

**Early Finnish
meter marks reflect
the economic history
and society, p. 10–23**

THE
POST HORN

4/2018



JOURNAL OF
THE SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB



The engraving by the Swedish artist and engraver Martin Mörck (on the left) depicting steamship "Scandinavian" will be the key illustration for further branding the Stockholmia 2019. The artist donated the original to the organizer of the exhibition, the Royal Philatelic Society London. Above, Chris King from the Royal, who is also a member of the SCC, gives his thanks. See pages 5–7.

- ***Malmex 2018 in short, p. 8***
- ***Following the tracks of Norwegian immigrants, p. 26–28***

Lots sold on Skanfil's Moldenhauer auction no. 77:



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Collecting Cancellations

Traditional philately originally meant only stamp collecting. Then it deepened into the process of stamp production which could be verified by showing color and paper variations, different teeth, and plate studies. Today it is expected that you also show uses of those stamps on various postal items (if you exhibit, otherwise you can of course collect anything in the way you wish.)

While traditional philately concentrates on postage stamps, postal history is more about cancellations which show important things about the postal items' journey from the sender to the recipient. Cancellations and route markings tell stories about the means of transportation, delays on the way, etc. Each item has its own story to tell, and that makes postal history so fascinating and popular today.

Transit marks reveal stories which would otherwise easily remain unnoticed, like in the case of the early wreck cover of SS *Porthan* (see pages 30–31). In these kind of incidents, a wreck cover is also a document showing that this disaster at sea really happened. Academic historians could

certainly use postal historical facts more often as evidence in their studies – usually only the contents of letters are referred to.

There are also cancellations which were not made in post offices but in various companies which did the work themselves by using their own franking machines. The machines were registered by the Post Office, and the companies paid for each posted item according to the normal rate system.

The postal items with meter marks have not been much appreciated by collectors, as they usually do not have postage stamps on them. However, these items also have interesting stories to tell – not only about the item itself, including the rates, etc. but about the users of the franking machines. They reflect economic history and changes of the society in a most interesting way.

Have you ever studied the meter marks you happen to have in your collections for some other reason? That could be a good start for a new research area!

*Seija-Riitta Laakso, Editor
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MALMEX 2018 – While waiting for Stockholmia 2019



"We will have everything in place", says Jonas Hällström, Exhibition Manager of Stockholmia 2019. "I only have one worry: that there would not be enough people arriving. Therefore, please spread the word: This will be one of the greatest exhibitions ever organized, and a great opportunity to visit Stockholm!"

The preparations for the coming year's Stockholmia 2019 are proceeding at full speed (as they have been doing from the very beginning). One important promotional event took place in Malmö, Sweden, during Malmex 2018 exhibition.

Chris King, Past President of the Royal Philatelic Society London (the 150th Anniversary of which is the main reason for organizing Stockholmia 2019, among many other celebrations) spoke in Malmö about the progress at the Society's new home in London and the future with *Tomorrow's Royal*. Jonas Hällström, another SCC member and the Executive Manager of the exhibition, requested help to remind fellow collectors and philatelists around the world that all are invited to come to Stockholmia 2019 next year.

Bulletin 2 is also now available, with 88 pages content and the key message to everybody: COME – ALL ARE INVITED! The bulletin contains invitations to all social events at Stockholmia 2019, and many offers on accommodation alternatives at the destination during the weeks coinciding with

the exhibition. The bulletin can be found online at www.stockholmia2019.se/

The exhibition will consist of 2,022 frames of philatelic displays and 87 philatelic literature entries shown by 368 philatelists from 44 different countries. The President of the Jury will be Lars Engelbrecht of Denmark, even he is a member of the Scandinavian Collectors Club.

The invited exhibits in the non-competitive class will include e.g. the Golden Collection of Swedish Philately by Gustav Douglas, who is also the exhibition's Philatelic Head Patron. The Golden Collection includes, among other treasures, one of the world's most famous (and most expensive) postage stamps, the Yellow Tre Skilling Banco, also known as "the Yellow Ghost".

Stockholmia 2019 will take place at the Waterfront Congress Centre, in the heart of Stockholm, from 28 May to 2 June 2019. In addition to the exhibition, this time of the year is excellent for visit the Nordic countries. If you are planning a once-in-your-lifetime visit to Scandinavia, why not combine it with Stockholmia 2019!?

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No. 4/2018		10 December
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No. 2/2019	1 May	10 June
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**"STAMPS –
some are collecting them,
some are selling,
some are writing...
my job is to make them!"**

(Martin Mörck)

“For me stamps are a combination of story-telling and art”, said Martin Mörck when talking to the guests at the Stockholmia 2019 reception in Malmö. He said that he often wakes up with a new story in his head to be presented to a Post Office somewhere in the world.

He also described how the idea about the Stockholmia 2019 label with the SS *Scandinavian* had developed. “I met Jonas [Hällström] in Denmark last year and we discussed



The reception took place at the top floor of the Turning Torso building in Malmö.



Stockholmia 2019. He asked me if I could do a special design for Stockholmia, which I of course thought was a tremendous idea!”

Then he started to think about the links: RPSL 150 years, stamps about the same age, Sweden, England, Hull–Gothenburg...

Maritime mail became the answer, as “I am also a sailor and a boat builder, and this is also my field of collecting” [Martin collects Norwegian maritime mail and ship cancellations].

“I asked Jonas about old stamps with maritime connection and with lustrous framework, since I wanted to create a fantasy stamp with the right vibe. He suggested a Jamaican stamp, which was a very good start.” [Jonas Hällström is well-known for his thematic exhibit about square-rigged sailing ships.]

The work continued by contacting collectors and museums to find a suitable ship for the picture. Finally, Martin Mörck found the right painting from the Maritime Museum of Trondheim, Norway. It was SS *Tasso*, former Wilson Line’s SS *Scandinavian* (1852), which was one of the first ships to carry mail from Hull to Gothenburg. He used this painting together with the framework of the Jamaican stamp, changing it a bit by inserting RPSL and a banner with Stockholmia 2019.



“I did an engraving drawing and printed it in two colors so it had the feeling of the time. I also included some misfitting between image and margin to keep the time standard”, he explains.

The *Scandinavian* will be the key illustration for the advance branding of Stockholmia 2019. For this reason, a cinderella label with the picture has also been printed in sheets of 20 labels (4x5) and will be sold to cover part of the expenses of the exhibition. The labels are self-adhesive and the total edition is 5,000 sheets (100,000 labels).

Correction

Martin Mörck would also like to correct a detail from his interview in *The Posthorn* 2/2018: “When I told about engravers, I said “fragile” but meant “sensible” when talking about my colleague from that time Majvor Franzén-Matthews. She was and still is today a sensible artist with a poetic expression!”

From the top: the Jamaican stamp “Town & Harbour of Port Royal” engraved by Turner and printed by De La Rue in 1922; the oil painting depicting SS *Scandinavian* (Courtesy of the Maritime Museum of Trondheim); Martin Mörck’s engraving SS *Scandinavian* for Stockholmia 2019; and a sheet of 20 labels sold for Stockholmia 2019.



Lars Nordberg, Chairman of the Organizing Committee, welcomed everybody to the Palmares dinner on 1 September.

Malmex 2018 – stamps and postcards on national and regional level

Yes, there was also an exhibition in Malmö! Malmex 2018 was a combined stamp and postcard exhibition on national and regional level, with over 600 frames.

SCC members were well represented: Richard Bodin, Sweden, participated the Championship Class with his “Swedish militaries & volunteers in war, campaigns or in active service abroad 1543–1905” and Ross Olson, United States, with his “Gustav V – the medallion series 1910–1919”. They both received a Gold medal. The Grand Prix was awarded to Jan-Olof Ljungh, Sweden, who showed German items sent to destinations outside Europe in 1868–1875.

SCC member Wayne Donaldsson, Australia, won Large Vermeil, 86p, with his “Sweden and Great Britain: mail connections till UPU” in postal history class, and Steve Lund, United States, Vermeil, 83p, with his “Lund Postal history to 1935” in the same class.

Christer Mårtensson, Sweden, received a Large Vermeil in open class with “Ystad–Eslöv 1865–1981. Post- och järnvägshistoria”. Finally, Facit Förlags Ab received three Large Vermeils for their new catalogs *Facit Postal IX*, *Facit Special Classic 2018* and *Facit Norden 2019* with 88, 86 and 85 points respectively.

Due to the Swedish system that no exhibit can participate at a national level exhibition without having reached a certain level in a regional one, there were several exhibits of very high quality in the regional class.

These included also Nordic philately: Gustaf Douglas’ “Classic Finland 1845–1859, the hand-printed oval design” received 93 points and a special prize for material, and Göran Persson’s “Cancellations of the Swedish Skilling Banco stamps 1855-1858” received 90 points. Both exhibits received a Vermeil medal, as it is the highest medal you can get in a Swedish regional exhibition! These exhibits will most certainly attain excellent results in Stockholmia next year.

Malmex 2018 was organized in Malmö on 31 August–2 September 2018 by the Swedish and Danish clubs together. Thanks to the bridge between the two countries, it only takes 30 minutes to arrive in Malmö by train from Copenhagen, and only 11 minutes from Copenhagen airport to Malmö Hyllie, where the exhibition took place – very convenient! **SRL**



Royal Collection Trust
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Photographer: Ian Jones



The Golden Colour Error
3 Skilling Banco Yellow



H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden
Photographer: Anna-Lena Ahlström, royalcourt.se

WELCOME TO STOCKHOLMIA 2019

The International Celebration of the 150th Anniversary of The Royal Philatelic Society London

- The Royal Philatelic Society London, the oldest philatelic society in the world, was established in 1869 as The Philatelic Society, London. In 1896 HRH The Duke of York, son of King Edward VII, became President of the Society, an office he continued to hold until his accession to the throne as HM King George V in 1910. Permission to use the prefix Royal was granted by His Majesty King Edward VII in 1906. Following his accession King George V acted as its Patron, and in 1924 granted the Society permission to use the Royal Arms on its stationery and publications. The Royal philatelic tradition has been maintained and today the Society is honoured by the Patronage of Her Majesty The Queen. At STOCKHOLMIA 2019, a selection from The Royal Philatelic Collection, will be presented as part of Court of Honour.
- STOCKHOLMIA 2019 is an International Philatelic Exhibition with exhibits and displays from members of the Society from all over the world.
- With capacity of 2,100 frames, the exhibition is the largest Society exhibition ever held. In addition, more than 50 Trade Stand Holders, from 13 different countries are participating.
- His Majesty King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden has graciously agreed to be Patron of STOCKHOLMIA 2019 when it takes place at Stockholm Waterfront Congress Centre, Nils Ericsons Plan 4, Stockholm.
- One of the world’s most famous postage stamps, The Golden Colour Error, 3 Skilling Banco Yellow, will be presented as part of the exhibition’s Court of Honour.
- Tickets and all other registrations and bookings, including accommodation offers, are here-with presented in this Destination Offer.
- The exhibition opens for Early Birds with the Vernissage on 28 May at 3.00 pm., followed by five public days from 29 May until 2 June.

