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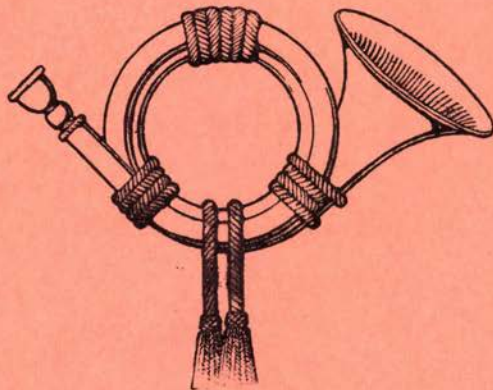
The

# POSTHORN

TM

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



**OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB**

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## The Posthorn Wins Two Awards

The POSTHORN has received two major philatelic literature awards, a Silver Medal at PHILEXFRANCE and a Vermeil Award at the recent APS show in Milwaukee.

At Paris, The POSTHORN won one of three silver medals in the philatelic periodicals competition, the highest award given at the Exhibit, this past June.

EXPOSITION PHILATÉLIQUE  
INTERNATIONALE

# PHILEX FRANCE 82

CNIT PARIS-LA DÉFENSE 11-21 JUIN 1982

le Comité d'Organisation remercie très sincèrement

M. A. WARREN - SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB

pour sa contribution au succès de Philex France 82  
par la présentation de sa collection

The Posthorn  
qui a reçu une médaille d'argent

le Président du jury

le Président, Commissaire Général







This award was for issues edited by former Editor Joe Frye. The entries were made by Pete Schlueter.

At MILCOPEX 82 in Milwaukee, The POSTHORN won a Vermeil Award in the Philatelic Literature competition. *NO - Sta 4/14/82 in Milwaukee*

Affiliate 79, A. P. S.

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USPS #603680

## THE POSTHORN

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Editor: Robert C. "Bob" Gross, 1053 Cypress Lane, Cocoa, FL 32922  
**to whom all material and communications concerning The Posthorn, except address changes and advertising, should be sent.**

Executive Secretary: Richard Diran, P. O. Box 97, Belmont, MA 02178  
 (Associate editors and Officers listed on last page)

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## The D/S "Ringerike"— Lierbanen Cancel On Norway Post

By Carl L. Thurman II

A basic Norwegian collection is enhanced by the addition of specially-cancelled covers. Recent studies on the philately of transportation have developed to such a degree that there is now a broad-spectrum need for postmark descriptions. In the course of building my own collection, I have uncovered a pair of unusual cancels (Fig. 1). The identity and postal significance of this tandem obliteration were provided by Jünger Tiemer of Kiel, (Fed. Rep.) Germany. Since these markings were initially difficult to establish with certainty, I feel it is worthwhile to announce their occurrence to other Scandinavian collectors.

The first of the cancels, a Swiss-type double-ring (Fig. 1), is a railroad cancel applied August 10, 1920, tying the posthorns to the picture postcard. A history of the Lierbanen train post office (TPO) has been described by Profos (1964). Passenger service on the line was maintained from July 12, 1904, to October 1932 between Sylling (Buskerud) and the Vestfoldbanen trunkline (Fig. 2). The TPO was established August 1, 1919, but closed September 1, 1924. All Lierbanen service ceased January 1, 1937, owing to autobus competition.

The second cancel, a four-ringed 50 (Fig. 1), was more difficult to establish because it was used by several post offices. According to J. Tiemer, from July 1, 1883, to July 1, 1892, it was used at the Oifjeld-Rauland office (Tele-

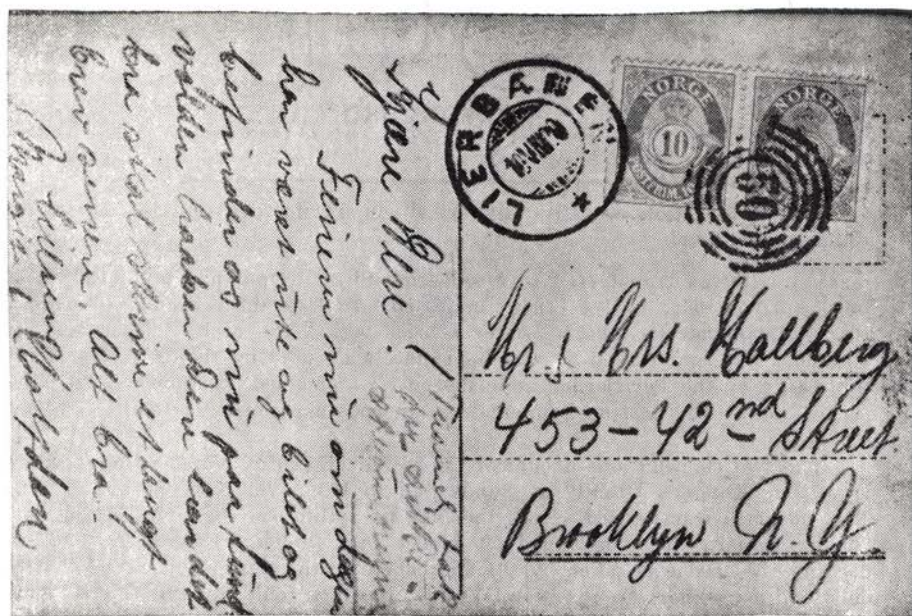


Fig. 1. Tandem-cancelled postcard from Sundvollen, Buskerud, Norway to Brooklyn, New York. Swiss-type double ring, left; Four-ringed 50, right.

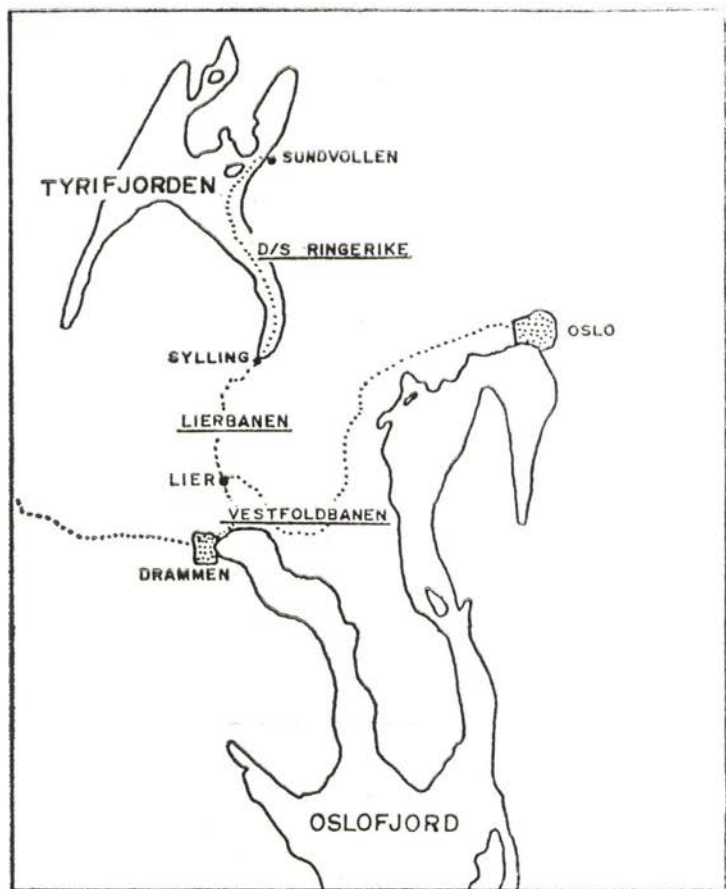


Fig. 2. Location of D/S "Ringerike" on Tyrifjorden and the Lierbanen route in Buskerud.

markk). It was transferred to Nordberget-Skjak (Oppland) and used there until April 1, 1903, as Bye (1969) indicated. In 1904 the cancel was assigned to Sandlandhanderi (Asker). After a brief period, the brehus closed on May 1, 1905. The four-ringed 50 was immediately adopted by the D/S "Rigerike" that sailed on the Tyrifjorden in Buskerud. It remained there until 1926 (Biesecke 1962). This last assignment links the postmark directly to the Lierbanen.

The two cancellations document the initial stages of transporting postage from the "Kongens Utsikt" at Sundvollen to Brooklyn, New York (Fig. 2). This postcard was carried across the lake to Sylling on the D/S "Ringerike." During transit, the four-ringed 50 cancel was applied. From the southern docking the card was taken by the Lierbanen postal expedition, cancelled and delivered for export to the New World. Postage could receive this pattern of cancel only between August 1, 1919, and September 1, 1924.

Since the use of the four-ringed 50 postmark at several offices has not been clearly reported in the philatelic literature, its link to the Lierbanen postal



expedition was difficult to ascertain. This philatelic enigma was solved by contacting J. Tiemer, chairman, Norwegian Study Group of the Forschungsgemeinschaft Nordisches Staaten (Soc. German Phil.). His knowledgeable contributions to the SCC Library and forthcoming monograph on the railway cancels of Norway are valuable assets to postal history.

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## Victor E. Engstrom Wins Jacobsen Award

By Marvin D. Hunewell

Victor E. Engstrom has been awarded the Earl Grant Jacobsen Award of the Scandinavian Collectors Club in recognition of his outstanding philatelic research serving to further the advancement of Scandinavian philately.

The award was created in 1975 as a memorial to Dr. Jacobsen, a longtime member and past President of SCC, who was a noted student of Norwegian and Scandinavian philately.

Mr. Engstrom is Editor-in-chief of the multi-volume work, **Danish West Indies Mails, 1754-1917**. Volume 1 on postal history appeared in 1979 and Volume 2 covering postal emissions was published in 1981. Several more volumes of this important work are scheduled to appear in the near future.

Over the years, Victor Engstrom has also contributed many articles to *The POSTHORN*, covering such diverse topics as distinguishing the burelage on the first two issues of the Danish West Indies, the serpentine roulettes of Finland, Danish postal history, Finland proofs, and DWI cancellations.

Mr. Engstrom served SCC as its President in 1971-72. In 1976, he was one of the U. S. Commissioners to HAFNIA '76 (The International Stamp Exhibition held in Copenhagen, Denmark.) He currently serves as one of the Directors of The Society of Philatelic Americans, and is SCC's representative to SPA. He is also a past Vice-President of SPA as well as an APS accredited judge in the fields of general, Scandinavian postal history, and local posts.

Mr. Engstrom has exhibited extensively and is the recipient of many Exhibition Awards.

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## 1983 SCC Convention At NAPEX

Plan now to visit Washington, DC next July as part of your vacation, and attend the 1983 SCC Convention to be held in conjunction with NAPEX. The show site is the Twin Bridges Marriott Hotel, just across the Potomac from the nation's capital in Arlington, VA. Howard H. Schloss, President of SCC Chapter 12 (Metropolitan Washington) has agreed to liaison with SCC in making this a particularly memorable event. Show dates are June 10-12, 1983, so mark your calendar now. Additional details will be in the February and May issues if *The POSTHORN*.

## The Editor's Notebook

By Bob Gross

First, we want to thank each one of you who wrote to us concerning our first issue of The POSTHORN. We are happy that you were pleased with our first efforts and we're hoping that we can continue to provide you with an outstanding publication each issue.

We are deeply indebted to Páll H. Ásgeirsson, Chairman of FRÍMEX 1982 for the information and covers he sent us. We urge all collectors of Icelandic materials to become a member of Félag Frímerkjasafnara. For information write to The Philatelic Society, P. O. Box 171, Reykjavik, Iceland.

Our congratulations to Bill Lamkin who has just been appointed Associate Editor for Iceland. Our thanks also to John Gregory of New York City whose application for the position arrived after we had made the appointment.

