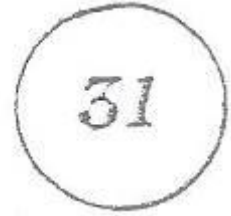


ICELAND PHILATELIC MAGAZINE

An independent journal for collectors of Iceland stamps and postal history



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Iceland Philatelic Magazine

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Please let me have your articles if you want them in the next issue which will be September 2023. If you need help with translations let me know.

The editor will help with the English if necessary.

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Overall feel of the exhibition

Figure 2

All of you reading this are Iceland collectors so forgive me if I concentrate on Iceland entries.

In 2018 I thought that the dominant exhibiting theme was crown cancels. This year it was definitely numeral cancels. To mention a few exhibits: 14 frames "Icelandic Numeral Cancels" by Eiður Árnason (introduction class), Brian Stwalley 1 frame "Iceland Numeral in Circle Cancels used on Official Stamps", Kar-Erik Jägard 6 frame "Iceland Number Cancels", Sveinn Ingi Sveinsson 5 frames of Iceland numeral cancels. A number of other exhibits contained numeral cancels.

In my opinion marcophily is an incredibly hard subject to get good marks in. Unless you break the tradition, one number followed by the next number is boring. I don't know the answer but keep trying you numeral collectors!

Major Prizes

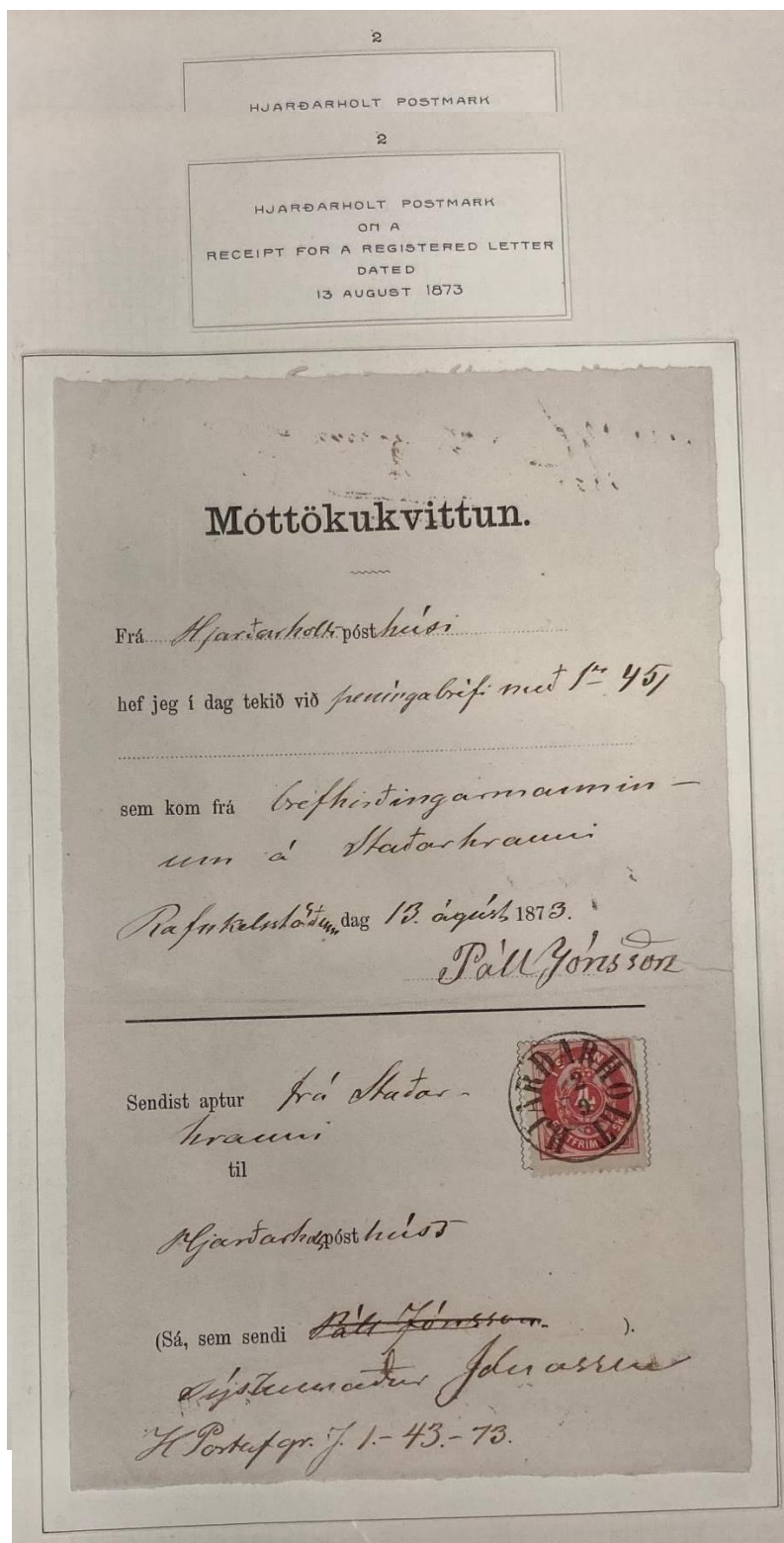
It was disappointing that no Iceland exhibit was considered good enough to win the GP National. I agree with the judges but not to award the GPN in Iceland is a bit rough!