Tuesday	28 May 2019	3.00 pm. – 7.00 pm. Vernissage
Wednesday	29 May 2019	10.00 am. – 6.00 pm.
Thursday	30 May 2019	10.00 am. – 6.00 pm.
Friday	31 May 2019	10.00 am. – 6.00 pm.
Saturday	1 June 2019	10.00 am. – 5.00 pm.
Sunday	2 June 2019	10.00 am. – 3.00 pm.

The exhibition concepts, programme and progress are continuously presented online at www.stockholmia2019.se.



Address card for a parcel of chocolate, sent from Helsinki to Savonlinna on 12 September 1927. The sender was the chocolate and confectionery producer Oy Karl Fazer Ab. Note the advertising part of the meter mark, a boy with a Fazer biscuit. The advertising cliché was stamped separately. This is the earliest known use of this ad, and the earliest known ad with any picture. – Hasler D 106 #126, used by Fazer 17.1.1927–20.2.1931.

Early Finnish meter marks

by Seija-Riitta Laakso

The history of franking machines was still very short at the time when the first Finnish companies purchased their machines in early 1926. Franking machines were launched after the UPU congress had approved their use in international postal services in Madrid 1920. The United States introduced them in 1920, and Great Britain in 1922. Germany, Switzerland, Canada, and many others followed in 1923.

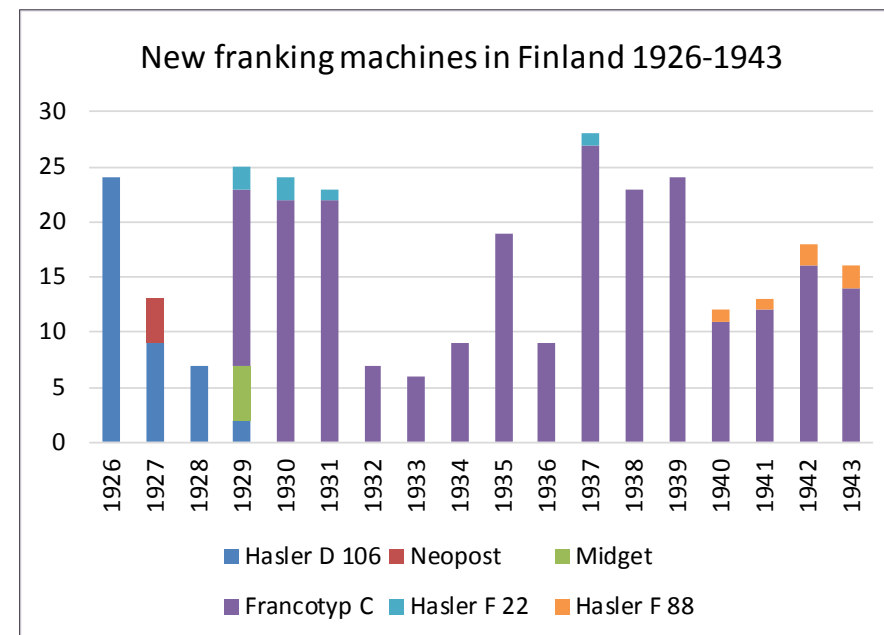
Franking machines were put in use by the pioneering Finnish companies soon after the postal administration had issued the regulations on them in December 1925. By 1929, five different types of franking machines had entered the market in Finland. The first part of this article will concentrate on the 1920s and 1930s, and the second part (in No. 1/2019) will discuss the impacts of war in 1939–1945.

The first Hasler D 106 type was a single-operation machine, i.e. there was a set of value dies, which could be used one at the time. If the postage rate did not match with any of those dies, the user had to

combine several lower values and impress each of them separately. The franking did not include a date stamp, but a separate advertising part was available.

After a few unsuccessful introductions of new types, Francotyp C took over the market starting in late 1929. This type of machine had free choice of value, and the franking was accompanied with the date and place stamp, an option for advertising, and a calculator showing the number of franked items. Hasler introduced a corresponding type in the 1940s, the new machine was Hasler F 88.

All machine types could be used until the monetary reform in 1963, even if some of the machines



The graphics shows all registrations of new franking machines in Finland from 1926 to 1943. After 24 registrations in 1926 (which were all Hasler D 106 machines) two following years were rather quiet. In 1929 three new models were launched, Francotyp C being the most developed type. After that nearly all new machines were Francotyp C model. – All graphics are based on the records of registrations by the Post Office, published by Rudqvist 1959 and/or Hannula, 2000.

were practically outdated much earlier.

There were 300 franking machines registered in Finland in 1926–1943. Between 1943 and 1951, only one new machine was granted permission (#742 in 1947) due to war, after-war restrictions of import, and limited foreign exchange. Thus, 1943 is a natural end of the early registration period. When the market opened up again, about 1,170 new franking machines were registered for use in 1952–1962!

The postal regulations included the following:

- Meter marks could only be used to frank the

mark owner's own mail suitable for franking by machine.

- The marks should be clear and the rates correct.
- The marks should be placed on the same spot where the stamp(s) would be affixed.
- Only bright red colour should be used in the machines.
- The name of the sender should appear in printed form on each postal item.
- The items should only be delivered to the supervisory post office or its letter-boxes.
- The post office should handstamp the items with a date stamp.

The franking machine types introduced in Finland 1926–1943

Six different types of franking machines were introduced in Finland by 1943. The following types and numbers of machines were registered for postal use:

Hasler D 106 (Swiss): # 102–143 (registered in 1926–1929)

Neopost (British): # 201, 202, 207, 208 (registered in 1927)

Midget (British): # 301–305 (registered in 1929)

Francotyp C (German): # 401–500, 601–724, 729–741 (registered in 1929–1943)

Hasler F 22 (Swiss): # 501–505, 508 (registered in 1929–1937)

Hasler F 88 (Swiss): # 1000–1006 (registered in 1940–1943)



Hasler D 106, #101

Only numbers #102–143 of Hasler D 106 machines are usually recorded. The proof on a tiny piece of paper shows (above) two 20 p imprints by machine #101, which was the model machine of the importer, Oy F.S.A. Ab. – On the left, the reverse.

The first Hasler D 106 franking machines were put in use in 1926, and the last ones in early 1929. The total number of registered Hasler D 106 machines was 42.

Each machine had a 3-digit number, starting from 102. The importer F.S.A. (Oy Finsk-Schweiziska Agenturen Ab) kept #101 as their model machine, and it was never used for postal frankings. They also registered #113 for their own use. That was the first registration at the Post Office, and it took place on 7 January 1926.

The first company to register the machine for everyday use was the Finnish Groundwood Association in Helsinki on 12 March 1926. It was followed by Paasivaara Margarine Factory in Oulu, northern Finland, one week later on 19 March. Seven more companies took the machine into use on 7 July 1926, four of them in Turku.

To the left is a copy of a marketing letter by Oy F.S.A. Ab, which imported Hasler D 106 franking machines to Finland. The main content of the letter is following:

- These machines were now available in Finland, and they had been approved by the Post Office Department.
- The Post Office Dep. had so far approved and obtained the following value dies: 5, 10, 20, 30, 50 and 60 penni, 1 and 2 mark.
- The price of a complete machine, including motor, was 13,200 mark in Helsinki (i.e. shipping cost elsewhere was not included).
- The value dies could be purchased from the Post Office Dep. by the price of 100 mark each.

Already during the first year of use, several more value dies had to be produced for the machines due to changes in postage rates on 15 January 1926. The 5 p value die was never put in use.

Location of new franking machines registered in Finland 1926–1943

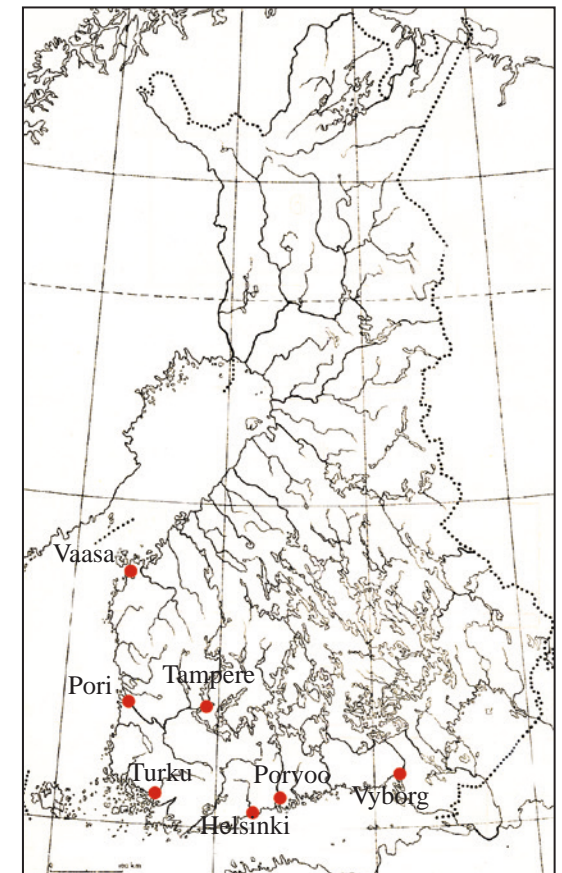
City	1926-1929	1930-1939	1940-1943	total
Helsinki	52	102	34	188
Turku	7	11	14	32
Tampere	1	10	1	12
Pori	0	5	1	6
Vaasa	1	5	0	6
Vyborg	2	4	0	6
Porvoo	1	4	0	5
other	5	31	9	45
total	69	172	59	300

The early registrations of franking machines took place in only a few cities.