We receive many catalogues in the mail from all over the world. But one catalog really caught our eye. It is perhaps the most beautiful auction catalog we have seen, with an outstanding cover and with many illustrations in full color. This was the Catalog for Auction #122 by POSTILJONEN AB, Malmö, Sweden held on 29-30 September 1982. Such auction catalogues can truly become valuable reference books in any SCC member's Library.

We have been in contact recently with Claes Hydén, Assistant to the Trade Commissioner of Sweden. He is conducting a survey in the U. S. on the current market for Scandinavian stamps and is working out of the Swedish Trade Office in New York City. He will be contacting some of our members for information needed for the survey. We hope that our membership will cooperate with him.

Recently we sent a memo to each Associate Editor of The POSTHORN urging them to step up their search for manuscripts for publication. We're hoping that during the coming months many of our SCC members who have not participated in the past, will be sending us articles to publish. Your help and cooperation is needed and appreciated. Why not sit down today and start an article for the next issue? Send it to the appropriate Associate Editor who will forward it to us for publication.

In the last issue the 1983 dues notice was included. It omitted the following information: "If overseas delivery by AIRMAIL is desired, members should add \$6.00 additional." All members are urged to forward their 1983 dues as soon as possible to Richard Diran, Executive Secretary, P. O. Box 97, Belmont, MA 02178.

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## On The Use Of Icelandic Numeral Cancelers

By Per V. A. Hanner, Stockholm, Sweden

In the August, 1981 issue of *The POSTHORN*, Ronald B. Collin described an interesting letter, showing an uncommon—and certainly unauthorized—use of a numeral canceler. This canceler—#117, type II, used by Stadur i Grunnavik to cancel stamps until the middle of the year 1930, when it was replaced for this purpose by a dated bridge type canceler "STADUR IS"—had been used to seal a private registered letter, mailed in 1938. Impressions of the numeral canceler were found in the sealing wax on the back of the letter.

Ronald B. Collin said in his article that "the numeral cancelers were supposedly all to be turned in when the bridge type cancelers were issued." This assumption is not correct. Those letter collecting offices who got the new cancelers in 1930 were allowed to keep their numeral cancelers, but they were not supposed to use them to cancel stamps. Their proper use was in the internal postal service, as has been described by Wayne Sommer in the May, 1981 issue of *The POSTHORN*. The use on a seal of a private letter was undoubtedly unauthorized, both before and after 1930.

It should be pointed out that many numeral cancelers were in regular use—on stamps—even after 1930. For a long period after 1930, the Icelandic postal authority did not buy any bridge type cancelers for the letter collecting offices. Many new such offices were opened after 1930, however, and they were given numeral cancelers in the series from 251 to 300 or were given cancelers with lower numbers, which had become available when other collecting offices had been closed or raised to the higher class of "secondary post-offices."



Figure 1 (front)



Figure 1 (back)

There are a few examples before 1930 of numeral cancelers having been used to seal private letters. Correspondents have apparently come to the collecting office with letters which had to be sealed but were not, perhaps because the writer did not have a private seal, and they have been helped by the

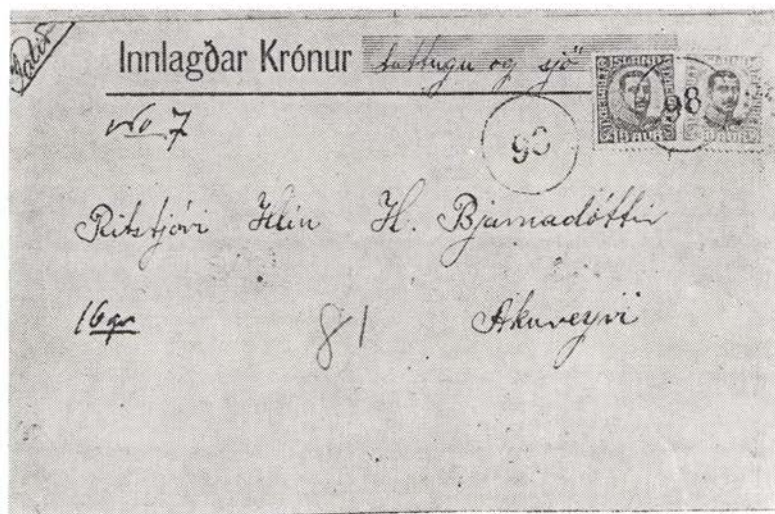
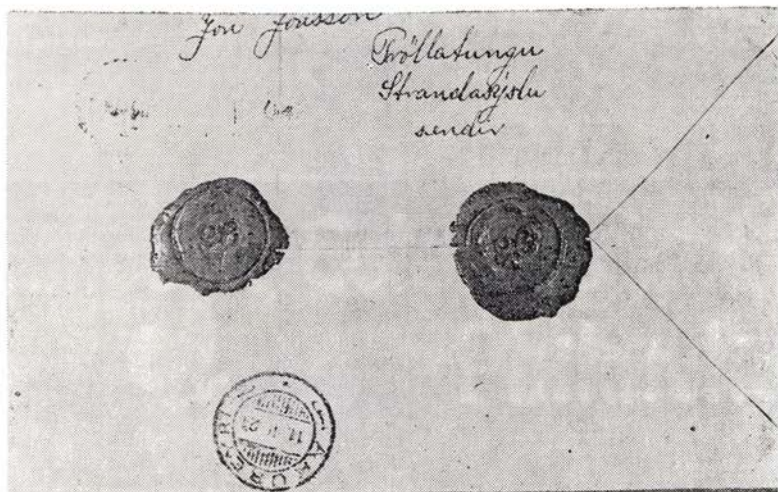


Figure 2





(back)

postman. I find those letters particularly interesting which have the same number on the stamps and on the sealing wax. Four such letters have come to my knowledge, two of which are now in my collection. These two covers are illustrated here. The four letters carry the impressions of cancelers 29, 49, 92, and 98 respectively, and they are all "money letters." Money letters are letters with cash enclosed to an amount indicated on the cover. The two letters I have show, by the sender's names, that the letters have not been written by the postmaster or anybody in his household. The illustrated letter from Litla--Sandfell in 1923 (numeral cancel 29) has on its back five seals. The one in the middle has the impression of a private seal. The postmaster probably did not accept this single seal as enough but required seals all around and lent the sender "his" numeral canceler for the purpose.

## MEMBER-TO-MEMBER

**THIS SPOT** is reserved for your member-to-member advertisement. The first 20 words cost you \$2.00 (this is the minimum) and it is 10c per word after that. Send your ad and your check to Business Manager Eric Roberts, P. O. Box 1304, Claremont, Calif. 91711. Include your membership number in your ad, but don't count it as part of the total number of words.

**WANTED TO BUY.** Plating copies of Norway 4 Skilling Oscar (#4) positions A12, A14, C3, C19. Trade other positions or purchase. Howard Robinson (#1709), 4 Walnut St., Gloucester, MA 01934.

**CATALOG SPECIALS:** For sale 1982 AFA Scandinavian \$5.00, Figure cancellations of Finland, priced catalog \$24.00; Norges Helpost, postal stationery with reprints \$8.50; 1983 SFF \$10.50; Facit Postal History \$21.00. All post-paid. Californians add 6% tax. Eric Roberts (1976), P. O. Box 1304, Claremont, CA 91711.

**EARLY Scandinavians**—Seconds, repaired, look good, sold "as is." Iceland #2; Norway 4, 15, 21; Sweden 2, 6, 12; Denmark 4, 6, 7, 11, 12, 15. One-fifth cat. H. W. Miller (#1619), 821 Vermont, Lawrence, Kansas 66044.



## Norway No. 1 On Letters Abroad

By George Størmer

Among the exhibits displayed at NORWEX 1980 were three seemingly underfranked letter from RØRAAS, Norway, to LJUSNEDAHL, in the Swedish province of Harjedalen. (Fig. 1). Distance between the two towns is about 80 kilometers, or 50 miles. The letters were all franked with a single copy of Norway #1, 4 SK, and mailed to the same addressee, Bruks Patron Herr W. Farup. The normal rate to Sweden at the time was twice the inland rate, or 8 SK. (Fig. 2). Markings on the letters did not indicate underfranking or postage due.

I reviewed the postal circulars for the period 1849-1865 and found only three items relating to these letters.

The circular of July 13, 1849, states that postage for a single-weight letter is 4 SK for a distance of under 20 Norwegian miles (about 200 kilometers) and 8 SK for distances of 20 Norwegian miles or more between the respective postoffices in Norway and Sweden.

The circular of June 8, 1855 permitted the use of postage stamps of Norway to be used on letters mailed to Sweden after July 1, 1855, in lieu of prepayment in cash.

The third circular, effective on October 1, 1865, changes the rate to Sweden to 6 SK per 1 Norwegian Lød, prepaid in stamps or in cash. This circular does not mention a lower rate for short distances, so there may have previously been a change that I did not find in the applicable postal circulars. Mr. Leiv Brecke, the Norwegian philatelist, has later pointed out in *Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift* that the special 4 SK rate was abolished from January 1, 1860, by

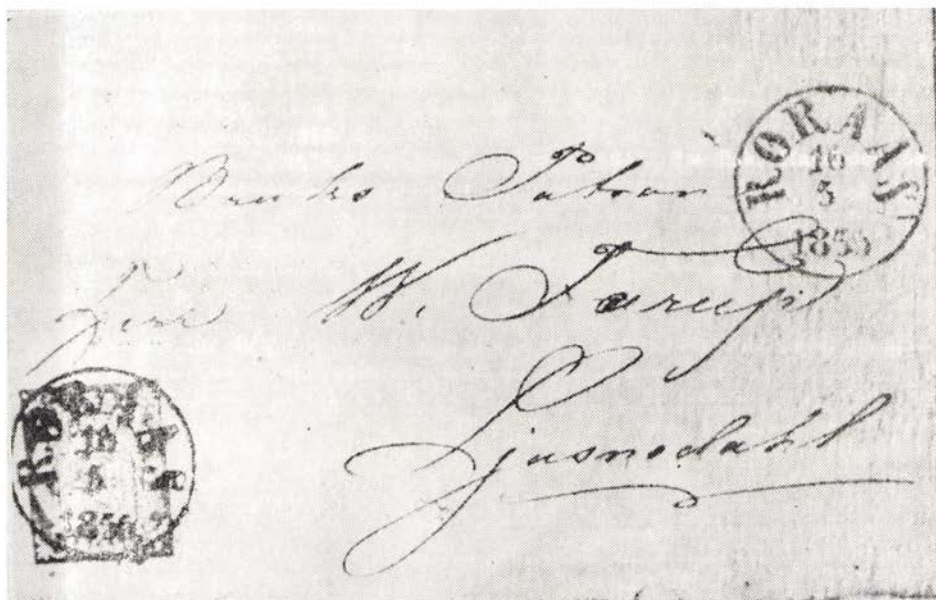


Fig. 1. Letter to Ljusnedahl, Sweden 1856 with 4 Skilling postage. This rate was in force during 1849-1859 to destinations closer than 200 kilometers.

Royal Decree of November 15, 1859. Thereafter, the rate for a single letter to Sweden was 8 SK to all destinations.

Similar short distance special rates existed between Sweden and Denmark. I have seen a photo of a letter from Malmo to Copenhagen, postmarked August 3, 1855, franked with a 6 SK Banco, half the regular 12 SK rate between Sweden and Denmark. Gotfredsen-Haff's volume 1 **Danske Brev** says that the half-rate applied from Copenhagen or Elsinor in Denmark to Landskrona, Malmo, or Helsingborg in Sweden, and from Bornholm (South Baltic Danish Island) to Ystad, Sweden, until September 30, 1865.

