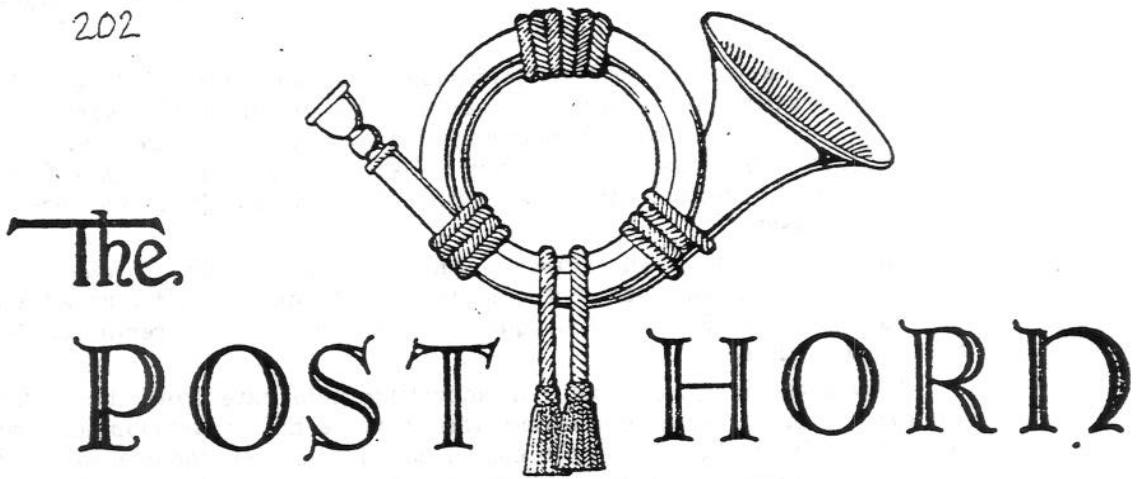


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The POST HORN

Sponsored by the
SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB OF NEW YORK

Volume 15

January 1958

Number 1

The Radio Tax Stamps of Norway

by Frederick A. Brofos (497)



Norwegian radio license from 1928

This January it is the 35th anniversary of radio broadcasting in Norway. As the interesting and elusive revenue stamps issued by the Norwegian Government for the sales and listeners tax on radios are not generally known, I have chosen this occasion to prepare a list of these stamps as well as some background information on broadcasting in Norway from its inception up until the present.

In writing about this subject I am fortunate in that it was my father, Einar A. Brofos, who was instrumental in introducing radio broadcasting to Norway back in 1923. I shall quote below some of his reminiscences from those early days.

"My activities in the radio broadcasting field date from the first months of 1922 when I began discussing this new technical development with the authorities in the four Northern countries. I had been considerably impressed with the reports I had received about the rapid introduction of this service in America and, after having become acquainted with the very efficient broadcasting equipments which Western Electric Company, in New York, had placed on the market, active steps were taken to interest the authorities.

"The early attempts to start this new service were not encouraging. I fear that, to begin with, a great deal of skepticism was exhibited in many quarters and radio broadcasting looked upon rather as a scientific toy which America could afford to play with. One question which occupied the mind in those days was how one could collect a revenue so as to make the service pay, considering that there would be no physical connection between the broadcasting station and receiving sets.

"To begin with, I believe the favored scheme was to collect a special tax on all radio sets and loudspeakers sold, but later this was expanded to include a yearly license fee for the use of radio sets.

"In view of the restrictions imposed on radio transmission in general, there were, of course, great obstacles in the way of having a commercial service started. In order to further the matter, we applied in the spring of 1922 for a concession to operate broadcasting stations in Norway, a special company to be formed for this purpose.

"Other applications of a similar character followed, but the authorities were not disposed to make any decision.

"However, matters developed very rapidly and as early as the summer of 1922, the Norwegian Telegraph Administration became greatly interested in the new service. But, since funds for a broadcasting station were not available and there was no decision as to how and by whom it should be operated, it was not possible to place an order for the equipment.

"As I was firmly convinced of the great future of the new invention, I proposed during the autumn of 1922 to the Norwegian Telegraph Administration that my company, Norsk A/S Western Electric, now Standard Electric Aktieselskap, should lend the Administration a trial installation so that the system could be tried out in practice. As I remember it, the Western Electric Company had three sizes, namely, 50-, 100- and 500-watt stations, the latter being considered a very powerful installation at the time. The Administration agreed to accept my proposal for a 500-watt station which, after some delay, arrived in Oslo at the end of 1922 and, during the following January and February, it was installed at Tryvandshøiden.* This station rapidly proved to be a complete success and functioned splendidly. It was the first complete

* A recent picture of this station appeared on the 30 øre value of the 1954 postage stamps commemorating the centenary of the Norwegian State Telegraph System.



broadcasting station in the Northern countries and, in fact, the most modern European station outside of England where an exactly similar outfit installed in Birmingham was placed in service shortly before, namely in November 1922.

"In those days the ether was not, as now, jammed by high power broadcasting stations, and the result was that during the winter of 1923, the Christiania broadcasting station was a prominent one for the radio listeners in Europe, and many were the favourable reports we received from foreign countries.

"The year 1923 and the following winter was a very interesting period in broadcasting history in Scandinavia. The authorities and the public took an increasing interest in this new and far-reaching development, but how to operate and control it remained an unsolved problem for a long time."

The preliminary service was stopped in the autumn of 1923 when the trial station was purchased by the Swedish Telegraph Administration and installed in Stockholm. The same equipment was therefore used to start broadcasting in two countries.

Attempts to obtain a license from the Norwegian Government for a regular broadcasting service failed until February 1925, when "Oslo Kringkastingselskap" was started. This broadcasting company was granted a license to operate one or more broadcasters within a radius of 150 km. from Oslo. Each listener in the service area paid a fee of 20 kroner, collected by the Telegraph Administration who kept 20% of the amount. There was also a stamp duty of approximately 10% of the retail value of all radio material sold, the duty being collected by the radio dealers. For controlling this arrangement and collecting the duty from the dealers, 20% of the total amount was retained by the Norwegian Government.

By 1928 there were three operating companies—in Oslo, Bergen and Tromsø, and the listeners licenses issued totaled 63,000, of which 48,000 belonged to the Oslo Zone. At the end of April 1930, the licenses numbered 77,555. By that time, the territory of the Oslo company had been extended to cover the greater part of the country.

The activities of the private companies were finally taken over by "Norsk Riks Kringkasting" (Norwegian State Broadcasting), which was given a monopoly in the field by the Broadcasting Act of June 24, 1933. "N.R.K." has the exclusive right to operate radio stations in Norway and the Norwegian territory of Svalbard in the far North. As there are no commercials or sponsored programs, its chief revenue is derived from the license fee paid annually by each owner of a radio set. This fee was 20 kroner until around 1954, and is now 25 kroner (about \$3.50).

The Listeners Tax stamps seem to have been superseded now by a Listeners License Certificate which is validated by postmark and signature at postoffices throughout Norway where the fee can be paid. In former years, when the radio tax stamps were affixed, it appears that the Post Office also helped with the fee collection. I have noticed the blue 10 kroner stamp (no's. 25, 28) and the Additional Fee stamp (no. 5) cancelled by Oslo postmark in 1938 and 1939. However, the cancellation generally seen is that of the Central Telegraph Office in Oslo.

There are at present about 1,480,000 registered receiving sets and an estimated 950,000 listeners. In 1940 there were 476,000 paid licenses, a figure which dropped drastically during the war years when the Germans confiscated the radios of every non-Nazi as the Norwegian broadcasts from London were too popular.

The Norwegian State Broadcasting is provided with a further revenue by the 10% stamp duty on the sale of receivers and radio parts. The special revenue stamps issued for this tax are affixed to the back of the equipment.

Radio license stamps for listeners in the Oslo Zone



1927. Coat of Arms. Text "K.N.T." (i.e. Kongelig Norsk Telegrafvesen) "Avgift betalt til _____" (i.e. Fee paid until ____). Perf. 11. Printed in sheets of at least 25 stamps (5x5), with one imperforate edge to the stamps around the borders and two imperforate edges on the corner stamps.

1. No value inscribed. Red and black on white.

The following stamps are inscribed "KRINGKASTING" and "RADIO AVGIFT" and are overprinted with the year date and value in black. Perf. 14.



1925.

2. 20 kroner light blue & black (for the whole year)
3. 15 kroner light blue & black (for the remaining $\frac{3}{4}$ year)
4. 10 kroner light blue & black (for the remaining $\frac{1}{2}$ year)
5. 5 kroner light blue & black (for the remaining $\frac{1}{4}$ year)

1926. Overprinted with additional text subdividing the year.

6. 10 kroner vermilion and black (for 1st half year)
7. 5 kroner vermilion and black (for 2nd quarter)
8. 10 kroner light green and black (for 2nd half year)
9. 5 kroner light green and black (for 4th quarter)

1927.

- 10. 10 kroner yellow and black (for 1st half year)
- 11. 5 kroner yellow and black (for 2nd quarter)
- 12. 10 kroner violet and black (for 2nd half year)
- 13. 5 kroner violet and black (for 4th quarter)

1928.

- 14. 10 kroner blue and black (for 1st half year)
- 15. 5 kroner blue and black (for 2nd quarter)
- 16. 10 kroner light brown and black (for 2nd half year)
- 17. 5 kroner light brown and black (for 4th quarter)

1929.

- 18. 10 kroner scarlet and black (for 1st half year)
- 19. 5 kroner scarlet and black (for 2nd quarter)
 - a. Variety: broken "I" in "kvartal"
- 20. 10 kroner green and black (for 2nd half year)
- 21. 5 kroner green and black (for 4th quarter)

1930.

- 22. 10 kroner blue and black (for 1st half year)

There may have been a 5 kroner stamp for the 2nd quarter of 1930, but I have never seen such a stamp.



1930. Somewhat changed design. Star removed from under lion, and 4 new stars added around the circle. New lettering too. The value is now included in the basic design, not overprinted as before. Perf. 11½.

- 23. 2.50 kroner red to scarlet
- 24. 10.00 kroner blue

1939? Same, but perforated 11.

- 25. 2.50 kroner red
- 26. 5.00 kroner chocolate brown
- 27. 10.00 kroner blue

Radio license stamps for listeners outside the Oslo Zone

1928. Design as the Oslo Zone stamps. Overprinted in black with just the year date and value. Perf. 14.

- 1. 5 kroner light brown and black



Back in 1960, while visiting Oslo, I heard from an official at the Norwegian Ministry of Finance that they were contemplating issuing a new high-value revenue stamp. Under consideration was a 500 kroner value, which would make it the highest denomination documentary tax stamp issued up to that time. The thought caught my imagination and, when I returned to America, I made some rough drawings of several possible ideas for the projected stamp. In most of my ten essays I retained certain ornaments from earlier issues, namely the four symbols representing Commerce, Shipping, Agriculture, and Industry.

The 500 kroner stamp was eventually issued the following year, and the final design chosen by the authorities was an enlarged version of the old 50 and 100 kroner stamps originally produced in 1915. The revamped version shows the new Coat of Arms of 1937 with the strange-looking lion which is not as attractive in my opinion as the old Coat of Arms of 1905.

Although none of my essays were used, they were not rejected either. The simple reason was--that I never got around to submitting them! Anyway, here's what "MIGHT HAVE BEEN":

Ah, Fred, the old lack of a Round Tuit strikes again! Shown here is the 500 kroner stamp, as issued, and which has catalog number 120a without control number and 120b with a control number in the forthcoming Scandinavian Revenue Stamp Catalog. Brofos is responsible for the vast majority of the data in the Norwegian section. Watch for ads telling about the availability of the catalog!



Falling into the category of revenue stamped paper, there exist some attractive cards which were used in connection with certain types of revenue meter machines. Used by large firms, meter impressions were apparently made on documents instead of using the usual adhesive Turnover Tax stamps. Prepayment was made by the purchase of these specially designed check cards for various sums. When the card was inserted into the machine, it eventually allowed the mechanism to lock off when the value of the card was spent. The machine gradually chopped up the card. This fact, together with the high face value, means there won't be many seen around in collections. They were current around 1965 or before, and in the following denominations:

Inscribed: Avgift på sjokolade og sukkervarer (Duty on chocolate and confectionery of sugar).
Inscription and value overprinted in brown.