There were 35 cities in Finland in the mid-1920s. Helsinki, the capital, had some 160,000 inhabitants. Turku, Tampere and Vyborg had a population of roughly 50,000 each. All other towns were much smaller, for example Porvoo had only 6,500 inhabitants.

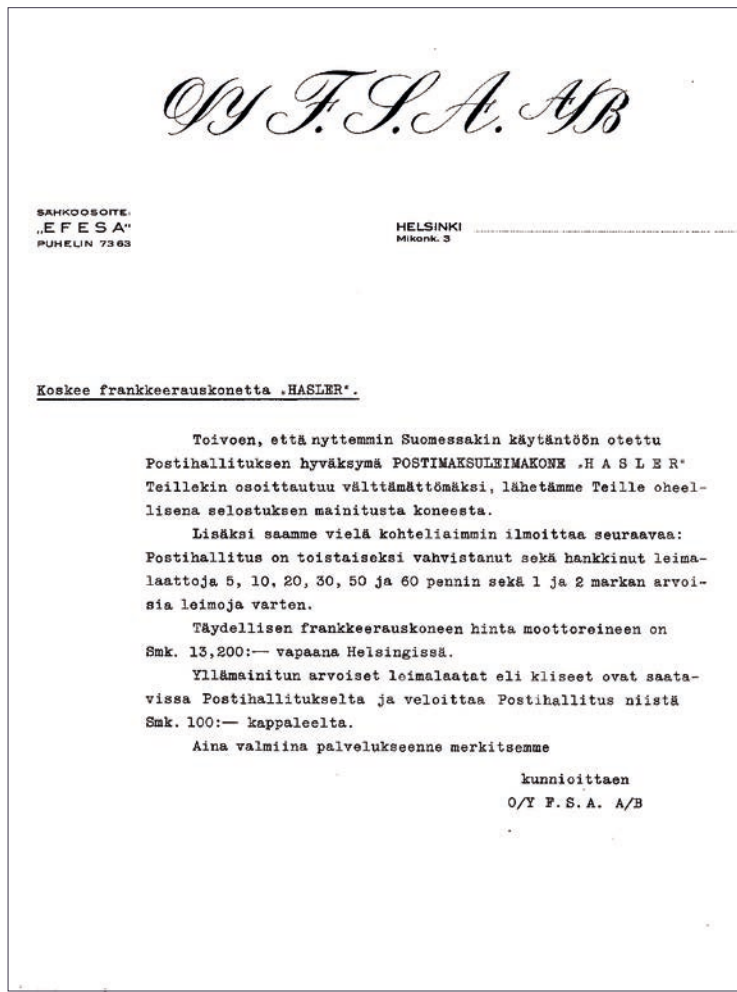
Based on these figures, Turku had more franking machine users per capita than other towns of its size, while Vyborg had less than could have been expected. Pulp and paper mills, metal, textile, and food industries, etc. were located in various places. They are included in “other” (see table above).

The reason for Turku being second only to Helsinki

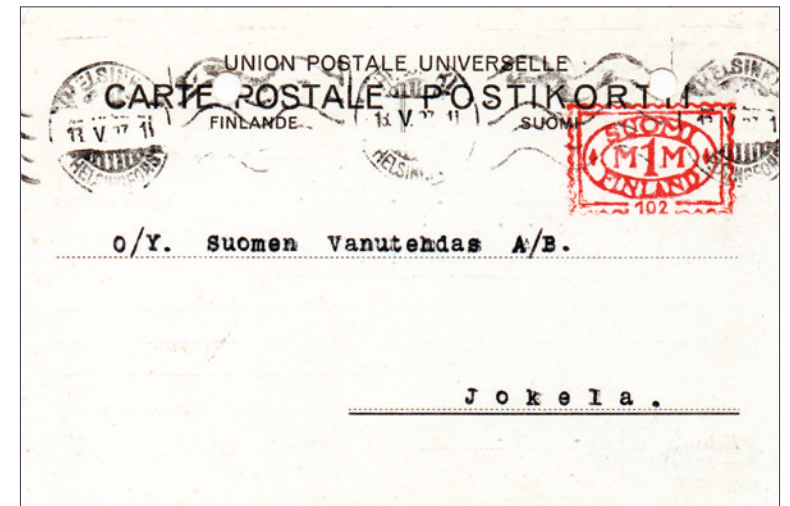


Finland from the 1920s to WW2. The cities where most franking machine users were registered, are marked with a red dot.

in placing the new machines in use may be that several important Turku based companies were owned by a small group of Finnish-Swedish businessmen

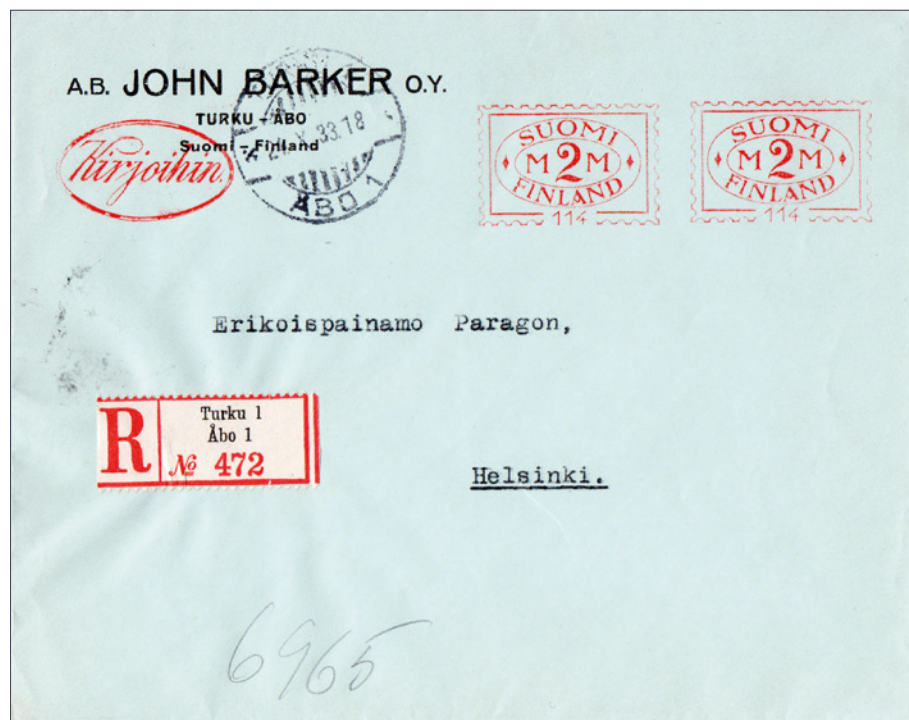


Postcard sent by the first user of franking machines in Finland, the Finnish Groundwood Association (Suomen Puuhioimoyhdistys, #102) to Jokela on 13 May 1927 (name of the sender and the date on the reverse). The postage rate 1 mk was valid from 15 Jan 1926 to 30 Nov 1931. When the rates were changed, the users of single-operation franking machines had to buy new value dies from the Post Office.





Insurance companies were among the most active business branches in placing franking machines in their daily use. Sampo (#107) in Turku was the first one of them. Above, a parcel card for a registered parcel less than 1 kg, franked 5 mk + 1,50 mk. The parcel was sent to Vyborg on 2 July 1927.



Hasler D 106 machines had no dies for date and place but there was a die for registration, "Kirjoihin". Only two companies are known to have used it, John Barker (#114, see above) and Länsi-Suomen Pankki (a bank in Turku, #112).



A franking that should not exist. The Post Office Dep. permitted the combined use of meter mark and adhesive stamps on 1 June 1930, and even later such combined uses are difficult to find. Since there was no regulation that would have forbidden it either, the post office of Turku has accepted a 2 mk postage stamp to be added on a parcel card, as the parcel was heavier than 1 kg (and only parcels up to 1 kg could be sent by 5 mk, the correct rate was 7 mk). Machine #106 was owned by the Turku-based shipping company Bore, which here probably sent brochures to a travel agency in Helsinki on 28 November 1927.

who were eager to implement modern ideas in their enterprises. For example, Hans von Rettig, main owner of P. C. Rettig & Co. (tobacco industry, #105) was also Chairman of the Board in Bore shipping company (#106). Keskinäinen Vakuutuslaitos Sampo (#107) was "the insurance company of the wealthy businessmen in Turku". It seems that the franking machines were purchased by mutual decision.

Board members of the Groundwood Association (#102) and the Paper Mill Association (#116) must also have been very much the same persons. Paper mills purchased their machines later; Enso-Gutzeit (#138 in 1928) was the only company to use Hasler D 106, while the others waited until a better machine (Francotype C) was introduced in 1929.

Only 42 Hasler D 106 machines were ever placed in use in Finland. Ten machines were used by insurance companies, and another ten by various cooperative retail societies, wholesale trade for food, and countryside organizations. Food industry

purchased five machines, and tobacco industry two machines. The figures reflect the fact that Finland was still an agricultural country where most people lived in the countryside in the 1920s.

Only a few industrial companies took the first machine type in use – there were three of them in metal industry, one in paper industry, and two in textile industry and retail – while publishers of books and newspapers took two machines. These were the Helsinki based *Uusi Suomi* newspaper and printing house (#119) and the Porvoo based publisher of literature and magazines, Werner Söderström Osakeyhtiö (#120).

It is obvious that franking machines were first put in use by companies which used to send plenty of mail to private customers. Paper mills etc. were usually business-to-business companies with a smaller number of correspondence. Later they would also have mills around the country and plenty of correspondence between them.



Only three users kept their Hasler D 106 machines from the 1920s until the end of the markka period. The machines were # 118, 119 and 127. Above, a rather early use of #118, an advertising cover sent on 18 June 1928 by Finska Separator Ab, Helsinki, to Leppäkoski. 40 p die was used for the postage rate of printed matter less than 50 g. – To the right is a parcel card sent by Alfa-Laval (the same company which had changed its name only) to Joensuu. The rate for a less than 1 kg parcel was 0,75 mk from 1.1.1963. As the sender still used markka-valued dies, the rate was 75 mk. A 70 mk die is very rare, since it came into use so late that nearly all machines were already out of use. Arrival handstamp on the reverse 18 April 1963. The company finally stopped using the machine a few weeks later on 28 May 1963.



