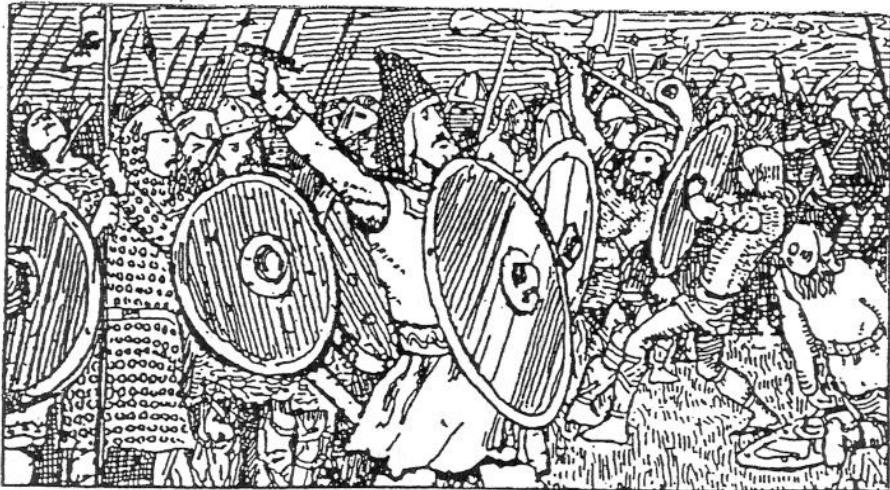


*A Selection of  
Philatelic Essays II  
& Other Memorabilia*

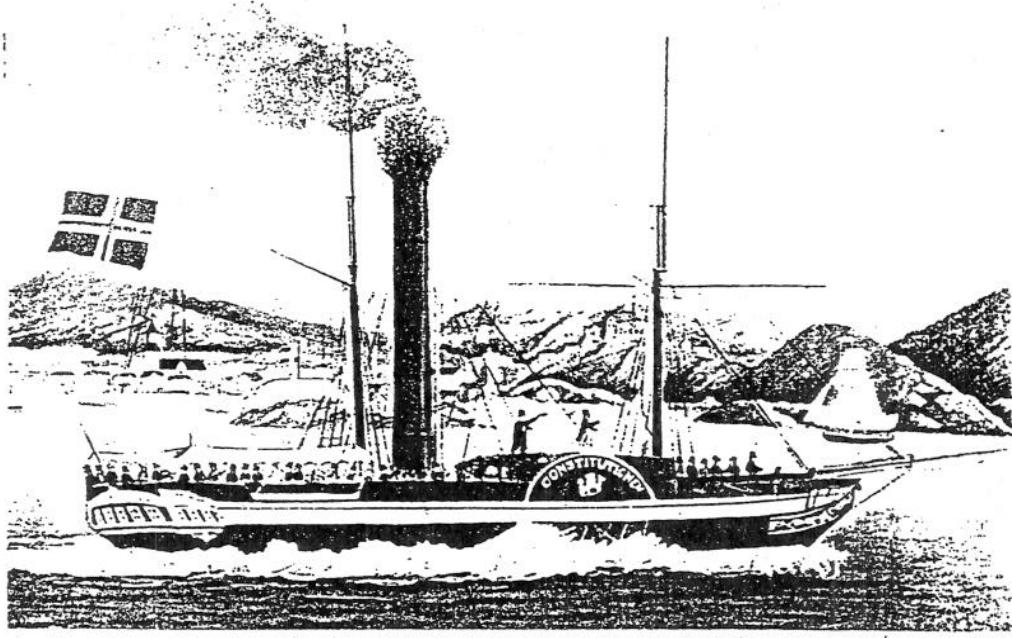
*by*

*Frederick A. Brofos*



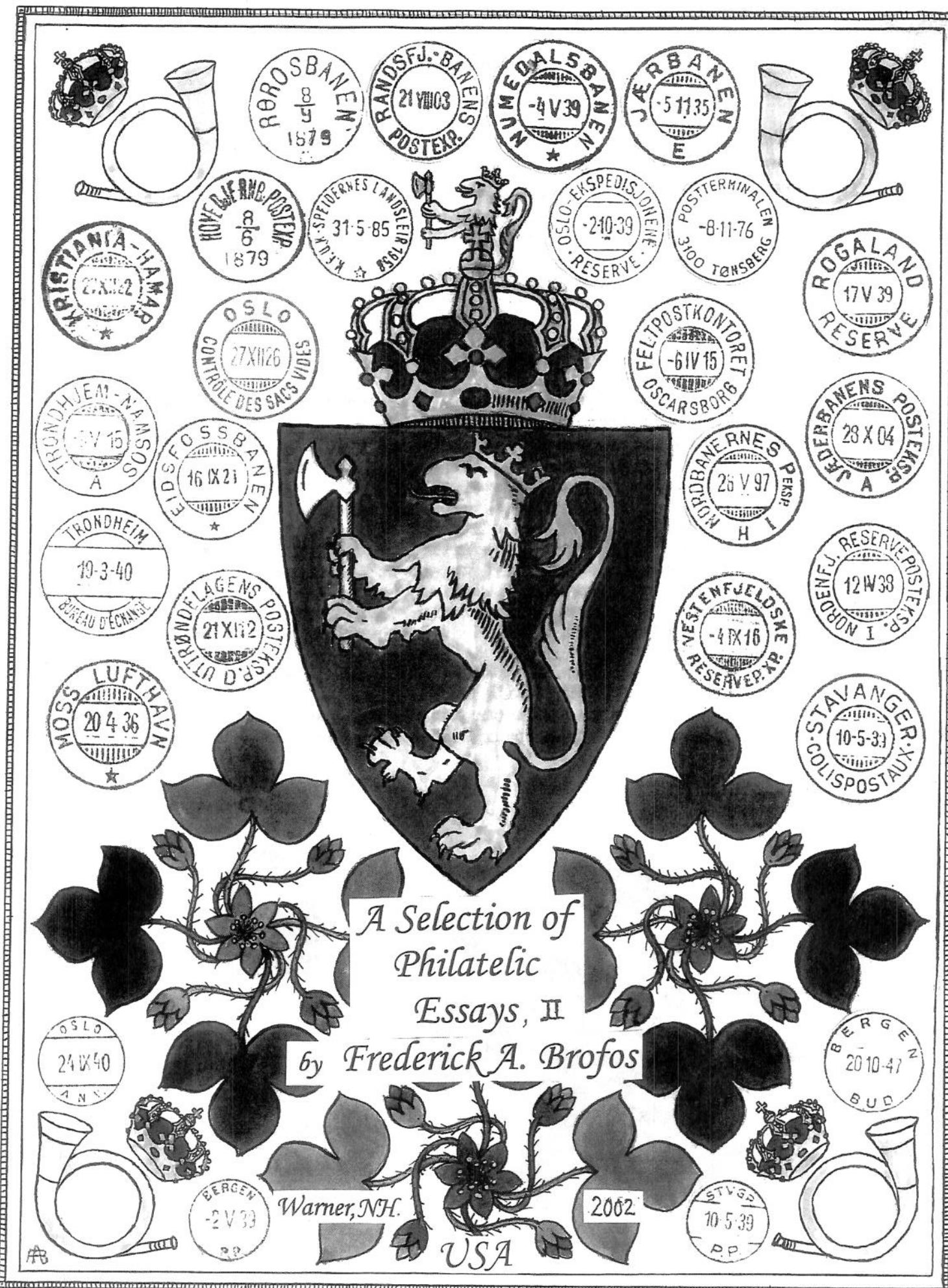
*Warner, NH*

*2002*



### ODE to NORWAY

Yes, I love that land,  
as it juts forward,  
rugged and weather-beaten,  
across the ocean,  
with its thousand  
stamps and postmarks.  
I love, oh, how I love  
to study its glorious  
postal saga,  
from early morning until  
night settles upon the earth.



*A Selection of  
Philatelic  
Essays, II*  
by Frederick A. Brofos

Warner, NH.