1. Kr. 10000,00 Grey

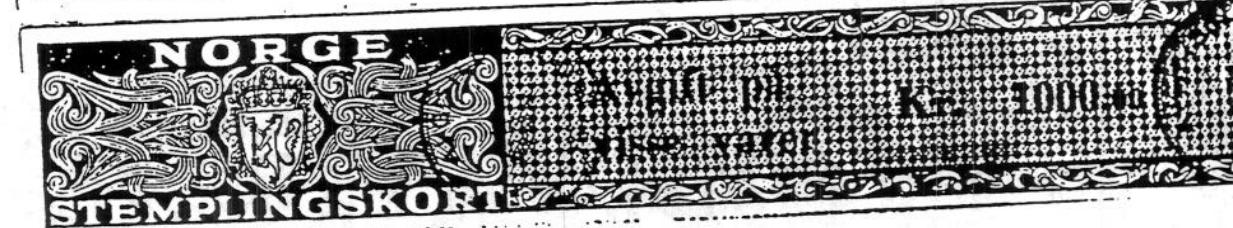
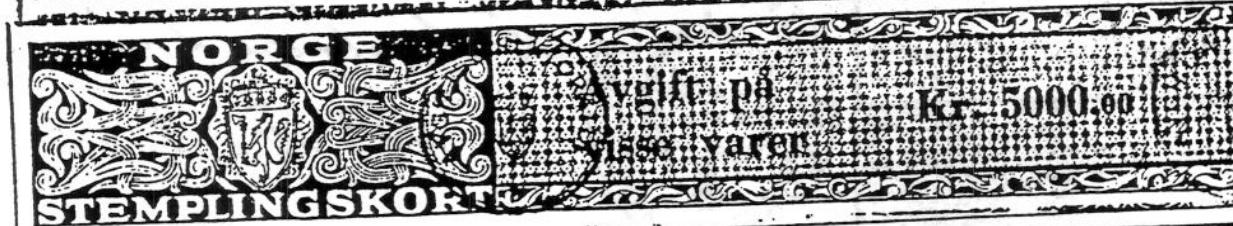
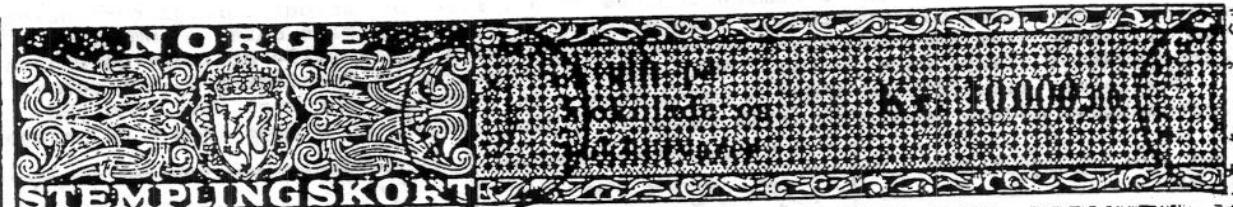
Inscribed: Avgift på visse varer (Duty on certain goods).

Inscription and value overprinted in black.

2. Kr. 1000,00 Green

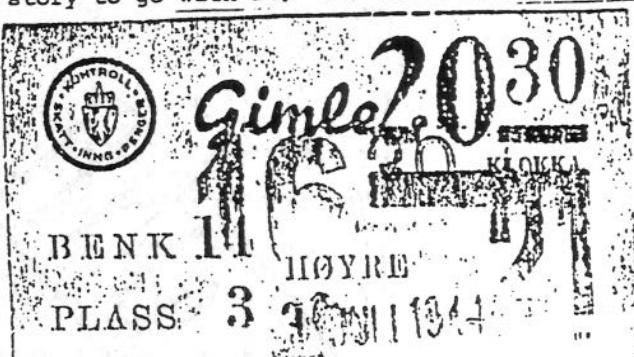
3. Kr. 5000,00 Red

4. Kr. 10000,00 Grey



NORWEGIAN ENTERTAINMENT TAX STAMP, by Frederick Brofos

For a number of years, the Norwegian government has imposed a tax on the admission price to movie and theatre performances. Although this entertainment tax did not produce an adhesive stamp per se, the collector of revenue stamped paper has something to add to his collection. All tickets had imprinted on them a small circular design reading: KONTROLL.SKATT.INNG.PENGER and the Norwegian coat of arms in the center. This black or green control mark showed that the tax had been paid on the admission price. The illustration, which shows a ticket from July, 1944, with this mark on, has an extra little story to go with it. The Gimle movie theatre in Oslo had to re-stamp the time of the performance thrice, until there was no space left, as the ticket didn't sell. The reason was that during the German occupation, the Norwegian public generally avoided all German-made films as they were usually full of Nazi-propaganda. Although this particular film was the quite innocent "Münchhausen", about the fantastic adventures and tall tales of the mythical Baron von Münchhausen, because it was German it was boycotted too. Besides, during the war, people had heard enough exaggerated yarns from Dr. Goebbels, himself!



Among the many things that I collect are old passports. My prize one is an 1851 US passport with a large attractive eagle decoration. It is signed by the Secretary of State, who at that time was none other than the famous Daniel Webster. Attached to the main passport page is a little booklet full of visas and fancy consular seals from all over Europe. One is from the Legation of Sweden and Norway in London which shows, in the figure, the double coat of arms with the three crowns of Sweden at left and the Norwegian lion at the right. Signed by the Legation secretary, Baron de Geer, the visa is apparently gratis. Eventually, special adhesive stamps for passport fees were used at the joint consulates. They were black on green and similar to the later Swedish type, shown in the figure with a FYRA KRONOR denomination, except that they had the double coat of arms.

The desire to have their own separate Norwegian consulates having been repeatedly denied by Sweden, the matter became one of the last bones of contention in the Norwegians' long struggle for independence. Things were finally settled without bloodshed in 1905, when the union was dissolved. Thereafter, each country had their own consulates with their own distinctive consular revenue stamps, as shown in the third figure, by the stamp with Fem Kroner denomination. Usually the denomination was also listed in various foreign currencies.

The use of these stamps was eventually discontinued in both countries quite a number of years ago, although visa fees continued to be charged. For a short while ordinary Norwegian documentary revenue stamps were in use. This special usage can be identified by the cancellation. The larger illustration shows a total of Kr. 55:- charged for such fees, and the Centralpaskontoret cancel from 1921 (Main Passport Office, Oslo), on a page from a US passport.

Visa-nr. 647
Gjelder for reise fra Newcastle am Tyne over Bremen til Christiania i tiden fra 16 mai bet Kgl. norske Gener London den 12 mai



NORWEGIAN REVENUE METERS, by Frederick Brofos

Not often seen by collectors are meter impressions from machines made especially for showing revenue duty paid. They are mainly used by banks or the government instead of adhesive tax stamps. Those from Norway omit the word "POST" of the postage machines and include the word "STEMPEL" (stamp duty). The word "BETALT" (paid) is also usually incorporated.

The earliest example I have noted is in green from 1934 and is, I believe, a German-made "Francotyp" machine. The three others illustrated here are apparently Norwegian Krag machines. The two from Oslo (one with an advertising slug) are in red, and the one from Bergen is in blue. The large meter, with "KRONER" instead of the usual "ØRE", was used by the Superintendent of Revenue Stamped Paper for documentary stamp duty.

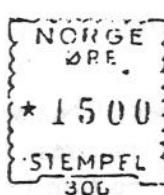
The illustrations are reduced approximately 25%.

Some rather odd-looking non-postal meters have also been used in Norway by certain railways and bus companies for freight payments instead of the earlier adhesive stamps. Maybe we will take a look at them another time.

3073



Den norske Creditbank

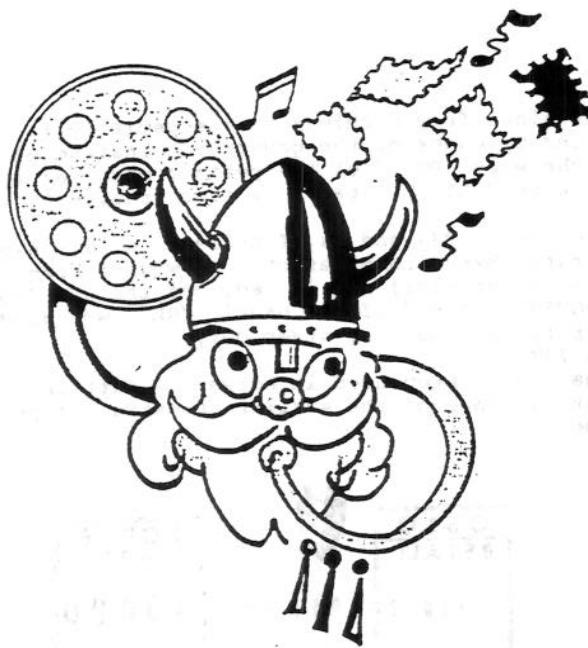


STEMPelpapir-FORVALTEREN



01





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LUREN

SCANDINAVIAN PHILATELIC
LIBRARY OF
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, INC.

LOS ANGELES, CA.

ISSN 0739-0025
Volume 26 Numbers 5-6
May-June 1994
Whole Numbers 309-310

NORWEGIAN DOCUMENTARY REVENUE TYPES

Frederick A. Brofos

Awhile ago, I remembered some interesting subtypes of Norwegian revenues. That caused me to look over my material and make some enlarged pictures showing the type differences. The revenue stamps in question are those produced by the firm of Christian Knudsen of Oslo, during the period 1908 - 37. After that the press was sold to Fabritius & Sons, who continued printing stamps in the old design until, in 1941, a new shield and crown design was introduced.

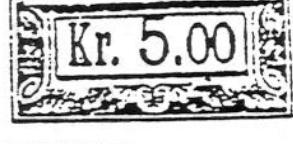
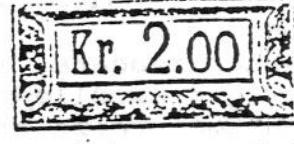
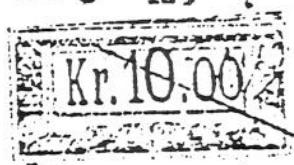
During such a long period, as might be expected, quite a lot of varieties occurred, especially in the color shades of the various printings. The stamps were printed in three operations and in different colors; the underprint, the stamp design, and the denomination. Among the latter, there have been some distinctive differences in the type setting used in certain printings. Generally, there have been two main differences; what I call type 1, with figures close together, and type 2, with figures spaced more apart.

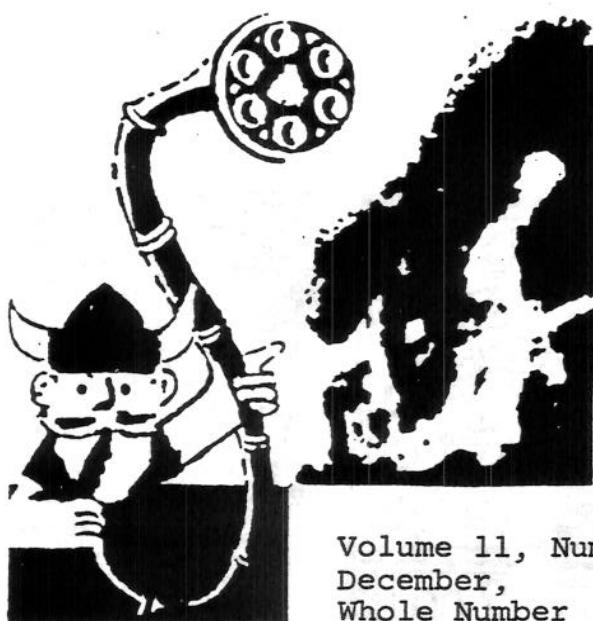
The Kr. 2.00 and Kr. 5.00 values are not as easy to separate as the other values. Here, the distance is wider between the period after Kr. and the bottom of the figure. The color shade of the stamp is also useful.

There is a variety of the Kr 1.00 in type 2, without a period after the "1", which I have called type 2a, temporarily. However, it may qualify as an entirely different type 3, as the distance between the period after Kr. and the figure "1" is wider yet.

On the Kr. 20.00 value there is a curious variety with the "0" too high. Furthermore, the bottom of the first little "o" is broken on the left side.

See the illustrations on page three of this issue for details.

TYPE
1TYPE
2TYPE
2aTYPE
1TYPE
2TYPE 2, VARIETY HIGH "O"
ON "20"



LUREN

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SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB

Chapter No. 17

Volume 11, Number 12
December, 1979
Whole Number 126

Los Angeles, California

MORE ON NORWAY'S STAMPED PAPER

by Frederick Brofos

Together with other readers, I am awaiting with interest the continuation of Mr. Hannevig's excellent serial on Norwegian revenue stamped paper. In the meantime, there are a couple of points of interest that I would like to add regarding the subject. (Editor's note--Mr. Brofos translated the first installment of Hannevig's review which appeared in the September LUREN, and is a well-known collector of Norwegian philately, including the revenues.)

