

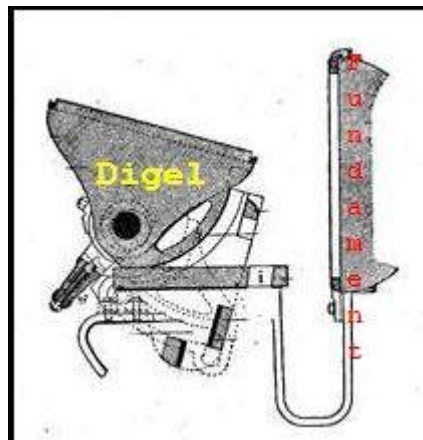


ISLANDS *Kontakt*

ISLANDSKLUBBEN I DANMARK

Nummer 92 september 2013

WWW.DANFIL.DK/KLUBBER/ISLAND.HTM



Hvad er dette? Side 26
What is that? Page 26



En unik 16 blok Se side 21
A unique block of 16 Page 21

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Oversigt over indhold

	Side
The Story of the Alping Celebration Stamps 1930 by Þór Þorsteins, edited by Brian Flack.Part II	3
Fra redaktørens postkasse	9
Fish issues	13
Usædvanlig FDC 30 år efter.	19
Medlem til medlem Member to member	20
Hvide solstråler	20
Undersøgelse: Største enheder i de ovale aur udgaver <i>Orla Nielsen</i>	21
Cancelled Monday morning ??	23
NORDIA 2013, Gardabær, Island 7.-9. Juni 2013. <i>Ebbe Eldrup</i>	24
I GILDI 1902 <i>Leif Fuglsig</i>	26
Endnu en mislykket tilbagedatering	28



Her er Nordia sølvmedaljen fra 2012, som blev tildelt "Islands *Kontakt*". Dette blev gjort muligt ved hjælp af de mange medlemmer, som har leveret stof til bladet. Tak til alle!

The Nordia silver award from 2012 granted "Islands *Kontakt*". This was made possible through all the members who had made contributions to the magazine. Thanks to all!

The Story of the Alþing Celebration Stamps 1930 by Þór Þorsteins, edited Brian Flack.

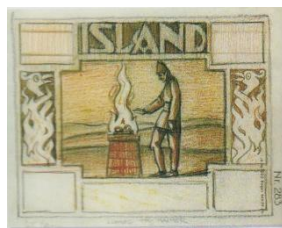
Part II

As stated earlier, Mr. Hesshaimer was asked in 1928 to make trial drawings for the issues and five of his suggestions were accepted for printing. The Icelandic drawings were also sent to him and he was asked to co-ordinate them and draw frames for them all. Some of his drawings still exist, as well as many drawings for the stamp frames.

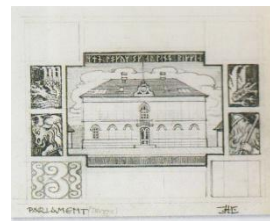
Art work and method of printing



Colour trial for the 40 aurar stamp



Stylized drawing of Tryggvi Magnússon
made by L. Hesshaimer for 10kr. stamp



Original drawing from Finnur & Ríkharður
Jónsson used on 3 aurar stamp

In the beginning, the plan was to produce the stamps by intaglio printing, but because of the cost it was abandoned.

Then it was decided to consider offset printing, but at that time no stamps with many colours had been printed using that process. After several printing trials, Mr. Hesshaimer believed it was possible to use the offset printing process. For each stamp value he made two printing plates, one for the line drawing and one for the colour fill. All the values were printed in this way with two plates except the 40 aurar stamp. There three printing plates had to be used to make the three colours. Also there is doubt as to how many plates were used for the 5 aurar. (*This statement can be challenged as there would be two printing plates, one plate for the blue colour and one for the green.*) In the special Alþing 930-1930 book, all the varieties of printing can be seen, and Mr. Hesshaimer and the technical staff of the printers together solved extremely difficult tasks which took nearly four months to complete the total printing.

Unlawful stock

After the swindle was revealed, Mr. Witzig and Mr. Miedl prevented delivery of stock additional to that which had already been sent to Iceland or delivered to Mr. Luitlen from the printers. Additionally, stock in the hands of transporters, at the apartments of Mr. Luitlen and Miss Moores were confiscated. Further, unsold stamps held by the bank were returned to the printers for safekeeping.

The bank cancelled the contract with the Society and their dealings with the Icelandic government. Later Dr. Reiter issued a declaration on behalf of the Society dated February 6, 1930 whereby the Society confirmed the rights of the bank John Witzig & Co. under the agreement of 1929.

Printed quantity

According to invoices issued for printed stamps, the total printing was 18,706,768 stamps. But if the quantity held by Elbemühl was included (17,242,452), and added to that the stamps at the bank (82,560), together with the stamps delivered to Iceland (2,631,680), then there is a difference of 1,249,924 stamps. This difference can be explained since Mr. Luitlen had received a considerable quantity of printing faults, although they seem to have been counted in the stock of Elbemühl. No control is known over the quantity of paper used for the printing. Mr. Luitlen had always removed all printing faults and maintained he was to receive all such, and added that Mr. Kjaran had confirmed he was to have them.

The firm John Witzig & Co. sent a report of the case to Árni Siemsen, Mr. Kjaran's brother-in-law in Lübeck. He also cabled details of the swindle to Mr. Kjaran, and requested that he go to Vienna immediately. Only a short time remained before the celebration, and if the stamp issue were to be destroyed, already a good quantity of the stamps had been sold. The minister contacted the Danish Legation in Vienna and asked for a discreet investigation, so that officially there would be no shadow cast on the stamp issue, as that could affect the sale of the stamps, and the greatest part of the printed stamps were still under seal at the printers. Additionally the stamps had sold well on the market and everything looked to be safe.

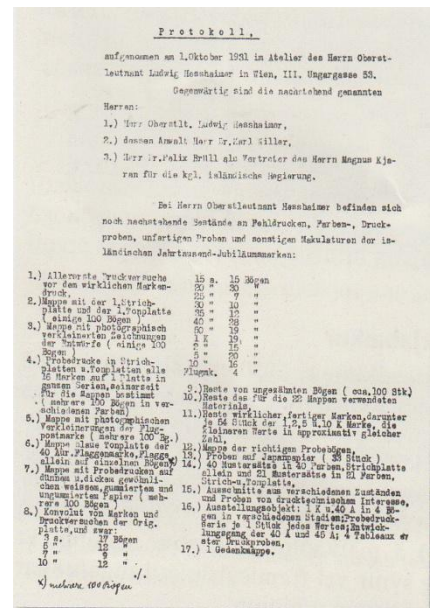
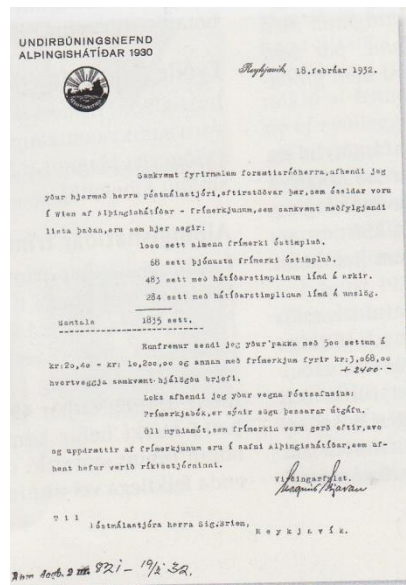
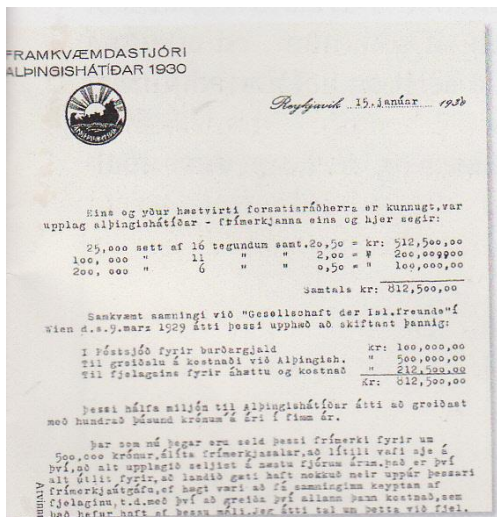
In August 1930 Mr. Kjaran was granted 6 weeks leave by the Celebration Committee for a foreign trip, and he went to Vienna with Árni to reach a conclusion on the matter. There he found imperforated stamps and different varieties offered for sale. He contacted the Danish Legation and obtained the assistance of their lawyers Dr. Eugen Boschan and Dr. Felix Brüll. Elbemühl refused to release the stamps being held without the permission of Mr. Witzig and Mr. Miehl. On the other hand they committed to keep the stock of stamps until either an instruction came from official Austrian authorities, or an announcement from the Icelandic Government of an agreement with the firm for the destruction of the stamps.

Purchase of the contract

In a letter from the director to the prime minister dated January 15, 1931 can be found the following: "As you are aware, the value of the Alþing celebration stamps was 812,500 krónur, and according to the agreement with the Society (of Icelandic Friends) was to be divided as follows:

In postal fund for postage	100,000kr	
For payment of the celebration	500,000	
To the Society for risks and expenses	<u>212,500</u>	
Total		812,500

As celebration stamps to the amount of 500,000 krónur have already been sold, it is considered by dealers that during the next four years the entire printing will be sold. It is therefore likely that the country may get a higher profit from the stamp issue if it was possible to buy the contract from the Society, for example by paying all their expenses accrued so far. I discussed this with the Society during my last foreign autumn trip, and understood that they were ready to relinquish the contract with the aforementioned provisions, as the stamp issue would never have made any profit for the Society."



