

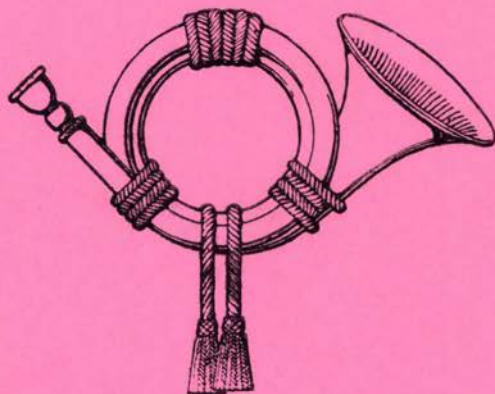
Vol. 37, No. 1, Whole No. 141, February 1980

The  
POSTHORN

TM

(USPS 603680, ISSN 0551-6317)

**"The Bank of Scandinavian Philatelic Knowledge"**



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB

Affiliate 79, American Philatelic Society; Br. 88469, Society of Philatelic Americans

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# Finland: Cover of the Month

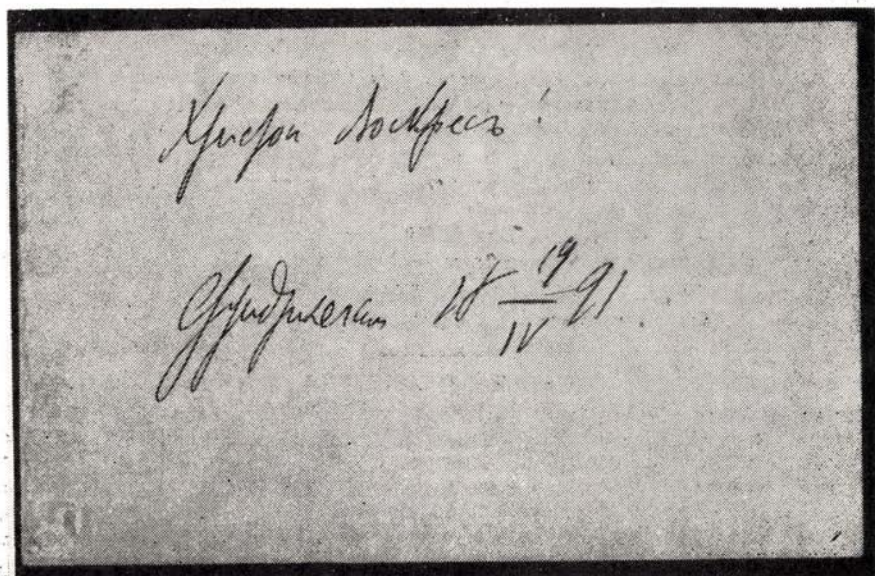
An 1891 First Day Cover?

By Ed Fraser #954



Front of Cover.

Addressed to St. Petersburg, and received there on 20 April 1891 (2 May 1891)



Back. Message: "Christ has arisen! Fredrikshamn 19 April 1891" (1 May 1891)

In 1890, Russia directed that a further Russification of the Finnish postal and currency system was to take place. On May 1, 1891, the stamps of identical design to those used in Russia, but with rings added to the design, were to go on sale. (Note 1.) The rings were to distinguish the stamps for postal accounting purposes. Beginning on January 1, 1892, this Russian-design postage was to be required on mail sent to Russia. (Mail routed thru Russia was not affected, however.)

As the Russification was unpopular, and probably few stamp collectors thought about "first day" usage as early as 1891, the use of the new Finnish 3 kopeck card is unusual. Three kopecks was the correct rate for a card carried within Finland or sent to Russia. The rate for cards sent to other countries was 4 kopecks.

The card shown was apparently sent as an Easter greeting—a common practice for the Russian Orthodox Easter. The message reads simply:

"Christ has arisen!  
Fredrikshamn 19 April 1891"

It is interesting that the writer wrote in Russian and used the Russian (Julian) date. Note that 19 April plus 12 days gives the Gregorian 1 May.

Affiliate 79, A. P. S.

Branch 88469, S.P.A.

## THE POSTHORN

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Joe F. Frye, P. O. Box 22308, Memphis, Tenn. 38122

to whom all material and communications concerning The Posthorn, except  
address changes and advertising, should be sent.

(Associate editors and Officers listed on last page)

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This agrees with the Finnish double-ring cancel of Fredrikshamn 1 May 1891. The receipt of the postcard in St. Petersburg on 20 April, or 2 May, is also acceptable as one-day delivery is not unusual in this period.

I have selected this postcard in hope a reader might let me know anything additional about other material cancelled on May 1, 1891 (a Friday). Does any reader recognize the sender or the addressee, possibly from other covers they may have seen? Is there anything questionable about it? Ed Fraser, 60 Broad Street, 26th Floor, New York, New York, N. Y. 10004.

\* \* \*

Footnote: (1). There is apparently a misprint in C. Pelander's "The Postal Issues of Finland" copyright 1940, page 22, which gives 14 January, 1891, as the date the "ring stamps" first went on sale in Helsinki. "Suomen Postimerkkien Kasikirja" Volume 5, page 120, as translated by Kauko Aro, reads "Part 1—Cards with rings—1891 . . . All ring-type entires were issued at the same time as the stamps, namely May 1, 1891." Does any reader know if they were available before May 1st?

\* S \* C \* C \*

## Chapter News

### Chapter 2 — Philadelphia

The October meeting featured the slide program "Scandinavian Airmails," furnished by Chapter 13, which gives a nice introduction to the airmail stamps of these countries. The November meeting featured Vic Engstrom's DWI-I program on early DWI philately and the British P. O. in St. Thomas, borrowed from the SCC Library.

### Chapter 17

Chapter 17 in Los Angeles had a very successful mail auction in November, 1979. Well over \$2000 in sales were reported. Luren, the chapter's monthly newsletter, issued a supplement with its December issue, which is an index of eleven years of Luren. The index, compiled by Bob Gross of Florida, is available from P. O. Box 57397, Los Angeles, CA 90057, for \$1, postpaid in the USA and Canada; \$2 overseas.

A Christmas party was held at the well-known Scandinavian restaurant, Peng Yuan, and a great time was had by all. Eric Roberts, chapter president, invites all visitors to Southern California to attend a meeting. Meetings are first Wednesday evenings and third Saturday afternoons each month at the Hollywood Congregational Church, 7065 Hollywood Boulevard.

### Chapter 21

After two months of searching, Chapter 21 has a new meeting place—thanks to Col. John Ericksen. We will now be in the other Salvation Army Building, 810 Clay St., Oakland, CA on the second Thursday evening of the month. Please call President Jerry Moore at 415-470-6231 for our latest plans if you are coming to visit us.

In November, we met at SUNPEX, Sunnyvale, CA and welcomed guest Tom Komnaes who showed us slides of early Norwegian covers and explained the postal rates. Tom will be exhibiting at NORWEX this year. Our December meeting was a Christmas party hosted by Tom and Jean Olson which was enjoyed by all who attended. The January meeting featured the SCC slide show, "Danish Wavy Lines" and a clothesline exhibit of members' interests.

Officers for 1980 are: President, Jerry Moore; Vice-President and Mart Books, Rene Reboh; Treasurer, Helmer Nielsen; Secretary, Barbara LeBlanc and SCC Representative, Tom Olson. Come and see us.

## Faeroes Revenue Stamps

By Paul Nelson



During September, I had the lucky opportunity to meet with Mr. Martin Erler, of Munich, Germany, who was visiting with Gerald M. Abrams of the American Revenue Association in Gerry's home in Claremont, California. By a coincidence Mr. Erler had just sent to the ARA mart book manager (Abrams) a book containing the illustrated stamp, and we had a short conversation about that stamp. Erler is a prolific cataloger of the revenue stamps of Germany, Austria, and Czechoslovakia, and has accumulations of revenues from other areas.

By predesign, then, he sent me photocopies of other denominations of these stamps from his collection, together with a photocopy of a full document bearing some of these items.

The document is an "Innflutningsloyvi," which I take to be an import license; the tax, computed at 1% of the invoice price for two tractors from Denmark, amounts to 1073.50 Danish kroner. The date of the document, from the Valuta- og Prisrad Føroya, in Torshavn, is 31 juli 1962, and there is also a handwritten note including the date 28/2-63 at the bottom. The stamps include a 500 kr, a 50 kr, two 10 kr, a 2 kr, a 1 kr, and a 50 oyr (the Faeroese form of øre). They are cancelled by an oval containing FØROYA GJALDSTOVA, in two lines; the color is not noted on the photocopy.

The basic design of the stamp, bearing a ram's head (The Faeroes means "The Sheep Islands") is in purple, and the denomination is apparently entered

in a second operation. There was probably more than one printing; the 50 øre value occurs spelled øre, the Danish form, and oyr, the Faeroese form. Several of the denominations occur with different-colored numerals. See the table.

**Table One**—Details of the Faeroese revenues in Erler's collection

Denomination	Color of the numeral in the denomination	
	on document dated 1963	on other, loose stamps
50 øre	—	black
50 Oyr	black	black
1 kr	black	red
2 kr	black	red
5 kr	—	red
10 kr	black	red
50 kr	red	red
100 kr	—	red
500 kr	black	—

Most of the loose stamps are cancelled by a straightline, purple, VALUTAMIDSTØDIN cancel, as the illustration partially shows.

The stamps were probably printed in Denmark, since they are the same size, on the same wavy line watermarked paper, and have the same 11½ perforations as do contemporary Danish turnover tax and import license stamps.

These are the first Faeroese revenues I have seen or heard of. None of Wowners catalogs discusses them. I am interested in communicating with anyone who can tell me more about these revenues and/or others from The Faeroes or elsewhere in Scandinavia. Please write to P. O. Box 57397, Los Angeles, CA 90057, with details or questions.

\* S \* C \* C \*

### SWEDISH U. N. BATTALION POSTMARK

By Gerald H. Grosso

Efforts of member James Burgeson to add postmarks of the Swedish Battalion in Lebanon to his collection were almost thwarted.

In March, 1978, Burgeson sent three addressed envelopes to the attention of the postal clerk of the Swedish Battalion of the U. N. Interim Force in Lebanon, with cash to cover the cost of stamps, and a request that the covers be franked and mailed back to him.

The field postmaster, E. S. Collin, returned the covers and cash with a letter stating the U. N. regulations covering such requests:

"Philatelic services: Under no circumstances will U. N. personnel provide philatelists or stamp collectors with information of a philatelic nature nor will they postmark any article with a philatelic request. Personnel of the U. N. will not prepare or mail envelopes or cards for purpose of providing stamp collectors or philatelists with samples of the U. N. postmark."

Though Burgeson was disappointed by this response, the day was not entirely lost!

The envelope containing the response from Field Postmaster Collin and Burgeson's returned items carried the desired postal marking! It is in a rectangular frame with text:

"Svenska FN-bataljonen Mellersta Östern—7 (illegible) 1978 Fältpostmästaren."

Field Postmaster Collin complied totally with the applicable regulations, which seem designed to allow the U. N. forces to use their time entirely for necessary business.

## Finland's 1860 Rouletted Stamps

By M. E. Hvidonov

Finland's first rouletted stamp issues were released for postal use in 1860 although some had already been printed at the beginning of 1859.

The stamp values were 5 kopeck, printed with blue ink on blue-toned paper, and the 10 kopeck, printed with red ink on pink-toned paper. Colored paper was selected to thwart people from cutting the printed impressions out of Postal Stationery and re-using the clippings for stamps. Since Postal Stationery cuttings were essentially white, the best answer appeared to be the use of a toned paper. This was necessary because frequently postmasters did not apply cancellations directly on the printed denomination of the stationery when cancelling. The town, and sometimes ink, cancels were placed on the envelope so that the printed impression might be used again. Then, too, the same cliches used for stamps were employed for the printing of the stationery by attaching a handle, to a cliché and hand-impressing the image . . . thus "colored paper" became postal law.

It follows that when something is newly introduced, rare, if not unique, items are born to whet the collecting appetites of philatelists—decades later.

This is how the first color emission of the 5 k. Roulette I, blue, became an item of distinctive rarity. Apparently the then slow communication of the postal government prompted the postmaster to affix the newly received 5 k. stamps to existing 5 k. ovalmark stationery to make the correct rate for normal weight/distance letters: 10 k. Seemingly a case of "cold feet" developed concerning the propriety of such presumptive action, engendering a fear of selling these "pre-postaged" pieces. Archive records indicate that 176 such items were sold (and almost assuredly used) but none are known to exist at the present time. The balance were burned.

The two fine Finnish catalogues Norma and Lape (the latter in Finnish/



Fig. 1. Rare cover with a flawless pair of 5 k. stamps, roulette I. Norma: 3f.



Swedish) differ on the pricing of single stamps of the first printing. *Norma* lists an unused stamp at 3000 Marks (about \$800.00) and a cancelled flawless stamp at 1500 Marks (about \$400.00).

*Lape* offers no guide line for "unused," but suggests that a value of about \$800.00 is correct for a very fine cancelled stamp.

*Lape* is a bit more realistic in this case and I wonder where the "hammer would come down," if one of these stamps, properly certified, were to be offered in a major auction attended by knowledgeable buyers. Perhaps many times catalog price.

According to Mikko Ossa, there are 3 items of the 1860 emissions that are rare and very desirable. The first, of course, is the printing just described. The second is the 5 k., Roulette I, light blue, *Norma*: 3f, on letter. The third is the next to last printing of the 10 k. value, on "hard, white paper." This is the carmine red color, *Norma* B1d, which is now very difficult to find on cover.

Figure 1 shows a rare letter with a flawless pair of 5 k. roulette I stamps, bearing a single-ring, black, WIBORG cancel, dated 31.12.1865.

Other interesting and choice items are those letters described as "church mail." They are folded in a kind of triangular shape (Fig. 2) and denote mail that was to be delivered to, or going from church to church. The letter shown is simply addressed, "Kungörelse till Kuopio Kyrka," which means, "Announcement to Kuopio Church."

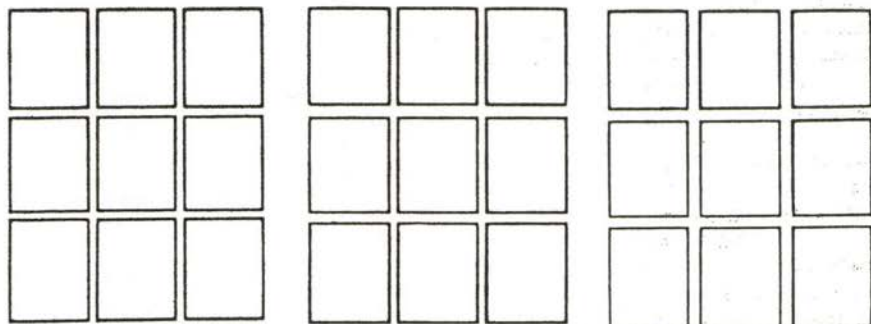
#### The Mixed Distance Cliche Stamps

The collector and specialist must concentrate on the 5 and 10 k. stamps of the so-called "mixed distance cliches."

Three drawing diagrams show the different spacings between the cliches



Fig. 2. A "church" letter folded into the typical triangle-like shape of this era.



- Fig. 3. (a) (b) (c)
- a) The 5 and 10 kop. stamps printed in the 1859-1862 period are separated in the printing form by 1.6mms both vertically and horizontally.
- b) 5 and 10 kop. stamps printed during the first quarter of 1864 are separated by 2.3mm horizontally and only 1.6mm vertically. This is a most important main type.
- c) 5 and 10 kop. stamps printed during the third quarter of 1864 and into part of 1865 are separated by 2.3mms both vertically and horizontally. All of this group are Rouletted II.

for the different emissions.