USA

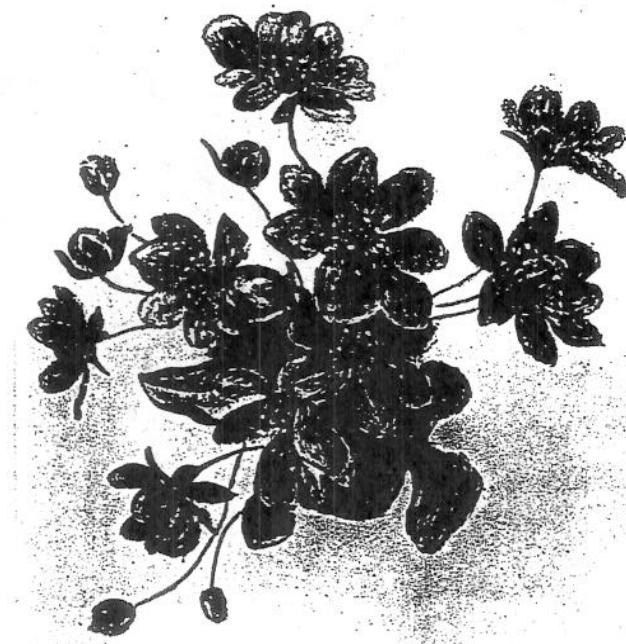
2002

## Acknowledgements

This book is dedicated to my wife, Rosemary Ann Brofos, who has patiently watched the slow progress of this book, while the proof- pages lined the floor of the dining room for weeks on end. My thanks and gratitude go also to my son, Alexander Michael Brofos, for his help in typing and retyping, inspite of his busy work schedule. Without the staunch help and encouragement of these two supporters and friends like the Gulbrandsens and Paul H. Jensen and others here and abroad, this volume would never have been published.

### Introduction

An old friend of mine told me once that he never wrote anything without knowing everything about the subject. That, of course, strictly limited his output of philatelic articles. Now he is long gone, taking with him into the grave a lot of useful information. I don't try to cover everything, but leave room for others to continue. There is so much to write about, if one would just make the effort and turn off the TV for awhile... This work contains a lot off new articles not in Vol. 1. Although I realize it is not technically "top-notch", I wanted to get it done, instead of the endless waits for publication in magazines with attendant "editorial" corrections. After 50 years of writing I feel confident that I have made a worthwhile contribution to Philately. One does not get rich, to be sure, and not much is heard, unless some "Feinschmecker" is able to spot a mistake somewhere. Then one receives a "brick-bat" from the fellow - who would never venture to write an article himself! However, there are some compensations in this work, I have met some very fine people.



The "Blåveis"  
or Hepatica,  
with pale blue  
flowers in Spring,  
is my favorite  
flower in Norway

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## The Norwegian Independence Plate

Five generations of the Brofos family have appreciated a certain plate commemorating Norway's independence from Sweden [June 7, 1905]. The attractive plate in colors, with gold edging, was produced by the well-known porcelain factory at Porsgrunn in Southern Norway [Porsgrunds Porcelain Fabrik]. The plate has moved around quite a bit with the family over the years and I am so pleased that there are no chips or cracks in it yet. The plate also recalls May 17, 1814, Norway's Constitution Day. The inscription on the plate reads, "No er det i Norig etter Dag med Vaarsol og Song i Skogen", translated it means, "Now it is again Daytime in Norway, with Spring sunshine and bird song in the woods". Truly a patriotic plate with its Royal Arms and National Flags.

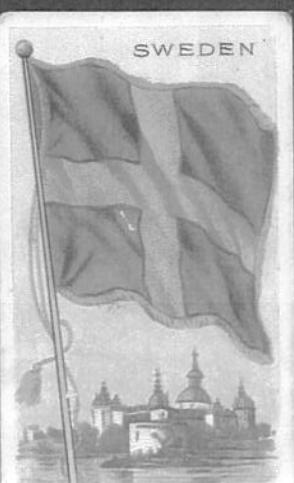


### Colorful Cigarette-Card Collecting

When I was a boy living in England in the '30s, everyone at school collected and traded cigarette cards, just like "Pokemon" cards are collected by youngsters today. We used to look for them at the road-side, walking to and from school. Originally, they were enclosed inside cigarette packs. As the purchaser was mainly interested in the tobacco, the cards were usually thrown out with the empty wrapper. We considered ourselves lucky when it had not been raining. I still have some wrinkled cards which survived a down-pour. The cigarette companies used to change the design of their colorful card issues from time to time. There were also some larger cards which derived from the larger-size cigarette packs. Special albums were also available for sale at tobacconist shops, holding about fifty cards. I have selected here a number of cards to do with Nordic subjects. Some of the cards are quite old - from the turn of the Century - and show flags of that period.

CIGARETTE CARDS







*Thirty-sixth Annual*  
TRI-STATE COLLECTORS' EXHIBITION  
Concord, N.H., Oct. 26-27, 1991



Norsemen discovering America, in 1000 AD.  
may have landed at Hampton Beach, N.H.

Viewed from Both Sides

The discovery of America, that great moment in history, is shown here from two points of view. An old wood engraving from a book, shows Indians on a cliff, gazing in wonder at the mysterious Viking ship on the horizon. The other picture is from a painting by Chr. Krogh in the National Gallery, Oslo. It shows the Viking sailor, Leif Eiriksson, pointing to their first sight of land in the distance. That was the start of a new saga.

### Snorre Sturlason (1178-1241)

Snorre Sturlason, the author of the "Sagas of the Norse Kings," was born in Iceland in 1178. He had many illustrious ancestors. His father, Sturla, died in 1183. The boy was then taken care of by John Loftson, a powerful man of Odde in South Iceland. Young Snorre received the best education and at an early age began to study historical writings. He also listened with interest when, on winter nights around the log fire in the common hall, men recalled past history and the exploits of famous leaders in Norway and Iceland. Indeed, John's family had sprung from Norse kings too.

Although Snorre became an important politician, he is most remembered for his historical writings. His great work, the "Edda," was completed in 1222-1223, followed later in life by his other famous work "Heimskringla." He died on September 23, 1241.

An attractive set of 6 stamps was issued in 1941 to mark the 700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death. Saga scenes by several artists were used.

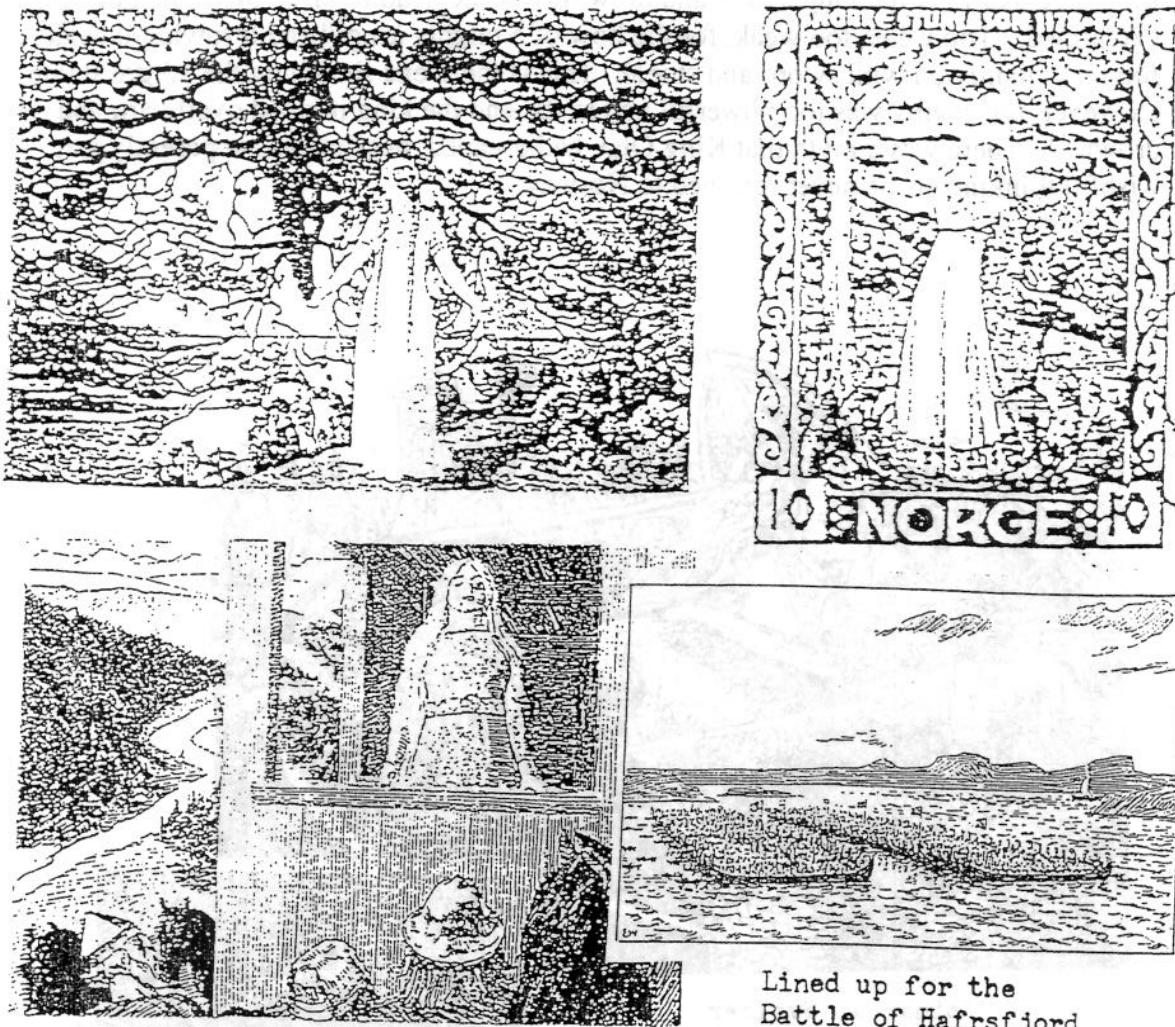


Snorre, in a pensive mood

## Queen Ragnhild's Dream (849 AD)

Long ago, Norway was divided between many small kings. One of them was Halvdan the Black (Halvdan Svarte). He ruled over the areas of Romerike, Vestfold and most of Norway to the south of the mountains. His wife was called Ragnhild. She dreamt once that she stood in her herb garden and pulled a thorn out of her dress. While she held it, it grew and soon became a large tree. Its branches spread themselves out over all Norway. The dream was interpreted to mean that she would have a son who would conquer the whole of Norway. The son was Harald Fair-haired or Harald Shock-head (Harald Hårfagre), who succeeded to the throne after his father drowned falling through the ice of a lake. The neighboring small kings hurried to attack the new young kin, but he was able to beat them all.

