

LUREN

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NORWAY'S FIRST POSTAL CARDS

Frederick A. Brofos

The first Norwegian postal card was issued on January 1, 1872, in a pale red color and a denomination of 3 Skilling, shown in a Posthorn design like the then current adhesive postage stamps. They were printed by Peter Petersen of Christiania in sheets of five, in an upright position, that is to say one card above the other. The little swastika-shaped ornaments around the border, when joined together, transform into a quantity of what looks like a letter "T" or sometimes an "S". From the arrangement of these border ornaments, one can determine different card types.

The exact position in the sheet of all five card types is not known, as no uncut sheet exists. Used cards are far less common today than unused, as most used cards ended up in the wastebasket. On the other hand, large old-time stamp dealers like Gibbons of London, Moens of Bruxelles, Senf of Leipzig and Scott in New York, imported a stock to service their clients. In those days, postal stationery was often included by stamp collectors. However, much was spoiled by being cut-square to fit the albums. The original Post Office bundles contained 100 cards, usually all of the same position type and had a special linen band around them.

Later on that same year (1872), a second card printing was made, but was simplified by omitting the wavy line around the inner border. Collectors, of course, regarded this as a separate and distinct issue. The cards were still printed by the same printer and again in sheets of five. However, this time the 3 Skilling value appeared in an attractive bright carmine color. The quantity issued of the 3 Skilling cards is estimated at 50,000 - this figure covering both varieties.

It was thought that there might also be a need for a local postcard. This was issued on October 25, 1872, in a quantity of 52,800. The denomination of

NORWAY

POSTCARD #1

USED, SKIEN,

1876

Brev-Kort

(PAA DENNE SIDE SKRIVES KUN ADRESSEN.)

Til

Dhr. Julius F. Lomn



Brev-Kort

(PAA DENNE SIDE SKRIVES KUN ADRESSEN.)

Til

Kafereren for Kristiania Kunstforening



Christiansia

POSTCARD #2
USED, CHRISTIANIA,
BY POST, 1873.

POSTCARD #4

USED, NØDRE FRON,

1877

Brev-Kort

(PAA DENNE SIDE SKRIVES KUN ADRESSEN.)

Til



Brev-Kort

(PAA DENNE SIDE SKRIVES KUN ADRESSEN.)

Til Mr

Herrn Brückelmann, Polytechnic
Post Flüttetur
Zürich



W
aarden
Julian.

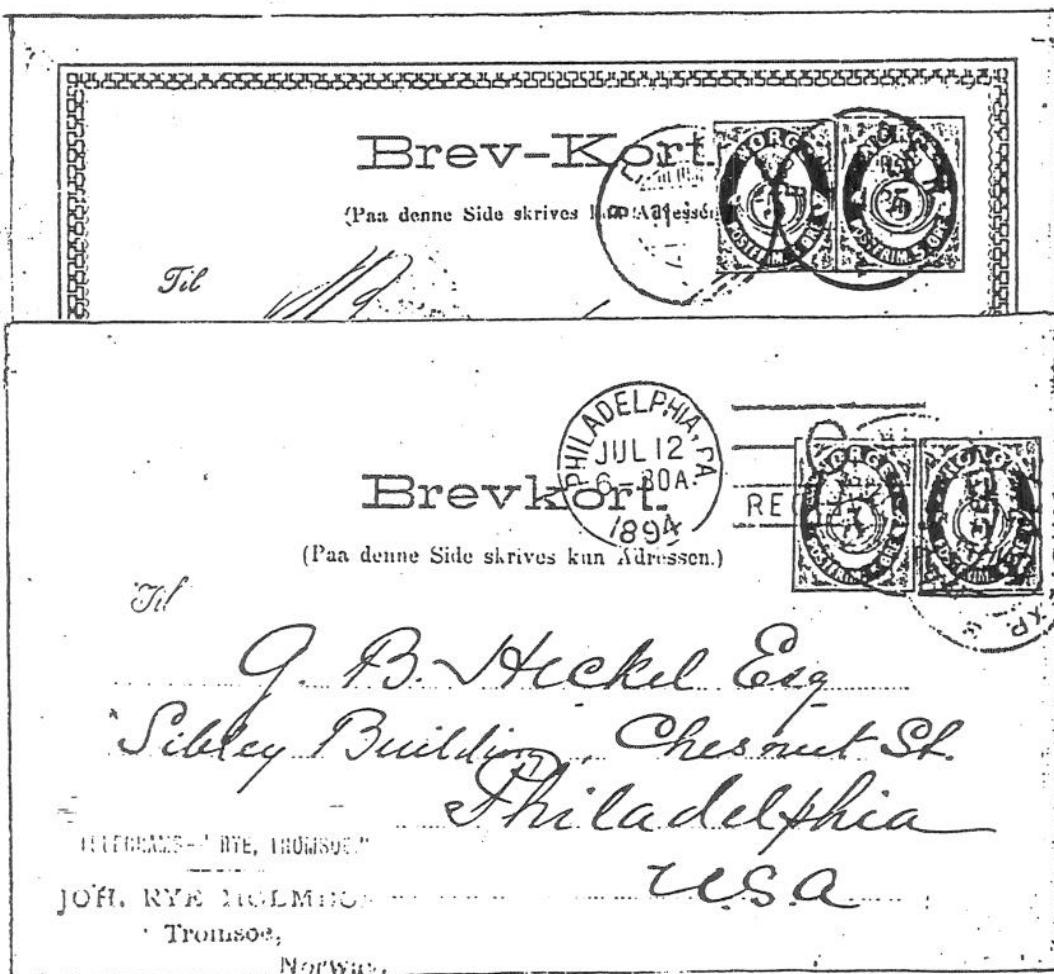
POSTCARD #3
USED, SARPSBORG,
1877.

the Posthorn stamp was 2 Skilling. The card was printed in ultramarine, and the border was again without the wavy line. Today, this card is considered particularly rare when found used contemporaneously by the local post. Illustrated is the one formerly in the famous Pihl collection, showing the large "CHRISTIANIA BYPOST" postmark dated 22/12 1873. Another of these cards, but with the small "CHRA. BYP." postmark dated 22/6 1874, appeared in one of the well-known Germeten auctions in Oslo recently, with an estimate of Kr. 5000 (\$713). There was also a similar card, postmarked 17/7 1876 at Christiania, with a 1 Skilling Posthorn stamp added. As this item was not used by the local post, the estimate was dropped to Kr. 2000 (\$286). (The above 2 cards were sold in Dec. 1994 for respectively kr 17,000 and kr 12,600.)

In 1876, when the monetary unit was changed from Skilling to Øre, the remaining 2 Skilling cards, which apparently had not been as popular as expected, were overprinted in black "0.05", in four slightly differing types. The leftover 2 Skilling cards, which were overprinted, amounted to 47,200. Deducting this figure from the original quantity of 52,800, leaves a balance of only 5600 of the 2 Skilling postal cards, most of which are found unused.

CUT-OUT STATIONERY USAGE IN NORWAY

Frederick A. Brofos shows us an example of an unauthorized usage of a cutout from a piece of stationery. He writes, "Among the thousands of Norwegian cards I have examined over the years, only two, surprisingly enough, have had cut-out stationery stamps added instead of normal adhesive postage stamps. Both are cut from 5 øre postal cards of a similar type to the cards they are affixed to. Both were sent abroad, but no postage due was claimed on either card. One was sent from Bergen to Munich and is dated January 11, 1884. The other, illustrated here, went from Tromsø to Philadelphia, and bears a "Nordbanernes" RPO mark of June 25, 1894. These two "Siamese Twins" managed to slip through, but it was really against regulations. Although permissible in England, it is not allowed in America or Norway. A circular from the Norwegian Postal Department to postmasters, and dated March 24, 1882, clearly states: 'III. Stamps, which are cut out of postal cards, may not be used for the franking of letters.' Note that this does not specifically cover use of postcard franks on postcards, so that may explain why these birds got by unscathed! This loophole in the postal laws may have been closed at a later date."



THE FIRST PRIVATELY PRINTED STAMPED POSTCARDS OF NORWAY

Frederick A. Brosos

The first postcards with imprinted stamps made to private order in Norway were a series of cards for the acknowledgement of receipt of mail by the Norwegian Credit Bank of Christiania (Oslo), an old firm established in 1857.

The cards were issued between 1910 and 1911. The word "Brevkort" was printed on the front in black as well as the text, which occurred in several languages. On the reverse was a picture of the bank's headquarters, also printed in black.

There follows a tabulation of the various issues, all with the Posthorn stamp like Norgeskatalog 98 or 100.

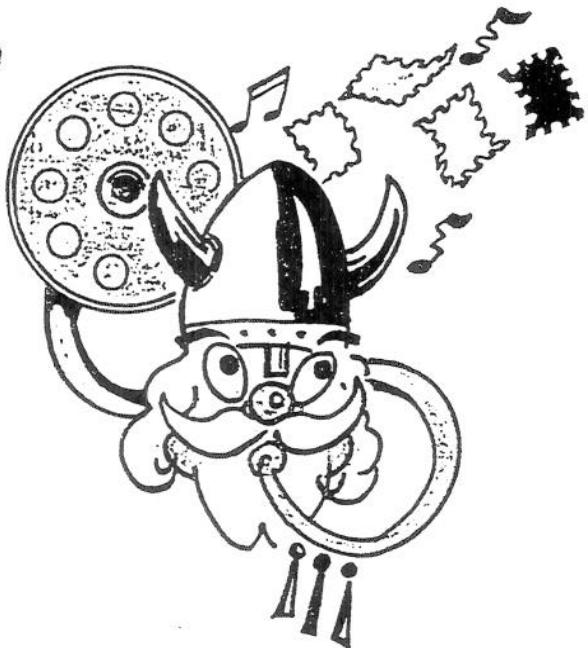
Delivered 11-19 Jul 1910.	Quantity	Delivered 6-15 Jul 1911.	Quantity		
No. 1 3 øre yellow	Norwegian text	2000	No. 5 10 øre red	Norwegian text	5015
No. 2 10 øre red	German text	*3944			
No. 3 10 øre red	English text	2080	Delivered 26 Sep - 3 Oct 1911		
No. 4 10 øre red	French text	2600	No. 6 10 øre red	Norwegian(?) text	10,194

*Of number 2, there were originally 13,944 printed, of which 10,000 were returned to the Post Office for credit. Perhaps this was due to errors in the German text.

Aside from being the first Norwegian postcard printed to private order, and a picture postcard at that, these cards are, in spite of the relatively large editions, remarkably elusive. Two of the largest postal stationery collections in Norway a few years ago (Schou and Pihl) did not contain a single example. It would seem that, of the six editions produced over a couple of years, with a combined total of 25,818 copies, most must have landed in the wastebasket.

The card illustrated, that I have found, was sent to a firm in New York and is postmarked Kristiania, October 1, 1910. It is variety number 3, the only one with an English text and also the smallest edition of all the 10 øre cards.





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WWII NORWEGIAN POSTAL STATIONERY FOR RATIONING

Frederick A. Brofos

A legacy and memento of rationing in Norway during the last war has been left to philatelists, in the form of a unique series of postal stationery cards. They were bought by the general public at post offices around the country and used to apply to the Government ration and supply offices for purchase permits. Thus, most of the cards saved for posterity were those not used, but bought and saved by stamp or postal stationery collectors.

Most of the time, the thousands of cards that got mailed were not postmarked by the post office. This was in order to save time and labor, as the cards were, after all, just going to the government and not being returned to the public. Practically all the Ration Office archives and card files were burned after the war. Some cards were saved from a few places, however, but relatively few and of certain issues only. All cards that are actually postmarked bring a good premium, of course.

As most people today are not familiar with the background and regulations connected with these cards, a short review should be useful.

A Department of Supplies (Forsyningssdepartement) was inaugurated in Norway already in the Autumn of 1939. In all Norwegian communities (towns and districts), Communal Supply or Rationing Offices (Forsyningssnemnda) were started, which supervised local supplies, distributed rationing cards, and enforced the decisions of the main Department of Supplies in Oslo.

After the sudden invasion of Norway by the Germans in April 1940, with the resultant Allied blockade, an increasing shortage of goods occurred. The first things to be rationed were

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sugar and coffee. However, it was not long before many other types of goods became rationed. As the occupation period lengthened into 4 and then 5 years, eventually every kind of necessity of life, from vegetables to soap, was brought in under rationing. Furthermore, the individual ration portions were steadily reduced.

Footwear, textile materials and clothing were rationed from Autumn 1940 on. At first, people could buy an application card and apply for what they needed. Eventually they received a card by mail granting or denying the application. From January 1941, special ration cards for clothes were issued, initially with 300 "points". Each clothing article needing various numbers of points, the necessary coupons were clipped off at the shop.

Together with the distribution of the first clothing ration cards, there was announced the availability of special franked application cards (Søknadskort) for household equipment (blue cards) and for footwear (white cards). Later came buff cards for half-soiling of shoes, green cards for equipping new homes, pink cards for baby equipment and light brown cards for work clothes. The applications were decided upon according to the Department's special occupation list.

The text on the application cards was changed as the distribution rules were made stricter, and more information and attestations were demanded. Certain categories of goods were dropped altogether or were not allowed to be supplied to private individuals. Eventually, permits were issued for workclothes made out of paper, half-soiling only in rubber, etc. Footwear rationing was particularly noticeable and the regulations were such that eventually, if one already had a pair of usable shoes, there was no possibility of getting a permit for a new pair.

Søknadskort for utstyrsvarer.

MERK:

For å få tillatelse til kjøp av utstyrsvarer må søknadskortet fylles nøyaktig ut og sendes eller leveres forsyningsnemnda på det sted søkeren bor.
På hvert søknadskort kan det bare søkes om kjøpetillatelse for EN varesort.

Om utstyr til private husholdninger skal det søkes i hovedpersonens navn. Det innskjernes at rubrikken for „nåværende beholdning“ må fylles nøyaktig ut. Hvis ingen beholdning har, er det ikke nok å sette „0“ i rubrikken, men det må også angis grunnen til at ingen beholdning har.

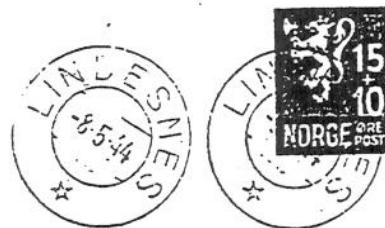
Når det samtidig forlanges opplysninger om „beholdning av varer av lignende art“, skal dette forstås slik at hvis søknaden gjelder f. eks. glasshåndklær, så skal det oppgis beholdning av håndklær av ALLE SLAG; gjelder den laken, oppgis også beholdning av dynetrekk; gjelder den ullapper, oppgis også beholdning av dyner, vallepper, pledd o. l.

Videre innskjernes at hvis søknaden gjelder metervarer, f. eks. stoff til laken eller håndklær, må stoffets BREDD oppgis.

Ved søknad om gardiner eller portierer må ikke benevnelsen „fag“ nytes alene, men ANTALL METER og stoffets BREDD må også oppgis. Det skal samtidig gis opplysninger om vinduenes (eventuelt dørenes) størrelse (.....m Xm).

Ved søknad om utstyrsvarer til hoteller, pensjonater o. l. skal søkeren gi opplysninger om årsforbruk, beholdning og andre opplysninger som kan ha betydning ved behandlingen av søknaden.

Innvilges søknaden, får søkeren tilsendt en anvisning som gjelder i 2 måneder og SOM IKKE VIL BLI FORNYET. Er anvisningen ikke nytlet innen denne frist, må ny søknad sendes eller leveres forsyningsnemnda sammen med den ubrukta anvisning. Ny anvisning vil ikke bli utsendt hvis søkeren ikke gir en fullstendig grunn for at han ikke har kunnet nytte den først utsendte anvisning. Blir en søknad avslått, underretter forsyningsnemnda søkeren om dette.



Til forsyningssnemnda

I Spangen vid

Footwear was divided into 17 main types, from Group A: boots of leather, to Group S: skin shoes or boots with wooden soles. Furthermore, the distribution rules were not the same in town and rural

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districts. Nothing exactly can be said about what the individual consumer was entitled to receive, as permit decisions were based on the applicant's sex, age, kind of work, place of domicile, as well as their existing supply of footwear and other equipment.

The first stamped cards were the 20 + 20 øre red application for textiles and leather goods and the 15 + 10 øre ultramarine application for footwear, both issued in December 1940. These were followed by others in April 1941 and continuing in varying editions until the last Household Equipment and Work Clothes cards of March 1951. Thus some, but not all, of the cards continued in use for almost six years after the war ended.

The seven main types of stamped cards were for:

- Half-soling of shoes (Halvsåling) May 1941-Nov 1945. 15 øre brown stamp.
Household equipment (Utstyr) Jan 1941 - Mar 1951. 15 + 10 øre blue.
Footwear (Skotøy) Dec 1940 - Nov 1945. 15 + 10 øre ultramarine, later olive.
Textiles and leather goods (Tekstil og lærvarer) Dec 1940. 20 + 20 øre red.
Work clothes (Arbeidsklær) Apr 1941 - Mar 1951. 25 + 10 øre green.
Bicycle tires (Sykklegummi) Oct 1941 - Nov 1945. 25 + 15 øre red-brown.
Bicycle (Sykkel) Oct 1941 - Nov 1945. 25 + 25 øre red-brown.