For the record the Grand Prix International was won by Jan-Orlof Ljungh "NDP items sent to Overseas destinations 1868-1871" and the Championship class was won by Rikard Bodin for his "Sweden's Great Power Era Wars and Swedes in Service abroad 1543-1905". The Championship Class was a very close-run thing. After voting by all the

jury the scores were tied and it took the chairman's casting vote to decide the outcome. Remarkable. The other two entries in the voting were Seija-Ritta Laakso's postcards "Paris by Night" and Bjorn Schøyen's aero entry "1st UK Aerial Post 1911"

Show Catalogue

The catalogue was excellent. For myself I could only read some of the articles and will have to wait to understand the others. Here's a challenge to you authors out there to please translate these into English.



The Story of The A type Cancel BJARNANES

. Previously published in Frímerkjablaðið Nr. 17 of 2008. Translated from the Icelandic by Þór Þórsteins.

As a result of the opening of a new post office in Bjarnanes in Nesdistrict, A.-Skaftafellssýsla, the postmaster at Reykjavík ordered a canceller from Copenhagen, late in November 1873. The canceller was delivered to the postmaster from the A. Buntzens, establishment in May 1874 and the postmaster sent it to the post office on 19th June 1874.



Figure 1 full numbers

Unlike the other A-types which came into use in 1873 which were made of steel, this was made of copper-alloy which was much cheaper. Somehow a misspelling was made, and in the cancel the name Bjarna(r)nes has an extra R not found in the name of the farm. (Fig.1)

Figure 2 ring and name only



The post office moved to Borgir in the same district on 1st January 1875?? (* **See below**), and there, problems started as the cancel was not durable and quickly broke down. Also the new postman stated he had only received the loose figures of 0-1-2-3-6-8 and the others were missing. In the year 1894 the situation had reached the point where he had to cancel all letters without dates, and only the ring with the post office name could be seen. In December 1896 he reported that he had withheld from sending the canceller to Reykjavík for repair, as he considered it unlawful to send uncanceled letters in the mail. Therefore provision was made for a carpenter to be sent out to that area, which it was anticipated would be capable of repairing the cancel for use as before. The repair cost 1.50 krónur but it was not possible to change the faulty name. The postman wrote again to the postmaster in February 1899, and informed him that he was shipping the broken cancel (to Reykjavík) as there was nobody at Borgir who could repair it.

Figure 3 manuscript numbers



He also mentioned that if it was to be repaired, it would be advisable to correct the name, (the misspelt BJARNARNES), but if a new cancel was to be bought, then the name BORGIR should be used. Additionally, it was vital to receive the missing numbers. No change in fact occurred, and he repeated in a February 1900 report, that it was wrong not to be able to cancel outgoing mail with the correct day of the month.

The record of devices from Borgir in 1901 shows that the cancel was back there, although some of the numbers were still missing, and the 6 and 9 did not arrive until the end of 1903.

Figure 4 partly printed and manuscript.



