criminally prosecuted. Or the United States with its Farley specials. Or Sweden, which has produced postage stamp booklets in English; are these for Swedes who speak only English and not their mother tongue? The point is that while (as in the case of the Parliament issue and as with many present day pretty pictures palmed off as stamps) swindlers and rogues are on occasion involved, there are sometimes good political, propaganda or educational reasons for issuing stamps.

Since no individual or organization is in a position to set a criterion from a moral or ethical point of view, what if anything can be done? My suggestion is that the stamp-issuing practices of the various countries be expressed in some index not subject to emotional overtones based on political or national prejudices.

The Index

The index here developed is simply an index expressing the relationship of a country's population to the number of stamps issued (not total quantities printed). Thus, the greater the index number the more people a country has per stamp issued (is this good?), and the lower the index number the more stamps have been issued for a given size population (is this bad?). A number of 100 is roughly the average for all European countries.

The following procedure was followed in developing the index numbers for 1965, the base year:

1. The number of stamps issued during the years 1963, 1964, and 1965

were taken from the 1969 edition of Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue. Stamps included were all regular (including commemoratives), semi-postal, and air post stamps, major numbers only. All European countries were included. The figures for the three years were averaged for a "1965 moving average."

2. Population figures were obtained from the 1966 World Atlas of the Encyclopaedia Britannica. These were the latest official estimates available for 1965 (changes in population are not sufficiently great to warrant computing an average).

3. "Population per stamp" was computed, i.e. a number representing inhabitants per stamp issued (population divided by "1965 moving average").

4. A listing of all entities in order of magnitude according to "population per stamp" showed Belgium to be the median, with 245,000. Due to the extremes at either end (United Kingdom with 3,012,000 per stamp and Vatican City with 45) the median would seem to be better than, say, an arithmetic mean. For ease of handling and reference 250,000 was selected as the number to equal 100; this gave Belgium an index of 98 rather than 100, a minor difference. In other words, an index number of 100 is assigned for a population of 250,000 per stamp issued, and numbers above or below 100 mean proportionately more or fewer people per stamp. Keep in mind that 100 represents the average European stamp-issuance practice in the base period 1963-1965.

5. A "1966 moving average" was obtained as shown above for 1965, but using stamps issued in 1964, 1965, and 1966, and using the latest available population figures as they appeared in the 1967 Year Book of the Encyclopaedia Britannica. The figures "population per stamp" were computed and were reduced to an index number as above.

6. For 1967, the same procedure was followed, with new data.

The chart on the appendix shows for general interest the latest population figures; the annual average of stamps issued for the five-year period 1963 through 1967; and the "population per stamp" for this five-year period. Then follows the index numbers based on three-year moving averages, as explained. Certain non-European countries have been added at the bottom of the chart: USA for general comparison; Israel for general interest to many collectors in this country; Greenland for its interest to this and other Scandinavian collectors; and Turkey and Cyprus because they are partly European (and both are in fact members of the Council of Europe).

Some Limitations

The foregoing is but a distillation of a great deal of consideration of the topic of stamp-issuing practices and the index is the end result of shuffling many numbers not shown. There are limitations to all statistics; in this case one might ask whether using some other catalog would be better; after all, a major number in one may have a subsidiary listing in another; or some stamp actually issued may not have been listed. It is thought that these would make only minor differences. While any errors are entirely my own responsibility, I am indebted to Messrs. Ernst M. Cohn and Reidar Norby for valuable ideas and searching questions.

The Future

The appended statistics have been developed as an aid to interested collectors. In the future it is expected that up-to-date information will be made available, possibly expanding it, but certainly improving it as necessary.

STAMPS ISSUED 1963 TO 1967, INCLUSIVE**

Issuer	Stamps issued—		Population per stamp	Index number ***		
	Population 000	annual average 1963-1967				
Albania	2,000	91	22,000	9	8	8
Andorra	14	8	1,750	*	*	*
Austria	7,290	25	292,000	120	100	112
Belgium	9,556	39	245,000	98	95	93
Bulgaria	8,257	82	101,000	42	37	38
Czechoslovakia	14,240	77	185,000	79	75	66
Denmark	4,891	11	445,000	189	192	150
Eire	2,892	9	321,000	163	115	96
Finland	4,661	16	291,000	102	168	133
France	49,650	38	1,307,000	510	532	537
Germany—East	17,067	79	216,000	95	86	82
Germany—West	57,472	31	1,854,000	680	634	742
West Berlin	2,202	18	122,000	67	46	38
Gibraltar	24	10	2,400	3	*	*
Greece	8,612	33	261,000	106	100	108
Hungary	10,197	92	111,000	42	41	44
Iceland	197	9	21,900	8	8	9
Italy	53,327	22	2,424,000	1091	1059	853
Jugoslavia	19,375	43	451,000	215	184	162
Liechtenstein	20	13	1,538	*	*	*
Luxembourg	350	20	17,500	7	7	7
Malta	317	18	17,600	8	6	6
Monaco	24	32	750	*	*	*
Netherlands	12,535	21	597,000	222	275	251
Norway	3,772	16	236,000	82	115	126
Poland	31,869	89	358,000	136	138	148
Portugal	9,382	23	408,000	166	155	150
Romania	19,248	89	216,000	81	80	86
San Marino	18	28	643	*	*	*
Spain	31,871	71	449,000	185	180	180
Sweden	7,844	26	302,000	147	142	104
Switzerland	5,999	21	286,000	111	124	120
USSR	234,396	143	1,639,000	611	631	670
United Kingdom	54,744	25	2,190,000	1205	838	706
Vatican City	.9	21	43	*	*	*
Greenland	40	1	10,000	2	8	4
USA	200,847	22	9,129,000	3877	3782	3493
Cyprus	610	18	33,900	16	12	12
Turkey	32,901	45	731,000	271	285	263
Israel	2,625	27	97,200	36	38	35

*Less than 1

**Definitive, commemorative, semi-postal and airmail—
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(See more detailed explanation in accompanying article)

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