There are sufficient differences in layout and text to determine the different card issues without difficulty. In addition, many carry the government printer's imprint at lower left on the front or back - "E.M." standing for Emil Moestue A/S, Oslo. The cards were printed by offset, from cylinders for 18 or 36 cards. The text was usually printed in black, but sometimes, as with the later Work Clothes cards, in the same color as the stamp. The stamp itself is like the Linotype III, but usually with two values: one for postage and one for fees to the Department of Supply. The unwatermarked cardboard ranges from white to colored, in many qualities. Sizes were 250 x 205, 92 x 122 or 128 mm.

Søknad om tilleggskort for arbeidsklær.

DØBESKJEF AV FØRSTENÅR
Tilleggskort for arbeidsklær tildeles bare døbere som er på grunnlag
sitt yrke har absolutt behov for spesiell arbeidstøy, så som
EN Skrøpsarbeidere, fiskere, sjøfolk, industriarbeidere, personer som
av hygieniske grunner må ha spesielt tak til øyer, sykesøstre, vete-
rinerører o. l.) o. s.v.
Ved søknad om arbeidstøy må så vidt mulig de nedennevnte vare-
betegnelser brukes:

Arbeidsbukse av bomull uten for, f. eks. dongerybuks, overall.
Arbeidsjakke av bomull uten for, f. eks. dongeryjakke, kelner-
jakke.
Arbeidsbusserull av bomull uten for.
Arbeidsforkle med ermer.
Arbeidsforkle uten ermer.
Kjeledress.
Lager-, laboratorie- og legefrakker.
Bruksoljetøy, bukse.
Bruksoljetøy, jakke.
Bruksoljetøy, frakk.

Av den utfylte søknad må det tydelig fremgå hva slags arbeide
søkeren har, hvilket normalt årsbehov og hvilke beholdninger søkeren
har av de søkte varer.

Selvstendige erhvervsdrivende må i rubrikken for arbeidsgiverens
attestasjon selv fylle ut denne rubrikken.

Som arbeidsklær regnes her ikke uniformer til etater, institusjoner og
bedrifter.

Kortet må fylles ut med blekk!

SKRIV FØLLESTENDIG ADRESSE
-OG AVSENDERENS NAVN
TROMSØ
-7V4213-27

Til Forsyningsnemnda i
Tromsø

Tromsø

Besides the aforementioned cards, several other types exist. As they were without imprinted stamps, they have been rather overlooked by collectors. However, they are still part of rationing history. Most of them were also printed by the Emil Moestue firm. Here is the list of the formular cards to apply for rationed goods:

1. Application for clothes and equipment for children under age one. Price 40 øre, including return postage. Black on pink. Six different types. Two have printer's imprint (E.M. XI-44 60 000 or E.M. VI-45 25 000). 1942/45. (One of these, mailed without postage from Tromsø in December, 1945, is illustrated in the article. The word "PORTO" in the upper right corner indicates that postage was to be added when the card is mailed.)
2. Application for bicycle. Black on white. 1945.
3. Application for bicycle tires. Black on white. 1945.
4. Application for household equipment to establish a new home. Price 40 øre, including return postage. Black on light blue-grey. 3 types. 1943/45.
5. Application for permission to use clothing ration coupons in advance. Price 40 øre, including return postage. Black on white. 1942.

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These cards were sold by the Ration Offices, except number 4, which was sold at post offices. Numbers 1, 2, and 3 were cards sent as is to the Ration Office. Numbers 4 and 5 were sent to the Ration Office enclosed in an envelope. A couple of other cards which were sent directly to the Ration Office, franked with adhesive stamps of 15 øre or local rate of 10 øre, were:

6. Report of sale of damaged or uncurrent footwear. Black on buff. Imprint: J.C.G. 461 / V.42 5000.
7. Report of sale of fishskin shoes with soles of waste leather. Black on buff. Imprint: Stamnes VIII.43 50 000.

Selges av Forsyningsnemnda		Pris. 40 øre
Søknad om bekledning og utstyr til barn under 1 år.		
For å få tillatelse til kjøp av bekledning og utstyr til barn under 1 år, må dette kort utfilles nøyaktig og tydelig.		
Kjøp av spebarsutstyr kan ikke foregå før moren befinner seg i 4. svangerskapsmåned. At dette er tilfelle, må attesteres av lege eller jordmor. Hvis barnet er født, må fødselsattest eller dåpsattest vedlegges seknadskortet, og sendes forsyningsnemnda i lukket konvolutt.		
Beholdning av beklednings- og utstyrsgjenstander må nøyaktig oppgis i rubrikk for samme, og de varer som ønskes kjøpt oppgis i rubrikk for ønsket mengde. Det tillates kjøp av både stoff, ferdige plagg eller garn. De vil bli tildelt en bestemt mengde bånd, strikk og sysaker. Innvilges søknaden, får søkeren tilsendt et beklednings- og utstyrskort for barn under 1 år.		
Morens etternavn: <u>Jacobsen</u>		Utfilles med blekk.
Fornavn: <u>Aubjørn</u>	Fødselsår og datum: <u>4-1-</u>	Til Forsyningshemnda i
Nøyaktig bostedsadresse: <u>Bjørnøya 71</u>		
Undertegnede lege/jordmor attesterer at		
<u>Aubjørn Jacobsen</u>		
er svanger i 4. svangerskap		
Tromsø den 5/12/1945		
FORSYNINGSHENNDNA		
Skriv tydelig!		
E.M. VI-45. 25 000		

ADDENDUM TO NORWEGIAN RATION STATIONERY ARTICLE

Frederick A. Brofos

There is an addendum to the Norwegian Ration Application Postal Stationery article by F. A. Brofos. Referring to the September article in LUREN on this subject add, under the list of the formular cards, under no. 5:

1942/45 4 types, including 2 with printer imprint (E. M. IX-44 and 1000 000 E. M. 11-45).

KAKEKORT

for tyske militære.

Gyldig inntil videre.

På hvert merke fås kjøpt enten 50 g fylte kaker eller 40 g kransekake, makroner, marengs o. l. eller 32,5 gr. av alle andre kakesorter eller 1 stk. smørbrød.



KUCHENKARTE

für die deutsche Wehrmacht.

Gültig bis zum Widerruf.

Auf jede Karte können gekauft werden:
entw. 50 gr. gefüllte Kuchen oder 40 gr.
Makronentorte, Makronen, Marengs u. a. m.
oder 32,5 gr. von anderen Kuchen z.B.
trockene Kuchen, Plundergebäck oder
Stück Butterbrot.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
TEM									

DIREKTORATET FOR PROVIANTERING OG RASJONERING
Kuchenkarte

Wehrmacht
Kuchenkarte

DIREKTORATET FOR PROVIANTERING OG RASJONERING
Kuchenkarte

Wehrmacht
Kuchenkarte

TYSKE MENN OVER 18 ÅR

PROVIANTERING OG RASJONERING

K.K.XII

K.K.XI

K.K.V

20. kortperiode

Tilleggskort for kaffeerstatning

for tida 4. oktober til 26. desember 1943

28. kortperiode

Tilleggskort for fett
for knappsarbeidere

6. periode for kjøttkort - I. del.

TUNGARBEIDERKORT

Kjøpekort for kjøtt m. v. for tungarbeidere

Serie VI

KJØPEKORT

för brennevin og vin
för sivile tyske statsborgare, utstedt av
der Reichskommissar für die besetzten
norwegischen Gebiete

Ved kjøp i utsalg klippes for en hel flaske
et helt merke og for en halv flaske et
halvt merke. Ved skriftlig bestilling
innsendes kjøpekortet til vedkommende
monopolutsalg.

De mengder som kan kjøpes blir fastsatt
terminvis. Det er strengt forbudt å selge,
kjøpe eller på annen måte overdra kort.
Kortet er bare gyldig når det er nøyaktig
utfylt, undertegnet av innhaveren, stempelt
og signert av utsæderen.

LØSE MERKER GJELDER IKKE



NÆRINGSDEPARTEMENTET
Avdelingen for proviantering
og rasjonering

10 gram	10 gram	10 gram
smør eller margarin	smør eller margarin	smør eller margarin
10 gram	10 gram	10 gram
smør eller margarin	smør eller margarin	smør eller margarin

Hæringsdepartementet
Bundesministerium für die provianterung
und rationierung

Reisekort for Tyskager

På hvert merke fås kjøpt
40 g hardt brød, — eller
65 g mykt brød, men ikke
mel, gryn, erter m. v.



NÆRINGSDEPARTEMENTET

Avdeling

for proviantering
og rasjonering



NÆRINGSDEPARTEMENTET
Avdelingen for proviantering
og rasjonering



NÆRINGSDEPARTEMENTET
Avdelingen for proviantering
og rasjonering

LO
99
GSNE

—

sjoner
Kjøp
Nyt
garb
in
sare
sjone

Nr. 2251

Verschiedenes	Wurst
---------------	-------

verschiedenes Lebensmittel für die besetzten norwegischen Gebiete	Der Reisekoffer für die besetzten norwegischen Gebiete
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Reisekoffer für die besetzten norwegischen Gebiete

Der Reisekoffer für

45

Søknad om sykkelgummi fra:

Eiternavn: Norsk Importkompani A/S,

Fornavn.

Adresse: Strandgat. 33, Tromsø.

Født (år og datum):

(Ufylles av søkeren.)

Bevitnelse av gitte opplysninger.

Riktigheten av de opplysningene som søkeren har gitt på denne søknad om bolig, arbeidsted/skole og reiseavstand i km. bevitnes.

Eventuelle opplysninger:

.....

den / 194.....
Norsk Importkompani
 (Arbeidsgivers eller klasseførstolars underskrift.)
 Bevitnelse må være undertegnet ved søknadens innsendelse.



Til forsyningssnemnda

i Tromsø.

Tromsø.

NORWEGIAN POSTAL STATIONERY RARITIES

Frederick A. Brofos sent along a photocopy of an interesting rarity. Here he writes, "Undoubtedly the most spectacular error in the field of Norwegian postal stationery occurs on one of the special application cards for rationed goods, issued during WW II. The card is an application card for permission to buy bicycle tires (sykkelgummi), catalog number 7-I in the Norwegian catalog, where the stamp was accidentally printed upside-down in the lower-left corner. Postmarked at Tromsø on 25.8.43, it may well be the only surviving example of this invert, as the archives of the ration offices were mostly destroyed shortly after the war."

Another interesting error occurs on an application card for a bicycle, catalog 8-V, where the text on the reverse is completely missing. Since it is blank, it would, of course, not make a suitable illustration!

The application card for half-soling of shoes, catalog 1-XV, also exists without any stamp impression at all.

The double set of figures on the stamps of most of these cards make them look like semi-postals. In a way, they are; the extra fee went to the Ration Office to cover administrative costs. Considering the huge numbers printed, the number of errors that slipped through has been remarkably small.

Of these three errors, only the first-mentioned is recorded in the Catalog of Norwegian Postal Stationery, published in 1980 by the Oslo Philatelic Club, but since I have seen the other two personally, I know they exist as well.

Envelopes printed to private order.

Envelopes printed for private firms, with the approval of the Post Office, by the Stamp Printers (Centraltrykkeriet up to mid 1895, then Chr. H. Knudsen until 1937, thereafter Emil Moestue A/S). The plate numbers refer to the equivalent adhesives as listed in the "Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of Norway" by Oslo Filatelist Klub.

1890? Posthorn. Norge without serifs. (plate II).
For: Norges Sjøfartstidende (a Kristiania newspaper). Address printed on front.

P-1 5 øre blue-green on grey	Unused	Used
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1890? Posthorn. Norge without serifs. (plate IV).
For: Norges Sjøfartstidende. Address printed on front.
P-2 10 øre carmine on grey

1890? Posthorn. Norge without serifs. (Listed in Ascher catalog). Not seen
P-3 5 øre green and 10 ore carmine (Enter for P-1 + P-2?)

1898? Posthorn. Norge with serifs.
P-4 3 øre yellow-orange

1898? Posthorn. Norge with serifs. For: Johan O. Larsen.
P-5 5 øre green

1898? Posthorn. Norge with serifs. (plate II). For: Olaf Sjølie, Aasta.
P-6 10 øre carmine

1898? Posthorn. Norge with serifs (plate II).
For: Karl A. Jensen, Kristiania. (large Meat & Fish dealer).
P-7 10 øre carmine

1898? Posthorn. Norge with serifs
For: Karl A. Jensen, Kristiania. (Seen postmarked Jan. 9, 1902).
P-8 20 øre blue on white

1921? Posthorn. Reengraved die (distinct wings).
For: "Skogbrand." (Oslo insurance company).
P-9 20 øre olive

1922? Lion Rampant, type of 1922 adhesives (line under ØRE).
For: Borgestad Fabrikker, Borgestad.
P-10 20 øre red-violet

1922? Lion Rampant, as on P-10.
For: Ingwald Nielsen, Kristiania. (large Hardware store).
P-11 20 øre red-violet

1926? Lion Rampant, type of 1926 adhesives (without line under ORE).
 For: Namdals Privatbank, Namsos.
 P-12 20 øre red-violet

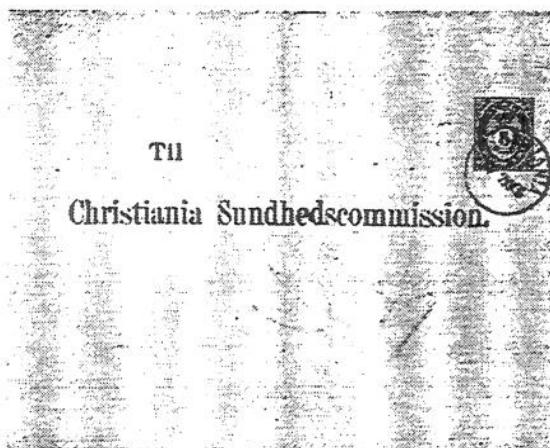
1928? Lion Rampant, type of 1926 adhesives. (Seen postmarked Nov. 28, 1928).
 For: Namdals Privatbank, Namsos. (Bank, dissolving).
 P-13 20 øre red on greyish (slight blue inside)

Official Envelopes printed to special order

Envelopes printed to special order for various Government agencies and officials.

Christiania Health Commission

1891? Posthorn. Norge without serifs (plate III).
 OE-1 5 øre green



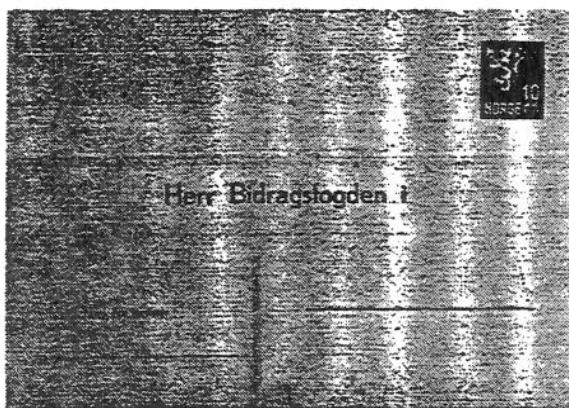
1896? Posthorn. Norge with serifs.
 Printed address on front: "Christiania Sundhedskommission." Diagonally laid paper with watermark "TAUBEN POST" and pigeon with letter in beak. Size a.
 OE-2 5 øre green on white laid paper

1898? Posthorn. Norge with serifs.
 Printed address on front: "Kristiania Sundhedskommission."
 OE-3 5 øre green on white

A forerunner of the private envelopes of the Christiania Health Commission was the regular issue of 5 ore envelopes of 1877 with a "corner-card" consisting of "Christiania Sundhedskommission" in two lines within a one-lined frame with corner ornaments. This was all printed in black in the upper left corner.

Oslo Health Board

1937? Lion Rampant. For use of "Oslo Helseråd."
 OE-4 10 øre green



To Local Official from Midwife

1937? Lion Rampant, similar to 1937 adhesives, but typographed. Printed on front: "Hr. Bidragsfogden i . . . fra Jord Mor . . .". Size a.
 OE-5 10 øre green on grey (violet inside) _____
 OE-6 20 øre red _____

From the Revenue Stamp Controller

1938? Lion Rampant. Printed on front: "Fra Merkelovens tilsynsmann i . . ."
 OE-7 20 øre red on blue (size b.) _____
 OE-8 20 øre red on brown-yellow (size b.) _____

From the Inspector of Fisheries

1938? Lion Rampant. Printed on front: "Fra Fiskeriinspektøren:"
 OE-9 20 øre red (size a.) _____
 OE-10 40 øre grey (large size) _____
 OE-11 60 øre bluegreen (larger size) _____

Norway's Waterways and Electricity Authority

Special envelopes for use in correspondence with the Hydrographic Department in Oslo of "Norges Vassdrags og Elektrisitetsvesen." The envelopes bear on the front the printed address of the Authority—all in upright capitals on OE-12 and in slanting capitals and small letters on OE-13. The type on OE-14 is different and a bit wider than on O-12.