Since this special short distance rate existed for 4+ years between Norway and Sweden, letters for years other than 1856 and between other Norwegian and Swedish towns should exist, franked with one of the 4 SK stamps in use (NK 1 or 4).

Now let's review what is known about letters franked with Norway #1 to countries other than Sweden. Very few such letters are recorded and the prices realized in recent auctions place them out of reach of many collectors, but they illustrate an interesting period of Norway's pre-UPU postal history.

The postal circular of February 21, 1855, permitted, for the first time, use of stamps to prepay letters between Norway and France or Algeria. The rate for a single-weight letter to France was 26 SK. Other cash prepaid rates for single-weight letters sent by steamer to the Continent during the summer season were as follows: Denmark 15 SK, Hamburg and Lubeck 16 SK, Prussia 24 SK, Netherlands 30 SK, and Great Britain 35 SK. Stamps were permitted on letters to these destinations from April 25, 1855. Permission was granted to use stamps for pre-payment of letters between Norway and Sweden by the

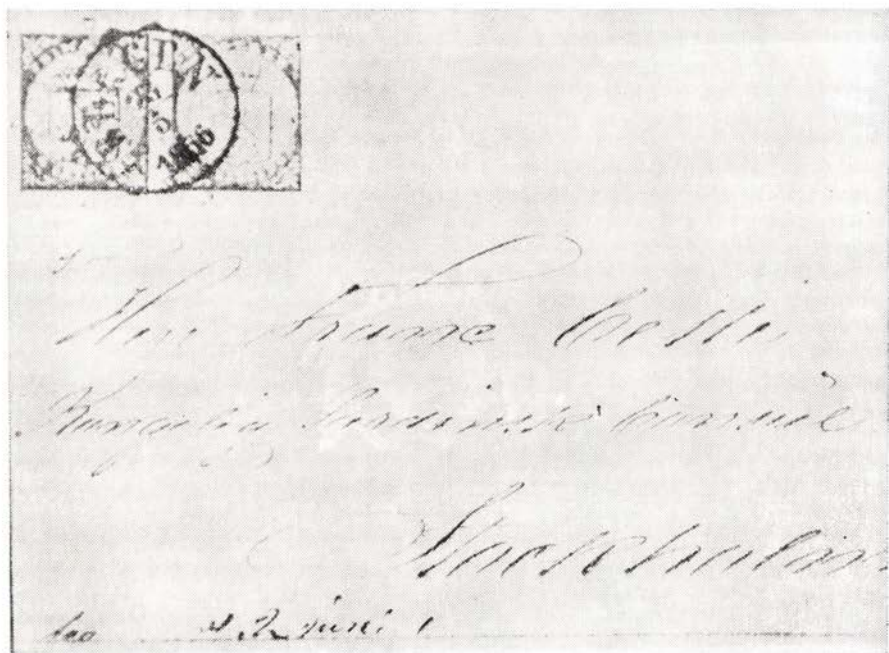


Fig. 2. Letter to Stockholm, Sweden 1856 with the ordinary 8 Skilling rate, in force 1849-1865.



circular of June 8, 1855, at the same time that stamps were introduced in Sweden.

Since only 4 SK stamps or multiples were available to the public from January 1, 1855, until January 30, 1857, (2 SK Oscar) or June 6, 1857, (3 SK Oscar), prepayment in cash was less costly than using 4 SK stamps if the rate was other than a multiple of 4 SK.

For this reason, no letters between Norway and France (26 SK rate), Great Britain (35 SK rate), or Netherlands (30 SK rate) have been recorded during this period. However, two letters to Denmark (15 SK summer rate) are recorded with prepayment of 16 SK in stamps. Personally, I am not convinced these two letters are genuine.

Because of ice conditions between Norway and Denmark, mail to the continent during the winter months had to be routed via Svinesund and Sweden, at an additional rate. The use of stamps on such letters was only authorized from the autumn of 1857, but no such letters are recorded franked with Norway #1.

Since many letters to France, Denmark, Netherlands, and Great Britain exist franked with stamps of the 1856-1857 Oscar I series, the conclusion can be drawn that Norway #1 was used only to a very small degree, if at all, on letters to those countries which would result in an overfranking.

Personally, I have knowledge of only the following letters to countries other than Sweden, fully franked with the 4 SK Norway #1, and where I am convinced that the letters are genuine.

Destination	Rate	Number of Letters
HAMBURG	16 SK	8
HAMBURG	32 SK	1
OTHER GERMANY	24 SK	10
OTHER GERMANY	48 SK	1
NAPLES	24 SK	5
ST. PETERSBURG	32 SK	3
	TOTAL LETTERS	29

This, combined with 26 letters to Sweden, is a small number of letters, particularly when compared with the number of letters emanating from Sweden during roughly the same period. The STOCKHOLMIA 1874 exhibition catalog listed 238 letters with Skilling Banco stamps from Sweden to other countries, excluding 30 to Norway. Swedish destinations included Great Britain, France, Netherlands, Denmark, Russia, Germany, and a large number to Finland.

This broad spectrum of Skilling Banco letter destinations illustrates the importance of having various stamp denominations, as in the case of Sweden, available for use on letters abroad.

Of the Norwegian letters abroad to countries other than Sweden, only four addresses are known on more than one letter franked with Norway #1. All the five fully-franked letters to Naples were to the firm Maingay, Robin & Co. (Fig. 3) and all the three fully-franked letters to St. Petersburg were to the firm Gustaf Sterky & Son. (Fig. 4). The stamps on these letters are either cut-in or repaired. Three other letters are known from the Sterky correspondence, where two or four stamps have been removed. Two letters are known addressed to a visiting Mrs. Consulne Lorck, one in 1855 to Berlin and the other in 1856 to Hamburg. (Fig. 5).

Finally I know of four complete envelopes, and one from which some stamps have been removed, to Miss Amalie Gotharda Svensen, Leipzig, during



1855-1856. (Figs. 6, 7). While the first two addresses are merchant houses, and as such represent the major part of all foreign correspondence before 1870 still in existence, the last two named addressees are private individuals. In the earliest stamp period, it borders on the unique that letters to Norwegian ladies abroad have been preserved.

In early 1978 I saw another letter from November 1858 addressed to Miss Svensen, Leipzig, franked with three copies of the 8 SK Oscar (NK 5). This piqued my curiosity, and I decided to find out more about this person.

Reviewing a large number of auction catalogs, I found another letter included in a substantial collection of ship letters sold in 1972. This letter was franked with Norway #1 with manuscript cancel "Aeger 7/7 1856," and had the sender's address "Byskriver (Town Secretary) Svensen, Bergen." With this clue, I wrote to the State Archives at Bergen. Their helpfulness elicited the following information: Town Secretary Christen Svensen arrived in Bergen from Christiania with two daughters on August 24, 1845. He was born in 1787, and was secretary of the LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE in 1818 (certainly an important task). In 1819 he was town bailiff of Frederikshald and in 1839 Provincial Treasurer, before moving to Bergen in 1845, where he was Town Secretary until 1858. The 1861 directory listed him as dead, but this was not confirmed by a list of deaths in Bergen, 1857-1861.

Further research by the Bergen State Archives produced a copy of a letter from Chr. Svensen to the Governor of Bergen dated Sept. 17, 1858, requesting that the Town Bailiff be appointed Town Secretary, as Chr. Svensen intended to start a trip abroad by State Steamer on Sept. 24. The Passport Register indicates he, with daughter, was granted a passport to Leipzig on Sept. 22nd. As the handwriting on the letter to the Governor is the same as the handwriting on the letters to Leipzig, it is safe to assume these were letters from father to daughter.



Fig. 3. Letter to Naples, Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, with 24 Skilling postage. This rate was in force 1855-1859 on letters paid to the Austria-Italy border.

Mr. Nysaeter of the Bergen State Archives gave me the next clue, that H. J. Hurum's book about Edvard Grieg mentioned Amalie Svensen as a student at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Leipzig.

Searching, in the Oslo State Archives, of documents from Frederikshald, I found in the minutes for 1830 an entry under births on Feb. 21: Amalia Gottharda Christiane Svenson, daughter of Town bailiff Christen Svensen, Knight of the Order of Wasa, and his wife Cecilie Svensen, nee Barner. In the register of youths confirmed in 1845, Amalia is listed again under July 6. This is outside the customary period, and may have had a connection with the imminent move to Bergen.

My next move was to contact the Norwegian Music Collection at the Oslo University Library. Their information was that Amalie was listed as admit--



Fig. 4. Letter to St. Petersburg, Russia, with 32 Skilling postage which was in force 1855-1865. The letter was sent via the Danish Post Office in Hamburg and onward by Prussian mail.



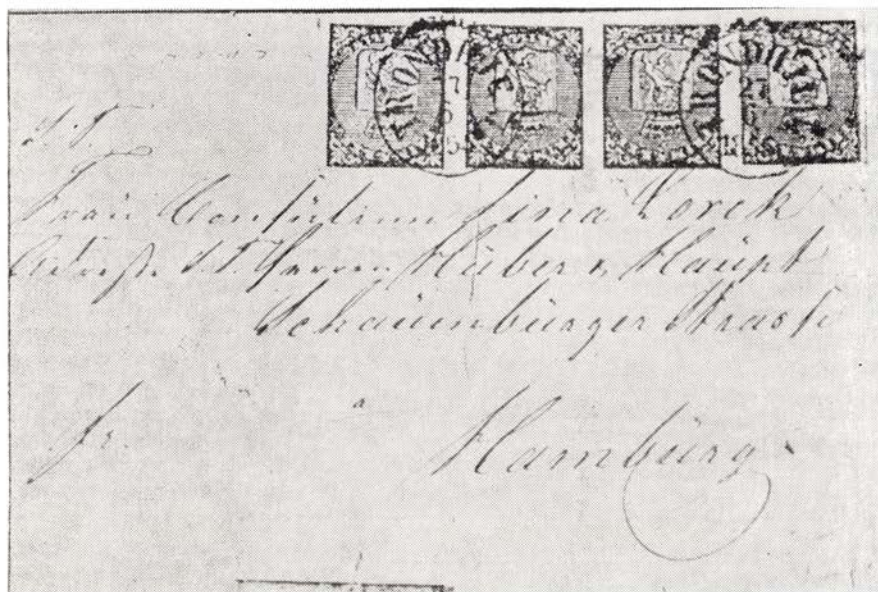


Fig. 5. Letter to Hamburg, Germany, 1856 with 16 Skilling postage. This rate was in force 1855-1867.



Fig. 6. Letter to Leipzig, Kingdom of Saxony, from Bergen August 31, 1855. The letter was received Sept. 5. The 24 SK rate was in force 1855-65 on letters sent via the Danish Post Office in Hamburg and onward by Prussian mail.





Fig. 7. This cover was sent to Leipzig 7 September, 1855, and was also in the hands of Amalie Svensen after only 5 days transit.

ted in 1854 to the Konigliche Conservatorium der Musik zu Leipzig. It was subsequently confirmed by letter from their Leipzig school that Miss Svensen studied piano playing from 1854 to 1859. Hurum's aforementioned book said that Edvard Grieg went to Leipzig in the fall of 1858 at age 15. Amalie was 28 at that time.

The letter with Oscar I stamps was mailed to Amalie at Leipzig in November 1858 so she was still there when Grieg arrived. According to Hurum, they were able to hear Clara Schumann play the works of her husband, and hear Franz Liszt conduct Wagner's "Tannhauser."