Two versions of the dream



Gyda, showing off...

Lined up for the  
Battle of Hafrsfjord

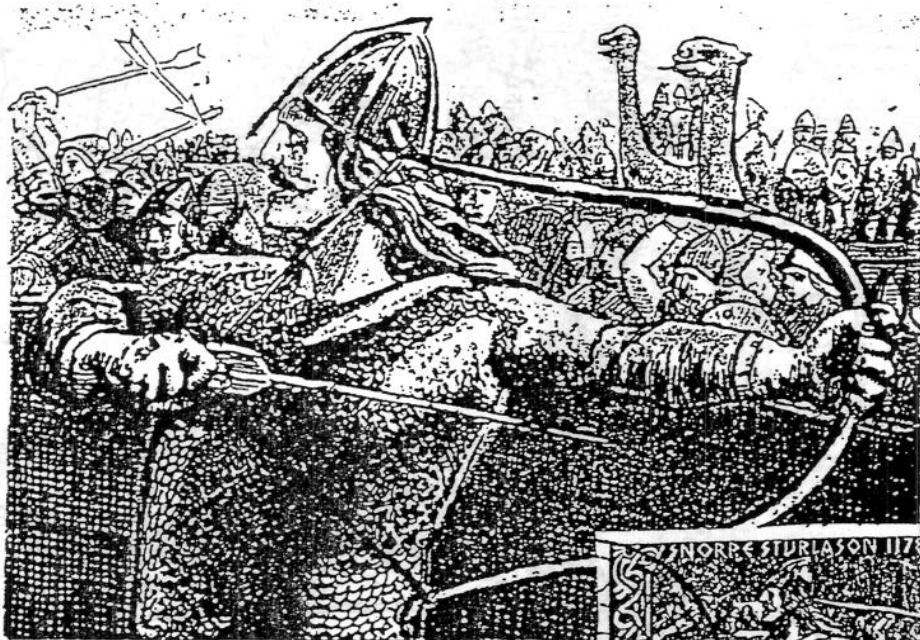
When the king was 12 year old, he proposed marriage to the beautiful Gyda, haughty and proud daughter of a rich small king of Hadeland. She scornfully answered Harald's messengers that she would not throw herself away on a small king saying: "I will either have no man at all, or else I will have he who wins all of Norway." When Harald heard this, he promised not to cut or comb his hair until he had conquered Norway. He was therefore surnamed "Lufa" (shock-head). This was changed to "Fair-hair" when he had conquered all of Norway after 10 years. His victory was clinched by the Battle of Hafrsfjord.

King Harald married Gyda, and had 5 children. However, he already had numerous wives and children.

### The Battle of Svolder (1000 AD)

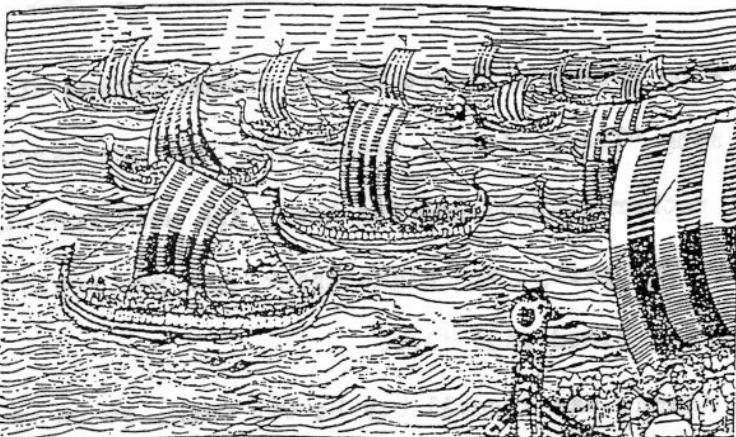
King Olav Tryggvesson was sailing home in his well-manned Viking ship "Ormen Lange" (Long Snake) and a fleet. Suddenly they were attacked, at Svolder, near Rygen, by Swedish and Danish kings as well as the Norwegian Eirik Jarl.

One of King Olav's sharpest archers was a big fellow called Einar Tambarskjelve. When his bow split apart, the king asked what broke with such a noise? "Norway, king, from thy hands," cried Einar. "No, not quite so much as that," said the king, flinging his bow to him. Einar took the king's bow and drew it over the head of an arrow. Then he exclaimed, "Too weak, too weak, for the bow of a mighty king!" and throwing it aside, fought valiantly on with sword and shield. This is the scene shown on the 15 øre stamp. However, the enemy was too powerful and in the end the king jumped overboard and drowned. There was a myth that King Olav had escaped, but that was apparently just wishful thinking, as he never returned to Norway.



Einar at Svolder





(30 øre)

King Olav under sail



Black sticker



(60 øre)

Soldiers on their way



Holy Olav under attack



### The Battle of Stiklestad (1030 AD)

The peasants rose up against King Olav the Holy and met him near the farm of Stiklestad in Vaerdalen. The battle was fierce and lasted all day. The peasants were led by Tore Hund (The Dog). Olav met Tore and struck him, but the sword didn't bite. The king was immediately hit by a cut over his left knee. He leaned himself against a stone and asked God to help him. Now, Tore stuck his spear into him. After that he received a cut in the neck. These three wounds caused the death of the king. The scene is shown on a 30 øre stamp issued in 1930.



Death of the king

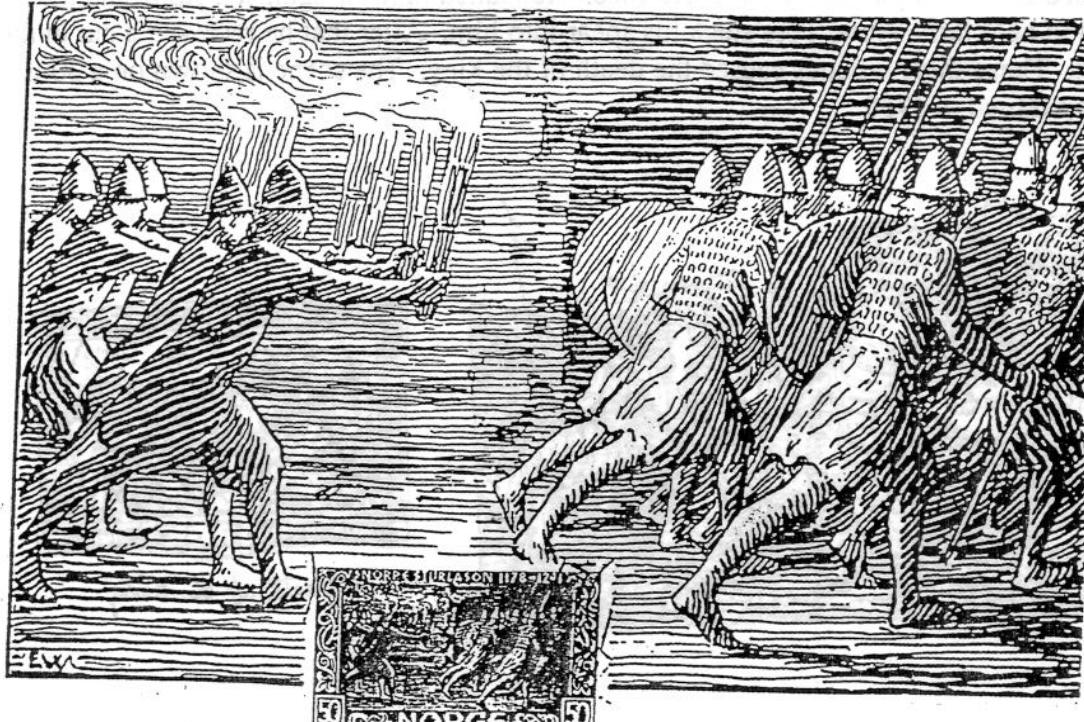
Svipdag's sons and their men go to the Hall of the Seven Kings.