It happens that a box with a lot of covers has been found in the National Museum of Iceland. The museum received it in 1975 from Reverend Skarphéðinn Pétursson, priest in Bjarnanesi, as by then the church in Stafnes had been closed. These covers show that the serving priest of those earlier times, the Reverend Jón Jónsson, had kept incoming covers and had removed all the postage stamps for the period 1874 -1905. However, his custom was to tie covers together in a bunch from each separate year, and mark them, so that although no years are found in the A cancels (as is normal); it is possible to see when these had arrived. They carry enough strikes of cancels to illustrate the story of the different stages of the BJARNARNES A-cancel.

(Editor) (* See above), According to *Pósthús og Bréfhirðingar á Íslandi* by Þór himself, the office and cancel did not move to Borgir until 1st October 1891 and not 1st January 1875 as stated in the above article). The Swedish *Handbok över Ísländska Stämpplar* confirms the later date).

There were no examples of these cancels included in Þór's article, so I thought I would add a few from my own collection.

BJARNARNES from 1874



Not very clear but perf 14 x 13.5, probably Bjarnarnes period.

BORGIR from 1.10.1891



Postal stationery card Reykjavík 25/11 to Starmýri with Bjarnarnes arrival 20/12. (1893)



Ring and name only



Manuscript figure 1 ??



Both figures manuscript 16/6

HÓLAR from 7.11.1905

Possible repaired state at Hólar?



Unreported manuscript cancels? *Ole Svinth*

Previously published in IslandsKontakt 69 in 2009



The strip of 3 was shown at Højland's auction. It was not one I was aware of, so the question immediately went to Jørgen Steen Larsen for his advice. I failed to bid on it.

Jørgen replied: -.

The provincial cancel seems to be Strandasýsla, which was used in Staður. One could therefore hope that the ink cancellation was an abbreviation for a letter collection office at Staður, which had not yet received a crown cancellation at the time of use. It was during the period of the perf 14 stamp issue, when the crown cancels of type C1 were delivered in 1894/95. The following C1 cancels were delivered in 1894/95 to Strandasýsla:-

Borðeyri, Kalfanes - until 31.12.1885, then subsequently moved to *Hrófberg* in 1896 and *Hólmavík* in 1898. *Kollafljarðarnes* and *Reykjarfjörður*.

None of the location names mentioned appear to be shortened to the ink cancellation used here. The ISK editor put this further unknown manuscript found on Hoilands to Jørgen for his opinion.



As far as I can see, this is "Vestm" for Westman Islands. You have better eyes than I - so I would like to have your comment on my opinion. It seems strange with "Vestm" because they had an antique cancel here from the start.

Nor do I think anyone has previously recorded such an ink cancellation. However, I will check that in old articles in IslandsKontakt. It is possible this is a scam cancellation

(IPM editor) As far as I am aware no further evidence of these two manuscript cancels have been offered by ISK readers, and they may be unique. However, this is an opportunity for IPM readers to reveal otherwise!).

Late Reusages of C1 Fagurhólmsmýri Jørgen Steen Larsen.

Before we move on to this month's subject cancel, Fagurhólmsmýri C1, Joergen provides this additional example of late use of Borgarfell to add to last month's examples.



XXXXXXXXXXXX

Now for Fagurhólmsmýri: - As described in IPM Issue 56, page 23, BH Sandfell í Öræfum in Austur-Skaftafellssýsla was opened 1.1.1873 at the Southern main postal route. (Aðalpóstgöngur). At 1.1.1874 the BH was moved to the nearby farm Hnappavellir and moved again to the farm Fagurhólmsmýri 1.7.1887.

Sandfell is now an abandoned farm, one of the oldest farms in the Öræfi district. Hnappavellir is a group of farms where the old building style of the Öræfi district has lasted longer than in other places.

Fagurhólmsmýri is a farm and weather station with an airfield connection.

The BH received C1 Fagurhólmsmýri around 1894/95 and N1a-23 in the summer of 1903. Older usages of the C1 cancel are with an Ó. Later usages are without the Ó. C1 Fagurhólmsmýri is known reused in a period of time from app. 1912 to 1922.

The diameter of the C1 cancel measured from the middle of the ring to the middle of the ring is app. 25 mm around 1912 and increased gradually to app. 30 mm around 1922.

(Editor) What follows is an accumulation of images gathered over the past month or so, a few sent by readers but mostly obtained from the internet.