Kjaran letter dated January 15, 1931

Statement of stamps held by Hesshaimer

Kjaran letter dated February 18, 1932

Prime Minister Tryggvi Þorhallsson agreed to this idea and in a letter dated January 30, 1931 he requested Mr. Kjaran to go abroad to buy the contract made between them and the government on May 9, 1929, by paying the Society all expenses they had incurred. A deal was reached between Mr. Kjaran, on behalf of the Icelandic Government, and Mr. Witzig & Mr. Miedl on behalf of John Witzig & Co. The bank made a claim for reimbursement of expenses already paid for the printing and the sale of the stamps etc, and full agreement was reached. A bill of sale was made by Dr. Eugen Boschan, the lawyer from the Danish Legation in Vienna, and signed July 29/August 12, 1931. In this way the Icelandic State bought the stamp issuing contract and the sales rights of the celebration stamps from the bank. Payment of 115,000 krónur expenses were made to the bank, less the value of stamps sold by the bank, leaving a difference of 46,002 krónur to be paid. This amount came from the Alþing Celebration expenses. Mr. Witzig and Mr. Miedl had until then accepted 5,160 sets, and of those were sold 3,246 sets with a nominal value of 66,543 krónur, and in addition 79 sets were used for presentations. The remainder, 1,835 sets were handed to Dr. Boschen on August 18, 1931 and mailed to Iceland in September. Of 136 sheets received by the bank with printing faults, it returned all except 11 sets with 13 imperforate stamps, 214 single stamps and 2 sheets of the 20 aurar. These sheets were also mailed to Mr. Kjaran in September. In addition, the bank was to hand over 12 Alþing celebration stamp books, the production of which it had paid for. These books arrived in Iceland on August 19, 1931.

In addition to the settlement agreed to in Munich on March 5, 1931, the bank wanted to obtain 500 sets of the celebration stamps, provided the prime minister agreed. Mr. Kjaran had received those stamps from the Reykjavík Post office, but the minister did not agree and they were returned to the post office.

It is declared in the agreement that there are no disputes or unsettled claims between John Witzig & Co. and the Icelandic State.

Destruction of stamps

According to the bill of sale, the sealed stamps held by Elbemühl were cut up and destroyed in the presence of Mr. Kjaran and banking delegates in the Elbemühl printing works.

Alþing stamp records

Contained within the Alþing celebration stamp records of 1930 can be seen proposals for the stamps, both by local artists and by Mr. Ludwig Hesshaimer, as well as different prints, a large number of colour proofs of each value, perforated and imperforated stamps, ordinary stamps and officials pasted on some 49 pages in each book. There is also a 45 aurar stamp which was not issued, although this has since appeared on the market from time to time. The books were a major feat and highlight the production steps of the issue and also the degree of good workmanship of the artists.

The prime minister and the director of the Preparation Committee decided that such books were to be presented to the seven members of the Committee, as well as a postage stamp collection, and one souvenir book of the Alþing 1930 celebration which is now kept in the National Museum. Probably the same souvenir book was provided to Mr. Kjaran and Mr. Jón Sigurðsson. What happened to one other copy is unknown. Such books have appeared on the market from time to time, and today only a few complete ones are known. Among the Alþing 1930 celebration documents can be found three invoices from the printers Acta, Mjóstræti 6, Reykjavík. One is dated February 18, 1930 for printing one folder stamped in gold, with three sets of stamps stuck into the folder; another dated July 1 1930 for dust jackets for the stamp folders, and a total of 7 folders stamped in gold. Written on the invoice in pencil "*For the Committee, as agreed*", The third invoice dated January 15, 1931 is for making three stamp folders with stamps stuck down in them. No subsequent trace of these folders is known.

Printing faults by Hesshaimer

On February 10, 1931 John Witzig & Co. wrote a letter to Elbemühl, referring to an earlier communication in which it was said that Mr Hesshaimer still had a quantity of stamps for the making of stamp albums. It requested information on how many were involved, and stated that according to instructions, and in the opinion of Mr. Kjaran, he should not have these stamps. Elbemühl replied on February 17, stating among other things that Mr. Hesshaimer had sufficient stamps to make two big albums, but their composition had

not been decided. In addition there were different proofs etc, to be used for several albums which Mr. Luitlen had ordered.

As far as is known, Mr. Hesshaimer had used a proportion of these stamps for stamp exhibitions in Vienna, and *Iporta* in Berlin among other places. They (Elbemühl) stated that without doubt you are aware, and we believe that these stamps of Mr. Hesshaimer's do exist.

Already at the first meeting in 1930 in Vienna of Mr. Kjaran and Mr. Hesshaimer, it became known that stocks of different printing errors, colour proofs, imperfect proofs and other printing faults were in his possession. An agreement was reached that those stocks in his possession should be cut up, and burned in the presence of his lawyers and the lawyers of the Legation. Exceptions to this were that he was allowed to keep a small part of key interest to the artist to show mostly print trials, 40 samples of colours, samples of different printing trials, four sheets of 1 króna and 40 aurar at different printing stages, a proof set, one stamp of each value, four sheets of the first printing and one gift folder. Some other items of interest for collectors, a folder with correct proof sheets, 16 pieces printed on japan paper and some sheets of pictures of reductions and proof prints were taken by Dr. Brüll and mailed to Mr. Kjaran on November 20, 1931. When this had been done, Mr. Kjaran declared that in his opinion, as agent of the government of Iceland, there were no further irregularities resulting from unlawful stamp stocks.

Further sale of stamps

In compliance with the purchase contract, unsold stock held by Joh. Witzig & Co. was to be returned, and according to a letter dated May 27, 1932 from the prime minister, they were delivered to the post for sale in the year 1932 (Letter MK 30/4/32) as follows:-

1000 sets of ordinary mint stamps

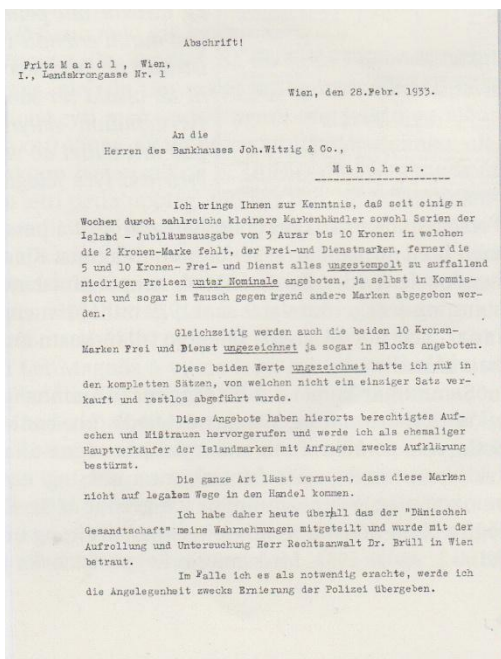
68 sets of official mint stamps

483 sets with celebration cancellations on stamps stuck down on sheets

284 sets with celebration cancellations on stamps on cover.

In addition to these were stamps valued at 3,068 krónur, consisting of different faults which were still in the hands of Mr. Kjaran.

Further unlawful sale of stamps



Mandl letter Feb. 28.1933

Mr. Fritz Mandl in Vienna wrote a letter to John Witzig & Co. dated February 28, 1933 in which he pointed out that during past weeks many small stamp dealers had offered for sale sets of 3 aurar-10 kr. celebration stamps, lacking the 2 kr., both ordinary and official stamps; all were mint and at unbelievably low prices, far below nominal value. They were offered both on commission sale and in exchange for other stamps, not only in Austria but also in Germany and the Netherlands. Also on offer were both 10 kr. stamps, ordinary and official, imperforate singles and in blocks of four at 50% face value. Both of these stamps he had previously offered for sale imperforated, but only as part of whole sets, and as none had been sold, they had all been returned.

These offers were a mystery, and as the general selling agent of the stamps, he had to explain their existence. Mandl's opinion was that they had entered the market unlawfully. He had therefore informed Dr. Brüll, the lawyer for the Danish Legation in Vienna of the circumstances. If it were deemed necessary, he would be ready to inform the police.

Discussion in Alþing

Some dispute arose in the year 1932 due to payment of a loan transaction in Reykjavík using celebration stamps. Dealers complained about reduced sales caused by a swindle and the market suffered as a consequence.

The Postmaster refused to take back stamps already sold. Gísli Sigurbjörnsson was dissatisfied with this and his lawyer Gunnar J. Ólafsson referred the case to the Ministry of Work and Communications. A similar case was made by Mr. Kjaran and the outcome was that the minister allowed the return of the stamps.

In an enquiry by Héðinn Valdimarsson to the Alþing on May 29, 1933, the whole matter was fully raised, so that nearly all the scandal regarding the stamp issue became known. Ásgeir Ásgeirsson, then both prime minister and financial minister replied, and stated that not long previously, a complaint had been received from Vienna concerning the sale of the stamps at suspiciously low prices. A letter had been sent through the foreign ministry in Denmark requesting an explanation, and also demanding an investigation should the accusations be confirmed. However more recently some news had arrived that the Icelandic-Danish ambassador had laid a charge in the case, and a police investigation had already started.

Mr. Kjaran wrote a letter to Dr. Boschan and Dr. Brüll dated April 5, 1933 declaring his opinion that questions should not now be brought up regarding the earlier stamp case, now the second one has started.