First, in the description of the make-up of the stamps, mention should be made of two signatures usually connected with it. In the early days, they were hand-written, later on they were printed at the same time as the stamp. One signature was apparently that of the Superintendent of Revenue Stamped Paper (at least in later years). Quite a study could be made of the various signature combinations.

Secondly, a number of rather attractive watermarks appear from time to time in the different issues of stamped paper. Holding the items in my possession to the window light, I have been able to trace off the designs. As they are on legal-size paper and quite large, the editor may have to reduce them in his illustrations. (Ed. note...reductions are as noted in the following illustrations.) The paper usually consists of a double page, with the watermark repeated on each. However, an example from 1800 (Christian VII) shows two different watermarks, one on each page, from the Orholm paper mill. An interesting watermark with the lion standing on a long-handled axe appears in 1833. Later on, in 1862, paper with the letters "P N" under the shield was used. This was changed to a monogram "B B" (Bentse Brug?) in 1879. Eventually, paper was bought from the well-known Alvøen paper mill and shows two similar coat of arms watermarks. One, from probably before the war, has pearls in the crown. The other lacks them, and I think is from after the war.
(...to page 3)



Mr. Hannevig said in his article that he was unclear whether, and if so when, the use of stamped paper ceased. It was still on sale as late as 1960, when I visited the office of the Superintendent of Revenue Stamped Paper (Stempelpapirforvalteren) in the Trade Building, just a block down Drammensveien from the U. S. Embassy in Oslo. The accompanying list shows the official tariff of stamped paper available at that time. Some values, for which there was little demand and ample old stocks, were probably not reprinted in the final design. The illustrations show the last two designs in use, the first being the older type with the 1905 Coat of Arms. Revenue stamped paper was discontinued, I believe, when the post of Superintendent was abolished at the end of 1969. Remember, his facsimile autograph was printed on the paper. At the latest, I would think, its use must have ceased by December 31, 1975, when the general use of documentary revenue stamps was discontinued, except for payment of certain official fees.

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Amt-Nr. 11030
Serie A.Stamppaper nr. 1.
50 øre.For postverkets beløp
indtil 50 kroner.*Gundersen**Kristensen*Stamppaper nr. 8
10 kronerFor postverkets beløp
over 500 until 1 000 kroner*Alf. Madsen*Amt-Nr. 41033
Serie A.

The last two designs of Norwegian stamped revenue paper in use: To the left, the 1905 coat of arms; to the right, the modernized coat of arms. Note the facsimile autographs and the different locations of sheet numbers and series data on these printed forms.

Table 1. Tariff list of Norwegian revenue stamped paper (as of July 1, 1959) (truncated)

No.	6 at kr.	10 for documents with face value over kr. (then increments of...)	500 up to kr.	1 000
24	1 and 5	and 500	9 500	up to) 10 000
	100	(then increments of... and 1 000	19 000	up to) 20 000
34	1 and 10	and 1 500	30 500	up to) 32 000
	200	(then increments of... and 2 000	42 000	up to) 44 000
42	1 and 15	and 2 500	51 500	up to) 54 000
	320	(then increments of... and 3 000	63 000	up to) 66 000
48	1 and 20	and 3 000		
	440	(then increments of... and 3 000		
52	1 and 25	and 3 000		
	540	(then increments of... and 3 000		
56	1 and 30	and 3 000		
	660			

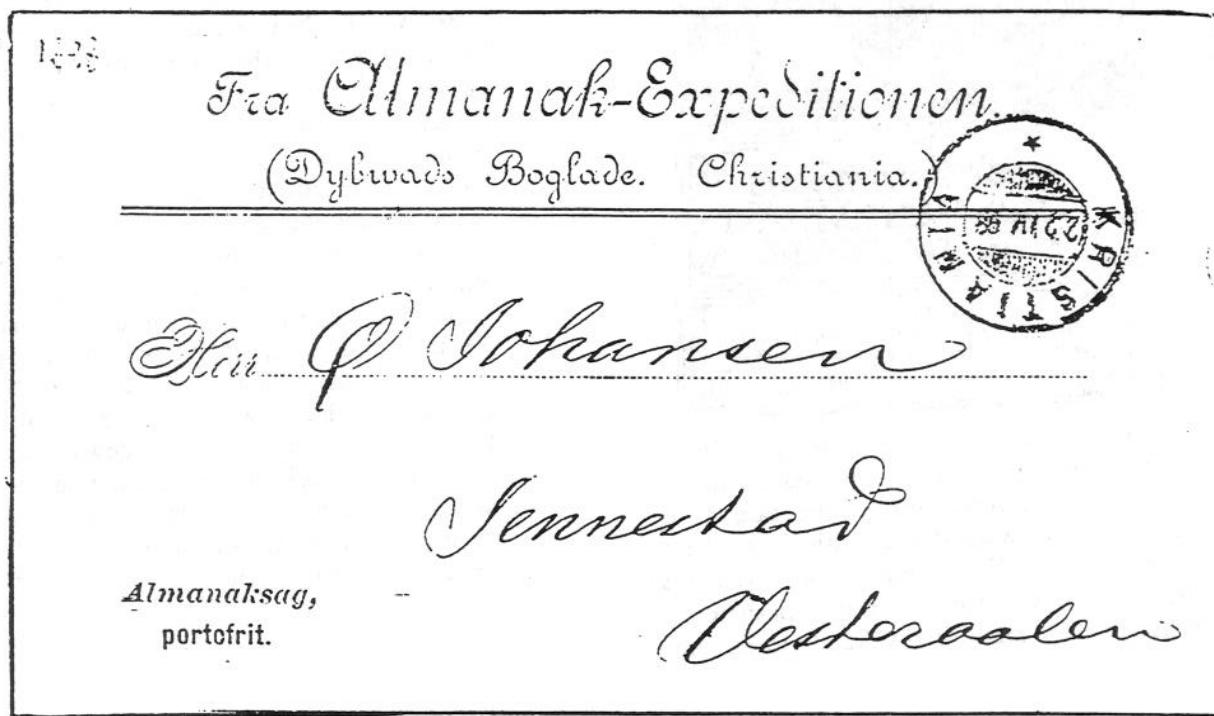
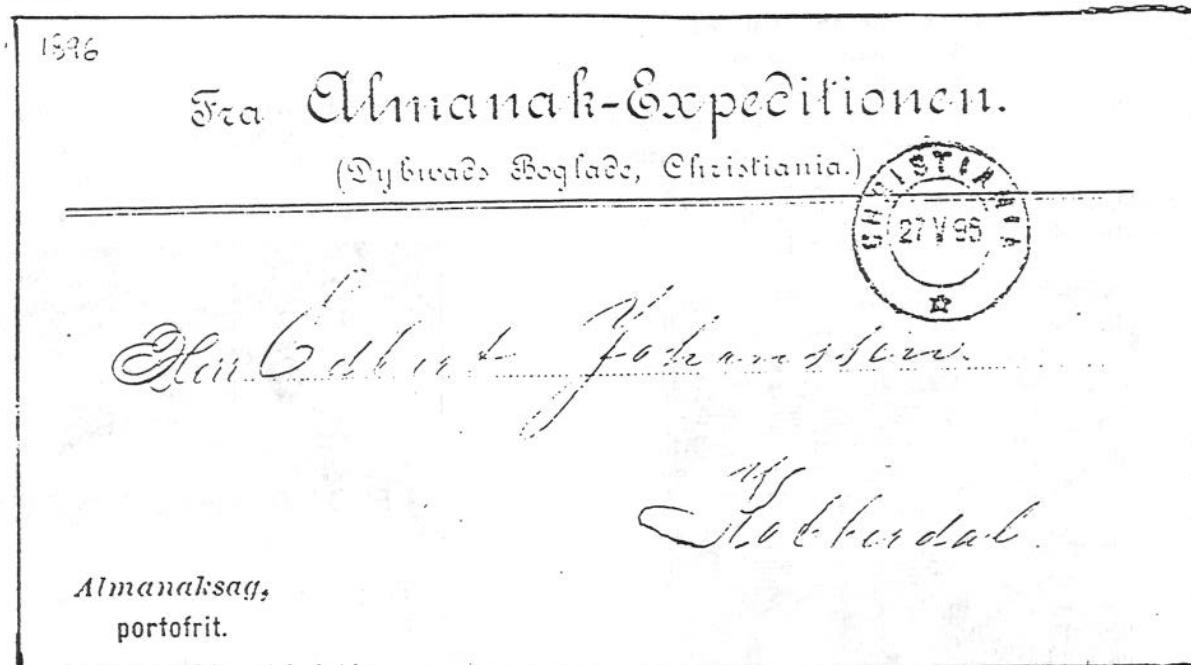
...and so on with increasing increments to No. 118, which cost kr 11 000 for documents with face values between 1,050,000 and 1,100,000 kroner. Beyond that value, a further kr 500 for each 50,000 kr or part thereof that the sum is higher than kr 1,100,000. A photocopy of this entire table is available from the chapter library for those interested.

NORWEGIAN ALMANAC FRANK

Frederick A. Brofos

The interesting little Almanac and Calendar Fee stamps of Norway are listed on page 34 of The Scandinavian Revenue Catalog, Volume I. They covered the fees paid to the University of Oslo, which held the royal monopoly on calendars and almanacs for many years. Printing and servicing contracts were let out annually by the University, after competitive bidding. The annual fee stamp had to appear on all calendars and almanacs in the country.

The printing firm of Jacob Dybwad held the contract during 1877-98, and again in 1907-12. That certain mail could be sent postage free as "almanac matter" is less known. I have seen specially printed franked envelopes used by the Almanac Service at Dybwads Bookstore, Christiania. These two are cancelled from 1896 and 1898 and show a different type face on each. Probably others existed too, but like our own "Penalty" envelopes, the majority seem to have vanished, unappreciated by philatelists, into wastebaskets.



"Fra Almanak-Expedition" covers

**U.S. REVENUE STAMP
FOR "SCANDINAVIAN" PILLS**
Frederick A. Brofos

The United States proprietary revenue stamps issued during the Civil War period present a fascinating study. Used mostly to cover the tax on matches and medicines, the stamps were printed by the government printer, but in a multitude of designs privately submitted and paid for. One issue particularly has caught my attention; this was called "Scandinavian Blood Pills". This was produced for the U.S. Proprietary Medicine Company, founded by Dr. C. W. Roback of Cincinnati, Ohio, around 1855, at which time he began registering his patent medicine. His stamps were unusually large and were used as wrappers around the medicine. They occur in denominations of 1, 4, and 6 cents, all in black, but on various colored paper (white, yellow, orange, orange-red).



From 1874 on, the name of "J. S. Burdsal & Co.: (wholesale druggists and manufacturers of Cincinnati) was added beneath the stamp design. The picture of a gentleman with a sword looks more like Sir Walter Raleigh discovering the tobacco plant, than anything Scandinavian. Whether there really was a Scandinavian connec-

tion to the pills or Dr. (Carl?) Roback is unconfirmed. Perhaps he was simply catering to the early Scandinavian and German immigrants. He also produced a "Scandinavian Blood Purifier" as well as "Scandinavian Stomach Bitters".

**AN EARLY PARCEL STAMP
FROM NORTHERN NORWAY**
Frederick A. Brofos



Judging from the appearance of the old-fashioned vehicle, and the text spelling, I would guess that this interesting Norwegian parcel stamp probably dates from the 1920s or before. "The World's Northernmost and Longest Auto Route Traffic," as the stamp advertises, was run by the company A/S Polarbil, way up North in Vadsø. I imagine the long trip ran from there to Hammerfest or Vardø, perhaps. The picture shows four hardy passengers in hats and overcoats. Oddly enough, the car's top, if there was one, was not installed in spite of the cold weather. At least the driver was protected by a windshield. As they drive through the snow and ice, they pass a Laplander with a reindeer sled. Overhead, the moon and dancing Northern Lights show that it would be a memorable night trip - if they didn't break down somewhere. Each stamp had the denomination in black, added by handstamp on the 50 øre, but press-printed on the other two values. The values seen are 25 øre green, 50 øre blue, and Kr. 1.00 red.

Norwegian Due Stamps Used as Postage

By Frederick A. Brofos

The special postage due stamps, introduced in Norway on July 1, 1889, were discontinued in 1927. The circular to postmasters from the Postal Administration, announcing this change, reads as follows: "From October 1, this year (1927), postage due stamps will be discontinued and ordinary postage stamps used instead. These will be cancelled with a T-mark. In ordering postage due stamps before Oct. 1, this year, one should take into careful consideration that the discontinuance takes effect from the aforementioned date. Under the circumstances, there is nothing to hinder that post offices use postage due stamps of lesser values, when these are on hand. The left-over postage due stamps should be sent in to the Superintendent of Stamps as soon as possible after October 1, this year."