As one admires the picture on Norway's 50 øre Snorre commemorative stamp, I am reminded of the old war song "Tramp, tramp, tramp, the boys are marching!" But, I also wonder where that rather ominous-looking troop are heading so late ~~out~~ at night, with torches ablaze. To a party, you might think, and you would be right, but treachery is abroad and blood will flow.

When Ingjald, son of King Anund, was a small boy he was weak, so he was brought to his blind foster-father called Svipdag. He was fed the roasted heart of a wolf and thereafter became nastier than anyone.

After King Anund had been killed by a mountain landslide, his son became king. However, there were many smaller kings around the country. King Ingjald decided to throw a great party, but first he had built the huge Hall of the Seven Kings. From far and near, minor kings and nobles came to the feast. All came except King Granmar, who was of a suspicious nature.

The six kings sat on thrones and their men on benches around long tables. In the evening, when all were drunk, King Ingjald as he was heading out, spoke to his old friends Folkvid and Hulvid, sons of Svipdag. As arranged before, they and their men were to burn down the hall. The six kings and their followers were burned to death. Anyone trying to escape was killed instantly. After this inferno, Ingjald conquered all six kingdoms and taxed them. Later on there was fighting with King Granmar, but that is another story.



### King Oscar II Forgeries

Attempts to copy the portrait of King Oscar II on early Norwegian stamps have not been very successful. Illustrated here, is a gathering of most of the old imposters that have fooled inexperienced collectors in former times. Although their general appearance is rather primitive, the rascally rogues looking a bit startled, maybe because of the poor drawing, perforation, coloring or spelling. In spite of all this, I find a certain naive charm here, that is not to be found in modern photocopy-type forgeries.

Several of the old fakes show gross spelling errors, such as "SCILLING" with a "C", "SKILLIN" with missing "G". There is also one with no value indicated at all. One almost wonders if the producers were half asleep. Or maybe they hoped that the customers in a dimly lit stamp den would be only half awake.

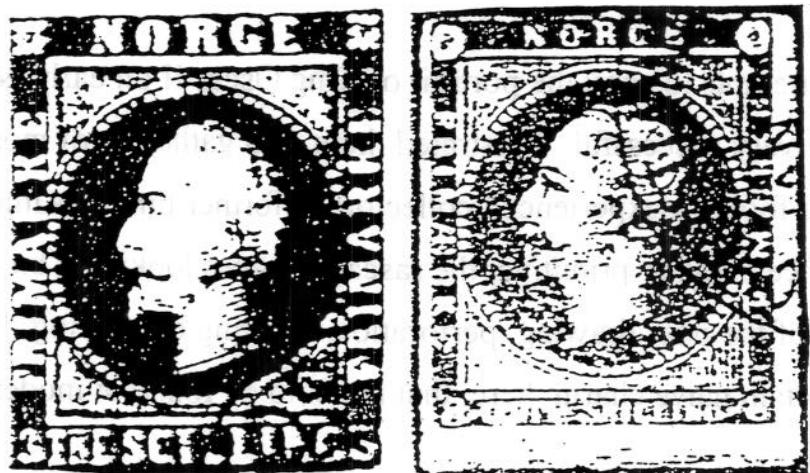
The fourth stamp at right (SKILLIN), I presented to the Postal Museum in Oslo a few years ago, where it is on exhibition with several other surprises.

The last two items are old, but only recently captured culprits. They are more amusing than dangerous. It is, indeed, most unusual for all these forgeries to be seen together in one grand "Rogues Gallery".



ORIGINAL

FORGERIES



8 SKR.

Norwegian Stamp Reprints, 1969

As the final part of their great handbook series on Norwegian stamps, a third volume was published in 1969 by the Norwegian Philatelic Union. Covering various unusual subjects, not mentioned previously, like postal stationery, postmarks and local posts, it was named "Norske filatelistika" (i.e. Norwegian Philatelics). As the only foreigner invited to contribute, I had the honor of writing chapters on Norwegian parcel postmarks, the field-posts and "Paquebot" ship postmarks.

The Norwegian Post Office, as it had with the previous two volumes, kindly arranged for certain older postage stamps to be reprinted in natural colors, but rouletted instead of perforated. These individually numbered pages were bound into the new volume. This very limited issue of 4000 was a very generous bonus on the part of the postal authorities to help sell the book. The whole edition has, of course, long since sold out. I am naturally very proud to have these special stamps in a book that I helped to write. They are listed in the Scott Stamp Catalogue and priced at \$10 each. They are no. 69, 92, 107, 114, 128 and J12. The earlier two volumes, from 1963 and 1965, also contain rouletted reprints. These are of some of the older Skilling stamps, including Norway no. 1 (value \$20). Official reprints were previously made in 1914 and 1924 for earlier philatelic handbooks about Norwegian stamps. They were only made of the first six values of the early Skilling stamps. They run between \$60 and \$75 for the cheapest ones.

1909



Kr. 2,00

1917



40 øre

1925



10 øre

1925



45 øre

1927



60 øre

1922



P. m. 200 øre

*Det Norske Postverks nytrykk 1969. Kun trykt i 4000 eksemplarer for denne håndbok.*  
*The Norwegian Post Office Reprints, 1969. Only printed in 4000 copies for this handbook.*

## NORWEGIAN HOTEL NUMERAL POSTMARKS

Frederick A. Brofos

A remarkable collection may be formed of postmarks used at hotels around the world, especially those from Egypt, Italy, and the U.S. A lesser number, but no less interesting, have also been used in Norway. There, some of the old withdrawn numeral postmarks that were still usable were redistributed to new places. It can sometimes be difficult to determine their use at hotels, as the postmarks were occasionally shifted around to other locations. To pin point the correct place of use, dates are often an important factor. Postcards or covers, preferably with contents, are of course more useful than loose stamps.

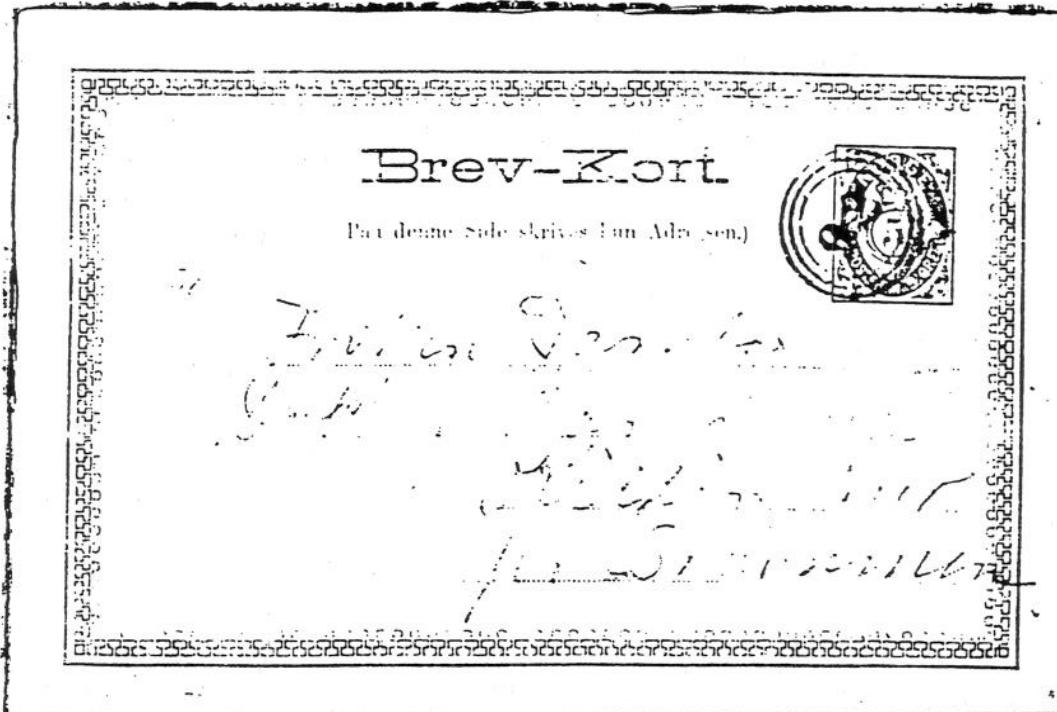
Later on, postmarks were eventually introduced, showing the place name together with a Crown and Posthorn or a date in the center. The old numeral postmarks with 3 or 4 rings were then withdrawn.

With the aid of several excellent postmark handbooks, published by the Oslo Filatelist Klub, I have extracted a list of the numeral postmarks formerly used at Norwegian country hotels and hostels. This handy list is arranged numerically by postmark number rather than alphabetically and covers the period between 1888 to 1930. If there are any omissions, I am sure to be promptly notified by those who know better (but will not write articles themselves).