In Morgunblaðið of June 1, 1933, Gísli Sigurbjörnsson wrote an article about the great international stamp exhibition “*IPOSTA*” which was held in Berlin in 1930. There, held in a display in a large room, were the Alþing celebration stamps in many stages not known to exist, for example printing faults, imperforated stamps, misprinted stamps and many types never to be printed, which had no place in an international exhibition. Mr. Hesshaimer was in charge of that exhibit as he was elected by the society to promote the stamps. All this was contrary to earlier statements that nothing like this existed. In addition Gísli criticized the artist who was engaged to draw the frames of the stamps, (except 4-5), and put his initials on all of them, as well as writing his name on the border of all the sheets.

Police investigation in Vienna

To get precise information concerning the origin of this stock, the government entrusted the case to its lawyer in Vienna, in a letter dated July 14, 1933, and they informed the police of earlier investigations. The government sought to avoid unnecessary discussion which could only harm the investigation, and to try to restrict it to the persons who had recently put the stamps on the market at under face value. This determined effort was unsuccessful and was used in evidence by the police. In fact the names of eight stamp dealers were confirmed who had sold the stamps in Vienna at below face value. However they could all produce invoices from Iceland Post or other stamp dealers which showed without doubt where the stamps had been obtained.

Another lead pointed to the town of Litz, where a Major König and a stamp dealer named Glass had sold all their stock of stamps under face value. However there was insufficient cause to intervene using the law. An internal investigation of both König and Glass produced no results. Only minor stocks were found and both insisted on their innocence and the investigator produced no results owing to his death half a year later. Both dealers maintained that the market price of the stamps had dropped as all dealers knew, and that Mr. Hesshaimer had received stamps as part of his fee from the Icelandic state, and only sold such officially obtained stamps. The Vienna police had also questioned Mr. Hesshaimer who became angry at these accusations and nothing tangible was found to show that the stamps had come from him.

Among other things, the following statements are found resulting from an investigation in a Vienna police court on September 15, 1934.

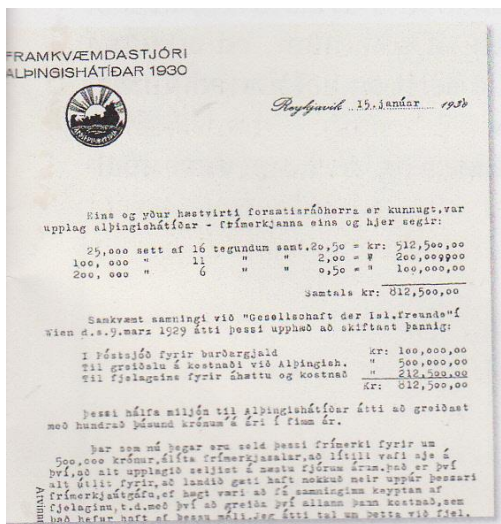
The Icelandic government is of the opinion that the offence had caused such damage that stamp dealers with lawfully obtained stamps had reduced their purchases from fear that the full quantity of issued stamps had not been disclosed.

The government believed that in reality only a small part of the false stamps have come into circulation, and then probably only faults.

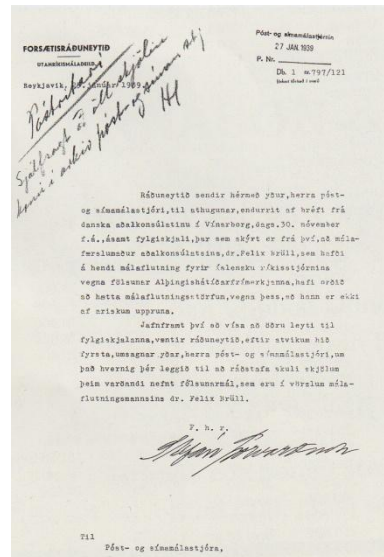
A firm claim for damages cannot be made and under the circumstances this requirement is waived.

By itself the government has no wish to demand punishment of the guilty, provided that Austrian law would permit the case to be cancelled in such a case of fraud.

In a letter from the foreign department of the Prime Minister's office dated January 27, 1939, the ministry informed the Icelandic Post that the lawyer Dr. Felix Brüll who was responsible for leading the case of the Icelandic government regarding the falsifying of the Alþing celebration stamps, was forced to discontinue legal proceedings as, according to Nürnberg law he was not of Aryan origin, and therefore not allowed to pursue a legal profession. In the opinion of the Danish consul in Vienna it was not right to hand the case to a third party, unless the Icelandic government wished otherwise, and it was left to close the case. The outcome was that nothing more was done, and a request was made that all case documents should be sent to Iceland. They arrived in Iceland on March 13, 1939.



Statement of stamps held by Hesshaimer January 10, 1931



Alþing letter January 25, 1939

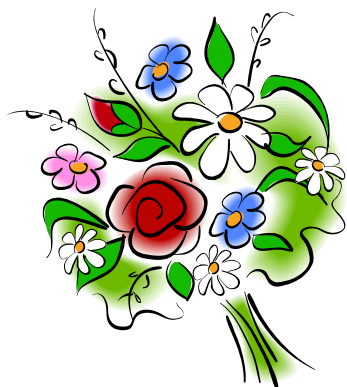
Acknowledgements (Þór Þorsteins)

- Starfólki þjóðminjasafns Íslands
- H. W Sieger
- D, Storckenfeldt
- J. Pernerfors

Acknowledgements (Brian Flack)

- For their assistance in improving on the original translation of some difficult Icelandic passages in a complex story, in which I hope I have followed the original author's meaning.
- Vilhjálmur Sigurðsson (Iceland Post)
- J Reiersen
- Brynjólfrur Sigurjónsson
- Pétur Eiríksson

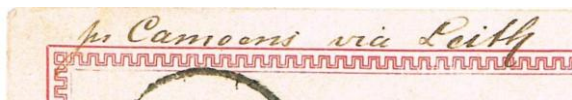
Editor is very grateful on behalf of the members. I personally know that it was a tremendous effort, shown by Brian, in order to make this article appear in our magazine. In these modern times it is common to send flowers after a great dead, we humbly give the flowers in this way:



Thank you Brian!

Fra redaktørens postkasse

From latest issue,



Have you ever heard of this ship? Look page 8

We have received this mail from Mike Tuttle:

Hello Ole,

Re your query in Islands Kontakt, Brian Flack gave me the following information some years ago. I think he got it from the World Ship Society. Built (year??) by A.Leslie (ship builders, Tyneside). for Lampert & Holt of Liverpool.

1879 sold to R & D Slimon, Leith.

1887 sold to Nav. Generale Italiana, renamed S.S. Oreto.

1910 sold to G. Messina, Italy.

1913 sold to Soc. Anon. Vinelcool, renamed S.S. Lugudoro.

1923 Broken up

I saw a photograph some years ago with the note "S.S. Camoens carrying emigrants to North America." It was undated but may have been during the time it was owned by Lampert & Holt. As you probably know, many thousands of emigrants from Europe sailed to North America from Liverpool.

Best wishes, Mike Tuttle

Further information received from our "Ship expert" Jakob Arrevad :

60

CAMOENS,

gufuskip þeirra R. & D. Slimon í Leith, á að fara 7 ferðir milli Skotlands og Íslands, á þessu sumri; ferðunum verður, að forfallalaus, hagað þannig:

Frá GRANTON til ÍSLANDS.		Frá ÍSLANDI til GRANTON.		
Fer frá GRANTON.	Kemur til REYKJAV., AKUREYRAR og Seyðisfjarðar.	Fer frá REYKJAVÍK.	Fer frá AKUREYRI, Húsavík og Seyðisf.	Kemur til GRANTON.
Miðvikudag 23. júní.	Til Reykjavíkur 27. júní.	27. júní.	{Frá Akureyri 29. júní.} {Frá Húsavík 30. júní.}	4. júlí.
Miðvikudag 7. júlí.	— — — — — 11. júlí.	11. júlí.	{Frá Akureyri 13. júlí.} {Frá Húsavík 14. júlí.}	18. júlí.
Miðvikudag 21. júlí.	— — — — — 25. júlí.	28. júlí. ....	.....	1. ágúst.
Miðvikudag 4. ágúst.	— — — — — 8. ágúst.	11. ágúst. ....	.....	15. ágúst.
Miðvikudag 18. ágúst.	— — — — — 22. ágúst.	25. ágúst. ....	.....	29. ágúst.
Miðvikud. 15. september.	— Akureyrar 19. septbr.	.....	Frá Akureyri 23. sept.	27. sept.
Miðvikud. 29. september.	— Seyðisfjarðar 3. oktr.	.....	Frá Seyðisfirði 5. okt.	8. október.

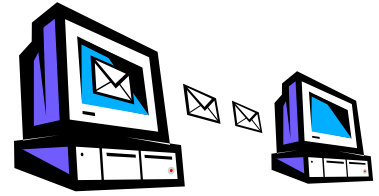
Fargjaldið er: í fyrstu káetu £ 5 (= 90 kr.); farseðlar, sem gilda fram og til baka, £ 8 (= 144 kr.).
- annari — £ 3 (= 54 kr.); — — — — — £ 5 (= 90 kr.).

I Postsaga Islands 1873-1935 page 173 the two ship-owners are called "sheep traders".