Typical sendings that were franked by machines were business letters, postcards, parcel cards, CODs, and wrappers. If the parcel was too large, it was possible to write the recipient's name and address on a label (which should keep the name of the sender, and have frames around it), frank the

label by machine, and then attach it on the parcel. These labels are difficult to find, but there will be an example of them in Part 2 of this article. Because of the domestic nature of most users of the Hasler D 106 franking machines, mail to foreign addresses is difficult to find (see p. 18).

	Hasler 106 D	Neo-post	Midget	Franco-typ C	Hasler F 22	Hasler F 88	Machines in total, by branch
Insurance companies	10	1	1	19	1	-	32
Newspapers, publishers, advertising companies, printing houses, etc.	2	-	-	23	-	-	25
Cooperative retail societies, wholesale trade for food, countryside organisations	10	-	-	17	-	-	27
Metal industry*	3	-	-	29	3	-	35
Textile industry and retail	2	-	1	5	-	-	8
Rubber and leather industry	-	-	-	4	-	-	4
Shipping companies, agents	1	-	-	7	-	-	8
Paper and pulp industry**	3	-	-	22	-	-	25
Automobile and oil industry	-	-	2	6	-	-	8
Department stores, mail-order business	1	-	-	4	-	-	5
Food industry	5	-	-	7	1	-	13
Tobacco industry	2	-	-	3	-	-	5
Banking	1	-	-	5	-	-	6
Hardware stores, agents, machinery	1	1	-	8	-	-	10
Other	1	2	1	78	1	6	91
Total	42	4	5	237	6	6	300

* Includes Tampella, which had both metal and textile industry.

** Includes also the Groundwood and Paper Mill Associations.

After a rather good start in 1926 when 24 Hasler D 106 machines had been taken in use, only nine more machines were sold in 1927, seven in 1928, and two in 1929. There were at least two reasons for this. First, Hasler D 106 had not appeared to be very useful because of its technical limitations. Secondly, several competitors' machines entered the market: the British Neopost in 1927 and Midget in 1929, and the German Francotyp C in 1929. While the British producers never sold more than

a few machines in Finland (only nine in total), Francotyp C would take over the market as soon as the machines were introduced in 1929.

In the end of 1931, there were already more Francotyp C machines in Finland than any other types together, including Hasler F 22, which the Swiss producer had launched in all haste in 1929. This type (the "500 series" in the Finnish postal system) was another failure for Hasler, it sold only six machines, mainly to some old users of Hasler D 106.



Registered letter to Merano, Italy, sent by the Helsinki based insurance company Suomi on 11 June 1929. The company had two registered Hasler D 106 franking machines, #122 and #123. Postage rate 4 mk (2 mk for foreign letter up to 20 g and 2 mk for registration) has been paid by using 2 x 2 mk value die.

The major problem of Hasler D 106 was that they were single operation machines. There was a fixed set of value dies to be used one per time. When the postage rates changed, the companies had to buy new dies, or combine those dies they happened to own. According to Post Office records published by P.O. Rundqvist, all companies did not purchase all possible dies but only those which they expected to use most often. Of course, those companies which used their machine for a longer period had more dies in use, and some of the highest values (only needed in the 1950s or 1960s) can only be found on mail sent by a handful of machine owners.

Combining several value dies to match the needed postage rate was not very convenient. Sometimes there was not enough space for all imprints on the cover or parcel card, as can be noticed from the examples on page 19.

The options of Hasler D 106 did not include a date stamp either. However, it was possible to add the company's name, advert, or slogan by using a separate die. Only a few companies used this opportunity. The first one with advert was Fazer

(see page 10), followed by coffee producer Paulig (see page 21), and paper & board producer Enso-Gutzeit. Two companies, Barker (#114) and Högfors (#136) had a separate die with the company's name in it. Additionally, two companies (#112 and #114) owned the registration die "Kirjoihin" (see page 14).

Neopost and Midget – two short-lived experiments

The British Neopost and Midget machines had different agents in Finland. Neopost never sold more than four machines in Finland, as the agent, Oy Systema Ab, started to promote the successful Francotyp C in summer 1929. All four machines (the short "200-series" in the Finnish system of franking machines) were taken in use in Helsinki, and one of them by the agent itself, Systema (#201). According to Post Office records (Ref. Rundqvist) they used the machine only up to 2 May 1929. However, a letter sent on 14 June 1929 in the author's collection shows that they still used the machine at that time (see picture on page 20). Also #208, owned by insurance company Aura,



An early parcel card sent by Paasivaara Margarine Factory (#103) in Oulu on 13 September 1926. The postage rate for a 1–3 kg parcel was 7 mk, which was paid using value dies 2 mk + 2 mk + 2 mk + 1 mk. As there was not enough space on the front side, the 1 mk value was stamped on the reverse.



If the parcel was a heavy one, the space problem on the parcel card became even more evident. The clerk at Osuuskassojen Keskuslainarahasto Oy (or OKO, #132) has clearly had difficulties in getting all needed imprints on the space available! The postage rate for a 10 kg parcel was 24 mk, and even if there were 10 mk dies available at the Post Office, OKO had obviously not purchased one yet. The parcel was sent from Helsinki to Turku on 30 June 1930.

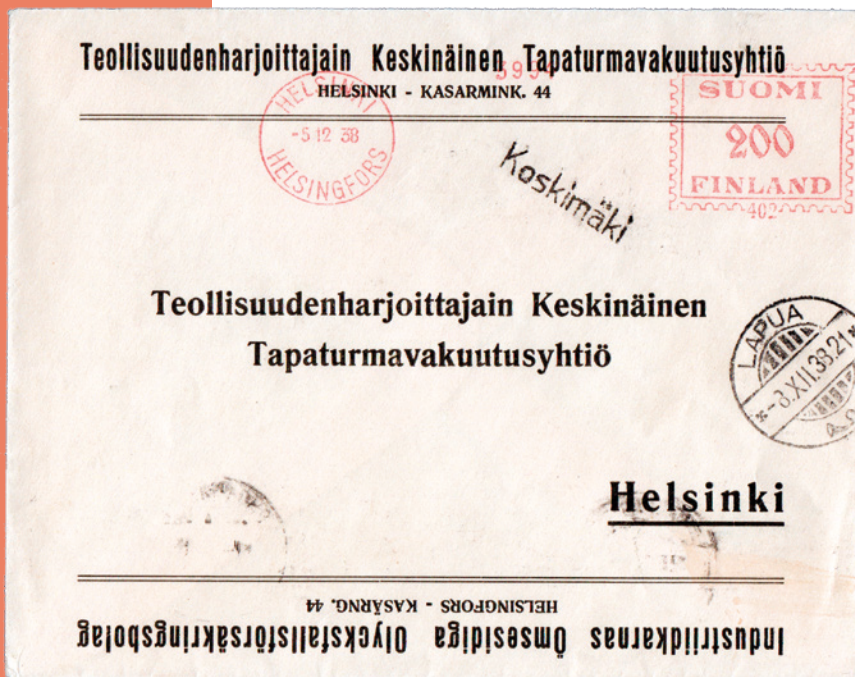


While the first users of franking machines mainly had domestic business to take care of, Francotyp C machines were purchased by more international companies and it is easier (although not easy) to find items which have been sent to foreign countries. Above is a registered letter sent by air to Germany and from there to Prague on 2 September 1930. Franking 6 mk is the correct rate. The sender was the Nordic Union Bank in Helsinki, #406.

Francotyp C takes over

No less than 237 Francotyp C machines were taken in use during the period from 1929 to 1943. The most active business branches to start franking their mail were metal industry (29 machines), and pulp & paper industry (22 machines).

Newspapers, publishers, advertising companies, printing houses, etc. purchased 23 machines. Insurance companies and cooperative retail societies, wholesale trade for food and countryside organizations – all those which had been most active



It was allowed to use franking machines to pay for the tax if an arriving postal item had not been paid for sufficiently. When this opportunity was used by "a certain insurance company" for payment of answers to their own mail, a stop was put on this option. – To the left is an example of a cover which was sent from Koskimäki via Lapua to Helsinki and franked by the recipient (who also was the sender, according to the printed information on the cover), #402.

Front of a cover that once included printer's proof and was sent by Tampella (Hasler F22, #503) from Tampere on 8 February 1938 to Helsinki as a printed matter less than 50 g, franked 50 p.



in the beginning – took in use 36 new machines in total.

Eleven of them were former Hasler D 106 users and two were Neopost or Midget users preferring to purchase a new Francotyp C machine instead of continuing with the outdated old one.

One of the few faithful users of Hasler machines was the metal and textile producer Tampella. They used Hasler D 106 (#109) from 1927 to 1930, Hasler F22 (#503) from 1930 to 1953, and Hasler F88 (#1025) from 1953 till the end of the markka period. Fazer also used all three types of Hasler (#126, #508 and #1050).

Due to frequent changes of machines during the early years, mail sent by the original owners of the machines can sometimes be difficult to find. An other challenge is to find items sent by those companies which took the machines in use afterwards. For example #127, originally owned by Fazer, was later used by the central cooperative organization Hankkija in Helsinki from 1931 to 1937, by the same owner in Vyborg in 1937–1940 and finally in Turku in 1940–1950.

Special cases

In some cases, the franking was made by the recipient instead of the sender of the item. This happened if the postage rate paid was insufficient, but

also – until it was forbidden in 1930 – to receive answers to mail sent by the franking machine owner (see figure on page 22). Consignee's letters sent by sea could also be franked by the shipping company at the port of arrival to be sent to the final recipients.

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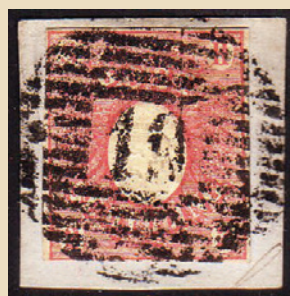
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Meanwhile in Minnesota...

Membership Renewal

Renewal notices have been sent out to expiring memberships. Digital copies were sent to members who renewed via PayPal in the past. Those who have in the past received hard copy renewal notices have been sent such again. Because of multiple year memberships not all memberships expire this year. If you have not received a renewal notice your membership has not expired. This year SCC offers the new *FACIT Norden 2019* catalog as a renewal incentive to US and Canadian addresses. The review of it appears in this issue.

