



The

POST HORN

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Whole No. 111

Unknown Bi-colored DWI Stamps Reported— After 65 Years

by Sven Ahman



Fig. 1

Well over 55 years have passed since the Danish West Indies ceased to exist, and more than that since their last stamps were issued. But the age of discoveries is not over. Whoever believed that everything was known by now about the fifty-odd different D.W.I. stamps issued between 1856 and 1917, has just been proved not 55, but more like 65 years off the mark.

A remarkable find has just been announced in Denmark. It concerns the 1907 King Frederik VIII issue. Whoever heard about the three most common

values of this set, the 5, 10 and 25 Bit in green, red and blue respectively, with the center piece in a different color from the frame like the rest of the values? Well, nobody—until now.

This philatelic bombshell was set off in connection with the international stamp exhibition at Brussels this summer. A Copenhagen firm of stamp auctioneers, Skandia, then offered under "private treaty" 8 of 14 such stamps found, and issued an illustrated brochure describing the find.

There is a summary in English in the brochure itself but for full flavor a complete translation of the Danish description seems justified. It reads:

"Of the 5 Bit, four single copies and one pair (Fig. 2) have been found, of the 10 Bit only three singles, and of the 25 Bit five singles.

"The stamps are genuinely canceled on various dates at ST. THOMAS, KINGSHILL and in one case—so far as the cancellation can be deciphered—at CHRISTIANSTED.

"The stamps were found in the possession of a former sailor, who at the time sailed in the West Indies, but settled in the United States in 1916. After World War II he returned to Denmark and now lives at Elsinore. He says that he received the stamps on letters from a policeman in the islands at the time. In his far from advanced collection the stamps have been sitting ever since, without anybody noticing that some 5 Bit were all green, others bicolored, etc.

"Where the policeman got the stamps is of course not known. But the recipient of the letters has the reasonable theory that he simply took them in one of the offices to which he had access.

"The reason the stamps found their way to an office in the islands must be that they had been sent to the authorities for advance information, as was the custom with new issues. It is fair to assume that the original intention was to print the entire set with center pieces in different color, but that at a relatively late stage—after proofs had been sent to the islands—the decision was made to follow the U.P.U. rules for domestic postcard and letter rates and for letters abroad—green, red and blue respectively. The three normally single color values, it is worth noting, are printed in the same color twice over—the frame and the center piece separately—just as the remaining bicolored values in the set.

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Fig. 2

"One may shed tears that the stamps found are not still on their covers, but there can be no doubt that they are tasty morsels even so, philatelically speaking. Eight of the fourteen stamps found are offered in the present list. Two of the complete sets are not for sale at the moment."

The center piece, with the king's face, of the 5 Bit green and the 25 Bit blue in this find is listed as black in color. That of the 10 Bit, reproduced in color on the cover of the Skandia brochure (Fig. 1) is in brown. It seems a fair guess that a number of D.W.I. collectors who believed until now that they had the "country complete", as the saying goes, will, by contrast, be somewhat green in the face from now on . . .

On the other hand, what good to a collector is a complete collection? In order to continue collecting, he normally has to figure out some way to make his collection incomplete again, specializing it more. In this case, the job has been done for him. And once the find becomes known, one may be sure that many old D.W.I. collections and accumulations will be in for a thorough search

(Ed. Note: Sven Åhman handed me the brochure and his article on a Friday and the postman handed me the following article by Svend Yort on Saturday.)

Danish West Indies—A Recent Discovery

by Svend Yort, SCC #H13

From our friend and fellow-member of S.C.C., Eichner-Larsen, editor of the stamp page in *Berlingske Tidende*, Copenhagen, and writer of the column "Under Luppen" in that paper, comes news of a find of Danish West Indies stamps that is creating quite a stir in Denmark.

It seems that in a small album, actually a beginner's album, which apparently had not been touched in over 50 years, there were found several copies of the Frederik VIII issue of D. W. I. with the centers in colors different from the frames—of the denominations that are supposed to be in single colors only! There were six copies of the 5 bit green, 3 copies of the 10 bit red, and 5 of the 25 bit blue, but on the 5 bit and 25 bit the centers (heads) were black, and on the 10 bit brown!

The stamps have been submitted to at least three of the leading experts in Denmark, all of whom have pronounced them genuine, but cannot account

for the colors. The history of these items has also been thoroughly investigated, and the story evolves in this: a young sailor in a sailing-ship in that part of the world, prior to World War I, had a correspondent who was a policeman in D. W. I. He saved the stamps off these letters and put them in his album. In 1916 he landed in the United States, and lived there for over 30 years, then returned to Denmark. He kept the album all these years, although he did not add any stamps to it after 1920. Just recently, he gave the album to a friend, without realizing that it contained anything unusual. Indeed, he had never been a student of stamps, and never owned a catalog, so didn't know that there was anything different about these particular stamps. But the friend recognized it right away, and took the stamps to a dealer, the owner of the Skandia auction firm, who started the investigation.

As we said, the experts pronounced them genuine, but could not account for the colors, so we are told. The dealer, however, has come up with the following explanation of what may have happened: that some proof sheets or parts of sheets in these colors were sent to the Governor of the islands for his information and approval; that before the actual printing started the authorities in Denmark bethought themselves of the U. P. U. regulations governing the colors of these three denominations, and therefore changed them to the single colors with which we are familiar. That the Governor handed the proofs or specimens over to the police for use on official mail, and that the policeman helped himself to some for his own use, whereby these copies came into the possession of his sailor friend. The old sailor does not know, of course, whether his friend the policeman bought the stamps at the post office or not.

It is unfortunate that all of the stamps were taken off the envelopes, and that the letters were not saved either; they might have thrown some light on the question. All the stamps are cancelled 1912; most of them in St. Thomas, but one at Kingshill and one at Christiansted. Of the total of 14 copies of all values, only three sets can be made up, the 10 bit being the limiting factor. Eight of the stamps, including one set, are to be offered for sale at the "Skandia" booth at Belgica in Brussels; two sets are being held back for the time being.

So much for the reports from Denmark. We have been sent a copy of Eichner-Larsen's article in B.-T., "Skandia's" statement of the find and their theory of the origin of the stamps, and a photocopy of the reply from the original discoverer of the stamps to an inquiry from Lundegaard-Nielsen, one of the experts who examined these stamps. From these sources we have compiled the above report. We expect to be at Belgica ourselves, and hope to have a chance to examine these items first hand.

In the meantime, we have difficulty in accepting this theory. For one thing, the Governor had nothing to do with the approval of new issues; this was the duty of the Postmaster General in Copenhagen. If copies had been sent to the Governor, perhaps as a courtesy, he would hardly have been so careless as to turn them over to any Government office for postage (and why the police, of all people?). Finally, officialdom being as strict as it was in those days, it is hard to believe that a policeman would help himself to Government property. Add to this that there are no proofs of this issue, or even record of any, in the archives in Copenhagen; furthermore, where were these stamps or proofs from 1907, when they would have had to be printed, until 1912? Eichner-Larsen, at the end of his article, also asks, if this theory be correct.