1940? Lion Rampant. Typographed.
 OE-12 20 øre red on white _____

1941? Lion Rampant. Typographed. Overprinted with black "V" (for Victory) like adhesives.
 OE-14 20 øre red on white _____

1944? Lion Rampant. Typographed.



OE-14 20 øre red on yellowish white _____

The Norwegian Meteorological Service

Special envelopes for the use of Weather stations and the like, in sending in reports to the Norwegian Meteorological Institute at Oslo ("Norges Meteorologisk Institutt").

All envelopes bear the printed address of the Institute, at first in Oslo and later at Blindern, on the front. In the beginning the envelopes were imprinted with regular stamps, but later on these were superceded by envelopes bearing Official stamps. In general the envelopes come in two sizes: a. ordinary size: (158x113 mm.) and b. long size: (246x125 mm.) both with variations. The dates refer to the earliest postmarked items that I have seen. Earlier dates probably exist.

1934. Lion type stamp. Size b.
 OE-15 20 øre red on buff (Sept. 1, 1934) _____
 OE-16 40 øre grey on buff _____

1935. Large official stamp. Size b.



Det Norske Meteorologiske Institutt,

Oslo.

OE-17 20 øre red on buff (March 4, 1935) _____
 OE-18 20 øre red on white _____

1938. Smaller official stamp. Size b. Address imprint: Oslo.
 OE-19 20 øre red on white (March 7, 1938) Clear print _____
 OE-20 40 øre grey on white _____



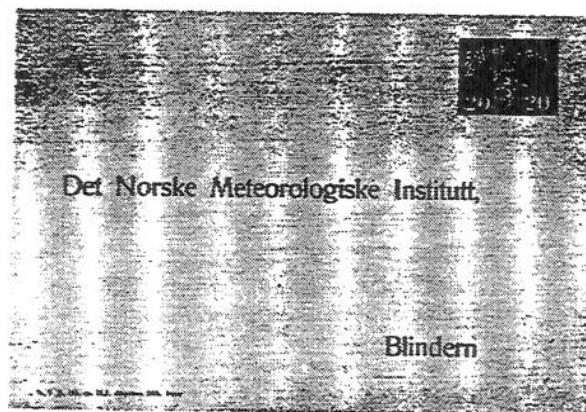
Det Norske Meteorologiske Institutt,

Blindern

1943. Quisling official stamp.

OE-21 20 øre red on white (Imprint Jan., 1943) Size a. _____
 OE-22 20 øre red on grey-white (Imprint Jan., 1943) Size b. _____
 OE-23 40 øre dark grey on white (Adhesive of this type issued March 1, 1943) Size b. _____

1944. Small official stamp, type of 1938. Size b. Address imprint: Blindern.
 OE-24 20 øre red on white. Unclear print. _____



1945. Small official stamp. Size a. Grey cross-hatching inside envelope.
 OE-25 20 øre red on grey-white (Imprint March, 1945) _____
 According to imprints on them, there were printed the following quantities, for
 OE-21: 500; OE-22: 5000; and OE-25: 1000.

Postcards printed to private order

Postcards printed for private firms, with the permission of the Post Office, by the Stamp Printers (Chr. H. Knudsen to 1937, followed by Emil Moestue A/S).

1910? Posthorn. Typographed. Printed for Den Norske Credit bank. (Listed in the Ascher catalog).
 PP-1 10 øre carmine _____

Oslo Electricity Works

Questionnaire cards—the Message card bearing instructions for the subscriber to fill in the spaces on the Reply card regarding meter-readings etc.

The rouletting to divide the cards at the top was, on PP-2, apparently done while printing the 5 øre stamp, as the roulette marks are in the same red-violet color. On PP-3 the rouletting is green and seems to have been done when the 10 øre stamps were printed.

Curiously enough, a 5 øre die with old wing types, like those used around 1898, was used on PP-2 and 3. This was changed on PP-4 to a new die with the 1910 type wings with distinct feathers.

The Message card bears a 5 øre stamp—the rate for a Printed Matter postcard sent locally. A 10 øre stamp (local rate for a written postcard) was needed on the Reply, as the subscriber had to write on it. The 5 øre stamps are in the Posthorn, the 10 øre in the Lion design.

1942 (Oct. 15). Typographed. Postcard with paid reply.
 Reply card with printed address to: "Oslo Elektrisitetsverk."

PP-2a 5 øre red-violet on white (Message card) _____
 Reverse text starts: "Norges Vassdrags"
 b 10 øre green on grey (Reply card) _____
 Heading on front: "SVARBREVKORT"

1943? Typographed. Postcard with paid reply.

Reply card with printed address to: "Oslo Elektrisitetsverk."

PP-3a 5 øre red-violet on grey (Message card) _____
 Reverse text starts: "Av hensyn til"
 b 10 øre green on grey (Reply card) _____
 Heading on front: "SVARBREVKORT"

1945 (Oct. 9) Typographed. Postcard with paid replay. This card is in three sections.

Reply card with printed address to: "Oslo Lysverker" (new name).

PP-4a 5 øre red-violet on white _____
 Reverse text starts: "STRØMRASJONERINGEN"
 b 10 øre green on white _____
 Heading on front: "SVARBREVKORT"

A/S Glommens Traesliberi

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A firm connected with the electricity system of Oslo. Questionnaire cards for meter-readings were sent to subscribers. In 1947 the postage rates for local delivery were discontinued altogether, and the rate for Printed Matter postcards rose from 5 to 7 øre and for written postcards from 10 to 15 øre. This explains the difference in the rates on the previous and the following double-cards. The 7 øre stamps are in the Posthorn, the 15 ore in the Lion design. On the 7 øre cards, an effort was made to imitate the modernized Posthorn design of the current photogravure adhesives, and the background of vertical lines in the central oval have been discarded, together with the second (inner) border-line which appeared on the older issues. PP-5 is joined together at the bottom, where a perforated line helps the tearing apart of the two portions. On PP-6 the joint and perforated line is at the top.



1947? Typographed. Postcard with paid reply. Message card with heading "TRYKKSÅK."

The last line on the reverse of the reply card reads "Postadresse:".

PP-5a 7 øre green on grey. (Message card) _____ = = =
b 15 øre olive-brown on cream (Reply card) _____ = = =

1948? Typographed. Postcard with paid reply. Message card with heading "TRYKKSÅKER".

The second line on the reverse of the reply card starts "Adresse:".

PP-6a 7 øre green on cream (Message card) _____ = = =
b 15 øre olive-brown on cream (Reply card) _____ = = =

Oslo Filatelist Klub

Cards for notifying members of forthcoming meetings. In the same color as the stamp there appears, in the upper left corner, the word "Trykksak" (Printed Matter), and in the lower left corner, the emblem of the club (a globe, before which stands "Queen Philately" holding a posthorn).

1947. Posthorn. Photogravure.

PP-7 5 øre red-violet on white _____ = = =

1947. Lion Rampant. Typographed.

PP-8 10 øre green on white _____ = = =

1952 Posthorn. Typo.

PP-9 10 øre gray on white _____ = = =

PP-10 15 øre brown on white (1956)

_____ = = =

Later Issues. Posthorn .Typo

PP-11 15 øre brown on gray (Kulturforlaget, Oslo)

PP-12 15 øre brown on gray (Norsk faglitteratur, Oslo)

PP-13 20 øre green on gray (Hadelands elektr. verk, Jaren)

PP-14 20 øre green on gray (Glitne ins. co., Oslo)

King Olav. Typo

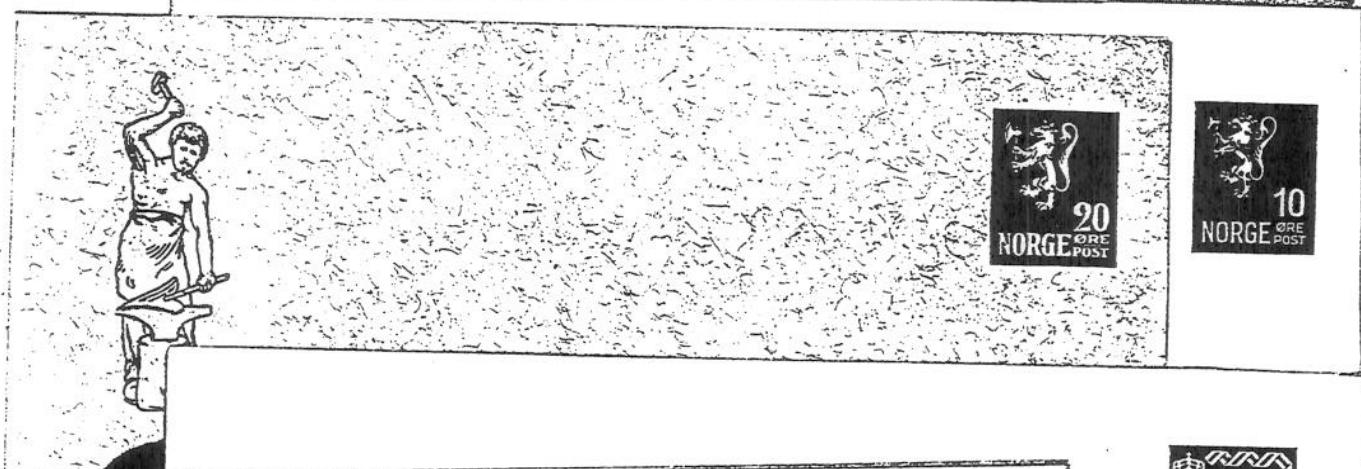
PP-15 25 øre green on gray (Glitne ins. co., Oslo)

52

Karl A. Jensen

— Specialforretning i Vildt og Fisk —
Torvgaden 5 a, KRISTIANIA

PRIVATE POSTALSTATIONERY



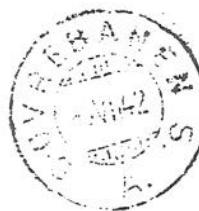
TRYKKSÅK

Oslo Mj.

Poststemplets dato

Vedr. måleravlesning.

Vi ber Dem på vedheftede kort snarest
mulig notere hva måleren (telleverket)



CO. LTD.

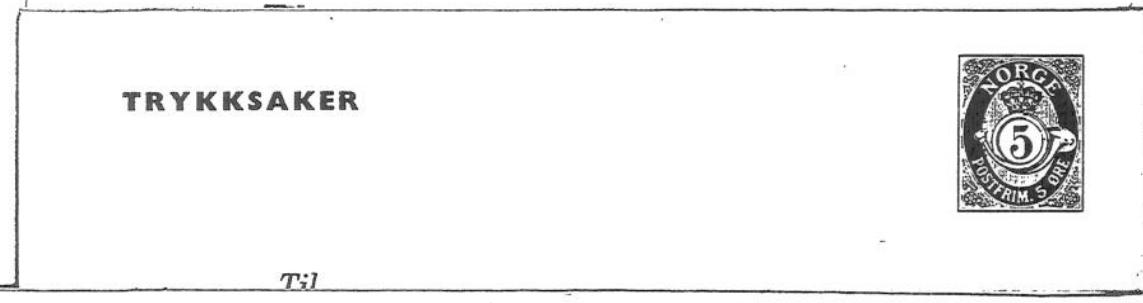
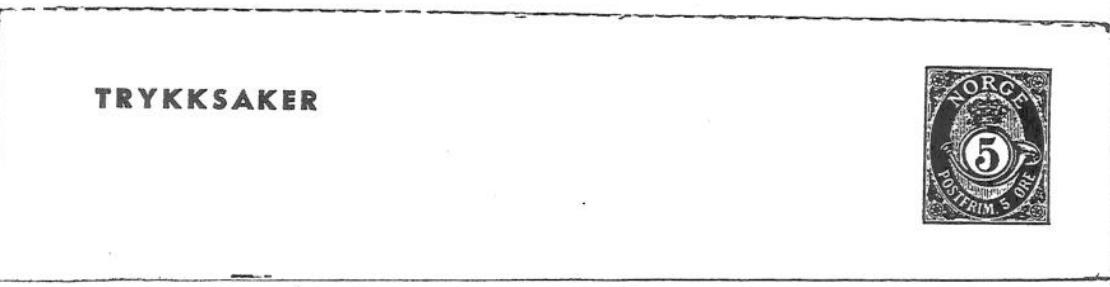
ATA 11

OSLO

Norges Vassdrags- og Elektrisitetsvesen

Hydrografiske avdeling

OSLO



Til

**OSLO TRYGDEKASSE**

Tordenskjoldsgt. 12

OSLO

Official Postcards printed to special order

Postcards printed to special order for Government agencies.

The Directorate for Employment and Unemployment-Insurance

1937? Official stamp. Printed on front: "Direktoratet for Arbeidsformidling
og Arbeidsløshetsstrygd, Oslo."
OP-1 7 ore orange

List of Military Official Cards

These postage free Army postal cards were printed in black for mobilization purposes and in blue for general use. Coat of Arms at top right. "Militaert Tjenestebrevkort" across top center. Instructions arranged vertically at left and right or left only. No value expressed. These cards have more directions on them than any other postcard I have seen, and after reading them all, it is nice to think of the simple yet just as effective phrase we use on such material today: "Penalty for private use-\$300." The inscriptions translate as follows:

Vertically on left side of doublecards (message card only):

"This postcard must only be used for military official business. Besides officers and civilian military officials, they may also be used by the Army's permanently paid non-commissioned officers and veterinarians, who are granted the right to certify the franking privilege for the contents in accordance with the Royal Resolution of March 28, 1883. The certification occurs by the sender personally writing his name and position."

That official who, with intent to defraud, issues a franking privilege certification for messages which deal with matters other than what are granted free postage by Law, will be punished in accordance with the Criminal Law, Chapter 24 Par. 27, consult Par. 32. according to the circumstances with loss of office, dismissal, prison or fines. If he has not engaged with intent to defraud, he will pay a fine from 2 to 20 Kroner."

Vertically on right side of doublecards (message card only):

"When sending official postcards with attached reply card, the sender himself shall write his name and address on the reply card. The reply card can then be severed by the addressee and returned separately."

Vertically on left side of doublecards (reply card only) and on single cards the same text but "postcard" instead of "reply card" in first line of text.

"This Reply card can be sent without the adding of a franking privilege certification, when the addressee's name and position have been added by the addressee himself. It will not be considered for postage due by the sending or receiving postoffice, unless one perceives it to deal with matters other than military official business. Should the addressee, after receiving it, find, that it deals with something else, he must return it to the nearest postoffice, which will then charge it with 20 ore postage due and return it to the place of origin, where the mentioned sum will be collected from the sender. If the addressee disregards the returning of a reply card which deals with matters other than postage-free business, he risks being held to account."

Horizontally across top on the single mobilization cards:

"Military Official Postcard
(Mobilization card)

The Addressee must be an officer or an NCO with permanent pay."

Horizontally on reverse of the single Mobilization cards:

"From roll no.

belonging to platoon of company district
of battalion (corps).

Residence from / 18 :

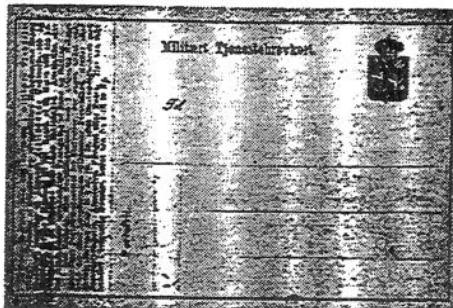
Post office and address:

Other information: Sent the 18

Note: To be sent by the soldiers right after October moving day and to accompany the report of the unit non-commissioned officer."

For general use

In the second line of the heading, the double cards (postcards with paid reply) have the additional text "med Svar." on the message card, and "Svar fra..." on the reply.



1883/84. Old Coat of Arms with almost square shield. No year date imprint.
MC-1 Blue on buff

MC-2 blue on buff. Double card.

1885. New type lettering, but same arrangement. Year date in lower left corner.

MC-3 Blue on buff

1885. Year date in lower left corner on message card only.

MC-4 Blue on buff. Double card.

1887. Year date in lower corner.

MC-5 Blue on buff

1889. Year date in lower left corner on reply only.

MC-6 Blue on buff. Double card

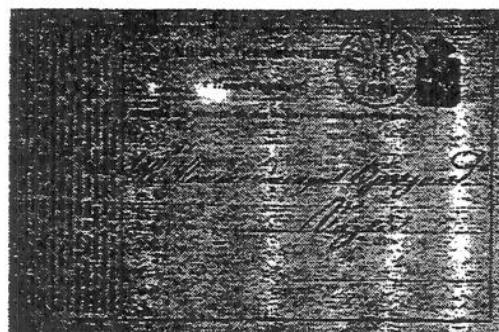
For mobilization purposes (Mønstringskort)

1883/84. Old Coat of Arms with almost square shield. No year date imprint.

MM-1 Black on buff

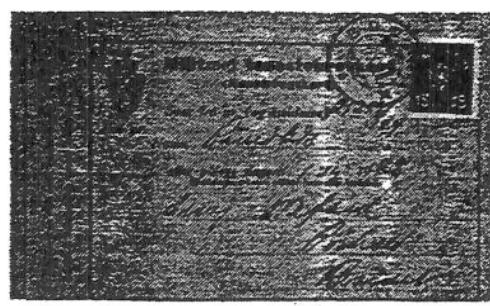
1887. Year date in lower left corner.

