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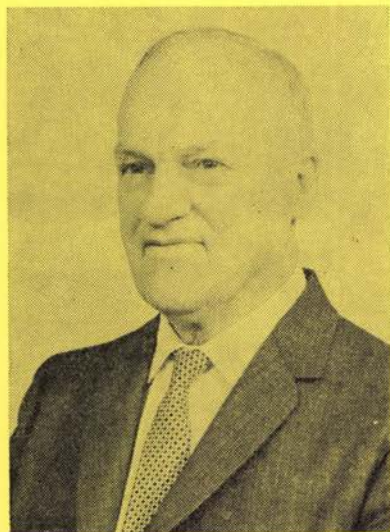
“The Bank of Scandinavian Philatelic Knowledge”

NORWAY

Shaded Posthorn Øre Issues, Types

Norwegian Catalog Nos. 22-31

By Carl H. Werenskiold
(H-10)



Carl H. Werenskiold (H-10)

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Measure to know for certain

Norway—Shaded Posthorn Øre Issues, Types

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By Carl H. Werenskiold (H-10)

INTRODUCTION

The stamps in these issues come in 6 or 12 engraving types, many of which are decidedly difficult to determine, and it may safely be said that very few albums show all of these types correctly. The types have been known for about half a century and have been illustrated repeatedly in the literature¹ both in half-tone and line, and usually enlarged.

The clichés for these stamps were produced via matricing in lead, as described elsewhere.² The types are characterized by small differences in the form and position of the small numerals and adjacent periods, which were engraved by hand on the several second original dies employed.

The engraved parts characterizing the types in the stamps have more or less soft outlines, which cannot adequately be reproduced in printing. It is therefore very difficult, in many cases, to correlate mentally the types as they appear in the illustrations with the somewhat different softer appearance of the stamps. The differences between the types are also frequently very small and difficult to grasp. Descriptions based on comparison of one type with another, such as one being larger than the other, are often of little help to the collector having only one stamp or so of the particular issue. What is needed in such cases is a statement as to the exact size and/or other characteristics of each of these types, independent of each other. Accordingly, it is the purpose of this series of articles to analyse the types to bring out their differences, using new and improved methods of approach. Once the collector is enabled to establish a master set of types in the form of stamps in each issue, further work to determine the types of other stamps of the issue becomes much easier.

It was found that the illustrations in the Handbook¹ are very nearly 3 times stamp size. Various kinds of measurement on pertinent parts of the illustrations were made, in terms of tenths of a millimeter, which I shall call decimillimeters (dmm). These measurements were then reduced to one-third and incorporated, for each issue, in a first-approach table, which was used for determining types of stamps for a master type collection. The measurements were partly linear ones, and partly alinements. Improved final tables of the useful measurements, as they were found on the actual stamps in each issue, were then set up, to the extent required, as standard references for further use.

Since the differences between types are frequently very small, it is absolutely necessary for the type determining philatelist to be proficient in accurate measurements as described in detail elsewhere.³ The method is not difficult, but does require serious study and adequate practice. The method uses simple and inexpensive tools. They consist of a 20 cm long quality ruler divided into half-millimeters (obtainable at art stores), a 5x eye-loupe preferably fastened to an old eye-glass frame, and a home-made alinement tool consisting of a 5x5 cm piece of 0.5 mm thick clear plastic, into which you scratch a very thin and accurately straight line about 25 mm long, using a metal ruler and a sharp

knife-point. Fill the scratch with India ink and provide a small handle on the other (top) side of the tool. The use of an eye-loupe frees both hands, very important, enabling one to make more rapid and accurate measurements. Do **not** use a hand lens or a mounted magnifier, both are impractical for good measurement work. The stamp being examined should lie on a large pad to prevent the ruler from catching and dragging against the working desk. The ruler should be held in **both hands** and tilted away by placing the thumbs partly below the near edge, so as to permit rapid and smooth zeroing-in on the stamp detail without jerky binding by the paper surface.

There are several varieties or styles of measurement, which I have described in detail elsewhere.³ In brief, they are:

"A"—from center of one detail to center of another.

"B"—from one left edge to another left edge, or from one right edge to another right edge.

"C"—overall of two details, or between them, i.e. from one left edge to a right edge, or vice versa.

"D"—from an edge of one detail to the center of another.

Varieties "A" and "B" are relatively independent of variations in the inking (heavy or light) of stamps, and give substantially constant measurement results for stamps of one and the same engraving type. Variety "C" (the one customarily encountered in the literature) is affected by variations in inking and therefore does not always give quite the same results in several stamps of the same type. Variety "D" is also affected by variations in inking, but to a lesser degree than "C."

The various tests available for use in distinguishing and determining types in this series of articles have been given convenient designations as explained in the following:

Tests AB involve the position of the period after *POSTFRIM*, expressing the position in numerical form. A is the distance horizontally from the center line of the right leg in M to the center of the period. Measured directly (Fig. 1) as an "A" style measurement (do not confuse with test A), it is difficult to obtain necessary accuracy, so I use a more practical equivalent method, which consists in zeroing in on the center of the period with a convenient ruler line, say the 10 cm line, and reading off **leftwise** to both sides of the M-leg (Fig. 2). The average of these readings is equivalent to the "A" style (=center to center) measurement for test A. Alternatively, one may make two "B" style measurements, one between the left sides of M and the period, the other between the right sides of same, and average the two readings to produce the equivalent "A" style figure.