Chicagopex

The Posthorn received Large Gold at Chicagopex Literature Class, 16–18 November 2019. Congratulations to Editor, Seija-Riitta Laakso. We are proud! Congratulations also to Mike Schumacher on Large Vermeil for "The Saga of the Icelandic Horse". Fourteen members attended SCC Coffee Hour with presentations by Mike Schumacher and Steve Lund on Sunday morning, including Sandra Sundfor whose obituary appears in this issue.

Stockholmia 2019

The mega-exhibition commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Royal Philatelic Society London will be held at Stockholm's Waterfront Congress Centre from 29 May to 2 June 2019, and feature 2,000 frames of exhibits. SCC will host the following presentations on 1 June 2019:

10am – Scandinavian Collectors Club – Promoting Scandinavian Philately in America
11am – Norway in America: Documenting Immigration through Postal History
Noon – Martin Mörck: Adventurer and Engraver
1pm – Book release, Roger Quinby

Please mark these dates with ink in your schedule.

Coming events

Stockholmia 2019 in Stockholm, Sweden, on 29 May–2 June 2019.

Nordia 2019 in Sarpsborg, Norway, on 23–25 August 2019.

London 2020 in London, UK, on 2–9 May 2020.

Nordia 2020 in Malmö, Sweden, on 4–6 September 2020.



Steve Lund, President & Executive Secretary of the SCC.

SS Scandinavian

Martin Mörck's cinderella stamp depicting the S/S *Scandinavian* was created to publicize Stockholmia and is featured in this issue (see pages 6–7). SCC members may request a free copy of the stamp by sending a SASE to SCC, PO Box 16213, St. Paul, MN 55116. Please indicate if you want the cinderella on the cover or inside.

Seapex

The 2019 annual meeting of SCC will be held at Seapex (Seattle) 13–15 September 2019. Advance planning is ongoing and includes a tentative day trip on Thursday, 12 September to visit Seattle Space Needle, the new Nordic Museum and Pike's Place, the birthplace of Starbucks. Finland's Ari Muhonen will attend as Visiting SCC Sponsored Judge.

November 25, 2018

Steve Lund

Following the Tracks of Norwegian Immigrants

Dag Henriksbø's recent American research tour

Norwegian postal historian, Dag Henriksbø, documents Norwegian immigration through postal history and has published nearly 30 articles about Norwegian named American post offices in *Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. Following his recent retirement from community government in Kvinnestad, Norway, he now pursues what he loves most – philately and research.



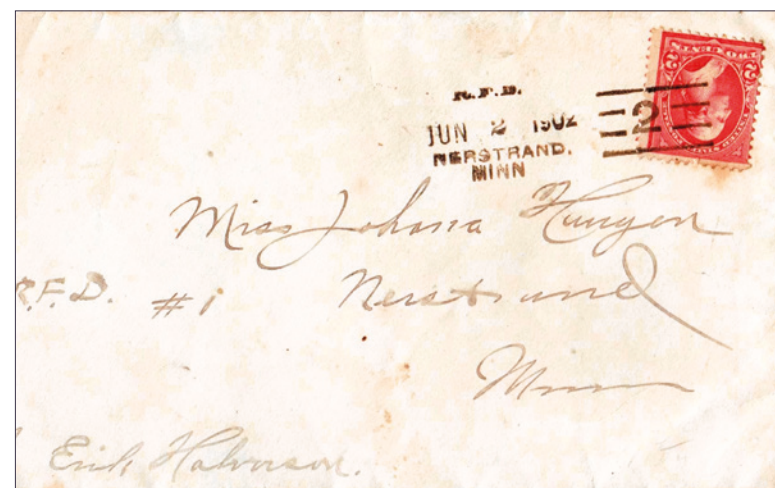
Dag and Ingeborg, his wife of 43 years, recently completed a 31-day United States tour to visit Norwegian settlements. Dag contends that he has the advantage of doing his research from both sides. Norwegian church records served as census of Norwegian population and through these records Dag can find information about Norwegians before they immigrated. Of course US postal history is well-documented providing Dag the second perspective. It is also noted that many of the immigrants held strong religious convictions making church record documentation invaluable.

I accompanied them on two late summer days in September visiting locations in Minnesota's Fillmore and Goodhue counties. Many of the settlements visited including Arendahl, Bratsburg, Eidsvoll, Norway, Sogn, Holden and Aspesland are now only "ghost towns" but there were other highlights. One of Dag's earliest articles contains the story, "Christiania: A Norwegian Settlement in Minnesota" (NFT 7/2015). Norwegian immigrants had big dreams and named the town

after Norway's major city. Christiania Lutheran Church was founded in 1857 with Christiania Post Office established in 1858. In 1859 a disagreement split the church and a second church was built in 1867. The big dreams for Christiania fell apart with the divided Lutheran community. Both congregations still survive today in the community of Lakeville. In "One can now secure sought after land in Minnesota!" (NFT 2/2017) Dag tells the story of Peterson, Minnesota, founded by Peter Peterson. A post office was opened in 1855 and in 1867 a railway depot was established on the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad. The depot is now relocated and renovated to a local history museum even containing covers from Peter Peterson. The post office still operates next to the ice cream parlor. Today Peterson is a popular tourist destination because of its many biking trails and nineteenth Century charm.

The "grand finale" to the Minnesota tour was a visit to Nerstrand. The following article by Dag tells the story best. The English version is translated by me.

Steve Lund



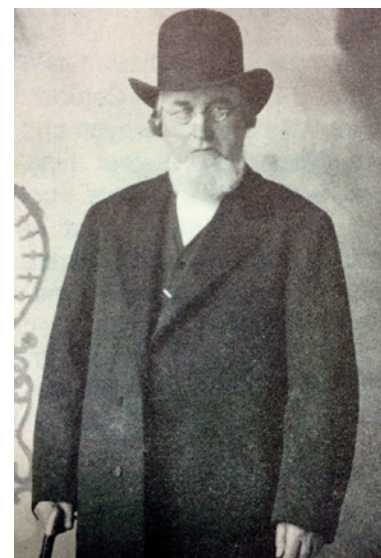
Letter cancelled 6 June 1902, with RFD type 1 hand stamp, used in 1901 and 1902 in Nerstrand. Beginning 1 October 1896, Rural Free Delivery was operated by USPS. On 1 August 1900, rubber hand-stamps were distributed with initials RFD, post office name, state and date.

Nerstrand, Minnesota – A small town with "big" men

Dag Henriksbø

Osmund Osmundson was born 21 March 1826 in today's Nedstrand in Tysvær Kommune, Rogaland (Norway). After beginning as a carpenter he took to the seas for five years, and immigrated to America traveling on the schooner *Rogaland* which arrived in New York on 29 June 1850. From there he traveled via Erie Canal and Great Lakes to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Three years later, Osmund continued west to the California Gold Rush. In 1856 he returned eastward and finally settled in Wheeling Township, Rice County, Minnesota, where he purchased 240 acres on the location that would later be called Nerstrand.

In 1857 he married Anik Viig (born 1834 in Norway) and resided first in a log hut. In 1861 a wood frame house was built followed by a large brick house in 1880. They had eight children.



Osmund Osmundsson, 1900s.

In 1877 Osmund established a general store and on 14 November 1877 he established Nerstrand Post Office, named after his home in Norway. During his upbringing in Norway, Nerstrand was the name of the parish which later with establishment of a town council became a township in 1837. Its name was changed to Nedstrand in 1917. The Nerstrand (Minnesota) post office was located at Osmund's general store with merchant Augen H. Brokke (born 1842 in Norway) as Postmaster. The post office continues in operation today.



The Minnesota and Northwestern Railroad, later named Chicago Great Western Railway in 1892, stretched from Lyle to St. Paul when constructed in 1885. The railroad line which ran directly through Nerstrand was influenced by Osmund, and the depot located on his property with the station name Nerstrand. The town grew. Later the railroad line was moved from Main Street to outside of down town. In 1965 passenger service was discontinued.

Nerstrand was founded in 1885 with municipal regulated property division regarding streets, deeds and other zoning. It became a city in January 1897, with a City Hall erected later that year. A new, larger City Hall was constructed in 1907 and it continues in operation today.

Osmund Osmundson also had strong engagement beyond the local community. With others he was one of the founders of St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. He was elected Rice County Commissioner and served two terms as Rice County Representative in Minnesota State Legislature. He had sympathetic feelings for his homeland and organized an annual Christmas fund sent to the needy in his hometown. Osmundson died in 1914 and is buried at Valley Grove Cemetery, Rice County. His wife, Aik Viig Osmundson had died in 1882.

Nerstrand was a center for the Norwegian community in Rice County. Other known Norwegian immigrants are Thorstein Veblen, born in Wisconsin in 1857 to Norwegian immigrants, and Tosten Bonde, born 1843 in Norway. Thorstein Veblen grew up on the outskirts of the town, He became a prominent sociologist and economist, best known for his book *The Theory of Leisure Class*.



Letter canceled Nerstrand 21 December 1917, with 4-bar type B hand stamp. US postal rate for domestic letters less than one ounce was 2 cents from 1 July 1885 to 1 November 1917, and again from 1 July 1919 to 5 July 1932. This letter used a local delivery rate or was not charged postage due.

Tosten Bonde similarly lived on the outskirts and was a successful farmer and central to the history of the Norwegian community in the Nerstrand area. He founded the Wheeling Mutual Insurance Company in 1876 and served two terms as Representative in Minnesota State Legislature followed by two terms as Senator in Minnesota State Senate.

The Bonde Farmhouse displays the successes of early Norwegian farmers who cleared and farmed in the area. Thorstein Veblen Farmstead is a National Historic Landmark and Tosten Bonde Farmhouse was placed on National

Register of Historic Places in 1982.

Today Nerstrand is a charming small town with marginal population growth. According to 2010 Census, 295 people lived in Nerstrand while the population in 1900 was 256. Residents and visitors have easy access to recreation areas including Nerstrand Big Woods State Park and several monuments to early Norwegian immigrants in Minnesota.



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An early wreck cover at the Gummesson Auction

It does not not often happen that you find a major part of your own collection – sold in an auction long ago – appear once more into daylight. So nice to see the good old friends again! This happened to me when glancing through the Gummesson Auction (#223) catalogue by Postiljonen in late September 2018.