More next page

Fra redaktørens postkasse

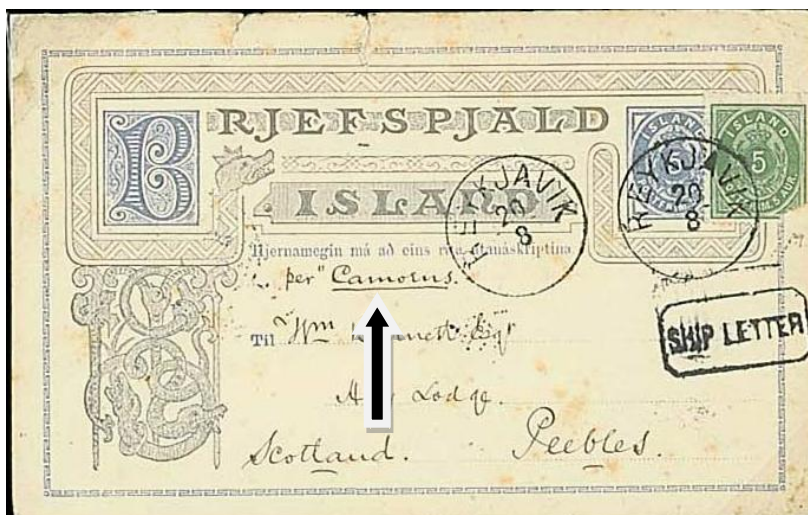
In ISLANDSKONTAKT # 91 the following clip was printed:



There were some questions regarding CAMOENS, and some of them are answered hereby. It can be seen, that the card arrived at Leith/Granton a bit late on the 3rd trip 5 days behind schedule.

The two shown copies below are from 1882 and 1883. 1883 was the latest year with a regular traffic with Camoens.

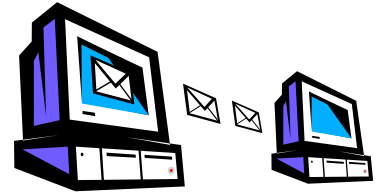
In June 1894 the time table for 1884 was announced, but it never came into effect. Camoens grounded near Orkney Island.



“Camoens” at sea

Fra redaktørens postkasse

Fra Ólafur Eliasson har vi modtaget dette om manglende rek-etiket:



Stempel på bagsiden

Hej Ole,

Forklaringen på den manglende rek-etiket er simpelthen den at adressaten, et besætningsmedlem af flyet med kendingsbogstaverne I-NANN, personlig har taget brevet med sig til Amerika, uden om postvæsenets medvirken.

Der findes et andet brev nøjagtig magen til dette brev. Jeg henviser til en artikel i Islandssamlarnas Rapport nr. 120 (des. 2000) hvor dette brev diskuteres.

Bagom afstemplingsdatoen den 11. juli ligger der en lille historie.

Eskadrillens afrejse var planlagt til den 11. juli, men da man klargjorde flyene for start om morgenen den 11. opstod der vanskeligheder med brændstoftilførslen til motoren i general Balbos fly. Man frygtede det værste, nemlig at der var noget galt med brændstoffet, men heldigvis så viste det sig kun at være et tilstoppet filter på brændstofledningen. Det tog nogen tid at finde ud af dette og afrejsen blev derfor udsat til tidlig næste morgen, den 12. juli. P.g.a. denne uforudsete udsættelse af afrejsen fik altså disse to medlemmer af eskadrillen mulighed for at lave et lille souvenir til sig selv om eftermiddagen den 11. juli. Mon der findes flere den slags breve?

Venlig hilsen Ólafur

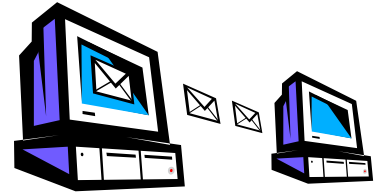
Fra redaktørens postkasse

From Brian Flack:

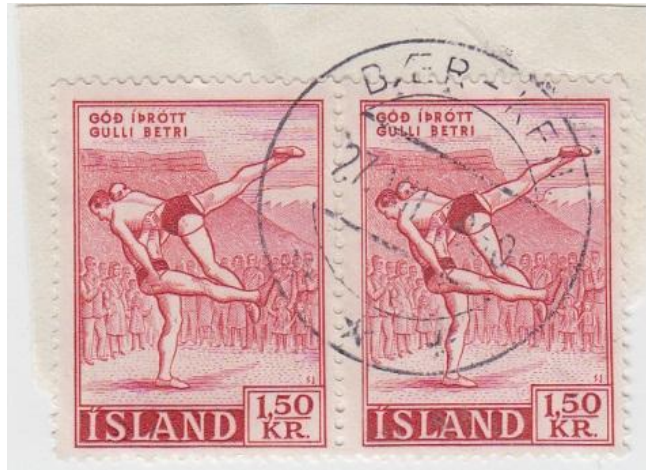
Ole,

Here is a little item you might care to include in a future issue.

Hilsen, Brian



BÆR KFN type B8e, according to the handbook Íslenskir Stimplar by Þór Þorsteins, is known from October 1960. The example shown below is clearly dated 27.VII.1960. Can anyone find an earlier date of use, presumably in 1960?



Gjaldt reglerne ikke her?



Leif Fuglsig har set dette på nettet og stillet spørgsmålet med disse kommentarer:

18. februar 1923 sender telegrafbestyrelsen på Vestmannaeyjar en pakke til hovedkontoret i Reykjavik korrekt frankeret med 140 aur – men disse frimærker har jo været ugyldige i mere end et år!! Er dette en enlig svipser, eller opkrævede man ikke straffporto "inden for familien" (Post & Tele) ?

10 aur Chr. IX, blå/brungrå (2 parstykker) og 50 aur dobbelth. (par). Sjældent Fylgibref fra Vestmannaeyjar 18.2.23 til Reykjavik. Ankomststemplet Reykjavik 27.2.23. Koret er lidt beskåret og under det nederste par er papiret afrevet og stemplet eftertegnet. Stadig en interessant forsendelse.

Fish issues Editor

On April 9th I was a guest at the meeting in "Islandsklubben". I told about these issues and handed over information, which I think, would be of interest for some of our members not present. Anyway, it might still be nice to know more about these stamps. I have picked a few items from the presentation of the collection to illustrate some findings. Brian's great rate book is a source of some of the information.

Tollur

Have you seen fish stamps with the framed "TOLLUR"? If so, you have a post-cancellation. The use of the Tollur mark was suspended December 1st 1938. Fish stamps have been seen with this mark!



Back of invoice. Receipt for duty paid in stamps cancelled 31/5 48.

Special airmail rates for occupied Germany

Did you know that there were special airmail rates to occupied Germany? This information is copied from Brian's great rate book.



Airmail letter to occupied Germany from Reykjavik 29/7 47. Foreign letter rate was 60 aur 0-20 gr. (1/1 43 – 14/11 49). Airmail rates need a special explanation. If letter was sent by air via Britain airmail fee was 15 aur pr. 5 gr. If letter went via Nordic country rate was 30 aur pr. 5 gr. This letter was either a 15-20 gr. letter via Britain or a 10 gr. letter via Nordic country. Both end up with an airmail fee of 60 aur. These airmail rates were used 1/4 46 – 30/9 47. British post-war censor mark and label.

Perforations

In order to help to differentiate between the prints you will have to learn what the perforations looks like. The fish issues are found in 4 different perforations, and once you have the knowledge it is rather easy to place the stamps. OK, there are issues where several prints have been made with the same perforation, but that's another story and you will need a clear date in postmark.



Comb. 14 x 13 1/2 what I call normal nice perforation



Comb. 14 always have small tooth at top



The irregular lineperforation 14. All corners look more or less different.



Comb. 14 x 13 3/4 always shows broad perf. at top. (could be at bottom).

50 Aur blue green 4th print and later

The first four prints were all perf. 14. However, it is possible to separate 4th print from the first 3. There is a small bulge in the lower left part of frame. This error is found on all later prints too. It can sometimes be hard to see, but a magnifier will really help.

4th print -/3 46 1.000.000

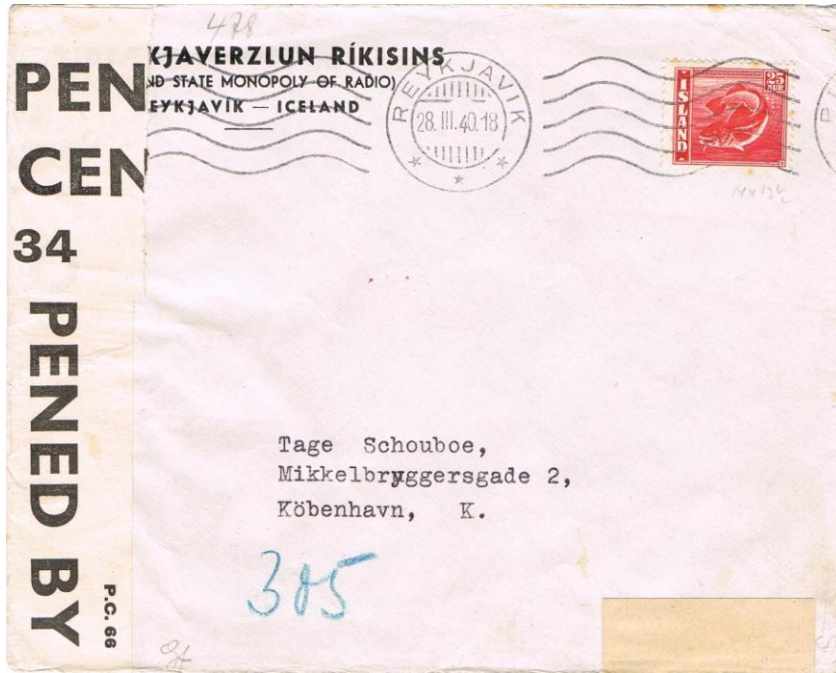
Combperf. 14



Nordic treatment during WW II

In March 1940 the special letter rate to Nordic countries was suspended, and consequently all letters to Nordic countries had to show foreign rate 0-20 gr. which was 45 aur. However it looks like the postal authorities were not that consequent in following up on this matter. As it is not certain from which date it was used the one of the letters might be correct. Re-instatement of the treaty was most likely sometime in May 1945.