As to the production of the stamps themselves, there was only one center-plate for all values of this issue. This was an engraved copper plate, while

the frame-plates were typograph plates. This was because, at that stage of the art, a better portrait could be obtained by the use of engraving rather than by typography. Therefore, even the values that were to be in a single color were still printed in two operations. But the same ink is not suitable for the two different processes; therefore there is often a difference in shade between the head and the frame. Furthermore, the engraving ink seems to be more susceptible to change than the other; we have seen many stamps where the head was greatly different from the frame, due surely to sun or chemical action. Now who can say how much change might take place in fifty years, on stamps closed away in an album that was almost surely printed on a cheap grade of chemical pulp paper? Such paper commonly contains sulfites, which often turn inks black through so-called "oxidation"—actually sulfuration. Witness the many "oxidized" copies of the U. S. 6 cent orange stamps of the 1908 to 1920 issues. Unfortunately, only a chemical test could prove conclusively whether this was the case here, and such a test would destroy the stamp! Therefore we are not likely ever to have a completely satisfactory answer, and there will probably always be several opinions on the matter. Personally, we shall reserve judgment until we have had a chance to inspect them ourselves, but we are frankly skeptical.

Hellerup, June 23rd, 1972

Mr. Victor Engstrom

Dear Vic,

A stamp dealer here is offering 14 stamps of the Frederik VIII edition: 5, 10 and 25 Bit, all bicolored with the head in gray, brown and gray respectively. All here are very excited. The stamps will be offered in Brussels at prices from 300 to 500 dollars each, and 2000 dollars for a set of all three values. Eichner-Larsen has written about them in "Berlingske Tidende." Unfortunately he mentioned my name, because I had said it could be color proofs illegally used.

I have now made studies in the State Archives here, and I found the following: It was very early decided by the Ministry of Finance (Colonial Office) together with the Danish postdirector, that the values 5, 10 and 25 Bit should be printed in one color each: green, red and blue, corresponding with the international rules, and the Government in St. Thomas was not at all asked. Today I went to the Post Museum, where they showed me all their essays and proofs, but the three mentioned items were not found. Therefore, it is 1: fakes after chemical procedures or 2: "printers waste" or better "printers jokes." And I do not think that these objects should be regarded as "stamps," only as curiosities. It is also strange, that these products are cancelled in different places (St. Thomas, Kingshill and Christianstad) in the period 1912 to 1913.

Sincerely, Torben

(Ed. Note: "Torben" is Dr. Torben Geill, probably the foremost authority on Danish West Indies.)

* S * C * C *

FLASH!

BYLAWS APPROVED 291 to 2!

* S * C * C *

N.B. Minimum Reserve in PH/Chap. 17 Auction is \$1.00, not \$7.00 If ye Ed would only learn to write clearly!

The Finnish Military Stamp of 1963



Fig. 1

The Finnish Army held one of its largest military exercises in peace time in the Southwestern Finland from September 28 to October 5, 1963. Nearly half of all soldiers on active duty took part in the action. The Military High-Command also decided to test the effectiveness of its Field Post system which had been inoperative since the end of World War II. In this connection a special stamp was issued as a sign of free-franking privilege which was granted to all those who participated.

The Military Stamp was designed by Mr. Pentti Rahikainen and printed in a sheet offset machine in two runs. A numbering device marked each sheet with a running control number in black ink into a corner perpendicularly to the stamps and this number appears either in the Northwest or Southeast corner depending on which end of the sheet was put into the machine first. The printing itself was done on white unwatermarked, pregummed paper, about 0.08 mm thick. The stamp measures about 35x25mm and the design about 30x20mm. The issue consisted of 2,000,000 copies printed in sheets of 100 (10x10).

The sheets of the stamps were handed over to the military command which in turn arranged for the final distribution to the soldiers. Each man received a strip of five stamps as this number was deemed sufficient for the duration of the exercises. Thus larger blocks are not officially obtainable. As the men received the stamps they were given their address for the exercises which they were supposed to give to their relatives and friends—anyone who was expected to send mail to them in that period of ten days.

The Field Post Offices were operating almost to the fullest extent possible. They handled letters, post cards, printed matter, unaddressed newspapers for distribution to the forces as well as packages up to 2kg, all addressed to the "front." The military was also permitted to forward to the men mail that had been addressed to their home garrisons as long as sufficient address was used.

Not all types of mail enjoyed the free-franking privilege. Post cards and letters up to 20 grams which were equipped with the stamp, whether sent to the units, between them or from the forces home. In the last case the mail had to be deposited at the three central field post offices, otherwise the items were subject to the regular tariffs. Postage on printed matter, newspapers and packages (parcels over 2kg were not accepted) was payable at normal rates. The same applied to letters weighing over 20 grams: only the first 20g was free when the stamp was used, but the excess was paid by means of usual stamps. As only one stamp was needed to show free-franking, covers with two to five Military Stamps were borne out of ignorance or "manufactured." The letters and cards with ordinary stamps were equally acceptable for handling as long as they contained adequate postage.

The stamp was valid for postage from September 26 to October 3, 1963,



Fig. 2

both days including. All General post offices were permitted to accept mail addressed to the soldiers participating in the action and those items which were equipped with the special stamp were to receive top priority in handling and to be dispatched through the fastest method of transportation available. The mail was bundled according to the number of Field Post Office, which in turn distributed the mail to the appropriate units. Newspapers were only accepted if they were bundled as above before delivery to the general post offices. The parcels sent to the men were handled in the normal fashion, i.e. the regular address card was attached to the parcel.

The mail which was intended to the participants and which was received at the general post offices before September 26, was supposed to be kept at the office until this date, and only then cancelled and forwarded to the addressee. Fig. 2 makes it clear that at least the Rovaniemi Post Office failed to observe the proper procedure as the cover is cancelled there two days earlier (and shows an arrival stamp on the reverse dated September 25, 1963). All letters and post cards mailed on October 4 or 5, 1963 were sent to the Turku Post Office which had the task of finding out whether the recipient's military unit was still at the site of the exercises or returned to the home garrison. Depending on the outcome, it would then forward the item to the appropriate place. Fig. 3 probably shows this usage. It is cancelled in Helsinki on October 4, 1963 and backstamped in Oulu on October 8, 1963. Unfortunately it has no transit markings, but the normal mailing time between the two cities is at most two days and the exercises had been concluded three days earlier. The relative Post Office Circular governing the handling of military mail during this time stipulates that all items cancelled on October 4 or 5, 1963 had to be forwarded to the addressee at his unit, or to the garrison if the unit had already left the theater of action as long as the mail showed proper address. All mail which was insufficiently or improperly addressed was to be returned to the sender.

On the front of the envelope, post card, etc., the sender had to write in word "Kenttäpostia" in addition to the military stamp. The address itself had to include on the first line, the soldier's name and rank; on the second, the code number of the exercise unit and the abbreviated version of the name of his military unit which was used on all of his mail while he remained in the Army and which was needed for forwarding the mail if it would arrive too late to the "front." The Fig. 4 shows proper addressing and the regular use of the stamp, i.e. from a civilian to a military person. (The other permitted

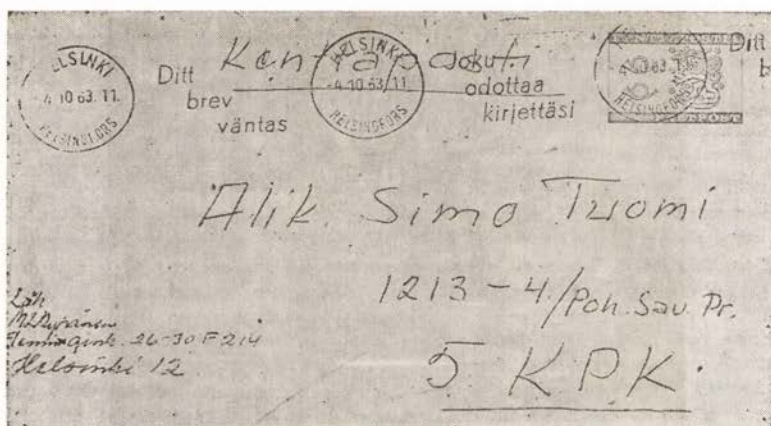


Fig. 3

forms of use are quite a lot less common: from soldier to another soldier at the exercises and from soldier to a civilian.) The backstamp which is here shown on the front of the cover reads KENTTAPOSTIKONTTORI 2 10 63 7. The last number is the indication that this letter was handled by the central Field Post Office in Pori. The cover in Fig. 2 again differs from proper addressing: its recipient was in an anti-aircraft camp which ran more or less concurrently with the big military exercises. It is possible that the Finnish Air Force and the Antiaircraft companies were exercising independently from the main force.