MM-2 Black on buff



1888. Year date in lower left corner.

MM-3 black on buff



1924. New pointed spade-shaped shield at top right.
MM-4 Black on buff

MM-4 seems to be the last of the postage-free military official cards. The next mobilization card which I have seen is from December, 1928—a formular card with space for affixing an official postage stamp. Text in country dialect.

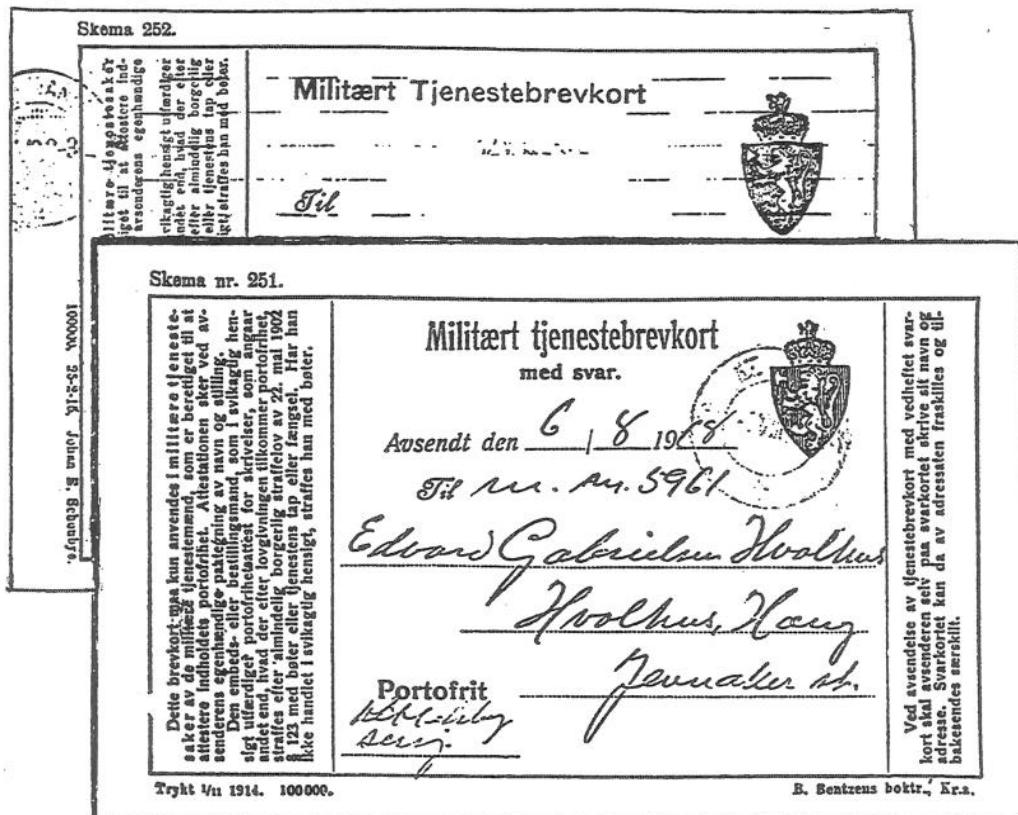
Norwegian Military Postal Stationery

By Frederick A. Brofos (H-11)

"There is something about a soldier," goes an old song, "something about a soldier which is fine, fine, fine!" Also in the philatelic field anything connected with the Army has always been considered particularly fine, whether it be a cover opened by military censor, a fieldpostmark, or specially issued military stamps or postal stationery. Without attempting to make a psychological analysis, suffice it to say that this extra interest in things military is probably due to the old glamour, glory and excitement which surrounds the armed forces of all countries.

The collector interested in Norway finds eventually that the Norwegian Army, although small, has also left its mark on philately. Prominent are the fieldpostmarks. These have been dealt with in several articles in past issues of "The Posthorn" (Jan., Apr., 1956), which I later expanded into a comprehensive chapter on the subject for the Norwegian Handbook, volume III ("Norske Filatelistika").

Let us now take a look at Norwegian military postal stationery which, surprisingly enough, dates back to 1883. The earliest items are postage-free postcards printed in blue for general use by the army and in black for mobilization orders. These cards carry more instructions for their use and warnings against their misuse than one cares to read off-hand. Just one short, but effective, sentence has been used on similar material in America, namely, "Penalty for private use—\$300".



The illustration shows several of the later cards, from 1914/15. A list of most of the varieties may be found on pages 102-104 in volume 24 of the Billig Philatelic Handbooks. (I hope to make a revised list for "The Posthorn" at a later date.)

The postage-free military cards were apparently superseded by similar

cards, upon which an official postage stamp had to be affixed. Such a card has been noted, used in December 1928. It is a mobilization card, printed in black, with the text in country dialect. In the years following, other cards were probably also issued, but have gone unrecorded.

A new type of mobilization card was introduced sometime after World War II. It was a true postal stationery item, with imprinted 15 øre official postage stamp. The exact date of issue is uncertain, but a Post Office circular of October 1, 1952 mentions that the Defense Department has had a supply of these 15 øre "Krigstjenestekort" (War Service Cards) overprinted to 20 øre. My guess is that, rather than a surcharge, an additional 5 øre "O. S." official stamp (Scott type O5) was imprinted to the left of the old stamp. I imagine that another card was produced in 1955 for the postage increase to 25 øre and that this in turn was revalued with an additional 10 øre official stamp to meet the postage increase to 35 øre in 1962. Regular cards with a single 35 øre "OFF. SAK" stamp (Scott type O6) were issued in 1963. There are three main types of these mobilization cards Pink card (Mob. form 3-1)—exempted from reporting; blue card (Mob. form 3-2)—not to report for 1 or 3 months; green card (Mob. form 3-3)—not to report until further orders. The cards I have seen are listed as follows:

 KRIGSTJENESTEKORT (KTK)	Mobblankett 3-3 (5-12. 1966)
NB! Ta omhyggelig vare på kortet. Det gjelder til nytt kommer. Blir det gitt ordre om mobilisering etter 1/19..... skal De ikke maste før etter nærmere ordre. Etter mobiliseringen skal De fortsatt sørge for at Forsvaret kjenner Deres adresse.	
 SVARKORT	
Nr: Yr: Nav: Adr:	Til  40 40 OFF. SAK
(Avdelingen stempler og fyller ut)	
VEND!	

Date imprint 25.6.1963. State language. Colored rouletted dividing line printed across back of card.

C1. 35 øre green on green

Date imprint 28.12.1963. Rural language. Colored rouletted dividing line printed across front of card.

C2. 35 øre green on green

Date imprint 5.12.1966. State language. Colored rouletted dividing line printed across back of card.

C3. 40 øre violet on green

Date imprint 5.12.1966. Rural language. Colored rouletted dividing line printed across back of card.

C4. 40 øre violet on green

- No date imprint. (Noted May 1965). State language. Colored rouletted dividing line printed across front of card.
- C5. 40 øre violet on light blue
- No date imprint. (Noted May 1968). State language. Colored rouletted dividing line printed across back of card.
- C6. 40 øre violet on (darker) blue
- No date imprint. (Noted May 1965). State language. Colored rouletted dividing line printed across front of card.
- C7. 40 øre violet on pink
- No date imprint. (Noted May 1968). State language. Colored rouletted dividing line printed across back of card.
- C8. 40 øre violet on pink

These cards are actually double cards, but there is a stamp only on the reply card. When sent out at mobilization time, the card was enclosed in a military stamped envelope (described later on as E1 to E14). The first part of the card was retained by the recipient like a draft card, while the franked reply card was torn off, filled in and immediately returned to the military authorities. The cards carry the threat that, if these instructions were not fulfilled, the culprit would be punishable by the Military Penal Code, paragraph 46. In other words it wasn't healthy to hang on to that stamped reply card, even if you were a philatelist.

The difference between the two languages can be seen in the following examples from the card text. State language (Riksmål): Fra, tjeneste, stempel. Rural language (Landsmål): Frå, teneste, stemplar. However, it is not always that words are so similar, and learning both languages is no simple task.

Unfortunately, these interesting stamp-imprinted cards were apparently superseded by postage free cards similar to the postage free military envelopes introduced in 1968.



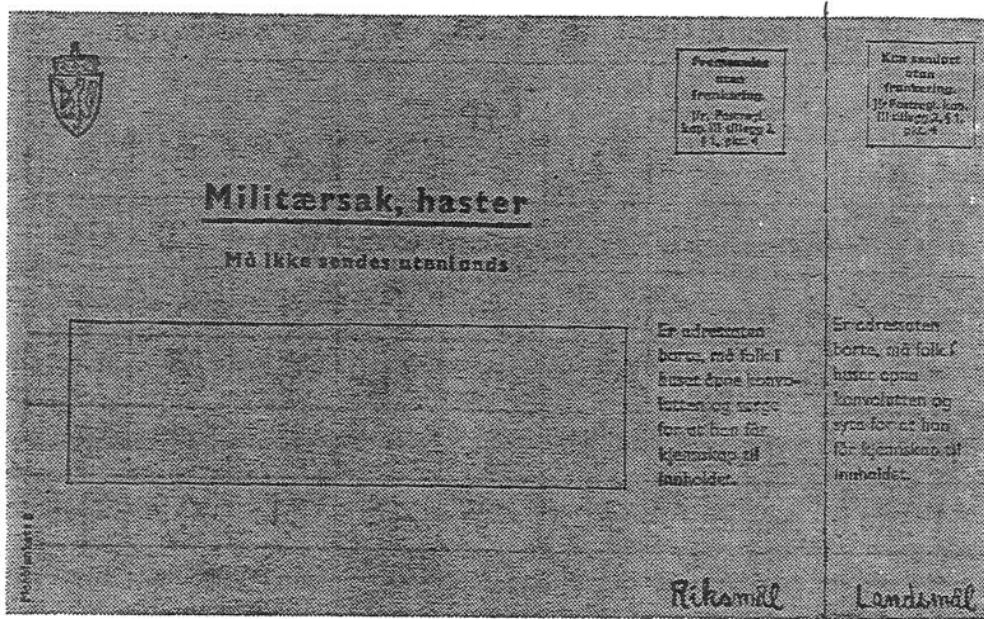
Military envelopes, to which adhesive official stamps had to be affixed for postage, were in use in Norway in the 30's. These (form 5 II) envelopes may be found with the old or the new coat of arms, as well as with or without an address-window. Another type was headed "Military matter, urgent". One printed in January 1940 (form 2) needed no stamp, while one from about 1954 (then called form F6) had a square space for an adhesive stamp.



Military envelopes with imprinted official stamp seem to have come into use in the 50's. The envelopes (all with windows) that I have seen, are listed as follows:

- 1952 (?) "Offentlig sak" stamp (Scott type O3). State language.
E1. 25 øre red on brown
- 1952 (?) Similar, but Rural language
E2. 25 øre red on brown
- 1954 (?) "O. S." stamp (Scott type O5). "Mob.-skj. F5" above stamp. State language.
E3. 30 øre red on brown
- 1954 (?) Similar, but Rural language.
E4. 30 øre red on brown
 - a. 30 øre red on cream
- 1956 (?) Similar, but "Mobskjema 5" above stamp. State language.
E5. 30 øre red on brown
- 1956 (?) Similar to E5, but with added stamp imprint in "OFF. SAK" type (Scott O6). Space between stamps varies considerably. State language.
E6. 30 øre red + 5 øre lilac on brown
- 1956 (?) Similar to E4, but with added stamp imprint (Scott O6). State language.
E7. 30 øre red + 5 øre lilac on brown
- 1956. "OFF. SAK" stamp (Scott O6) from now on. State language.
E8. 30 øre red on brown
- 1957. "Mobskjema 5" at bottom left. State language.
E9. 35 øre (darker) red on brown
- Similar, but with "Mobskjema 5" above shield at upper left, and additional imprinted stamp. State language. (Presumably also exists without the added stamp, but not seen).
E10. 35 øre red + 10 øre grey on brown

1964. Rate increase. Rural language.
 E11. 50 øre red on pink
1964. Similar. State language
 E12. 50 øre red on pink
 - a. for Østfold infanteriregiment nr. 1
 - b. for Transportregimentet Mysen
- 1965 (?) Further rate increase. State language. Smooth paper. (A reissue in 1968 is on rougher paper and has typographical differences at lower left).
 E13. 60 øre dark red on pinkish brown
- 1965 (?) Similar. Rural language. Smooth paper.
 E14. 60 øre dark red on pinkish brown.



These envelopes with imprinted official stamp were superseded in mid-1968 by envelopes which, instead of a stamp, had a printed box reading (in translation): "May be sent without postage. See Postal regulations, chapter III, supplement 2, par. 1, point 4". These latter envelopes were also printed in either of the two Norwegian languages.

As this review of the military postal stationery of Norway draws to a close, one realizes the possibility that other interesting units may exist which are not yet on the rolls. Reports of additional material will help to complete the picture of this little known but important field.

At first, I had intended to entitle this article "Apples from the Forbidden Tree" or perhaps "My Ugly Ducklings". However, for the sake of easy reference in the index, I finally decided to just call a spade a spade.

It is a curious coincidence that, in the same year of 1983, Norway discontinued and the USA reissued its official stamps and stationery. There is, nevertheless, still one set of Norwegian official cards which will continue on with future varieties. I mean the little-known Official Post Cards of the Norwegian Postoffice. They have been continuously in use since long before the regular stamped official stationery, but being rather difficult to acquire, as well as being rather spartan in appearance, they have been generally overlooked by collectors. It is quite remarkable how many variations have been produced of this simple design just by rearranging the various elements.

The postage-free cards are used for official correspondence (when a letter is unnecessary) between Norwegian post offices and the public, and probably inter-office as well. A long time ago I decided that these Government-issued cards deserved to be recorded. Herewith is the result of my efforts which are based on a collection largely made up of cards begged from startled postal clerks over the years. The cards were never for sale, of course, and doubtless were not supposed to be given away either. As I was usually the first person ever to have requested one, the P. O. clerks usually were kind enough to give me an example. However, sometimes there were embarrassing delays while they went away checking with supervisors. The dilemma was occasionally solved by claiming no such cards were on hand. Once, I remember a clerk postmarking the card and adding a large ink cross over the front, I suppose she thought to avoid any possible misuse.

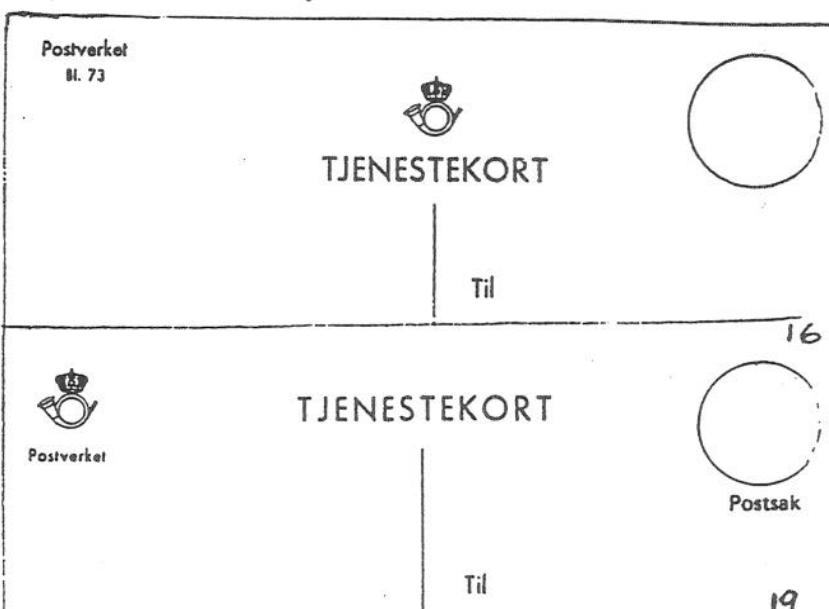
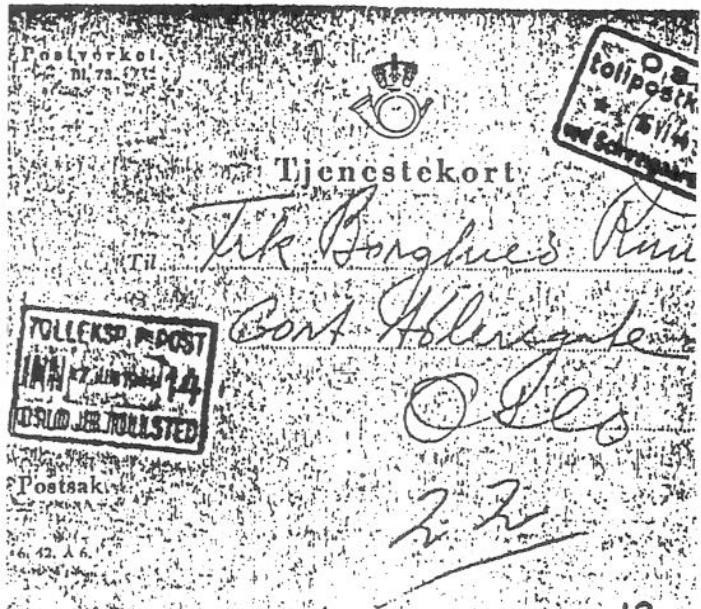
A small list of the various card varieties known to me in 1952 was published in the Billig Philatelic Handbook Series, Vol. 16, but needs the following updating.