It is tempting to believe that father Svensen died in Leipzig. I have not been able to locate any more information about Amalie, either, except for another letter of July 1874, addressed to her in Munich, and a series of postcards addressed to Leipzig 1883-1904, which were sent me by a Norwegian collector living abroad. These cards show that Amalie kept contacts with her old friends. A scholar of musical history said, laconically, that she probably remained one of the absolutely anonymous members of society. Did Amalie Svensen settle in Germany, never marry, and make a living as a piano teacher?

Further information about Amalie Gotharda Svensen and about Norway #1 used on letters abroad would be appreciated.

Georg Størmer

c/o Norsk Hydro, Bygdøy Allé 2, Oslo, Norway

(This article is a revision of articles originally appearing in Norsk FT, with translation by Sven Åhman. Publication is through the generous permission of the author and the Norsk Filatelistforbund.)

(Photos by J. H. Richter.)

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## Dues Notice

Enclosed with the August issue of The POSTHORN was an envelope with a reminder that 1983 dues were due. If you have not sent your renewal in, do it now before you forget again. Send check for \$7.00, payable to Scandinavian Collectors Club to SCC Executive Secretary Richard Diran, Box 97, Bel-

mont, MA 02178. Include your membership number. Be sure not to miss an issue of "the bank of Scandinavian philately." (NOTE: Overseas members who wish AIRMAIL delivery of The POSTHORN, add \$6.00 per year).

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## Silver Statuette Award At Exhibition

By Morten Persson, Postiljonen AB



At the national stamp exhibitin "SOLEX 82" in Sollentuna the 4-7 of November, which is also the largest in Sweden so far, the challenge trophy "The Silver Rider" will be one of the awards.

This challenge trophy was given for the first time in 1977 in Malmö at the exhibition TREMA 77 and the winner was Mr. J. J. Engellau who got it for his outstanding collection of Denmark, which by the way was awarded the Grand Gold Medal the same year in Amsterdam and the International Grand Prix in Toronto the following year—the very best you can get!

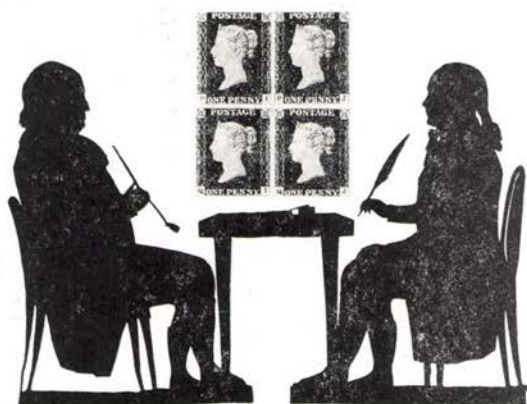
Thereafter, this award was given to Mr. Erland Brand at VAST 78 and last year to Mr. Rune Almqvist at GOTHIA 81.

"The Silver Rider" is made of 3 kilos of solid silver and donated by Postiljonen AB. The award is to be given by the exhibition jury for the best collection from a Scandinavian area and is followed by an engraved silver medal of the 18th magnitude as well as a diploma.

# 32.

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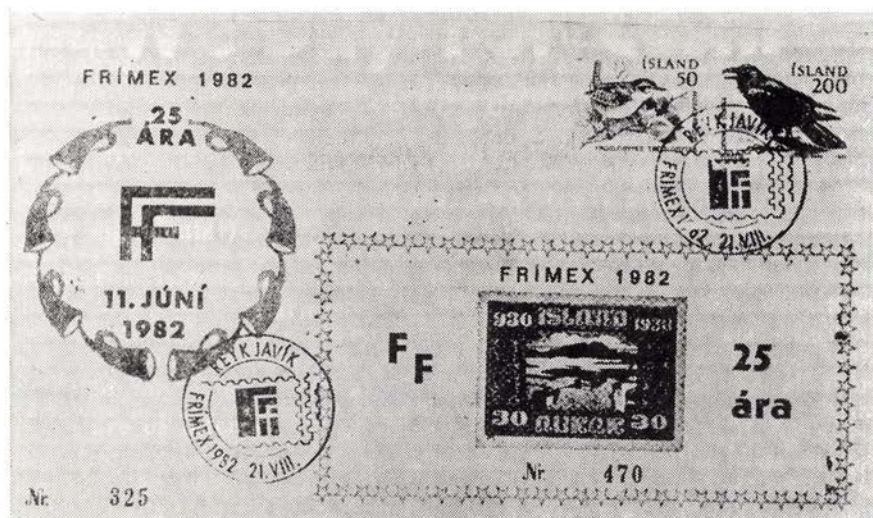


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## Felag Frimerkjasafnara Celebrates 25th Anniversary

By Páll H. Ásgeirsson, Chairman, FRIMEX 1982



Felag Frimerkjasafnara, referred to as FF (The Philatelic Society) of Iceland, celebrated its 25th Anniversary with the FRIMEX 1982 Stamp Exhibition August 19-23 in Reykjavik.

Collections from Czechoslovakia, U.S.A., Ireland, Great Britain, Germany, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Faroe Islands, and Iceland were shown. These exhibitions were divided into 3 sections: Honor Class, Competition Class, and Introduction Class.

The most interesting entry was the newly discovered Skilding and Aurar Letters from the National Archives. This discovery is the most important one in Iceland Postal History. Heretofore, only a few covers were known with these stamps. Among the rarities on exhibition were examples of all of the values in various combinations to meet the correct postage rates of their time. Ordinary, as well as official correspondence was included. One cover, dated April 1873, is the oldest known piece to have passed through the Icelandic postal service.

The National Archives also displayed a number of other items that have not been known earlier. In particular was a 5-aurar cover, the only known on cover. Altogether, the Icelandic Postal Agency had 46 different rare philatelic items, which had not been seen since they were filed away more than 100 years ago. Also on display was the airmail part of the Hans Hals Collection.

A special Post Office was open at FRIMEX 1982 during the 5-day exhibition.

SCC members interested in The Philatelic Society of Iceland may contact the Society at P. O. Box 171, Reykjavik, Iceland.

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## Scandinavian Literature Notes

By Alan Warren

Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift No. 4 carries a further discussion on early

Danish postcards by Niels Klottrup, details of railway cancels on the route between Aarhus and Grenaa by Aksel Martinussen, and more notes on the printing and margin numbers of the typographed issues of Denmark of 1918-1920 by Knud Juul. In the column on Exhibitions, prominent mention is given to the fact that SCC has furnished a set of its Award Medals for use at the national show SILFI 82 being held this month in Silkeborg. The medals are to be awarded at the discretion of the Jury. Mention is also made of SCC publications, The POSTHORN and Luren.

For the Swedish perfin enthusiasts, a handbook in alphabetical format has been issued by SFF in conjunction with Samlarfoereningen Baeltespennarna. The 70-page catalog by Leif Bergman, Tord Lagerwall, and Stellan Swenson is entitled *Svenska Skyddsperforeringer*. A brief review of the publication appears in Volume 31 No. 1 (1982) of *Philatelic Literature Review*, journal of the American Philatelic Research Library.

In a recent issue of *Stamp Collector*, SCC member Wayne C. Sommer clarified some points concerning the Iceland 1930 Millenary "proofs," which had previously been discussed by Herman Herst and Barbara Mueller. Some of the detail came from the book *One Hundred Years of Icelandic Stamps*. In the same issue of SC (June 28, 1982), Reidar Norby has an article on the Swede Curry Gabriel Treffenberg, who proposed to Parliament in 1823 a number of reforms to the postal system which could have scooped Rowland Hill, but Parliament was not ready to accept Treffenberg's ideas.

The journal *Finds*, published by the Scandinavian Philatelic Club of Japan, although largely in the language of that country, continues to impress one with the interest in our specialty in the Land of the Rising Sun. Issue No. 38 carries Part 10 in a series on the stamps and posts of Sweden by Kazuhiko Hasegawa, and another on the Sweden lion types by M. Shigaki, which won an award at JAPEX 80. The same author reviews the Scandinavian exhibits at PHILATOKYO 81 in Issues 38, 39, and 40. Issue No. 40 continues the series by Yubun Osugi on Norway postal history and stamps, this one primarily about the 21 mm posthorn issue.

The FG Nordische Staaten in Germany held its annual meeting in April at Lahnstein, and plans are already underway for the 1983 convention to be held April 22-24 in Siegen in conjunction with the Rhein-Ruhr-Posta Exhibition. Gold Medal winner at this year's convention was Wolfgang Löhrich with his entry of the rectangular cancels of Sweden 1830-1860. In the June 1982 report, the Sweden Study Group reviews the cancellations of Stralsund from the year 1648 to 1848. Examples are illustrated of straight-line cancels, boxed cancels, "freo" script cancels, and the boxed "K.S.N.P.C." cancel.

The July 26 issue of *Stamp Collector* carried an interesting article by the Swedish writer Christer Brunstrom on Goteborg based on scenes depicted on the local issues of that city. Some of the scenes discussed include the famous Baltespennarna statue, the Skansen Lejonet fortress, the Goteborg harbor, Gota Square, and the Shipping Museum. Issue No. 41 of *Finds* has just arrived, courtesy of our member Hajime Harada, who is author of a major article in this issue on the Denmark Coat of Arms issues and the various types.

The June issue of *Scandinavian Contact* carries some information on the numeral cancellers and letter offices of Norway, translated by Olga Ellis. In this issue also is Part VII of a series on the private local posts of Scandinavia, this one covering Norway's Horten, Tønsberg, and Arendal by W. J. D. Anand. Norway is again represented with an article by A. Sandland on the postage due markings of 1959-1976. In the Danish notes column, A. E. Beardsmore continues the discussion of the various København offices, covering



offices 12 through 25. SCC members interested in information about the Scandinavia Philatelic Society should write to the secretary Susan Worsley, 71 Castelnau, Barnes, London SW13 9RT, England.

In case you missed it, the August issue of the APS *The American Philatelist* carried a note that a group based in Norway has combined two hobbies— for stamp collectors who are also ham radio operators. Membership and the quarterly journal are available for \$5 cash or 15 international reply coupons sent to HAM-Stamps, P. O. Box 210 ,9401 Harstad, Norway.

The July issue of *Tidskriften Bältespännaren* from Sweden again contains many interesting tidbits on Cinderella material. John Holman continues his story of private posts in Britain today, dealing with airway and railway service. Åke Torkelstam reviews the precursors to post cards with a stamp motif, particularly the PFFS cards used for First Day service in the 1930's, and the "stuffer" cards inserted in FDCs of the 1940's which carry information about the stamp being issued. A short item by Peter Nordin points up many errors in printed registration labels, from misspelled town names to labels with the town name printed upside down. The journal is published largely in Swedish, with some items in the English language. Membership is 20 Sw. Kr. The President is Lars Liwendahl, Bredgränd 2, 11130 Stockholm, Sweden.

The January-March issue of the *War Cover Club Bulletin* mentions that Torbjorn Larsson-Fedde, author of the recent book on German Fieldposts in Norway 1940-1945, is now researching German POW mail from Norway 1945-46. Anyone having such material should send details, and if possible photocopies, to the author at Skottegaten 4, 4550 Farsund, Norway. In the June issue of *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*, Børge Schäffer tabulates the plate flaws of the 8 øre bicolor of Denmark (AFA 25); Niels Klottrup discusses Danish parcel post to foreign countries in one article, and early insured letters in another.