NUMBER OF RINGS	CANCEL NUMBER	PLACE NAME	DISTRICT	OPENED	CLOSED
4	49	GRUNGE HOTEL	VINJE	1893	13/9/1893
3	92	FLEISCHER'S HOTEL	VOSSEVANG	1888/89	---
4	97	FOSLE HOTEL	EIDSFJORD	1900	1908
4	127	BREIFOND HOTEL	RØLDAL	1893	1/4/1910
4	158	FÆMUND HOTEL	ENGERDAL	1/7/1893	15/11/1906
4	449	HØYDA SÆTERHOTEL	N. AURDAL	3/8/1917	11/12/1933
4	639	FLEKKERØ KYTSANATORIUM	ODDERNES	1/1/1909	---
4	652	SÆTHER'S HOTEL	KVAM	1/6/1929	---
4	827	ÅSBERG HOTEL	NORE	---	30/9/1910
4	886	FAGERSTRAND HOTEL	TINN	22/1/1930	---

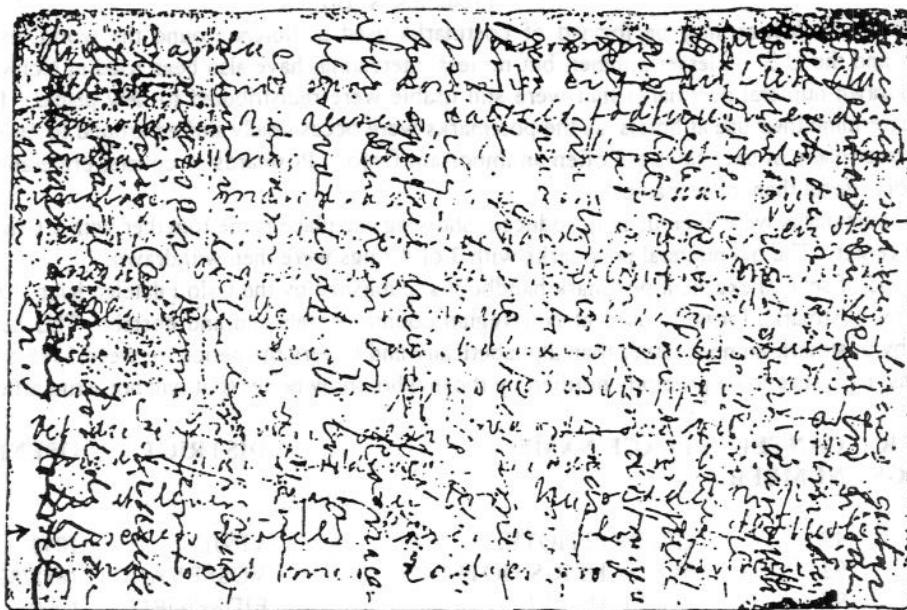
Fleischer's Hotel was one of those wonderful old-fashioned Victorian hotels to be found in Norway. Many have sadly burned down, due to being constructed entirely of wood and at the mercy of careless smokers. Fleischer's still exists, I believe, although in a modernized form.

I have before me a 5 øre emerald green postal card clearly postmarked '92', apparently the only 3-ringer used at a hotel. The card luckily states that it was mailed at Fleischer's Hotel, Vossevangen, July 17 (1888 or 89). The amusing message is worth quoting. Addressed to "Frøken Gamla", which unless that was really her name, could mean "Miss Old Fogie" – as a jab for her being too scared to come along on the trip.



LUREN

-26-



A young female student wrote the card in pencil both horizontally and vertically on top of each other, gaining space at the expense of legibility. As far as I can make it out, it reads, translated from the Norwegian:

"Dear Gamla, Your dire predictions have evaporated and we travelers are sitting at least at the foot-trips end without anything awful having happened. Nothing was forgotten except the stomach pills which were left behind. After camping on the ground, the wonderful beds here with springs make us drop right off to sleep. At Gravendal it was so wild that we met a bear on the country road and you imagine the excitement. Now we are sitting at Fleischer's Hotel. Furiously elaborate, the fanciest. A lounge (actually written "Ladies Room" on the card), where we are now sitting, is for both boys and girls. Believe me, we looked terrible when we arrived today. We had traveled on the steamer from Odde and simply looked like vagabonds. We now, I think we must go to the station and meet the train. Signe Bommen may be coming up on it. A special greeting to your father. You can believe the cognac we drank was good. After a tramp's life we had a toddy on Sunday. Farewell, regards, N."

Well, so much for that cheerful glimpse into the past. In a later article, I will endeavor to tackle the postmarks showing hotel names spelled out.

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## THE RARE SOGNDAL WAX SEAL POSTMARK

Frederick A. Brofos

The limited usage of most provisional postmarks has often made them especially attractive to collectors. Those involving the temporary use of a wax seal have been particularly interesting.

As even Norway's smaller post offices had such seals for use in marking sealing wax, several have been used in a number of emergency situations over the years. An early case, involving Norway's first stamp, was when a private seal inscribed "L/S" (Locus Sigilli) was used by a postmaster in Northern Norway. Since then there have been others, all of short duration.

A most curious postal seal was temporarily reintroduced and used as a postmark at the small subpost office of Sogndal I Sogn. This is located on the beautiful Sognefjord in the Lærdal district of Sogn and Fjordane province.

The seal appears to be rather ancient, as indicated by the old-fashioned long-handled axe, or halberd, upon which the lion is balancing. In colorless letters, the circular inscription reads "POSTAAPNERII (or possibly POSTAABNERIE) SOGNDAL".

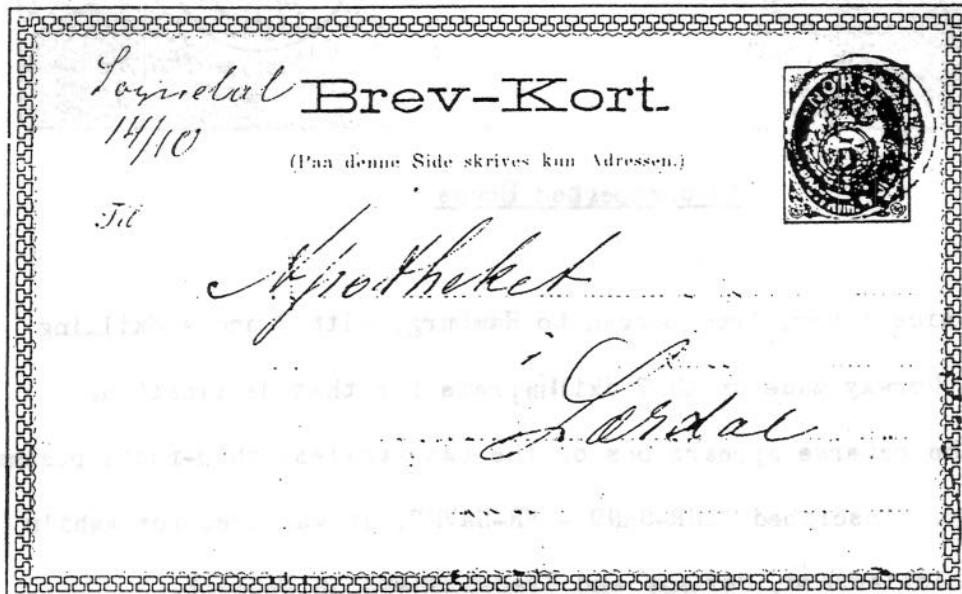


This remarkable seal postmark was briefly mentioned in Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift of November, 1964, page 191; noted as having been found on two loose 10 øre posthorn stamps, NK 53.

A three-ring postmark with numerals 272 had first been used at Sogndal on the early Skilling stamps. A single-ring dated postmark, with name, came later. It was misplaced in October, 1885, and the seal briefly used instead. The old dated name postmark must have been rediscovered or repaired and brought into use again. A new dated town postmark was not issued until 1893.