All cards are "Form. no. 73", and black on buff, unless otherwise noted. There is a print date at the top left of cards no. 1 and 2, and in the bottom left corner of the rest. "Postsgag" (Postal Matter) appears on nos. 1-5, "Postsak" thereafter. No. 9 has "Det norske postvesen", the rest "Postverket". The following list shows the exact text of the imprint line. Interestingly enough, the approximate printing quantity is shown on some issues and it runs close to a half million on the last issue seen. From card no. 11 on, a crowned posthorn has been added. No. 15 is on cream colored stock, while no. 17 and thereafter are on white stock. However, only no. 17 bears the watermark "POST", like the regular stamped postal cards of the period. I would not be surprised if other varieties exist, if I were to wait to run across them, I'm afraid this list would be delayed another 25 years! Incidentally, similar P. O. cards have been used by Sweden and possibly by other Nordic countries also.

LIST OF CARDS, with exact text of the imprint line:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. July 00 | 11. 10.41. A6. |
| 2. Decbr. 00 | 12. 6.42. A6. |
| 3. Aug. 02. | 13. 11.48. A6. |
| 4. Marts 04. | 14. 1-49. A6. |
| 5. Marts 1905. | 15. 9-53. A6. 320 000. |
| 6. Mai 1909. 6a. Mai 1914. | 16. 3-55. A6. 240 000. |
| 7. Oktbr. 1918. | 17. 5-58. 400 000. |
| 8. Sept. 1920 | 18. 480 000. 11-68 Sem |
| 9. Juli 1929 | 19. Bl. 73. 496 000 8-79. Sem |
| 10. 2. 40. A6. | |

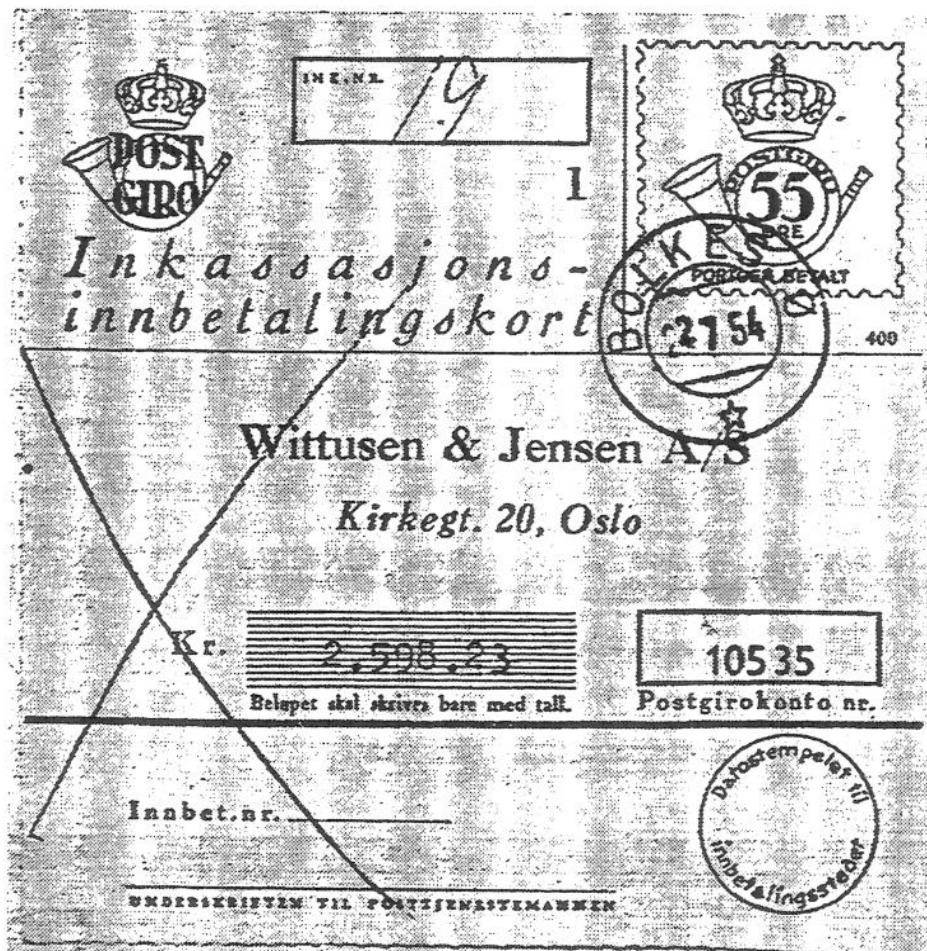
LUREN's readers are encouraged to submit descriptions and/or photocopies of other varieties of these cards, for the purpose of augmenting Mr. Brofos' list.



Some Little-Known Norwegian Postal Stationery

By Frederick A. Brofos

There is an interesting group among the postal stationery of Norway which has been largely overlooked, possibly because it is unfamiliar to most collectors. I am thinking of certain cards which were known in Norway to the limited circle that used them, as "Postgiro innkassasjons-innbetalingskort." Rather an awkward long name, but meaning simply: Postgiro collection-remittance cards. They were formerly used by the Postgiro Office, a branch of the Norwegian Postal System that specializes in money matters. As one of its many public benefits, it offered a bill collection service to its account holders. For this purpose a special card (form no. 561 b) was issued by the postal authorities and made use of by certain large firms for a period of around 15 years. An imprinted stamp thereon is, of course, what makes it attractive to postal stationery collectors. Several different denominations were used successively between about 1950 and 1965. Since then, the cards have been superceded by a different arrangement without the use of stamp imprints. Here follows an approximate list of the various cards. There is, of course, always a possibility that other varieties may exist too.



Card type 2

Postgiro Collection-Remittance Cards

Type

- 63
1. 45 øre light blue on salmon (issued ca. 1950?)
 2. 55 øre blue on very pale pink (seen pmkd. 22/7-1954)
 3. 65 øre blue on pale pink (rate increase from 1/1-1956)
 4. 75 øre dark red on 65 øre blue on pale pink (acquired 1960)
 5. 75 øre green on 65 øre blue on pale pink (acquired 1960)
 6. 85 øre blue on pink (acquired 1961)
 7. 85 øre blue on pink. Smaller stamp. (acquired 1965)



Cards type 4, 6 and 7, from top to bottom.

The cards were printed on large sheets of pink paper containing the multiple watermark "POST," which has been noticed in both a horizontal or vertical position. Eight complete cards or forms, separated by rouletting, appear one above the other on the sheet, and were issued thus to the requisitioners. Running horizontally across the sheet, each card consists of three main parts. Part 1 can be further subdivided into two halves, the right half being the postal stationery prize. This shows a simply-designed stamp with printed simulated perforation around. A crowned posthorn is inscribed

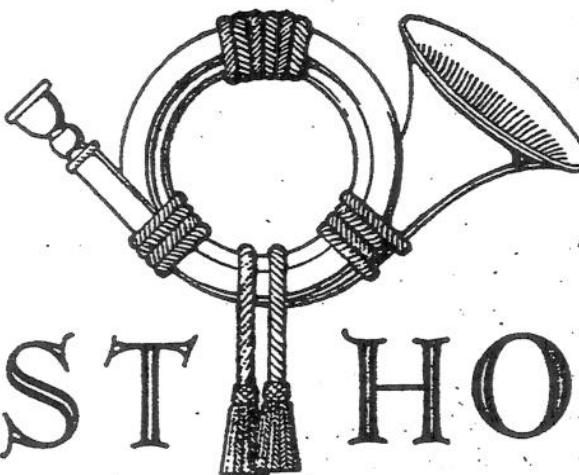
64 "POSTGIRO" and, below, "PORTOEN BETALT" (i.e. Postage Paid). The denomination is featured in the center of the posthorn. Parts 2 and 3, instead of a stamp, carry a circular space for a postmark impression. Part 3 contains the notice to the debtor, asking for payment of the bill within 14 days. Part 2 is returned to the creditor, with the reason for non-collection. When appropriate, part 2 is sent out informing creditors that the collection has been accomplished. Item #1, in the above list, I once found as a cut-square in an old P. O. kilo stamp box. Sometimes the stamps on the card were postmarked, and sometimes not. I have also seen #2, the 55 øre card, used together with an ordinary 20 øre adhesive stamp and postmarked 27/12-1957, following a rate increase.

The basic text on the cards is printed in blue. The varying text of the individual firms' name, address and account number was at first added in black, but later on in red or green. The revaluation overprint of #4 and #5 was apparently done at the same time as this second press-run, the colors matching each other.

Exactly where these unusual cards should be placed in a postal stationery catalog might at first seem a problem. The choice is between creating a special category for them either among the regular stationery issues in the Printed to Private Order group. Personally, I think the first choice is the most appropriate, since the cards were designed by the P.O., with their special text and stamp and printed on official postal watermarked paper. The private imprints were added later on. These distinctions separate the Postgiro cards from the usual Printed to Private Order stationery, which was stamped directly on commercial cards or envelopes supplied with bulk orders from private industry.

Special thanks go to my friend Paul H. Jensen, Oslo (President, Norwegian Philatelic Union) for his valuable support of my long-time interest in this matter.

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The POST HORN

Sponsored by the
SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB OF NEW YORK

Volume 11

October 1954

Number 4

The Postal Stationery of the Local Posts of Norway

by Frederick A. Brofos (497)

Towards the close of the Nineteenth Century, Local Posts sprang up like mushrooms from one end of Norway to the other, however—as with mushrooms—their life was colorful but short.

The Norwegians called these local undertakings “Bypost” (pronounced something like “Beepost,” the last half-word pronounced so as to rhyme with “cost”), meaning town or city post.

In compiling this catalog of the postal stationery issued by the various Local Posts of Norway, I have consulted publications of the “Old Guard”: Moens, Campbell & Schöller, Senf, Gibbons, Scott, Bright, and others. Particularly valuable sources of information were, however, two very fine works on Norwegian local stamps, namely: “Norges Bypostmerker” by Stian Sanness, Oslo, 1944. (Reprinted from Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift), and “The Stamps of the Private Byposts of Norway” by S. Sannett and H. R. Holmes, New Malden, 1938. (Reprinted from the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain).

Stanley Gibbons list (without illustration) in their catalog of 1899 a 3 øre and a 3+3 øre card with red-brown stamp in the design of the adhesives of Namsos Bypost (W. Bøgh). As these cards are listed nowhere else, and have not been seen by experts in Norway, it is very doubtful that there ever was such an issue, so I have not included them here.

In June, 1888, the Director of Posts, Christiania, ordered reports from all Bypost proprietors in Norway. These reports give a valuable insight into the activity of the various Local Posts, and I have included some of this interesting information in this listing.

The private local posts were to be discontinued by December 31, 1888, according to the Law of May 12, 1888, but several—which had been commended by the local authorities—were permitted to continue. The permission was given on condition that there were to be no new issues of stamps or postal stationery, but this was not followed by everyone.

Out of about 20 towns having Local Posts with stamp issues, only 6 towns produced any postal stationery. Of course, this does not give the complete

66 picture, for, as the following chart will show, the same town might have had several Local enterprises.

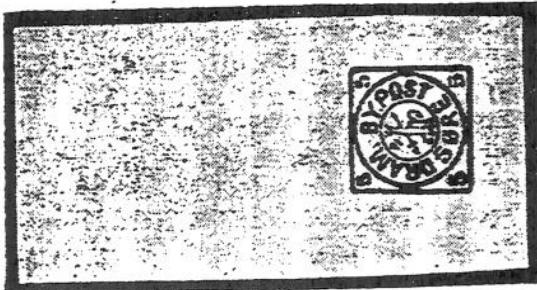
Name	Proprietor	Ran from — to —	opcs	cds	cds	Envel- Post Let.
Aalesund's Bypost, H. S. Øyen -----		Dec. 6, 1880-June 30, 1891	—	—	1	
Arendal's Bypost, G. O. Ulleberg ---		Nov. 9, 1885-1889	-----	—	1	—
Arendal's Bypost, N. Herlofsen -----		1889-April 1893	-----	—	2	—
Drammen's By & Pakkepost Joh. Eriksen		May 18-24, '69-Dec. 31, '88	7+	—	—	
Drammen's Bypost, I. B. Hagen -----		June 15, '87-Dec. 31, '88	—	3	—	
Drammen's Bypost, M. Børresen -----		June 15, '88-Dec. 31, '88	2+	2	—	
Holmestrand's Bypost, M. Børresen -		June 1, '88-Dec. 31, '88	1+	2	—	
Kristiansund's Bypost, M. Andresen & Co.	Sept. 1, 1878-Dec., 1879	—	—	4	—	
Throndhjem's Bypost, Braekstad & Co.	1870-1913	—	—	2	—	
		Totals:	10+	16	1	

Local Envelopes

DRAMMEN: I. B. Hagen's Bypost

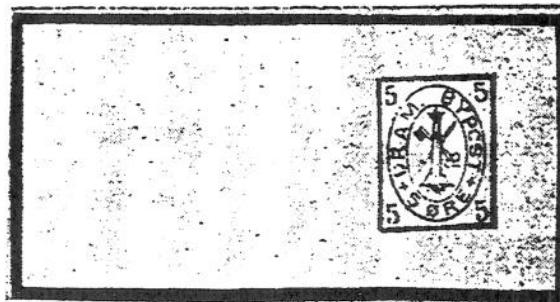
The Drammen Bypost was originally founded by G. O. Ulleberg on May 4, 1869. He sold it some time between May 18th and 24th, 1869, to I. B. Hagen, who had run a delivery service in Drammen since 1867. Hagen writes, in a letter of June 14, 1888, to the Director of Posts, Christiania, that there were 4 letter-boxes which were cleared once daily, the contents being delivered the same day. He mentions that the average daily mail had dwindled to 10-15 letters since the introduction of the telephone. Furthermore, the omnibuses also carried letters and many of the larger business houses had their own messengers.

The handstamps used for making the 5 øre Drammen local adhesives of 1877 and 1886 were impressed on envelopes of various sizes and regularly sold by Mr. Hagen the proprietor, but in addition, he sold envelopes stamped to order and frequently used the handstamps of various denominations to stamp articles and letters handed in at the office instead of affixing an adhesive stamp. Many varieties are therefore possible. Among the remainders found after Hagen's death were a number of 5 øre and some 10 øre envelopes and also one or two envelopes of each of the other values of the 1884-86 issue stamps (1, 2, 3 and 4 øre). Drammens Bypost was run by I. B. Hagen from May 1869 to Dec. 31, 1888.



1877. Handstamped. Arms of the City of Drammen (crossed key and sword behind a pillar) within a double circle contained in a square shaped stamp.

- LE-1a 5 øre blue on grey paper
- b 5 øre blue on yellowish paper

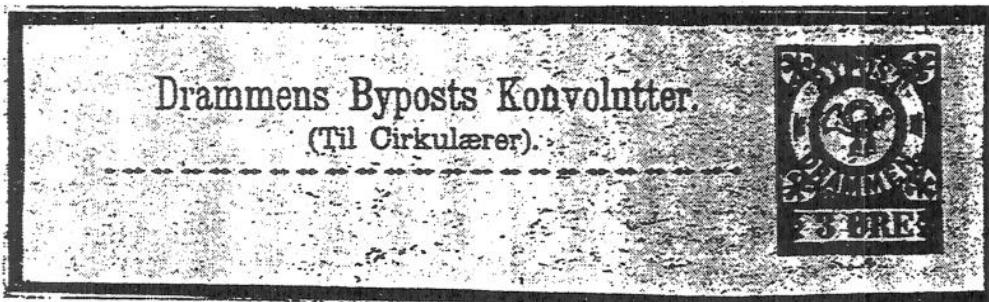


1886. Handstamped. Drammen Arms within a double oval in an oblong-shaped stamp.

- LE-2a 5 øre blue on white wove paper
 - b 5 øre blue on yellowish wove paper
 - c 5 øre blue on dark grey wove paper
 - d 5 øre blue on dark yellow diagonally laid paper
- LE-3 10 øre blue on yellowish wove paper

DRAMMEN: M. Børresen's Bypost

M. Børresen's Bypost in Drammen opened on June 15, 1888 and closed on December 31st of the same year. It was a contemporary of Hagen's Bypost. Børresen was a stamp dealer and issued a number of price-lists, which were listed in the catalog of the Earl of Crawford's Library. Børresen also ran a Bypost in Holmestrand. Envelopes, post cards and adhesive stamps were issued both places.