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## Awards

By Alan Warren

At LAMAPEX in La Mirada, CA the Apfelbaum club gold award went to George Leete for an exhibit of Faroe Islands. This year's PIPEX show, held in Anchorage, Alaska, featured a number of polar exhibits, some of which touch on areas of Scandinavian philately. Fred Goldberg took the Grand Award with a showing of Scandinavians in Polar Philately. W. E. Benfield took a Vermeil with his Maud Expedition 1918-25, and Ruth Gilliam also won a Vermeil for her Sweden. M. Cline won a Silver for Scandinavian Air Mails as well as the award for the Specialties and Research category.

Winner of a Vermeil award at MILCOPEX was Rolf Kardel with his entry of Deutsche Feldpost in Nordskandinaviaen 1940-45. Vic Engstrom captured a Vermeil for his Danish West Indies Postal Stationery (Single Cards) at the STAmPsHOW 82 in Milwaukee. At the same show, in the philatelic literature section, *THE POSTHORN* took a Vermeil, and Chapter 17's *Luren*, edited by Paul Nelson, won a silver. *THE POSTHORN* was also one of three medal winners (there were no gold awards) in the philatelic periodicals competition at the international PHILEXFRANCE show in Paris this past June. Thanks to Joe Frye, whose editorship resulted in these awards, and to Pete Schlueter who has the important task of entering our publications in the various philatelic literature shows.



At the recent FRIMEX 82 show in Iceland, celebrating the 25th anniversary of Felag Frimerkjasafnara, SCC medals were won by George Sickels (Gold) for his War Covers, Jon Halldorsson (Silver) for Iceland Numerals, and by Kurt Bliese (Bronze) for Early Iceland, 1873-1903. Former SCC Director Wayne C. Sommer attended the show and personally conveyed greetings from SCC to the FRIMEX organizing Committee.

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## Rare Danish Cover

Furnished by Jay Smith



This rare, fresh Danish Cover shows 1888 registered usage to Germany (with backstamp). It includes a Scott #29 and #30 (VF) on an 8 øre postal stationery envelope. Both stamps and the envelope are PERFINS! Both #29 and #30 are printing XI and #29 appears to have an early stage of the AFA #26n flaw. This is one of the freshest, earliest and most beautiful Danish Perfin covers we have seen and is of Exhibition quality. (For further information contact Jay Smith & Associates, P. O. Box 9630, Madison, WI 53715.)

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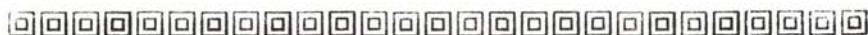
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## DENMARK

- 07 DANMARK SKILLING 1851-1871. S. Christensen a.o. Svensk F. F. 1972. 45 pages. **Swedish.**
- 01 DANMARKS FØRSTE FRIMAERKE/FIRE R.B.S. (Denmark's first postage stamp.) J. Schmidt-Andersen. P.K.P. 1961. 200 pages with reprints.
- 47 4 RIGSBANKSKILLING—Pladning af plade I (Plating of plate I of 4 R.B.S. Aarhus Frim. h. 1976. 74 p.
- 54 ditto, plate II. 1977. 77 pages.
- 81 ditto, plates III and IV 1981. 123 pages.
- 80 2 RIGSBANK-SKILLING 1851-52. Postal history and philately. 337 ill., plate-reconstruction, etc. S. Christensen. 160 pages. **English.**
- 02 DIE BRIEFMARKEN DANEMARKS (Danish postage stamps) 1854-57 and 1863. J. Schmidt-Andersen. 1974. 81 pages. **German.**
- 06 OM AT SAMLE SMA KVADRATER (How to collect the small square stamps.) M. Meedon. 1974. 81 pages.
- 49 4 SKILLING 1864. Crown, scepter, sword. J. Winter. Frost Forlag. 1876. 24 pages.
- 57 OM AT SAMLE 1864 UTGAVEN (How to collect the 1864 emission). 1877. J. Gotfredsen 434 pages
- 08 OM AT SAMLE TOVARVEDE (How to collect the bi-colored stamps. S. Magnussen. 1874. 72 pages.
- 71 SAMLEVAERDIGE VARIANTER DANMARK GRØNLAND FAROERNE STÅLSTIK (Collectable variants on steelengraved stamps). Priced catalogue. 1982. 120 p. Many ill.

(If not otherwise stated, publications in Danish.)

The above is the beginning of the Denmark-section of our saleslist which, all together, contains over 190 titles of philatelic publications and 26 catalogs on the Northern countries.

This list will be sent by airmail after receipt of \$1.00 or 2 International Reply Coupons (surface mail 1 I.R.C.).

During 1983/1984 at least 5 supplements will be issued, containing information about new publications, special offers (also on catalogs) and second hand literature.

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## President's Message

As I write this sixteenth and last message to the SCC Membership, I realize that the replacement of an old administration with a new one is a necessary step in the continuous evolution and growth of any organization, including the Scandinavian Collectors Club. The transition goes more smoothly since some of the officers and directors take two terms in succession. I also realize that the steady growth in membership and increased international recognition of SCC could not have taken place without the foundation set in previous administrations, and particularly without the help and cooperation of the other officers, board members, and committee chairmen.

During the past four years our membership has broken the 1,000 barrier. This has been due to paid ads taken in the philatelic weeklies, the great response to Publicity Manager Marvin Hunewell's releases, and the solicitation of new APS and SPA members who have listed Scandinavian countries among their collecting interests. Thus our affiliation with these two major societies has been beneficial to SCC.

Our growing international recognition has come about with reciprocal publicity in the journals of our sister organizations around the world. Continuing with the participation strategy in HAFNIA and STOCKHOLMIA of earlier administrations, we held an open meeting at the NORWEX 80 exhibition in Oslo where additional ties were made with Scandinavian philatelic organizations in other countries.

Increased recognition has also come about with the promotion of the SCC medals at national and international exhibitions by our Awards Chairman Ron Collin. Our journal, *THE POSTHORN*, continues to take prizes at national and international literature competitions. This achievement is a result of the work of many including our former Editor Joe Frye, our printer Harlan Miller, our team of Associate Editors, the authors themselves, and our Literature Promotion Chairmen Don Himer and now Pete Schlueter. The two largest issues of *THE POSTHORN* appeared during the past four years.

Our SCC Library continues to grow under the management of Librarian Stan Hanson, and the latest Library Index accompanies this issue. A copy will be given to each new SCC member upon joining. Recognition has also gone to individuals who have helped SCC and Scandinavian philately in general by conferring special honors with the Pelander and Jacobsen Awards.

With the growth of the membership and consequent increase in detail work needed to maintain records, a new appointed office of Executive Secretary was created. In this capacity, Dick Diran has already begun to relieve our Secretary and Treasurer of much of their burdensome work. This step assures the timely handling of new member applications and membership renewals, important to the stability and growth of the Club.

Former Director and current Vice President Jed Richter has been especially helpful with his constant fiscal analysis and insistence on budgeting, so that SCC is assured of a firm financial base with control of expenses and timely recommendations of dues increases. Our overall chapter activity has remained even, with the unfortunate loss of chapters in Southern New Jersey and Toronto, offset by the formation of new chapters in New England and Houston. Activity with the Scandinavian Stamp Mart, under the capable leadership of Wade Beery, has remained popular with benefits accruing to both individual members and SCC chapters. The local chapters are also important to the smooth running of our annual conventions.

In summary, all of our accomplishments required the help of many, many



people both as individual contributors or as members of committees. It is my intent to support the next administration in any way possible, and I ask all SCC members to contribute ideas, suggestions, comments which will help guide our new officers and continue the advancement of SCC and Scandinavian Philately.

—Alan Warren

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## SCC Nominations 1983-84

The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of officers for SCC for the term 1983-84. The only contested office is that of the Directors-at-Large. Three will be elected from the four nominated based on ballot count. You will receive your ballots in November, and they should be promptly returned to the Ballot Committee, Willard S. Johnson, Chairman. Members of SCC Chapter 14 are serving as the Ballot Committee.

### President

Wayne P. Rindone, Newtonville, MA—SCC Secretary 1981-82, Chapter 5 Treasurer.

### Vice President

Alfred A. Gruber, Newark, DE—Chapter 13 Secretary/Treasurer.

### Secretary

Edwin C. Godbold, Atlanta, GA—Director of Administration and Assistant Treasurer of the Southern Regional Education Board.

### Treasurer

Donald W. Himer, North Hollywood, CA—SCC Treasurer 1981-82, Literature Promotion Chairman 1979-80.

### Directors-at-Large (3 to be elected)

Stanley W. Hanson, Chicago, IL—SCC Director-at-Large 1981-82, SCC Librarian.

Allan E. Warrington, Newport Beach, CA—American Airlines Executive, Chapter 17 Auction Chairman.

Kauko I. Aro, Belleville, NJ—SCC Secretary 1979-80.

John Siverts, Wilmington, DE—APS Accredited Judge (Scandinavia), Chapter 13 Regional Director.

—SCC Nominating Committee, Paul Nelson, Chairman  
Marvin Hunewell, Edwin Fraser

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## Danish West Indies Revenue Stamps



Around the time that the United States purchased the Danish West Indies from Denmark, five different overprints of the D.W.I. revenue stamps appeared.

- 10 Bit on 50 Bit
- 10 Bit on 3 Francs
- 10 Bit on 10 Francs
- 50 Bit on 2 Francs
- 50 Bit on 3 Francs

When Revenue stamps were used, they were pen cancelled with a date. The only date that I have recorded used before U.S. bought the Islands is 30 March 1917. (The purchase was the next day, 31 March 1917.) This cancellation is on the 10 Bit on 50 Bit stamp.

Cancellations found on the 10 Bit on 3 Francs, and on the 50 Bit on 3 Francs stamps are all 1918! This is well after U.S. assumed control.

The fact that the Danish revenue stamps were used by U.S. authorities shortly after the purchase is not unusual. They probably did not have time to print new U.S. Virgin Island stamps for immediate use. What is unusual is that cancellation dates BEFORE the U.S. ownership are not seen. Cancellations of 1918 are recorded on 10 Bit, 50 Bit, 10 Francs, and 50 Francs stamps.

No cancellations have been reported to me on the regular 100 Francs stamp nor have they been reported on the 10 Bit on 10 Francs, or the 50 Bit on 2 Francs stamps, illustrated in Fig. 1.

The thought occurs to me that some or all of these five listed overprints were produced by U.S. authorities. The Forbin 1915 catalog of World Revenue stamps lists no DWI overprinted stamps.

The U.S. government did print a set of revenue stamps for the U.S. Virgin Islands in 1917. L. J. Baird, in *The American Revenuer* of March 1977, gives 1923 as the earliest reported cancellation on this first U.S. issue, where the coinage is still Bit and Francs.

The U.S. officials were prolific in their revaluing of their own 1917 issue of stamps, some 30 different items are listed by Baird.

This leads me to believe that it was U.S. officials in St. Thomas who authorized overprinting existing stocks of DWI revenue stamps, before availing themselves of the new U.S. supply.

The subject deserves further research. I would appreciate any and all thoughts or information on uses of the DWI overprinted revenue stamps. Likewise, information on dated cancellations on any DWI revenue stamps would be of value. Your answers will be too late for inclusion of Volume 3,



Danish West Indies Mails, 1754-1917, but important changes certainly can be made in a second edition.

Victor E. Engstrom

2155 Pebble Beach Dr., Clearwater, Fla. 33519

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## FRIMEX 1982

By Wayne C. Sommer

The Reykjavik Philatelic Society held its 25th Anniversary celebration with the Stamp Exhibition "FRIMEX 1982," from August 19-23 in the Kjarval Museum in Reykjavik. In addition to archival exhibits never before seen in public, forty-four other exhibits were shown.