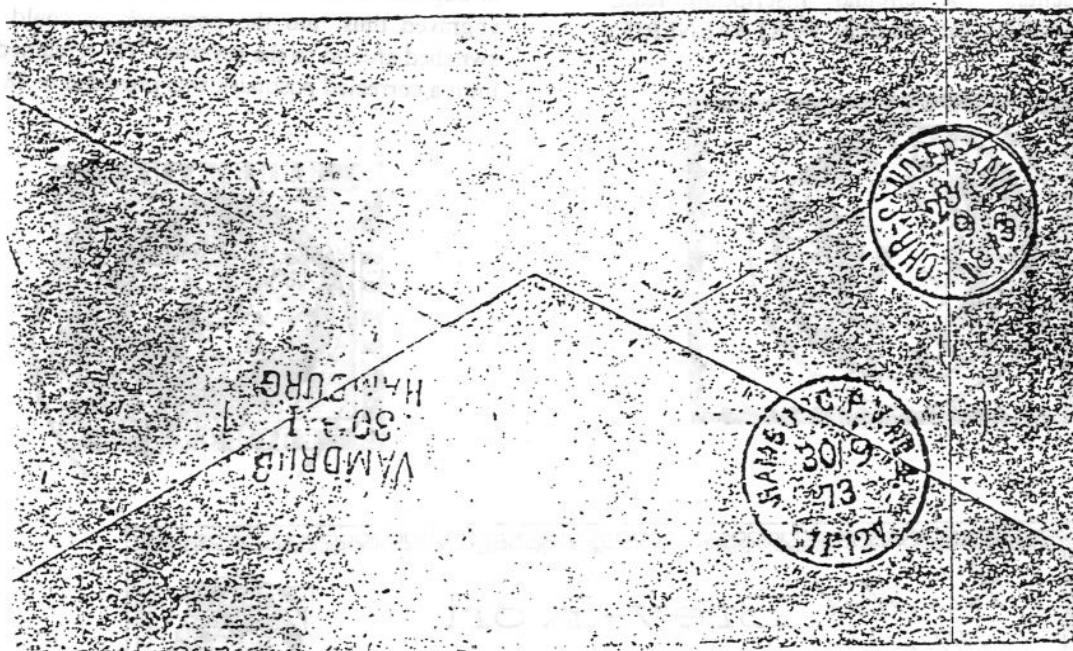
Fortunately, I acquired the rare postmark some forty years ago on a complete postal card of the 5 øre blue green type. At the top left, on the front, is a manuscript "Sogndal 14/10" in ink. The reverse reveals the year date as 1885 and the text includes the remark "by steamer this evening is sent", etc. The card is addressed to the drug store in Lærdal.

Mention should perhaps be made of a different place in Norway with a similar name. This is Sogndal I Dal(ane), which is south of Egersund in Rogaland province. In the early days its single-ring dated town mark was extraordinary in that the "N" of Sogndal had erroneously been inverted. As it was engraved thus into the postmark, it could not be switched around so the reversed "N" remained in use until a corrected postmark was provided in 1894.



Wind and waves. See what I can do  
in getting a good cover. This one is from  
Bergen to Hamburg, Germany.

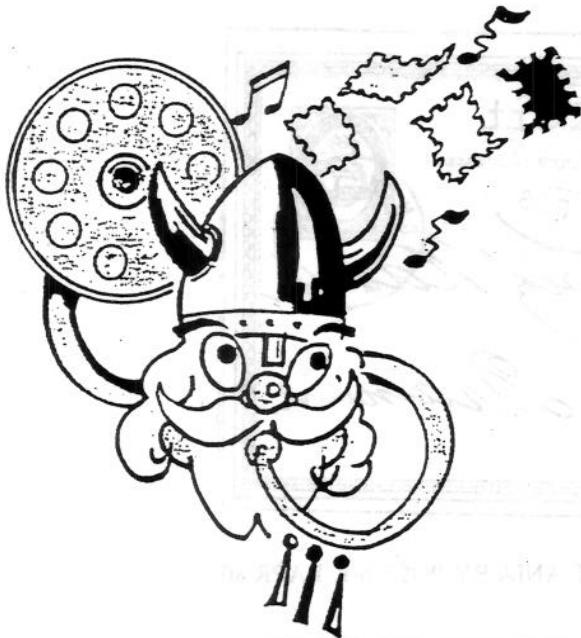
-23-



An unexpected Bonus

This nice cover, from Bergen to Hamburg, with 3 and 4 Skilling stamps of Norway made up th 7 Skilling rate for that destination.

On the reverse appears one of the two earliest ship-route postmarks of Norway. Inscribed "CHR-SAND - FR-HAVN", it was used for awhile between Christiansand, Norway and Fredrikshavn in Denmark.



# LUREN

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## THE RARE RUBBER LOCAL POSTMARKS OF CHRISTIANIA

Frederick A. Brofos

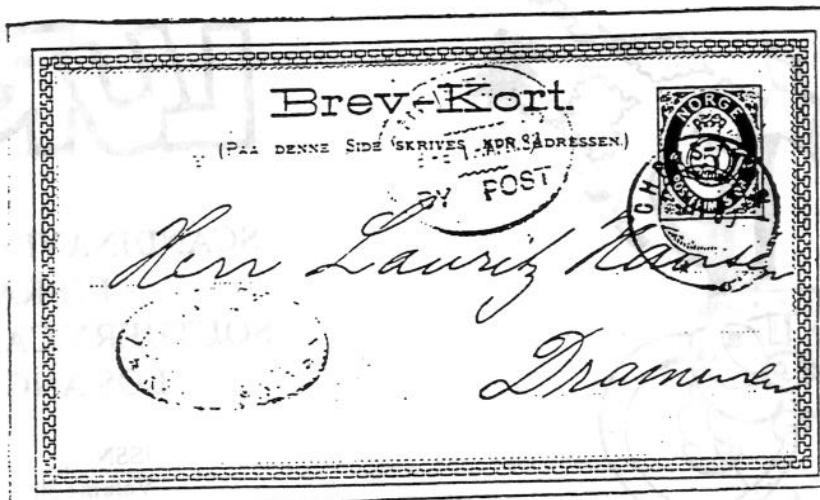
The postmarks used in the past century by the Local Post of Christiania were all made of metal, except two. The metal ones lasted a long time. There are a number of types and subtypes. Especially the abbreviated "CHRA-BYP" ones saw much use.

However, the two rubber postmarks did not last and therefore strikes are rarities, particularly the oval one. Possibly some enterprising manufacturer offered the markers on a trial basis, hoping for further orders later. Be that as it may, they did not stand up well during usage and the constant pounding. When their special rubber stamp ink was not used, they rapidly deteriorated. The oil-based ink, made for metal postmarks, tends to soften rubber, flattening out lettering and numerals. This accident seems to have occurred first with the oval mark and later with the round one.

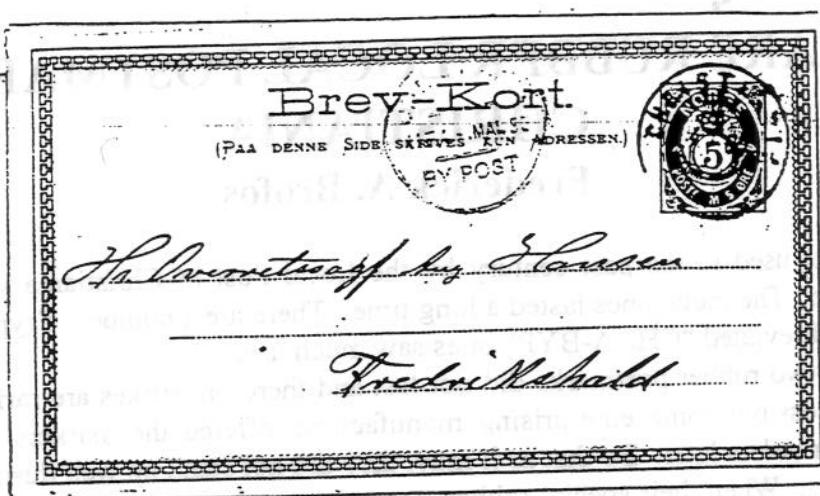
In the great local post collection of my old friend the late Carl A. Pihl of Norway, there were only two examples of these markings, the ones illustrated here. I have never seen any others aside from the US envelope to Norway shown here as well.

Many years ago I saw, at the Norwegian Postal Museum, the circular postmark in its dilapidated state with flattened rubber and broken date ring.

As regards the period of use, the earliest oval mark I have seen is dated 6-E 1 APR 80. The round ones are dated 11-F 4 MAI 80 and 8-F 15 MAI 80. E stands for afternoon, and F for morning. These dates indicate a time of usage of only 1½ months, if both were used concurrently, which may not have been the case.



Postcard with the Oval handstamp CHRISTIANIA BY POST 6-E 1 APR 80



Postcard with the circular handstamp CHRISTIANIA BY POST 11-F 4 MAY 80



Cover from Anamosa, Iowa, with circular CHRISTIANIA BY POST 8-F 15 MAI 80 (forwarding) cancel

## Imitation Norwegian Postmarks for Tourists

by Frederick A. Brofos

Collectors of old postcards showing scenes from Norway may have run across some with a Norwegian 1-øre stamp affixed to the view side and cancelled with an imitation postmark of the town or region pictured.

This innovation, which was probably frowned upon by the postal authorities and perhaps ordered to cease, was obviously done to please and accommodate tourists who wanted a postmarked souvenir card immediately. It is conceivable that they didn't want to waste valuable time going to some distant post office and pay full postage on a bunch of picture cards that were not being mailed anyway.