(Fig. 3—a.) All 5 and 10 k. stamps produced between the years 1859 and 1862 are roulette I and the space between rows of stamps both vertically and horizontally is 1.6mm.

There were no 5 or 10 kopeck stamps printed in 1863.

(Fig. 3—b.) During the first quarter of 1864 all 5 and 10 k. stamps were printed in a form in which the separations between the stamps varied: horizontal spacing 2.3mm, vertical 1.6mm. This difference created an important main type which should not be missing from a comprehensive collection.

(Fig. 3—c.) During the third quarter of 1864 and into 1865 the cliches were 2.3mm apart in all directions. All stamps of this group are roulette II.

While the illustrated spacing is obvious as here shown, it can be difficult to determine the "mixed cliche" types in actual practise.

Two situations contribute to the problem.

First, the forms were not always locked up squarely. Second, and largest factor was the primitive method of using a tool called a rouletter which had to be impressed by hand to create the "teeth" which would allow the stamps to be torn apart at the postoffice. Moreover, the "straight edge" used to guide the tool was a slot in the center of a metal type of rule. Considering that the newly-hired man had to learn the knack of this operation by trial and error and have a strong untiring hand, it is a small wonder that there are any perfectly-centered stamps with flawless teeth!

If the framelines of the adjacent stamps can be seen it can usually be easy to measure 1.6x2.3mm. If there are no adjacent lines to guide the measuring, legible dates are the answer. According to Leo Linder, all cancellations dated between March 26 and Sept. 5, 1864 belong to the ALK (mixed distance group).

If there is no legible date one has to be familiar with the appearance of the stamp detail and the different printing colors. There is no other way.

I have seen stamps incorrectly relegated to the group under discussion because of poor north and south centering even though the dates were quite

incorrect and the colors belonged to the other emissions. The collector must be thorough and careful.

Here again my files tell me that there weren't many of these main types offered in 1979. As a matter of record, a 5 k. TTP, **Norma** ALK a, with a superb cancellation, SALO 1.12.64, sold in a Sept., '79 Helsinki auction for \$873! The minimum price was about \$200. Somebody really wanted this.

It is well for the general collector to have just a few examples but the specialist requires as many of the color printings that exist and, if at all possible, postal pieces. Letters with these gems on them must be "hidden under stones" in recent times!

Another "tip": The 10 k. 2.3x1.6mm last color, **Norma**: ALKc, clear carmine rose, is rare. I recently obtained a lovely example, after 10 years of search. Often people say, "If I had a lot of money, I too would have a great collection." This is too often a "sour grape" comment. There is much room for the collector who learns the true philately and builds around such effort. If you enjoy philately, it is not so necessary to win a big Gold international. As a matter of fact some unworthy collections receive top medals and some good philatelic displays receive lesser awards. We can only work with money available and if we do not have a preponderance of lucre, we must beat them with class.

(Fig. 4.) A rare and interesting letter bearing a 5 k. "mixed distance" stamp ALkb, violet-blue with roulette II, **Norma** B1b, dark greenish-blue.

Occasionally 10 k. stamps with 3 horizontal glazed lines are offered at high prices. While it is nice to have all possible stamps these are not in the "extraordinary" category to those familiar with Finland philately.

All of the so-called "glazed line" stamps are from the 1859-1862 printings

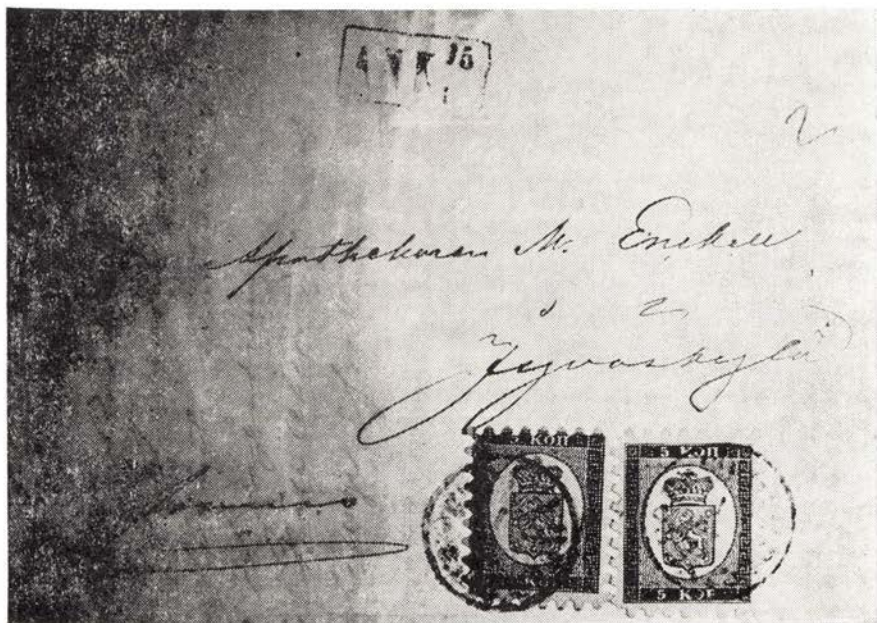


Fig. 4. A letter bearing stamps from 2 different cliché spacing emissions. The left stamp is from the "mixed distance" clichés. **Norma**: ALK violet-blue, 2.3x2.3mm group, **Norma**: BLb, dark greenish-blue.

(1.6x1.6mm) and are roulette I. The glazed lines can be found on either the front or back of a specimen and may disappear if immersed in water.

The last printing of the 10 k. denomination was produced in direct contradiction to postal directives which had stipulated that colored paper was to be used for all of the printings. **Norma:** B1d, red-carmine, was instead printed on a firm, hard white paper much more solid to the touch (when flexed between the fingers) than any of the earlier printings. (Be careful when bending or flexing the stamp not to injure the fairly long and delicate teeth.) It has been rumored that this last group was printed by an unofficial printer. These stamps are always rouletted II, with spaces 2.3x2.3mm.

(Fig. 5.) Pictured are 2 examples of this emission. One has a small Helsinki cancel and the other a late-use large Helsinki cancel.

Portions of this printing were delivered to 7 different postoffices between Oct. and Dec. of 1865. If you find a cancel of earlier date, the stamp should be certified by a Finnish expert.

Stamps exist which have "lost" the original color of the paper due to light exposure, washing or other chemically-provoked changes. The buyer should be careful and be familiar with the distinctive appearance of this final 10 k. printing.

"Thick" paper stamps are known which measure .070-.090mm of these 1860 printings. They are not common. If a "thick" paper stamp is flawless, the worth is about five times the usual value.

#### The Position of the 1860 Stamps Today

The demand for the 1860 issues has surged, according to the estimates in the current Finnish catalogues, based on auction prices realized during the last fiscal year. I agree with the figures, especially as regards mint stamps, which are conspicuous by their absence and sometimes not found in very fine collections.

In 1974, 5 k. mint stamps sold for about 650 to 800 Marks with all teeth. **Norma** 1980 rates them at 3½ to 5 times this value.



Fig. 5. 2 examples of the 10 k. 'hard, white paper' Norma: B1d.

What is meant by "all teeth" when stamps are described as "very fine"? All Finnish auctions describe stamps with roulettes or perforations, whether illustrated or not, with a large "X" when a tooth is missing and a small, lower case "x" when  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a tooth is gone. This is done whether the stamp is loose or on piece, card or letter. Thus if one sees XXx, this denotes that  $2\frac{1}{2}$  teeth are missing. When perfs are folded, slightly nibbed or irregular the description simply states, "perforation flaws."

Dealers and auction houses outside Finland persist in saying that a stamp has "all teeth" no matter how many halves or partial dentures are absent. This creates a problem for the collector who often is buying "blind" by mail and is even further complicated by such as, "VF for this issue," or the real winner, "fine to VF."

Badly-flawed material gets demerits from judges in major exhibitions. Some flaws can be tolerated in a large comprehensive collection and certainly when the item is rare or bears a lovely cancellation. On letters or cards the hard-to-get items are acceptable with faults. The collector should not buy "chewed up" items except perhaps as reference copies at reasonable prices.

Learn not to smile when a seller tells you that perfect stamps are hard to get and cost more.

#### Multiples and Rarities

Nicely-cancelled stamps are desirable and when flawless sell well over the catalog prices. Pairs of 5 k. stamps easily achieve realizations of \$450-\$500 in today's market. Rarely-seen strips of 3 are gems. Never turn down multiples of the 1860 issues. Letters bearing pairs or multiples are great additions. The really rare cover is that of a Registered letter to which is affixed a 10 k. stamp (postal fee) with a 5 k. stamp for the registration of the article. Just a few are known.

According to Lindner only a few pairs of mint 10 k. stamps are known used, a few rows of 3 of the 5 k. and rows of 6, 5 and 4. A few blocks of 4 of the 10 k. values have been recorded.

Made-up mail pieces with 10 k. stamps cut in half are junk and cannot be exhibited. No known mail pieces combining the 1856 Ovalmark stamps and any stamps of 1860 rouletted stamps are known.



Fig. 6. Jyväskylä pen cancellation and a typical Helsinki P. O. cancellation in ink of that period. It is usual that all Helsinki ink cancels also have the town cancellation.

### Pen Cancellations

The collector intent on building a real collection should also familiarize himself with the important pen cancels applied by the postmasters of various periods. Most of these are elemental and are described in catalogs. I must note that the signature of Postmaster Johan Wilhelm Norring is fairly rare on the 5 k. issues of 1860 and a little more seen on the 10 k. items. Be careful. There are forgeries known of this cancellation. Norring pre-cancelled the stamps, as determined by the fact that the signature never crosses over the stamp tying the ink cancel to the letter. A more detailed article appeared in POSTHORN, Nov. 1977, concerning the Norring cancellation.

(Fig. 6.) The 10 k. stamp with the ink crosshatching is an example of the Postmaster of Jyväskylä and his contribution to an ornate precancel that serves well to enhance the collection page. The pair of 10 k. stamps shows a fairly typical ink cancellation on multiples of the Helsinki P. O.

There are some intriguing details and remote points of interest, a touch too complex to be contained in this article, concerning the emissions of 1860 that I will leave to a subsequent article. All philatelists know that there is more to follow because persistent research is never complete.

One of the fascinating truths about the stamps of Finland is that there are concise lines of demarcation which were mothered by history and circumstance that invite and engross the collector to spend much time in studying one or more segments of her stamps and postal history.

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FINLAND—Looking to buy used before Scott no. 73 in quantity. Please advise Scott number, condition, price and quantity (preferably 10 or more).

E. Fraser, 60 Broad St., 26th Floor, N. Y., N.Y. 10004.

FOR SALE: APS/SPA Journals for last 25 years. \$4.00 per volume, postpaid. Les Winick, 2121 Maple Road, Homewood, IL 60430.

WANTED: Great Britain used in DWI; C51 or CDS cancels; clear strikes only. D. Priester (#1236), Box 400, Davenport, IA 52805.

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## Finland

Fournier's Plentiful Forgeries of the 1891 issue 3½ and 7 Rouble Values

By Ed Fraser #954

### PART I



Figure 1 — Genuine

Study of the design of the genuine will prove the most certain way to avoid forgeries of the 3½ and 7 rouble stamps, whether they are Fournier's or somebody else's, whether they are on forged or genuine paper, or whether the embossed central eagle is forged or genuine. (A complete discussion of cancel forgeries on genuine stamps has to be put off for a future article.)

The cancels on this issue are often of the bridge type similar to those used by Fournier and shown in Figure 4. Fournier's are variously canceled: "socked-on-the-nose"; showing only part of the cancel; or in some cases showing several strikes of the same cancel. Fournier forgeries are also known with other forged cancels, such as the double ring "ÅBO" cancel. This cancel is



Black and Yellow; Perf 13.4x13.4; and Watermarked Horizontal Lines. discussed in my article about the book "Postileimojen Kasikirja" Vol. II (Double Ring Cancels) by Juhani Olamo, in the POSTHORN of August, 1979, Vol. 36, no. 3, pages 104-105.



Figure 2 — Forgery

Black and Orange; Perf 14.0x14.0; and Watermarked Vertical Lines.



Figure 4

Extremely Dangerous Forgeries of the Swiss or Bridge Style Cancel. Enhanced drawings of the four cancel used by Fournier on many of his Finnish forgeries. Generally the cancels are weak, and in no case as heavy and clear as these drawings. (Note the missing horizontal line over the date in the Helsinki cancel.)

## Comparison Of The Original and The Forgery:

Characteristics of:	ORIGINAL (Figure 1)	FORGERY (Figures 2 and 3.)
Paper:	Watermarked horizontal lines with large wavy line pattern and letters "E,," "Z," "G" and "B" (note 1).	Watermarked either horizontal or vertical lines. Genuine paper from sheet selvedge may have been used (note 2)
Selvedge:	Plain, unusually large, and watermarked same as the stamps.	Generally separated from any selvedge.
Sheet Size:	25 (5x5). (note 3)	Probably printed individually.
Perforation:	Line perforation.	Line perforation.
Perf. Gage:	13.5x13.5.	14.0x14.0; 13.4x13.4; maybe others.
Perf. Row Alignment:	Parallel, quite precise.	Not always parallel.
Perf. Hole Size and Spacing:	Normal and regular. (See Figure 1)	Holes may be slightly under-sized and some are irregularly aligned and spaced.
Centering and Adjacent Stamp:	Generally adjacent stamp does not show even on poorly centered single copies.	Have not seen any part of next stamp showing.
Printing Process:	Typography.	—
Embossing:	Russian eagle strongly embossed.	Embossing on Russian eagle varies from weak to strong on different stamps.
Impression Thru Paper:	Lettering, border design lines, and rings show some impression thru paper onto back of stamp.	No impression.
Cancels:	Validity from May 1, 1891, to May 14, 1911. See comments below.	See Figure 4.4
Printing Characteristic Differences of the 7 Rouble: (See Figures 1, 2, & 3)		
Outermost Border:	Wide border outlines, entire stamp.	Often does not have this wide outside border. (e.g.) Figure 2 and 3) (note 4).
Rows of Circular Dots in Border Design:	Well rounded and regular sizes; very even rows.	Often egg-shaped and in slightly irregular sizes; rows not as even.
Plate Flaws:	In the widest black border line between the Russian and the right border, a small (yellow) hairline appears over the "T."	—
Central Russian Eagle:	See Figure 1.	Varies in design. Note Fig. 2 and Fig. 3. Fig. 3 has a beautiful but different style Russian eagle. (note 5)



Figure 3 — Forgery

Part II of this article will be published later. I realize that some of the information here disagrees with some of the descriptions of Fournier's Finnish forgeries of the 3½ and 7 rouble values published elsewhere. Apparently Fournier made quite a variety of forgeries of this issue. Any more complete tabulation would be greatly appreciated.

I would like to acknowledge the help of the Philatelic Foundation in New York for use of their reference collection of forgeries.

Ed Fraser, 60 Broad Street, 26th Floor, New York, N. Y. 10004.

Footnotes:

1. These letters—E.Z.G.B.—stand for the Russian Government Printing Office in St. Petersburg.
2. Selvage from genuine Russian (and Finnish?) sheets was used to make some forgeries of this issue. Can you supply more exact details?
3. Any information on the clichés used or plating these sheets would be of interest.
4. A Fournier forgery of the 3½ Rouble with the outside border is shown in the POSTHORN of February, 1978, page 9 (Vol. 35, #1).
5. It appears that genuine centers with the Russian embossed eagle may be from printer's waste. Do you know if this is true, or have you any further information?