Fig. 1. Measurement of A.

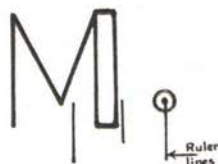


Fig. 2. Measurement of A.
(Example)

As an example of a "difficult" case (Fig. 2), zero in on the center of the period, then read off **leftwise** to the two sides of the M-leg. Estimating our best to approximate hundredths of a millimeter (using the loupe, of course), we find that the space on the right side of the leg is less than a fifth of a ruler space (0.1 mm), so we call the right side reading 0.55 mm. The left side of the M-leg has passed the midway point to the next ruler line (=0.75 mm

from the period), but not quite to the three-fifths point (0.80 mm), so we call the left side reading 0.78 mm. Average of 55 and 78: Difference is 23, of which half is about 12. $55+12=67$, that is an "A" style reading of 0.67 mm or a little less than 7 dmm, so we record it as $\overline{7}$ (see below).

B is the distance vertically between the center of the period and the lower straight inner frame-line, corrected by subtracting the distance between this frame-line and the foot of the M-leg, figured at a standard 8 dmm (Fig. 3). The final, corrected B-reading is thus the distance from the center of the period to an imaginary horizontal line (X-axis) from the foot of the M-leg (Fig. 3). In this way we avoid B-readings in two figures, so that the combined AB readings can be expressed by an economical notation in two figures only, e.g. 73, which is read seven-three, not seventy-three. It is desirable, of course, to express the position as concisely as possible, without unnecessary baggage (commas, etc.), since the working Norway philatelist will, in time, be recording thousands of these period positions.

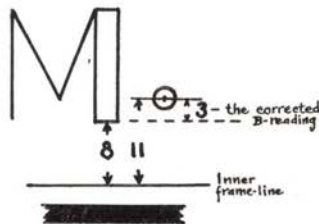


Fig. 3. Measurement of B (Example)

An example of a B-reading is shown in Fig. 3. Place the zeroing line (say the 10 cm line) to the left of the center of the period. Read the vertical distance to the imaginary center-line (not side) of the straight inner frame-line, say 1.1 mm, to get $11-8=3$, the corrected B-reading.

In some cases of type determination, we need all the accuracy obtainable. Reading without loupe to the nearest quarter-millimeter or so, as in the customary procedures, is ordinarily not only ineffective, but actually a waste of time. Where differences between types are uncomfortably small, we must measure as accurately as possible, frequently closer than to the nearest dmm, i.e. into an estimation of mm with 2 decimals, or dmm with one decimal. I have found it practical and conducive to rapid work and recording to write all readings in one figure only and to denote the substance of the decimal by a dash or two above the figure, say $\overline{7}$ and $\overline{\overline{7}}$ for 7.3 and 7.5 dmm respectively, and a dash below a figure for a slight deficiency, say $\underline{7}$ for 6.7. We thus divide each dmm into 4 smaller parts, which I shall refer to as "points." Due to a number of circumstances, stamps of the same type may show minor differences in the recorded measurement figures, and an allowance in interpretations of a point or so must occasionally be made. A reading of $\overline{\overline{7}}$ (=7.5 dmm) is thus only a point away from $\underline{8}$ (=7.7). If our readings had been made less accurately as, say, 7 in a table and 8 on a stamp, we should be in doubt as to whether we are dealing with the same type.

The AB-measurements are frequently about the same for several types in an issue. Recourse must then be had to other tests to clinch the type determination. Tables will therefore be presented in these articles, listing the data for each other suitable tests as may be required for type determination in such an issue.

Test C involves the distance from the left side of the period to the left

side of the nearest low part of the small numeral (Fig. 4).



Fig. 4. Tests C and D (Examples).

Test D involves the distance from high up on the left side of the M-leg horizontally to the left side of the nearest low part of the small numeral (Fig. 4).

Test E involves the total height of the small numeral (Fig. 5).



Fig. 5. Tests E, F, G and H (Examples)

Test F involves the distance from the lower side of the upper curve (or flag) to the lower edge of the small numeral (Fig. 5) in the general direction of the numeral.

Test G involves the total width of the small numeral (Fig. 5).

Test H involves the size of the opening in the left part of the numeral (Fig. 5).

Test I involves the length of a flag (as in 5) or foot-stroke (as in 2).

Test J involves the width of two figures measured at distant left sides (Fig. 6).

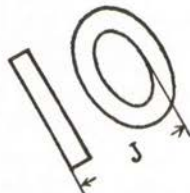


Fig. 6. Test J (Example)

Test K involves the distance from the top of a small numeral to the adjacent edge of the oval band (Fig. 7).



Fig. 7. Tests K and L (Examples)

Test L involves the distance from the lower edge of a small numeral to the adjacent edge of the oval band (Fig. 7).

The relation between the K and L figures discloses whether the location of the numeral is high, normal or low in the oval band.

The alinements, using alinement tool and loupe, are of two kinds, M and N.