3 letters are shown to illustrate.



Letter to Denmark cancelled Reykjavik 28/3 40. Postage 0-20 gr. 25 aur.
British and German (on back) censor markings.



Letter to Denmark cancelled Reykjavik 23/3 40. Postage to be used was 45 aur (-/3 40 – 31/12 42)
British and German censor markings.



Cover to Denmark cancelled Akureyri 8/2 41. Letter rate 0-20 gr. was 25 aur (1/1 40 – 14/11 42).
British censor label. German censor mark and label on back.

“Second” print of the red 25 aur

What is known as 2nd print is a question of opinion. It is known from archives, that a second print of the 25 aur red was ordered and made. This print never arrived at Reykjavik. It was either lost by bombing or during transport. Printers were bombed late December 1940 2 months after the invoice, so it looks as if the disappearance during transport is the answer here.

The delivery from printers was November 14th 1939 (1st print). For sale January 6th 1940.

October 29th 1940 (“2nd” print).

February 7th 1941 (2nd print). For sale February/March 1941.

ORLOF overprint

The Orlof over prints were used for saving stamp purpose (Orlof means holiday). On February 26th 1943 a special law was adopted about the use saving stamps. These stamps were to be kept in a special personal book by the employer for each man in the company. Then it would be transferred into real money when holidays were to be. Time was needed to have these stamps made. In the meantime ordinary stamps were overprinted and used for at short period in 1943.

Many different older issues were used for these overprints, among them 4 values from the fish issues.



Overprints were made on:

10 aur green	120.000
12 aur green	50.000
25 aur red	120.000
35 aur red	50.000

Does anybody have questions information on the fish issues?
Let's have a message from you for next issue of “Kontakt”.

Airmail rates

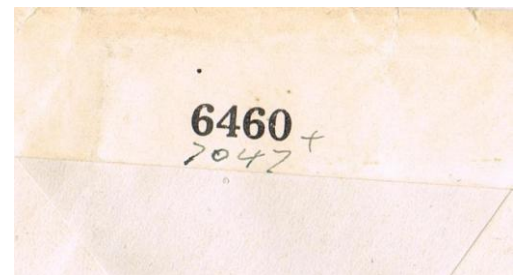
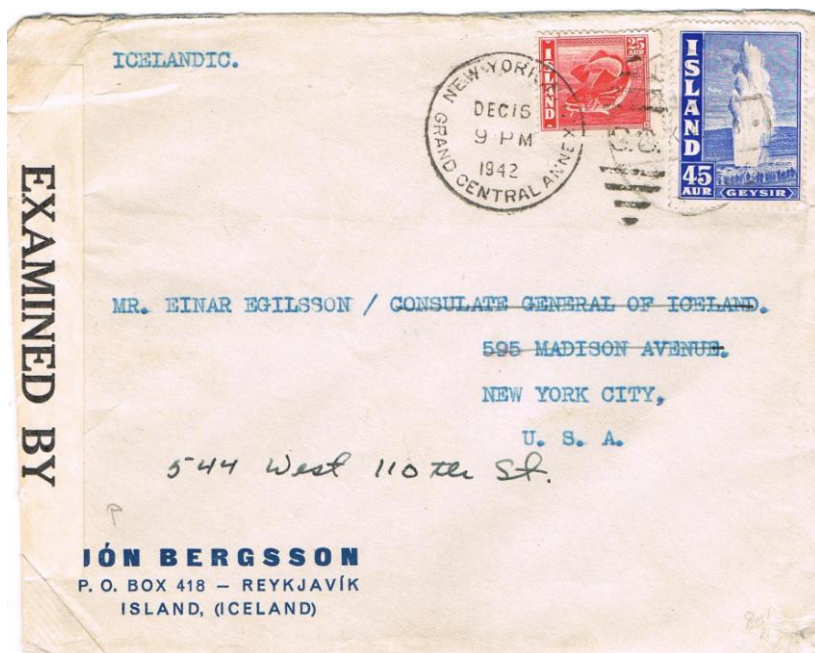
Was this letter under franked? In those days there were some changes in airmail rates. Had the changes not reached Vestmannaeyjar? Or had Folmer not learned about the latest changes? Anyway, it is obvious that the 10 aur was added at Vestmannaeyjar post office. Stamp upside down !



Registered airmail cover to Denmark cancelled Vestmannaeyjar 17/7 46. Registration was 60 aur. Letter rate 0-20 gr. 50 aur. (15/11 42 – 14/11 49) Airmail rate was 30 aur pr. 5 gr. (1/4 46 – 30/9 47). Cover was sent by Folmer Østergaard the famous philatelist. Why did he under frank? He was very concerned on postal rates.

Icelandic censor

As indicated top left of cover, the content was written in Icelandic. Consequently a special censor was needed. The Icelandic censor did not have "his own" printed labels and his number was added on the label



Label part on back.

Letter to USA cancelled Reykjavik 20/10 42. Re-directed in New York 16/12 42. Postage 20-40 gr. was 70 aur (1/1 40 – 31/12 42). US censor label.

Finally I will show the overall prints of the series.

The findings are Based on the findings of Leif Fuglsig 1983 and the “Handbók”. The “inaccurate” dating of prints is based mostly on invoices from printers.

1 eyrir

1 st print	May 10 th 1939	300.000	Combperf 14 x 13 ½
2 nd print	June 1939	300.000	same
3 rd print	March 1940	300.000	same
4 th print	March 1941	800.000	Lineperf 14
5 th print	August 5 th 1941	400.000	same
6 th print	August 29 th 1941	200.000	same
7 th print	March 1942	<u>1.000.000</u>	Combperf 14
		3.300.000	

3 aur

1 st print	May 10 th 1939	200.000	Combperf 14 x 13 ½
2 nd print	March 1940	300.000	same
3 rd print	March 1941	200.000	Lineperf 14
4 th print	March 1942	400.000	Combperf 14
5 th print	November 1944	500.000	same
6 th print	June 1948	<u>800.000</u>	same
		2.400.000	

5 aur

1 st print	May 10 th 1939	500.000	Combperf 14 x 13 ½
2 nd print	March 1940	500.000	same
3 rd print	March 1941	500.000	Lineperf 14
4 th print	March 1942	1.000.000	Combperf 14
5 th print	November 1944	1.000.000	same
6 th print	October 1946	300.000	same
7 th print	January 1948	500.000	same
8 th print	February 1949	800.000	Combperf 14 x 13 ¾
9 th print	July 1950	<u>1.000.000</u>	same
		6.100.000	

7 aur

1 st print	May 10 th 1939	300.000	Combperf 14 x 13 ½
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10 aur green

1 st print	January 6 th 1940	500.000	Combperf 14 x 13 ½
2 nd print	March 1941	500.000	Lineperf 14
3 rd print	March 1942	<u>1.000.000</u>	Combperf 14
		2.000.000	
	- ORLOF	120.000	

10 aur grey

1 st print	March 26 th 1945	1.000.000	Combperf 14
2 nd print	March 1946	1.000.000	same
3 rd print	October 1947	1.000.000	Combperf 14 x 13 ¾
4 th print	February 1949	<u>1.000.000</u>	same
		4.000.000	

12 aur

1 st print	May 1 st 1943	500.000	Comb perf 14
2 nd print	May 1945	500.000	same
3 rd print	February 1948	<u>500.000</u>	same
		1.500.000	
	-ORLOF	50.000	

25 aur red

1 st print	January 6 th 1940	800.000	Combperf 14 x 13 ½
2 nd print	February 1941	800.000	Lineperf 14
3 rd print	March 1942	1.500.000	Combperf 14
4 th print	November 1943	300.000	same
5 th print	March 1944	<u>300.000</u>	same
		3.700.000	
	- ORLOF	120.000	

25 aur red brown

1 st print	March 26 th 1945	1.000.000	Combperf 14
2 nd print	January 1946	1.000.000	same
3 rd print	October 1946	1.000.000	same
4 th print	October 1947	<u>1.000.000</u>	Combperf 14 x 13 ¾
		4.000.000	

35 aur

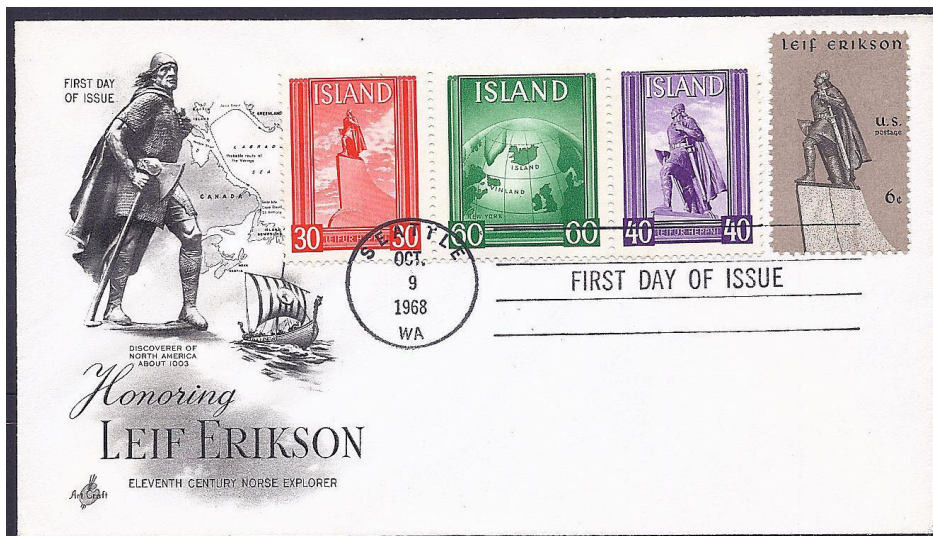
1 st print	May 1 st 1943	300.000	Combperf 14
2 nd print	May 1945	300.000	same
3 rd print	October 1947	<u>1.000.000</u>	Combperf 14 x 13 ¾
		1.600.000	
	-ORLOF	50.000	

50 aur

1 st print	May 1 st 1943	1.000.000	Combperf 14
2 nd print	March 1944	500.000	same
3 rd print	May 1945	1.500.000	same
4 th print	March 1946	1.000.000	same
5 th print	April 1947	1.000.000	Lineperf 14 (and Combperf 14?)
6 th print	January 1948	<u>1.000.000</u>	Combperf 14 x 13 ¾
		6.000.000	

I really hope this small article will encourage you to go through your fish stamps. It is not that expensive to build up a minor collection of these series. Have fun !