As a total of 85,550 stamps were distributed to the armed forces, we may conclude that approximately 17,110 men took part in the exercises. It is estimated that about 20,000 became used through one of three central field post offices: mobile (number 4), Turku (5) and Pori (7). It had originally been planned that the offices would be Hameenlinna, Rauma and Turku, respectively, but it appears that the practice showed the adopted offices were more

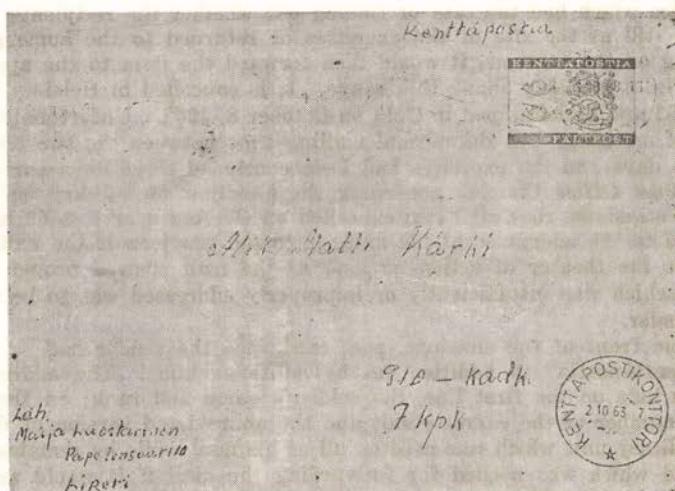


Fig. 4

centrally located along the movement of the troops.

It is evident that only a very small portion of the issue was distributed to soldiers and therefore the Postal Administration which holds the remaining stamps in its vaults will have to decide how to dispose of these stamps. Three main suggestions have been offered: Destroy them, use them at some future time or sell them to the philatelists.

References

Suomen Postimerkkiliitto: Suomen Postimerkkien Kasikirja, 1969, vol. 4, pp. 153-168. (Article by Mr. Ismo Seppanen "Military Stamps".)

Circular No. 113—1963 by the Administration of Post and Telegraph of Finland. Figure 2 is courtesy of Mr. Claude M. Weil, Chicago, Ill.

* S * C * C *

(Ed. Note: I am appending to the article a copy of a reply to Mr. Weil by Birgit Saxberg of the Philatelic Section of the General Direction of Posts and Telegraphs of Finland. Her last paragraph is a gem.)

General Direction of Posts and Telegraphs
Philatelic Section

Mr. Claude M. Weil
Assistant Director
The University of Chicago

Ref. Your letter April 12, 1971.

I sent your letter to the Direction of Posts and Telegraphs and today I got the answer. I hope that it is not too late for you to get the informations.

- 1) The manoeuvres, where the Kenttäpostia-labels were used, were not held near Rovaniemi, but in the south-west part of Finland during Sept. 30th-Oct. 5th 1963. The label was designed by Pentti Rahikainen.
- 2) Kenttäposti-labels were devided (not sold, and have not later been sold), among the participants of the manoeuvres, in 5 pieces to everyone. The labels were for cards and letters (not over 20 gr) and proved that the postal matters were post-free. These cards and letters were allowed to send during Sept 26th-Oct. 3d between the native place (home) and the forces or from forces to forces. Postal matters, sent the 3d Oct. for instance from postboxes, were delivered to the destination, but only via the post-office in Turku.
- 3) In the circular nr 113/63 (enclosed a copy), published by the Direction of Posts and Telegraphs you can read about the cancellation following:
 - a) From native places to the forces the Kenttäposti-postal matters were cancelled as ordinary postal matters. After arrival to the forces, the postal matters were specialcancelled at the military post-office with a round postmark (text: Kenttäpostikonttori and the date).
 - b) The postal matters, sent from the forces, were specialcancelled in the military post-office. When letters arrived to the destination, they were cancelled on the back side of the envelope as an ordinary postal matter.

Unfortunately all post-offices did not obeyed the regulations, just as in this case. From the philatelic point is this cancellation worthless (an unpretentious piece of work), because it is against the rules.

Sincerely yours,

Birgit Saxberg

Norway—Shaded Posthorn Øre Issues, Types

Part 3

5 ØRE—Norw. Cat. #24

By Carl H. Werenskiold (H10)

The 5 øre shaded posthorn stamps, Norw. Cat. #24, were printed in three stages:

- #24 I, first printing period, in 1876, paper with vertical watermark Posthorn I
 - a. Ultramarine
 - b. Bright blue
- #24 II, second printing period, in 1877, paper with horizontal watermark.
 - a. Ultramarine
 - b. Dull blue
- #24 III, additional printing, in 1878, paper with horizontal watermark, many clichés reengraved.
 - a. Ultramarine
 - b. Prussian blue

The colors vary within wide limits, but are substantially as listed here in conformity with the Norwegian catalog. Ultramarine is a blue with a faint reddish tint. The term Prussian blue, as it has customarily (but somewhat erroneously) been used in this issue, refers to a blue with a somewhat harsh greenish tint.

The collector's first step in dealing with these 5 øre stamps will obviously be a test for vertical or horizontal watermark. Usually, the watermark shows up readily in benzine, or preferably petroleum ether. Occasionally, however, the watermark is not visible, and recourse must then be had to methods for determining the fiber direction (grain) of this machine-made paper, with the knowledge that the direction of the posthorn I watermark is always at a right angle to the fiber direction of the paper. One such method consists in holding the stamp, face down, almost horizontally under a lamp and examining the paper with a loupe, as described elsewhere.¹ Another test¹ consists in allowing the stamp to fall gently, face up, onto the surface of water, so as to wet only one side of the stamp. The stamp will usually curl in one direction or the other, and then sometimes uncurl (test applicable to used stamps only). direction remaining straight during the curl is the fiber direction of the stamp. (This test is valid only for a genuine watermark, such as posthorn I, but not for imitation watermarks, such as posthorn II, III and IV).

It will be noted that only some of the stamps of stage III have been re-engraved, while the others of that stage and all of stage II are in the normal state. The collector without access to full sheets for comparison will therefore find it difficult to make an exact distinction between stages II and III in the case of normal ultramarine stamps having horizontal watermark. Stamps of stage III are supposed to be on thicker paper, but this is of doubtful help, since the stamps of both II and III vary between 0.10 and 0.12 mm in thickness. At any rate, all Prussian blue and all re-engraved stamps belong in stage III. The plate-flaws listed in the Handbook² are also of some help in distinguishing between certain stamps of stages II and III.