Test M, the "notch test." The line of the alinement tool is run from the first notch from the tip of the right lower wing (wing 5) up to the right edge of the upper left wheel. The line must be directed toward the light source so as to show no sideways shadow when lifted slightly from the stamp. The end of the line should point very accurately to the notch without actually covering it. The line will then usually cut the small numeral in some manner characteristic of a type (Fig. 8).

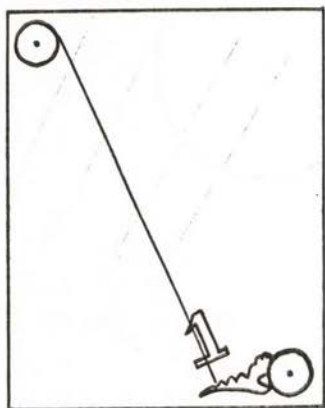


Fig. 8. "Notch test" M
(Example)

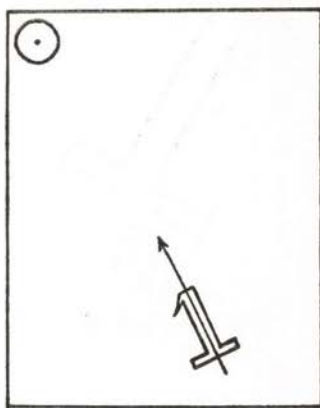


Fig. 9. "Numeral alinement test" N
(Exaggerated example)

Test N, the "numeral alinement test" (Fig. 9). The line is laid through the small numeral in some suitable manner specified for each issue, centrally whenever possible rather than along an edge. Examples of this are provided by the small numerals 1 in the 1 and 10 öre stamps, where the line is laid upwardly through the middle of the numeral with the same amount of white showing on both sides of the line. This must be done **very** accurately, since the extrapolation upward is considerable. The detail cut by the line in the upper part of the stamp is then recorded.

Alinements M and N are modifications, believed improvements, of a test described long ago by H. J. Schou.⁴

Tests A through N are "fingerprints," so to speak, which singly or in combination help to identify a stamp type.

1 ØRE — Norw. Cat. #22

There are 6 types in this issue. When the standard AB-measurements for the period position were made, it was found that the B-measurements varied very little, so they need not be made in work with this issue. The A-measurements were about 6 for types 1 and 6, a little below 7 for type 2, and about 8 for types 3, 4 and 5. We can therefore divide the stamps into two groups based on A-measurements, as follows:

Group A6-7: Types 1, 2 and 6.

Group A8: Types 3, 4 and 5.

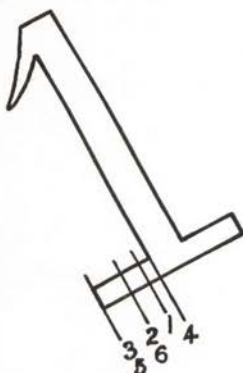


Fig. 10. Test M

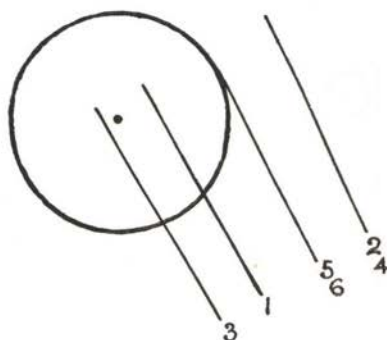


Fig. 11. Test N

Group A6-7

The line in the "notch test" M (Figs. 8 and 10) runs through the middle of the left foot serif of small numeral 1 in types 2 and 6, and a little closer to the stem of the numeral in type 1. These tests corroborate the A6-7 group, but are not good enough to separate the types. Type 2 can readily be sorted out, however, by its numeral leaning more to the right, whereby the angle at right between the stem and the foot serif becomes distinctly less than 90°. This leaves types 1 and 6 to be distinguished, which is done by careful measurement of the height of the numeral (test E), which is about 16 dmm in type 1 and slightly less, about 15 dmm in type 6.

"Numeral alinement test" N (Figs. 9 and 11) also helps in distinguishing the types. The line is laid carefully along the middle of the stem of the small numeral. The line cuts the upper left wheel a little to the right of the hub in type 1, at the right edge of the wheel in type 6, and well to the right of the wheel in type 2.

Group A8

In the "notch test" M (Figs. 8 and 10), the line cuts along the left side of the stem of the small numeral in type 4, and at the left end of the foot serif in types 3 and 5. Height of small numeral is about 16 in type 3, and 15 (or less) in type 5.

In "numeral alinement test" N (Figs. 9 and 11), the line cuts a trifle left of the hub of the wheel in type 3, at the right edge of the wheel in type 5, and well to the right of the wheel in type 4.

3 ØRE — Norw. Cat. #23

The rather pale appearance of these yellow orange stamps makes it quite difficult to study their details by ordinary light. A desk lamp with a dark blue (or green) bulb⁶ should be used, whereby the yellow orange of the stamps becomes much darker and more distinct to the eye, so as to facilitate measurements and other testing.

The methods for conducting the type identification tests summarized in the following table have been fully described and illustrated in the INTRODUCTION.