The intent of the above instruction was, of course, that during the short period before the usage termination of the special postage due stamps, instead of ordering new supplies of them, post offices could use in multiples any smaller denominations on hand. Formerly, this would have probably considered wasteful.

It seems that a number of postal clerks misinterpreted this circular, and maybe others, to mean that they could use postage due stamps as a substitute for any higher values of postage stamps that they were lacking. Such unauthorized use occurred at several smaller post offices as well as at Rena, where certain necessary postage values were out of stock at the time and postage due stamps were pressed into use instead. Apparently they passed through the postal system, if not unnoticed, at least without repercussions beyond an occasional raised eyebrow or exclamation. Perhaps the surprise was not as much as one might expect, as this sort of usage had indeed occurred before at various small places during stamp shortages. These activities were, if not entirely legitimate, usually tolerated and certainly non-philatelic in origin. As most examples landed in the waste-basket, any surviving covers are not highly prized by collectors and highly priced by dealers.

Illustrated here is a picture postcard with five 1-øre postage dues used, owing to a lack of 5-øre postage stamps, at LURØ (later Lurøy), a small coastal island in the Sandnessjø postal district of Nordland county, northern Norway. The date is difficult to make out, but may have been as early as 15.X.01. It was sent to Selsøvik, another minor place in the same county, probably a quaint fishing village.

Another example, also pictured, is a parcel post card franked with three 20-øre postage due stamps, owing to the lack of a 60 øre stamp, at the small hamlet of KONESMO (later Konsmo) in the Mandal postal district of Vest Agder county, Southern Norway. It is clearly postmarked 22.3.12. Although it passed through the district post office at Mandal and was addressed to Kristiania itself, no cain was raised by the postal brass there, at least no marks appear on the card other than post marks!

Blanket nr. 72

Værdi Kr. 50.00

Følgebrev.

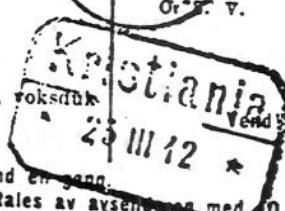
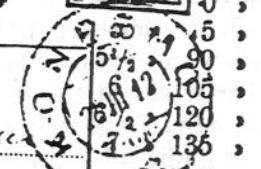
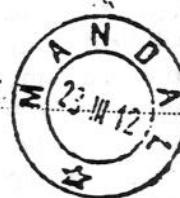
Avsenderens navn og adresse:

Jens H. Knudsen, København

Hermed en Pakke i papir

til

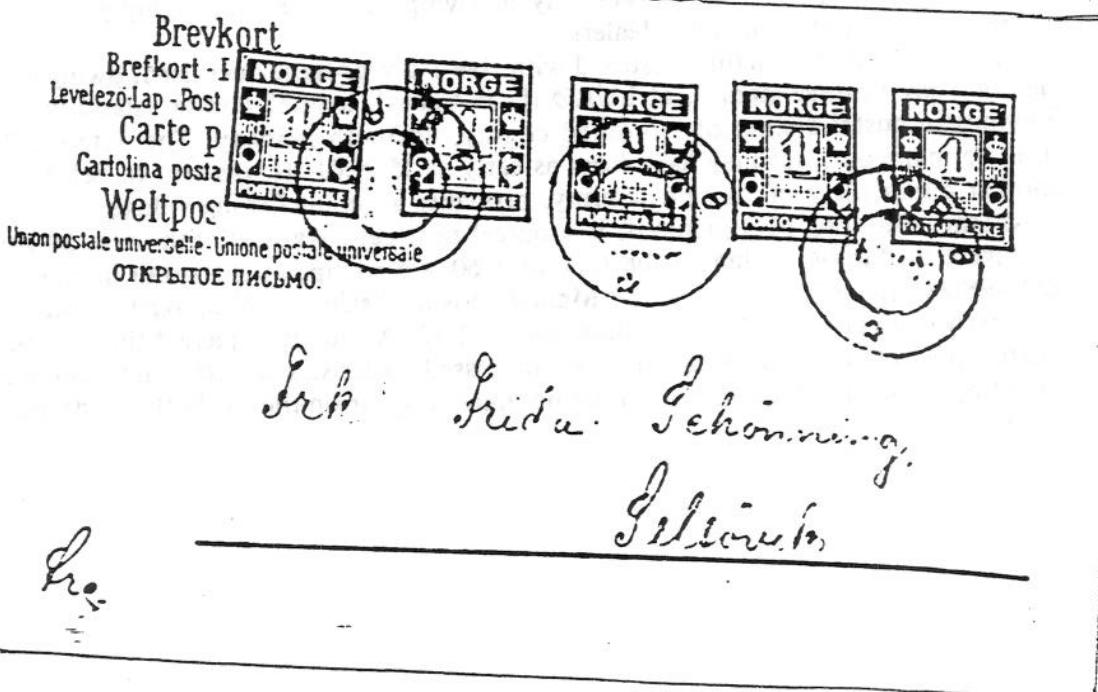
H. P. Dacke



Vekt: 0.5 kilogram.

*) Her angives forsendelsens art (pakke i papir, voksdok
eller lerret, kasse o. s. v.)**NB.** Ny porto maa erlægges for eftersendelse av pakker mer end en gang.**NB.** Gebyr for ombringeise av pakker i Kristiania kan forutbetales av avsenderen med 0
ore pr. pakke. Gebyret opkræves ellers hos mottageren.

Januar 1909



NORWEGIAN ROYALTY ON STAMPS

By: Frederick A. Brofos

When King Olav V of Norway paid an official visit to Iran on January 8 to 14, 1965, Northern weather seems to have followed him, as his plane was diverted from Tehran to Beirut by a snow storm. While in Beirut, he made a surprise call on the President of Lebanon. When the weather cleared, King Olav continued on to Iran where two special Iranian stamps, Scott 1314/5 were issued in honor of his visit. Time did not permit any Lebanese issue. The Iranian stamps, prepared well in advance, were of the two and four Rial denominations as shown:



This was the first time that King Olav has been shown on a foreign postage stamp. The second occurrence was on September 8, 1967 when Brazil issued a 10 Centavo brown-orange stamp (Scott #1057) honoring the King's visit to that country. These two issues mark the first time any modern King of Norway has appeared on foreign stamps.

Of course, King Haakon VII is shown on a stamp issued during his WWII visit to England, but it was part of a set issued by his own government in exile. Going back further, King Oscar II appears on certain Swedish stamps. However, Norway and Sweden were united at the time so the stamps are not foreign.

Now, you know that I said, in regard to the Brazil and Iranian stamps, that it was the first time a modern King of Norway had appeared on a foreign stamp. This qualification was necessary because a couple of earlier Kings from the Dano-Norwegian union period have appeared on Danish stamps, namely Christian IV (1588-1648) and Frederick V (1746-66). Also, King Erik Bloodaxe is pictured on two Lundy Island locals in 1954. Erik succeeded his father, Harold Fairhair, and reigned from 930 to 935 AD when he was dethroned and driven from Norway. After establishing himself as king in a part of England known as Northumbria, he reigned two years until he was assassinated in 954.

Kings of Norway shown on Norwegian stamps are Olav V, Haakon VII, Oscar II, Oscar I Harald Haardraade (1046-66) and Olav Haraldsson or Olav the Holy (1015-30).

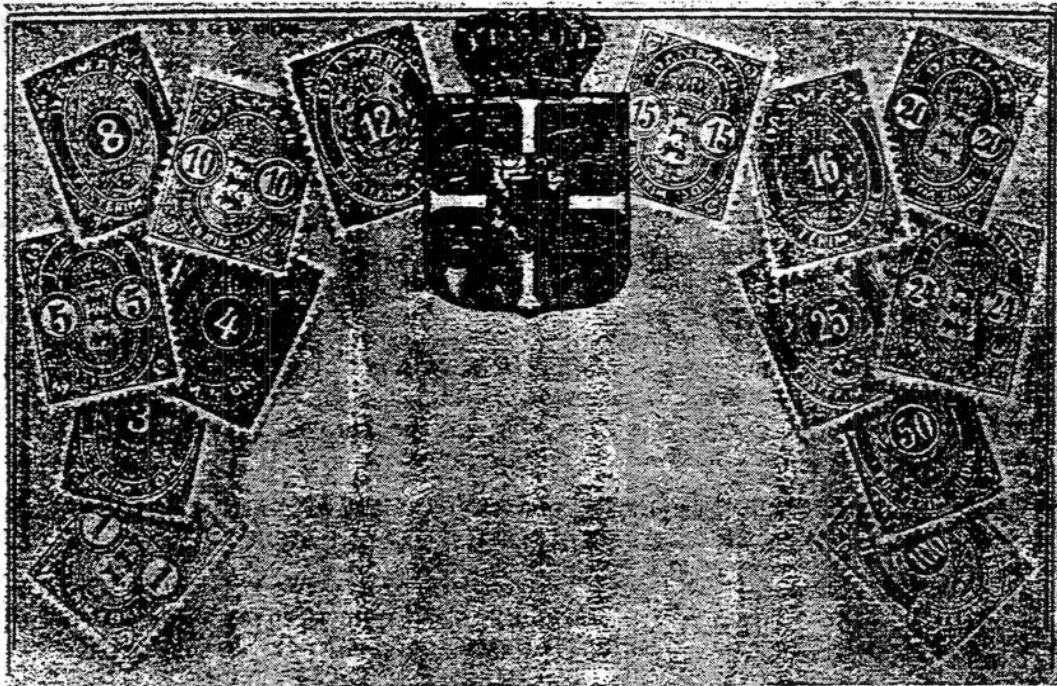
Queens of Norway so honored are Maud, wife of Haakon VII and Ragnhild (wife of Harald Fairhair). Martha, wife of Olav V appears on two semi-postals issued in 1956 but she died before her husband succeeded to the throne.

(P.S. On stamps now, as King)

Yet to appear is Crown Prince Harald. He has, however, been featured on several Norwegian Christmas seals as have his sisters. Princesses Ragnhild and Astrid.
(Ed. Note: A couple of pages of these stamps and seals would make a nice topic of conversation the next time you are asked to speak at your local stamp club. Why not put them together, use the above as a start for your write up, and have some fun?)

Stamp Picture Postcards of Scandinavia

by Frederick A. Brofos (497)



The cards picturing stamps of Sweden and Norway, which I illustrated and described on page 15, 16 of the January 1959 POSTHORN, aroused considerable interest, and several readers have been good enough to lend me some additional items. Theodore E. Stevenson sends the accompanying card, produced by Ottmar Zieher of Munich, which pictures the coat of arms and some older stamps of Denmark. Zieher apparently produced at least two different sets of cards in the course of the years, as I recall having once seen another and different Zieher card for Denmark.

Lorentz W. Hinrichsen sends a set of three cards produced by the Copenhagen Philatelist Club in connection with their 1902 exhibition. The cards show a parade of Danish postmen. Apparently they are holding posters showing the stamps which were current at the time the uniforms were in use. Incidentally, they all wear bright red coats—quite a difference from the drab grey uniform the U. S. mailman has to wear. The three mail carriers marching behind the horseman are carrying mail bags inscribed "Kongelig Fod Post" (i.e. Royal Foot Mail).

OLD ADVERTISING CARDS WITH STAMP PICTURES, by Frederick A. Brofos.

In the 19th Century it was the fashion, particularly in American stores, to give away so-called advertising cards. These were, as a rule, small cards with pretty colored pictures of all kinds of subjects. The firm's or the product's name was printed either on the front or the back of the cards. It became quite popular in those days to make collections of these interesting cards, which were being issued all over the country. Usually they got stuck in a suitable blank album, but otherwise some unreadable book was utilized for the same purpose. Presumably there also occurred a certain amount of exchanging between collectors.

Here we shall have a look at some cards of special interest to stamp collectors, as they illustrate old postage stamps. This subject was seldom chosen, possibly to avoid trouble with the authorities, who were very sensitive about forgeries. Anyway, a set of about 12 stamp cards was issued, around 1875/85, by the soap manufacturers James S. Kirk & Co., of Chicago, Illinois. This firm originated in 1837 and was in operation for almost a century. In 1930 it was purchased by the giant soap company Procter & Gamble of Cincinnati, Ohio, who continued it as their Chicago branch.