Usædvanlig FDC 30 år efter.



Det var her det amerikanske mærke, der blev førstedagsstemplet. Her nøjagtig 30 år efter blokkens udgivelse. At mærker fra den oprindelige blok også er med, kunne måske friste nogen til at indlemme den i samlingen (hm!). Det er klip fra Ebay.

Medlem til medlem Member to member

I had an email from Orla Nielsen. He was lucky; he got what he was looking for through this column.

“Annonce”: Jeg søger til min udstillingssamling Chr. IX 3 Aur tjeneste med varianten “King in Snow”). Tilbud modtages med stor taknemlighed.

Wanted for my exhibition collection: “King in Snow” variety on 3 aur Chr IX official. Offers received with gratitude.

Hej Ole

Du kan glæde dig over, at annonce idéen har været en succes. Leif Fuglsig havde den og har foræret mig den som tak for mangeårigt godt samarbejde. Kan man forlange mere ?

vh Orla



Hvide solstråler

Det sker af og til, at man får kikket nærmere på et mærke. Det skete også for mig for nylig. Et altingsbrev havde en 5 aur, som havde hvide solstråler, og jeg sendte straks en kopi af mærket til Johnny Pernerfors, for at få ”varianten” bekræftet. Desværre, svaret fra Johnny var dette:

Sänder en scan på den korrekta varianten Vita solstrålar och vågor. Ditt ex är med delvis Vita solstrålar och vågor men inte den 100% rätta, man kan nästa tro att detta är ett förstadium till huvud varianten??? jag har själv liknade ex. där 1 eller ett par solstrålar och vågor är vita men det skall vara alla 5 solstrålar + vågorna för vara den riktiga.



Mit eksemplar.



Øverste solstråle ikke hvid ☹



Johnnys eksemplar med 5 hvide stråler



Airmail letter to Finland cancelled Reykjavik 23 V 30. Transit and arrivals: Edinburgh Registered JU 1st 30 – Malmø Luftpost 2 6 30 – Helsinki 3 6 30. Red Finnish airmail mark..

Undersøgelse: Største enheder i de ovale aur udgaver Survey: Largest Multiples in the Oval Aur Issues

Af Orla Nielsen

I August 2012 erhvervede jeg nedenstående pragtfulde 16 blok af den grovtakkede 5 Aur, 3. tryk, som blev angivet som ”størst kendte enhed”.



16-blok 5 Aur tk. 12 ³/₄, 3. tryk

Jeg gennemsøgte mine kilder for at få bekræftet oplysningen, men kunne ikke finde nogen bekræftelse i litteraturen eller i kataloger. Mit arkiv blev gennemgået, men fordi jeg ikke tidligere har haft speciel interesse for store enheder, havde jeg kun gemt ganske få oplysninger af den art. Selve auktionskatalogerne var ikke gemt på grund af pladsmangel bortset fra – selvfølgelig – dem med særlig meget Islands materiale. Enkelte kopier af store samlinger blev også gennemgået.

Søgningen førte ikke til konstatering af større enheder end 16-blokken, men gav til gengæld inspiration til at gennemføre en kortlægning af, hvad der findes af store enheder i privat eje, så der fremover er en egentlig basis for angivelse af ”størst kendte enhed” både for samlere og auktionshuse m.v.

Som start på undersøgelsen udarbejdede jeg et excel-ark med de oplysninger jeg havde kunnet finde i ovennævnte foreliggende materiale samt i min egen samling. Det omfattede de ovale Aur-udgaver i begge takninger, både brugt og ubrugt – inklusive enheder på breve eller brevstykker.

Nedenstående e-mail blev i efteråret 2012 udsendt til efterhånden 45 samlere, 2 auktionshuse, en handler og en prøver, altså i alt 49. Samlerne befinder sig i en lang række lande – Danmark, Island, Sverige, Norge, Belgien, Holland, Tyskland, Spanien, USA og Canada. Langt de fleste er medlemmer af ”Islandsklubben i Danmark” og/eller ”Föreningen Islandssamlarna” og er valgt blandt dem, som jeg vidste eller formodede samlede ovaludgaver.

“Hello all,

This is an attempt to create a list of the largest multiples in the oval issues. Based on information in my archive and my collection I have made a tentative list in the enclosed Excel sheet. I am now asking all of you to contribute by sending me information about any larger items that you have or know about (if possible both value and print, but value will be OK. In the Excel sheet you will notice some question marks indicating that I do not know about the printing). Please, look also on the list of receivers of this mail and do not hesitate to inform me about other collectors who may be possible informants.

I intend to publish the result in IslandsKontakt, if possible in the 2nd issue in this autumn so, hopefully, I can have your response in a month or so.”

3 samlere og 1 auktionshus har slet ikke reageret. 4 har kvitteret for modtagelsen af mailen, men ikke svaret. Jeg antager, at de ikke har nogen information at bidrage med. Er det korrekt, er der en svarprocent på over 90%. Alle kendte storsamlere af ovalområdet er med. Der blev indgået en speciel aftale med Claes Arrrup, Postiljonen.

Planen om offentliggørelsen af undersøgelsens resultat i efteråret var for optimistisk. Men i december var der indkommet svar fra alle. Herefter fik Claes Arnrup resultatet og har i løbet af foråret gjort en stor indsats med gennemgang af en mængde auktionskataloger med væsentligt Islands-materiale. Resultaterne indgår i følgende afsluttende tabel.

Største enheder i ovaludgaven (Aur)						
Largest units in the oval issue (Aur)						
Value	14x13½			12 3/4		
		mint	used		mint	used
3 Aur	1st print	4-block	single	small 3	6-block	21-block
	2nd print	10-block	3-strip			
	3rd print	6-block	3-strip	large 3	sheet	15-block
	4th print	25-block	5-strip			
	5th print	4-block	5-strip			
4 Aur					sheet	12-block
5 Aur, blue	Print 1a	4-block	single		4-block	pair
	Print 1b	4-block	pair			
	Print 2	15-block	pair			
5 A, green	1	10-block	6-block	1	4-block	4-strip
	2	15-block	3-strip	2	single	5-strip
	3	<i>sheet</i>	4-strip	3	sheet	16-block
6 Aur	1	single	single	1	20-block	5-strip
	2	4-block	3-strip	2	25-block	6-strip
	3	8-block	3-strip			
	4	10-block	18-block			
	5	4-block	5-strip			
10 Aur	1	pair	single	1	8-block	4-strip
	2	3-strip	single	2	35-block	5-strip
	3	4-block	pair			
	4	3-strip	4-block			
	1,2,3 or 4	4-block				
	5	4-block	3-strip			
	6	4-block	6-block			
7	15-block	3-strip				
16 Aur	1	4-block	single		4-block	3-strip
	2	4-block	6-strip			
	3	6-block	6-strip			
	4	5-strip	pair			
20 Aur violet	1	4-block	single			
	2	<i>sheet</i>	4-block			

20 Aur blue	1	4-block	4-strip	1	4-block	pair
	2	4-block	4-block	2	sheet	4-block
	3	6-block	4-block			
25 Aur				1	4-block	pair
				2	sheet	10-block
40 Aur green		sheet	6-strip			
40 Aur violet	1	4-block	4-strip		4-block	do not exist
	2	4-block	pair			
	3	6-block	pair			
50 Aur		sheet	pair		4-block	4-block
100 Aur		sheet	5-strip			

Et par kommentarer:

Under 10 Aur er anført en 4-block, som er set på nettet. Der var angivet ”tyndt papir”, men det var ikke muligt at identificere trykket.

Under betegnelsen ”4-block” kan der godt samtidig forekomme en eller flere 4-striber. Er der som største enhed angivet en ”4-stribe”, betyder det, at der ikke er set 4-blokke.

Ark (sheet) er flere steder skrevet med kursiv. Kursiv angiver, at arket er set i et auktionskatalog. Et ark *kan* jo blive skilt til mindre enheder ved uheld eller bevidst, så det er ikke 100% sikkert, at arket eksisterer i dag.

Men generelt tror jeg, at tabellen giver et godt billede af, hvad der i dag – 2013 – eksisterer af ”største enheder” i de ovale Aur-udgaver – og 16 blokken af 5 Aur grovtakket 3. tryk er altså faktisk den største brugte enhed blandt 5 Aur udgaverne !