Written in Fagurhólmsmýri 26.1.1914, sent to Prestbakki.
Black ink, deformed



Fagurh' lsmýri to Dakota USA. Black ink



Fagurhólmur undated on overfranked inland letter deformed



Fagurhólmur 1913 via Kirkjubæjarklaustur. Black ink deformed



Fagurhólmur



Fagurhólmur



Fagurhólmur



Fagurhólmur black ink deformed



Fagurhólmur



Fagurhólmur





1920s Large diameter Fagurh'lsmýri

Finally, in addition to the above examples, I have also recorded strikes of lesser quality on the following issues: - CHIX 3, Double Heads 3 and the 1920s period 6.

Reusage of C1 Goðdalir.

The next cancel for review in the September 2023 issue will be C1 Goðdalir. Please swamp the editor with images of the late use of C1 Goðdalir, (as well as any additional examples of C1 Fagurhólsmýri which you forgot to send!).

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Four Ring Numeral 175

Ron Collin spotted this for sale in a recent AB Philea auction, but what is it? I describe it as a four ring numeral 175 on 4 skilling Iceland official. I failed to find anything like it in Facit. It surely is not an Icelandic cancel, so where does that leave us?

Auction description

Iceland. Official Facit Tj3 used, 1873 Number in frame 4 sk green, perf 12½. Unusually fresh stamp cancelled with numeral cancellation 175 in violet colour. Very scarce. SEK 3500

1897 provisional stamp
The overprint ÞRÍR
Valid from 1 and 3 November 1897 *Indriði Pálsson*

Previously published in Frímerkjablaðið Issue 5 2001. Translated from the Icelandic, edited by Steinar Fríðthorsson



Postage for printed matter between places within the country in 1897 was 3 aurar or 10 kvint per 50 grams. At the end of October 1897, the post office in Reykjavík ran out of 3-aurar stamps. A new shipment of these stamps was not expected from Denmark until the second half of November. The postal authorities in Iceland responded to this problem in such a way that they had a certain amount of 5-aurar stamps converted into 3-aurar stamps with overprinting. It is likely that in this way at least 136 sheets of 5 aurar stamps were printed - or 13,600 stamps. However, many who know are of the opinion that many more stamps were overprinted. All these stamps have VM: Crown.

The main part of the stamps of this issue are in perf 12 3/4. Stamps in perforation 14 x13.5 are also known, but their quantity is however unknown other than that it was very small. The coarse perforated stamps are part of I. and II. printings of 5-aurar green stamps, which were issued in 1896 and 1897; the narrow-perforated stamps are part of II. printing of 5-aurar green stamps from 1884. The stamps were overprinted in Reykjavík. Although the intention of the postal authorities was undoubtedly to have one type of 3-aurar stamps made with an overprint on a coarse 5-aurar stamp, the reality turned out to be different, because there were many types (varieties).

Broadly speaking, overprinting can be divided into two categories:

A. At least 86 sheets were first overprinted with the number 3 in red and then with the word **Þ r í r**.

- a) In the top six rows of each sheet, the number 3 was in grotesque type and the letters of the word **Þ r í r** were in small type.
- b) In the four bottom rows of each sheet, the number 3 was in antique type, while the letters of the word **Þ r í r** were in large type. A small part of this type received inverted overprints and double overprints are also known. These stamps were for sale at the post office in Reykjavík from November 1, 1897.

B. At least 50 sheets were only over-printed with the word **Þ r í r**.

- c) The top six rows of each sheet had the word **Þ r í r** in small print
- d) but the four bottom rows with large letters in the word **Þ r í r**. These stamps were for sale at the post office in Reykjavík from November 3, 1897.

Most of the overprinted stamps must have been sold out at the post office in Reykjavík in the first days of November 1897. The post office in Seyðisfjörður was sent 12 sheets of the overprinted stamps. It was the

only postal service outside of Reykjavík that definitely had these stamps for sale.

No doubt the overprinted 5-aurar stamps, which were for sale at the post office in Seyðisfjörður at the end of 1897, also sold out in a short time.

The overprinted stamps immediately became very interesting and sought after by stamp collectors of the time. The stamps were overprinted in a small numbers and therefore quickly disappeared from the usual and normal market for such things, and fewer people were able to buy them compared with the greater demand. Therefore, it was tempting for some to try to fake the overprint and then sell them as genuine stamps, thus making a quick profit. On the other hand, the forgers succeeded in their work disproportionately, and most of the time erratically, although certainly various collectors were fooled and bought something other than what they had hoped for.