Recently discovered skilling covers, heretofore not known to exist, were displayed by the Postal Administration. Included was an example postmarked in April 1873 that is believed to be the earliest piece of mail that passed through the Icelandic postal system. Another rarity, unknown previously, was a cover franked with the 5 aurar issue of 1879, sent from Reykjavik to Copenhagen on 29 November 1879, the only known use of this stamp. Altogether, some forty skilling covers are now held in the archives of the Icelandic government.

Three Icelandic exhibits were awarded the medals of the Scandinavian Collectors Club. George W. Sickels, Union, New Jersey received the SCC Gold for his War Cover Collection; Jón Halldórsson, Reykjavik, Iceland, received the SCC Silver for his showing of Icelandic postmarks on the 20 aurar Landscapes issue of 1925; and Kurt Bliese, Germany, was selected for the SCC Bronze for his exhibit of the Icelandic skilling and aurar issues of 1873-1903.

An unusual and very popular feature of FRIMEX 1982 was the "Fish Pond" to encourage philately among young people. For two kronur (about 15c), one could throw a line over a wall behind which someone (children of club members took turns) attached a cover or a glassine containing stamps to then be fished out of the pond. This activity attracted continuous attention throughout the five days, requiring considerable scrambling among the Club membership to supply donated packet material.

Another unusual feature was the only "junior" exhibit consisting of one frame of U. S. stamps on the subject of "Famous Americans," using not only a few of the issue of the 1930's but also, and mainly, the more recent portraits that have characterized U. S. emissions. Miss Amy L. Shulze, an 11th grade student at the Eleanor Roosevelt High School, Greenbelt, Maryland, was awarded a Special Bronze Medal for her well-received effort. The writer of this report was pleased to have secured Amy's interest in exhibiting, and gladly acknowledges the encouragement given to her by Mr. James Bruns, stamp columnist of the Washington, D. C., Post Newspaper, also a professional educator stationed at her school.

FRIMEX 1982 showed collections of the following countries: Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Faroes, Finland, Germany, Great Britain, Holland, Iceland, Ireland, Sweden, and the United States of America. The awards ceremony, itself a departure from customary formal banquets, was a very informal, typically enjoyable Icelandic "kaffi." The Reykjavik Philatelic Society received congratulations on its 25th Anniversary from KPK in Copenhagen (by Folmer Østergaard), from Stockholm's Islandsamlarna (by Ingvar Andersen), and from SCC (by your reporter). The success of FRIMEX 1982 reflects great credit upon Mr. Páll Ásgeirsson, president of the Reykjavik Philatelic Society, and the members of the Exhibition Committee.

## Finland—Cancellations

### MUTE CANCELS: "THE BIG THREE"

By Ed Fraser

The famous Finnish philatelist E. A. Hellman compiled information for many years on different mute cancels, towns of origin, and exact period of use. He also assigned a sequential numbering system roughly grouped by pattern style. The current system is based on his 1961 book "Die Figurenstempel Finnlands". (Ref. 1).

While there are many common mute cancels among the approximately 500 different ones he listed, there are 3 that seem to account for about 20% of all the mute cancels one finds! These are known as #226, #360, and #441. A brief discussion of each should be helpful in understanding cancellation practices in general, and mute cancel usage in particular. Additionally, the practical approach to mute cancel identification is to ALWAYS start with the most common possibilities first.



Figure 1—Two illustrations of Finland's most common mute cancel. The #226 Mute Cancel of Nikolaistad. (Actual size).

Cancel #226 is described as a "five by five pattern" measuring about 20 by 23 mm. and occurring in black. It is the most common Finnish mute cancel and occurs on stamp issues from 1866 thru 1932. While common on the 1875 thru 1889 issues, it is especially plentiful on the 1885 issues. There are about 3½ dozen different "5 x 5" cancels of the same "squares type" pattern as #226, as well as many others that are similar but instead "4 x 5," "5 x 6," "6 x 6," etc. With so many being similar, it can be very difficult to identify "squares" cancels even where a majority of the cancel is on the stamp. Fortunately #226 is quite distinctive because it is not a very symmetrical pattern and some of the squares are uniquely broken or worn. Unlike most other "squares" cancels, #226 frequently can be identified even when only a few squares of the cancel appear. In figures 2 and 3 are some examples of stamps that are easily identified as having mute #226. An example of fairly late usage on cover is shown in Figure 4, showing the typical dated Nikolaistad (Wasa) cancel that accompanies mute #226.

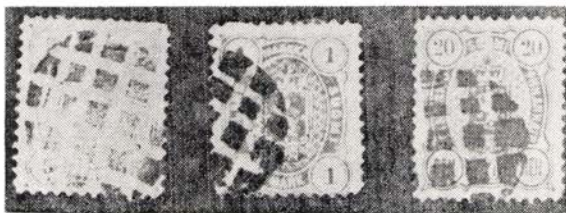


Figure 2—The #226 Nikolaistad Mute Cancel (5 pen. 1882, 1 mk. 1885, 20 pen. 1889)





Figure 3—Multiple strikes show variation of inking of the #226 mute.  
(20 pen. pair 1885)



Figure 4—The #226 mute cancel with the dated Nikolaistad (Wasa) cancel  
of 17 Nov. 1897.

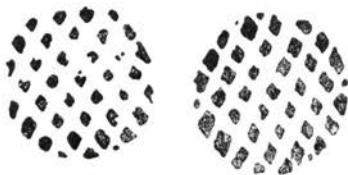


Figure 5—Two illustrations of the #360 Ny Carleby mute cancel.  
(Actual size).

Cancel #360, shown in Figure 5, is described as a "7 x 7" pattern measuring about 20 mm. in diameter and occurring in blue and in black. It occurs on stamp issues from 1875 thru 1891, being especially common on the 1875 thru 1889 issues. Although there are about 1½ dozen different "7 x 7" cancels, as well as ones that are "6 x 7," "7 x 8," etc., it can often be easily identified. This is because the rows and columns form a distinctive angle—not the usual 90°—and the "squares" are slightly diamond shaped.

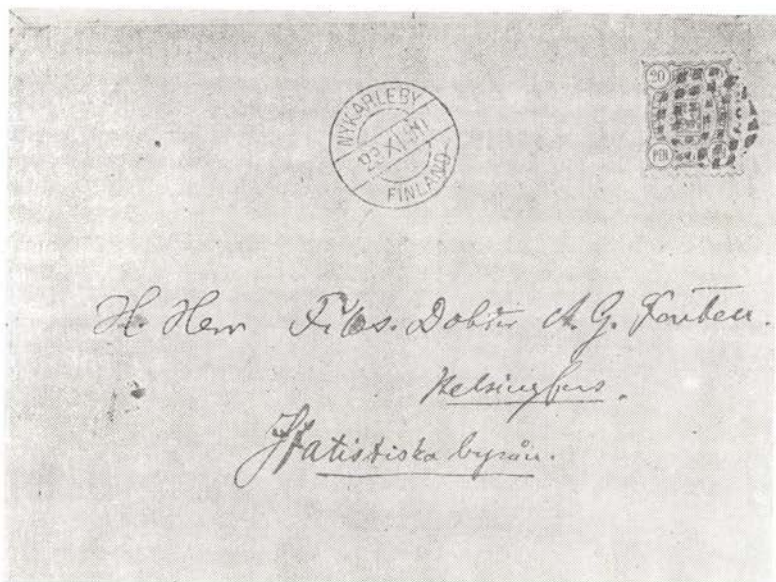


Figure 6—The #360 mute cancel with the dated Ny Carleby cancel of 23 Nov. 1890, and backstamped at Helsingfors on 24 Nov. 1890. (Ref. 2).



Figure 7—Mute #360: Usage at left showing a fine faint blue pattern of diamonds might at first appear very different from a heavily inked dark black usage. (20 pen. 1875 shows part of the circular Ny Carleby cancel, too. Pair is 20 pen. 1889 issue).



Figure 8—Three illustrations of the #441 mute cancel of Åbo (actual size).

Cancel #441, shown in Figure 8, is described as an “8 piece pie pattern” measuring about 20 mm. in diameter and occurring in black. It occurs on stamp issues from 1885 (1882—2 penni also) through 1895, but is especially common on the 1889 issues and on the 1891 issues of Sweden. It also can be found on Danish, German, and Russian issues, and undoubtedly exists on others. This cancel, described as a “ship cancel,” appears on mail coming into, going



thru, or coming out of Åbo. A cover is shown in Figure 9, and two loose stamps in Figure 10. I have not seen an explanation of the place or places of usage—which may not be known. It was not known at the time E. A. Hellman wrote his 1961 book!



Figure 9—The #441 mute cancel with a dated "Åbo-Finland" cancel of 30 June 1893 and a 19 June 1893 St. Petersburg transit cancel.

Although there are a dozen different "8 piece pie pattern" cancels, the main difficulty is the apparent softness of the #441 canceller, its wear, AND its very close resemblance to mute #442. 442 is also Åbo related, and very common during the same era. While #442 occurs on the same issues and on foreign issues as well, including Great Britain, it is slightly larger (21 x 22 mm.) and is most commonly found on the 1895 issues. See Figure 11, and a cover in Figure 12.



Figure 10—Distinctive #441 Åbo Mute Cancels.



Figure 11—Three illustrations of the #442 mute cancel of Åbo (actual size).

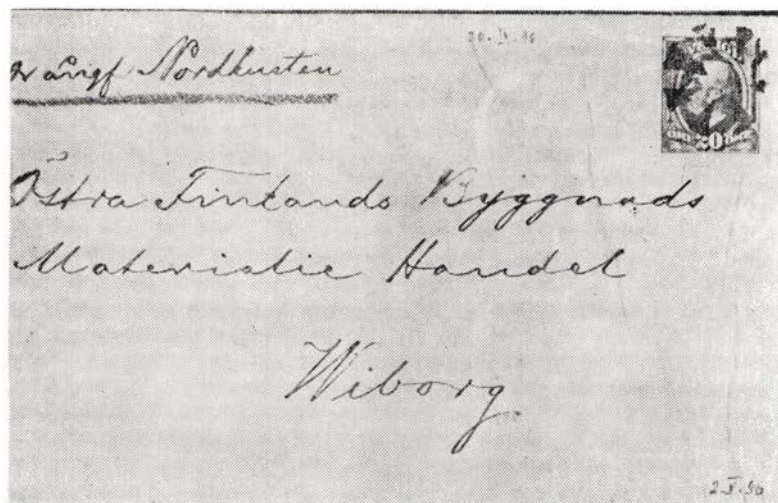


Figure 12—Not #441, but the very similar #442 Åbo mute cancel on "Ship's Letter," with the Swedish 20 öre 1891 issue as franking. From Alrutz & Co., Stockholm, it is backstamped Åbo 30 IV 96 and Wiborg 2 V 96.

#### References:

1. This numbering system has also been followed in the 2 newer books: A. Laitinen & E. A. Hellman's 1974 updating notes also entitled "Die Figurenstempel Finnlands," and A. Laitinen's 1981 catalog "Die Figurenstempel Finnlands—The Figure Cancellations of Finland." The illustrations shown in Figures 1, 5, 8, and 11 are from the drawings in this latter book.
2. "Ny Carleby" later known as "Nykarleby" also.

I would appreciate any comments or questions on this topic: Ed Fraser, 60 Broad St., 26th Floor, New York, N. Y. 10004.