## The Calendar and Philately

### The Gregorian and the Julian Calendars

By Ed Fraser #954

As a sidelight to this issue's Finnish "Cover of the Month," the card shown was mailed in Finland on May 1, 1891, and received in St. Petersburg on April 20, 1891. It was not received before it was mailed, nor has any error been made. Czarist Russia continued using the old Julian calendar until 1918, whereas Finland gave it up in favor of the Gregorian calendar over 100 years earlier. Such covers have no special value, and occur on every cover having a receiving or routing cancel dated in Russia.

A brief outline of history should help make this difference understandable, and prevent anyone being misled when using dates.

The Julian calendar was a result of a calendar reform undertaken by Julius Caesar in 46 B.C. January replaced March as the first month of the year, although September thru December still retained their numerically-derived names indicating 1 to 10 rather than 9 to 12. More significantly, the civil year became 365 days, and using a 365.25 day year, every fourth year was to be a leap year of 366 days.

Over the centuries some adjustments were made, yet error kept accumulating in the Julian calendar, and no consensus could be reached on changing it. By the 16th century the cause of the error was recognized—the solar year was closer to 365.2422 days than to 365.25. This difference of .78 days per century had to be provided for. The problem was finally passed on to a new Pope, Gregory XIII. With the deviation then amounting to 10 days, Pope Gregory cut 10 days from 1582, so the day after Thursday, October 4, 1582, became Friday, October 15, 1582. Pope Gregory also directed that 3 days would be dropped every 400 years by having years ending in "00" not be leap years unless evenly divisible by 400. (Note 1.) Lastly Pope Gregory specified that the written year change on January 1. Other conventions existed such that a date December 1979 would be followed by January 1979, (Note 2.) and the change to 1980 would not occur until, say, March 25th.

Adoption of the Gregorian calendar varied widely. France and the Netherlands adopted it in 1582; the Catholic states of Germany in 1584; Poland in 1586; England and its colonies in 1752; Sweden (would include Finland) in 1752; Russia and Greek Orthodox countries—for civil purposes, 1918-1923.

#### Conventions in writing:

One convention was to write a date as, say, January 10/23, 1910 where the 10th is "Old Style" or "O.S." and the 23rd is "New Style" or "N.S." Occasionally I have seen this on Finnish letters and cards sent to a Russian recipient. The actual number of days difference is:

1582-1599	: TEN DAYS
1600-1699	(A leap year for both) : TEN DAYS
1700-1799	: ELEVEN DAYS
1800-1899	: TWELVE DAYS
1900-1999	: THIRTEEN DAYS

#### Footnotes:

- (1) This provides for only a .03 day error (.78-.75) every century, or .3 days every thousand years. In that length of time other small errors occur anyway.
- (2) In Russia, Peter I (the Great) directed a reform whereby effective January 1, 1700, the year was to correspond to that of the rest of Europe, even though he continued the use of the Julian calendar.

## President's Message

By Alan Warren

### APS Handbook

The new APS Handbook of Services which appeared with the November issue of *The American Philatelist* carries capsule summaries on each APS Affiliate. Marv Hunewell has done an excellent job of describing SCC's purposes and benefits. SCC is Affiliate No. 79 of the APS, and one of nearly a hundred such groups.

The APS is seeking to broaden its list of philatelic specialists who would be willing to help in questions of expertizing. With this in mind, I submitted a list of potential candidates to the APS central office. If you feel you can help in this capacity, drop me a line and indicate the area of Scandinavian philately in which you are proficient. APS expertizing contacts should also be APS members.

### Collectors Club of NY

November 14th was one of the most memorable evenings in Scandinavian philately at the Collectors Club of New York. Speakers were two SCC members, Lauson Stone of New York, and Tomas Bjäringer of Sweden. Stone is an Honorary member of SCC and a founding member of the American Philatelic Research Library. Bjäringer won a large gold with felicitations of the jury at INTERPHIL with his early Sweden.

The topic of the evening was a subject in which these two gentlemen are well versed: the Skilling Banco issues of Sweden. CCNY President Ira Zweifach introduced many of the SCC visitors and guests, which included Eric Kindquist, Walter Wolff, Don Halpern, George Koplowitz, Wayne Rindone, Kauko Aro, Reino Merikallio, Phillip Robbins, Carl Probst, Art Lind, and Art Silverstadt among others. Sven Åhman of Sweden was also present, and contributed some remarks concerning the famous 3 skilling banco yellow error.

CCNY Vice President Alex Rendon then introduced the speakers, who took turns explaining the various issues and the many shades which developed due to mixing batches of ink at frequent intervals. Excellent slides were used to illustrate two discarded designs and mother die proofs. A number of the stamps were shown off cover, on pieces, and on entires bearing the first day of issue cancel of Sunday, July 1, 1855.

The story of the 3 sk yellow was retold. How it made its way from the dealer, H. Lichtenstein, to Ferrari, eventually to King Carol of Rumania, and currently to a collector in Belgium. It is believed to have been from a cliche erroneously used in the 8 sk printing.

The talk concluded with a discussion on rates, cancels, and examples of entires to other countries. The Club frames contained a number of pages from the collections on which much of the talk was based, and included some examples of Sperati forgeries. All in all it was an exciting evening for Scandinavian philatelists.

The classified ad placed by SCC in LINN'S last spring paid off in terms of bringing in new members. A similar ad was placed in *Stamp Collector* in the fall. Means of attracting new members are constantly evaluated, and suggestions are always welcome.

### SCC Pins

In visiting the various philatelic exhibitions and shows, I often look for the SCC pin worn by members. Perhaps some of our newer members are not aware of these handsome pins, which can be used either in the lapel or as a

tie-tack. The striking motif of a viking ship is a reminder of our common interests. The pin can be obtained by sending check or money order for \$3, payable to SCC, to Treasurer Ronald B. Collin, Box 63, River Grove, IL 60171.

### LINN'S Special Edition

By the time you read this column, LINN'S Stamp News should have published their special Scandinavia edition. A lot of work by SCC members went into the preparations for this edition, and special thanks go to Paul Nelson, Vic Engstrom, Mike Hvidonov, Marv Hunewell, Kauko Aro, Bryan Whipple, Chuck Matlack, Stan Hanson, and Wade Beery for their efforts.

### Awards

George Brooks took a second place award as well as the Novice award for his Denmark Bicolors at the SPACEPEX '79 show in Houston. A silver was taken by Lois Teed for her "Story of Iceland" at the GRANJEX '79 show in Grand Junction, CO. Our Associate Editor for Iceland, Barbara R. LeBlanc, continues to receive awards, this time for her "Iceland: Selected Cancellations and Postal Markings," which won a gold at the Sunnyvale Stamp Society's SUNPEX '79.

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## SCC Medals

By Ronald B. Collin

Recently some of our members received SCC medals for their showing of Scandinavian materials.

At NAPEX, Svend Yort won the SCC Bronze medal for his showing of Denmark #1.

At SEPAD, John D. Peterson won a Gold medal for his exhibit "Fifty Years of Swedish Postal Stationery, 1897-1947." SCC Silver medal went to Richard A. Julian for his entry "Greenland Discontinued Post Offices." SCC Bronze medal went to Alan Warren for his entry "First Day Covers of Denmark."

Our congratulations to all of you for your fine efforts.

Anyone desiring information about the availability of our Scandinavian Collectors Club medals for local, regional, and national exhibitions should direct inquiries to the Chairman, SCC Awards Committee, Ronald B. Collin, P. O. Box 63, River Grove, IL 60171.

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## 1980 Dues

You will soon be receiving your 1980 Dues Notices in a separate letter. In order that your Club may operate more efficiently, we ask that you kindly send in your dues payment as soon as possible. It is costly and time consuming to have to send "reminders" about paying dues.

A few of our SCC Chapters make it a point to collect National Dues in conjunction with collecting Chapter dues, or as a separate effort during a meeting. These payments are then forwarded to the Treasurer. This is most helpful, and possibly other Chapters would do likewise.

A form will be included with your Dues Notice, along with a pre-addressed envelope. Kindly fill out this form and return it along with your check.

Every effort is being made to make dues payment convenient, and we ask that payment be made promptly.

Ronald B. Collin, Treasurer, S.C.C.

## Library News

By Stanley H. Hanson, SCC Librarian

Thanks to Les Behnke, Ron Collin, Joe Frye, Leonard Hartmann, Jerry Moore, Wayne Sommer, Sigurdur Thorsteinsson, Alan Warren, Chicago Chapter #4, and Iceland Philatelic Study Committee for their contributions of material to our Library.

We would like the loan of Kohl's *Briefmarke Handbuch's* Iceland section, published about 1907. We have had many requests for information from this handbook. Library will pay all mailing costs. Can you help us?

The year 1979 was excellent for SCC Library: more requests for library material, photo copies, Audio-Visual references, and new material added.

Thank you and let us make 1980 a banner year.

### Supplement #7 to THE LIBRARY INDEX

February 1, 1980

#### Catalogs and Miscellaneous

- A-148-E Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalog Vol. 1, 1979.
- A-149-E Vol. 2 1979.
- A-150-E Vol. 3, 1979.
- A-151-E Vol. 4, 1979.
- A-152-E Stamps of Denmark, Iceland and Norway. The Earlier Issues. Ernest H. Wise. 1975. English. Excellent treatment of these issues. 225 illustrations, 9 tables, references and index. 7½x9". 214 pp.
- A-153-E Stamps of Sweden and Finland. The Earlier Issues. Ernest H. Wise. 1975. English. Same treatment as A-152-E. 256 illustrations, 6 tables, references and index. 7½x9". 169 pp.

#### Denmark

- D-119-E Tarp and Esbjerg Danish Internment Camp. English. File of various articles from Luren. Illustrated. (See D-118-G) 8½x11". 7 pp.
- D-120-D Generalpost Directeuren Circular #2, 1851. Danish. Copy of the original directive dated 25th October 1851. Gives postal rates then used in Denmark. 8½x11". 3 pp.

#### Finland

- F-39-E Mail Conveyance and Delivery in Finland. Armas Uotila, Feb. 1970. English. Monograph by the Director of Postal Services. Much background material. Illustrated; maps. From the *American Philatelist*. Feb., 1970. 7x10". 6 pp.
- F-40-E Finland's Arctic Circle Cancellation. Dr. Arthur Delaney. June 1970. English. Excellent story about Finland's Arctic Circle Post Office. Illustrated. From the *American Philatelist*. June, 1970. 7x10". 3 pp.

#### Iceland

- I-30-E Iceland, a Bibliography. Lester Winick, SCC. 1979. English. A continuation and addenda to the *Posthorn* Supplement of August 1978. (I-18-E) 6x9". 4 pp.
- I-31-I Baejatal A Islandi Asamt Postnumeraskra. Post and Telecommunications Adm. 1976. Icelandic. Place names of Iceland with Zip Code directory. 8½x12". 160 pp.
- I-32-I Postnumeraskra Asamt Baejatali a Islandi. Post and Telecommunications Adm. 1979. Icelandic. Postal Number Directory (Zip Code) with place names of Iceland. 8½x12". 60 pp.

- I-33-E File on Iceland, The 1902-'03 Overprints. English. Various articles and monographs from philatelic periodicals. **The Posthorn**, **London Philatelist**, **Scandinavian News Letter**, **Philatelic Magazine**, **Scandinavian Contact**, **SPA Journal** and photocopy of I-3-E. Authors: S. Yort, SCC; W. Weirgang, SCC; Capt. K. Jahr, SCC; P. Hamilton; E. A. G. Caroe, CBE; and S. H. Thorsteinsson, SCC. 8½x11", 99 pp.
- I-34-D-E Island. Islandske Blækannulleringer, Icelandic Manuscript Cancels. F. Østergaard, SCC. Danish and English. 8½x11". 8 pp.
- I-35-D Islandske Skilling Brev. Ib Eichner-Larsen, SCC. Danish. Article on 7 rare skilling covers. Illustrated. 8½x11". 5 pp.
- 1-36-I Skra Yfir Postafgreidslur og Brefhirdingar Arin 1873-1973. Icelandic Post Adm. 1974. Icelandic. Directory of all post offices ever operated in Iceland, by classes; opening and closing dates; and the district in which located. 8½x11". 40 pp.
- I-37-E One Hundred Years of Icelandic Stamps. J. A. Jonsson. 1977. English. The long-awaited handbook. See book review in the **Posthorn**. Well illustrated. Color plates. 7½x10". 472 pp.

#### Norway

- N-102-NGE Norwex 80. Bulletin 2. 1979. Norw., Ger., English. The second information bulletin. See (N-91-NGE). Illustrated. 6x8½". 56 pp.
- N-103-E Mail for Seamen creates new job for Norway Posts. Gunner Sundtjonn. Nov., 1970. English. Interesting article on the problems of delivering mail to Norway's seamen around the world. From the **American Philatelist**. Nov., 1970. 7x10". 3 pp.

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## Scandinavian Literature Notes

By Alan Warren

The September issue of **Scandinavian Contact** from England carries a new column on Greenland by Simon Benedictus. The author warns against covers bearing the 1921 Danish Christmas seal being offered as "Greenland" material, unless the postal markings indicate the cover was in fact sent to or from that country. The seal portrays a Greenland theme.

In the same issue, E. F. Keefe leads the reader through the various Finnish aerograms. Column for the other Scandinavian countries cover such things as new issues and plate flaws, i.e. the entire range of news.

**Posthistorisk Tidsskrift** Nos. 2 and 3, 1979, continue the series of articles by Hans Ehlern Jessen on early Danish postal rates and conditions prior to the appearance of the first stamps. Issue No. 2 has an interesting tabulation of postal route highlights in Schleswig from the beginning of the 17th century to 1856. Arne Kjeldsen Larsen discusses the Danish Brigade and the Danish Command in Germany during the post war years in issue No. 3.

The October issue of **Het Noorderlicht**, published in the Hague by N. F. V. Skandinavie, carries articles on the overprinted regular issues of Iceland 1920-30; varieties of the "Russian" type stamps of Finland; and mail cancelled Spitzbergen/Svalbard. The October 22 issue of **LINN'S** contained a nice review of the 1980 **Norma** catalog of Finland by Mike Hvidonov.

The October issue of **Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift** contains a major article on Danish letters to Finland via the Danish post office in Hamburg during the period 1848-50. Some interesting Danish covers of WW I vintage are



described in another article by Erik Hvidberg Hansen. The series on Danish provisionals is continued in the November issue of the same journal, with a discussion of the 35 øre overprints, detailing varieties.

Many of us are regular readers of SCC Chapter 17's monthly periodical *Luren*, an informal yet award-winning journal edited by Paul Nelson. The December, 1979 issue is devoted entirely to an eleven-year index covering all issues from Vol. I No. 1 (May, 1969) to date. During this period the journal has had three editors: the late Bibs Berner, Pete Schlueter, and, since mid 1975, Paul Nelson. Credit for the mammoth undertaking of the index goes to Robert C. Gross.

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## Color In Philately . . . A Review

*Color in Philately* by R. H. White, published by The Philatelic Foundation, New York, 1979, \$39.50.

First, the bad news. This long awaited book is shoddily bound. The signatures are glued, not sewn. The pages of text are simply glued into the spine of the hard covers, apparently because the important Color Supplement is inserted in a pocket glued to the inside back cover.

This reviewer's copy arrived with the glue-line at the spine severed, the four corners of the book bent, and Color Region I of the supplement inadvertently glued to the back cover. It would have been better to issue the supplement as a separate, and sewn and bound the text properly. For \$40, we deserve better.

The crowning touch was the lapse of exactly one year from the time the order was placed until the book was received in December, 1979.