Type identification tests on 3 øre stamps

Test		Types											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
AB	Period position	$\overline{53}$	$\overline{63}$	63	$\overline{62}$	64	$\overline{63}$	$\overline{63}$	$\overline{64}$	$\overline{63}$	63	73	$\overline{63}$
C	Period to 3	14	14	14	13	15	13	14	15	12	13	13	14
F	Part height	15	13	14	16	15	14	15	15	15	14	15	15
G	Width	11	11	11	11	10	10	10	11	11	10	11	11
H	Opening	3	4	3	5	4	4	4	3	4	6	3	4
K	Above 3	4	4	5	4	4	4	5	5	4	4	5	4
L	Below 3	3	5	4	3	4	4	3	5	4	3	3	3
	Position of 3	Low	High	Normal	Low	Low	Normal	Low	Normal	Normal	Low	Low	Low
M	Upper ball	10	7	7	10	6	7	7	3	11	10	8	5
M	Lower ball	6	5	5	8	1	7	5	0	11	7	7	6

All measurements are in dmm as explained in the INTRODUCTION.

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 small 3.

F—Part height of 3, down from lower side of upper curve.

G—Width of lower part of 3.

H—Opening in 3.

K—Distance above 3 in the oval band.

L—Distance below 3 in the oval band.

M—"Notch test." Line cuts both upper and lower ball of 3, except in type 9, where it passes slightly to the right of the balls. For record purposes, each ball is considered divided "horizontally" into 10 parts, with zero at left edge of ball, and 10 at right edge of same.

Type 10 is readily identified by its unusual shape, note particularly test H. The small numerals in the other types are fairly alike, except for small variations in positions, size and tilt. In order to distinguish these types, it becomes necessary to conduct the various tests, comparing the results with the data in the table.

The "notch test" M is particularly valuable in pinning down the "horizontal" variation in the placement of the small 3, and the tilt (if any) of the numeral. Low numbers signify placements more to the right than do the higher numbers in the same line. The difference between the numbers in the two lines have some relation to the tilt (if any) of the small numeral.

The position of the small 3, whether high, normal or low, is of considerable value in deciding between similar types.

Comparisons should, of course, always be made with the available illustrations of the types.⁶

5 ØRE — Norw. Cat. #24

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.⁷ Another test⁷ 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). The 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 reengraved, 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 Handbook⁸ are also of some help in distinguishing between certain stamps of stages II and III.

Type identification tests on 5 øre stamps

Test		Types											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
AB	Period position	$\overline{6}3$	$\overline{7}2$	$\overline{6}2$	$\overline{6}2$	$\overline{7}2$	$\overline{7}2$	$\overline{6}2$	$\overline{7}2$	—	$\overline{6}2$	$\overline{6}2$	$\overline{6}2$
C	Period to 5	$\overline{1}3$	13	$\overline{1}5$	$\overline{1}4$	14	$\overline{1}5$	15	14	—	$\overline{1}3$	$\overline{1}3$	12
D	M to 5	$\overline{1}7$	18	18	18	$\overline{1}8$	$\overline{2}0$	19	19	18	$\overline{1}8$	$\overline{1}8$	$\overline{1}6$
F	Part height	$\overline{1}3$	13	$\overline{1}3$	$\overline{1}5$	13	$\overline{1}4$	$\overline{1}3$	13	13	$\overline{1}3$	$\overline{1}3$	$\overline{1}3$
I	Flag	8	$\overline{8}$	$\overline{8}$	$\overline{8}$	$\overline{8}$	9	$\overline{8}$	$\overline{7}$	8	$\overline{8}$	8	8
K	Above 5	6	6	6	5	$\overline{5}$	5	4	$\overline{5}$	$\overline{5}$	5	5	$\overline{4}$
L	Below 5	3	4	$\overline{4}$	$\overline{3}$	$\overline{5}$	4	$\overline{3}$	$\overline{5}$	$\overline{5}$	$\overline{3}$	5	$\overline{4}$
	Position of 5	Low	Low	Low	Low	Normal	$\overline{5}$ Low	$\overline{5}$ 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 the INTRODUCTION.

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. (See also type 9).

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. (See also type 2).

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.^b

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 reengraving 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 alinement tool passing upwardly 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.⁹

10 ØRE — Norw. Cat. #25

The 10 øre shaded posthorn stamps, Norw. Cat. #25, were printed in three stages:

- #25I, first printing period, in 1876, paper with vertical watermark Posthorn I.
- #25II, second printing period, in 1876, paper with horizontal watermark Posthorn I.
- #25III, additional printing, in 1877, paper with horizontal watermark Posthorn I, reengraved clichés.

The color of the stamps varies considerably in shades of carmine and rose.

The collector's first step in dealing with these 10 øre stamps will obviously be a test for vertical or horizontal watermark, as in the case of the 5 øre stamps. When occasionally the watermark is difficult to see, recourse must be had to the indirect determination by testing for fiber direction as explained in the above section on 5 øre. The normal stamps of #25I and II have a more or less clear white engraving line below the posthorn and above the right part of same. To qualify for #25III the engraving must be considerably more extensive, usually above the shaded field, under the crown, and in the posthorn, particularly up under the bell, etc.

The engraving types may be separated into two broad groups based on the off-hand appearance of the small 10:

Group X: The small zero is narrow and/or short (see illustrations in Norw. cat.).