On this page are shown pictures of unforged correct overprinted stamps with the four different types of characters, which are referred to above.



1

1+2



1+4

2



4+5

Fölsuð tvípr.,
Stór yfirpr.,
+ 4



5+7.1

4+5+7.2



1+6

6

(a) small Three of 3

(b) large Three of 3

(c) small three

(d) large P r in r

The most common forgeries of this well-known overprint will then be described with reference to the attached diagrams:

1. Overprint made on dark green 5 aurar stamp, which was not issued until 1898 or the following year, that the correct but controversial overprint was made.

2. Overprint three in small font on the number-letter 3 which is in large antique font.

3. Overprint three in large letters on the number 3 in small grotesque letters.

4. Three is written incorrectly with a dot over the i and not with a comma in it as is correct.

5. The letter P clearly made from two other letters.

6. The typeface clearly different from the one used for the overprint at the beginning. This applies especially to the letter r.

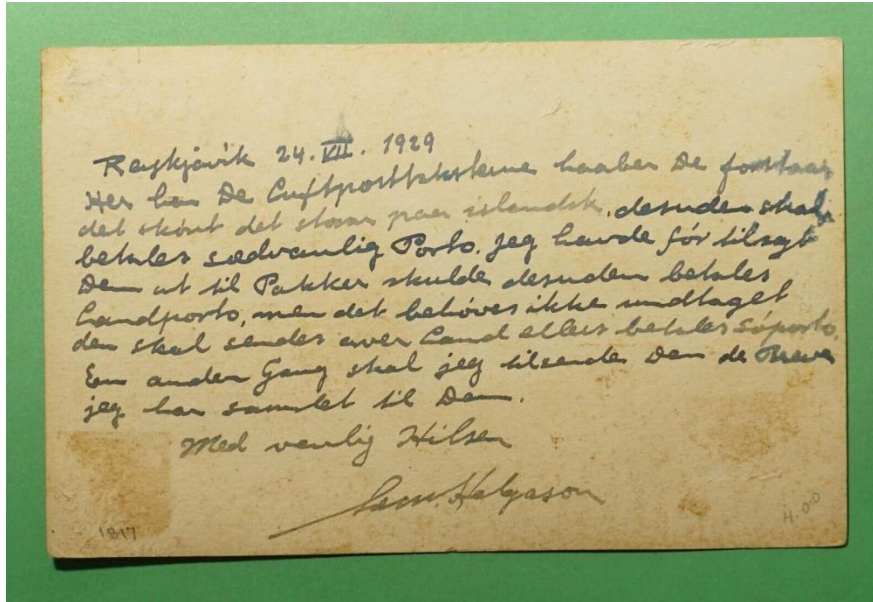
7. Stamped overprinted 5-aurar stamps with a date in the stamp are also recognizable

7.1 is much older than the overprinting of the stamps properly took place.

7.2 is much later, but it is likely that the stamps were used as postage and the stamps were sold out by the postal authorities a long time ago. Either way, it unequivocally indicates that it is a case of fake overprinting of stamps. In the fake overprint, more than one of the elements mentioned above often go together.

1929 Nørgaard card auction - why the additional 7aur?

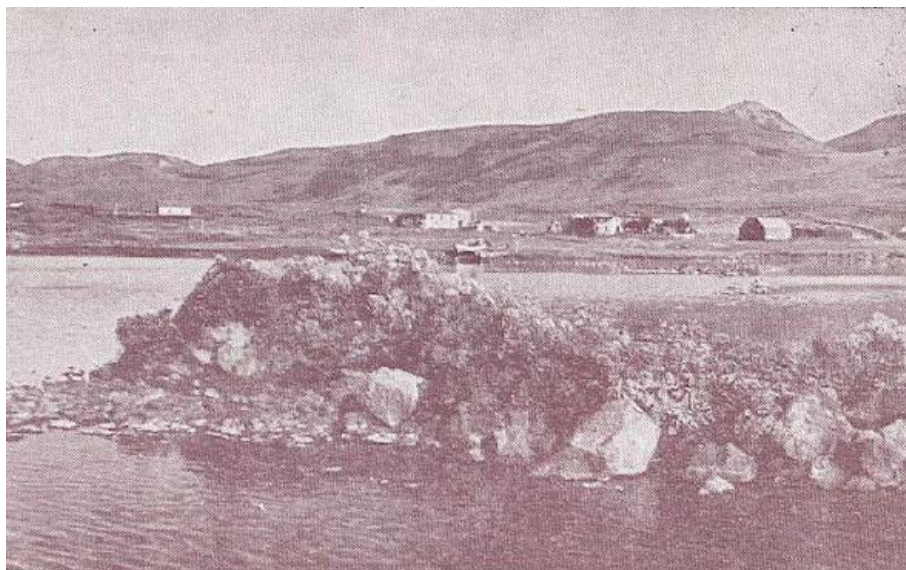
If one of our readers sent me these images with a message, then I apologize for losing the message and forgetting who sent the images! On the other hand, it is possible that the editor came across this card and thought it worth asking the question below.