\* S \* C \* C \*

### Lamkin New Associate Editor For Iceland

The new Associate Editor of The POSTHORN for Iceland is William H. Lamkin of Lawrenceville, Georgia, who has been collecting stamps since he was 12 years old. He currently has an extensive world-wide general collection but specializes in Scandinavia, Canada, and the United States.

Bill's interest in Scandinavia and the Arctic began when he served a year in Greenland with the U. S. Air Force.

In addition to his membership in the Scandinavian Collectors Club, he is a member of the American Philatelic Society and is currently Vice-President of the Gwinnett Stamp Club in his home town. He is on the staff of the Georgia Operator, a magazine of the Georgia Water and Pollution Control Association. For the past 12 years he has been involved in environmental protection at the County and State levels. He has an AB Degree from the University of Alabama as well as an LLB degree. His background includes extensive experience in management and administration of the electronic, aeronautic, and astronautic disciplines.

Future contributions of Icelandic articles should be forwarded directly to William H. Lamkin, 620 Rebecca Street, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30245.



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## What's Happening In Finland

By Mike Hvidonov

Well—here we are again. The doldrums of the always too quiet Summer, philatelically speaking, have slipped serenely away and a new, hopefully spirited philatelic period is once more upon us.

### PHILEXFRANCE 82

I attended this grand exhibit held in the La Défense Exhibition Hall some kilometers outside of Paris. The facility was easily reached by the subway system which was clean, silent, swift, courteous and sans-muggers.

I have read that there was some unhappiness with either the show or some failure to arrange good extracurricular events for visitors. However, since I was there to view, meet old friends, make new friends and enjoy, I found the entire visit orderly, comfortable and beautifully laid out. There was considerable seating room, food and beer and other refreshments to please all. It was a colorful joy to behold. Vive La France! I do wish that we had this space and comfort here in our shows.

Business obligations disallowed my staying for the awards so I prevailed upon Juhani Olamo of Helsinki to forward the results to me. I was awarded with the pleasure of learning that Finland scored well.

Christian Sundman of Helsinki was "a hands-down-shoo-in" to get another Large Gold for his Finland entry. Christian also received a special award. His first Large Gold was won at the virginal unveiling of his powerful collection in Vienna '82. I have had the pleasure of seeing some of his nice items during my visits to Helsinki but it is better to view a collection hung in resplendent order. It is superb and fraught with tastefully laid out gems.

Arnold Nyman of Espoo, Finland got another Large Gold for his superb France and a Vermeil for Norway. Silver medals went to: J. Pasanen—Postal History of Finland, 1809-1917; E. K. Hellsten, Thematic Art in Society and yet another Thematic won by Seppo Laaksonen on the subject of Astronomy. In the 22-25 year bracket J. Pfäffli of Finland earned a Silver bronze for Postal Cards of Finland, 1871-1900.

The Finnish Philatelic League garnered a nice share in the Literature competition. Silver Medal for the 7 volume, "Handbooks of the Postage Stamps of Finland." A Silver for the fine writing of D. A. Dromberg on "The Steamboat Mail of the Baltic Sea Area." A Silver bronze for "The Handbook of Postal Cancellations of Finland" compiled, written and edited by SCC member Juhani Olamo. And again another award for a Vermeil for "The Bibliography of Finnish Philatelic Literature" researched and compiled by the indefatigable Mr. Olamo of Helsinki. A deserved Silver Bronze was given to the official magazine of The Finnish Philatelic League, entitled, *Philatelia Fennica*.

Last, but as consequential, my good friends at Postimerkkiliike Lauri Peltonen in Hanko must be pleased with the Silver medal for the truly lovely LAPE catalog (1981-'82) revampel just a year ago in a delightful format. All collectors should own one.

### NORMA-1983

Another beautiful catalog by the publisher of NORMA hit the stands in August. Its simplicity, style and tons of details reflect the taste of the producer. Add to this the fact that it is also in English and one has the finest of all specialized catalogues on Finland.

The publisher proclaims in the Foreword "that the 1982 demand for the first emissions and subsequent "big-toothed" stamps was a touch less in 1982."

In my opinion, temporarily staying the prices as listed in 1982—in short,



no increases is wise. The Foreword continues my stating that all other emissions saw price increases, among which are the popular so-called black 10 Mark stamps of 1901, 1902 and 1915. The watermarked stamps of the 1917 Definitive issues saw solid gains. All stamps are now charged at a minimum of 1 Mark. No doubt due to handling costs, etc.

I concur with the publishers thoughtful decisions and augment the following observations. The press along with some pros have stated that there was some depression in collectibles in 1982. This, however, is not really true of good Finnish philatelic material. Despite financial pressures in Finland and Europe Finnish stamps held up well. I do further agree that this may not be a bad time to "mark time," as it were, because the early emissions have reached considerable gains in the last few years. So let us see what the collectors do during the ensuing months. Let the speculators suffer their lumps for buying high in the years '81 and '82.

I will cover briefly the major changes in the current NORMA.

1875. To confirm my often said "Buy 1875" we find modest to strong gains in the interesting world of the "4-corner" stamps. The 10 penny, perf. 11, Senate produced, unused, stamps really soared. I suggest that serious collectors run right out and buy these little gems—they are never going down in price again. The same comment applies to unused 32 p. stamps of the same period.

1885. There were modest increases in unused stamps which coincides with the patterns of the last several years.

1889. Mint stamps rose as anticipated with stunning leaps in the 5 and 10 Mark covers—each jumping 5000 Marks.

1891. One of my favorite periods enjoyed sharp rises especially in letters bearing "ringmark" stamps, to with:

14 Kop. letter	went from	1400 Finn marks	to	2000.
20 Kop.	"	1900	"	2100.
30 Kop.	"	3800	"	5000.
50 Kop	"	4500	"	5500.

1 Rouble advanced 500 Marks. The real stunner was the jump of the 3.50 Rouble on letter which skied from 30,000 Marks to 40,000 Marks.

I shant deprive you avid collectors of the fun of checking your own areas, save to comment on the 10 Mark stamps of the 1900's.

1982			1983		
Mint	Used	Letter	Mint	Used	Letter
1500M	1000M	6000M	2000M	1100M	8000M Norma #66
750M	200M	2000M	900M	230M	2500M Norma #72
700M	750M	3500M	900M	900M	4000M Norma #80

I think it was the February 1982 issue that found me inspired to make some sound predictions on these 10Mk emissions based on evaluations over the years. "There is Gold in those catalogue—one just must 'pan for it'."

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## Norwegian Philately

By Carl H. Werenskiold

Most of us very likely started our philatelic activities in the usual manner by collecting stamps of the whole world, and wound up with one or several albums showing more blank spaces than stamps. Then it dawned on us that, perhaps, we might derive more satisfaction if we limited our efforts to a few countries, or even to one country. The choice of a suitable country, or countries, is a highly personal matter, of course, depending on the individual's

mental attitude. If, for example, you appreciate variety of philatelic content and an opportunity for serious studies and solving of problems, an old stamp country like Norway would then be a very good choice.

The philatelic reputation of Norway is excellent, its stamps having been issued for strictly postal reasons. The stamps and other philatelic items are also of great interest due to their variety in the following respects:

a. The paper used runs from an unusual kind made from hemp to the usual grades and the modern types with a phosphorescent coating. (Reference 1).

b. The watermarks (Reference 2) in the paper include a highly unusual (almost unique) THICK lion mark, a marginal lion mark, two dandy-roll posthorn marks, and three dry impressed posthorn marks.

c. The printing varies from letter press to two forms of lithography, and engraving.

d. The famous Posthorn design (Reference 3) of the 1872 stamps is so outstandingly good that it has been repeated frequently in later issues and is still in continuous use after more than a century—the record-holding centenarian.

e. A number of posthorn issues are found in several definite printing types, up to more than 250 types per issue (Reference 4). The study and separation of these types have led to the reputation of Norway as a philatelic Eldorado.

f. The postal stationery of Norway is extensive and highly interesting.

g. The revenue stamps of Norway (Reference 5) are also extensive and of considerable interest.

For these reasons, I recommend the stamps and other philatelic items of Norway for your consideration.

You should by all means collect by the Norwegian catalogue, "Norges-katalagen" (pronounced Norrgueskahtahlawgen), which is the only catalog known to me that lists the issues in an up-to-date historically-correct manner.

The Norwegian language is of outstanding merit as compared with many other languages, about on a par with English for brevity and directness. Since there is an extensive literature on Norwegian philately, some in English, but most in Norwegian, the Norway collector will get most out of his efforts if he acquires a fair knowledge of the Norwegian language. Acquiring this knowledge is not too difficult, since many words are alike or similar in English and Norwegian. The Norwegian catalog contains a useful Norwegian-English vocabulary. It is necessarily quite limited and the collector is therefore advised to procure a good dictionary such as McKay's Modern English-Norwegian and Norwegian-English Dictionary by B. Berulfsen and H. Scavanius (published by David McKay Co., Inc., New York).

So try your hand at collecting the postage stamps, postal stationery, and perhaps even the revenue stamps of Norway and have a really enjoyable time.

#### References

1. The POSTHORN, 1979, p. 137-142.
2. The POSTHORN, 1973, p. 65-70.  
The POSTHORN, 1975, p. 49-53.  
The POSTHORN, 1978, p. 75-76.
3. The POSTHORN, 1971, p. 25-34.  
AMERICAN PHILATELIST, Dec. 1971, p. 1079-1087.
4. The POSTHORN, Supplement, Feb. 1975.  
The POSTHORN, 1976, p. 90-116
5. The POSTHORN, 1978, p. 18.



## Collecting Finland's Classic Stamps

### Part 2

By Mike Hvidonov



Illust. #1—A 5 penny brown-orange mint stamp showing the “white cloud” plate fault.

The 5 penny 4-corner stamp printings of 1875-1882 add considerably more zest to the philatelic hunt than did the initial 2p. printings. Color variations, mixed perforations, lots of material, multiples, tete-beche pairs, letters and cards, etc., are more prolific, due in part to larger printings and needs.

Many if the 5 penny printings are beautiful and alive with nuances of hue and when tastefully laid out on white exhibit pages impart a spectrum in warm vibrant array that is hard to better.

The birth of the 5 penny denomination, in original intent, was planned for use on printed matter material—and so they were employed, to a goodly degree.

According to Anto Salmenkyla's writings in the Finnish Handbook of Philately: “Even though the new (1875/5p. stamps) were delivered to the Helsinki Main P. O. on Sept. 4, 1875 in an approximate quantity of 25,000, they were not delivered to the satellite post offices with immediacy. According to inventory data, the Helsinki P. O. still had over 21,000 of the 1866/5p. ‘big-toothed’ stamps in the coffers which they wanted to use up first. This explains why the earliest known cancellations are so late in dating. The earliest 5p. cancellation recorded is JYVASKYLA 11.27.75 even though the stamps were ready on July 1, 1875. They obviously were not released to the post offices for public use until 11.15.75.”

The Senate Printing Works produced the 5 penny stamps for all of 1875 and 1881. The perforation 12½ stamps were printed and finished by the Leimapaino government printing facility during the year 1882 and on.

One item that bears mention is that the foundry lock-up of the original cliches (50 per form) remained unchanged for the entire 13 Senate printing emissions. The same form remained unchanged until 1879 when some number of the cliches were changed.

One constant, true “plate error,” a “white, smudgy cloud” in the upper background can be traced up to and through some part of 1879 where its replacement becomes evident. See Picture 1, an example of the 1879 “brown-orange” emission showing this plate error on a mint stamp.

After these changes, the remainder of the 5 p. printings appear to remain unaltered and as a matter of fact and record we know that the same "lock-up" if cliches was employed by the Leimapaino division for the balance of 5 penny printings at the start of 1882.