And now for the good news. This treatise is the latest and most authoritative treatment of the subject of stamp colors to be found anywhere. Technically, it is probably beyond the interest of most laymen-collectors. But the beauty of the text lies in its inherent readability, and its arrangement of subject matter such that the reader can explore any aspect of the material to the desired degree.

The Editor, R. H. White, has not only drawn on the fine talents of a knowledgeable editorial board, but has quoted extensively from several sources on the subjects of ink, pigments, color measurement, printing techniques, and instrumental analysis.

The text is divided into three major sections: Section I discusses definitions, paper manufacture and watermarking, stamp and cancellation inks, and various photometric methods of color measurement. Section II goes into the more technical exposition of color and pigment analysis, especially non-destructive techniques. While these techniques will not be available to the average collector, they are important in identifying different printings arising from formula variations, and also aid in identifying forgeries made with pigments or systems not known at the time a stamp was originally issued. This section also describes several color naming systems, and emphasizes the widely used approach based on A. H. Munsell's classic work.

In Section III the editor draw heavily on the writings of others. Part A consists largely of excerpts from chapters of the *Pigments Handbook* of 1967, (Wiley), in which specialists describe the composition and behavior of specific pigments.

Part B is also made up of individual contributors on measurement techniques, including the use of color photography for identifying stamp colors.

Part C is devoted to articles by collectors who have in-depth knowledge of particular stamp issues and the color problems associated with them. Here the reader can learn from R. H. White's analysis of the 3c pink and pigeon blood issues of 1861 and his review of the 4c Columbian blue error; Brian Green's discussion of the Confederate States 10c rose lithograph; or Louis Grunin's study of the 5c Indian red brown shades of 1857-61. Foreign collectors will learn about early New Zealand issues from Robert Odenweller, Canadian small Queen's head issues from Timothy Holmes, and even the Norwegian 5 øre Posthorn issue of 1886 ("green") from SCC's own Reidar Norby.

The text is carefully edited (this reviewer noticed only a misspelling of "trichloroethylene"). Perhaps the most spectacular part of the book is a 16-page full color insert with meticulously faithful color reproductions—a credit to the printer's art. Of special interest is the reproduction of color shades caused by exposure to light or various chemical atmospheres, which can create nightmares for the collector.

However, while the text presents an excellent study of the historical and technical aspects of the subject of philatelic color, the most useful part of the Foundation's tool is the "Color Supplement." This section is tucked into a pocket at the back of the book, and consists of six excellent charts showing various color regions, six corresponding coded designation charts, a mask to aid in color comparison, and a 12-page guide on how to use the supplement to identify stamp colors based on the Munsell notation system.

Despite the deficiency in binding, this important work belongs in the library of any serious student of philately. Special plaudits go to those who helped financially with the publication of *Color in Philately*, and also to the Chemistry Department of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute for technical consultation.

. . . Alan Warren

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Bloedow, F. H. : Unlisted Danish Variety. 1979, p. 90

Warren, A. : Danish Covers—A Book Review. (Review of Gutfredsen, J. and Haff, J.: Danske Breve 1851-1979). 1979, p. 133, (200, 204-205)

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Hunewell, M. D., : "Faroe Islands 1979; GF10 Postage Stamps and Postmarks" by Eric Wowern, A review—. 1979, p. 76-77

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Hvidonov, M. : More on Finnish Forgeries. 1979, p. 91

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Fraser, E. : Sperati Forgeries—Forgery Detection Methods. 1979, p. 180-188

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Fraser, E. : The 1856 Oval Issues of Finland, correcting a belief on the use of ink and town cancels together. 1979, p. 97-103

Fraser, E. : Finland's Double-Ring Cancels and the Philatelic Federation of Finland's New Reference Book. 1979, p. 103-106

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5II	○ Inv. Wmk., well centered, lit 26/5/98, VF -----	54.00	45.00
23bIII	★ Inv. Wmk., N.G., fresh VF copy -----	144.00	72.00
27I	○ Inv., frame, well cent., lite cncl., VF -----	264.00	210.00
32I	○ Inv. Wmk., well cent., lite cncl., VF -----	18.00	14.50
<b>DENMARK</b>			
9	○ Plate 7, No. 21, 4 Margins, VF -----	54.00	45.00
21IIIb	○ Well cent., TR perf rounded, tear, Inv. Wmk. ----	132.00	13.00
22IV	○ Inv. Wmk., tear, minor faults -----	30.00	3.00
28IIIb	○ Inv. Wmk., Inv. frame, well cent., VF -----	14.40	9.50
29IIIa	○ Centered low, VG-F -----	12.00	7.25
30III	○ Inv. Wmk., pp, weak corner, cent. R -----	86.40	29.00
32IVa	○ Inv. Wmk., F-VF -----	21.60	14.00
32IVb	○ Inv. Wmk., few pp -----	4.80	1.60
34IIIa	○ Inv. Wmk., few pp -----	21.60	7.20
38III	★ Inv. Wmk., NH, F-VF -----	16.80	16.80
38IVb	○ Inv. frame, wmk. III, F-VF -----	21.60	14.00
39IIIa	★ Inv. frame, Wmk. II, NH, VF -----	4.80	4.80
41IVa	○ Inv. Wmk., Normal frame, well cent., VF -----	30.00	19.50
45IIIb	○ Inv. frame, Wmk. III, well cent., VF -----	72.00	48.00
46B	○ Wmk. II, F-VF -----	38.40	25.00
46IV	★ Inv. Wmk., OG, VF -----	9.60	6.40
50III	○ Inv. Wmk., well cent., VF -----	66.00	44.00
52IV	★ Inv. Wmk., part OG, cent. low, tiny thin, F-VF --	192.00	64.00
52IV	○ Inv. Wmk., thin, F-VF -----	30.00	10.00
53IV	○ Inv. Wmk., some perf flaws, well cent., F-VF -----	7.20	2.40
55III	○ Broken circle variety, VF -----	2.88	2.00
59III	○ Inv. Wmk., VF -----	3.60	2.50
60III	○ Broken circle variety, VF -----	4.80	3.25
60VB	★ Inv. Wmk., III, cent. low, OG, NH -----	12.00	10.00
61III	○ Inv. Wmk., cent. TL, F-VF -----	14.40	8.75
78III	○ MA joined, well cent., VF -----	3.60	2.50
84	○ Wmk. crown, p 14x14½, VF -----	2.64	2.00
85	★ Wmk. crown, p 14x14½, OG, F-VF -----	9.60	6.25
115I	○ MA joined, well cent., VF -----	13.20	8.50
132aI	○ Hook on E, cent. low, 2 pp, Nat. paper flaw ----	84.00	28.00
211I	○ Line on Forehead, VF -----	26.40	17.00
Tj9III	○ Inv. Wmk., F-VF -----	24.00	15.00
Ti4II	○ Inv. Wmk., cent. TR, F-VF -----	4.80	3.00
Ti8II	○ Inv. Wmk., F-VF -----	45.60	29.50
Pf6a	○ Dark grey, cent. TL, F-VF -----	66.00	39.50
<b>FINLAND</b>			
12LBza	○ White spot over A in PENNIA, F-VF -----	32.40	19.50
12LBa	★ O in SUOMI like a Q, OG, F-VF -----	108.00	65.00
13	○ N in PENNI missing right line, F-VF -----	18.00	10.75
13L	○ Point between N and L in FINLAND, perf flaws --	10.80	3.60
15L	○ Lower left inner circle broken over 10, F-VF -----	23.40	14.00
17	○ Frame partially missing under LR 25, perf flaws --	19.80	6.60
19	○ Lion with impressed back, minor perf flaws -----	173.85	69.50
19L	○ Lion with impressed back, F-VF -----	63.00	41.00
20	○ Point between N and L in FINLAND, F-VF -----	9.60	6.25
23	○ PENRIA instead of PENNIA, cent. low, F-VF -----	12.00	7.25
27	★ Frames UR point missing, small thins, OG, F-VF --	7.20	2.40
31B	○ Point on upper left circle, F-VF -----	4.08	2.50
31	○ Point on neck of UL 5, F-VF -----	4.08	2.50

## FINLAND (continued)

117A	★	Perf. 14x14, VF, NH	45.60	36.50
166Kv	★	Einland instead of Finland, OG, VF	6.00	4.00

## ICELAND

8a	○	Orange-brown, thin paper, BR perf rounded	168.00	56.00
10a	○	Dull blue-green, OG, F-VF	66.00	43.00
10b	★	Green, NG, F-VF	39.60	19.75
11c	○	Goldish light grey, F-VF	48.00	28.75
11IVb	○	Inv. Wmk., well cent., VF	66.00	55.00
12a	○	Violet carmine, cent. high, minor thin	36.00	12.00
13a	★	Dark brown, BR perf rounded, part OG	216.00	36.00
13b	★	Deep brown, OG, gum stains, F-VF	168.00	84.00
13c	★	Brown, NG, well cent., VF	168.00	84.00
15b	○	Gray-blue, F-VF	30.00	19.50
17b	★	Light lilac, NG, cent. low, 2 pp	108.00	36.00
54II	○	Inv. Wmk., cent. right, F-VF	24.00	14.25
64II	○	AUP instead of AUR, cent. right, F-VF	78.00	46.75
84I	○	Inv. Wmk., F-VF	6.00	3.75
115II	★	Inv. Wmk., VF	20.40	14.25
158I	★	10 aur above 5 aur, F-VF, NH	156.00	125.00
179I	★	White dot under 25, tiny thin, OG, F-VF	15.60	6.25
209-9	○	All with scarce "TOLLUR" cancel, F-VF	62.40	37.50
214I	★	VF NH block of four	134.40	120.00
Tj4a	★	Orange gold, thin paper, NG, VF	60.00	30.00
Tj8a	○	Dark green, F-VF	156.00	93.50
Tj20II	★	No 1 before 1 GILDI, tiny thin, OG, F-VF	12.00	4.75
Tj20II	★	NH strip of 3, error on center stamp, cent. low	20.40	16.25
Tj62I	○	No dot above j, VF	28.80	20.00
65	○	(HR)AUN crown cancel, (type I) F-VF	32.40	19.25
Tj8	○	(ARNARH)OLT crown cancel (type II) torn	36.00	12.00
124	○	(GR)IMS(EY) crown cancel (type II) VF	552.00	200.00
24	○	KEFL(AVIK) crown cancel (type I) F-VF	17.80	10.50
170	○	"231" numeral cancel, (about 70%) VF	132.00	75.00
178	○	(EDI)NBURGH cancel, (July 1930), VF	39.60	35.00

## NORWAY

2c	○	Dark orange brown, cent. right, VG-F	264.00	132.00
3	★	OG, cent. right, some paper on gum, F-VF	360.00	180.00
3	○	Well centered double "383" HULL cancel, VF	90.00	72.00
4c	★	Light blue green, NG, minor thins, F-VF	576.00	192.00
5	★	NG, cent. to BL, faded color, VG	960.00	192.00
5bVI	○	Lilac red, cent. low, "253" cancel, F-VF	144.00	86.50
5b	○	Lilac red, cent. to TL, VG-F	96.00	48.00
9	○	Well cent., TR perf rounded, F-VF	54.00	18.00
10	○	Centered right, few pp, F-VF	144.00	48.00
10	★	OG, fresh, F-VF	38.40	26.75
11	○	Well centered, minor faults, VG-F	48.00	16.00
12	○	Well centered BERGEN 1872 cds, minor thin, F-VF	66.00	26.00
12	○	Nice CHRISTIANIA 31/7/1869 cds, F-VF	66.00	43.00
15	○	Centered high, tiny pinhole, F-VF	54.00	18.00
19ab	○	Dull violet, thin grey-khite paper, VG-F	72.00	42.00
21	○	Well centered, minor faults, VG-F	66.00	22.00
24aIII	★	NG, well centered, VF	99.00	54.50
24bIII	○	Well centered, VF	32.40	22.75
24dIII	○	Centered high, F-VF	14.40	9.25
25III	○	Centered low, F-VF	96.00	62.50
30	○	Nice color, well centered, small faults, VG-F	144.00	48.00
35	○	Centered to TL, minor faults	54.00	18.00
47b	★	eWll centered, NG, VF	18.00	9.00
51A	○	Plate I, brownish orange, F-VF	43.20	30.00
56C	○	Perf 13½x12½, F-VF	13.20	8.50
59K	○	Perf 13½x12½, centered low, small thin, OG, VG-F	54.00	18.00

## NORWAY (continued)

64C	○	Perf 13½x12½, well cent., F-VF	8.40	5.50
78C	○	Perf 14½x13½, well cent., F-VF	6.00	3.50
168a	○	VF, well centered	8.40	6.00
168a	★	VF, OG, well centered	9.60	6.75

## SWEDEN

12f	○	Shaded numerals, centered high, F-VF	7.55	4.75
17b	○	Dark orange brown, cent. low, VG-F	19.20	11.50
19a	○	Dull bluish green, F-VF	60.00	30.00
19g	○	Shaded numeral, cent. low, VG-F	11.50	6.75
20d	○	Reddish violet, cent. high, F-VF	60.00	39.00
20g	○	Bluish gray, nice cent., VF	54.00	38.00
21i	○	Shaded numerals, well cent., VF	9.25	6.00
30a	○	Gray green, cent. right, F-VF	8.40	5.50
31d	○	Carmine lilac, SON "GOTEBORG 3/6/84", F-VF	14.40	9.25
35c	○	Olive brown, minor crease, cent. low, F-VF	38.40	15.25
39VII	○	Sčarcé 12/31/84 cancel, VF	84.00	60.00
40	★	Narrow foot and dot, OG, minor gum wrinkles, VF	10.80	7.00
42III	○	Cancelled 1886, well cent., F-VF	3.35	2.75
43d	○	Blue green, F-VF	4.80	3.00
47a	○	Shaded numerals, VF	11.30	7.25
47b	○	Reddish brown, VF	15.60	11.00
52a	★	Green, well cent., OG, VF	57.60	37.50
58IIb	★	Inv. Wmk., well cent., OG, NH	74.40	70.00
76I	○	Inv. Wmk., well cent., VF	6.00	4.50
140Ab	★	Type I, OG, NH, cent. right, few worn perfs	14.40	10.75
140Ca	★	No wmk., perf. 4 sides, OG, F-VF	9.60	5.75
140Ccx	★	NH, OG, F-VF, cent. TR	10.80	9.50
141Aa	★	Type I, part OG, well cent., VF	54.00	38.00
142Acx	★	NH, OG, VF	8.40	8.00
143Ad	★	Type II, OG, VF	4.80	3.50
143Ea	★	No wmk., perf 13, OG, VF	33.60	23.50
145Ab	★	Type I, OG, VF	7.70	5.00
145Ea	★	No wmk., perf. 13, type I, well cent., VF	39.60	27.75
146Ac	★	Type II, white paper, OG, NH, VF	9.60	9.00
148C	★	NH, OG, VF	24.00	20.00
158	★	Type I, cent. high, OG, tiny thin, F-VF	48.00	16.00
160	○	Type I, natural paper flaw, F-VF	4.80	2.40
175C-9C	★	5 values, OG, F-VF, few perf flaws	100.30	60.00
180b	★	Carmine red, white paper	38.40	23.00
181a	★	Dull orange, OG, F-VF	24.00	16.00
187a	★	OG, gum stains, thin	31.20	10.40
189	★	Type I, OG, VF	43.20	30.00
191a	★	Dark brown, OG, NH, VF	43.20	40.00
192b	★	Olive gray, OG, NH, cent. right, F-VF	42.00	38.00
197texz	○	Well cent., some worn perfs., VG-F	48.00	24.00
197texz	★	OG, one perf torn, VG-F	48.00	24.00
Tj3b	★	OG, fresh, thins, VG-F	138.00	46.00
Tj19c	○	Letters in TJUGO not filled in, VF	3.95	3.00
Tj22	★	Type II, OG, NH, VF	132.00	125.00
Tj24	★	OG, NH, small thin, centered to TL, VG-F	174.00	58.00
L1I	○	Long foot on L, nat. paper flaws, F-VF	22.80	7.60
L6a	○	Clear blue, well cent., thins, tear	150.00	50.00

Ron Brightson (SCC #769)

Scandinavian Stamp Company

P. O. BOX 2173

RESTON, VA 22090

Please send payment with order. Include 50c extra on orders under \$25.00. Prompt refund on sold out items, alternate choices appreciated. Foreign orders add \$3.00 for registration. All items returnable within 30 days. Send for free copy of 1980 Scandinavian price list.