Reykjavik B1a 24.VII.29 sent to Denmark via Leith. If 20aurar was paid to go via Leith en route to Denmark,

Why was the 7aur stamp added?

REYKJAHLÍÐ *Ron Collin*



Reykjavík, being a rather small and intimate community, is located rather inland in the North, or almost North-Eastern portion of Iceland. It is situated, actually on the shores of Lake Mývatn. As is the case with most smaller communities, there is a paucity of outgoing correspondence. And this results in only 7 examples of its REYKJAHLÍÐ C1 Crown cancel in the Flack/Islandssamlarna C1 database. I am showing two of these examples in this article.

The following is just speculation on my part; it would seem to me that these two REYKJAHLÍÐ strikes where applied to the same cover at the same time. Cancel rotation is identical. So few examples of this cancel exist, that it is reasonable to assume that the hand position (grasp) of the postal person, on the cancellation device would be perfect to produce these two examples at the same time. What are the chances that two separate occasions of canceling outgoing correspondence, at this location, would produce two almost identical examples of this seldom seen cancel, especially on two different pairs of 5 aur Green perf 14's? These two pairs also most likely would have paid the 20 aur rate for an outgoing cover.

Though there appears to be differences in stamp color of the two pairs, it apparently could be caused by these scans having been made at various times, and probably from reproductions in auction catalogs. Both pairs appear to be from the same sheet. Because of Reykjavík distant location and low mail volume, it is doubtful that they would have received an inventory of multiple 5 aur stamp sheets from more than one printing.

Stamp margins can vary between stamps on the same sheet, because the early perforating of sheets was not a precise science, so the margins can appear slightly different. Other factors can cause differences in margins. For instance, look at the bottom margin on the left stamp of the first pair, shown here. The perforating seems to be uniform. The difference appears to be attributable to either the size of the left cliché (highly doubtful), or its placement within the rack of clichés. The tops of the clichés are not in perfect alignment, and therefore the bottom of the left stamp appears with less of a bottom margin.

To confirm, I measured both imprints left by the clichés in my pair of stamps on the left. The vertical measurement of each cliché is exactly 20mm. So, I must assume that the locking device on the rack of clichés was not always rigidly locked in place within the rack of 100 clichés at the time of printing, and some movement of the clichés (even very slight movement) could result in the difference in bottom margin on the left pair.



Previous AB Philea sale (Year?)



Goldberg "Dallinger" Auction 2014

It would appear that these REYKJAHLÍÐ cancels therefore were probably applied to the same cover at the time of mailing. A close look at the open vertical perforations does not indicate any evidence that these two pairs were originally a strip of four that was applied to the cover.

It is unfortunate that the early collectors were stamp collectors and only some, later on, became postal history collectors. In fairness, I must confess, that I was one also, before I became the other.

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Another Cold War Censor from Austria



In IPM issues 5/2016 and 18/2017 we showed examples of Cold War censorship strikes applied in Russian occupied Austria. Here is another example seen on Ebay. Unlike the first two which read “Austrian Censor”, this one reads “Allied Censor” number 8. This partial cover is cancelled 27.10.52. This is well within the period of censorship in Austria described by Rolf Dörnbach in IPM 5 as 1945-1953.

Unfortunately, the top part of this cover is missing. The 70aur franking probably represents the 70aur airmail supplement added to the 20gm 175aur surface rate to Europe which applied from 1.10.1953, and was presumably applied to the missing piece.