Afslutningsvis en stor tak til alle, der har deltaget i undersøgelsen. Det var dejligt, at idéen blev godt modtaget.

Skulle der blandt læserne være kendskab til større enheder end angivet i tabellen vil jeg være meget taknemlig for oplysninger. (orlansen@gmail.com)

Cancelled Monday morning !!



NORDIA 2013, Gardabær, Island 7.-9. Juni 2013.

v/Ebbe Eldrup (foto: Páll A. Pálsson, Akureyri)

Det var en fornøjelse og en udfordring at deltage som kommisær og dommer i denne 5. Nordiske udstilling i Island. Udfordringen bestod i at hverve udstillere kun 7 måneder efter en stor Nordia udstilling i Danmark.

I udstillingsklasserne stillede Orla Nielsen med Klassisk Island (Traditionel). For "Iceland – Postage and official stamps" fik Orla 90 point, Guld medalje samt Grand Prix National. Imponerende flot! Eksponatet viser førfilateli med et meget sjældent brev til England, et unikt skibsbrev fra perioden 1870-72 hvor danske frimærker blev benyttet i Island, mange fine skillingsmærker og en aur afdeling med store enheder, illustrerede varianter og sjældne breve. I Gildi området har Orla arbejdet meget med og der vises foruden de store fejl 02'-03 og '03-'03 også sjældne sorte overtryk samt flere tryk af de fintakkede aur mærker. Afslutningen er Christian IX med mange gode breve. Naturligt vises undervejs de samtidige tjeneste frimærker inkl. Brev med 10 aur og Chr IX breve.



Orla Nielsen modtager Grand Prix National fra Jury President Jussi Tuori (yderst tv), Honorary Jury President Sigurdur Petursson (no 2 fv) og Gardabær Kommunes repræsentant (th).

I æresklassen udstillede i hver 8 rammer de 2 bedste eksisterende eksponater af klassisk Island. Indridi Pálsson med "Ísland" og Douglas Storckenfeldt med "Iceland until 1901: Skilding and original aur". Begge eksponater starter med præfilateli, så perioden med Danske frimærker 1870-72, skillingsudgaven 1873-1875 og aur udgaven først fintakket 1876-1895 og så grovtakket 1896-1901 afsluttende med de tofarvede udgaver. I modsætning til Douglas medtager Indridi Prir og i GILDI overtrykkene mens Douglas i modsætning til Indridi medtager tjenesteudgaverne, kronet med "Bibel-brevet" med skillings tjenestefrimærker. Hele 10 af de eksisterende 14 skillingsbreve sidder i de 2 eksponater.



Douglas Storckenfeldt i midten



Indridi Pálsson og Deres udsendte



GRENJADARSTADUR
24-11 (e)

Det kræver for meget plads at gennemgå de 2 eksponater, men det kan kort siges at kvaliteten i Indridis eksponat er ganske enestående høj og de fire viste skillingsbreve er nok de fineste der findes. Ligeledes kan Indridi vise en lang række tidlige tryk af aur frimærkerne på breve. Og de viste kronestempler samt udenlandske stempler er imponerende. Douglas eksponat er præget af en række spektakulære objekter og indeholder mange sjældenheder. Men desværre også en række objekter der ikke burde sidde i et så højt præmieret eksponat. F.eks. bemærkede jeg Grenjadarstadur 24/11 på 2 skilling blå samt flere skillingsmærker med Hraungerdi 18/8 og 3 sk med Vestmannaeyjar; alle utvivlsomt efterstemplede mærker. Disse sjuskefejl skammer dog ikke det overordnede indtryk af 2 fantastiske eksponater, som vistes sammen for første gang nogen sinde.

Pjóðskallasafn Íslands viste 5 rammer skillings og aur breve inkl. Mange tjenestebreve. Personligt synes jeg ikke brevene er så interessante og med tekst udelukkende på Islandsk er udbyttet for udlændinge beskedent. Men brevene var nok også vist til ære for de islandske gæster.

I konkurrence klassen vist foruden Orla Nielsens eksponat, Johnny Pernerfors "Island 1873-1943" (8 rammer, Vermeil 83 point). Johnny forsøger i traditionel klasse det næsten umulige at vise frimærkerne med varianer. Flot illustreret men naturligvis med få breve. Perioden er meget lang. Det er uhyre lærerigt at studere Johnnys eksponat og de mange sjældenheder, ikke mindst i den nyere del.

Leif Nilsson viste "Iceland – Silhuettutgåvan 1911-1912 inkl. Provisorier" (6 rammer, Stor Vermeil 85 point og special pris for materialet). Leif har samlet en række fantastiske objekter med Jón Sigurdsson samt Frederik VIII udgaverne. De høje værdier vises flot repræsenteret således flere breve med 25 a Sigurdsson og hele 3 forsendelser med 2 kr provisoriet på samme mærke. Både 1 kr, 2 kr og 5 kr Frederik VIII vises på brugsforsendelser. Det var første gang jeg har set 5 kr værdien på forsendelse.

I Posthistorisk klasse vist 4 islandske eksponater. Alle disse eksponater viser marcophili, altså stempler fra Island. Hjalti Johannesson med "Íslenskir kórónustimplar" (5 rammer, Vermeil og 81 point). Stemplerne vises alfabetisk og eksponatet indeholder mange fine og sjældne kronestempler. De sjældneste mangler, men der er mange forsendelser.

Sveinn Ingi Sveinsson viste "Icelandic numeral cancels" i 5 rammer (Vermeil 80 point). Sveinn Ingi viser overvejende breve og kan vise hyre mange nummerstempler på forsendelse. Blandt andet det tidligst anvendte nummerstempel brev, en 8 aur (2x4 aur Chr. IX) frankering indlands stemplet "69" Ljósavatn i Pingeyjarsysla og ankomst stemplet Skagafjardarsysla 15/4 1903. Flere unikke anvendelser af nummerstempler på forsendelser. Desværre også en række filatelistiske forsendelser, men det er svært at undgå når ambitionen er at vise alle nummerstempler på forsendelse.

Sverrir Helgason viste "Icelandic numeral cancels" i 5 rammer (Stor Sølv 76 points).

I dette eksponat er det overordnede system også at starte med no 1 og så vise stemplerne op til 300. Dette eksponat er svagere end det forrige og de fleste af de sjældne stempler mangler. Der er gode forsendelser men ikke så mange.

Páll A. Pálsson, hvis fotografier illustrerer denne rapport, viste "Kristján IX konnungur Íslands/King Christian IX" (5 rammer, Stor Sølv, 77 points). Páll anvender sit eget system i posthistorie og viser først en ramme med frimærkerne (værdi for værdi), så 2 rammer med islandske stempler, kronestempler og nummerstempler, så én ramme udenlandske stempler og endelig én ramme portosatser og usædvanlige breve og breve til usædvanlige destinationer. Eksponatet indeholder mange fine objekter. Højværdier var desværre kun yderst sparsomt repræsenteret fra 40 aur og opad ligesom der kunne have været mere tjeneste materiale. Nummerstempel delen er meget fin og illustrerer de fleste sjældne stempler.

I Revenue klasse viste Johnny Pernerfors "Islandske semestermærken "ORLOF" 1944-1973" (1 ramme Stor Vermeil 85 points og special pris for materialet). Meget soændende og sjældent set feriemærker fra Island, alm. Frimærker overtrykt ORLOF. Johnny kunne vise enestående prøvetryk med forskellige forsøg på hvordan overtrykket skulle se ud. Også feriemærke bog med anvendelsen af mærkerne.

I Postkort klassen viste Johnny Pernerfors "Konungsförin til island 1907" (1 ramme Stor Sølv 78 points). Interessante postkort.

I Åben Klasse viste Páll A. Pálsson "Money letters with contents". Det er et særdeles spektakulært eksponat hvor pengebreve fra Island, danmark, Færøerne og Grønland vises og sammtig er det indeholdte pengebeløb illustreret med pengesedler og mønter fra tiden. I mange tilfælde er værdien og sjældenhedsgraden af sedlerne større end af pengebrevene. Og der er mange fine pengebreve.

I mesterklassen viste Sigtryggur R. Eypórsson "Icelandic Postal stationary 1879-1920" i 8 rammer. Det er det fineste eksponat af islandske helsager og det indeholder mange enestående objekter. Sjældenhedsgraden af helsagerne i aur perioden 1879-1901 lader imidlertid noget tilbage at ønske.

I jury klassen viste Sigurdur R. Pétursson "Tveir kóngar" (5 rammer) , Árni Gústafsson "Ship mail" (8rammer) og Ebbe Eldrup "The Postal Law July 1st 1902 and the New Stamp Era in Iceland" (1 ramme). Heri sad også mange fine objekter.