I have myself noted the following cards, but I imagine others exist also. I have included the dates seen: Odde (Hardanger) 9-I-04 (Fig. 1), Sandefjord 4-II-04 (Fig. 2), and Ulleberg 1904.



Figure 1. ODDE

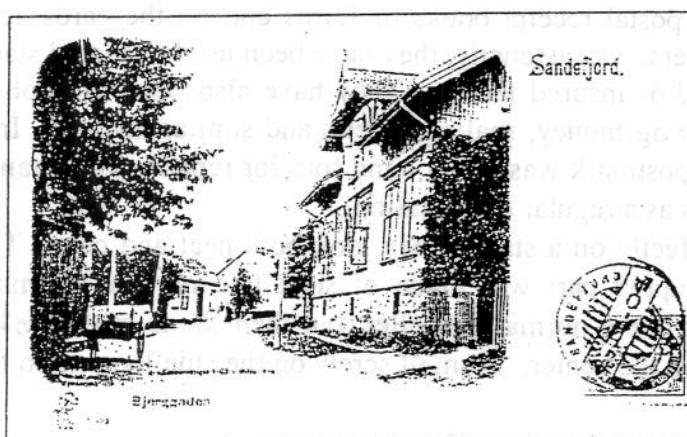


Figure 2.

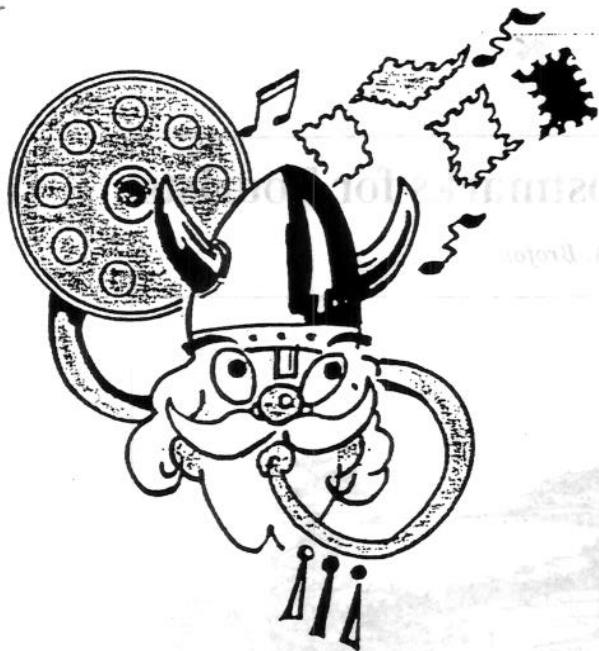
The curious bogus postmarks all have an open cross at the bottom (instead of the usual star) and are from rubber stamps usually applied in gray, black, or dull violet. All cards seen were unaddressed. Whether they were on sale at hotels or in kiosks at various popular tourist places or maybe available only from one distributor has not yet been determined.



(drawing)

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# LUREN



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## NORWEGIAN MINIATURE POSTMARKS

Frederick A. Brofos

A number of postmarks, formerly used in Norway, were remarkable for their unusually small size. They were often used in postal receipt books or forms and on the cards accompanying parcels, as well as on money orders. Occasionally, they have been used to cancel stamps, usually on the reverse side of registered or insured letters. They have also been used on receipts for payment of office fees for counting money, sealing letters, and similar matters. In emergency cases, such as when the regular postmark was not at hand (out for repairs, for instance) the mini postmark was allowed to be used as a regular cancellation.

As the tiny postmark fits perfectly on a stamp, they look both neat and cute. The canceller had a wooden handle and the upper part was made of steel like regular postmarkers. The diameter of the metal part starts like a normal canceller, but then slants inward to a stop, where only the mini postmark remains in the center. A small screw on the side loosens so the date may be changed.

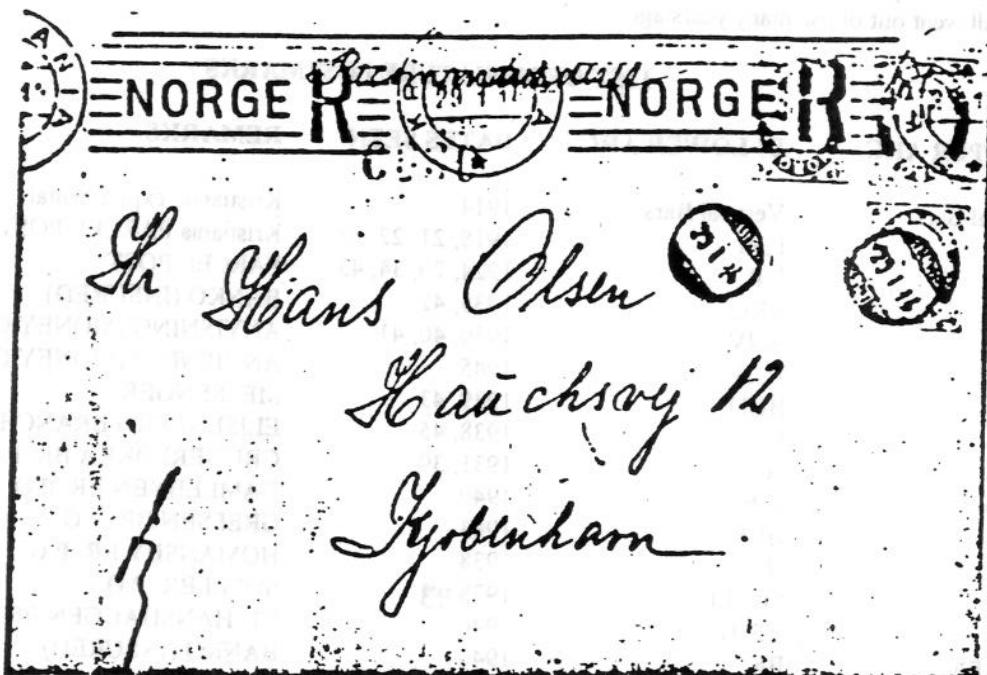
The earliest one I've seen appears to have been experimented with in 1914. An ordinary canceller had everything, including its town name, filed or drilled off. Only the inner circle with its date remained. The resulting mini postmark was found useful on postal forms, and always made a clear impression due to the pressure being applied to a smaller area. More postmarkers of this type were made and, maintaining the small size, were surprisingly able to squeeze in the office identity in the upper or lower arcs around the date.

The accompanying list shows the minis I have run across. Others may have also existed. However, I believe they sadly all went out of use many years ago.