The Kirk & Co. cards had various advertising for their soap at the top of the card. Pictured were young ladies supposedly in national costumes, each holding a flag in one hand and a stamp in the other, representing their various countries. The stamps, which were in natural size and color, were invalidated by a printed cross enclosing the country's name in English. All cards had a gold background. The different countries represented were: Belgium, England, France, Greece, Italy, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, Germany, Turkey, and the dual monarchy of Norway-Sweden. The latter card is of course of special interest to us Scandinavians. "J. S. KIRK & CO'S Chicago SOAPS will not burn or blister the hands while washing", it says on this particular card. The illustrated young girl, in rather imaginary national costume, holds the old Swedish flag with the so-called "herring salad" in the upper corner. This was the union badge and consisted of a slice of the Norwegian and Swedish flags conjoined. Strangely enough, although postage stamps were shown on the rest of the set of these cards, on this card appears a local post stamp of Trondhjem, Norway, to represent the dual monarchy! It is copied from the blue 1/2 skilling stamp of Braekstad & Co's local post, which used this stamp type in the period 1872-77. On the copy, the buckle is missing from the garter and there are several spelling errors: "THRONDHJINS BY-POST", "BRAESTAD & CO.", and "1/2 RKI" (instead of 1/2 SKI). These small mistakes were probably not noticed by the general public and the stamp cards became sufficiently popular and in demand that even copies were made, possibly in France or Canada.



ORIGINAL



COPY, Type I



COPY, Type 2

DENMARK



COPY, Type 3

On the copies, the cancellations are now in French. Thus the local post stamp, instead of "SWEDEN & NORWAY" has "SUEDE & NORVEGE". Oddly enough, the French accents over the first "E" of Suede and of Nor'vege are missing. New spelling errors occur on the stamp itself, where it now reads "THRONOHIENS BY-POST", "RAESTAD & CO." and "1/2 OKI". These copies, obviously made from new drawings and plates, were probably made in the 1880's or 1890's. They are found in three different issues, the first one has dark gold background printing, the second a lighter shade of gold print and third no gold at all, just a light cream-colored background. All three are without the Kirk & Co. advertising text. However, I have seen one of these copies with "The Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Co." imprinted in black across the top of the front. Also, I have seen one of these cards with a black imprint added to the reverse from the tobacco firm of Staern & Cossenas, New York. This shows that these copies, wherever they were made, were distributed commercially in America.

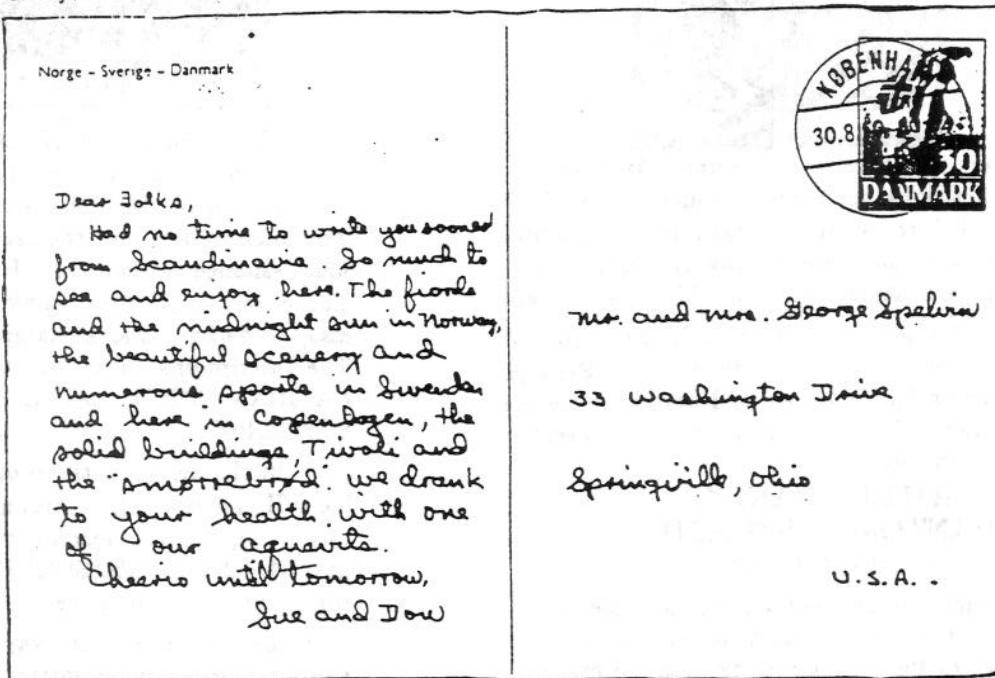
It seems that the copy series were expanded to 15 cards. In all events, I have seen cards representing Denmark, (on which card a version of the 16 skilling crown and sceptre stamp is shown), Holland, Portugal, and Roumania. These four countries I have never seen in the original set. The latter I once saw at a stamp bourse in Boston in 1979, with a price tag of \$125! A person with less money and more time to hunt around might be able to do better, perhaps. However, in 25 years I have only run across 3 complete sets. The Procter & Gamble Soap Co. is reported to only have five of the cards in their archives.

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A PHANTOM CARD FROM DENMARK

Frederick A. Brofos

"Well, here's a piece of Danish postal stationery that I've never seen before!", was my first impression. But on closer examination, I realized that it was not a government issue at all. The imprinted red "Danish" stamp shows a denomination of 30 (ore) and a map of Norway, Sweden, and Denmark, each country being covered by its national flag. The black "postmark" is press-printed and dated 30.8.50, from "København 11". The message and address is also printed. The reverse of the card shows, in black, three separate scenes: a fjord in Norway, old farm houses in Sweden, and the City Hall area in Copenhagen.



It turns out that this interesting mystery card was part of a clever advertising campaign for KLM, the Royal Dutch Airlines Company. At least 14 different cards were produced between July and September, 1950. All had red imprinted stamps with imaginary designs, cancelled by imitation postmarks. The reverse of the cards showed various scenes, appropriate for each country. The cards were all sent from "Sue and Don" to the same addressee in Springfield, Ohio. The countries represented, aside from Denmark, were the Netherlands (3), U.K. (2), and one each from Austria, Belgium, Eire, France, Germany, Portugal, Spain and Switzerland.

Just how this unusual advertising promotion was arranged and functioned is unclear. Perhaps the cards were enclosed, one or more at a time, with other KLM marketing literature sent out to customers.

AN OLD DANISH WEST INDIES FORGERY

Frederick A. Brofos

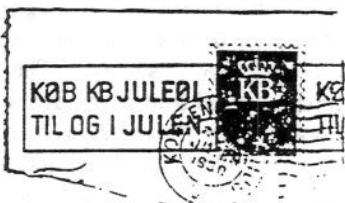


Here is a lovely (or horrible) DWI forgery, with a fictitious postmark — which I recall having seen before on other forged foreign stamps. Although the colors are reasonably good, the perforations are atrocious. I would have thought that rascal Fournier could have done better, if indeed he had anything to do with it. Perhaps the infamous Spiro bohers of Hamburg were the perpetrators? Does anyone know this answer? (Yes, they were.)

ANOTHER DANISH PHANTOM POSTCARD

Frederick A. Brofos

In looking through old albums for sale at stamp shows, I am occasionally pleased to find something out of the ordinary, stuck in at the back of the book.



The interesting little item I recently found this way is from Copenhagen. It is a cutout from a 3-color advertising card with an imaginary stamp in grey, blue and red. An imitation machine cancel in blue reads KONGENS BRYGHUS V., and the date is 24 XII JULEN 1930. The "V" probably was meant to be the Vesterbro postoffice.

The letters "KB" in the "stamp" stand for the same name as in the postmark, in translation, "The King's Brewery House". The red slogan reads "Buy KB Christmas Beer for and during Christmas". On the reverse side of the card appears a reproduction of their beer bottle label. Whether this card was sent in the mail individually addressed, as junk mail, or given out in the shops is yet to be determined. Whatever the case, I am happy to include it in my collection of the odd and unusual.

A DANISH ENIGMA

Frederick A. Brofos

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This curious imperforate stamp or label was found in an old Belgian collection dating from around the turn of the century. Printed in light blue, it is about the same size as the early square-shaped stamps of Denmark. At first glance, one might even think it a Danish stamp essay or perhaps a local stamp from Copenhagen. The inscriptions, from left to right, read: LA PATRIA - CHR. L. LANGE - KJØBENHAVN - 8 SKILLING.

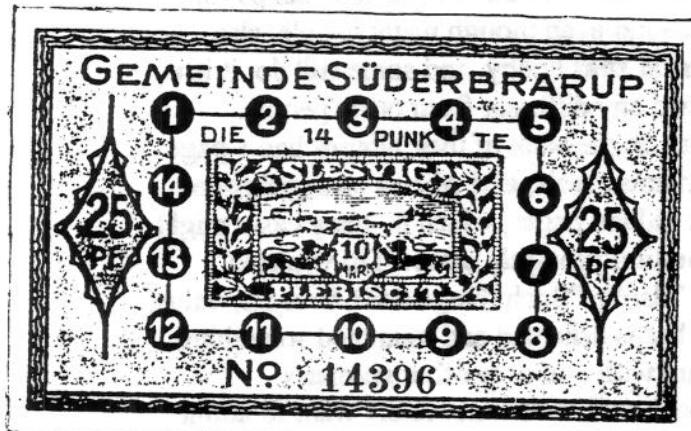
In the center is the profile of King Frederick VII, facing right. Around the circle is the rather mysterious inscription: KONGEN AF DANMARKS BRYSTSUKKER. Could this be some kind of early advertising discount coupon for sugar perhaps? Anyway, from a distance, this item looks quite intriguing. Although my example is off-center, possibly die-cut, the missing part from the left can be seen on the right and at least proves that there was more than one of these mysteries to a sheet.

SLESVIG STAMP ON PAPER MONEY

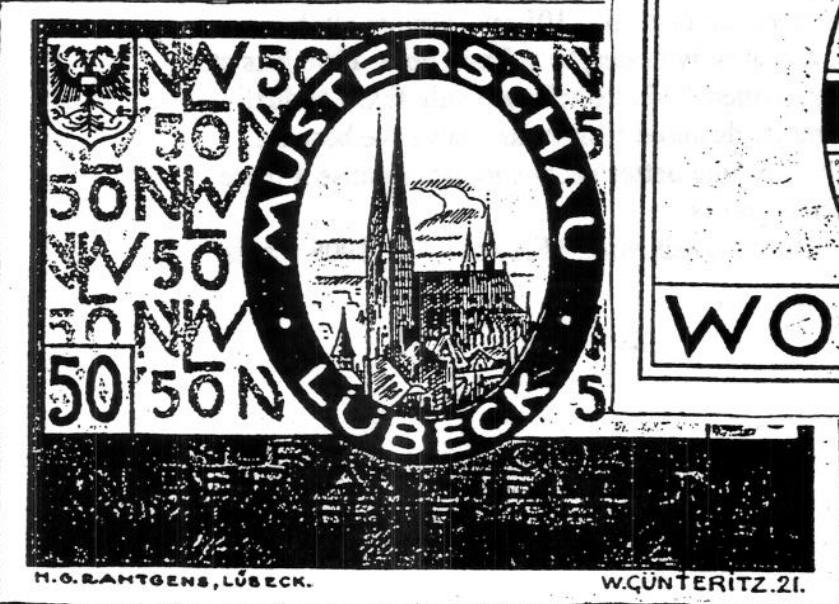
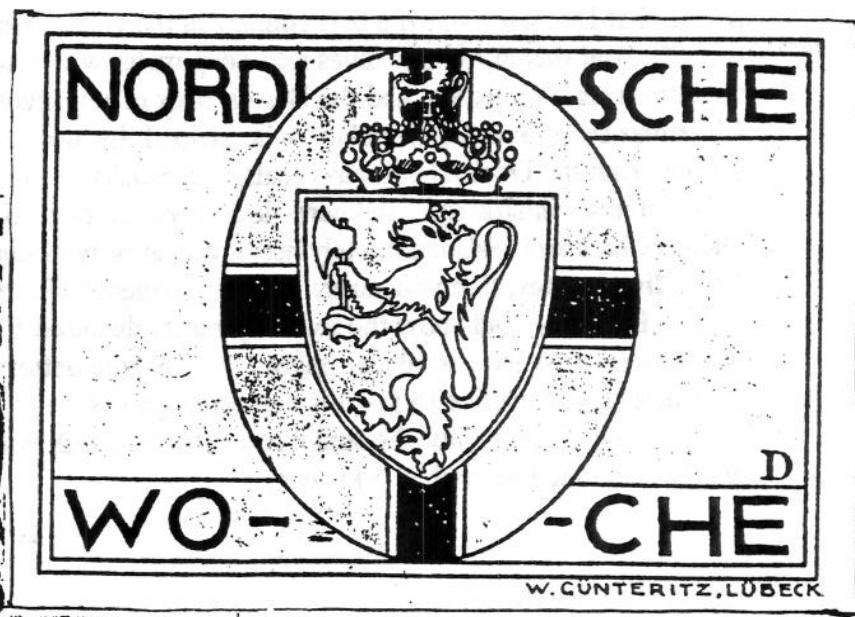
Frederick A. Brofos

The emergency paper money, or *notgeld*, issued by many German towns and institutions in the 1920's, is well known and has been a popular collecting field since the time of its issuance. Indeed, I have a small collection of them myself, picked up here and there over the years. I have about 50 different, and they didn't cost me much either. Just as well, I suppose, as I think most of them were originally produced to bilk collectors and tourists. Nevertheless, there are some unusual designs among them.