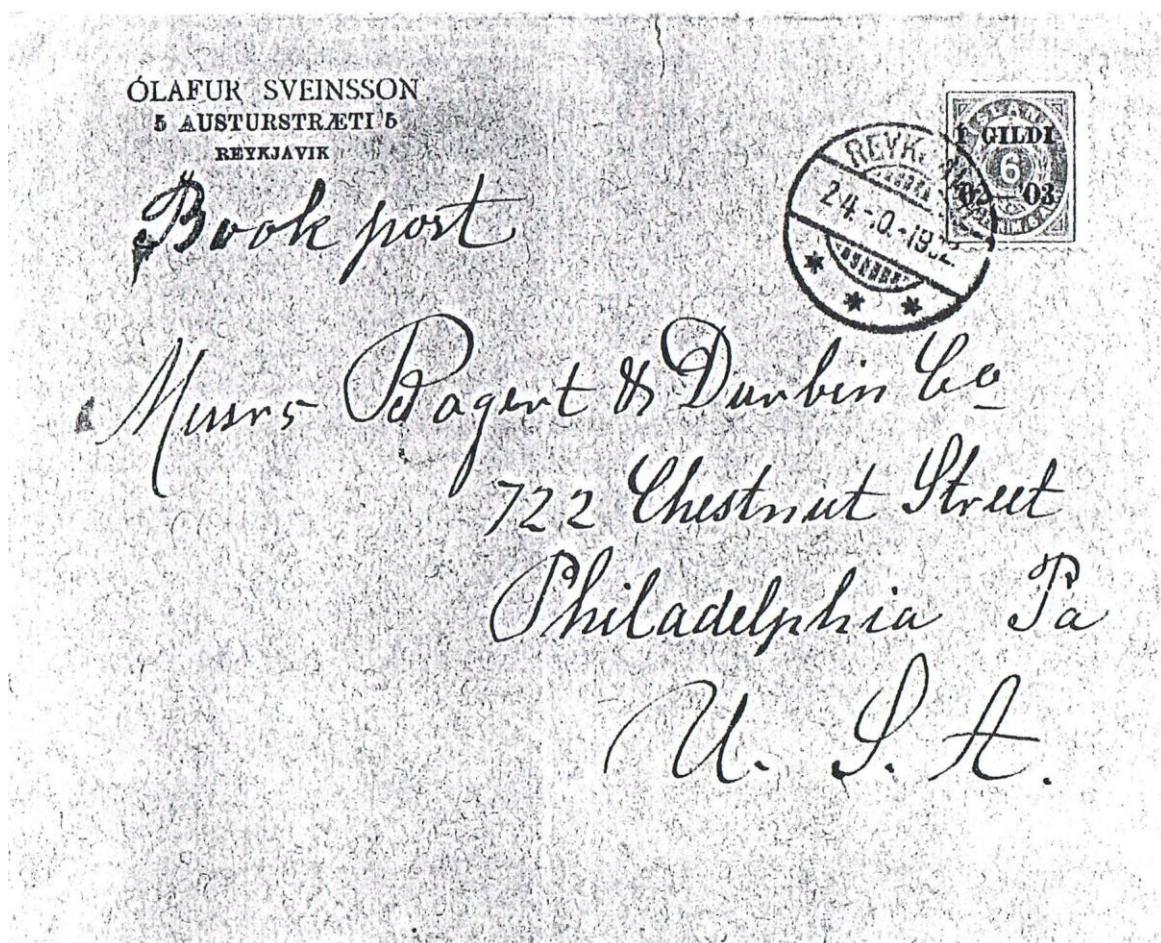
Så alt i alt var der i Juni måned i Gardabær en enestående mulighed for at studere Islandsk materiale med stor variation og fantastisk sjældenhed.



Thor Thorsteinns (th) og Eidur Arnarsson monterer nyfundet arkiv materiale, der dokumenterer at Altingsudgaven 1930 også var overvejet at udkomme som pengesedler. Det skete imidlertid aldrig. Skitser og prøvetryk vist på Nordia 2013.

I GILDI 1902 *Leif Fuglsig*

Alle kilder: Kohl (1935), Lundgarrd (1941), Carøe (1942), Jon A. Jonsson (100 years 1977) er enige om – ud fra flere eksempler – at første kendte afstempling og kun på 6 aur er den 24. oktober 1902..



Ex. Tor Jensen (*Kopi af en kopi er skyld i den dårlige kvalitet red.*)

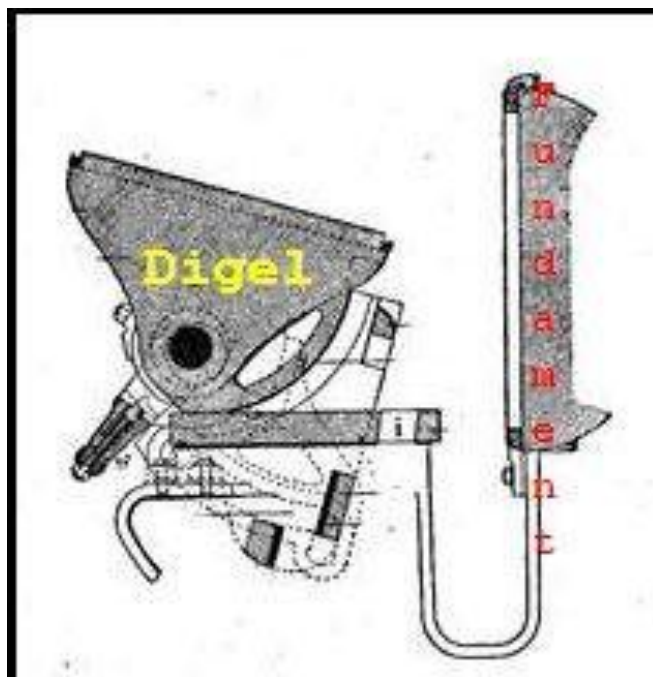
Afsender Olafur Sveinsson var en af storspekulanterne, og forsendelsen indeholdt uden tvivl en meddelelse om, at han nu (inden længe) ville være leveringsdygtig i denne nye interessante provisoriske serie. Korrekt frankering var udelukket, hvis det skulle være I GILDI, idet 5 aur først overtryktes senere. Spekulant-konsortiet var ivrige efter at komme i gang med forretningerne, idet de gennem opkøb havde sikret sig, at kun de var i stand til at levere komplette serier.

Jf. Félagsprentsmidjans hovedbog (produktionsprotokol), som Kohl og Carøe ikke synes at have kendt tik, men som Lundgaards refererer til, bogføres 17. nov., at man har overtrykt nedenstående frimærkeark for Poststovan:

3000 ark	6 aur
3000 -	20 aur
1500 -	25 aur
1600 -	10 aur
2150 -	40 aur
1000 -	50 aur

I alt 12250 ark, hvoraf de øverste tre værdier (7500 ark) skal have rødt overtryk, og de nederste tre (4750 ark) skal have sort overtryk.

Ifølge sagkundskaben (Peter Schweizer) foregik overtrykningen med overvejende sandsynlighed med en Gally-digelpresse, en konstruktion fra ca. 1870, her vist i diagramform.



Den manuelt betjente presse består af en lodret stående ramme, som er fast forbundet med et tungt fundament (ikke vist på diagrammet). I denne ramme fastmonteres satsen. Frimærkearket anbringes på den bevægelige ”digel” og fastgøres. Digelen aktiveres ved et træk i et håndgreb, og den bevæger sig således, at den på det sidste stykke står parallelt med satsen, således at trykket bliver ens over hele fladen.

Trækket i håndgrebet aktiverer også en farvevalse, som ruller hen over stasen inden trykningen.

Bemandingen var en trykker, som betjente maskinen, og en pålægger / aftagerske (altid kvindearbejde), som placerede arket, tog det af igen og lagde det fra med et mellembland ovenpå for at undgå afsmitning.

Da satsen kun var 50 enheder svarende til et halvark, måtte alle ark to gange gennem pressen, svarende til 24500 separate operationer ved pressen. Kapaciteten formodes at være ca. 500-600 ark pr. dag, hvilket betyder, at trykningen er påbegyndt ca. 20. oktober.

Når andet halvark skulle overtrykkes, måtte stasen flyttes i rammen. Nu skulle man tro, at den enkleste procedure ville være at begynde med den ene overtryksfarve og overtrykke først det ene og så det andet halvark af alle tre værdier, derefter farveskift og samme procedure med den anden farve. Men sådan gik det jo ikke! Man begyndte med at færdigtrykke et (formodentlig mindre) antal 6 aur ark, som kom i cirkulation fra 24. okt.

Lundgaard antog, at de øvrige 5 værdier blev afleveret og cirkulerede lidt efter lidt op mod 17. nov.

En efterlysning af 1902-stempler hos en kreds af samlere har givet et magert resultat. Afstemplinger for ikke at tale om forsendelser fra de aktuelle ca. 2 måneder i 1902 synes at være sjældne. Derimod findes en hel del tilbagedateringer (med ægte Reykjavikstempel), som afslører stor uvidenhed om seriens kronologi - mange alt for tidlige datoer.

Det eneste eksempel jeg har fundet på afstempling i perioden før 17. nov. Af anden værdi end 6 aur, er den her viste 50 aur. Det er dog for lidt som bevis. Det kan lige så godt være en heldig tilbagedatering.



Reykjavik 12 11 1902

Indtil bevis for det modsatte fremkommer, er det min teori, at den tidlige fremkomst af 6 aur skyldes pres fra spekulanterne, som skulle have noget at vise frem.

Tors omfattende samling indeholdt kun 3 1902 afstemplinger – 2 på 6 aur og det her viste pengebrev, der, som det ses, er senere end 17. nov.



I betragtning af, at både 10 og 20 aur var i cirkulation, er det underligt, at der ikke skulle være mere, og jeg vil opfordre læserne til at berette om, hvad de måtte finde.

Leif Fuglsig

Endnu en mislykket tilbagedatering



Det er de "sjoveste" ting man kan se på diverse auktioner på nettet. Her er fint eksempel på et nydeligt brevstykke med et par af 25 aur I GILDI. Ganske vist er FRA ISLAND stemplet kendt lige fra skillingstiden, men den her viste type 3 kendes først fra 1930 !