The methods for conducting the type identification tests summarized in the following table have been fully described in Part I of this serial article.³

Type identification tests on 5 øre stamps

Test	Types											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
AB Period position	$\bar{6}3$	$\bar{7}2$	$\bar{6}2$	$\bar{6}2$	$\bar{7}2$	$\bar{7}2$	$\bar{6}2$	$\bar{7}2$	—	$\bar{6}2$	$\bar{6}2$	$\bar{6}2$
C Period to 5	$\bar{1}3$	$\bar{1}3$	$\bar{1}5$	$\bar{1}4$	$\bar{1}4$	$\bar{1}5$	$\bar{1}5$	$\bar{1}4$	—	$\bar{1}3$	$\bar{1}3$	$\bar{1}2$
D M to 5	$\bar{1}7$	$\bar{1}8$	$\bar{1}8$	$\bar{1}8$	$\bar{1}8$	$\bar{2}0$	$\bar{1}9$	$\bar{1}9$	$\bar{1}8$	$\bar{1}8$	$\bar{1}8$	$\bar{1}6$
F Part height	$\bar{1}3$	$\bar{1}3$	$\bar{1}3$	$\bar{1}5$	$\bar{1}3$	$\bar{1}4$	$\bar{1}3$	$\bar{1}3$	$\bar{1}3$	$\bar{1}3$	$\bar{1}3$	$\bar{1}3$
I Flag	8	$\bar{8}$	$\bar{8}$	$\bar{8}$	$\bar{8}$	9	$\bar{8}$	$\bar{7}$	8	$\bar{8}$	8	8
K Above 5	6	6	6	5	$\bar{5}$	5	4	$\bar{5}$	$\bar{5}$	5	5	$\bar{4}$
L Below 5	3	4	$\bar{4}$	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{5}$	4	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{5}$	$\bar{5}$	$\bar{3}$	5	$\bar{4}$
Position of 5	Low	Low	Low	Low	Normal	Sl. Low	Sl. Low	Normal	Normal	Low	Normal	Normal
M Notch test	8	8	5	6	1	1	2	3	5	5	5	10

All measurements are in dmm as explained in Part 1.

The following brief notations will serve as reminders and aids regarding the nature of the tests employed here:

AB—Period position.

C—Left side of period to left side of ball on small 5.

D—High up on left side of right M-leg to left side of ball on small 5.

F—Part height of 5, down from center of lower side of flag of 5.

I—Length of flag on 5.

K—Distance above 5 in oval band.

L—Distance below 5 in oval band.

M—Notch test. Line cuts the ball of small 5. For record purposes, the ball is considered divided "horizontally" into 10 parts, with zero at left edge of ball, and 10 at right edge of same.

There are a few more or less constant and helpful secondary type characteristics, as follows:

Type 1—Upper left corner of the outer frame-line is usually rounded.

Type 2—Period usually present, but occasionally missing.

Type 5—Usually a thin diagonal line of color in the angle above the curve of the small 5.

Type 6—Often a small dot of color on the inner frame left of upper left wheel, and a weak line between the lines at top of the wheel.

Type 9—Period always missing.

Type 11—Usually color spots between upper right wheel and upper inner frame-line and similarly below lower right wheel.

Type 12—Often a rather pronounced color spot below lower right wheel.

Since some of these secondary characteristics are not entirely dependable, the tests outlined in the table should always be made for more positive verification of type. The position of the small 5, whether normal or low, is of considerable value in deciding between similar types. Comparisons should, of course, always be made with the available illustrations of types.²

It should be noted that stamps of both stages I and II show white lines below, and at right above, the posthorn, as part of the normal design. The re-engraving in stage III, on the other hand, is much more severe usually involving the other contours of the shaded field, under the crown, and up into the bell of the horn.

Stamps of Norw. Cat. #35 are very similar to those of #24. The 100

engraving types of #35 are usually quite different, however, in that the small 5 is without a ball and is otherwise usually badly drawn. The large 5 in #35 is from a plug different from that of #24. There is a small variation in tilt of the large 5 in both issues due to slight rotation of the plug during the production of lead matrices from the original combination steel die. In #24, the downstroke of 5 usually shows a slight tilt toward the right, the line of the alignment tool passing upward a little to the left of R in NORGE, but occasionally touching that letter. In #35, the corresponding line is usually more nearly vertical, passing midway between O and R, but occasionally almost touching these letters. The flag of the large 5 is also different in length, measuring 2.0 mm in #24 and 1.9 mm in #35. For further details in #35, consult the literature.⁴

References

1. Amer. Phil. Congress Bk. 1965, p. 111.
2. Norgeskatalogen (The Norwegian Catalog) Håndbok over Norges Frimerker, I (1963), p. 232-236.
3. Posthorn 1972, p. 1-7
4. Håndbok over Norges Frimerker, I (1963), p. 265-266
Posthorn 1948, p. 17-22
Norsk F. T. 1958, p. 132 and front cover.

* S * C * C *

ICELANDIC SKILLING COVER #21

Skilling Cover #21 was found last winter. Perhaps it is too much to say that it has been discovered, but rather it first came to light at this time. This cover has been for many years in the possession of Einars Tomassonar.

The letter was sent from Okrum, July 13, 1873 to Hjardarholts; there it was stamped with a four skilling, red, and cancelled July 23, 1873. It came to Reykjavik, July 25th.

It was Jon Eyolfsson, farmer, who wrote the letter to V. Fischer, a wholesaler in Reykjavik. It was this Fischer, whom Fischerssund is named after.

In the letter Jon Eyolfsson begged Fischer to take his son to work, and the son was provisionally willing to sail to Denmark.

The letter is written on folio paper which is folded up to look like an envelope, and is in the same form as an aerogram today. The Hjardarholt cancellation is exceedingly good and in addition to this, there's a second cancel side by side.

Translated from FRIMERKI TIMART, Issue Nr. 1, 1971.

—George W. Sickels, SCC 1545

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The Stickney Press Printings Of the Gustav V Profile

Type I and Type II

by Eric B. T. Kindquist, SCC 639

The Stickney Press printing of Swedish stamps have been subjected to intensive studies during the past fifty years. These studies have been published, namely: "The Postage Stamps of Sweden 1920-45" by George Menzinsky; Sections of "Handbok över Sveriges Frankotecken" by Sveriges Filatelist-Förbund in 1936, 1946 and 1961. There is in each section of these publications information which is not covered in others so each is worth individual study. Also worthy of mention is "Avarter hos de äldre bandmärken" by Lars G. Agerberg 1966 (SFF) and "Postage Stamps of Sweden 1920-42" by Arthur Rydquist (APS).

During the past ten years there have been renewed intensive studies of these issues. New discoveries have been published primarily in the areas of plate reengravings, cracked plates and double transfers. There are further fresh discoveries to be made since the writer has in his collection some unreported cracked plates, short transfers and double transfers. These will be reported on at a later date.

Recently the writer purchased a goodly portion of the J. Alfred Birch collection of the Stickney Press printings. Reference was made in this collection of a Type I and Type II of the 45 öre Gustav V profile (SFF #191, Facit #191). No reference is made of these items in any of the Handbooks 1936 to date, nor in the Wennberg catalogues 1937-55, nor in the Facit catalogues 1948 to date, nor in Sveriges Filatelist Tidskrift 1950 to date. It is therefore presumed that this discovery has not been publicized. The credit for the discovery should be given to the late Mr. Birch, the writer is just passing on the information.