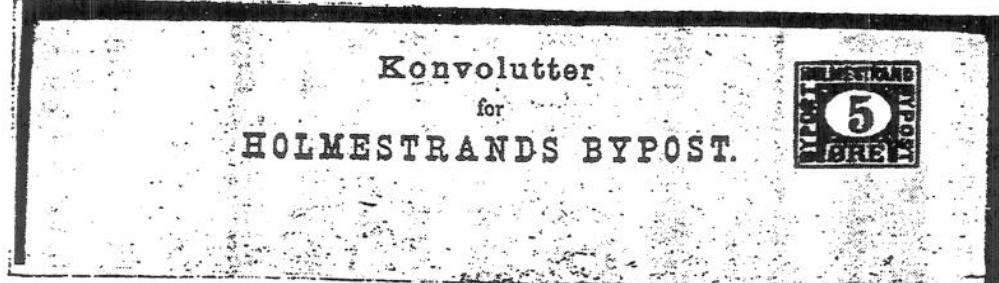


1888. Stamp shows a posthorn within an inscribed double circle. The same design as the July issue of adhesives.

- LE-4a 3 øre blue on white (July 1, 1888) For circulars
 - b 3 øre blue on yellow, for circulars
 - c 3 øre blue on grey, for circulars
 - d 3 øre blue on green, for circulars
- LE-5a 5 øre red on white (June 15, 1888)
- b 5 øre red on yellow
 - c 5 øre red on grey
 - d 5 øre red on green

HOLMESTRAND: M. Børresen's Bypost

The Børresen Local Post in Holmestrand operated from June 1, 1888, until the end of the year. This was another Bypost which relied for its profits on the sale of its stamps, some of which, in an effort to make them irresistible to collectors, were printed even in gold color.



Mid-June, 1888. Stamp (numeral in oval within double-lined rectangle) like the second issue of adhesives. Printed by H. Sogn, Christiania, on 5 types of paper.

- LE-6a 5 øre red on white
- b 5 øre red on brown
- c 5 øre red on yellow
- d 5 øre red on grey (?)
- e 5 øre red on green (?)

Local Lettercards

AALESUND: H. S. Øyen's Bypost

Hans Sev. Øyen, the Government postmaster of Aalesund, was the proprietor of this Bypost, which started on December 6, 1880 and closed on June 30, 1891. The collection and delivery of letters, etc., was the main business of this Local Post, and the selling of stamps to collectors was only a minor feature. Øyen stated in his report of June 18, 1888 to the Director of Posts, that 15 mail boxes were cleared thrice daily, and that between 10,000 and 15,000 letters and packages were delivered yearly. No envelopes or postcards were issued by this Bypost.



September 15, 1884. Lithographed. Stamp is in the design of the adhesive issue of Dec. 15, 1884, with Øyen's monogram "H. S. Ø." in an oval above a fish (probably a herring). Coastal landscape in the background.

- LL-1 5 øre dark blue on blue

To be continued

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The Postal Stationery of the Local Posts of Norway

by Frederick A. Brofos (497)

PART II

Local Post Cards

ARENDAL: G. O. Ulleberg's Bypost

This Local Post opened on November 9, 1885. According to Ulleberg's report of June 13, 1888 to the Director of Posts, two messengers cleared seven letter-boxes in the town and nine in the suburbs, and about 14,000 letters and 10,000 journals were distributed annually. In 1889, Ulleberg left Arendal and sold the Bypost to N. Herlofsen. It is interesting to note that Ulleberg published in 1886 (while running the Bypost), and edited for several years, Norway's first stamp journal—"Nordisk Frimaerkkeblad." This name was changed to "Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift" in 1894, and it is still one of the leading philatelic publications in Scandinavia today.



December 15, 1887. Type-set design with stamp in upper right and left corners. Printed by Nils Schanke (Arendal?).

L-1 3 øre brown-red

ARENDAL: N. Herlofsen's Bypost

Nicolay Herlofsen had run Local Posts in Grimstad and Mandal in the past few years. He was mostly interested in selling stamps to collectors. Poor management made the postal business negligible, and on May 6, 1893,

the Arendal Chamber of Commerce petitioned the Government to distribute local mail, as the Bypost had closed down. The dates for the Herlofsen Bypost are therefore: Opened sometime in 1889—closed around end of April, 1893.



March 1, 1890. Type-set numeral design in upper right corner. The cards have the inscription "Oprettet 9 Novbr. 1885" at bottom, referring to date when Ulleberg founded the original Bypost. "Med betalt Svar" and "Svar" are added to the text on the double cards.

- L-2 3 øre dark brown on buff
- L-3 3+3 øre dark brown on buff

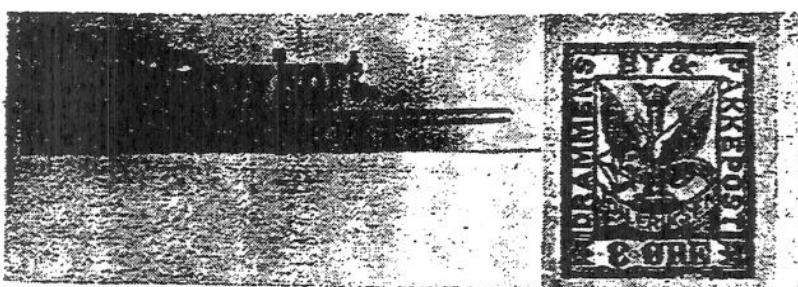
DRAMMEN: Joh. Eriksen's Bypost

"Drammens By & Pakkepost," a contemporary of the Hagen and Børresen Local Posts of Drammen, was run by Joh. Eriksen from June 15, 1887, until December 31, 1888. There were 3 mail-boxes and 2 deliveries daily.



June 15, 1887. Stamp in upper right corner: Double-lined rectangle containing a large "3" above "Øre". "T"-shaped ornament frame around the card.

- L-4 3 øre black on rose
- L-5 3+3 øre black on rose



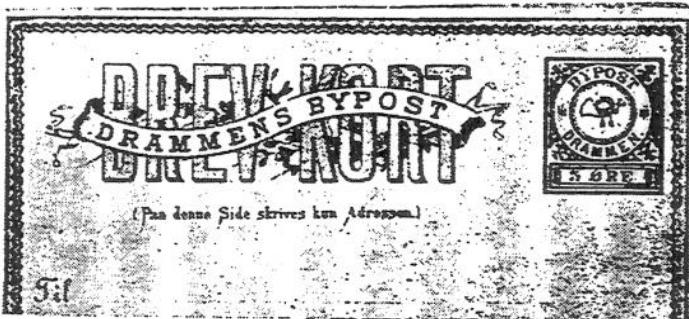
October 1, 1887. Double-lined rectangular stamp of type like the adhesives of Oct. 1, 1887. Dove with letter superimposed on Arms of Drammen. The "3 Øre" at bottom has the figure of value inverted.

- L-6 3 øre greyish blue on rose

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DRAMMEN: M. Børresen's Bypost

Børresen's Local Post in Drammen opened on June 15, 1888, and closed down December 31, 1888. Envelopes were also issued.



June 15, 1888. Rectangular stamp of design like the adhesive issue of July 1, 1888. Double-circle, with inscription: "BYPOST-DRAMMEN", above a value tablet. Posthorn in the center and Arms of Drammen in the corners.

- L-7 5 øre pale carmine on cream
- L-8 5+5 øre pale carmine on cream
 - a With "med betalt Svar" on Message card, and "Svar" on Reply card
 - b With "med betalt Svar" on Message card, but no "Svar" on Reply card

When folded out the cards of variety a are opposite each other, i.e., the top card is upside down in relation to the bottom card, whereas on variety b the cards both face the same way.

HOLMESTRAND: M. Børresen's Bypost

This Børresen venture opened up on June 1, 1888 and was discontinued by December 31, 1888. During June, 1888, only about 50 letters had been posted in the 3 letter-boxes. The Tarald boys of Nordre Kleiv ran the show. Stamped envelopes were also issued.



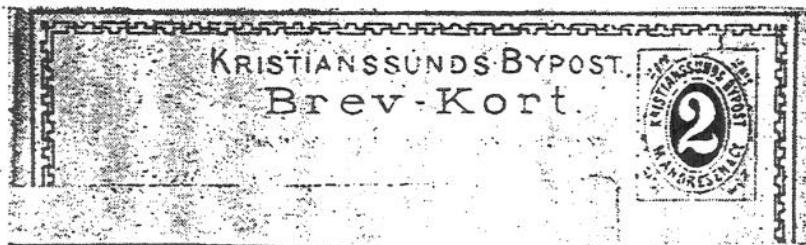
Mid-June, 1888. Stamp (numeral in oval within double-lined rectangle) like the second issue of adhesives (thicker letters in ØRE). The double-card has the added inscription "Med betalt Svar" and "Svar".

- L-9a 3 øre ultramarine on white
 - b 3 øre grey-blue on white
- L-10a 3+3 øre ultramarine on white
 - b 3+3 øre grey-blue on white

The ornaments of the frame around these cards are identical with those used in the handstamped 5 øre adhesive issue of June 15, 1888, of Børresen's Local Post in Drammen. This leads me to believe that the Drammen stamp was also produced by H. Sogn of Christiania.

KRISTIANSUND: M. Andresen & Co.'s Bypost

The town of Kristiansund is built on four islands in a fine harbor and boats were the only means of communication in the early days. A Local Post was started on September 1, 1878 by Mads Andresen, the proprietor of an agency business, and L. M. Johansen. The letter-boxes were cleared 3 times daily. The Bypost was, however, not given the proper support and existed for only just over a year. It closed down probably during December, 1879.



January 1, 1879. Lithographed numeral design of the same type and colors (but different denominations) as the adhesives of January 1, 1879.

L-11 2 øre ultramarine

L-12 4 øre lilac



December, 1879. Portrait of "King" Andresen.

L-13 2 (TO) øre vermillion

L-14 4 (FIRE) øre prussian blue

THRONDHJEM: Braekstad & Co.'s Bypost

John Braekstad, bookseller and stationer of Throndhjem, purchased in 1870 the Local Post started by G. F. Krogh on Nov. 17, 1865. In his report of June 22, 1888, to the Director of Posts, Braekstad says that there were 22 letter-boxes which were cleared twice daily. One messenger and two assistants were employed, and about 30,000 letters and bills, etc., were handled during a year. This Bypost had a record run, it lasted until Braekstad died in 1913.



1878. Lithographed. The Gothic "e" in Throndhjem is closed. In the stamp the central figure (Christ) has no halo. The heavy lines under the arches get thinner as they reach the bottom of the pillars. The flower on the wall

has a round center, and the scales held by the man on the left are tilted. The laid paper shows many thin vertical lines and two or three thick lines running horizontally.

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L-15 3 øre dark blue on cream horizontally laid paper



March, 1882. Lithographed. Slightly larger design. The Gothic "e" in Throndhjem is open. In the stamp the central figure (Christ) has a halo of rays. There is no shading between the side figures and the lower half of the pillars. The flower on the wall now has a cross in the center, and the scales held by the man on the left are level. The laid paper shows many thin horizontal lines and about 5 thick lines running vertically.

L-16 3 øre pale blue on cream vertically laid paper

Said to exist are also 3 øre cards in blue, dark blue, and dark green, on ordinary paper. Probably proofs.

The Postal Stationery of the Local Posts of Norway

Part III by Frederick A. Brofos (497)

Some additional information on the postal stationery of the Norwegian Local Posts has come to my attention since I discussed the subject in the October, 1954 and January, 1955 issues of The Posthorn. The main addition is four previously unlisted postcards of Arendal. In order to make room for them, I have had to renumber the section for that town. These additions bring out totals for Norwegian local postal stationery to: 20 postcards, 1 lettercard, and 10 stamped envelopes, not including the varieties of course. The previous list should be revised as follows:

Envelopes of I. B. Hagen, Drammen

Handstamped issue of 1877. Square stamp.

LE-1 5 øre, prussian blue

- a. faded-white paper, bottom flap under side flaps, stamp in normal position at top right corner.
- b. same as "a", but stamp in lower left corner.
- c. faded-white paper, bottom flaps over side flaps, stamp in top right corner, but lying on side (top of pillar points to right).

Handstamped issue of 1886. Oblong stamp.

LE-2 5 øre, prussian blue

- a. faded-white paper, bottom flap over side flaps.
- b. yellowish paper, bottom flap under side flaps.
- c. faded-white paper, bottom flap under side flaps, stamp in lower left corner.
- d. grey wove paper, bottom flap under side flaps.
- e. dark yellow laid paper, bottom flap under side flaps.
- f. bright yellow laid paper, small size envelope, bottom flap over side flaps, stamp at top right.

LE-3 10 øre, prussian blue (usually faint imprint) faded-white paper, lower flap under side flaps.

Envelopes of M. Børresen, Drammen

Issue of 1888: The 3 øre blue on "yellow" paper is more "yellowish-white" in color. It has a curved top flap on the reverse, while the 3 øre blue on white has a pointed flap like the other envelopes. (This may also apply to the 5 øre envelopes. The 5 øre red on white has a pointed flap, the 5 øre red on yellow-white I have not seen yet.)

Envelopes of M. Børresen, Holmestrand

Issue of Mid-June, 1888:

LE-6 5 øre red

- a. thin faded-white wove paper
- b. coarse brown (wrapping?) paper with fibers
- c. grey paper

The existence of the two other paper varieties formerly listed is doubtful.

Postcards of G. O. Ulleberg, Arendal

Issue of December 15, 1887. Printed by Nils Schanke.

LP-1 3 øre reddish brown

Issued between 1887 and 1889. Same design as previous. Break in card-frame to right of stamp on right.

LP-2 3 øre red

Postcards of N. Herlofsen, Arendal

Issue of March 1, 1890. No dot over "i" of "Til". "(Paa denne Side" etc. with round parentheses.

LP-3 3 øre reddish brown

LP-4 3+3 øre reddish brown

Issue of -?, 1890(?) Dot over "i" of "Til". "[Paa denne Side" etc. with corner-shaped parentheses (brackets).

LP-5 3 øre dark brown

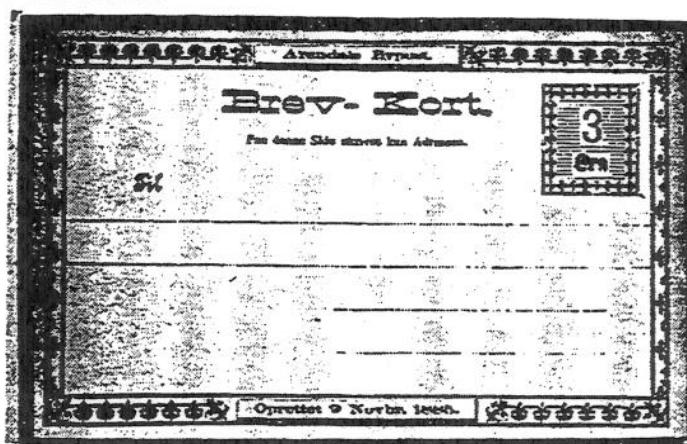
LP-6 3+3 øre dark brown

Issued between 1890 and 1893. Somewhat similar appearance to previous issue, but new side ornaments, no parentheses around "Paa denne Side" etc. Two-lined frame around stamp, which now has two lines between "3" and "Øre". Various other small changes also.

LP-7 3 øre violet

a. thick buff cardboard

b. thin white cardboard.



Postcards of J. Eriksen, Drammen

Issue of June 15, 1887: The corner ornament in the lower left corner is put in wrong. This appears on all cards, both single and double.

Issue of October 1, 1887: The inverted figure "3" appears on all cards. The stamp itself leans slightly to the left, but may sometimes be found leaning towards the right.

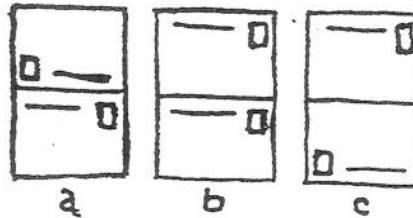
Postcards of M. Børresen, Drammen

Issue of June 15, 1888: A third variety of the double card has shown up, in which the bottom of the message card adjoins the bottom of the reply card.

L-8 5+5 øre pale carmine on cream

c. With "med betalt Svar" on Message card, and "Svar" on Reply Card.

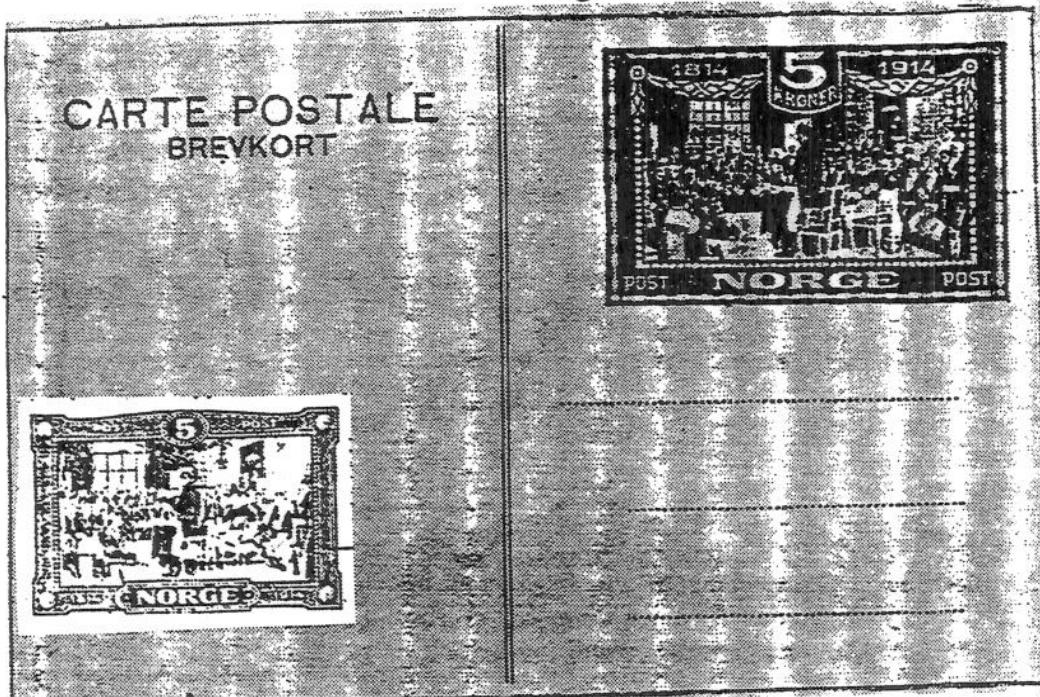
The 3 varieties are shown in the diagram. The inner squares represent the stamp.