Back to the 1990s, I happened to write an article in the *Filatelisti* magazine, the journal of the Philatelic Federation of Finland, about wreck covers at the Baltic Sea area (*Filatelisti* 8/94). There was also an exposition by the name “The Ships that Disappeared” at the Maritime Museum in Helsinki, and the wreck covers from my maritime mail exhibit had been part of it.

One of the ship letters, purchased from an auction in 1993 for only 500 Finnish mark, ca \$100, of the period (as nobody knew what it was, including me), was identified as a wreck cover only after careful research, and some good luck: the intention was originally to find out the reason for the uncommon route of the letter, which had been sent from Lübeck, Germany, on 16 November 1867. Why on earth did a ship letter from Lübeck to Turku (Åbo), Finland, have postmarks of Oskarshamn (which is located at the southwestern coast of Sweden) and Stockholm? Was it a ship letter at all?

SS *Porthan* was then a rather new steamer owned by a Turku based company. It was built in 1864 to serve on the route between Turku and Lübeck, although it also made trips to northern parts of the Baltic Sea, as well as to St. Petersburg. The ship was designed to be able to carry large amounts of grain, but also passengers.

A huge tragedy followed

In the fall of 1867, the *Porthan* only made one trip to Lübeck. We do not know for certain whether she was one of those vessels which were meant to bring grain to Finland before winter, but it is very possible. The grain was ordered by the Senate in Helsinki because of the huge famine in Finland.

However, SS *Porthan* went on the rocks off Gotland, and had to seek repairs in Oskarshamn, Sweden. It is known that the ship could not arrive in Finland before the following spring. The mail onboard must have been taken to the post office in Oskarshamn (postmark 4 December 1867), from where the letter was sent to Stockholm (postmark 7 December 1867 on the reverse), and across the

Åland Islands to Turku, where it arrived on 20 December.

The operation to bring grain to Finland in the fall of 1867 was poorly planned, and much too late. The Senate had taken a 5,000,000 mk loan from Central Europe to buy grain but the prices had gone up, and it took too long to purchase the needed grain. When some of it finally was ready to be transported, the Baltic Sea had frozen and the ships could not make the trip any more. About 270,000 Finns died of hunger, cold and diseases in 1866–1868. The whole population of Finland was only 1.8 million at that time.

The history makes the price too, not only the “name” auction

When I had told this story in my article and in the exposition, another cover by SS *Porthan* from the same trip appeared into the market. It lacked some of the postal information that was on my cover, but it clearly was another wreck cover from the same trip. The price had increased by several multiples after its history had been brought into daylight. So it is not only the “name auctions” that can create some extra value in postal historical items but also the known history of the covers!

Gummesson was the main buyer when I sold my exhibit at Kaj Hellman’s auction in the early 2000s. The *Porthan* cover has not been seen since then, until it was now sold at the Gummesson Auction by Postiljonen. The starting price was 300 euros and it was sold by 700 euros. Without being mentioned as a wreck cover and that only two are known, the letter – even if it is beautiful – would have been hammered in a lot together with many other ship letters at a much cheaper price.

There was another interesting cover from my earlier collection, which was included in one of the lots. It was a bill of lading sent by the former Finnish steamer *Fürst Menschikoff* (II) in the same year, when she made her last trip to Finland. It was dated in Lübeck 10 August, and it arrived in Turku on 19 August 1867.



The bill of lading by Cabell & Schwarzkopf, Lübeck, to merchant house Österblad & Co. in Turku (Åbo) in Finland was dated 16 November 1867 and sent by SS *Porthan*. She was wrecked off Gotland, Sweden, and did not arrive at Turku before spring 1868. (Courtesy Postiljonen)

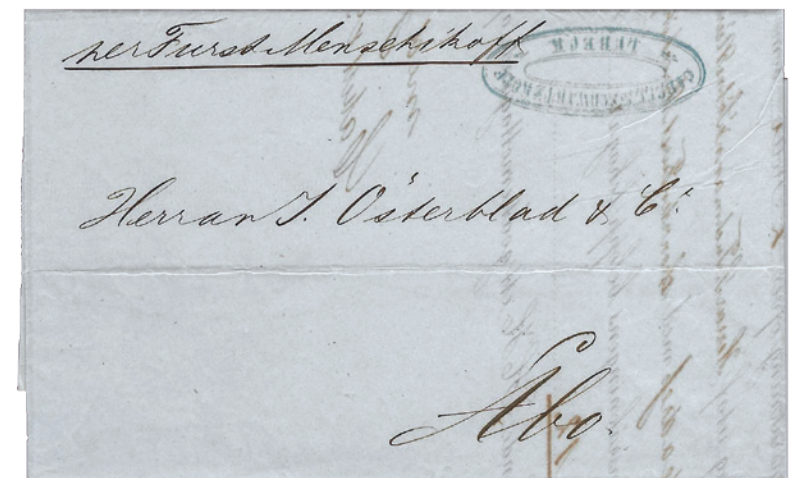
Winter storms were so heavy at the Baltic Sea in November 1867 that about one hundred ships were reported to have wrecked. Among them was the former steamer *Fürst Menschikoff* (II), at that time already changed to schooner after being sold to Germany in 1861. The ship met her fate at Leba, near the coast of Prussia on 9 November 1867. Two people lost their lives and the ship remained wrecked.

Later in October 1882, the SS *Porthan* also was lost off Helsinki in a thick fog on arrival from Lübeck and Tallinn. All 17 crew members and both of its two passengers were rescued, however.

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Another bill of lading from the same correspondence, sent by *Fürst Menschikoff* on 10 August 1867, when the ship departed for her last trip for Finland. (Courtesy Cyril Schwenson)

Collecting on a Shoestring – Abbott Labs 1950s Pentothal Ad Postcards from Nordic Countries

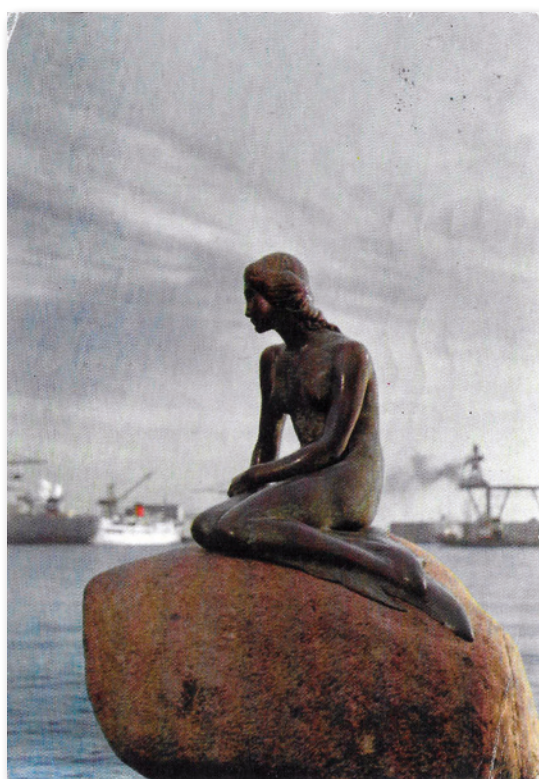
by Roger Cichorz

Abbott Laboratories of North Chicago, Illinois had a prolonged, massive advertising campaign for its anesthetic drug Sodium Pentothal® that occurred from 1956 into 1968. This campaign consisted of printing messages that extolled the virtues of Pentothal on the address sides of (primarily colored, Continental-sized 4" x 6") postcards that pictured scenery or art of the USA and many other countries around the globe. The cards would then be posted from their countries of origin to anesthesiologists and nurse anesthetists primarily in the US and Canada, but also to physicians in other foreign countries.

The ad messages were primarily in English in simulated handwritten text (most common) or simulated typewritten text (infrequent). Before 1966, cards addressed to nurse anesthetists were identical to cards posted to M.D.s but lacked the “Dear Doctor” salutation. The “Dear Nurse Anesthetist” salutation was finally added to cards posted to nurse anesthetists during 1966–1968.

Huge quantities of the Abbott Pentothal cards were posted during the 1950s and early 1960s, and these still frequently turn up in dealers’ bargain cover boxes or in their sorted cover stocks priced in the \$3 to \$10 range. In total, there are some 182 face-different Abbott Pentothal cards recorded. Pentothal cards were posted to 34 different countries and territories, but primarily they were mailed to addresses in the US and Canada. Some cards, but not all, were mailed to foreign addresses and are known to have texts in nine languages other than English — Arabic, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, and Swedish.

Interestingly, the Pentothal cards posted to French-surnamed doctors in Quebec Province are French-text cards, but cards mailed to other parts of Canada are in English text. Also, because of the political climate of the Cold War years when these cards were being distributed, not unexpectedly, none were of nor mailed from any Eastern European and Soviet Bloc countries.



The Little Mermaid on a postcard sent 2 April 1957 from Copenhagen to an M.D. in Indianapolis, USA.

As this ad campaign was winding down in the mid to late 1960s, fewer and fewer of each of the later face-different cards were distributed, and some of the later cards today are rarities (less than five recorded) and command high prices when they infrequently are offered for sale. However, since my “Collecting on a Shoestring” articles feature items that cost \$10 or less, the subject this time will be common Abbott Pentothal postcards from Denmark, Finland, Greenland, and Sweden posted from 1956 to 1960 that routinely can be found in cover dealer’s holdings or routinely offered on eBay and Delcampe at prices of \$5 or less.

An informative Website titled “The ‘Dear Doctor’ Postcard Collector Page” (<http://www.deardoctormapostcards.com>) is maintained by my friend Tom Fortunato. He lists all 182 of the known face-different Abbott Pentothal cards alphabetically



by country of origin (and chronologically if more than one card exists from a given country) and assigns identification numbers to each, ranging from #1 Andorra (“Andorre La Vieille – Maison du Parlement” posted 1956) to #182 Wallis & Futuna (Islands’ View posted 1965). Furthermore, Tom includes census listings of how many of each of the cards have been reported, their “variants” (i.e., what foreign texts have been reported and to which countries and territories they were mailed), and the stamp frankings and places and dates of postmarks.