Types 1, 2, 3, 4, 10.

Group Y: The small zero is wider and rounder than in the types of Group X.

Types 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12.

The small figures have, however, been engraved with such skill that it is somewhat difficult to distinguish positively some of the types within each group. Two additional tests, O and P, are therefore introduced here to aid in the separation of types.



Fig. 12. Test O

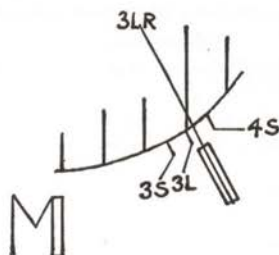


Fig. 13. Test P

Test O involves the distance, at its narrowest, between left contour of right part of the small zero and the left contour of Ø (Fig. 12).

Test P involves the intersection of the upwardly prolonged center line of the small figure 1 with the lower part of the third vertical shading line right of M, or with the third or fourth space adjoining that line (Fig. 13).

Type identification tests on 10 øre stamps

Test		Types											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
AB	Period position	6̄2̄	5̄2̄	5̄2̄	6̄2̄	6̄3̄	6̄3̄	6̄2̄	6̄2̄	6̄3̄	5̄4̄	6̄2̄	5̄2̄
C	Period to 1	9̄	10̄	11̄	10̄	11̄	11̄	11̄	10̄	10̄	12̄	11̄	11̄
F	Part height 0	12̄	12̄	12̄	12̄	13̄	13̄	13̄	14̄	13̄	12̄	13̄	13̄
G	Part width 0	7̄	7̄	7̄	7̄	8̄	9̄	8̄	8̄	8̄	7̄	8̄	9̄
J	Part width 10	14̄	14̄	13̄	14̄	15̄	16̄	14̄	15̄	15̄	13̄	15̄	15̄
M	Notch test	9̄	7̄	8̄	9̄	6̄	7̄	6̄	9̄	5̄	6̄	6̄	6̄
N	Alinement 1	N5	N6	N5	N5	N3	N3	N5	N5	N1	N6	N5	N5
O	O to Ø	12̄	12̄	12̄	12̄	10̄	10̄	10̄	11̄	10̄	11̄	10̄	10̄
P	Alinement 1	3S	3L	3LR	3L	3LR	3L	3LR	3L	3LR	4S	3LR	3LR

All measurements are in dmm as explained before.

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

AB—Period position.

C—Left side of period to left side of foot of small figure 1.

F—Part height of small zero, down from lower side of the upper part, to the lowest contour of the zero.

G—Modified to part width, between the left contours of the left and right parts of the zero.

J—Left contour of figure 1 to left contour of right part of zero.

M—Notch test. Space between right side of 1 and left side of 0 divided into 10 parts from left to right, for the record.

N—Numerical 1 alinement test. Diagonal line of N in NORGE is divided into 10 parts from upper to lower corners, for the record.

O—Left contours zero to Ø as in Fig. 12.

P—Center line of small 1 intersecting into shaded field as in Fig. 13. The

following symbols have been recorded in the table for test P:

Symbol	Explanation	Occurs in types
3L	To lower end of third line right of M.	2, 4, 6, 8
3LR	Slightly to the right of lower end of third line.	3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12
3S	About centrally into lower part of third space (left of the line).	1
4S	About centrally into lower part of fourth space (right of the line).	10

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

Type 8—Usually a more or less distinct about 1 mm long rounded dent on outside of outer frame, below middle of wing 5.

Type 9—The white engraving line under the horn is broken by color in several places, particularly by a color spot merging into the shading line above the right leg of M. A similar smaller color spot is frequently seen in types 5 and 7, and occasionally in other types, but in those cases the engraving line is broken only at the color spot. The period in type 9 is usually very small and is occasionally covered by color (so-called "variant" no period).

The general procedure for determining types in these 10 øre stamps will first involve watermarking and then a preliminary sorting of the stamps available into groups X and Y as described above. The appearance of the small 10 will then usually suggest one or several likely types for consideration within each group. In group X the small zero thus appears taller and flatter in type 2 than in types 1, 3 and 4, and type 10 can be spotted immediately by the very high period. In group Y type 6 has the widest zero, 7 and 8 the narrowest. Type 8 has a fairly reliable dent in the lower frameline. Type 9 has the pronounced color spot (but check for 5 and 7), and in type 11 the small figure 1 extends too far down (more so than on certain other types). When a tentative choice of likely types has been made, the more promising tests shown in the table are then made for final positive identifications.

The slant of the small figure 1 is important in preventing errors. As soon as a reasonable number of types have been identified positively for one's master type collection, it is well to put later stamps on top of the typed stamps in such a way as to line up the direction of the small figures 1. If after careful alinement of the figures 1 the bottom frames of the stamps are not parallel, the stamps cannot be of the same type. This test is a valuable corroboration in connection with test P and the more difficult (less reliable) test N. Comparisons should, of course, always be made with the available illustrations of the types.¹⁰

It will be realized that these 10 øre stamps are, on occasion, quite difficult to type. The serious collector, who is not satisfied with guesswork, must therefore be willing to do the necessary careful testing for positive type identifications.