Postcards of M. Børresen, Holmestrand

Issue of Mid-June, 1888. Printed by H. Sogn of Christiania. The 3+3 øre doublecard (L-10) may not exist in the grey-blue color which occurs on the single cards. All doublecards I have seen so far are ultramarine.

The Unissued Norwegian Jubilee Postcard



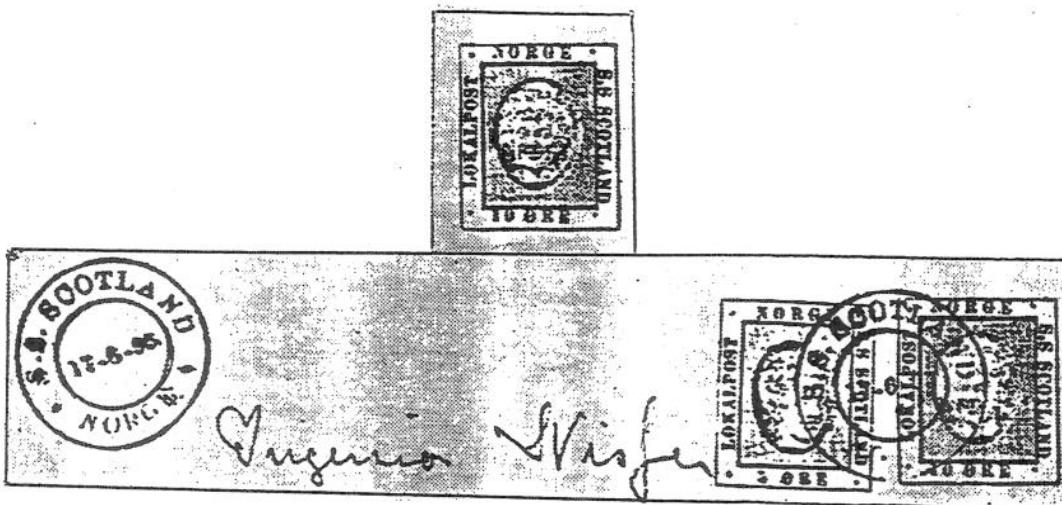
Postage costs have been steadily rising also in Norway. At one time one could send a postcard there for 5 øre, while a printed matter card went for as little as 3 øre. That was a long time ago, around WW I, but as late as 1950 a postcard only cost 15 øre to send. Now an ordinary Inland card costs about Kr.1.75. It hasn't reached as much as 5 kroner yet. However, there does exist a rather gorgeous-looking card with that high denomination already. This is an un-adopted essay. Printed in dark blue, the jumbo-size stamp shows the Constitutional Assembly at Eidsvoll in 1814 (from the painting by Oscar Wergeland in the Storting). This suggested design for a Jubilee card for the Centenary of the adoption of the Norwegian Constitution on May 17, 1814, was produced under the auspices of the Kristiania Philatelic Club in 1914. The larger-size text in French indicates a postcard for foreign use. The large denomination, however, is somewhat of a mystery. Maybe the idea was to raise some extra funds for an exhibition. Perhaps it was only to emphasize the unofficial character of the card. Anyway, the Post Office issued instead the well-known set of three nicely engraved stamps costing a total of only 45 øre.

The design of the postal issue is very similar to the card essay, although the framework is different. On the stamps, the denomination has been left at the top, while the Centennial dates are next to the country name at bottom. The word "POST" now appears in duplicate at the top. Even the essay's inner frame of pearls has been extended all around the stamp design. It is not known exactly who designed the attractive essay card, but it certainly influenced whoever designed the stamps. The stamp design was possibly the work of Professor Ferdinand Schirnböck of Vienna, Austria, who did the die engraving on copper. The printing of the stamps was done at the Bank of Norway in Oslo. Schirnböck's fame as an engraver was established by the many elaborate Austrian and Bosnian issues between 1906 and 1912 for which he was responsible. His workmanship was pleasing in appearance, with a close attention to detail and always carefully executed. For Norway he also engraved the Ibsen and Abel issues. In 1930, he engraved the 30 øre value of the Olav the Holy set, re-using the border of the Centenary set of 1914.

The S/S Scotland Local Post Of Norway

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By Frederick A. Brofos



The Phantom Fjord Post of the S/S Scotland, 1895:

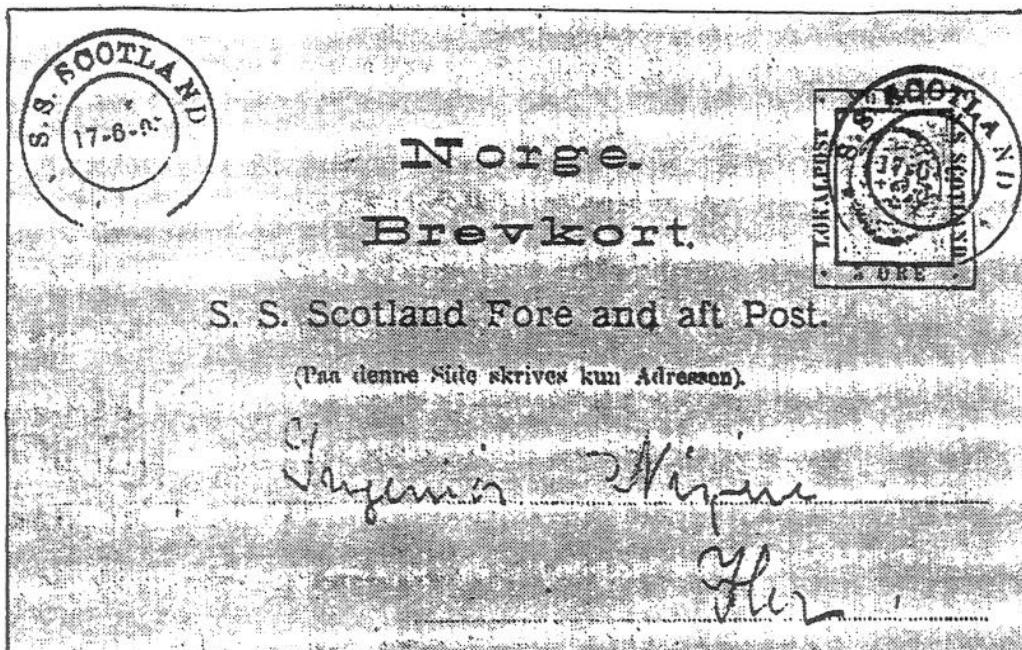
An article in "The American Philatelist" (Nov., 1983, pg. 991) entitled "Solved: A Second UFO of Postal Stationery (Unidentified Freak or Oddity)," prompts me to supply some facts about the card that puzzled Charles A. Fricke, the distinguished stationery researcher. He had gone to some expense to acquire an unusual-looking Norwegian local post card at a stamp bourse. Stumped by finding no information in his many handbooks, he finally wrote to a dealer in Norway. The disappointing reply came that his gem was only a "gimmick" or joke card "from about 1920 (?)" from a stamp club dinner!

It would be a pity to dismiss it quite so hastily, however. Although admittedly a phantasy creation, the card really dates from 1895 and has an unusual background. It is interesting to note that it was issued and used under the very nose of (and possibly also by) the Postmaster General of Norway, a distinction which few local stamps can boast of.

The story starts at the 2nd Nordic Philatelic Meeting, held in Kristiania (Oslo) between June 15 to 17, 1895, and hosted by the Kristiania Filatelist Klub. A contemporary account records that a total of 90 people registered, of whom 56 were from Kristiania and 34 from elsewhere. After a successful convention, a steamboat excursion was arranged as the final event. On Monday, June 17, at 7 p.m., the large and elegant steamer "Scotland" lay ready at the wharf, to show the participants the labyrinths of the Kristianiafjord. There were no ladies aboard on this trip, so unlimited stamp talk could be indulged in without interruption. A splendid supper was enjoyed on the fore deck, followed by punch and water. Prominent among the toasting speeches, was one for an honored guest, Postmaster General Heyerdahl. This gentleman rose and replied, saying that the hours he had spent as a guest of the meeting had further confirmed the high opinion he had previously held about philatelists, and he wished them continued good luck in their endeavors. Later on, a member of the Storting, Simonsen, spoke and expressed his hope that the unity and cooperation that prevailed at the present meeting would continue and expand to include the Nordic peoples as a whole.

A philatelic post office was crowded and did a lively business selling

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The card's message reads: Sing well Jeppe!

stamps and postcards and envelopes. These were busily cancelled and delivered by the mail carrier. Several humorous songs were sung, including one by Mr. Larsen, reflecting on the meeting and its preparations, which caused general merriment. On the trip back, fireworks were launched from the vessel. They were answered from shore from the villa of the artist Petersen, a club member. A great time was had by all, and the party arrived back in the city at 1 o'clock in the morning.

The philatelic creations consisted of, firstly, the perforated adhesive stamps in the denomination of 5 øre. These were printed in carmine, with black inscriptions and a light green center showing a woman's head facing right. This probably represented "Dronning Filatelia" (if not Cinderella herself!). There was also a special postcard entitled "S.S. Scotland Fore and Aft Post" costing 5 øre. The stamp is in the same colors, but the head is in full face. This is also the case on the 10 øre stamped envelope with a fancy blue posthorn printed on the flap. Mr. Fricke's example of the above-mentioned postcard bears a 10 øre inverted overprint. Whether this was an "authorized" provisional is uncertain. A double-circle postmark was applied in dark violet, inscribed: S.S. Scotland * Norge * and the date 17-6-95 in the center. And that is the colorful tale of the 19th Century floating "Local Post," that merrily operated on the fjord, for one night only.



Similar "Toast Card", used at Parkcafe, Dec. 12, 1903 for 17th anniversary of Kristiania Philatelic Club.

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.

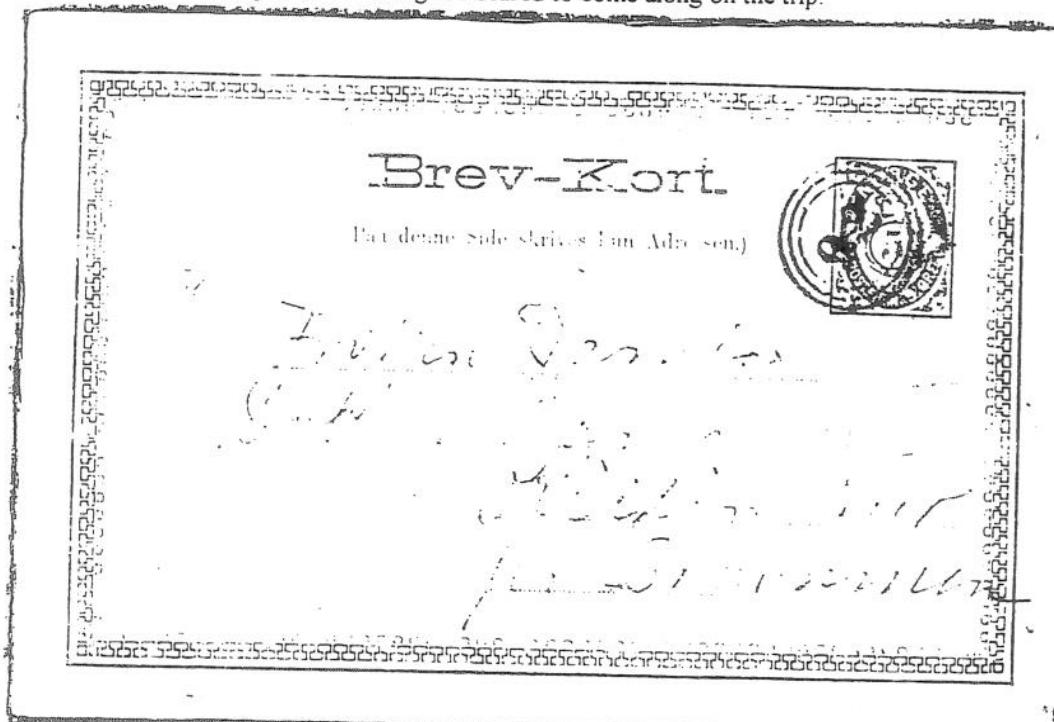
Later on, postmarks were eventually introduced, showing the place name together with a Crown and Posthorn or a date in the center. The old numeral postmarks with 3 or 4 rings were then withdrawn.

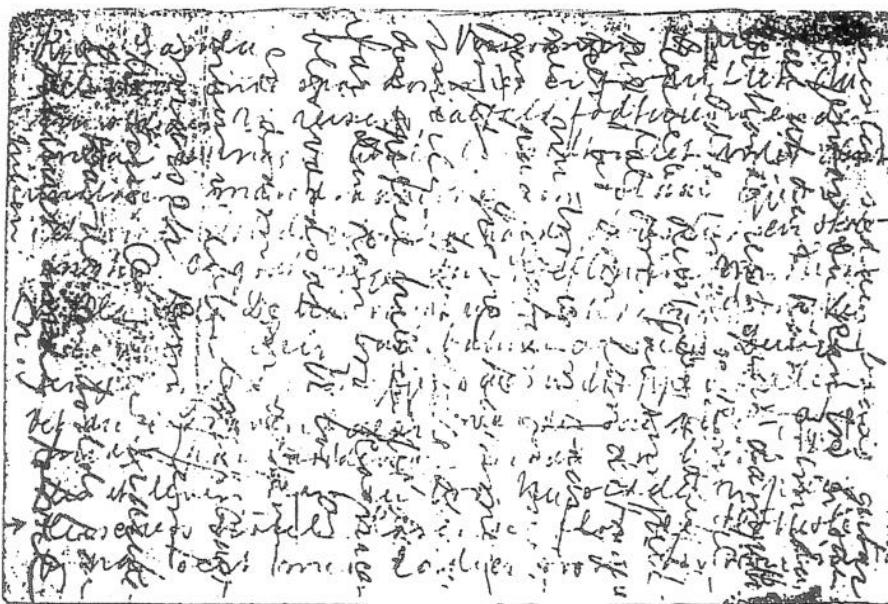
With the aid of several excellent postmark handbooks, published by the Oslo Filatelist Klub, I have extracted a list of the numeral postmarks formerly used at Norwegian country hotels and hostels. This handy list is arranged numerically by postmark number rather than alphabetically and covers the period 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	ENGERTDAL	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.





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.

INTERNATIONAL REPLY CARDS

bv FREDERICK A. BROFOS (H-11) SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB



A rare forerunner. Norwegian inland reply card used from London, England, June 18, 1883.

The Universal Postal Union Conference held at Lisbon, Portugal, in March 1885, laid down the rules and adopted the regulations providing for the exchange of reply postal cards among U.P.U. member countries. Previously, reply cards for inland use had proven successful in many countries and the general idea was to extend their use into the international mails.

The international postal card with paid reply consisted of two cards joined together — one for the original message, the other for the reply. Each half was to be franked by adhesive or imprinted stamps of the nation of origin and at the U.P.U. postal card rate. The originating country was to retain the full postage value of both halves. The return of such cards was obligatory. However, the issuance of reply cards was not made obligatory until the U.P.U. Convention held at Berne, Switzerland, in 1891.