## Scandinavian Collectors Club

### Treasurer's Report

31 December 1979

Cash balance 1 January 1979 \$9,193.45

**Receipts:**

Advertising	\$1,056.50	
Admission Fees	83.00	
Interest on Savings	797.94	
Literature Sales	196.50	
Membership Dues	5,429.00	
Posthorn Subscriptions	15.00	
Sale of Medals and Insignias	378.00	
Total receipts		\$7,955.94

**Expenditures:**

Posthorn Expenses:

Publishing Costs:

Address Plates and Envelopes	\$ 238.15	
Postage	330.60	
Printing	2,698.45	
Printing Cuts	396.50	
Total Publishing costs		\$3,663.70

Editor's costs:

Postage	\$ 36.74	
Sundries	20.55	
Telephone	16.00	
Total editor's costs		73.29

Total Posthorn Expenses \$3,736.99

Administrative Expenses:

Chapter Sponsorships	\$ 183.23	
Dues Notices	230.12	
Dues and Subscriptions	51.00	
Election Expenses	0	
Foundation Organization	41.10	
Legal	55.75	
Library	300.00	
Membership Cards	776.67	
Office Supplies	108.10	
Postage	427.19	
Printing	215.15	
Publicity	121.98	
Telephone	82.85	

Total Administrative Expenses \$2,643.14

Total Expenditures \$6,380.13

Surplus

1,575.81

Cash Balance — 31 December 1979

\$10,769.26

Checking \$ 769.26

Savings 10,000.00

\$10,769.26

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald B. Collin, Treasurer



**ICELAND**

**A 6—**

Thorsteinsson, S. H. : Day of Issue—Day of Publication (Issue date Aug. 1 shown on 100 year anniversary issue block of 4 is claimed to be in error). 1979, p. 121-123

**A 7, 7B**

Nielsen, O. : Iceland—6 Aur Oval Issue, by the Iceland Study Group and prepared by Orla Nielsen. (In depth study). 1979, p. 158-167

**A 28B**

————— : Iceland Variety (Left frame cut). 1979, p. 93; (128, 157)

Eldrup, E. : Variety in 10 Aur Issue. 1979, p. 157; (93, 128)

**Literature**

Winick, L. : Iceland, a Bibliography. 1979, p. 175-179

Caroe, A. : One Hundred Years of Icelandic Stamps (Review). 1979, p. 206-208

**Postal History**

Thorsteinsson, S. H. : Bottle Mail from Vestmannaeyar. 1979, p. 1-2

Cass, G. G. : Icelandic Paquebot Mail. 1979, p. 21-24

————— : My Favorite Iceland Cover (Cover addressed to Varnarlidid, returned). 1979, p. 88

Sickels, G. W. : Misery and Mystery (War covers, difficulties of delivery). 1979, p. 152-154

Thorsteinsson, S. H. : Postal History Retraced. 1979, p. 155-157

Sommer, W. C. : The First Postal System of Iceland. 1979, p.189-193

Thorsteinsson, S. : Skip Nr. 1 (M/S ESJA) 1979, p. 211-212

**Postmarks**

Thormar, S. and Runeborg, T. : An Old Mystery Solved (Canceller 236 used at Flaga). 1979, p. 9-12

Thorsteinsson, S. H. : The Jubilee Cancellation (Thingvellir 930-1930). 1979, p. 21

————— : The Paquebot Marks of Reykjavik, Iceland (Reprinted from book by E. Drechsel). 1979, p. 75

Collin, R. B. : What Happened in Hraungardi on November 5th? (Hraungerdi cancellation on "Prir" stamps, apparently applied to full sheets). 1979, p. 118-120

**NORWAY**

**N 1**

Werenskiold, C. H. : Method of Producing the Clichés for Norway No. 1. 1979, p. 74-75, 147

**N 19**

Werenskiold, C. H. : Norway—4 Skilling Posthorn, Types—Norwegian Catalog No. 19. 1979, p. 69-73

**Forgeries**

Werenskiold, C. H. : Forgeries of the Stamps of Norway (Summary from literature). 1979, p. 37-50, (86)

**Literature**

Oslo Filatelistklubb : Norgeskatalogen 1980 (Review). 1979, p. 205

**Postal History**

Jones, R. G. : Mail from Norway to France and United Kingdom 1744-1844. 1979, p. 4-8, 51-63; (85-86, 198-199)

**Postmarks**

Hanson, S. H. : A Review (Review of "Norske Maskinstempler med Text—1903-1978"—machine cancellations—by Norsk Filatelistforbund). 1979, p. 204

Richter, J. : Notes on Norway. 1979, p. 80-81, 112-114

**PHILATELY**

**Literature**

Wood, K. A. : Basic Philately (Review). 1979, p. 206

**Perforation**

Fraser, E. : Finland 1875-1929 (Attempt to show counting holes better than use of perforation gauge). 1979, p. 108-111

**Printing**

Werenskiold, C. H. : Typography—Lithography—Offset (Distinction by "ink squeeze" in typography). 1979, p. 143

**Ultraviolet**

Werenskiold, C. H. : Use of Ultraviolet Radiation in Philately. 1979, p. 137-142

**Watermark**

Werenskiold, C. H. : The Word "Watermark." 1979, p. 144-147

Fraser, E. and Adamowicz, M. : Mini-Computers and Stamps, Demonstrated with Cancels on the Finnish Serpentine Issues. 1979, p. 32

**SCANDINAVIA**

**Literature**

Warren, A. : Scandinavian Literature Notes. 1979, p. 76-77, 129-130, 203-204

Frimärkshuset AB : Facit Specialkatalog 1979-1980 (Review). 1979, p. 206

**SCANDINAVIAN PHILATELIC FOUNDATION**

Koplowitz, G. : Scandinavian Philatelic Foundation Established. 1979, p. 107

## A.P.R.L. Translation/Publication Committee News

By Joe F. Frye

At the end of December, 1978, the American Philatelic Research Library, Box 338, State College, PA 16801 received a \$10,000.00 grant for the specific purpose of translation from non-English text and publication of Scandinavian-area philatelic literature. Since that grant was announced, several small but welcome additional contributions have been received by the Library, and further funds are of course eagerly solicited.

The Board of Trustees appointed POSTHORN Editor Joe F. Frye, Box 22308, Memphis, TN 38122, a Trustee of the Library, chairman of the committee to handle this fund and activity.

Since the Scandinavian Philatelic Foundation (SPF) has now become an established entity—and has quite similar purposes—the APRL committee chairman has contacted Donald Halpern, liaison for the SPF, and each group has stated their firm intention to avoid conflict of activity and resultant waste of time, effort and funds by full cooperation in all projects undertaken.

The APRL is now expanding their aims in the translation-publishing direction to add a long-term undertaking involving the services of many more individuals, and requiring the development of funds for translation of all worthy foreign-language philatelic literature—not just Scandinavian—into English, and publication thereof.

This expansion of the Library's translation-publication activities is being undertaken in addition to the Scandinavian area activity noted above. Entirely separate donations—which may be designated by country or geographic area if the donor so requests—are earnestly solicited for this additional enterprise. While major grants are of course required, those willing to donate amounts of \$5.00, \$10.00, \$25.00 or more can materially aid in establishment and maintenance of this newly-expanded activity.

Every philatelic organization with knowledge of a foreign-language area of philatelic literature is sincerely invited to participate in this program—both for the Scandinavian area and any other country. Presidents of such organizations are asked to signify their interest (in NON-Scandinavian areas) in a letter to David Lidman, APRL president, P. O. Box 338, State College, PA 16801. Scandinavian-area individuals or groups should contact the chairman of that APRL committee, Joe Frye, Box 22308, Memphis, TN 38122.

During February, 1980, details will be forwarded all those who have previously responded to Frye concerning the Scandinavian activities, and developments will appear in the POSTHORN as well as otherwise in the philatelic media as soon as events justify announcements.

Translators are particularly desired and must of course be philatelically knowledgeable in both languages involved.

\* S \* C \* C \*

### "MEMPHEX-SCC '80" SHOW DATES CHANGED

Due to a conflict with the annual convention show of the APS, the 1980 SCC annual convention will now be held on October 4 and 5, 1980 in Memphis. Bourse and exhibitor information free on request from Joe Frye, Box 11529, Memphis, TN 38111, or Box 22308, Memphis, TN 38122.

The Swedish Postoffice has accepted an invitation to participate and other Scandinavian postal authorities have been invited as well. The U. S. Postal Service will of course be present with their "Postique" sales booth and special canceller as they have for many years of this annual Memphis exhibition.

## The Editor's Mailbag

**Westpex '80**, 21st annual show of the Assn. for Western Philatelic Exhibitions, Inc., featuring the Germany Philatelic Society meeting, will be held April 11-13, 1980 at the Jack Tar Hotel in San Francisco, CA.

The **Al Van Dahl Memorial Award** for best Scandinavian exhibit of philately will again be provided for use as the Jury may determine, and Scandinavian-area exhibits are earnestly sought.

Prospectus and details from J. M. Clary, 229 Masonic, San Francisco, CA 94118. The award is a beautiful (and expensive!) Orrefors crystal bowl, and well worth seeking.

\* \* \*

**Memphex—SCC '80**, the 1980 annual convention of the Scandinavian Collectors Club, will now be held on October 4 and 5, 1980 at the Holiday Inn, Holiday City, Memphis, TN. This date change was made necessary because of previously-announced (in 11/79 POSTHORN) date conflicting with the APS' annual convention in Spokane.

Prospectus and dealer bourse information from Joe Frye, Box 22308, Memphis, TN 38122.

\* \* \*

**Ed Fraser**, our very active Finland-area author, has changed his address to: 60 Broad St., 26th Floor, New York, NY 10004.

\* \* \*

**C. J. Peterson**, editor of the *Philatelic Literature Review*, journal of the American Philatelic Research Library, gave the POSTHORN a very kind compliment on page 265 of the (fourth quarter) 1979 issue of that estimable quarterly. He commented, in part, that "This journal, which was always a solid standard publication, wins my vote as the most improved periodical of the year."

You, dear authors and associate editors, made this possible. Thank you on behalf of all our members and readers now and as long as this paper crumbleth not. Thank you, too, Charlie!

\* \* \*

**Stangib Ltd.**, 601 Franklin Ave., Garden City, NY 11530 advises the Scandinavia "encyclopedia catalog" for Scandinavia will be published Jan. 18, 1980. It covers Denmark, DWI, Faroes, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden. This is but one of the new twenty-one (! Ed.) volume series of catalogs from the Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. group in England, and the price noted is \$13.00 for the Scandinavian volume. Available local dealers or direct from address given above, add \$1.50 postage and handling if ordering direct.

\* \* \*

SCC's hardworking **Mart** manager, **Wade Beery**, Box 3781, Orlando, FL 32802, writes a long, interesting, complimentary and challenging letter dated Nov. 12, 1979, in which he suggests, in part, that he will soon be in a position to submit some interesting material for this journal dealing with Iceland in particular and perhaps a few other of "our" countries' philately will be dealt with separately as well. Thanks, Wade! It is a warm compliment to our publication that a busy man such as yourself would care enough to take the time to write in such detail and so helpfully, plus offering to contribute articles—which are always most welcomed!

\* \* \*

Apparently the message has not been stated with sufficient clarity, so here's a condensed view of the services available to members of the American Philatelic Society:

Monthly journal, **The American Philatelist**, certainly one of, if not the most prestigious in the English language;

Sales Division, Stamp Insurance, Membership Directory, Expertization Service, Handbooks and Literature, Research Library (see next paragraph), Translation Service, Estate Advisory Service.

You need not be an APS member to use the Library. You may write the Librarian, APRL, Box 336, State College, PA 16801 for details as to requirements for both members and non-members of APS. The cost is minimal and the advantages major.

If you'd like more information on the APS, the editor of this journal will gladly provide it free on request.

\* \* \*

**Jay Smith & Associates**, Box 5485, Madison, WI 53705, regular **POSTHORN** advertiser, advises in a release dated Nov. 5, 1979, the availability of their new and larger-size price list of philatelic and philatelic literature material of the Scandinavian countries. The list is free on request, and having seen it, this editor urges all our readers to obtain and use it.

\* \* \*

**Paul Nelson**, editor of **Luren**, SCC Chapter 17, Los Angeles, extraordinarily useful journal, sends a copy of their exhaustive index to that publication which covers the entire run from the first (May, 1969) issue through that of November, 1979. Members of Chapter 17 are solicited regardless of residence; gain access to the Chapter's library by mail or in person (subscribers do not); and this comprehensive index is available from Box 57397, Los Angeles, 90057 for \$1.50. (The Index has been sent all members/subscribers of Chapter 17 without extra charge.)

\* \* \*

**Jared H. Richter**, SCC Director-at-Large and **POSTHORN** associate editor, Norway, was first to notice and promptly point out to those involved the conflict between first-chosen date for the Memphis, TN SCC convention this year and the APS annual event, and sincere appreciation is due and hereby tendered Jed for his quick mention of this schedule error. See first paragraph of this column for new date.

\* \* \*

**The Mobile Post Office Society** kindly furnished a copy of "The Railway Post Offices of Denmark" by A. M. Goodbody for review. \$4 postpaid from W. F. Kimball, Jr., 21 Stonebridge Lane, West Hartford, CT 06107, the monograph is available in two formats: paperbound, stapled OR loose-leaf punched with 5 holes for both U. S. and foreign-type binders. Specify format desired.

The 30-odd pages of text and illustrations are sufficiently large for those of us, like your editor, who are tri-focaled and going blind, and the strong black ink used combines to make an excellently-readable and highly useful item of this 8½x11-inch work. Coverage, as stated by the author intended to be and is, basic, and highest recommendation for its acquisition and use is hereby given after a quick perusal.

\* \* \*

**Col. James T. DeVoss**, Executive Secretary of the APS, returned from a holiday trip in late December to find that thieves had struck his residence. An "Interphil" collection in 6 Elbe "Ambassador" albums comprising singles/blocks plus FDCs, the latter mostly with his name and address; Elbe "Governor" album with Canal Zone American Bank Notes issues 1909-21 overprints etc.; stockbook of CZ Hamilton Bank Note issue 1906 sorted by various printings; his entire CZ reference collection in stock books, in Scott catalog number

order, comprising entirely spurious material collected over a 35-year period, and much other philatelic and personal property was included in the haul, which was estimated about \$75,000.00 market value.

A \$5,000.00 reward has been offered for information leading to recovery of the stamp collections involved and an additional reward for arrest and conviction of the thieves OR any person criminally receiving or withholding this valuable property, by Col. DeVoss and his insurers.

A more detailed listing is available from Col. DeVoss at Box 800, State College, PA 16801, or by telephone (814) 237-3803. Let's try to nail these--and other--philatelic/numismatic thieves!