Norw. Cat. #36I, 10 øre shaded posthorn, has a differently shaped upstroke on the large 1 in figure 10 (see Norw. cat.) and is therefore easy to distinguish from #25.

12 ØRE — Norw. Cat. #26

The 12 øre shaded posthorn stamps, Norw. Cat. #26, were printed on paper with vertical watermark Posthorn I. The color of the stamps is a yellow green in a moderate range of shades. There are 6 engraving types, which can be distinguished readily by visual comparison of the stamps with the available illustrations¹¹ in conjunction with the control tests summarized in the following table.

Type identification tests on 12 øre stamps

Test		Types					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
AB	Period position	5 $\bar{2}$	6 $\bar{2}$	6 $\bar{3}$	6 $\bar{3}$	5 $\bar{2}$	6 $\bar{4}$
H	Opening	2	4	3	4	3	4
I	Foot of 2	10	10	11	9	10	11
M	Notch test	7	2	5	5	6	5
P	Alinement 1	3L	4S	4S	3L	4S	4S

All measurements are in dmm as described before.

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

AB—Period position.

H—Opening in 2.

I—Length of foot of 2.

M—Notch test. The space between 1 and upper part of 2, at its narrowest, is divided into 10 parts from left to right, for estimating positions of the alinement line.

P—Center line of small 1, extended upwards, intersecting into shaded field as in Fig. 13.

The illustrations of type 4 usually show a too short small figure 1 due to a printing accident.

The following secondary type characteristics are more or less constant:

Type 1—A slight rounding of the lower right corner.

Type 2—A break in inner frameline outside the middle of wing 3 (see Norw. Cat. for wing numbering).

20 ØRE — Norw. Cat. #27

The 20 øre shaded posthorn stamps, Norw. Cat. #27, were printed on paper with vertical watermark Posthorn I. The color of the stamps is brown in a moderate range of shades from red brown to orange brown. There are 12 engraving types, some of which are rather difficult to distinguish by inspection alone. Very careful AB measurements for period positions on these stamps should first be made, and the position of the small zero, whether normal, low or slightly low in the oval band, should then be estimated, so that a preliminary sorting of the stamps into likely types can be done. The following more or less constant type characteristics and other observations will be helpful in this sorting operation:

Type 3—The foot of the small figure 2 extends toward the right somewhat beyond the notch in the adjacent wing.

Type 4—Close period, top of 2 is broad.

Type 5—Tiny break in inner frameline below lower right wheel.

Type 7—Close period, almost rectangular zero.

Type 8—Large, low period.

Type 9—The zero leans more strongly to the left than in the other types.

Type 12—Frequently a small color spot between second and third lines below large colorless part in the bell of the horn.

The other tests summarized in the following table should then be made for final type determinations.

Type identification tests on 20 øre stamps

Test		Types											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
AB	Period position	5̄2̄	5̄3̄	5̄3̄	4̄2̄	5̄2̄	5̄2̄	4̄2̄	6̄2̄	5̄2̄	5̄3̄	5̄2̄	5̄3̄
C	Period to 2	7	7-8	8	8	9̄	8̄	8	9̄	8	8̄	8̄	8̄
K	Above 0	6̄	6̄	5̄	5̄	5̄	5	5	6	5	5	5̄	5̄
L	Below 0	5̄	5	5̄	5	5	5	4̄	4̄	4̄	5	4	5̄
	Position 0	Sl. Low	Sl. Low	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Low	Low	Sl. Low	Normal	Low	Sl. Low
N	Alinement 2	See Fig. 14											

All measurements are in dmm as before.

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

AB—Period position.

C—Left side of period to left side of lower part of 2.

K—Above the zero in oval band.

L—Below the zero in oval band.

Position of 0—Whether normal or low in the oval band.

N—Alinement upward of the center-line of the straight or nearly straight part (lower half) of the downstroke of small figure 2, to positions shown in Fig. 14.

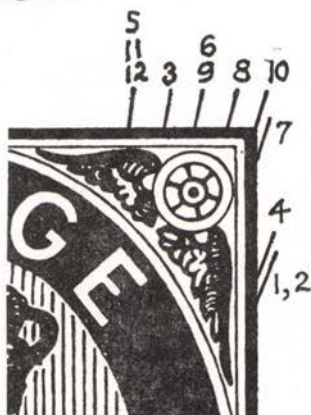


Fig. 14. Test N

Comparisons should, of course, always be made with available type illus-

trations.¹² Attention should be given, in these comparisons, to the general slant of the small figures, which varies from type to type, and to the width and shape of the upper part of the 2, which sometimes has a characteristic curl. The illustrations for type 2 usually show a more blunt lower left point and thus a shorter footstroke, than in the stamps of that type.

25 ØRE — Norw. Cat. #28

The color of this stamp, usually referred to as dull violet or lilac, is almost certainly due to the first aniline dye, Perkin's mauve,¹³ discovered in 1856. This dye, like other early aniline dyes, fades badly on exposure to light. The 25 øre stamps are therefore usually found in a more or less faded condition with poor color contrast in the design. Unfortunately, I know of no commonly available color filter or lamp suitable for increasing the contrast to permit more convenient examination of these stamps for typing.