Note in Figure 1, showing Type I, the diagonal lines in the upper left portrait field are faint. These 14 lines in the area of the tip of S and VE and to the right of OST vary in strength, especially in the lower portions of the area described. Also the other determining feature is the lower left edge of the stamp which is uneven. There is a small indentation in the first 6 squares

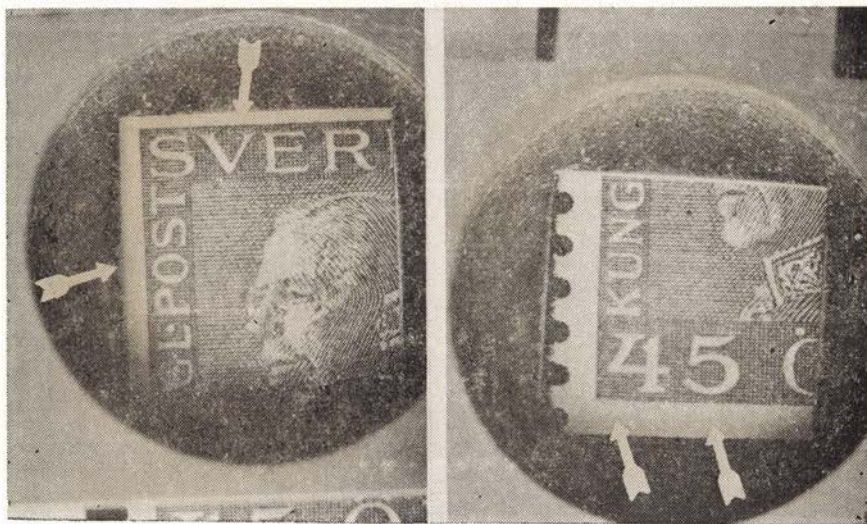


Fig. 1—Type I

plus an indentation in the lower field under the 5.

Note in Figure 2, showing Type II, the before mentioned diagonal lines have been strengthened and are now uniform in width. The lower left edge has been reworked and is now straight and even. The small indentation remains under the numeral 5.

All indications point towards a reworking of the master die in 1934 (1933?) for manufacture of the second pair of plates at that time, since the Type II has been noted only on the A3 (D) paper. The type I has been found only on the A1 and A2 papers which were used with the first pair of plates for the printing of this value. The above observation is based on examinations of approximately 200 used and mint copies of the stamp. Further examinations by collectors of items in their collections would be helpful to further prove or disprove this fact.

In view of the above discovery of Type I and Type II of the 45 öre at this late date, it behooves us to further examine other values of this issue. The 1936 Handbook lists the number of plates which were prepared for the various values. This information may not be complete, but it is the latest information available to the writer. If but one pair of plates were transferred, or if the plates have been identified, it is not listed below. Listing is number of pairs of plates.

5 öre	Lion Type II, 27 plates to 27/11/35
10 öre	Lion Type I, 14 plates to 4/4/32
10 öre	Lion Type II, 3 plates to 27/11/35
1 r.	Coat of Arms, 3 plates to 1931
15 öre	Gustav V profile Type I, 15 plates to 1928
15 öre	Gustav V profile Type II, 17 plates to 27/11/35
20 öre	Gustav V profile 7 plates to 24/3/31
25 öre	Gustav V profile 7 plates to 1/9/34
30 öre	Gustav V profile 8 plates to 25/7/35
45 öre	Gustav V profile 2 plates to 19/4/34
50 öre	Gustav V profile 3 plates to 29/5/33

Any thoughts, comments on the above article would be most appreciated. Any items or new discoveries that should be publicized should be sent to the editor, the writer would appreciate hearing about them, though.

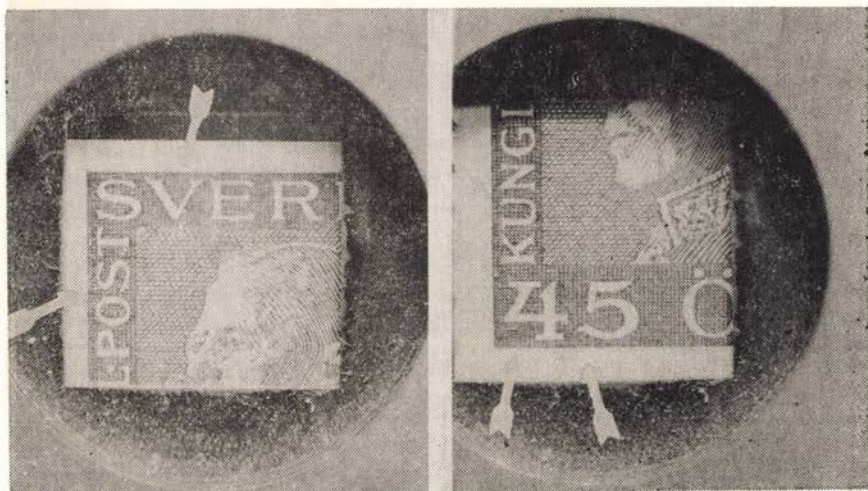


Fig. 2—Type II



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A Norwegian Postage Due Marking of the 1860s

By Sven Åhman (#936)



I am sure many collector brethren, like myself, are sometimes being twitted by infidels about our hobby. If it is any comfort, this is no recent development. In my own country, Sweden, a famous humorist who called himself "Falstaff the Fakir" was at it almost eighty years ago.

"Has a philatelist the right," he asked, "to a private cell in a lunatic asylum? And if so, why is this not being announced?"

One of our little lunacies that outsiders love to pounce upon is that so many of us are looking for the imperfect, the faulty, so much of the time. This is their way of holding against us the "fly-speck" collecting of plate flaws and similar varieties.

Mostly, we grin and bear it. Few have occasion to grin as broadly as the New Jersey SCC member who found, by pure fluke some years ago, the Danish 4 øre overprint on 8 øre bi-colored with frame inverted, which is known in less than a dozen copies. But anyone who goes through a sizable batch of fairly common stamps before printing techniques reached their present perfection stands a fair chance of eventually coming up with a constant variety or two.

Obviously, his chances are better the more he knows about what to look for. Nobody can make a career out of looking for one particular thing. He may never come across it. It is a pure matter of the laws of probability that the likelihood of finding a variety increases with the number of varieties you are familiar with. Handbooks, catalogues, philatelic journals, stamp exhibitions, club discussions—all have this much in common: they provide us with a widening knowledge of things that DO exist and that MAY come our way if we keep our eyes open.

Let our detractors recommend the padded cell to their heart's delight! They cannot rob us of the thrill when the search is rewarded, and the 3 aur. Iceland with "double 3," the Denmark 4 on 8 øre overprint with "hooked 4," or the Sweden I Krona Oscar II with inverted watermark, suddenly turn up after having eluded us, perhaps for years.

Which is all, if truth must out, just by way of introduction to today's

theme, which is the thrill of thrills—finding something that has NOT been found, NOT been described, NOT been known before.

Personally, I must confess to being somewhat lukewarm to the extremes of fly-speck collecting, although I begrudge no one the right to find pleasure in it. But while the fly-speck crowd are essentially interested in how the stamp is PRODUCED, and all the calamities that can befall it in the process, I belong to those who have gradually been more and more attracted to how the stamp is being USED—and thereby to postal history, to the collecting of covers and the study of cancellations and postal markings.

What this interest can lead to, if only once in a blue moon, is what I have been asked to tell readers of *The Posthorn*. It concerns one of the rare cases when one comes upon a variety unknown not only to oneself, but apparently to the entire collecting community. Incidentally, it also illustrates the extreme caution advisable before proclaiming anything unique as shall soon become apparent.

A couple of years ago I found a postage due marking of Norway from the classical period on a nice cover from 1867. The marking seemed worth describing, since it was nowhere described, not even in the most recently published Norwegian Handbook (*Håndbok over Norske Filatelistika*, Oslo 1969).