Recently, I came across two pieces that I had not seen before, with a "Scandinavian" flavor. One is a multicolored 25 pfennig note from the community of Süderbrarup, which is of particular interest as it shows the red 10 mark Slesvig plebiscite stamp. It is surrounded by "14 points", probably referring to President Woodrow Wilson's program. On the other side is a partial map of Denmark and Slesvig, together with a large dragon pulling St George (or the King of Denmark?) off his white horse. At the side are some pro-German slogans. The note was valid until an announcement of withdrawal appeared in the local newspaper, the *Schleswig-Holstein Landpost*.



The other interesting item is a special 50 pfennig note that was issued for a Design Exhibition in Lübeck. It shows the cathedral on one side and states that validity was limited to the period of the show, September 1-11, 1921. The other side reads, translated, Nordic Week, together with a nice multicolor rendition of the Norwegian national arms and flag. Whether there also existed similar notes honoring Sweden and Denmark, I have not yet determined.



On Collecting " Back of the Book" Material, by Frederick A. Brofos

There was an amusing little article in "Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift" #9, back in 1953. It was immediately liked, cut out and stuck in the front of my general collection of Christmas seals. Many times since then, when I've had that album out, the story has been re-read and enjoyed over again. Besides Christmas seals, it could also well apply to collecting revenue stamps, airmail stickers, postal stationery and a number of other interesting things, which stuffy old philatelic puritans used to frown upon. My own views are similar to "Live and let live", namely, "Collect what you will and let others collect likewise". Anyway, I thought the story deserved to be passed along and I've tried not to lose the witty and easy-going Danish style in the translation: Neglected Graves, by Elwe

Collector's mania is a fun thing, don't you think? We have collected stamps for many years---shall we say for a hundred years---and even though many people, also many odd people, formerly smiled with sympathy at that hobby, and some still do, it is a fact that we philatelists don't feel ourselves formed any different from other people.

It has been so, that many stamp collectors, in the back of their albums had a page or two with more or less well-taken-care-of Christmas seals, and when a stranger paged through the album and came at last to the rather hidden pages, which in many cases might remind one of neglected grave sites, then the question promptly came: "Do you also collect Christmas seals?" (with the emphasis on "also"). "Such things don't have any value, surely?" Well, thereupon most of us bowed our heads ashamed and mumbled something about "just for fun" or "as a curiosity" or came up with one or another seaman's explanation held in a somewhat excusatory voice tone. One did not really want to admit that one was a cultivator of that little side-shoot on the trunk of philately called Christmas seals.

Today though, one no longer bows one's head in embarrassment, no, no! One makes a fine gesture with the hand and replies boldly, "I certainly do! I naturally collect also (with the emphasis on also) my country's Christmas seals, and did you know, my fine friend, that Denmark was the first country in the world that began issuing Christmas seals?" And thereupon one dives into deep water with a whole little lecture about Christmas seals in general and the Danish ones in particular, about Holboll, the father of Christmas seals, about Switzerland who swiped the idea for its Pro Juventute youth-aid stamps from the Danish Christmas seals, etc. Finally, with a certain pride, one shows one's AFA catalog, remarking, " and here--look here: on page 104,105 and 106 are all the Danish Christmas seals completely listed, and at nifty prices, too! Look here: 1906 lists at 5 kr.--five kroner, that you surely hadn't imagined?" No, to tell the truth, that I hadn't!

But I am glad--now the formerly rather despised Christmas seals have become respectable--that the rear album pages have become better taken care of, because if there is something I don't like to see it is neglected graves.

Thanks, Fred, for the smile, and readers, check your AFA now. The 1906 seal is now worth much more than 5 kroner!

Denmark's 1995 Christmas Seals by Frederick A. Brofos

The well-known Danish writer Ib Eichner-Larsen writes an excellent philatelic page called "Under Luppen" (i.e., Under the Magnifier) in Denmark's largest newspaper *Berlingske Tidende* of Copenhagen. In the issue of December 2, 1995, there was a particularly interesting write-up about this year's Danish Christmas seals. Under a large heading, "Julemaerkets hemmelighed" (i.e., The Secret of the Xmas Seal) was a long and fine article from which I have translated the following excerpts.

There are two stamps in the center of the sheet (joined together). The yellow-colored letter in the foreground is addressed to "FRED B.", and who is that? It is indeed "one of ours" – a well-known philatelist in the U.S.A., Frederick Brofos of Warner, New Hampshire. "Fred" is a member of the Scandinavian Collectors Club for many years and a specialist in Scandinavian stamps of higher and highest quality. In addition, he distinguishes himself by being a dear and highly respected brother-in-law of Des Asmussen (the stamp designer).

There were also two other seals in the sheet of 25 which had names, namely the artist's wife and daughter. The article continues by saying "*It is, as far as I know, the first time that the good old Christmas seals bring greetings to a specific address, so just for that reason it is advisable to save a sheet.*" I might add that the sheet was based on the theme "Nissenarrestreger" (i.e., Elf pranks). It is something akin to our Halloween Trick or Treat pranksters and the name-adding could be excused as a prank of the elves. It is unlikely that anything similar will slip through again though.

To see my name on the Christmas seal was a complete surprise for me. Actually, I hadn't noticed it until my sister wrote me about it. Des has always known of my great stamp collecting interest and I have often suggested that he get into designing stamps and seals. I am glad that my influence helped to inspire him and I am, of course, very proud to have as my brother-in-law a successful stamp designer.

The little greetings hidden in the Christmas seals were probably not noticed by most people. Anyone seeing "FRED" thought it meant "PEACE", which it does in Danish.

In Denmark, there is quite an interest in collecting the small prescription envelopes, often artistic and colorful, used by the various drug stores around the country. They even have their own collector's club and a 35-page publication, in its 18th year, called "Recept kuvert samleren" (i.e., The Prescription Envelope Collector). On the cover of no. 4, 1995, there is shown a prescription envelope reproducing this year's Xmas seal and not just any one, but the very one with "FRED B." on. A partial quotation from an article in the magazine reads: "*The Dalum and Hjallelse drug stores will use special envelopes for prescriptions, picturing this year's Xmas stamp. We have chosen the middle double-stamp, where the jumping gnome mailman brings a Christmas card with the message "FRED" (i.e., Peace). We found this to be a very timely message.*" The envelopes are also sold to collectors for 5 Kroner each, which is passed on to the Xmas Seal Fund that supports the Christmas Seal Homes for under-privileged children.

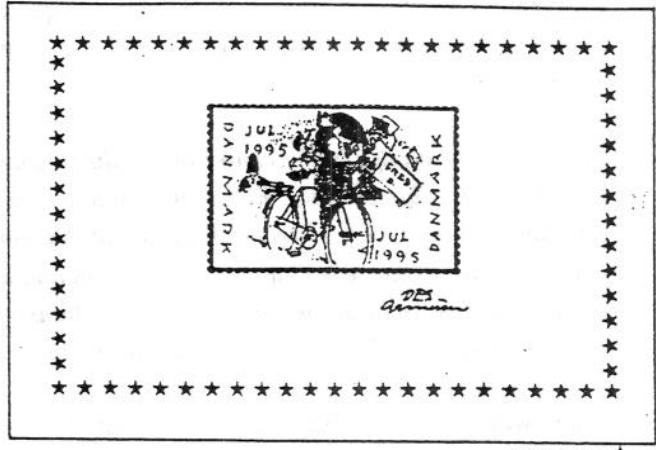
229

Des Asmussen, born in 1913, is a well-known and beloved illustrator of many books, newspapers, magazines, and posters. He also drew the Danish Xmas seals of 1987 as well as a set of three postage stamps, issued in 1992, showing Danish churches.

The Xmas seals are printed this year in a quantity of 41 million. There are also special seal booklets and a telecard showing the seal.



Essays for one of the church stamps



The prescription envelope (reduced)



Filatelistisk hilsen fra Des Asmussen til hans svoger Fred.

Philatelic greeting from Des Asmussen to his brother-in-law Fred



LUREN

SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB

Chapter No. 17

Los Angeles, California

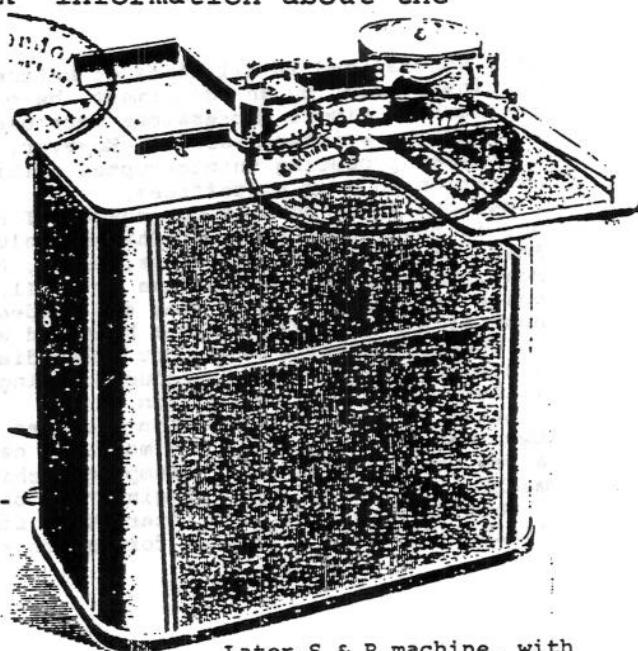
Volume 15, Number 2
February, 1983
Whole Number 165

CANCELLING MACHINES

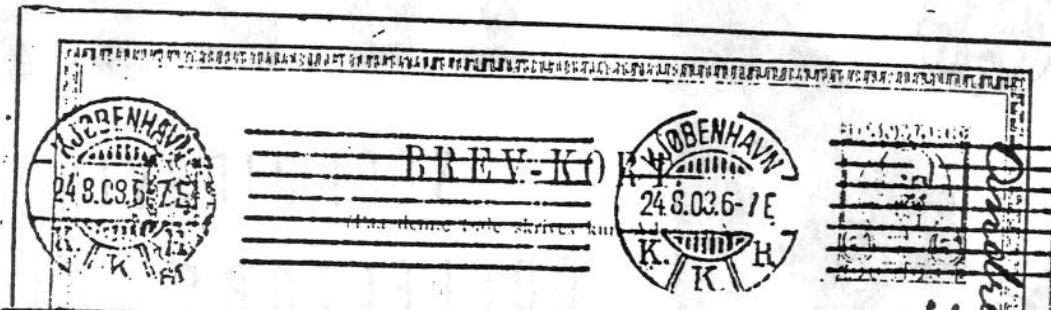
In this article, Frederick A. Brofos adds some very interesting information to the several articles provided to LUREN readers by Henry Tester, on the subject of Copenhagen machine postmarks.

If we had a collection of old cars and simply called them Type I, Type II, and so on, I am afraid much enjoyment would be missed by not having identified the manufacturers of the various makes such as Rolls Royce, Ford and the like. The same holds true with a smaller kind of machine which is of particular interest to us philatelists, namely the letter cancelling machine. It is the postmark impression that one collects, and entire covers or cards are preferable to "cut squares". If one is especially interested in the mechanics of the machine, one can examine their patent papers. Furthermore, many of the actual machines are on display in the various excellent Postal Museums in Scandinavia.

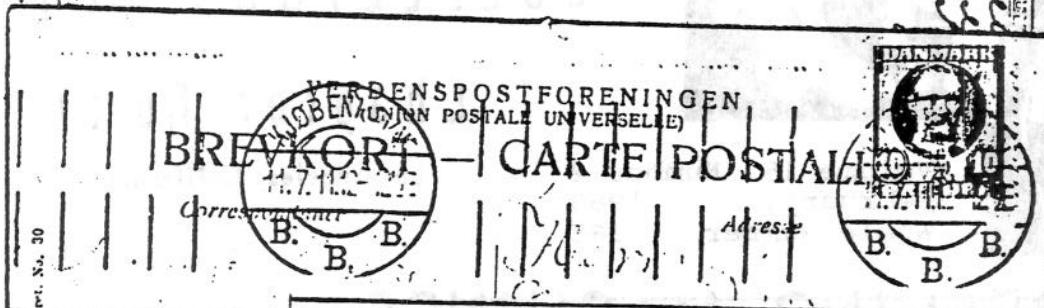
Having myself made a study of these matters for a number of years, I am able to fill in the "missing link" information about the manufacturers' identity, which was lacking in the two interesting articles in LUREN, Vol 14, Nos 6 & 7. In his first article, Mr. Tester describes two kinds of "band" or multiple impression machines. This Group I, consisting of Types I to VI, were all made by the Krag Machine Factory of Oslo, Norway. In 1905, the first Krag (Tester's Type II) was introduced in Denmark. Group II, with types VII to IX, were first used in Denmark in December, 1912. All these were made by the firm of Sylbe and Pondorf, of Schmölln, Saxony, Germany. This was a large iron foundry and machine building factory, which besides cancelling machines



Later S & P machine, with removable wooden side panels to protect the operator.