### The Collecting Approach

As with the 2 penny stamps, it remains essential that the serious collector include both unused and used stamps for exhibit competition.

Mikko Ossa noted, some years back, that postal pieces with properly used, lone 5 penny stamps affixed are fairly common but multiples, strips, blocks, etc. used to make the larger postal rates were uncommon. The paucity of multiples on letter was the direct result of the governmental request which asked that, "in the interest of economy . . . people use large value stamps to meet the prescribed fees rather than a host of smaller denominations." Picture #2 illustrates an "untypical" example bearing postage comprised of both a 4-block and a pair of the Senate's first printing along with a Senate 2 penny stamp, to formulate the 32 penny foreign mail rate. Another interesting feature is that the letter was destined for Holland because during this period it is much more common to find the large rouletted stamps utilized on letters sent to Holland.

Another interesting item to round out the usage of the 5 penny stamp is to acquire an 8 penny postal stationery card to which the sender has affixed a 5 penny stamp. Though the postage exceeds the 10 p. rate by three pennies it is apparent that the sender did not have a 10 p. stamp and felt affluent enough to squander 3 cents. An example of this item is shown in Illustration #3.

### The 5 penny "Cannon" Items

As previously noted, it is most improbable to "score high" without some number of significant items. So, while you await a lottery win or other fi-



Illust. #2—An unusual letter bearing a block of 4 of the Senate's first emission 5 p. stamps plus a pair and a 2p. stamp making the 32 p. rate to Holland.



nancial windfall, work at being a good collector; be involved; read and ask questions. Perhaps the sub-head "cannot items" is a touch too strong but none-the-less it seem accurate to my way of thinking. Cannon-items are not always measured by dollar value though the catalog value is a good barometer. Sometimes the lack of availability of a stamp or philatelic piece long precedes the subsequent rise of the catalog value. As an example for reference, the last Senate printing of the 5 penny stamp with perforation  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , (N:15SBjz) fits into this category. At present a cancelled copy rates at about \$375.00 which cost does not approach the stratospheric high of a Rarity cost. Yet the ownership of one seldom gets past the eyes of experienced judges or "in-depth" collectors. This gem does not appear frequently so when given the chance it pays to dig down and add it to your collection—because it has no place to go but UP.

Most of these 5 penny "aito-väri" (original Senate last color) stamps are found with Helsinki, Åbo and railroad "postkupe" cancels (there are others). Some cancellations stem from the latter part of Oct. 1881 but most are from the first part of 1882. Without dates or comparison material, one can make a reasonable educated guess by comparing a  $12\frac{1}{2}$  perf stamp with several of the perforation 11 stamps checking both the color and the general printing details.

As usual, your best bet is to have the item certified by an expert on Finnish stamps. Picture 4 shows one such specimen that is also very nicely double perforated, which detail may not show too well in the picture.

I must note briefly that there are some so-called "difficult emissions" that warrant comment. One is the "brownish-orange" (N:155Sdz) of 1876 especially unused or on letter. The next issue, "brownish-yellow" (N:15SAez) is running a close second and also was printed in the same year.



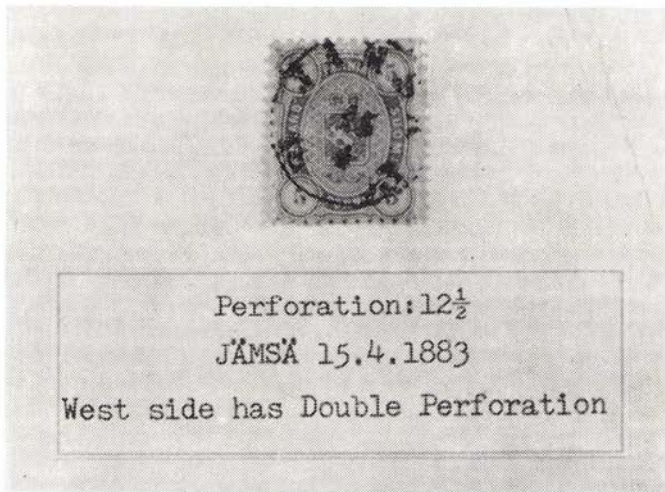
Illust. #3—A 5 penny stamp tied to an 8 p. postal stationery card. The mail rate was only 10 p. at this time but the sender was disposed to get the card in the mail even at a 3 p. loss.

### Leimapaino Printings

The stamps printed by Finland's "second" printer provides us with both perforations 11 and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  of the two first printings. Additionally, mixed perfs in varying combinations of  $11 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$  (AB) and  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 11$  (BA). Rare mixed perfs are known with one side of the stamp perforated differently from the other 3 sides. Forgeries of every description exist and here again should be certified by an experienced Finnish pro.

### Tete-beche

These "head-to-foot" pairs are the true gems of the 5 penny emissions.



Illust. #4—The Senate's last printed emission bearing perforation  $12\frac{1}{2}$  rather than the normal perf. 11.



Illust. #5—A 6-block mint of tete-beche (top center stamp).



Times passage naturally has placed them in the collections of owners who rarely part with them. Some years back they did appear sporadically but recent eras find them as rare as a Garbo personal appearance. Ostensibly it follows that the cost of TB pairs are on the high side due to supply and demand—they are in addition to being fine items, good investment material. Very few major collections show “sans-tete-beche.”

All TB pairs emanate from a single emission, the yellowish-orange (N: 23LBdz). It is the accurate contention of research that just 2 plate positions exist and they are plates #5 and #59.

Mikko Ossa offers that a group of 9 is known and a row of 5 on piece and yet another TB in a multiple of 12 stamps.

Figure 5 displays a 6-block mint group of unusual color depth. Many of the TB pairs are a bit weakish in color cast a depth—a natural occurrence.

To the best of my knowledge the 5 p. TB pair is not known on letter.

Other postal pieces to search for are letters bearing perf. 11 and perf. 12½ stamps affixed. Naturally any of the mixed AB or BA perforated stamps on cards or letters are nice pieces indeed.

Again let me emphasize the importance of amassing material so that one can get a feeling of the emission colors. Stamps with dating are most helpful coupled with getting into a stamp club with bonafide experienced collectors who do not mind helping neophytes.

Only hard work and a desire to excel make a real philatelist.

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**Robert C. Gross, Editor**

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## Price Appreciation Versus Inflation

(Some Comments by H. E. Tester and M. D. Hunewell)

Assoc. Editor's Comment: The following letter was received from Mr. Tester some six months ago, and we would share it with you:

Dear Mr. Hunewell, A few days ago I received the latest issue (February 1982) of the "Posthorn," and read with interest the article by Mike Hvidonov on Finland's 10 Mark stamps, 1901-1915. The article purports to assess the remarkable increases in the value of three issues of these 10 Mark stamps, as indicated by the Norma catalogue between the years 1972-1982.

From this article, one is lead to believe that the 10 Mark issue of 1901 in unused condition has increased in value from \$88 in 1972, to \$375 in 1982; or in other words, a financial gain if \$207 in ten years. Similar remarks apply to the other 10 Mark stamps for the figures quoted in the article.

However, to my mind, the figures quoted are completely misleading, as they fail to take into account the change in the purchasing value of the dollar since 1972 due to world inflation.

As a general rule, the value of most currencies throughout the world are today only about a quarter of what they were in 1972.

Accordingly, we can obtain a much better assessment of 1982 catalogue quotations for these 10 Mark stamps if we multiply the 1972 figures by 4, to bring them into line with present day valuations. Thus,

	Unused	Used	On Letter
1972 Norma #66	\$352*	\$228	\$1000*
1982 Norma #66	375	250	1500
1972 Norma #72	100*	36*	220*
1982 Norma #72	187	50	500
1972 Norma #80	112*	92*	460*
1982 Norma #80	175	188	875

\*=Amended Values (1972 values x 4)

We now have some very interesting results. The first (1901) 10 Mark stamp does not show any marked increase in value, except when used on letter, which reflects an increase of about 50%. It is the later issues of the 10 Mark stamp which show the most significant increases, both having approximately doubled in value in terms of real money.

In assessing present day stamp values in relation to those pertaining ten or more years ago, it is essential that the change in the purchasing power of the dollar be taken into account, in order to avoid completely misleading interpretations.

Since only 13,350 copies of the 1901 10 Mark stamp were issued, it must be regarded as a very sound investment item, even at today's catalogue quotation, as its value appears to have remained almost static since 1972.

Kind Regards, H. E. Tester

P.S.: My factor of 4 may need modification in regards to the U.S. Dollar, up or down.

Additional comments by the Assoc. Editor: Mr. Tester's points are well taken. In the example he has set forth, these 10 Mark stamps have appreciated in value.

In this example (and in Mr. Hvidonov's article), both members have made the assumption that the U.S. Dollar and Finnish Mark have experienced the same rate of inflation in the past 10 years.

I believe a more valid comparison will result if one inflates the 1972 Finnish Mark to its present day value for the 1972 catalog prices, then notes the

differences, in Finnish Marks, and then converts the difference into U.S. Dollars. In this way, differences in inflation rates between different nations will not distort the results. (To express this thought another way, if one wants to use dollare for both 1972 and 1982, the SCOTT Catalogs of those years should be used, and then inflate the 1972 prices using the Consumer Price Index, or some other valid inflation index.)

Such calculations will give us differences in catalog values, but catalog values are not necessarily net market values. The true value of a given stamp is only determined in the market place, what value the buyer and seller agree to, or at what bid a bidder is successful at, and at a given point in time. (For example, a really nice unused, lightly hinged, collection of Canadian postage stamps having a total catalog value of \$6,000 realized \$2,240 in May 1981. This collection had been divided into 19 auction lots, and the seller received \$2,016 after commissions. The buyer(s) paid \$2,464 after commissions, still less than 50% of catalog. The reason being that the collection was placed on the block in a depressed market, and quite a number of collectors were attempting to unload high value Canadian stamps at the time.)

One final parting thought, isn't it about time that The POSTHORN stop reporting or discussing price appreciations/comparisons? (Note, the reporting of auction realizations is still fine; but, let's get away from glorifying increases in prices). What are we collecting for, pleasure or profit? I'm sure we all like to see price increases as they indicate, rightly or wrongly, that our holdings are appreciating in value. But we should strive to surpass this instinct, and collect philatelic items for the pleasure we derive from hem.

P.E.: I am a Federal Employee who started out as a GS-5, and at a salary of \$4,345 per year, in 1961. Today, a GS-5 starts out at \$12,854 per year. Does this mean that he or she is 295% more valuable than I was 20 years ago?

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## Library News

By Stanley H. Hanson, SCC Librarian

Thanks to Ron Collin, Bob Frigstad, Steve Orzell and Alan Warren for their contributions to our Library.

Enclosed with this issue of The POSTHORN is our second issue of the Library Index. It is updated to October 31st, 1982 and lists all library material that is in the Library.

It is hoped that a yearly update of material that has been added to the Library will be published with the yearly POSTHORN index.

Posthorn Editor Bob Bross would like your comments in this idea. Write him.

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## Dues! Dues!

The response to Don Himer's reminder letter for 1982 dues has been very gratifying. However, there was some confusion as a result of the early insertion of the 1983 dues statements. The notices were sent out early in order to give each member ample time to send their dues prior to the end of the year. Many members have responded with early payment of their dues and we want to thank them for it. We want to thank each member for their cooperation and understanding in the matter of dues and early dues notices. Also, we would like to remind our overseas members that if they desire to have the POSTHORN sent by Airmail they should add an additional \$6.00 to their dues payment.

Richard Diran, Executive Secretary



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