In my initial study of this stamp, I found that the early literature¹⁴ unfortunately differed, in regard to the numbering and description of the types, from the present Norwegian catalog and Handbook.¹⁵ According to the Handbook, however, an imperforate proof sheet (except top left 4-block) with known distribution of the original types exists in the Postmuseum in Oslo. At my request, the Postmuseum generously consented to have the sheet photographed, and the work was performed at Emil Moestue A/S with remarkable success, notwithstanding the pale color and otherwise poor condition of the proof sheet. Study of the photographic print has verified that the sequence of the 6 types in the present Norwegian catalog and the Handbook¹⁵ is essentially correct. It was also possible to develop, from the print, the necessary measurements for the purpose of distinguishing the types.

Type identification tests on 25 øre stamps

Test		Types					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
AB	Period position	5̄2̄	5̄2̄	5̄2̄	53	5̄2̄	6̄2̄
C	Period to 2	9̄	8̄	7̄	9	8̄	7̄
F(2)	Part height 2	13	13	14̄	12̄	15̄	13
F(5)	Part height 5	14̄	13̄	15̄	13̄	15̄	13
G(5)	Part width 5	8	8̄	9̄	8	8	7̄
J	Part width 25	14	15	15	13̄	14̄	15̄

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 foot of small 2.

F(2)—Part height of small 2, down from lower side of top of 2 to middle of

lower side of foot of same.

F(5)—Part height of small 5, down from middle of lower side of flag to lowest contour of the numeral.

G(5)Part width of small 5, from left side of ball to left contour of right curve, in the direction of the oval band.

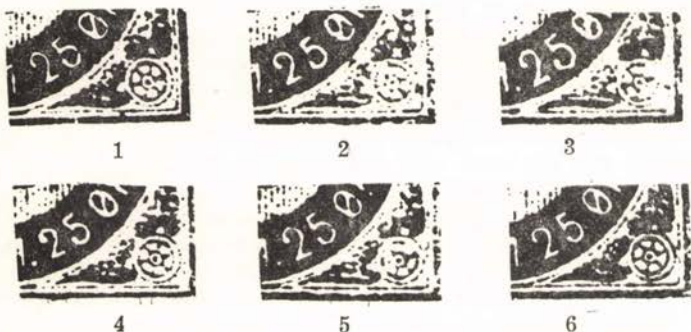
J—Left side of upper part of 2 to left side of upper part of 5.

One should first measure **F(5)** to divide the stamps into two groups of types:

F(5)=ab. 14-15=Group X=Types 1, 3 and 5.

F(5)=ab. 13=Group Y=Types 2, 4 and 6.

In group X continue with C, F(2) and G(5) to separate the types, and in group Y continue with AB and J. Finally verify the indicated types by the other measurements listed and by careful comparison with the type illustrations shown below, which have been derived from the photographic copy of the Postmuseum proof sheet:



There is very little variation in the position of the period relative to M in the various types. However, the period is about midway between M and 2 in type 6, and further from 2 in all other types. In types 3 and 5 the foot-stroke of the 2 usually points to below the period. The upper part of the small 2 varies in its form of curvature, degree of ball formation and approach to the stem of that numeral. The downstroke of the small 5 in type 4 has an awkward direction, so as to give the numeral a peculiar appearance. In type 5 the lower end of the small 5 is in line with the straight downstroke, while in type 3 the lower end forms a ball distinctly left of the downstroke direction. Small apparent variations from the forms illustrated will occasionally be encountered due mostly to accidental variation in inking.

I have not noted any dependable secondary (in other parts of design) characteristics of the various types.

The Postmuseum proof sheet is said to have been found many years ago by Dr. J. Anderssen during his review of the Norwegian Postal Department files, and presumably he then discovered the 6 types, and their apparent distributed in this badly bleached sheet, as now tabulated in the Handbook.¹⁵ Working with the much more contrasty photographic copy, I have verified this type distribution, with the exception of the following positions in the sheet:

- Position 4, type should be 3
- Position 32, type should be 2
- Position 59, type should be 3
- Position 65, type should be 4
- Position 68, type should be 4
- Position 100, type should be 4

35 ØRE — Norw. Cat. #29

The 35 øre shaded posthorn stamps, Norw. Cat. #29, were printed on paper with horizontal watermark, Posthorn I. The color of the stamps usually varies from blue green to dark blue green, but a very small proportion of the stamps are of a very light sea-green color. There are 6 engraving types somewhat difficult to distinguish by visual examination alone, but readily determined by the tests outlined in the following table:

Type identification tests on 35 øre stamps

Test		Types					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
B	Period position	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{2}$	3	$\bar{2}$	$\underline{2}$
C	Period to 3	6	$\bar{7}$	$\bar{7}$	$\bar{7}$	7	8
H	Opening in 3	$\bar{6}$	$\bar{7}$	$\bar{7}$	$\bar{6}$	5	7
O	5 to Ø	11	11	10	10	10	10
Pos.3	Position of 3	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low

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

B—Period position, vertical measurement only (since A measurements show very little variation).

C—Left side of period to left side of lower end of 3.

H—Opening between ends of 3.

O—Left contour of curve in 5 to left contour of Ø at the shortest distance.