During Abbott’s ad campaign in the 1950s, the costs of postcards, printing, foreign postcard-postage rates, and labor involved in processing and mailing the cards were relatively inexpensive, so thousands of each card could be distributed for a few hundred dollars, much less cost than say a 30-second spot advertisement on a TV network. Additionally, these

cards would be directed to a targeted audience, specifically individuals in the medical profession who were most likely to be utilizing an anesthetic drug in their practices. No doubt many of these cards upon receipt were immediately discarded as “junk mail” into trash bins by their recipients, but, judging from how many of the 1950s and early 1960s cards still exist today, large numbers of them must have been saved, perhaps because of their eye-catching pictorial nature and postage-stamp frankings from the countries of origin.

Abbott Pentothal ad cards are widely collected today and make nice additions to “modern postal history” collections as they represent commercial advertising mail of the 1950 and 1960s. Each face-different card has a different ad message uniquely related to the card’s country of origin and each is properly franked at the destination-appropriate



foreign-postcard rate and postmarked from a city or town in its country of origin — characteristics appealing to some modern postal history collectors and country specialists. So, without further ado, here follows a list of the English-text Pentothal advertisement cards that can be obtained on a shoestring budget, identified by their “Dear Doctor” Website ID#, title, and place postmark and dates:

- Denmark #39: Copenhagen, “The Little Mermaid”, all franked 15ø with 2 Apr 1957 Kobenhavn wavy lines cds.
- Finland #42: “Helsinki, The Children’s Castle”, all franked 10p with 1 Oct 1958 Helsinki cds.
- Greenland #67: “Native sealers from Greenland”, all franked 15ø with 11 Mar 1959 Godthåb cds.
- Sweden #160: “Stockholm’s Stadshus”, all franked 10ö with 2 Jun to 14 Jul 1956 Stockholm cds
- Sweden #161: “Bohusläns fjordveckade kust...”, all franked 15ö with 9 Feb 1957 Göteborg cds.
- Sweden #162: “Laplandish living quarters, Tarradalen”, all franked 15ö with 5 Mar 1958 Polcirkeln cds.
- Sweden #163: “1959 Nobel prize presentation”, all franked 15ö with 16 Feb 1960 Stockholm cds.

If you want to further specialize in these cards and spend more than (and in some cases well in excess of) a shoestring-budget amount to purchase them, there is a sole #131 Norwegian card (“Night view of the North Cape”) posted 1966 and a #164 Swedish card (“Klara sjö och Stadshuset / The City Hall”) posted 1967 and 1968, both of which present acquisition challenges. Also, all of the seven 1956–1960 Nordic cards listed above exist as (nurse) variants lacking the “Dear Doctor” salutations, and these generally do not sell at a premium. Also, several of these seven cards exist with foreign-language texts, some of which can be found from time to time offered on the Delcampe site at prices well within the shoestring budget. So, happy hunting!

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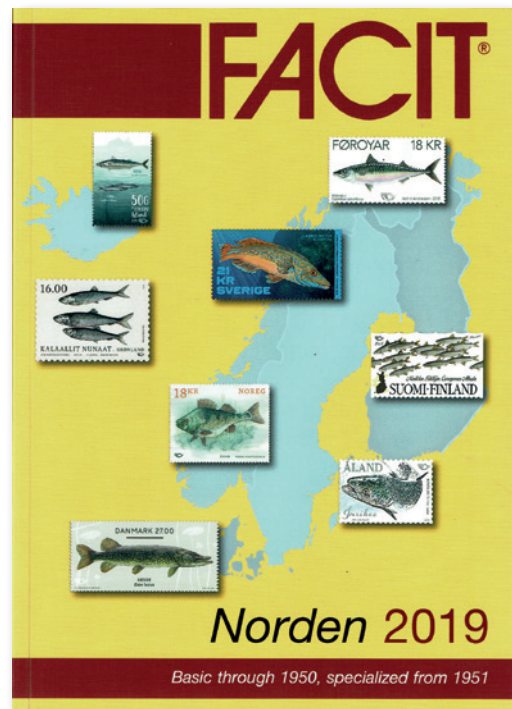
Book Reviews –

FACIT Norden 2019: In magnificent color!

***FACIT Norden 2019*, Gunnar Lithén, Editor in Chief. 960 pages, 6 ¾ by 9 ½ inches, card covers, perfect bound. Facit Förlags AB, Malmö, Sweden 2018. ISBN 91-86564-83-4. 450 SEK plus shipping from www.facit.se or FACIT Förlags AB, Box 537, 20125 Malmö, Sweden. Also available from Scandinavian Collectors Club, Box 16213, St. Paul, MN 55116.**

F*ACIT Norden 2019* was released at Malmex in September. The front cover features new issues released by Scandinavian postal administrations cleverly chosen to display a fish topical collection. The new edition is now 150 % heavier than the previous. The number of pages increased by 50 and the catalog is now printed on 70 gram paper resulting in significantly improved image quality. The already Gold Medal awarded *FACIT Norden* is now even better!

The color in *FACIT Norden 2019* is magnificent. The heavier paper provides a whiter background enhancing the images and creates greater clarity and color contrast. No other catalog has achieved



this quality for Scandinavia stamps.

FACIT Norden 2019 is the specialized catalogue featuring all stamps of the Scandinavian countries in color and written in both English and Swedish. The stamps from 1951 to date are described with varieties. Stamps issued prior to 1951 are described only by issue and denomination, without varieties and listed values for only the commonest issues. Countries are cleverly indexed by the flag icons on the bottom outside corners of each page.

Following the regular issues for each country is a sort of “back of the book” section including listings and values of all stamp booklets and varieties. Additionally these sections include franking labels, FDC and year sets providing the collector with information on other modern Scandinavian collecting trends. For the first time, pricings are noted for single frankings on cover of Swedish booklet pairs and corner cuts. The listings of Swedish self-adhesives on covers have been substantially revised.

FACIT Norden 2019 also includes articles on modern philatelic subjects. Gunnar Dahlstrand’s article “Forged modern Swedish stamps, 2004–2015” contains detailed information from his research on issues forged not to deceive collectors but to instead deprive the Swedish Post of revenue. Frank Gilberg has contributed a new article on Norwegian affixing roll stamps. New information summarizes Greenland franking machine code numbers. Saso Andonov’s article on Iceland Documentary Revenue stamps continues to be this collecting area’s principal resource.

I return once more to the front cover. It is no coincidence that all Nordic postal administrations issued stamps depicting fish in 2018. It is well documented within *FACIT Norden 2019* itself that these same postal administrations each have long histories of issuing fish on stamps. The stamps depicted here are designed or engraved by Martin Mörck (2), Gustav Mårtensson (2), Lars Sjöblom, Astrid Andreassen and Erik Bruun. To the collector of these and other Scandinavian engraved issues this volume is the most complete resource. *FACIT Norden 2019* lists the designer, engraver and printing method for each issue.

In addition to the images the philatelic information contained in *FACIT Norden 2019* is the most available in any single-volume catalog. The high quality of everything about it contributes to my philatelic joy and continues to make it a favorite among Scandinavian collectors.

It is announced that *FACIT Special Classic 2019* will be released at Stockholmia 2019. The high degree of its specialty and special articles on issues prior to 1951 will make it the perfect volume to complement *FACIT Norden 2019*.

Steve Lund

Scandinavian Area Awards

The FIP exhibition PRAGA 2018 was held in Prague, Czech Republic in August. Jussi Tuori of Finland served as a Vice President of the Jury and Lars Engelbrecht of Denmark was Jury Secretary. Tom Komnaes won a Large Gold and a special prize and was nominated for the Grand Prix International with his “Norwegian Skilling Covers – Domestic and Abroad.” Risto Pitkänen took a Large Gold for “Postal History of Finland to the UPU,” and another Large Gold went to Matt Kewriga with his “Danish West Indies Foreign Mail 1748–UPU.”

Klaus Bonde Larsen won a Large Vermeil for “Danish West Indies 1856–1917.” FIP still does not award medals in the single frame class. Ari Muhonen received 88 points for “Mail of the Red Guards Area, Finland, Spring 1918” as did also Tony Gade for “Danish West Indies Prephilatelic Mail with the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. to Denmark 1842–1865.”

Dickson Preston won 86 points for his “US Army Post Offices in Greenland 1941–1945.” In the literature competition in Prague, the Oslo Filatelist-

klubb received a Vermeil for *Norgeskatalogen 2018* and Gunnar Lithén won a Large Vermeil for *Facit Special Classic 2018*.

At the Balpex show in Maryland in September, Kathryn Johnson won a Large Vermeil and the Second Best 2-frame award with her “Denmark Encased Postage Stamps that Addressed Coin Shortages.” Mike Ley received a Gold at the Omaha Stamp Show in September for his “Finland: Uses of the Blue Lions of 1930–1952.”

Alan Warren took a Vermeil at Autumn Stampex in London in September with his “Denmark Birth Certificates: Commemorative First Day Covers 1920–1949.” Cheryl Ganz received a Large Silver at Milcopex in Milwaukee in September for her “Washington Island – Scandinavian American Settlement.”

A silver award along with the AAPE award for best multi-frame exhibit winning Silver or below went to Larry Crain at the Seapex show in Seattle in September for his “Iceland Unofficial FDC Town Cancels.”

Alan Warren

Transfers and Re-Entries

Jonas Hällström announced the jury for Stockholmia 2019 that takes place May/June next year. From Denmark are jury president Lars Engelbrecht, Henrik Mouritsen and Lars Peter Svendsen. Finnish jurors are Ari Muhonen and

Jukka Mäkinen, and the Swedish contingent is jury secretary Peter Nordin, Bengt Bengtsson, Fredrik Ydell, and Erik Hamberg. The Norwegian judge will be Hallvard Slettebø.

Alan Warren

Pre-Order the New Reference Work FERDÉN - CENSUS OF SWEDISH MAIL UNTIL 1940

by Staffan Ferdén

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Collectors of Sweden, as well as dealers, have longed for a book of this nature for a long time. Staffan's magnum opus joins the ranks of the best in philatelic reference books, not just from Sweden but from around the world. Furthermore, I cannot imagine that anyone will be able to improve upon this information in my lifetime. We will all be able to use this source in one way or another. This book will also be a “code of law” for the recording of known philatelic items. This is a good base on which others will only be “updates.”

Foreword (extract) by Jonas Hällström RDP FRPSL



Pre-orders can be made through the order form at www.philea.se (preferred). Orders can also be placed by mail bookorder@philea.se.