\* \* \*

London 1980 sends a voluminous release noting the run of that International Philatelic Exhibition as Tuesday, May 6, 1980 at 1 p.m. thru 6 p.m. May 14, 1980 at Earls Court in London. Wish we could be there but Norwex '80 demands our presence and attention!

\* \* \*

The mailbag is far from empty but the clock has run down past "deadline" for our patient printer. Your suggestions, comments and items of news for the POSTHORN are always welcome. See you in Oslo in June, and at Sescal in Los Angeles, Oct. 16-19, 1980 where I'll be a Literature Jurist.

. . . (Joe F. Frye)

\* \* \*

#### ASSOCIATE EDITORS NEEDED

An associate editor is needed for the following countries for this journal. Duties are simple: solicit and forward manuscripts to the editor for publication which deal with the Scandinavian country of your special interest:

Denmark, Greenland.

Other demands on Svend Yort's time have made it impossible for him to serve as he wishes, and we regretfully solicit a replacement for the two areas noted. It would be most welcome if we could secure the services of an associate editor for each country, but one individual willing to perform for both will be sufficient.

Write the editor if interested and willing to twist arms a bit and contribute to coverage of these countries in the POSTHORN.

\* \* \*

#### EDITORIAL

1979 found the POSTHORN increasingly honored by exhibitions with Literature exhibits offered, and that fact arose entirely from the efforts of our associate editors, authors, and contributors to these pages.

It is obvious that we have considerably more room for improvement—for example in coverage of Sweden, Denmark, Greenland—and your assistance in digging out manuscripts of merit in these areas is solicited.

If it were entirely my personal responsibility to do all this correspondence and solicitation this journal would appear one one side of a cigarette paper. YOU, dear reader, have the knowledge and viewpoint desired to give us direction and assistance for coming issues, and if you will respond to this appeal, we'll continue to improve.

Most of you know what you'd like to see in this journal. If you haven't found it, drop the editor a note and give your thoughts. Include suggestions as to sources from which such text and illustrative material needed to fulfil your desires may be had, with complete addresses. Contact the associate editors as well. They are always eager for your help too.

. . . Joe F. Frye

## What's Happening In Finland

By M. E. Hvidonov

After the drought (in Finnish material) of Summer, '79 the auction season opened with a bang.

Finland and most of Scandinavia seem to close up for the vacation period; so we anxious collectors have to be patient and await the new season.

A record sale in Switzerland in the latter part of Sept., '79, offered a letter bearing 4 pairs of Finland #1, 5 kopec, small pearls of 1856 cancelled with a Helsinki town and pen typical obliteration. There is no doubt that this sale piece is historic. The knock-down price was 550,000 Swiss francs plus a 10% buyers fee. Translated at the then-current rate of exchange it fetched \$395,425.00.

The last time I saw this gem was at NORDIA 1975 in Helsinki. It appeared as a part of a Swedish collection belonging to Pettersson and received the Large gold medal. There were other items almost as rare in this auction. I understand it was purchased by a French collector. We will have to wait and see when it will turn up at one of the International shows. The item is ex-Faberge and Grosfils-Berger. It sold at an H. R. Harmer Ltd. auction in London in March, 1940, for 80 pounds!

I was a bit surprised at the sale figure, having predicted it to be a bit over \$200,000. Though this was the high point that stole the show, other Finland articles sold at stunning prices.

Here are a few of the other realizations:

- 1856 #2407. 5 kop. pair, TTP (small pearls) with town & pen canc. \$14,379  
 #2410. Two 5k. (large pearls) plus a 10k, laid paper, cut to round shapes, on letter to Sweden ----- 2306  
 #2415 Row of 3 of the 10 kopec Finland #2 on letter ---- 39,542  
 #2416 Row of 3 of the 10 kopec, narrow-laid paper type -- 39,542  
 (This lovely item sold at a Robson Lowe London auction in 1954 for 60 Pounds). This beats bank interest, no matter how the money is compounded!
- 1860 Two 5 kopec rouletted stamps on letter ----- 3349  
 1866 3 eight penny green plus two 20 penny roulettes on letter ----- 2116  
 1866 8 penny, rare roulette V. with the usual perf faults ----- 7908  
 1866 A letter with an 8p.+5p.+20p.+40p. ----- 7011  
 (Letters with more than one denomination and in good condition are regarded as very desirable items).
- 1882 2 penny vertical row of 10 mint stamps in gutter tete-beche pos. 2300  
**EBEL** (Germany).  
 1866 5 Penny cancelled, block of 4. Jakobsstad 29.6.1875 ----- \$2646  
 This is a nice item which failed to sell in previous offerings. (It is better when possible to get blocks or strips cancelled with 1866 datings, since they are harder to come by, being the early colors.) All blocks of 4 are nice items.

In another EBEL auction in June '79 a 20p. TB, 1885 pair sold for \$3069. Another TB pair of a rare field position was not sold.

**Finland.** A Nov. auction in Helsinki sponsored by Suomen Postimerkkeily Oy was incredibly active, selling all items with most selling high over catalogue anticipations.

One gem piece, an 8 penny cover, roulette II (NORMA 6 By) alone on cover on printed mail (correct usage) cancelled WIBORG 4.3.1873 mailed to Paris, sold for \$12,225.00. It was estimated at about \$3800.

It was bought by a collector, not a speculator.

All 8 penny stamps alone on cover are rare, including those of the 1875 emissions.

### The Coming Internationals

The FIP in London May 6-14 will have at least one major Finnish collection but I know there will be others. It is too bad that these important FIP shows run so close together but then again the demand for frames probably dictates that it is necessary to make room for anxious exhibitors. I have been told that Veijo Mannerlin, who was awarded a large Gold at ABO-EX in Turku March, 1979, will show here. His is a fine collection and philatelically sound with many rare items.

I believe that Kaj Pischow will have some feature collection of ship mail or the like.

### NORWEX. Oslo. June 13-22, 1980

This show will see some of the big guns of Finland presenting. The formidable collection of Mikko Ossa (large gold Brussels '75) will probably be hung. Having pored through Mikko's collection almost every year I'd venture that it will get high honors. Arnold Nyman of Finland is supposed to exhibit his Finland which I last saw at CAPEX a few years back. I believe he exhibited there only a part of his Finland, which won a gold medal. I trust that he will also exhibit his great collection of France. Perhaps Reino Poutiainen of Finland will present his superb Great Britain collection.

I hope to attend and enjoy NORWEX and be able to give a report on how the Finnish entries fare, and, more importantly "why."

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## Have You Seen This Postmark?



Folmer Østergaard would like to hear from The POSTHORN readers if they have ever seen the circular date stamp, GRANTON HARBOUR . EDINBURGH, as illustrated here. Roger Hosking, author of Paquebot Cancellations of the World, states that there is still a sub-postoffice to the main Edinburgh office by the name of Granton Harbour, but he has not seen this particular cancellation before. Please write Folmer Østergaard, Morgenvej 6, DK 2900, Denmark.

Barbara LeBlanc



## Iceland and Interscandinavian Postal Rates

By Folmer Østergaard, Denmark, SCC #2033

For almost 50 years, the Scandinavian countries, Denmark, Norway, Iceland, Sweden and Finland, have had postal rates for a number of postal matters to the other Scandinavian countries, conforming with the inland rates. This applies to letters, post cards and printed matter, up to certain weights.

It has, however, not always been the case. I will give a resumé of the dates when inland rates were introduced between Iceland and the other Scandinavian countries.

Originally, that is from 1870, Iceland had a special letter rate to the motherland, Denmark, which was 8 skillings. From 1876, it was 16 aurar while the inland rate was 4 skillings, later, 10 aurar. When postal cards were introduced in 1881, the rate was 8 aurar against the inland rate of 5 aurar. By the way, the 8 aurar rate could not be made up with stamps until 1882. On January 1, 1908, the special rates to Denmark were altered to conform with the inland rates for letters and post cards.

The other Scandinavian countries were considered foreign countries, and thus had the international rate of 20 aurar per 15 grams from 1876 until altered after World War I.

On September 1, 1922, an agreement with Norway came into force, giving mutual inland rates between the two countries. On June 1, 1928, this was expanded to include Sweden, by mutual agreement. Finally, Finland entered the postal family of the Scandinavian countries on January 1, 1935, thus completing the Scandinavian postal region.

The agreement applied to ordinary surface transport of mail only. When airmail was introduced, special airmail fees were enforced, in which respect the United Kingdom and the Scandinavian countries had lower rates than other countries. The airmail fee for letters and postal cards was discontinued on April 1, 1974, but still applies to printed matter with a common rate for all of Europe.

### Resumé of dates:

Iceland-Denmark	Inland Rates	January 1, 1908
Iceland-Norway	Inland Rates	September 1, 1922
Iceland-Sweden	Inland Rates	June 1, 1928
Iceland-Finland	Inland Rates	January 1, 1935

\* \* \*

(Editor's Note: The POSTHORN would like to thank Mr. Østergaard for this article on the Interscandinavian Postal Rates and for his upcoming article on Iceland Postal Rates. At present, he is researching postal rates from Iceland to the United States and Canada during the period of 1941 to 1965. Readers who have covers from the period should contact Mr. Østergaard and describe them, including size of cover and postage, or send a xerox copy. His address is: Folmer Østergaard, Morgenvvej 6, DK 2900, Hellerup, Denmark.)

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### NORWEX '80 TOUR INFO AVAILABLE

Don Halpern, past president of SCC, offers full details on several air tours to the coming big show in Oslo, NORWEX '80, to be held June 13-22, 1980. Send Don an addressed, stamped, number ten size envelope for this two-page brochure. His address is: P. O. Box 846, New Providence, NJ 07974.

## The Philatelic Clinic

(For the Repair of Stamps)

By Ed Fraser #954

The following is a verbatim quote of an advertisement that has appeared in many languages including English:

"I beg to inform my many customers that I have opened a new branch of my business. . . I have instituted a Philatelic Clinic for the repair of defective stamps—i.e. torn, stained, punctured stamps, or stamps with deficient margin or perforation. I have therefore acquired the services of first class specialists in this line who will be exclusively engaged in this branch.

"When leaving my clinic, the most defective stamp becomes irreproachable—at least very acceptable considering the degree of age at which it has been sent to me. In every case, it can be put in any album amongst the most choice stamps.

"On the other hand, it is generally impossible to recognize, even with a lens, the smallest sign of repair, either on the surface, or in transparency. Besides, the fixing points and the colors are unalterable and insoluble in water, a result that has never been obtained up to now.

"In order to test the superiority of my progress, I beg to ask you to send me a fine stamp to repair, and I shall return it to you transformed quite out of recognition. If my work does not give you complete satisfaction, I agree to retouch free of charge the repaired stamps which do not please you. Try, and I am sure that you will be pleased and surprised, and will then send me many more orders."

The following, in small print, gives more details:

"1. The price for repairs is 1.50 francs for stamps (cataloging under 20 francs in Yvert & Tellier . . .) and 10% of their value for those over 20 francs . . . to be paid when stamps are returned to the customer. No reduction on the above prices is granted, for any quantity of stamps sent for repairing.

2. Repairs are carried out in the shortest possible time, and in order of receipt.

3. The cost of repairs is always payable in cash on delivery. No installments or credit are allowed.

4. (Stamps that are unsatisfactory and where free retouching is desired) . . . must be returned by the customer 48 hours at the latest after receipt.

5. We are not responsible for any errors which may be caused by counterfeit stamps being repaired by us in good faith.

6. (The clinic . . .) makes all repairs, cleaning and improvement if considered necessary and useful to give the stamps the greatest value, according to their original condition.

7. (If not requested otherwise, stamps canceled only in ink) . . . are returned cleaned and gummed.

8. The firm cannot guarantee work on (2nd and 3rd quality . . .) stamps with such defects as . . . faded or altered colors, burnt or greasy paper, etc., which render proper repair impossible. These stamps are sent back in the best possible state and must be considered as 2nd and not 1st class stamps.

9. The gum and colors employed for this work are insoluble but cannot resist hot water, benzine, alcohol, etc. until at least two weeks after delivery.

10. The firm is not responsible for the disappearance of expert's seals when it is impossible to carry out the repairs without taking them away. In

no case are expert's seals that are taken away in the course of repairs imitated or replaced by the firm." (They don't consider themselves forgers! E.F.)

If you have not already recognized it, that was the Fournier philatelic clinic ad from before the first world war. He began his work at the turn of the century in an era when stamps were looked upon more as art, to be repaired as well as possible if damaged, and to be copied to be available to everyone if they were not common. A leader in this field, and originally one of the most distinguished philatelists of his day, he apparently became an embittered man as the philatelic community swung from praise to complete condemnation of his work in the decade preceding the war.

I think this ad should lay to rest the comment I have often heard, "I know these stamps are O.K.—they are out of an old collection that hasn't been looked at for 60 years!". Somehow this statement relies on the false logic that because the collection is from an era when genuine stamps were supposedly cheap and plentiful, and collectors were few, there was no reason to forge or repair stamps. Nothing could be further from the truth!

\* \* \*

Note: As part of the forgery study by the New York Chapter, I would be interested in any unusual techniques found helpful in detecting repairs. (A booklet that deals with some of the chemistry of stamps is "The Dealer's Guide to the Chemical Restoration of Postage Stamps," overpriced at about \$16, considering that some critical procedures require unspecified chemicals like "Flo.")

Ed Fraser, 60 Broad Street, 26th Floor, New York, N. Y. 10004.

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#### COMPEX 1980

Make your plans now to attend COMPEX on May 23-25, 1980 at the Expo Center (next door to the Merchandise Mart) in Chicago. SCC Chapter 4 will offer 40 frames of Scandinavian material, each holding 16 pages. All SCCers are welcomed, and the annual awards dinner will be held at the Swedish Club on the evening of May 23rd, followed by a short business meeting and auction on Saturday, May 24th. Do come! We'll make you feel right at home!

. . . Harvey G. Gudmundson, president, SCC Chapter 4

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#### CORRIGENDA "D.W.I. MAILS, 1854-1917, VOL. I"

Editor-in-Chief V. E. Engstrom asks that the POSTHORN include the following corrections to the first printing of the initial volume of the D.W.I. handbook:

Page 3-7 Second paragraph, first line, change "above" to "below."

Page 4-7 First line of text, "seven" instead of "six."

Page 4-15 Under item (3.), Marks: should read "26 w/DWI cds."

Page 4-34 Second paragraph, second line should read "British Post Office could send closed British mail. . ."

Page 4-41 Caption of Fig. 14, fourth line, after "stamp"; insert "on cover."

Page 5-3 In caption to Figure 2, first line should read "1854" instead of "1954."

Page 5-6 End of second paragraph, change "6" to "7."

Page 5-40 Fourth paragraph, third line. Change "Fig. 1" to "Fig. 8."

Page 5-45 US-24, first line, after "5" add "or 10."

Engstrom points out that most of these are improvements to the originally-written text and will be incorporated in later printings/editions.

## British Military Mail 1940-46: Faroe Islands and Iceland

By David Cornelius

(Reprinted by kind permission of the Society and the author from the Newsletter of the (U.K.) Forces Postal History Society, Volume 16, numbers 2 and 3, serial numbers 152 and 153, Sept.-Oct. and Nov.-Dec., 1978.)

On 8 April, 1940, Germany mounted "Operation WESERÜBUNG"—the planned invasion and occupation of both Denmark and Norway. Norway fought back, but Denmark, with no natural defences along its land border with Germany and completely unprepared for war, was quickly overrun.

Denmark had interests in the North Atlantic which the Allies considered to be strategically vital to them: the Faroe Islands, Iceland and Greenland. Of these, Greenland could be considered to be free from any immediate threat of attack, but such was not the case with the Faroes or Iceland. Whoever controlled these islands also controlled strategic shipping routes. To forestall any possible German attack and occupation, the British moved first. British forces were landed in the Faroe Islands on 13 April, 1940, and in Iceland on 10 May, 1940. Allied forces remained in both areas until at least 1945, the British Army units of the Iceland garrison being replaced by U. S. Forces in 1942.