Pos. 2—Position of 3, whether high or low in the oval band, as determined, if necessary, by K and L. measurements.

All measurements are in dmm as before.

Make the O measurements first, to divide into two groups of types:

O=about 11=Group X=Types 1 and 2, then separate by test C.

O=about 10=Group Y=Types 3, 4, 5 and 6, then separate by:

Type 3—3 is high

Type 4—test B

Type 5—test H

Type 6—left over, and 3 is low.

The following may also be helpful in verifying types:

Type 1—Shows a characteristic lump at upper left of 3.

Type 2—Fairly normal shape of 3, and long, rather straight flag on 5.

Type 3—The 3 appears top-heavy.

Types 4, 5, 6 and 1—Top part of 3 is smaller than lower part.

Type 5—Middle point in 3 protrudes less than on the other types.

Type 6—Upper part of 3 is much smaller than lower part, and the flag on 5 is usually rather long.

Comparisons should, of course, always be made with available type illustrations.¹⁶ Certain (early) articles show the types in a different order.¹⁶

50 ØRE — Norw. Cat. #30

The 50 øre shaded posthorn stamps, Norw. Cat. #30, were printed on paper with vertical watermark, Posthorn I. The color of the stamps varies in shades of red-brown. There are 6 engraving types, most of them difficult to distinguish visually, but separable by the tests outlined in the following table:

Type identification tests on 50 øre stamps

Test		Types					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
AB	Period position	$\underline{6}3$	$5\bar{2}$	$\underline{6}\bar{2}$	$6\bar{3}$	$\bar{5}\bar{2}$	$6\bar{2}$
D	M to 5	$1\bar{2}$	11	12	11	$1\bar{2}$	12
O	O to Ø	10	10	10	10	$\bar{9}$	10
Pos. 0	Position of 0	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Low	Low

All measurements are in dmm as before.

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

AB—Period position.

D—From left side of right leg of M horizontally to left side of ball of 5.

O—From left contour of the right part of O to left side of Ø at the shortest distance.

Pos. 0—Position of 0 (zero), whether normal or low in the oval band, as determined, if necessary, by K and L measurements.

Fortunately, some of the types exhibit certain characteristics helpful in the type determination work, as follows:

Type 1—I have discovered an apparently constant flaw, in other words a matrix flaw, consisting of a tiny break in the inner frame in line with the upper right spoke of the lower right wheel. The small 5 is poorly formed.

Type 2—has a weak engraving line, matrix flaw, up into the bell of the horn. I have also seen such an engraving line on a few type 6 stamps, and proper control tests are therefore in order.

Type 3—The outer frame is usually, but not always, dented in lower left corner.

Type 6—The straight downstroke in small 5 leans more strongly to the left than in the other types. The downstroke is almost out of line with the ball of that numeral, more so than in type 4.

Make the D measurements first, to divide into two groups of types:

D=about 11—Group X—Types 2 and 4, then separate by AB and type 2, matrix flaw.

D=about 12—Group Y—Types 1, 3, 5 and 6, then separate by:

Type 1—matrix flaw.

Type 3—matrix flaw (usually)

Type 5—test O

Type 6—test O, and zero is low.

Comparisons should, of course, always be made with available type illustrations.¹⁷

60 ØRE — Norw. Cat. #31

The 60 øre shaded posthorn stamps, Norw. Cat. #31, were printed on paper with horizontal watermark, Posthorn I. The color of the stamps usually varies from blue to dark blue, but a very small proportion of the stamps are of a decidedly light blue color. There are 6 engraving types somewhat difficult to distinguish by visual examination alone, but readily separated by the tests outlined in the following table:

Type identification tests on 60 øre stamps

Test		Types					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
AB	Period position	7 $\bar{2}$	$\underline{6\bar{2}}$	$\bar{6}\bar{2}$	$\bar{6}\underline{3}$	$\underline{63}$	$\underline{52}$
C	Period to 6	8	8	$\bar{6}$	$\underline{8}$	$\underline{8}$	8
F(6)	Height of 6	12	14	$\bar{13}$	$\underline{14}$	13	13
F(0)	Height of 0	$\bar{12}$	$\bar{13}$	$\bar{12}$	$\bar{12}$	$\bar{12}$	$\underline{13}$
O	O to Ø	10	10	$\bar{10}$	$\underline{10}$	$\bar{11}$	$\bar{11}$

All measurements are in dmm as before.

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

AB—Period position.

C—From left side of period to left side of small 6 at the shortest distance.

F(6)—Part height of small 6, from the lower side of its upper curve to the lowest contour of the numeral at the greatest distance.

F(0)—Part height of small zero, down from lower side of the upper part, to the lowest contour of the zero.

O—From left contour of the right part of O to left side of Ø at the shortest distance.

The print is usually very clear, and there does not seem to be any secondary characteristics suitable for separation of the types.

Make the O measurements first, to divide into two groups of types:

O=about 10—Group X—Types 1, 2, 3 and 4, then separate by:

Type 1—test F(6)

Type 3—test C

Types 2 and 4—test F(0)

O=about 11—Group Y—Types 5 and 6, then separate by AB.

Comparisons should, of course, always be made with available type illustrations.¹⁸

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