Closed Album – Sandra L. Sundfjør, 1941–2018

Sandra L. Sundfjør, age 77 of Illinois, spent her life's final weekend at the Chicagopex 2018 Stamp Show, where she saw hundreds of philatelic friends. For more than thirty-five years, she volunteered at the stamp show and greeted attendees and newcomers with a smile at the Chicago Philatelic Society's welcome table.

In addition to CPS, Sandra was a life member of the Scandinavian Collectors Club, a founder of the Sons of Norway Elvesund lodge, and a member of the Stavanger Filatelist Klubb. She specialized in stamps and local posts of Norway, the two US Norse-American stamps of 1925 that commemorated the 100th anniversary of the arrival of the first group of Norwegian immigrants in New York on 9 October 1825, and stamps and mail of Rattlesnake Island in Lake Erie, Ohio.

At the Chicagopex SCC coffee hour and meeting, she spoke of her plans for a new exhibit and promised to bake Scandinavian pastries for the SCC gathering next year, demonstrating her enthusiasm and devotion to SCC and philately.



Sandra died unexpectedly on 20 November 2019. She was the mother of three and grandmother of eight.

– Cheryl R. Ganz

Christmas Aromas on stamps!



01100642
 Christmas stamp 2018 1/2
Artist: Ivinguak' Stork Høegh
Denomination: DKK 14.00
Date of issue: 22nd October 2018
 10 stamps per sheet
Ext. dimensions: 40.00 x 28.80 mm
Format: G
Typography: Lowe-Martin Group
Print method: Offset
Paper: TR4



01100643
 Christmas stamp 2018 2/2
Denomination: DKK 16.00



The very first postage stamps with added scent have now been issued in Greenland.

POST Greenland's two 2018 Christmas stamps include the fragrances of cinnamon and pine respectively. The Christmas stamps are offset-printed and issued in sheets of ten identical stamps.

True to tradition, a booklet has also been issued, in which the two annual Christmas stamps are printed on self-adhesive paper. These self-adhesive stamps inside the booklet do not include the scent, however.

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Scandinavian Literature Notes

by Alan Warren

From Denmark

Tony Gade shows a 1917 DWI cover that bears some interesting postal markings in the September *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. It is an official envelope, imprinted “Service des Postes” with manuscript “K.T. [Kongelige Tjeneste] Service des Postes,” and sent registered from St. Thomas to 2. Postrevisionskontor in Copenhagen. It is marked “Rebuts.” on the back and handstamped front and back with “Damaged by Sea Water.”

The cover was mailed 15 February 1917 and went to New York where it was transferred to the British ship SS *Norwegian* which sailed 27 February for Liverpool. On 13 March the ship hit a German mine and sank near Ireland. In the same issue Niels Hjordals shows some imperforate examples of the 38th printing of Denmark’s 4-øre bicolor stamp.

Poul Krog offers an overview of the postal history of Ketting, Denmark, in the September *Posthistorisk Tidsskrift*. He covers from 1853 to the 1960s with photos and some examples of cancellations. Palle Offersen shows some pages from a 1930 mail and telegram receipt book from Holbæk. The pages have individual manuscript entries with destination, weight, and value of the item, and cancelled stamps.

In the August *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*, Allan Brink offers a nice summary of the state of the stamps and postal history of Iceland. Steen Mielec offers the second part of his series on the postal history of Holsteinsborg, Greenland from 1914 to 1976.

From Finland

The Friends of the Finnish Postal Museum released the 2018 edition of *Tabellarius*, the yearbook that has much similarity to the Swedish Postmuseum annual *Posttryttaren*. The articles focus on aspects of WW1 and the Finnish Civil War. The lead article by Tuomas Hoppu reflects on mail from both sides of the front during WW1, illustrating censored mail to and from Finland. Vilma Lempiäinen describes events of war, famine and disease in 1918 as reflected in letters written by members of the Helsinki Deaconess Institute.

From Great Britain

Clas Arnrup describes two remarkable covers sent from Iceland to Malmö, Sweden in 1871 in the July-August *The London Philatelist*. Both are addressed to Mamsell (Miss) M. Lundquist. Arnrup provides details about the sender and recipient and also traces the provenance of the two covers that have been owned by important Iceland collectors.

The September issue of *Iceland Philatelic Magazine* carries the first part in a new series on roller cancellations. These were intended for uneven surfaces like packages. However, few such wrappers survive. On the other hand they were sometimes used on letters, perhaps as a convenience because they were nearby at the time of need. The article shows some examples from the 1930s to the early 1980s.

In the September *Scandinavian Contact*, Wayne Donaldson offers some background on the Crimean War and the Baltic Fleet, and then describes in detail a letter sent home from Sweden to London, written by the captain of the HMS *Cossack*. Peter Hellberg begins a series on the T-marks or postage due handstamps on Swedish mail to foreign destinations from the 19th century up to 1939.

From the Netherlands

Henk Fiolet expands on the picture postcard producer Hans A. Hanson of Lübeck, and his connections to Finland subjects, in the September *Het Nooderlicht*, journal of the Scandinavian Study Group.

From Norway

Egil Thomassen anticipates the coming centennial of Norwegian aviation in 2020 with a profile of pioneer pilot Tancred Ibsen in the 5/2018 issue of *Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. Ibsen founded A/S Aero in 1920.

From Sweden

Peter Lorentzon focuses on double printing of Swedish stamps in the issue 5/2018 of *Svensk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. He shows an example of the

1 Kr official stamp, *Facit Tj24A*, where the blue half of the stamp was printed twice. Other stamps with double impressions as well as the printed cover of a stamp booklet and even an overprint of the Landstorm issue are illustrated.

From the United States

Kathleen Wunderly gives a brief history of Finland in the 20 August issue of *Linn's Stamp News*. She leads into the establishment of the Delaware colony by Swedes and Finns in 1638. The tercentenary was marked in 1938 with stamps issued by Finland, Sweden, and the United States. In the 3 September *Linn's*, Janet Klug offers an overview of Karelia including the 1922 issue as well as the occupation overprints, and she cautions about counterfeits.

Each issue of the *American Philatelist*, published by the American Philatelic Society, ends with a profile of a stamp-issuing country, written by former executive director Bob Lamb. His article in the September issue provides an overview of Greenland.

The subject of Christer Brunström's article in the 17 September *Linn's Stamp News* is the reflection of the culture of the Sami people, i.e. those who reside in northern Sweden, as seen on stamps. Formerly referred to as Lapland, and the occupants as Lapps, the residents changed the names as they felt the previous terms were derogatory. The author shows several Swedish stamps that depict aspects of the Sami culture.

Geir Sør-Reime continues his series on island communities in the 12 October *Mekeel's & Stamps* with a review of Svalbard, which was adopted in 1925 by Norway. However he begins with the private local post of the 1890s and shipping line labels of the early 1900s, and shows later Norwegian stamps with Svalbard themes.

Kevin Lowther discusses Denmark's neutrality in WW1 in the third quarter issue of *Kelleher's Stamp Collector's Quarterly*. He shows examples of mail that went through Denmark during the war and mentions the Danish Red Cross and its role in monitoring military refugees in the country.

Contact the Officers

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Visit the Club

1. SEATTLE/NW: 2nd Monday, 9 am at members' homes. *Contact:* Dana S. Nielsen, 13110 NE 177th P1, PMB #263, Woodinville WA 98072-5740, email: dananielsen@comcast.net.

4. CHICAGO: 4th Thursday of January–June and September, October, 1st Thursday of December. Des Plaines Public Library, 1501 Ellinwood St, Des Plaines IL 60016. *Contact:* Ron Collin, PO Box 63, River Grove IL 60171-0063; (773) 907-8633; (312) 259-1094, email: collinr@ameritech.net.

7. NEW YORK: *Contact:* Carl Probst, 71 Willoughby Ave, Hicksville NY 11801, email: cwp1941@aol.com.

9. NORTH NEW JERSEY: 3rd Wednesday at members' homes. *Contact:* John Abrahamsen, 759 Peach Tree Ln, Franklin Lakes NJ 07417, (201) 739-8589, email: john.abrahamsen.bnp@gmail.com.

14. TWIN CITIES: 2nd Thursday (except July and August) 7 pm at Danish American Center, 3030 W River Parkway S, Minneapolis MN 55406. *Contact:* Steve Lund, email: steve88h@aol.com.

17. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: *Contact:* Erik Roberts (909) 706-5911, email: scwebman@gmail.com.

21. GOLDEN GATE: 1st Saturday 11 am at members' homes and at various shows (WESTPEX, PENPEX, etc.). *Contact:* Herb Volin (510) 522-3242, email: HRVolin@aol.com.

24. MANITOBA: 2nd & 4th Wednesdays September through May at Scandinavian Cultural Centre, 764 Erin St., Winnipeg, MB. *Contact:* Robert Zacharias, 808 Polson Ave, Winnipeg MB R2X 1M5, Canada, email: robertzacharias@shaw.ca.

27. COLORADO: 1st Saturday September–June, 10 am at the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library, 2038 S. Pontiac Way, Denver CO 80224. *Contact:* Roger Cichorz, 3925 Longwood Ave, Boulder CO 80305-7233, email: rcichorz@comcast.net.

AUSTRALIA: *Coordinator* John McKay, email: john.mckay@analysisinternational.net.au.

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 L3360 Skvara, Frederick
 4321 Welander, Rob

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 L4087 Eriksson, Sten
 L82 Sundf r, Sandra

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 3269 Donald B. Brent
 H31/2888 Roger P. Quinby
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Nordia 2019 in Grålum, Norway, 23–25 August 2019



Next year's Nordia exhibition will be held on 23–25 August in Grålum, near Sarpsborg, Norway. The site is about one hour's drive from Oslo, and two and half from Gothenburg. The venue is the Quality Hotel in Grålum.

The show committee expects approximately 750 frames of exhibits, and a large bourse of dealers and philatelic agencies. The exhibition classes include Championship class, Traditional philately, Postal History, Aerophilately and Astrophilately, Postal Stationery, Thematic Philately, Open Philately, Modern Philately, Revenues, Maximaphily, Postcards, Youth Philately and Philatelic Literature. The applications should be sent to the National Commissioners by 20 March 2019.

The special regulations for exhibiting, in both English and Norwegian, are available on the show web site at www.nordia2019.no.

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