Before covering the military posts in, first, the Faroe Islands, and then Iceland, it would be as well to mention certain postal arrangements common to both areas, i.e., those mails dispatched not through a field post office but by way of transit aircraft or shops.

### Miscellaneous Marks and Cancellations

Many of the covers in runs of correspondence seen or reported in the course of this survey have only postal markings applied on arrival in the United Kingdom, and do not bear any markings from their "office of posting" in Iceland, apart from unit censor marks. The arrival markings fall into three main groups. Where the correspondence has been annotated with serial number of despatch, or the date of receipt, it will be noticed that there is rarely any logical sequence in the use of FPOs or arrival cancellations. In the case of Iceland, it is probable that a great many such covers originated during the transition period, in 1943, from field post offices via the Royal Navy Fleet Mail system to RAF post offices. In both Iceland and the Faroes, full use would appear to have been taken by both Army and RAF personnel of the Fleet Mails, where arrival cancellations were the norm rather than the exception.

It must be emphasized that the following postmarks or censor marks by themselves do not identify mail as being from Iceland, Faroes or indeed any particular area. Identification can only follow from a combination of these markings with other factors, such as dates and known censor or unit marks.

"RECEIVED FROM H. M. SHIPS." This undated marking, either hand-stamped or machine struck, was used at a few ports of entry in the United Kingdom on mail not previously postmarked. It normally appears on naval mail, less frequently on Army or RAF letters.

"POST OFFICE MARITIME MAIL." These marks came into use late in 1942, replacing the "H. M. SHIPS" marks mentioned above. Identified items from Iceland include Christmas cards from HMS Baldur, the R. N. shore establishment at Reykjavik.

"OFFICIAL PAID." Machine cancellations including the words "official

paid," either in the datestamp or in the bars, have been noted on mail from a number of areas including both the Faroes and Iceland. On mail from the Faroes, the London B. C. "paid" cancellation (the type with a square datestamp) has been noted in combination with the British civilian censor mark "(crown)/PASSED/P.94" enclosed in an octagonal frame. Two covers from an Iceland correspondence show the machine mark with wavy lines enclosing "official paid," minus the datestamp portion, in combination with the RAF R6/185 censor recorded at an earlier date through FPO 526; later covers in the same correspondence were posted through RAF PO 001.

In addition to these arrival markings, the datestamp "HOME DEPOT R.E.P.S./19" for 20 July, 1940, is reported on a cover bearing censor A1 1124. This censor has also been recorded through RPOs 306 and 308 between August 1940 and December 1941.

Finally, the undated packet cancellation showing the wording "ARMY/POST OFFICE" was used, probably, throughout the world. One very interesting use reported is on a registered letter showing the "T.49" provisional registration label mentioned under FPOs 89 and 526 in the Iceland section.

### The Faroe Islands

On 13 April, 1940, HMS SUFFOLK landed a party of approximately 200 Royal Marines at Thorshavn. On 27 May, 1940, the Royal Marines were relieved by a battalion of the Lovat Scouts. The mail military headquarters was established to the west of Thorshavn, while the Royal Navy established its HQ in Skansin Fort overlooking the harbor. In December, 1941, the decision was taken to construct an airfield and flying boat base on the western island of Vagar, and the Royal Engineers and Pioneer Corps commenced work on the site in Spring, 1942. The history of the Royal Pioneer Corps notes that 228 Coy, the advance party for 30 Group Pioneers, landed on Vagar on 8 April, 1942. They were followed by 30 Group HQ on 13 May, and on 29 May by 35, 234 and 237 Coys. 56 Coy arrived during June, 1942, and 192/303 Coys during September. A total of some 2,250 personnel (mainly Pioneers) were involved in the tasks, which included the construction of the runways, 6 large petrol tanks, a road from Sorvaag quay to the airfield, a hangar, a hospital, improvements to the port and the seaplane base, and of course camps to house the men involved in all the construction work. After completion of the task, the last of the Pioneers left in October 1943. It was intended that this complex would provide the necessary refuelling/rearming facilities for the aircraft on Arctic patrols and convoy escort duties and, when necessary, would also provide a further staging post for the North Atlantic ferry route for aircraft between the USA/Canada and the United Kingdom. Some RAF signal units were based in the islands, including one on Mykines.

By the beginning of 1944, it had been decided that the island garrison (which, at peak, reached a total of some 6,000 personnel) should be reduced, in view of other and more urgent calls on service manpower. Most of the Army units would appear to have been withdrawn or at least severely reduced by May-June, '44.

I have seen no detailed list of the units which served in the Faroes, but have seen references to the following (in addition to the Pioneer Corps coys mentioned above):

Royal Marine detachment — 13 April 40-(?27 May 40)

The Lovat Scouts — 27 May 40-mid-Sep. 42

537 Coastal Regt RA — 13 Oct. 40-20 Mar. 44

178 Heavy AA Regt. RA — 19 Dec. 42-19 Mar. 44  
 12th Bn. The Cameronians — 10 June 42-5 Aug. 43  
 15th Bn. South Staffordshire Regt — mid-43-18 Mar. 44  
 5th CPRE — ?-?

### The Postal History

The islands were occupied on 13 April, 1940, but there is a complete lack of any information on postal services from that date until the end of May 1940. I can only suppose that any mails which were dispatched were sent by transit shipping. One cover has been reported in the FPHS bulletin, sent "by airmail" to the United Kingdom and cancelled on arrival on 31 May, 1940. The airmail connotation supposes that this cover was sent by flying boat, possibly from Thorshavn harbor, as there was no airfield on the islands before 1942.

A contributor to the FHS bulletin has also reported the dates of issue and withdrawal of three field post office datestamps from official records. On 3 May, 1940, FPO 219 was issued to APO 400. This was followed, on 21 May, 1942, by the issue of FPO 611 to "NCO i/c APA, HQ 'X' Garrison, c/o APO Faroe Islands" and on 13 March, 1943, by FPO 695 to APO 4670 Faroe Islands for use at "APO S.121." The datestamps were withdrawn in sequence: FPO 219 (17 Oct., '43), FPO 611 (by 14 May, '44) and FPO 695 (24 Sep., '45). This sequence of issue and withdrawal fits with the reported locations of use, i.e., FPO 219 at the main force headquarters at Thorshavn, being replaced by FPO 611 on Vagar Island during the construction of the port and airfield complex.

Full advantage would appear to have been taken of the R. N. mail system, and many covers in correspondences bear only arrival markings.

### The Field Post Offices

The major use of the field post offices was on Army mail; RAF mail is surprisingly scarce, which points to the use by RAF personnel of those aircraft which staged through the Faroes enroute for Scotland. R.N. personnel, as in Iceland, presumably sent their mail to the UK by ship and, from covers recorded with arrival cancellations, both the Army and the RAF used the RN system on occasion.

#### FPO 219

Reported used: 28 June, 1940—29 March, 1943.

Location: Thorshavn.

Army censor type/numbers: A1-1664, A1-1692, A2-2134, A -2140, A1-2149, A2-2368, A2-2434, A -2464, A5-4264, A5-4331, A5-4357, A5-4394, A5-4411. (Type A1-2434 was used in Iceland between Oct., '40—April, '42.)

#### Miscellaneous notes:

a). A small unframed marking "The Lovat Scouts" is recorded on mail through this FPO between 9 Nov., '41—8 Dec., '41, probably in place of a censor mark. A1-2149 also appears to be linked with the Lovat Scouts.

b). A note in the FPHS Newsletter states that this FPO was issued to APO 400 on 3 May, 1940, and was withdrawn on 17 Oct., 1943. It was then reissued to an RCAF unit (probably in the UK) and was destroyed in the Middle East on 3 Dec., 1943.

c). Mr. Henrik Els has made a special study of the two datestamps bearing the number 219 and has produced the following classification based on the distance between

the letter D of FIELD and P of POST:

Type I—Aug., '40—Apr., '42. Space is 3.25 mm. Day before or after month, struck in violet ink.

Type II—May, '42—Mar., '43. Day before or after month. Early strikes in violet, from Aug., '42 in black.

#### FPO 611

Reported use:

4 June, 1942—2 December, 1943.

Location:

Midvagar (on the island of Vaago/Vagar).

Army censor

A5-4233, A5-4255, A5-4345, A5-4357, A5-4381, A5-4438,

type/number:

A -4441, A5-5001, A5-5522, A5/5532, A5-5674.

RAF censor:

R6-123.

Miscellaneous

Notes:

a). The note in the FPHS Newsletter quoted under FPO 219 above, states that this datestamp was issued to "NCC i/c APO, HQ 'X' Garrison c/o APO Faroe Islands" on 21 May, 1942, and was withdrawn by 14 May, 1944. It was reissued (apparently after September, 1944) to forces in the UK.

b). The datestamp was originally used with code letter "A" above the date. The crossbar to the A was damaged almost immediately, and strikes from late June, 1942, show an apparently inverted "V." This was removed and not replaced during October, 1942.

c). Censor R6-123 is known on official mail bearing the cachet of RAF Vagar.

#### FPO 695

Reported use:

27 April, 1943—26 July, 1945.

Location:

Thorshavn.

Army censor

A6-2141, A5-3306, A5-4264, A5-6016, A5-6091, A5-6988.

type/number:

Miscellaneous

notes:

a). FPHS Newsletter note issue of this datestamp to APO 4670 Faroe Islands on 13 March, 1943, for use at APO S.121. It was withdrawn on 24 Sept., 1945, and later issued to RCAF Cirencester.

b). The normal datestamp shows a space of 2.5 mm between the D of FIELD and the P of POST. However, a note in the FPHS Newsletter records a strike of a datestamp showing a distance of 2 mm between these letters, and narrow letters.

#### Misdirection of Mail

At least one member of the armed forces who served in the Islands during the war has commented on postal services to the Islands; he noted that few people in the United Kingdom appeared to know where the Islands were situated, and that it was not unknown for mail to be received via Egypt. (Such lack of geographic knowledge continues in some quarters; enroute to the Defence Attache's Staff in Moscow, some 15 years ago, I was told that there would be some delay with mail if it would be sent via Singapore, and my wife narrowly escaped the full set of injections for the Far East!)

#### Iceland

(The following survey owes a great deal to Wilbur Jonnson of McGill University, Montreal, for his research into unit locations and for his recording of several very large accumulations of cover.)

On 9 May 1940 the code name ALABASTER was given to the projected occupation of Iceland by British forces, and the following day the Foreign Office announced that a force had landed in Iceland to secure the country against attack and occupation by the Germans.

Iceland had been visited before the war by the Royal Air Force; the first occasion (to my knowledge) being in the summer of 1930 in the heyday of pioneer flights and long distance cruises to "show the flag." Iceland was also surveyed very early in the war for possible airfield sites.

The initial occupation force, which landed on 10 May, 1940, comprised some 650 Royal Marines, together with anti-aircraft and coastal battery units, and this force was centered on the Reykjavik area from 10-20 May, 1940. On 17 May, 1940, 147 Infantry Brigade arrived, to be followed in June by 146 Brigade, reforming after the disastrous Norwegian campaign. These two brigades of 49 "Polar Bear" Division occupied key points around the island, including Akureyri and the naval base/cable terminus at Seydisfjordur. Later in 1940 70 Brigade arrived to complete the occupation force. A Canadian military force known as "Force Z" arrived in Iceland on June 16, 1940.

From July, 1940 the Royal Air Force operated from landing grounds at Kaldadarnes (near Selfoss), Melgerdi (near Akureyri) and Keflavik. No. 98 Squadron is known to have been based at Kaldadarnes from 31 July, 1940, to 5 July, 1941, when it was retitled No. 1423 Flight. From March, 1941, the RAF strength in the area was increased: HQ RAF Iceland was formed and operated from S.S.MANELA (a Sunderland flying boat depot ship) from 19 March-4 May, 1941, when the HQ was moved to more permanent accommodation in Reykjavik. (According to the Ministry of Defence, the HQ was established at Mentaskolinn, Laekjorg.) Nos. 30 and 100 Wings operated from Iceland, but 100 Wing was disbanded on 17 July, 1941. The first runway at Reykjavik airfield was taken into use at the end of May, 1941. The RAF tasks were anti-submarine warfare and convoy escort duties in the Atlantic and Arctic, as the Russian convoys formed at and sailed from Icelandic ports. From November, 1940, the airfields on Iceland also served as staging posts on the North Atlantic aircraft ferry route.

In 1942 it was decided that the British Army garrison should be withdrawn and replaced by US forces. The handover of responsibilities commenced in April, 1942, and was completed by 24 October, 1942. The majority of the British Army units were withdrawn, but the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force remained. "Iceland Area" was declared an independent naval command in June 1941 and RN bases were retained until 6 August, 1945. HQ RAF Iceland was subordinate to RAF Coastal Command, and RAF units remained at Reykjavik until at least July, 1946.

### The Postal History

The military postal services for the British forces in Iceland were controlled by the British Army (Royal Engineers Postal Section) from the beginning of the occupation until early 1943, and Army Post Office 500 was allocated as the security address for mail to the forces.

49 Infantry Division had been heavily involved in the Norwegian campaign of 1940, and at that time had been issued with a series of field post office datestamps including those bearing numbers from 125 to 129, 207 and 208. Of these, FPO was lost in Norway, but the remaining datestamps appear to have remained on charge to 49 Division during the early part of the Iceland occupation. I say "apparently" because none of these datestamps has yet been recorded or seen by me used during the appropriate period; this was



probably due to the timing of the occupation. 147 Brigade, part of 49 Division, was ordered to Iceland first and arrived on 17 May, 1940. This brigade had not been involved in the Norwegian campaign, but had remained in reserve in the U.K. At the time it was ordered to Iceland the divisional FPOs were still in Norway, and the brigade was apparently issued with a further series of datestamps for use in Iceland—FPOs 304 to 308 inclusive. Of these, the FPO 304 datestamp has been recorded used on 21 May, 1940, just four days after the brigade arrived in Iceland. FPO 306 was in use by June, 1940, and the remainder of the series is recorded used by October, 1940, when the division was completed by the arrival of 70 Brigade.

Field post-offices were usually mobile, moving with the force to which they were attached. In some areas however, including Iceland apparently, the FPOs were stationary, serving a location rather than a formation. To serve the locations in Iceland, with scattered garrisons of small units, the division required more than the usual allocation of 5 FPOs per division. As a result, four further field post office datestamps were allocated. Of these, the datestamps FPO 2 and 3 were in use by October, 1940. FPO 89 is elusive and has so far only been recorded on registered mail during a short period. It seems to have been replaced by FPO 526 in October or November, 1941.

The FPO datestamps, apart from FPOs 2 and 526, were progressively withdrawn during 1942 over the period of the replacement of the British Army units by U. S. Army units. FPOs 307 and 308 have latest reported dates during April, 1942; FPO 305, June, 1942; FPO 304, August, 1942; and FPO 306, December, 1942. FPO 2 is recorded during February, 1943, and FPO 526 during April, 1943.

Some early mail from the Canadian Army units was sent uncanceled to Ottawa where it was stamped by the Base APO datestamp. After the establishment of the British FPOs, Canadian Army and RCAF mail was routed through them, and FPO numbers 2, 3, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308 and 526 are to be found cancelling Army and RCAF mail, although FPOs 2 and 3 are more common on the latter. The Canadian Army units were withdrawn to the UK, presumably in 1942, but RCAF units were in Iceland later, from at least January, 1943. Generally RCAF mail from this period is cancelled 'RAF PO 001.' Censor marks on Canadian mail of type A1 for the Army, and type R6 are known.