After checking with a number of Norway specialists both in the United States and Scandinavia I convinced myself that this was indeed a "discovery." I proceeded to describe it in a Swedish philatelic publication (*FH-Nytt*, Stockholm 1970). So what happened? One of the collectors I had consulted and who knew as little about it as everybody else, that is, exactly nothing, told me when I met him again last year that now, on the strength of my little article, he had been offered a cover with the same unknown marking!

If proof were needed that publication stimulates search and helps find things simply because it alerts us about what to look for, this was certainly it. I don't mind in the least that there is now a least one more example of my find in evidence—but I am certainly glad that I have the other one.

Since no description in English has so far been published of the item in question, the details may be worth relating here.

The marking is an unframed two-liner reading "UTILSTRAEKKELIG / FORUDBETALT." in sans-serif capital letters, the top line measuring 38 millimeters and the bottom line, centrally placed underneath, 30 mms excluding the period at its end.

Applied twice, it was found on a cover addressed to Denmark and franked with 5 Skilling, consisting of the 1866 3 SKILL of the first lion-type issue and an overlapping 2 SKILL 2 of the 1867 second lion-type, both cancelled CHRISTIANIA 11/11 1867, sans-serif type. Since the second lion-type 3 SKILL 3 was not issued until May of 1868, the mixed franking was natural.

Fortunately, another CHRISTIANIA cancel, this one of the older serifed type and with date of the following day, 12/11 (Nov. 12) 1867, was applied on the cover, in part across one of the "UTILSTRAEKKELIG FORUDBETALT." markings. Under magnification, it was possible to establish unequivocally that this CHRISTIANIA sits OVER the postage due marking, the Norwegian origin of which is thus clear. In those days, Danish and Norwegian were in essence spelled the same way, and but for this circumstance it would not have been possible to say with certainty that the "UTILSTRAEKKELIG FORUDBETALT." marking was not a Danish variant of the wellknown boxed "Utilstraekkelig frankeret" or the rarer, likewise Danish, framed "Utilstr. Frigj."

From the 1870's, the *Filatelistika* handbook lists various types of Norwegian markings reading "UTILSTRAEKKELIG BETALT" (meaning, "insufficiently paid") and there are also reproductions both of unframed and

boxed markings with the text "Utilstraekkelig frankeret ("insufficiently franked"), the boxed one almost identical in appearance with the corresponding Danish marking.

These Norwegian postage due markings are mentioned in the handbook as used on unpaid or underpaid domestic letters, but there would seem to be nothing abnormal in the present "UTILSTRAEKKELIG FORUDBETALT." ("insufficiently prepaid") being used on a letter abroad, much as one finds the British "Insufficiently paid" or "More to Pay" on letters from Scandinavia (and probably elsewhere) from the same period.

The 5 Skilling franking is a somewhat strange choice by the sender. In 1867 the postage rate to Denmark, which had earlier been as high as 12 Skilling, had been reduced to 8 Skilling, to judge from other covers in my collection, but it was not until several years later that the rate to Denmark was actually reduced to 5 Skilling. The domestic rate in 1867 was, of course, 4 Skilling.

The present cover—incidentally a ship cover marked "pr. Uffo" and addressed to Lønstrup pr. Hjørring in northernmost Jutland—has two crayon markings, one a large "8" in blue, the other a smaller "8 Rbs" in red. Whether both of these, or only the red one, are of Danish origin I don't know. One must assume that they signify not the total postage, but the actual postage to be paid by the addressee, which in that case included a penalty for the insufficient franking.

Where the good ship "Uffo" went from Christiania I have no way of knowing, but it certainly took its sweet time. For, on the reverse, the cover has an arrival cancel in Hjørring (which is situated inland a little south of Skaw, while Lønstrup is actually on the coast to the west), and this bears the date 17/11, that is, November 17. Even letters to England from Norway in those days sometimes did not need more time.

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PROGRESS REPORT—DANISH WEST INDIES STUDY UNIT

The notice in the February POSTHORN and publicity in the philatelic media, about the work of the DWI Study Unit has produced surprising and welcome results. Several members, hitherto unheard from, sent in photographs of unusual items, and others have written letters of encouragement with offers to help in the production of the Handbook.

Interesting facts about the four varieties of the 7c bicolor have been uncovered by Douglas Collard. Torben Geill has been researching the Danish archives for anything of interest, but particularly about the gum on the classic first stamp. Al Schwarz has come up with a constant variety on the Bit overprints that disputes previous reports on printing methods. A Danish West Indies International Reply Coupon, I am told, has been located.

Currently, we need descriptions of any of the bicolors cancelled before September 1, 1877, the date that the DWI joined the U.P.U. The stamps were issued in 1874, but early usage seems difficult to establish. We realize that target cancels were largely used before 1877, and foreign ships carried external mail, franked with foreign stamps during this period. However, there should be internal covers and other examples in existence.

There are still many facts and items suspected or known to have existed, that cannot be located today. Can anyone come up with a FREE FRANK cover? The U. S. Governor during the transition period of 1917, had this privilege, according to Roger Preston. Dr. Ekenvall has learned that during the early days of adhesives in the DWI, persons claiming extreme poverty, could mail a letter without postage—another free frank, but we do not know of an example of this. Has anyone seen one?

The authors of the various chapters of the Handbook are trying to document all possible known information about DWI philately, and the finished product promises also to contain much information previously unpublished.

Victor E. Engstrom, DWI Coordinator

132 Haddon Pl., Upper Montclair, NJ 07043

* S * C * C *

REVIEW: KATALOG OVER NORGES HELPOST 1872-1972

English and Norwegian Text. Author and Editor, Tron Soot-Ryen. Published by Oslo Filatelistklubb, Oslo, Norway. 6x9 inches, 80 pages. Soft cover. 30 Kronner (\$4.80) plus postage.

In 1955 the first Norwegian Postal Stationery Catalog in Norwegian was published by Norsk Filatelistforbund, Oslo. Author and Editor Tron Soot-Ryen. In 1972 the second edition in English and Norwegian text was published by the Oslo Club and Tron Soot-Ryen author and editor.

Clearly outlined and excellent illustrations of all the Norwegian Postal Stationery makes this a notable contribution to Norwegian philately.

Breakdown as follows: Konvolutter—Envelopes, Kortbrev—Letter Cards, Brevkort—Postkort—Post Cards, Tjenestebrevkort/Postkort—Official Post Cards, Aerogram, Søknadskort—Application Cards for rationed goods.

Excellent indexing as to printings, types, color, paper, watermarks, leaves no doubt in your mind as to the proper classification and catalog number. One who has had any experience in trying to catalog this type of material will appreciate this Handbook.

Gives the catalog number, value, color, errors, date of issue, printer, amount printed and pricing of mint and used copies.

Pricing is realistic, slightly higher than "H & G" catalog.

A must for your philatelic library. Four (****) stars to Tron Soot-Ryen for an outstanding catalog of this difficult material.

—Stanley H. Hanson, SCC 974

Meet Your Officers

ROBERT P. STEVENS, SCC 236

Having been one of the charter member group of Chicago Chapter 4, SCC at its founding in May 1946, one of the directors for 1971-72 is Robert P. Stevens of Chicago. Having served as national Treasurer in 1960-61-62 and 1968-69 he is known to many of our members; similarly he was our national President in 1966-67, during which Chapters 9, 10, 11, and 12 were organized and others planned.