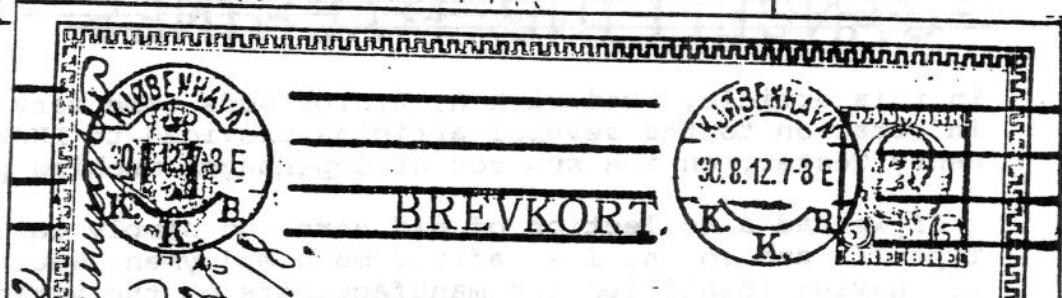


Krag Types II, top,

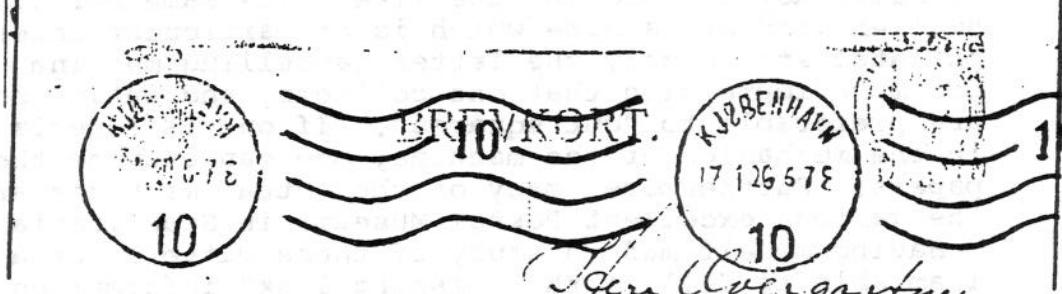


and I, bottom

Krag Type IV



Krag Type V



also specialised in all kinds of button-making machinery. Many, but not all, of the S & P machines could, by an adjustment, be made to produce either single or multiple impression postmarks. Single impressions were useful on postcards, as they did not run over and obscure the written message. However, as the machines cancelled more mail in a shorter time when producing uninterrupted multiple impressions, this was the preferred method of operation in most postoffices.

Besides 18 or more in Copenhagen, I have noticed S & P machines were at one time also in use in the Danish towns of Charlottenlund, Fredericia, Hellerup, Horsens, Nyborg, Odense, Roskilde, Silkeborg, Slagelse, Vejle, Aalborg, Aarhus; probably other towns used them too. Most machines were out of use by WW II. Aside from Denmark, S & P machines were also used quite extensively in Germany and Sweden. Only a few saw use in England and France, and none at all in Norway--where Krag had a monopoly for years. However, the first machine used in Norway was not a Krag, but a Canadian "Bickerdike", made under license in Germany. (Introduced in 1903, it produced a single impression showing the word "NORGE" in large letters in the killer portion.)

Later on, single impression machines of a different make saw use in Denmark. Produced by two American companies, the majority came from the International Postal Supply Company and a few from the Universal Stamping Machine Company. Several other kinds of cancelling machines, some of local origin, have been used in Sweden, but more about that another time.

Thanks, Fred, for this interesting stuff--how about the machines used in Finland and Iceland???? We're looking forward to some further data.

A detailed black and white architectural rendering of a large industrial complex, possibly a textile mill or factory. The complex consists of several interconnected buildings, including a long main building with a gabled roof and numerous windows, and several smaller buildings attached to it. A tall, thin chimney stands prominently in the background. The entire complex is surrounded by trees and greenery, suggesting a rural or semi-rural setting.

Sämtliche MASCHINEN und EINRICHTUNGEN für die
Steinuoss-Horn-Bein-Metall-Perlmutter-Holz-Kunsthorn-
u Zwirn - Knopffabrikation.

BRIEFSTEMPELMASCHINEN. SYLBE-KUPPLUNGEN.

1912 S & P letterhead showing the factory

19. Februar '12.

Western Union Telegraphic Code
FERNSPRECHER N° 16.
REICHSBANK.
Girokonto: {Allgemeine Deutsche Credit-Anstalt} Schmölln, S.A.
SCHAFFNER BANK.

Telegramme etc.

Western Union Telegraphic Code

FERNSPRECHER N° 16.

REICHSBANK.

Die Deutsche Credit-Akademie

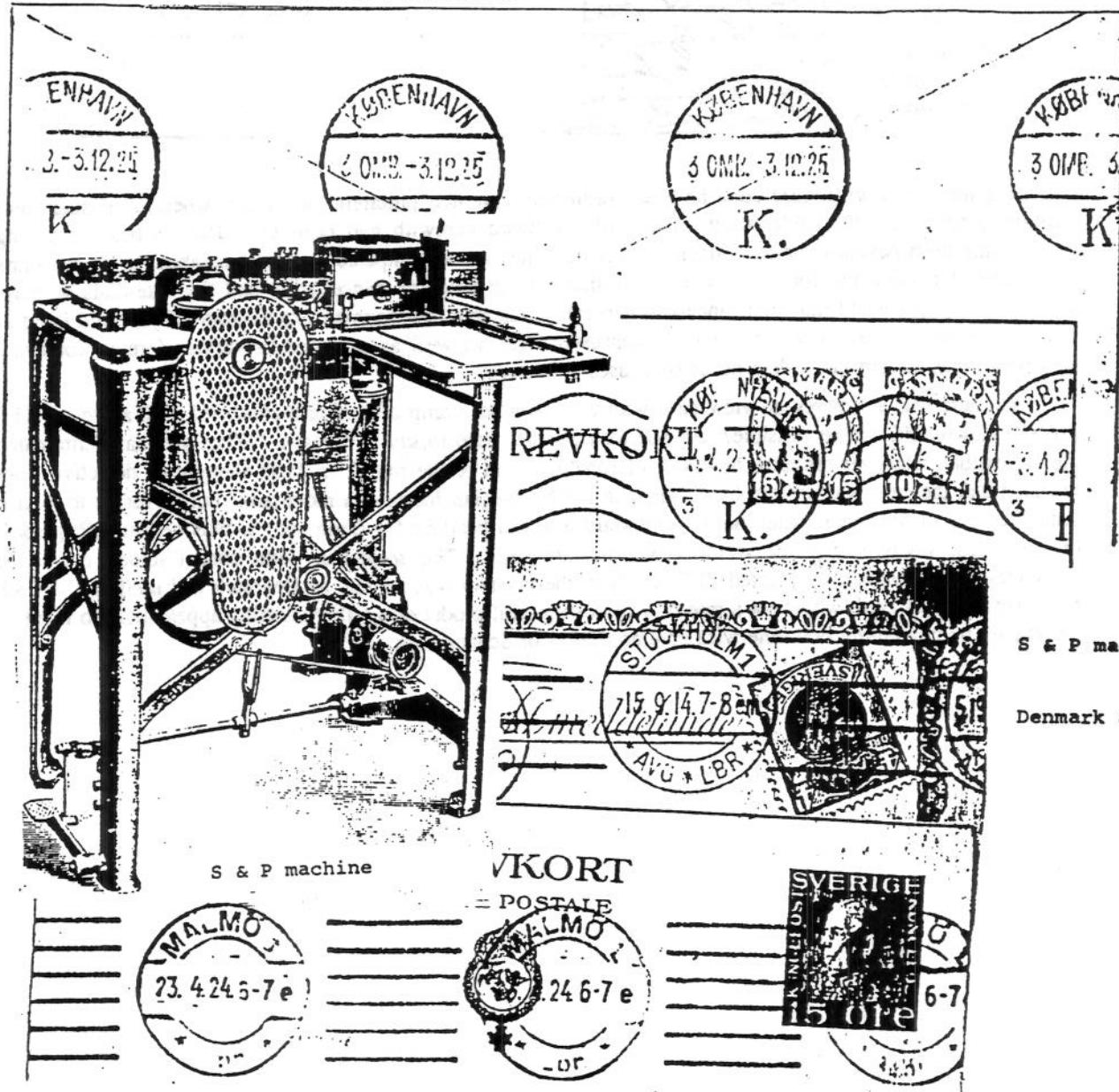
SCHWÖLNER BANK.

.....

• 10 •

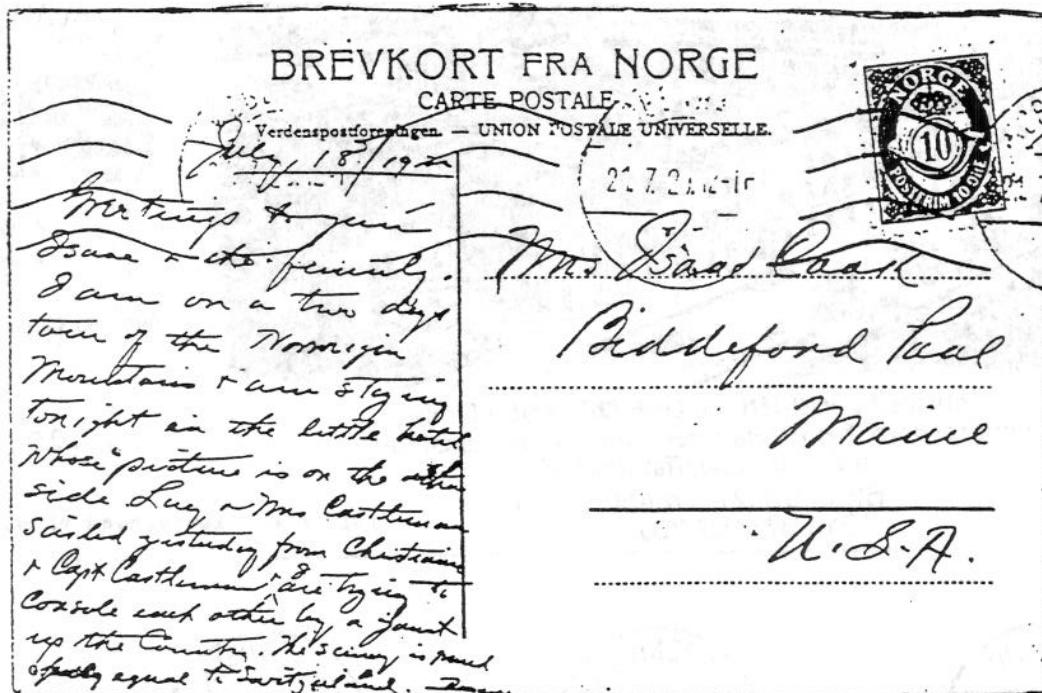
Februar '11

Editorial



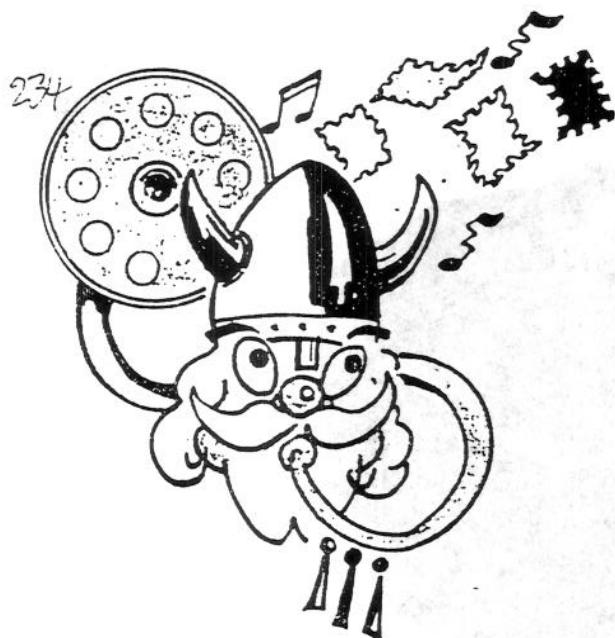
AN UNUSUAL COMBINATION
Frederick A. Brofos

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It is interesting to ponder upon how two ordinarily common philatelic items can, when in unusual combination, produce a remarkable result. The card illustrated herewith had been in a dealer's box for a long time, having been passed over by collectors thinking it just a commonplace item. I was about to do the same thing, when I noticed the four very short wave-lines of the machine cancellation and the date-dials so close together. Having studied machine cancels in general, I was able to recognize this as from a Sylbe and Pondorf machine. Made in Germany years ago, it was used there, as well as exported to various foreign countries. However, I was certain that it had never been used in Norway.