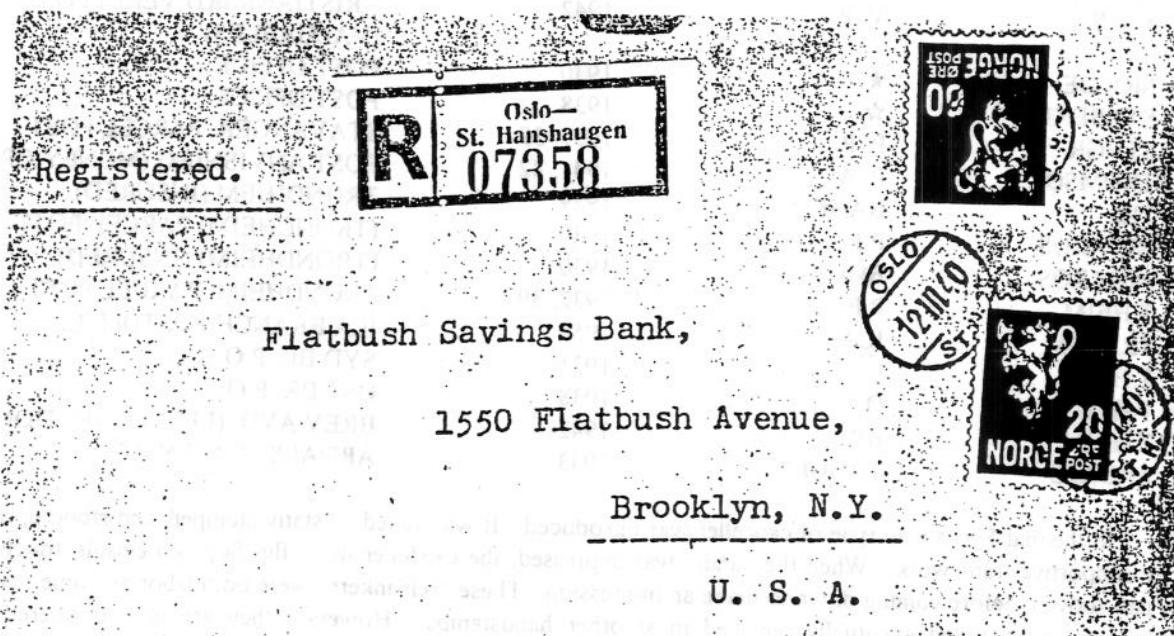
LIST OF MINIATURE POSTMARKS

IN UPPER ARC	IN LOWER ARC	DATES SEEN	REMARKS
Vertical Bars	Vertical Bars	1914	Kristiania, experimental
Kr.a	P.P1	1918, 21, 22, 23	Kristiania PARCEL POST, 2 types
OSLO	P.P.	1924, 29, 34, 43	PARCEL POST
OSLO	BKO.	1935, 42	BANKO (INSURED)
OSLO	ANV.	1939, 40, 41	ANVISNING (MONEY ORDER), 2 types
OSLO	A. II	1945	ANVISNING (MONEY ORDER)
OSLO	BUD	1939, 43	MESSENGER
OSLO	E	1938, 45	ELISENBERG BRANCH P.O., 2 types
OSLO	G	1931, 39	GRÜNERLØKKA BR. P.O.
OSLO	G.B.	1940	GAMLEBYEN BR. P.O.
OSLO	GRF.	1943	GREFSEN BR. P.O.
OSLO	H	1938	HOMANSBY BR. P.O.
OSLO	SOLLI	1938, 43	SOLLI BR. P.O.
OSLO	ST. H.	1940	ST. HANSHAUGEN BR. P.O.
OSLO	BK.	1940	BANKO (INSURED)
BERGEN	BUD	1947	MESSENGER
BERGEN	.★.	1942, 43	LAKSEVÅG BR. P.O.
BERGEN L.	ML	1934	MØHLENPRIS BR. P.O.
BERGEN	M. PP.	1945	-- " -- PAKKE POST (PARCELS)
BERGEN	PP	1931, 32, 39	PARCEL POST
BERGEN	VOGNST	1957	GARAGE (?)
BÆRGEN	★	1939, 53	POST OFFICE
BODØ	★	1941	POST OFFICE
HAMAR	V. P.	1942	KRISTIANSAND, VERDI POST (VALUABLES)
KR. S.			POST OFFICE
MOLDE	★	1930	POST OFFICE
STABEKK	★	1938	STAVANGER, PARCEL POST
STVGR	P. P.	1937, 39	POST ANVISNING (MONEY ORDER)
TROMSØ	P. A.	1941, 42	TRONDHJEM (INSURED)
THJ.	BANKO	1929	(TRONDHEIM) PARCEL POST
NIDAROS	P.P.	1930	(TRONDHEIM) (INSURED)
NIDAROS	Bko.	1930	TRONDHEIM, PARCEL POST
T. HEIM	P.P.	1932, 39	ILA BRANCH POSTOFFICE
TR. HEIM	ILA	1958	SYD BR. P.O.
T. HEIM	S	1931	ØST BR. P.O.
T. HEIM	Ø	1938	BREV AVD. (LETTER SECTION)
T. HEIM	BR.	1942	ÅRDALSTANGEN P.O.
ÅRDALS	TANGEN	1943	

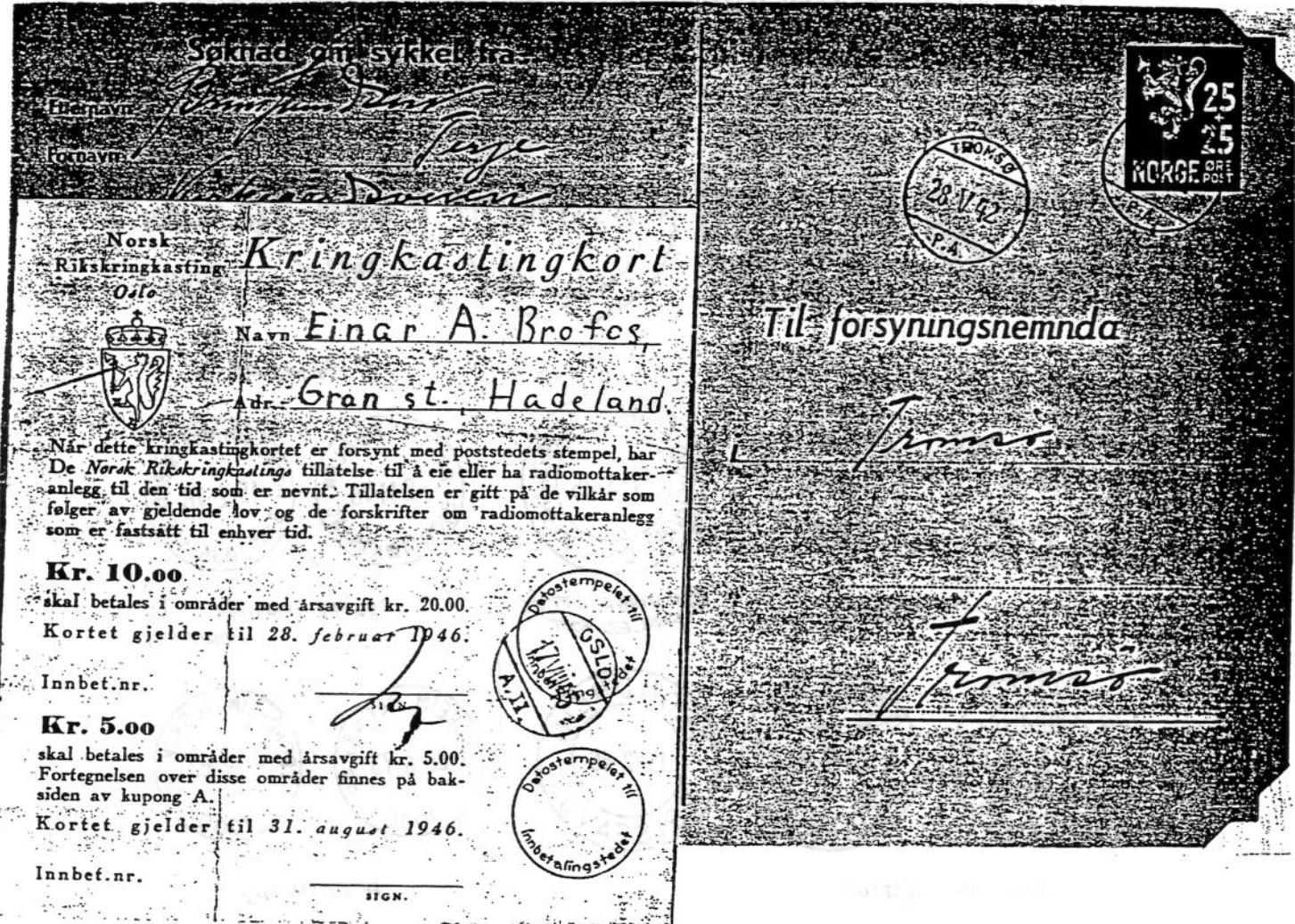
In the mid 50s, a new type of canceller was introduced. It was called a "stavt stempel" and stood upright within a supportive framework. When the handle was depressed, the canceller did a flip flop somersault, touching an ink pad above it before coming down to make an impression. These "self-inkers" were both labor and time saving. They became popular and eventually replaced most other handstamps. However, they are not considered true mini postmarks, as they are somewhat larger in diameter.



The 1914 Experimental Miniature Postmark from Kristiania (Oslo)



A 1940 Cover from St. Hanshaugen Branch Postoffice in Oslo to the USA.



A 1942 Tromsø PostAnvisning (Money Order) cancel on a Bicycle Request Ration Card.

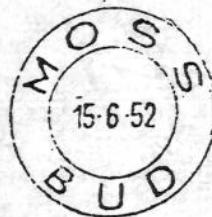
A 1945 Oslo A II (Money Order) cancel on a Radio License.

Below: Examples of Miniature Cancels. Last row: Stativ Stempel examples (a bit larger)



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# Modern Norwegian postmarks - a fascinating collecting field



MESSENDER

EXCHANGE OFFICE  
PARCEL POSTPOSTAL TERMINAL ↑  
MONEY SECT.

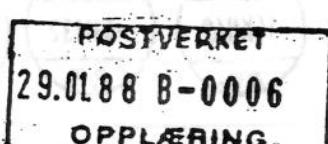
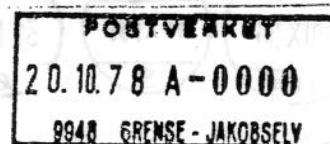
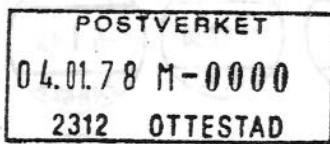
TRAVELLING SECTION

ACCOUNTING



CASHIER

MAIN CASH BOX

MESSENDER  
SECTION

MONEY ORDER POSTMARKS

(on Northern border)

P.O. TEACHING COURSE



TEACHING

MESSENDER

CONTROL OF  
EMPTY MAIL SACKS