Bob was born in Danville, Illinois in 1912, went through high school there, and graduated from the University of Illinois in 1934 as a Ceramic Engineer; that same year he married his wife, Emeline, whose grandparents came across from Odense, Denmark and Bergen, Norway. Having been a general collector during his school years, his wife's ethnical background suggested a concentration with-



in the Scandinavian fields of interest after they had moved from Indiana to Cincinnati, Ohio where Bob had his first exposure to stamp clubs in a city around 1939. Identified for the past thirty-five years within the refractories industry, since 1950 Bob has been employed on a national level by the Chicago Fire Brick Company—serving as Vice President—Marketing since 1958.

Highlights of over twenty-five years membership in S.C.C. starting back in February 1945 include Bob's personal acquaintance with SCC founder Carl E. Pelander and wife with visits to their philatelic quarters at 545 Fifth Avenue when in New York City; presiding at the first national S.C.C. meeting in May 1966 at Washington during the international SIPEX exhibition; having attended a meeting of Chapter 11 in Reykjavik, Iceland as past-president in September 1967—and that same month having met on their own ground or homes such philatelists as Ib Eichner-Larsen, Copenhagen; Sigurdur Thorsteinsson, Hagarfjordur, Iceland; Bent Knutson, Aarhus, Denmark; Martin Bostrom, Orebro, Sweden; and Einar Lundstrom, at Frimarkshuset, Stockholm.

Bob Stevens' philatelic interests are pretty well divided between each of the five major Scandinavian groups, and now wishes he had picked up D.W.I. and Greenland issues at a much earlier age. Aside from active membership and participation in S.C.C. both at the national level and as an officer for many years in Chicago-Chapter 4, plus COMPEX-Chicago shows since 1953 when 3-cent stamps were on first-day covers, Bob has memberships in the Scandinavian Philatelic Society headquartered in Britain, American Philatelic Congress and the local Beverly Hills Philatelic Society of Chicago.

WANTED TO BUY — Letter Card #15 and Post Card #70
of Postal Stationery of Iceland.

Harvey G. Gudmundson—707 Greenwood Rd.—Glenview, Ill. 60025

Chapter Notes

Chapter 4

Chapter 4 hosted a regional meeting at Complex on 27 May 72. 18 members and 3 guests present. A Sojex B/G report, "stamp talk" and socializing were the order of the day.

—RPS

Chapter 7

Chapter 7 has been holding a second meeting on the 4th Wednesday of each month on Long Island (at Art Lind's until now—thanks to "Mom" Lind for her special hospitality). During the Summer we will meet at Bob Booman's in July and Harry Wines in August. By then, we may have a centrally located meeting place lined up.

—RAH

Chapter 7 will host an S.C.C. lounge at the A.S.D.A. show November 17-19th. The lounge will have chapter members available to greet old friends and answer questions concerning S.C.C. and Scandinavian philately. Once again we will convene on the Saturday evening of the show for an S.C.C. smörgasbord dinner at one of New York's finest Scandinavian restaurants. The New York metropolitan area members hope to see you at the lounge and skål you at the dinner.

Chapter 17



A major highlight of the recent FILA-FAIR at the Universal Sheraton Hotel, North Hollywood, Calif., was the presentation, for the first time, of the "Bibs Berner" memorial trophy; now a perpetual award for the exhibition of outstanding Scandinavian material, donated by the Scandinavian Collectors Club Chapter 17 of Southern California. First to win the award is H. J. Schlueter. Presentation was made by Mrs. Bibs (Jan) Berner.

Chapter 19

The mid-Florida chapter meets every other month on the first Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the offices of Dr. O. E. Olsen, 2108 North Orange Avenue, Orlando, Florida. Each meeting emphasizes the stamps of a particular country with the members sharing insights or displaying anything unusual they may have from that country. The general schedule is as follows: February—Finland, April—Denmark, June—Norway, August—Iceland, October—Sweden, December—new material.

For each meeting a program is also planned (at the April 4 meeting a slide program on Swedish postal rates and usages.) Also at each meeting Scandinavian Stamp Mart books are available for your perusal. We are most happy to send you notices of the meetings IF you are interested, however to have your name included on the mailing list and receive chapter information for the coming year you are asked to respond by mail indicating your continued interest. You may address me in care of the above address.

—David A. Peterson, Chairman

* S * C * C *

POSTHORN INDEX

Correction: Insert main title WATERMARKS immediately above next to last entry (Werenskiold) on page 28.

* S * C * C *

Donations to the SCC Reference Collection of Counterfeits:

Russell Mascieri (Danam Stamp Co.) VEE

* S * C * C *

TREASURER'S REPORT — Year 1971

CASH BALANCE: End of 1970		\$3636.05
RECEIPTS:		
Membership Dues and Fees	\$ 1924.24	
Posthorn Advertising	40.00	
Repayment of Advance to SPLS	1300.00	
Accrued Profits from SPLS	664.04	
Interest Income	121.89	
Total Income 1971		\$4050.17
EXPENSES:		
Publications (Posthorn)	\$ 1414.31	
Exhibitions (Awards, Chapter Grants)	325.08	
SCC Editor (Telephone, Postage)	398.75	
SCC Secretary (Printing, Postage)	148.24	
SCC Treasurer (Postage, Embossing)	196.62	
SCC Librarian (Subscription)	4.75	
SCC Publicity Chairman	16.27	
Total Expenses 1971		\$2504.02
NET GAIN 1971		\$1546.15
ADVANCES MADE DURING 1971		
SCC Chapter #4		\$ 300.00
CASH BALANCE: End of 1971		\$4882.20
Net Worth Dec. 31, 1971		
Bank Balance (Santa Barbara Savings & Loan, Santa Barbara, Calif.)	\$4621.89	
Bank Balance (First Western Bank, Santa Barbara, Calif.)	260.31	
Advance to SCC Chapter #4	300.00	
Total Net Worth		\$5182.20

Ben de Lambert, Treasurer 1971-72

Known Iceland "Stimpilmerki" According to S. H. Thorsteinsson Catalog



- 1) 5 aurar: Light green to dark green (Fig. 5)
- 2) 10 aurar: Red (Fig. 2)
- 3) 20 aurar: Yellow to orange
- 4) 25 aurar: Yellowish brown to yellow (Fig. 2)
- 5) 40 aurar: Grey violet to purple (Fig. 6)
- 6) 50 aurar: Light blue to medium blue