The only account of the wartime military postal arrangements in Iceland that I have so far seen is that included in *The History of the Royal Air Force Postal Service Overseas, 1942-57*, by John A. Smith. Mr. Smith has very kindly given permission for information from his account to be used in the following paragraphs.

The Army postal units were withdrawn with the major units, when bases and area were handed over to the US forces. For the period January to March, 1943, responsibility for mails was transferred from the British Army to the Royal Navy, which operated a Fleet post office system with assistance from the RAF. This is possibly the period when many of the covers showing RAF censor marks in combination with "Official Paid" or "Received From HM Ships" cancellations originated.

By 1943 the Royal Air Force had established its own postal service in the U.K. HQ RAF Iceland was controlled by RAF Coastal Command, based in the U.K., and this must have influenced the decision to withdraw RAF mail from the Fleet post office and to establish a RAF postal system in Iceland. A new series of datestamps was brought into use, a single ring with "RAF Post Office" at the top and the number at the bottom. Numbers 001 and 002 were issued in this type, but I have not seen any description of 003. Later a

further number was issued, 005, recorded in double ring format, which I have not seen.

RAF censor marks in a variety of types have been recorded on covers through FPOs 2, 89, 304, 305, 306, 307, and 526; on covers bearing "Official Paid" or "Received From HM Ships" (later "PO Maritime Mail") markings; and of course through the RAF POs. Dated RAF Base Censors 4 and 34 have been recorded on mail from Iceland but also on mail from other countries, and it is thought that both Base Censors functioned in the U.K. **Facit** Catalogue mentions, in passing, that RCAF mails are worth double the prices quoted for RAF mail. Senders' annotations that have been reported include RCAF, RAAF and RNZAF personnel, and doubtless exist for other Allied or Dominion personnel. The RAF "privilege" envelope is rarely used from Iceland; only 5 copies have been noted.

The Royal Navy continued to use its own postal arrangements until its withdrawal from Iceland. **Facit** Catalogue again observes that proven RN mail from Iceland is extremely rare, and this is undoubtedly true. The RN censor markings are in standard types, without individual distinguishing numbers, and very few can be traced to particular areas. Two particular items deserve to be mentioned here: one with the sender's unit endorsed inside the flap, and a second showing an RN censor mark in combination with the FPO cds. RN censor marks are also known through FPOs 3, 89, 304 and 306. We have not noted the RN privilege envelope used from Iceland.

The FPHS Newsletter has recorded the concession of free surface postage on servicemen's mail to the U.K. from Iceland with effect from July, 1940. This would appear to have been a regularization of the existing system, as I have not seen any earlier covers bearing stamps for the normal rate, or charged postage due. The same source notes that from March, 1944, mail to and from Iceland forces was carried by air.

## ICELAND

### Location of Offices

From covers in his collection, and from research in War Office files (now in the Public Record Office, Kew) Mr. Jonsson has been able to "place" a number of field post offices in specific areas, as shown below:

Field Post Office	3	Seydisfjordur
	304	Akureyri
	305	Reydarfjordur
	306	Reykjavik
	308	Borgarnes

It will be seen that this leaves the location of four offices in question.

**Field Post Office 2.** The great majority of the censors recorded on covers through this office are recorded also through other offices in Iceland. This, and the volume of mail recorded with this datestamp, suggests that it was used at an office serving a major transit camp. I have seen record of two such camps in Iceland; at Helgafell and at Hvitanes, and have been informed of a third, known as "Camp Alabaster," located at Artun on the outskirts of Reykjavik.

**Field Post Office 89.** The few covers reported with this datestamp have two things in common: all are registered, and all bear the provisional registration label with a handstamped "T.49". This suggests counter duty in the office serving HQ 49th Division (in Reykjavik).

**Field Post Office 307.** One of the more elusive FPOs, and offering few clues to location. One cover has been reported bearing endorsement from a

member of 1/7 Duke of Wellington's Regiment, which until March, 1942, at least, was stationed in or near Reykjavik. Of the nine censors recorded with this datestamp seven are also recorded through FPOs 2 or 306. Possibly at Geithals (HQ "S" Sector).

**Field Post Office 526.** This datestamp has been recorded on mail from RAF HQ Reykjavik between August and October 1942. Registered covers between 27 Nov., '41, and 7 March, '42, bear the same registered labels and "T.49" rubber stamps that appear with FPO 89 earlier during 1941. By January, 1943, these registered labels had been replaced by labels handstamped "FPO 526." It seems likely that this FPO datestamp replaced FPO 89 late in 1941, and also was located in Reykjavik.

From these allocations, it would appear that Keflavik was not served by a separate office, but possibly from Reykjavik. RAF Post Office 002 opened at Camp Geck, Keflavik, in mid-1943, but the datestamp is elusive and appears to have been taken out of use by mid-1944. The RAF Post Office locations recorded by Mr. Smith are:

RAF Post Office	001	Reykjavik
	002	Keflavik (Camp Geck)
	003	Kaldadarnes
	005	Reykjavik (Camp Cook)

#### Reported Use of Datestamps

##### FPO 2

Reported use: 10 October, 1940—9 February, 1943.  
 Location: Probably at a transit camp near Reykjavik.  
 Army censor: A1-1137, A1-1171, A2-1324, A1-1659, A1-1668, A1-1952,  
 type/number: A1-2111, A1-2152, A1-2209, A2-2217, A1-2306, A1-2362,  
 A1-2365, A1-2374, A1-2384, A1-2388, A1-2415, A1-2419,  
 A1-2428, A1-2434, A1-2442, A1-2460, A1-2474, A1-2479,  
 A2-2903, A2-3217, A2-3333.  
 RAF censor: R6-30, R6-117, R4-207, R6-230, R6-267, R4-287, R2-302.  
 Miscellaneous notes: One cover reported from Geithals (near Reykjavik). Registration labels were showing handstamped "FPO 2" markings by July, 1942.

##### FPO 3

Reported use: 18 October, 1940—28 August, 1942.  
 Location: Seydisfjordur.  
 RN censors: Reported during August, 1942.  
 Army censor: A1-1178, A1-1668, A2-2073, A1-2365, A1-2374, A1-2384,  
 type/number: A1-2388, A1-2428, A1-2479, A2-2855, A1-2888.  
 RAF censor: Not reported, although a military airfield was in use near the town.

##### FPO 89

Reported use: Probably at HQ 49 Division, Reykjavik.  
 RN censors: Reported during May and September, 1941.  
 Army censor: A1-1668, A2-1862, A2-3333.  
 type/number: R4-79 (used at HQ RAF Reykjavik), R5-142.  
 RAF censor: The datestamp of 2 October, 1941, is on piece only. All reported covers are registered and bear the "T.49" provisional registered label. This datestamp appears to have been withdrawn during October or November, 1941, and was replaced by FPO 526.

**FPO 304**

Reported use: 21 May 1940—22 August, 1942.  
 Location: Akureyri.  
 RN censors: During January, 1942.  
 Army censor: A2-1085, A2-1095, A1-1137, A1-1216, A2-1255, A2-1499,  
 type/number: A2-1552, A1-1828, A2-1861, A2-2073, A1-2129, A1-2162,  
 A1-2219, A2-2341, A1-2365, A5-2868, A2-3316.  
 RAF censor: R5-638, probably used at RAF Melgerdi (now Akureyri  
 Airport).  
 Miscellaneous notes: Registration labels showing handstamped "T.146" record-  
 ed from Nov., '41—Jan., '42.

**FPO 305**

Reported use: 8 August, 1940—27 June, 1942.  
 Location: Reydarfjordur.  
 Army censor:  
 type/number: A1-1657, A2-1934, A2-2268, A2-2291.  
 RAF censor: R6-230, R2-302, R5-638 (probably used at Dudareyri  
 airfield).

**FPO 306**

Reported use: 11 June, 1940—3 December, 1942.  
 Location: Reykjavik.  
 RN censors: During December, 1941.  
 Army censor: A2-1104, A1-1124, A1-1137, A1-1171, A1-1209, A2-1559,  
 type/number: A2-1629, A1-1659, A1-1668, A1-796, A2-1819, A1-1828,  
 A2-1862, A2-1937, A2-2013, A1-2111, A2-2131, A2-2149,  
 A2-2181, A1-2194, A2-2213, A2-2218, A2-2268, A1-2276,  
 A1-2306, A1-2347, A1-2351, A1-2362, A1-2365, A1-2374,  
 A1-2384, A1-2394, A1-2415, A1-2419, A2-2426, A1-2428,  
 A1-2441, A1-2460, A1-2469, A1-2474, A1-2479, A1-2495,  
 A1-2621, A1-2668, A2-2670, A2-2697, A2-2706, A2-2903,  
 A2-2995, A2-3044, A2-3108, A5-3113, A2-3217, A5-3221,  
 A2-3258, A2-3333, A2-3339.  
 RAF censor: R4-79, R6-117, R5-142, R5-168, R5-174, R4-201, R4-208,  
 R4-227, R6-245, R4-283, R2-302, R5-467, R5-594, R5-633,  
 R5-638.  
 Miscellaneous notes: From the volume of mail recorded with this datestamp,  
 it would appear to have been used at the main Army  
 Post Office in Reykjavik, probably at Division HQ (where  
 FPO 89 and later 526 were used on counter duty).

**Army censor notes:** A1-1659 has also been recorded on mail from Norway in 1940. A2-2181 was used on mail from 5 Bn West Yorks Regiment, Rekaskoli. A2-3339 was used on mail from 1/7 Duke of Wellington's Regiment. A censor label in black on white paper "OPENED BY/BASE CENSOR" (only seen on mail from Iceland troops) is known on mail from FPO 306.

**RAF censor notes:** R4-79 was used on mail from RAF HQ. Other RAF units in the Reykjavik area included Fossvogur, Geithals, Camp Cook and Reykjavik Airfield (Camp Winston).

**FPO 307**

Reported use: 7 October, 1940—7 April, 1942.  
 Location: Probably Reykjavik area. A possible location is at HQ  
 Southern Sector, at Geithals.

Army censor:  
 type/number: A1-2209, A1-2365, A1-2460, A2-3119, A2-3339.  
 RAF censor: R5-69, R4-287, R5-594.  
 Miscellaneous notes: Army censors A2-3339—see note under FPO 306.  
 RAF censors R5-69 appears on a cover endorsed "WT Section G, Iceland Force," R4-287 on mail from a member of the RNZAF.

**FPO 308**

Reported use: 2 October, 1940—12 April, 1942.  
 Location: Borgarnes.  
 Army censor: A1-1124, A2-2131, A1-2276, A1-2365, A2-2511, A2-2662,  
 type/number: A2-2669.  
 Miscellaneous notes: Censor A1-1124 is connected with 10 Durham Light Infantry, 70 Brigade.

**FPO 526**

Reported use: 27 November, 1941—6 April, 1943.  
 Location: Reykjavik.  
 Army censor: A2-1660, A1-2119, A1-2419, A1-2460, A5-2981, A5-3011,  
 type/number: A5-3048, A5-3113.  
 RAF censor: R6-9, R6-117, R6-172, R6-185, R6-195, R4-207, R6-245.

**RAF POST OFFICE 001**

Reported use: 6 April, 1943—16 July, 1946.  
 Location: Reykjavik (probably Camp Winston).  
 RAF censor: R6-30, R6-33, R6-38, R6-62, R6-114, R6-117, R6-172,  
 R6-204, R6-230, R6-234, R6-288, R6-290.  
 Miscellaneous notes: Single ring type. J. A. Smith records a framed rubber cachet reading "RAF POST OFFICE / 001."

**RAF POST OFFICE 002**

Reported use: 20 April, 1943—28 November, 1944.  
 Location: Camp Geck (Keflavik airfield).  
 RAF censor: R6-28, R6-189, R -230.  
 Miscellaneous notes: J. A. Smith records an unframed "RAFPO 2" on registered labels. Single-ring type.

**RAF POST OFFICE 003**

Reported use: No covers recorded.  
 Location: Kaldadarnes (near Sellfoss).  
 Miscellaneous notes: May be either single or double ring type.

**RAFPO 005**

Reported use: 28 June, 1944—13 October, 1944.  
 Location: Camp Cook (Reykjavik).  
 RAF censor: R6-245.  
 Miscellaneous notes: Double ring type.

(N.B. The double-ring type showing RAF PO 004 was not used in Iceland, but at Lagens, Terceira, in the Azores.)

## Acknowledgements

Contributions to this "survey" have been made by more than 35 collectors, dealers and people who served in the islands during the War. While it is impossible for me to list them all individually (they include the usual stalwarts from both the Forces PHS and the Scandinavian PS), special mention must be made of Dr. David Kindley and Wilbur Jonsson, for their work on unit locations, and of John A. Smith, who made the original study of RAF mail.

## Scarcity Guide

The following guide is based on numbers of covers reported in each category, and is intended only to give a rough indication of the relative scarcity of each category of cover. It is not possible to give an account of the covers which have gone to make up this record, as many censors have been reported with "bracket" dates, and these probably indicate more than just two items. A rough count indicates more than 1,500 items were reported.

AA— very common (over 150 covers reported)

A — common (50-150 covers reported)

B — uncommon (25-49 covers reported)

C — scarce (10-24 covers reported)

D — rare (1-10 covers reported)

Z — not recorded or reported used within the period that the datestamp was allocated within Iceland (but such date-stamps may be common/rare at other periods).

FPO/ RAFPO	Early date	Late date	Basic item	RN	Censors Army	RAF
2	10 Oct., '40	9 Feb., '43	A	Z	A	C
3	18 Oct., '40	28 Aug., '42	B	D	B	Z
89	15 May, '41	2 Oct., '41	D	D	D	D
126	not recorded		Z	Z	Z	Z
127	not recorded		Z	Z	Z	Z
128	not recorded		Z	Z	Z	Z
129	not recorded		Z	Z	Z	Z
207	not recorded		Z	Z	Z	Z
208	not recorded		Z	Z	Z	Z
304	21 May, '40	22 Aug., '42	A	D	A	D
305	8 Aug., '40	27 Jun., '42	B	Z	B	D
306	11 Jun., '40	3 Dec., '42	AA	D	AA	B
307	7 Oct., '40	7 Apr., '42	C	Z	C	D
308	2 Oct., '40	12 Apr., '42	B	Z	B	Z
526	27 Nov., '41	5 Apr., '43	A	Z	C	A
001	6 Apr., '43	16 Jul., '46	A	Z	Z	A
002	20 Apr., '43	15 Oct., '44	D	Z	Z	D
003	not recorded		Z	Z	Z	Z
005	28 Jun., '44	13 Nov., '44	D	Z	Z	D

(Editor's Note: The POSTHORN wishes to thank David Cornelius for his permission to reprint his definitive article on the Field Post Offices in Iceland and the Faroe Islands. Having now closed his own records of these offices, he suggests that readers caring to add or amend the information presented write to: Dr. Wilbur Jonsson, P. O. Box 6070 Station A, Montreal, PQ, Canada H3C 3G1.)

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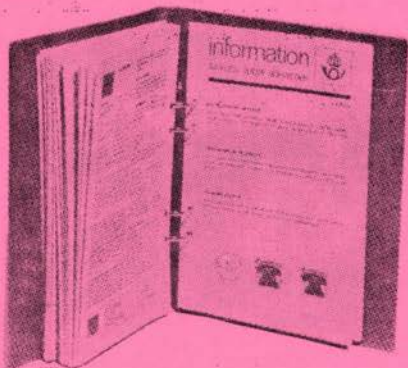
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