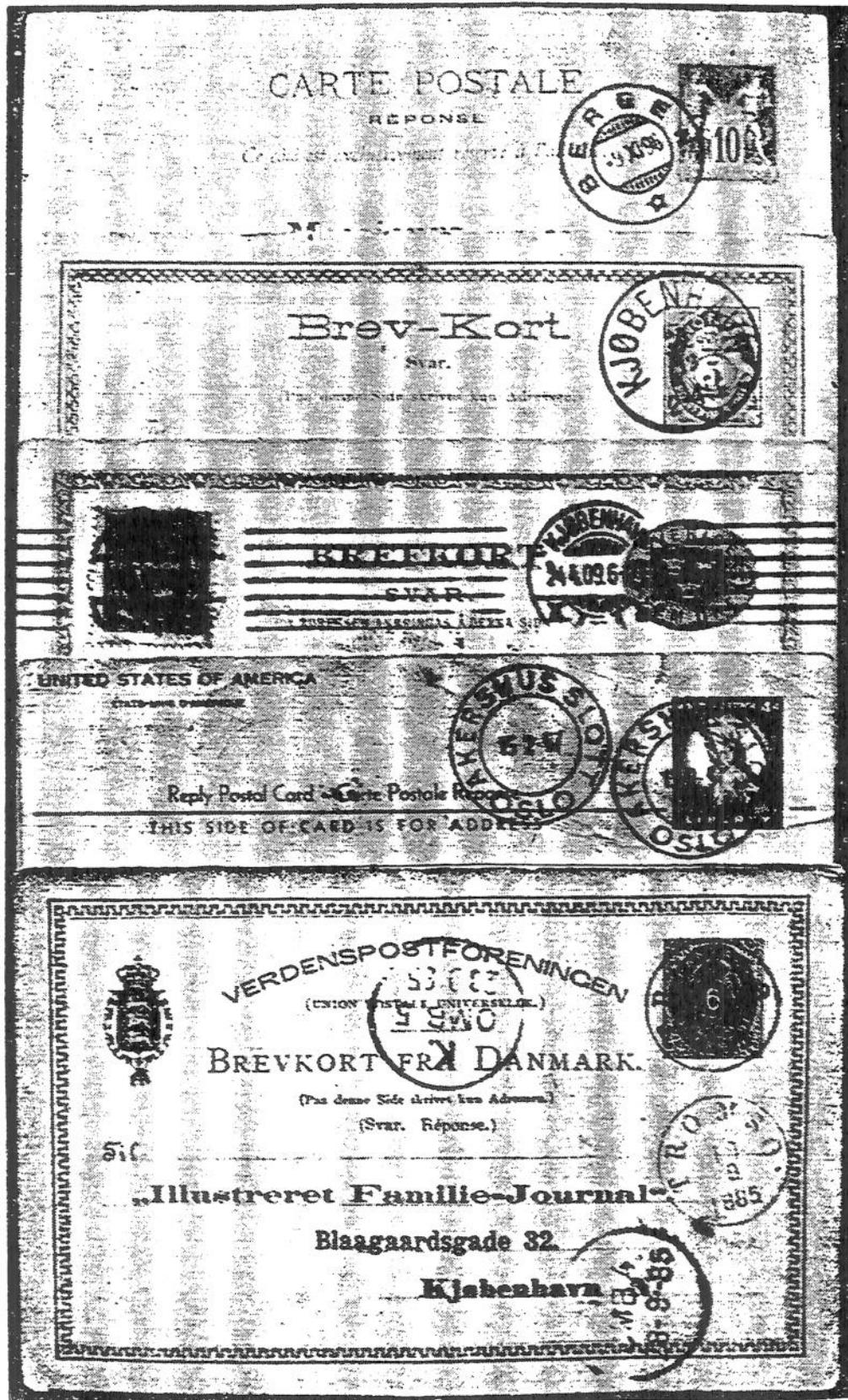
Although the various member nations gradually issued international reply cards, the idea never became popular with the general public and the cards saw little use. This was partly due to poor publicity by the post office. Most people simply didn't know the cards existed.

Fortunately, wide-awake philatelists have from time to time seen the possibilities contained in the little-known regulations of the Universal Postal Union. In fact, some things can be done legally in the international mails which are prohibited in our domestic mails. For instance, foreign stamps are not valid for postage on mail sent internally within the United States or on mail sent from here to a foreign country. There is one exception, however, and that is when the foreign stamps are used on these international paid reply cards.

U.P.U. reply cards have, of course, been a great boon for the postmark enthusiast. Not only do they furnish a means of securing legitimate U.S. postmarks on foreign stamps, but they also permit legitimate foreign postmarks to be applied to stamps of the United States.

U.P.U. regulations required that reply cards could only be returned to the country of their origin. For example, one couldn't send the reply half of

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French card used from Bergen, Norway, 1896. Norwegian card used from Copenhagen, 1887. Swedish card used from Copenhagen, 1909. U. S. card used from Oslo, 1957. Danish card used from Tromsø, Norway, 1885.

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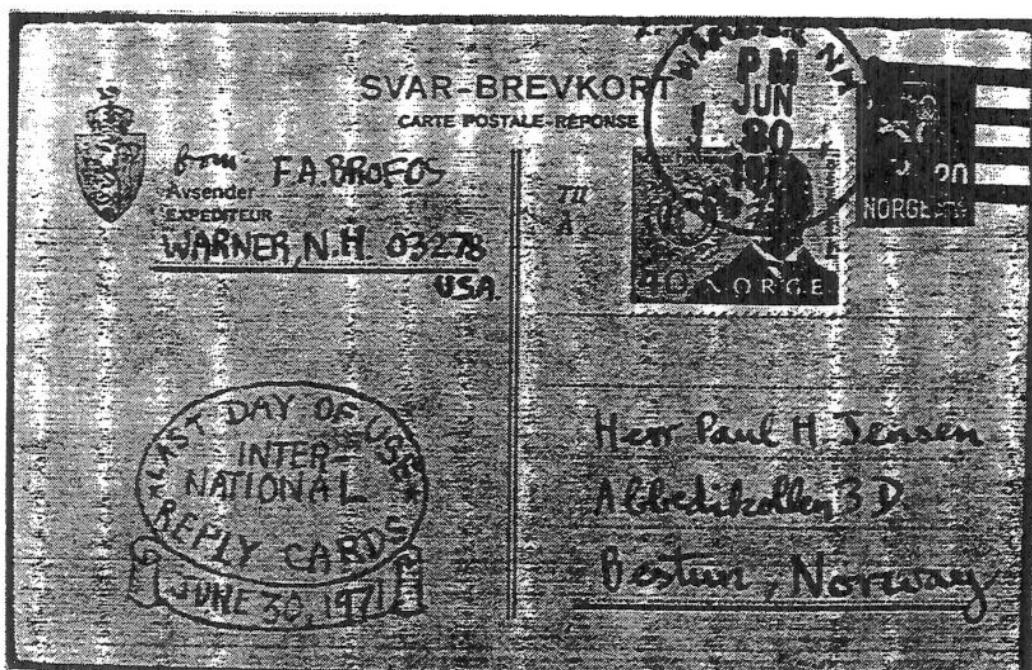
a French card to any country other than France. Furthermore, all cards had to have the wording in French in addition to the native language. On the message card: "Carte Postale avec Reponse Payee" (Postal card with paid reply). On the reply card: "Carte Postale Reponse" (Reply postal card).

Inspite of all rules being complied with, many cards were returned to their senders marked "Postage due". This was owing to the fact that many postmasters did not know the extent of the U.P.U. regulations and didn't bother to look them up for the sake of an occasional card.

International reply cards have been used even less in the United States than in Europe and most small U.S. post offices didn't stock them at all.

The first 2 cent plus 2 cent reply card was issued by the U.S. on March 1, 1893. The original printing of less than two million cards lasted for more than thirty years! The 2 cent U.P.U. postcard rate continued until October 1925, when it was raised to 3 cents. It was further raised to 4 cents in 1953, to 5 cents in 1958, to 7 cents in 1961, to 8 cents in 1967 and to 10 cents in 1971.

Quite a bizarre-looking collection could be formed of these cards showing stamps of one country legitimately cancelled in another country. They all make interesting collector's items and many of those used before the turn of the century have a considerable value.



Norwegian card used in U. S. on Last Day of Use.

Unfortunately for the postmark collector no more of these cards can be produced, as they have now been discontinued all over the world. At the Universal Postal Congress of the U.P.U., held at Tokyo in November 1969, it was decided, among other things, to delete from Article 16 of the Convention the category "Postcard with paid reply", due to lack of usage. The last day of use of international reply cards was June 30, 1971, as the new regulations became effective on July 1st. of that year.

NORWAY

by Frederick A. Brofos

A List of the "Crown & Posthorn" Postmarks used by Norwegian Ship Postal Agencies.

This is a list of Norwegian Traveling Postal Agencies that have operated during the past few years along the coasts and on fjords, lakes and canals of Norway. Some operate all the year round, others only in the summer-time. The postmarks bear the name of the ship as in the list, but with the prefix for steamship or motorboat (D/S, M/B). Those listed with an asterisk, are motorships, the rest are steamships of various sizes. There are a few postmarks which give the place or route name (Sogn I & II, Turistrute II Hardanger, Solundruta, Svalbardruten) rather than the name of the ships themselves, however these are exceptions to the general rule. The postmarks are similar to those used at very small country postoffices or "letter-houses". Instead of the date in the center, they have an attractive crowned posthorn—the emblem of the Norwegian postal system. The next postoffice with a date-stamp generally applies it to the front of the envelope, but the stamps are cancelled by the ship postmark. I have noticed two general types of the crown & posthorn design, type I predominating. The "Crown & Posthorn" postmarks were first brought into use around 1937, superceding the old 3- and 4-ring cancellations. Like them, they are not common, and are well worth saving, particularly on cover.

NAME	STARTED	POSTAL DISTRICT	ROUTE
"AUSTLI"*	1944?	Bergen	Local route in Sunnhordland
"BJERKVIK"*	6-13-1939	Svolvaer	Indre Vesterålen
"BORØYSUND"*		Svolvaer	Vagan-Breivik
"DÝRTEIGEN"		Bergen	Bergen-Askøy (eastside)
"DOLEN"	1949?	Nordfjordeid	Hornindalsvatnet (a lake)
"DONNA"*	1938	Sandnessjoen	Sandnessjøen, Donna.
"EIRA"	1944?	Bergen	Traena
"EXSPRESS"*	11-13-1937	Stavanger	Kolltveit route
"EKSPRESS II"	10-1-1938	Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"ERFJORD"*	9-5-1936	Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"FARØY"**		Farsund	Fjords around Farsund
"FISTERFJORD"*		Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"FJORDBUEN"		Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"FLOIEN"		Bergen	Fjell route
"FORRA"	10-1-1938	Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"FYKAN"*		Narvik	Rombak-Herpangen and Skjomnes
"FAEMUND II"		Røros	Femund
"GANGER ROLF"		Kristiansund N.	Møre District route
"GREI"	?	Alesund	Alesund-Volda
"HAUKELID"		Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"HJELMELID"		Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"HJELTEFJORD"	1949?	Bergen	Hjeltefjord route
"HAVGOLLA"*	1944?	Svolvaer	In Vesterålen and Gimsoy
"HEMNE"	1938?	Trondheim	Fosen routes
"HVALER"*	1949?	Frederikstad	The routes to Hvaler
"HYLSFJORD"*	1949?	Stavanger	Vanvik i Ryfylke - Sand
"HØGSFJORD I"		Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"HOLEFJORD"	10-1-1938	Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"INNHERRED"		Trondheim	Trondheim-Innherad
"JØSENFJORD"*	10-1-1938	Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"KINSARVIK"*	1944?	Bergen	Hardanger fruit & cargo route
"KIRKEØ"**	1934?	Fredrikstad	The routes to Hvaler
"KONG OSCAR"		Trondheim	Trondheim-Innheradsfjord
"KRABBEN"		Sarpsborg	Sarpsborg-Nes
"KVARVEN"		Bergen	Fjell route
"KVERNES"		Kristiansund N.	Møre District route
"KVITSØY"*	10-1-1938	Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"LAVANGEN"		Tromsø	Skervøy-Nordreisa-Kvaenangen-Lyngen
"LYNGEN"*	1949?	Tromsø	Svalbard (Spitzbergen) route
"MØREJARL"		Ålesund	Trondheim-Bergen
"NORDMØRE"		Kristiansund N.	Møre District route
"OLAVA"	5-11-1936	Halden	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"OMBØFJORD"*	10-1-1938	Stavanger	Lødingen-Ofoten-Narvik
"OSA"*	9-5-1936	Bodø	
"RAMTIND"*	5-11-1936	Brønnøysund	
"ROPEIDFERJEN"*	?	Stavanger	Sand-Ropeid (ferry)

"SAND"	10-1-1938	Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"SANDEID"	10-1-1938	Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"SAUDAFJORD"	10-1-1938	Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"SIGURD I"	11-30-1942	Trondheim	Fosen routes
"SKJERSTAFJORD"*	11-25-1944	Bodø	Bodø-Vågan-Skjerstad
"SKJAERHALDEN"**	1936	Fredrikstad	The routes to Hvaler
"SKOGØY"	?	Narvik	Rombak-Herjangen and Skjomnes
SOGN I * ("KVAMSØY")		Laerdal	Sognefjord
SOGN II * ("VAGSØY")		Laerdal	Sognefjord
"SOGN III"	5-2-1944	Laerdal	Vik i Sogn-Høyanger
SOGN LASTERUTE	9-23-1939	Bergen	Bergen-Sogn-Bergen (cargo route)
"STENKJAER"		Trondheim	Trondheim-Innherad
"SULDAL"		Stavanger	On Suldalsvatn (a lake)
"SULDALSPORTEN"**	9-23-1930	Stavanger	On Suldalsvatn -/-
"SULØY II"**	1938?	Alesund	Ikornasvåg-Ålesund
SVALBARDRUTEN T.F.D.S.	9-5-1936	Tromsø	Svalbard (Spitzbergen) route
"SVINESUND"		Halden	Halden-Sponvika-Hvaler
"SYKKYLVSJORD"**		Alesund	Møre District Route
"TOPDAL"		Bergen	Askøy-route, Fjell route
"TRYGGE" (M/F)	11-7-1946	Kristiansund N.	Kristiansund N. - Gjemnes
"TURISTEN"		Halden	Halden canal
TURISTRUTE II HARDANGER	9-23-1939	Bergen	Ulvik-Norheimsund-Ulvik Tourist route
"TYSNES"**	?	Bergen	Local route in Sunnhordland
"TOTTA"**	5-11-1936	Bodø	Mosjøen-Bodø-Narvik
"VARANGER"	1949?	Vadsø	On the Varangerfjord
"VESTERO"	1936?	Fredrikstad	The routes to Hvaler
"ØYA"**	9-16-1940	Lillesand	Lillesand-Kristiansand S.
"ØYBUEN"		Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"ÅRDALSFJORD"**	10-1-1938	Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke

Addenda — Further ship-postmarks introduced 1954/56.

"AKERØ"**		Fredrikstad	Routes to Hvaler
"ARGUS"** (Sogn III)		Laerdal	Vik i Sogn-Arnafjord-Høyanger
"ATLØY"**		Bergen	Bergen-Solund-Aafjord
"BELÄRN"**		Bodø	Local rtes. of Salten SS Co.
"BOKN"**		Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"GEIRANGER"**		Aalesund	Aalesund-Geiranger
"HAUGESUND"**		Stavanger	Stavanger-Haugesund
"HJELMELANDSFJORD"**		Stavanger	Stavanger-Jøsenfjord
"HULLØY"**		Bodø	Local rtes. of Salten SS Co.
"HOLE"		Stavanger	Stavanger-Lysefjord
"KVERNES"		Kristiansund N.	Møre District routes
"LANDANES"**		Haugesund	Bergen-Haugesund
"LYSEFJORD"**		Stavanger	Stavanger-Høgsfjord
"NESØY"**		Bergen	Bergen-Solund-Aafjord
"RODØY"**		Bodø	Local rtes. of Salten SS Co.
"RORSTAD"**		Bodø	Local rtes. of Salten SS Co.
"SAUDA"** (type II)		Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
SKJERVØY LOKALRUTER		Tromsø	Skjervøy routes
"STAVENES"**		Bergen	Bergen-Solund-Aafjord
"STOLMEN"**		Haugesund	Bergen-Haugesund
"STRAND"**		Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"TONJER"**		Haugesund	Bergen-Haugesund
"VAERØY"**		Bergen	Bergen-Solund-Aafjord
YTRE NORDFJORD		Maaløy	Nordfjord routes

Ship Postal Agencies Now Discontinued

NAME	STARTED	POSTAL DISTRICT	ROUTE
"ASKØY"		Bergen	Bergen-Askøy (east side)
"FRAM"	12-2-1943	Flekkefjord	On Sireldalsvatn (a lake)
"HAMMERØ"	7-26-1935	Svolvaer	Routes from Svolvaer
"HAUS"	6-18-1941	Bergen	Bergen-Oster
"HJELMELAND"	10-1-1938	Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"LYNGDAL"	?	Farsund	Farsund-Kristiansand S.
"LYSEFJORD I"	10-1-1938	Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
MIDTRE NORDFJORD	11-13-1937	Bergen	Local routes at Nordfjordeid
"NORDFJORD"		Alesund	Alesund-Maloy
"OSEN"**	9-5-1936	Stavanger	On Suldalsvatn (a lake)
"SKJOLD"		Lillesand	Lillesand-Kristiansand S.
SOLUNDRUTA	11-25-1944	Bergen	Bergen-Solund
"TOPDAL K.R.S."		Kristiansand S.	Kristiansand S.- Topdalsfjorden
"TRIP II"		Fredrikstad	Fredrikstad-Sandesund
"TRIP V"		Fredrikstad	Fredrikstad-Sandesund
"TRIP VI"		Fredrikstad	Fredrikstad-Sandesund
"VINDAFJORD" (M/S)		Stavanger	Stavanger-Ryfylke
"ØRNEN" (M/K)		Stavanger	On Suldalsvatn (a lake)