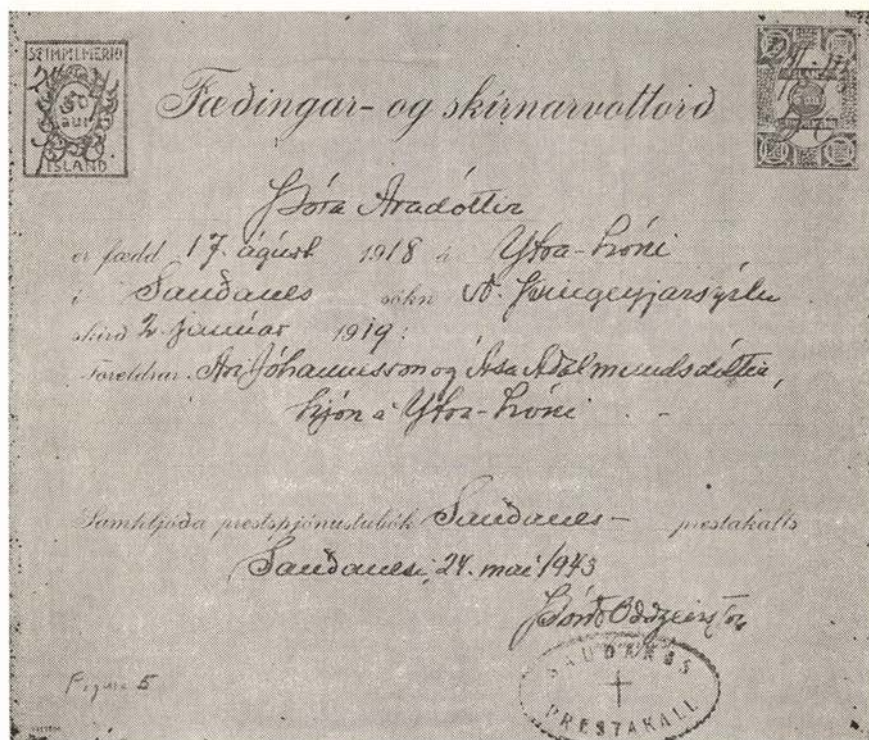



Figure 5



- 7) 60 aurar: a) White paper. Black on light blue underprinting
 b) Blue paper. Black printing
 c) White paper. Black on green underprinting (Fig. 5)
- 8) 1 króna a) Red brown
 b) Red-brown, new engraving (letters clearly designed)
- 9) 2 krónur a) Light to dark green (Fig. 3)
 b) Dark green, new engraving



Hjúskaðarvottord
 Certificate of Marriage

GEORGE WILMER SIGREIS

105 Springi, Paterson, New Jersey, USA

og
 and

ÁBRA ARADÓTTIR

Vefarhátta, Löngata 25.

eru gefin saman í hjónaband í Reykjavík 14. apríl 1945

were united in matrimony

af
 by

Ólafur Pálsson
 the parish pastor

Swaminn
 witnesses: Ólafur P. Schweitzer 105 Springi, Paterson, New Jersey, USA
 og Ólafur Aradóttir, bóndi, Övringsta 17.

Samlifnaðar prestskráustabók _____ prestskalls
 according to the records of _____ parish

Reykjavík 17. apríl 1945

Jarðdóttir
 Ólafur Pálsson
 parish pastor




Fig. 6

- 10) 2.50 krónur: White paper, black printing on yellowish-brown underprint
 11) 5 krónur a) Light to dark olive
 b) Red-brown, white paper (Fig. 4)
 c) Red-brown, new engraving
 12) 10 krónur a) Light to dark brown
 b) Dark brown, new engraving
 13) 50 krónur Reddish to blue violet
 14) 100 krónur a) Red-brown, white paper
 b) Deep red, new engraving
 15) 500 krónur Red brown on yellow underprinting, white paper
 16) 1000 krónur a) White paper, blue on yellow underprinting
 b) White paper, Dark green on reddish underprinting
 c) White paper, Light green on yellow underptg. New eng.
 17) 10,000 krónur
 18) No value, Red. Size 49x36 mm. Stimpilmerki Eignokönnun.

All issued by the State Treasurer of Iceland, and printed in the state printing office, Guthenberg.

(With due recognition to Thor Thorstainson for his work on the subject.)

* S * C * C *

BOB BOOMAN SEEKS HELP

The following 5 cancels are needed to complete a staggering task (for the November PH, I hope) that our Librarian, Bob Booman, has undertaken. Provincial postoffices Type S II for:

BÆR-BARD
 HOLAR
 STAÐUR
 STÖÐVARFJORDUR

and Type S I:

KIRKJUBÆJARKLAUSTUR

are needed. Bob would like to beg, borrow or buy these 5 cancels (or any of them). Please contact him at 24 Amby Avenue, Plainview, N. Y. if you can help.

—RAH

* S * C * C *

Letters To the Editor

Robert Helm, Editor:

The Nominating Committee of Bob Brandeberry, Chairman, Svend York and Bob Stevens for 1972 have put out prospective feelers amongst members they and others consider good material for prospective officers.

After canvassing these members to get an opinion of their agreement to work and function adequately in their prospective positions, a slate will be presented on time to the Board and the Board will according to By-Laws cause ballots to be sent active members in time to meet scheduled elections.

Members believing they have good candidates should address such information to the Secretary, keeping in mind that such requests should conform to Article 4, Section 3 of the By-Laws as to format.

Bob Brandeberry

Dear Bob:

17 June 1972

A couple of other items (I have been meaning to write you for a long while, but things keep piling up): In the last issue of the PH, you illustrated an Iceland cover (amazing how they keep turning up now that the price is out of sight), and asked if anyone knew the meaning of the letters "S. T." ahead of the address. By chance, at almost the same time, I happened on the

explanation in an article in the Copenhagen journal N.F.T. It seems that a hundred years ago, when titles were very important, this abbreviation was used for "salvo titulo"—meaning excuse the omission of, or incorrect, title. I am not sure whether the expression is Latin or Italian—the article didn't say, and I am not that well up on either one.

Sincerely, Svend

Robert Helm:

Ref. page 44, vol. 29, No. 2. May I refer to your questions on the cover that "S. T." stands for something in Latin meaning without knowing all your titles, rank, etc.? (When at that time doubt it was allowed to S.T.) I have seen many like! Further it is not out Th. Krabbes collection but out of his daughter's (addressed to her grandfather). I was the lucky finder (without buying) and if at interest it was first sold at DM 25,000, later I have heard it changed owner at DM 35,000. May I add that I personally have been a collector of Greenland cancels, etc., before 1938, if I can help fellow collectors with information, etc., I'll gladly do so for you. I also seek photos of all non-plated parcel post prints.

Your truly, Torben Hjørne

Dear Bob:

May 23, 1972

I will be Sojex 1973 co-chairman again so you see I have to be on the ball, so to speak. I am writing letters to organizations, inviting them to participate in Sojex 1973. It will be held in the Shelburne Hotel, April 13-14-15.

Bob, here is a P.S. for your Sojex report on the awards:

1. Wallace J. Gaarsoe was awarded our Chapter 8 Norwegian sail ship for best single frame in Scandinavian section. I gave it to him at our Sunday meeting.

2. Another one is that Chapter 8 was awarded the special award given by the Association (Sojex) for the best in competition in the associations club members project, that was frame #353 in the program. We have to win it one more time then it is ours to keep. We won it the first year that the trophy was given by the association. We lost it the following two years, we were given a plaque then to show we had won the trophy the year before, this is ours to keep, also a certificate, to prove ownership.

Sincerely yours, Helen

Ed. Note: Sorry Helen—my apologies to your chapter and to Wally—and to Honorary Member #13 Svend Yort. Between my notes and the typewriter, these items got lost in my Sojex report.



We pay top prices for classic (before 1900) Finnish stamps of superb quality, especially covers and pieces.

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SCANDINAVIA AUCTIONS

Our June 16th auction sale was a great success, primarily due to the spirited bidding of many SCCers. Our objective in planning the Scandinavia Auctions is to offer something for everyone—from the stamps cataloging only a few dollars to great rarities and items of interest to advanced specialists. Unlike the general philosophy of stamp auction houses, we want your business whether you bid on only one lot at \$2.00 or bid \$1000's.

Many collectors have never bid or have never had the opportunity to bid in a stamp auction—and are missing the chance to add needed stamps to their collections at reasonable prices. We will gladly give valuations of the expected price of any lot, or answer any questions about bidding. Our lots sell anywhere from 10% to 100% of catalog value (or more). All stamps are guaranteed to be genuine and as described.

Our next sale is Sept. 22nd and will contain about \$10,000.00 worth of Scandinavia. Every SCCer will receive a copy of the catalog. Take advantage of the opportunity and bid.

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