Yet here was a Norwegian view card with a Norwegian stamp affixed and cancelled with a typical S&P cancel! How could this be possible? As Sherlock Holmes used to say to Watson: "When you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth". A little elementary detective work revealed that the card was written by a tourist in the Norwegian Jotunheim mountains, but he forgot to mail it until a couple of days later when he was on board a vessel heading for Denmark. It thus became "Paquebot" or ship mail, where stamps of various countries are valid. The somewhat faint cancel turned out to be København (Copenhagen) and dated 21.7.21. Now the mystery was solved, as Denmark had used lots of S&P machines. So this card, while not a rare new discovery, still produces a rather startling appearance (to those in the know), by combining two otherwise common items of Scandinavia.



LUREN

SCANDINAVIAN PHILATELIC
LIBRARY OF
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, INC.

LOS ANGELES, CA.

ISSN 0739-0025
Volume 26 Number 7
July 1994
Whole Number 311

THE SWEDISH JÄRVE CANCELLING MACHINE

Frederick A. Brofos

As the cancelling dies for the Järve and Nyberg machines were both made at the Swedish Postal Work Shop, they are of the same appearance, usually. Aside from the early trials, the well-known wavy line or the broken wave line were the types preferred. A careful study of the dates and lists of towns on record as having used the different machines is therefore necessary to properly identify them.

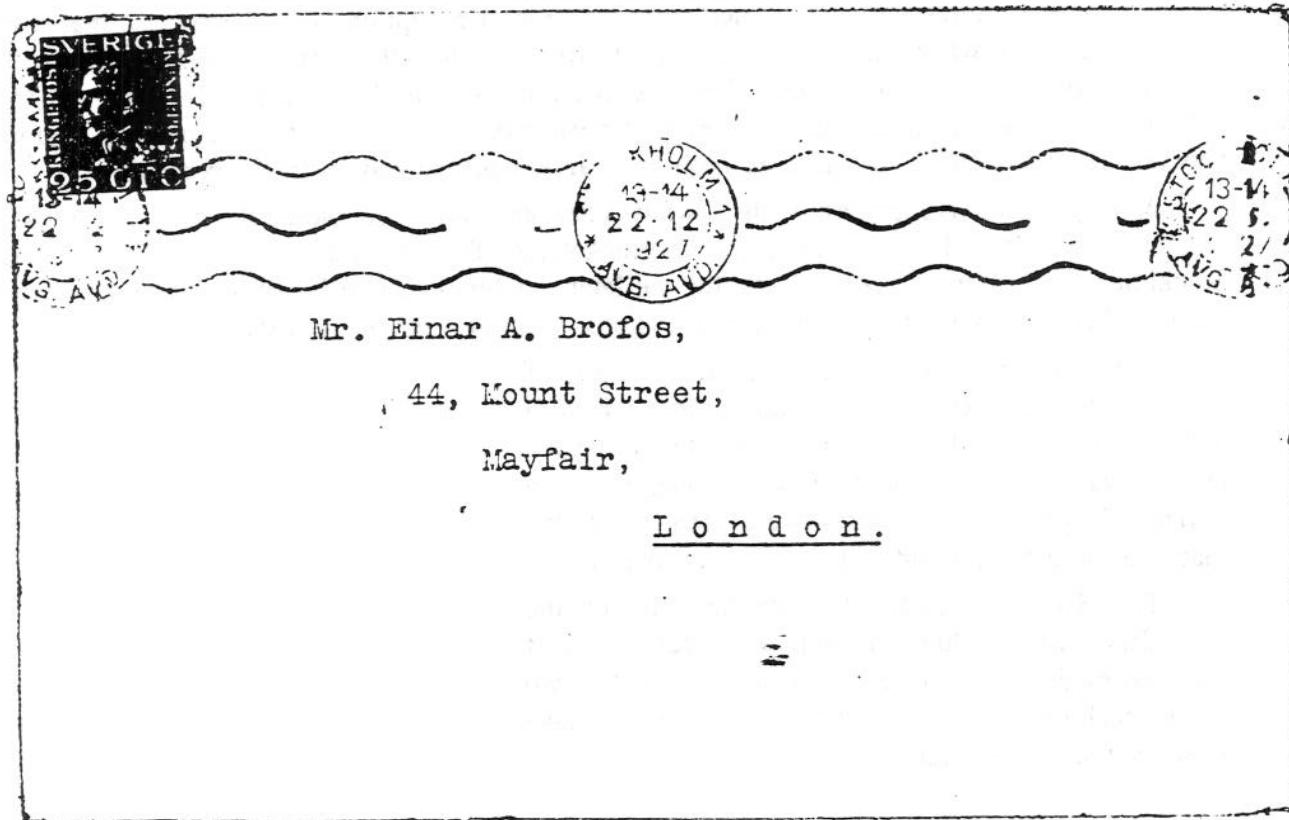
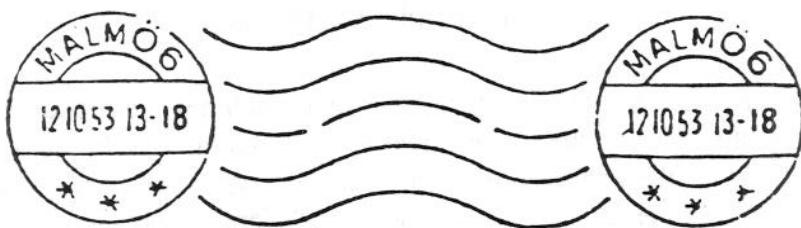
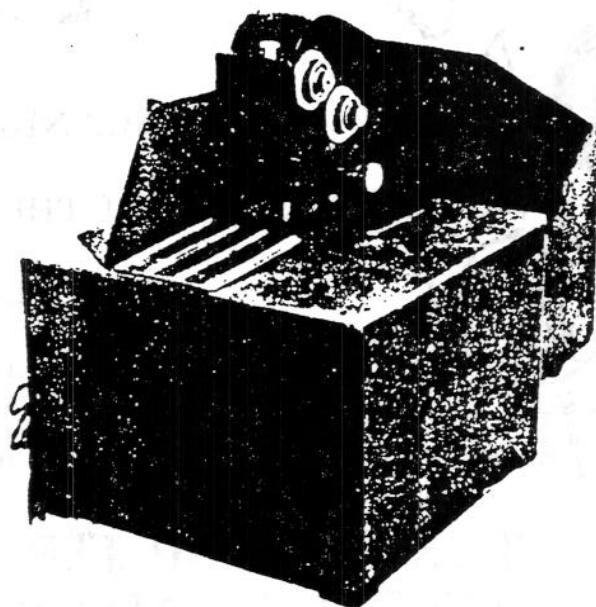
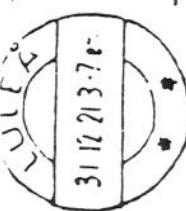
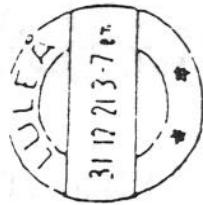
Among the earliest Järve machines there are several exceptions with easily identifiable postmark designs. However, no impression is known from the 1919 trial at Västerås, where Paul Andreas Järve was a postal worker. His next machine was used in 1920/21 at Luleå and shows a distinctive 4-bar arrangement. A special pattern with six wavy lines was used at Malmö 6, between 1927 and 1963. It was used both in a Järve machine and on the Nyberg 30.

A very distinctive pattern with 3 wavy lines and small double-circle date marks, widely spaced, was used in 1927/28 at the Stockholm/AVG.AVD. (departure section) and at the P.O. at Stockholm CST (Central station). As for the later machines, it is difficult to distinguish between Järve and Nyberg machines from the impressions, without reference to lists.

The Järve machine was cheap to produce and of rather simple construction and appearance, with a weight of about 18 kilograms. A very unusual feature was that the cancelling wheel operated in a horizontal position. Letters were fed into the machine lying flat instead of being raised on end.

The Swedish Postal Museum has one of the early Järve trial machines as well as a 1928 model of the type made at the Postal Workshop. In 1953, two Järve machines were still in use but, of course, have now long since been retired.

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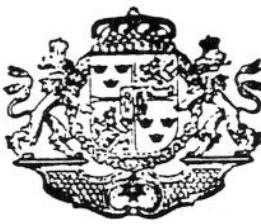
Although the capacity of the Järve machines seems to have matched other types of machine, it had several handicaps. Besides sometimes blackening the reverse side of mail, the machine was considered unusually noisy.

The patent which Järve applied for in December, 1920, was granted by the Royal Swedish Patent and Registration Office as No. 54603. Norwegian Patent No. 36721 was granted in December, 1921.



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PATENT



N° 54603.

BESKRIVNING

OFFENTLIGGJORD AV

KUNGL. PATENT- OCH REGISTRERINGSVERKET.

P. A. JÄRVE,

VÄSTERÅS.

Brevstämplingsmaskin.

Klass 15: h.

Patent i Sverige från den 15 december 1920.

För liggrande uppfinning avser en maskin för
tstämpling av brev, brevkort och dylikt, vil-
en härför sig till det slag av dylika maskiner,
som är försedda med en frammatningsvals för
tevens etc. överförande från en upplagsplats till
~~en annan vals (motvals) ro-~~

skrivning över en å bifogade ritningar visad ut-
förlingsform av uppfinningen.

Fig. 1 visar maskinen sedd från sidan och del-
vis i längdgenomskärning. Fig. 2 är en schema-
tisk planvy av densamma i mindre skala. Fig.
3-7 visa detaljer.

NORSK



PATENT

Nr. 36721

KLASSE 15 h

FREMSTILLING

MED TILHØRENDE TEGNING

OFFENTLIGGJORT AV STYRET FOR DET INDUSTRIELLE RETSVERN

5te februar 1923

Brevstämplingsmaskin.

Postekspeditør Paul Andreas Järve av Västerås, Sverige.

(Fuldmaægtig: Ingeniør Tha. Berg i firma Bryns Patentkontor, Kristiania).

Patent i Norge fra 15de desember 1921.

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Muz. lesemanus ad bens tingsmarkinss

S. S. S. R.
SOCIALISTISKA SOVJETREPUBLIKERNAS
FORBUND

HANDELSREPRESENTATIONEN I SVERIGE

Telefoner:
NAMNANROP: RYSSKA HANDELSDELEGATIONEN

Telegramadress:
WNECHTORG, STOCKHOLM

IMPORTAVDELNINGEN

Kle/ME.

Kungl. Generalstyrelsen,

1926 den 2 Jahr expo
Præmieskindet.

Betr.: Briefmarkenstempelmaschinen, System : "Paul Jarwe".



21 JAN 1926

С С С Р.
ТОРГОВОЕ ПРЕДСТАВИТЕЛЬСТВО
В ШВЕЦИИ

Адрес для телеграмм:
ВНЕШТОРГ СТОКГОЛЬМ

STOCKHOLM 19. Januar 1926
KUNGSGATAN 28, I

Nr 1991/10.

Просим сообщаться при ответе
Ovanstående nummer behagade Ni åberopa

II 432

II 5

Stockholm.

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12 Stueck Briefmarkenstempelmaschinen, System "Paul Jarwe", mit Elektromotor Universal Type 110/220 Volt. Gleich- und Wechselstrom: 50

12 Satz Reserveteile, die sich am meisten abnutzen.

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Chef der Importabteilung
Richter

SL

The Järve machines were never used abroad, however. A rather interesting development happened in 1926, when the Swedish Postal Administration received an urgent letter dated January 19th, from the Import Department of the Trade Delegation of the USSR in Stockholm. They wanted to buy, as soon as possible, 12 Järve cancelling machines with spare parts and wanted to know the price. The Swedish Postal Administration replied with offers regarding 12 Järve machines, as well as for 10 or 12 Nyberg machines. The recommended the latter machine for its greater capacity, and noted that 15 machines of that type were currently in use in Sweden and were found very durable and easy to maintain. On the other hand, they said, that the Järve machine was not at present (1926) in use, although 10 machines were to be manufactured for use at such postoffices which had less intense business.

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JÄRVE Patent nr. 36721
(NORWAY)