More on Iceland's 3-Aur "Golden Yellow" Variety

by Ellis Glatt

Beginning with the 2011 edition of *Facit Special*¹, a listing was introduced for an unusual and scarce 3-aur perf 14x13 ½ variety described as the "golden yellow". The new listing, Facit 8v3, states that the variety is on thick soft white paper, with the added notation that "printing not determined but either 2 or 3". At the same time, the listing for Facit 8b, the 2nd printing (1884), had its color description changed from orange yellow ("golden yellow"), as it appeared in Facit for many decades previously, to dull orange on thin paper.

The 2016 edition of the *AFA SpecialKatalog*² (the latest edition) also addressed the 3-aur "golden yellow", listing the stamp as a variant of the 3rd printing (1886). It defines two 3rd printing variants, a dull brown-orange shade (AFA 12_3a) and the "golden yellow" variety (AFA 12_3b), both on medium paper.

A year or so later, Danish expert Lasse Nielsen addressed the same subject in greater detail in a 2017 article in the January edition of NFT entitled *Island 3 Aur "guldgul"*³. Relying largely on his analysis of the irregular KII perforations found on "golden yellow" examples and the history of the KII perforation machine in use in 1884 (including the replacement of serration pins in November 1884), he was able to definitively assign the variety to the 2nd (1884) printing. Since the 2nd printing was issued in January 1884, while the 3rd printing not until 1886, the 3rd and all later printings could be ruled out with certainty.

However, the 2nd printing also can be confirmed in many cases using Nielsen's KII "perforation keys" in combination with known cliché flaws associated with specific plate positions. Cliché flaws found among the various 3-aur printings, for example, were tabulated by the late Henry Regeling in his book *Stamps of Iceland 1872 – 1904*⁴. To demonstrate this methodology, one can use the 3-aur example presented below in Figures 1a and 1b. The stamp, recently acquired by the writer, is an especially fresh "golden yellow" specimen exhibiting KII perforations and cliché flaw C1.10, as cataloged by Regeling.



Figure 1a: 3-aur "Golden Yellow"-Front

Facit 8v3



Figure 1b: 3-aur "Golden Yellow"-Back

Using the Nielsen KII perforation key (also included in Regeling's book), one can confirm that the subject stamp is from vertical row 3 of the sheet. Regeling's cliché flaw C1.10 is also visible in the triangle at the upper left—the break in the vertical line immediately to the left and half way down the triangle. As it turns out, only the 2nd printing of the 3-aur exhibits this particular cliché flaw in vertical sheet row 3 (position 13). So, here we have further confirmation that Facit 8v3 had to be printed during the period the 1884 plate was in service and before the serration pins were replaced in November 1884.

But what makes the scarce 3-aur “golden yellow” variety so different from the rest of the 2nd printing is its paper and gum, or more accurately the absence of gum. As far as this researcher is aware, none of the unused examples recorded to date are reported to exhibit original gum of any kind. In fact, the example shown above in Figures 1a and 1b appears to lack gum completely, yet show no signs of being previously washed or mounted. Moreover, its medium-thick paper (with a thickness of 0.10 mm) is pure white and different from that found on typical 3-aur examples from the same 2nd printing. For a comparison, see Figures 2a and 2b, which show a typical example of a 3-aur from the 1884 printing (Facit 8b).



Figure 2a: 3-aur Dull Orange-Front
(typical 2nd printing)

Facit 8b



Figure 2b: 3-aur Dull Orange-Back
(typical 2nd printing)

Beyond its dull shade of orange, the paper itself is clearly thinner, thin enough for the watermark to show through to the face of the stamp. Although hard to see in the above image, the paper is generally not as pure white as found on golden-yellow examples. And, then there’s the yellowish gum, which again sets these stamps apart from “golden yellow” variant Facit 8v3.

So, at this point, here is what we know: The 3-aur “golden yellow” variety was produced in the midst of the 2nd printing of the 3-aur issue. Because of the scarcity of these stamps relative to typical 2nd printing examples, as shown in Figures 2a and 2b, one can surmise that no more than a few sheets of the variant were likely produced. But questions still remain unanswered. Why the apparent absence of original gum on unused examples recorded to date? And, why were those few variant sheets printed on different paper than the 500 sheets that comprised virtually all of the 2nd printing?

The writer can only speculate at this time, but one possible scenario that comes to mind is that the subject variety might have been the product of a trial printing involving a sheet or two that remained ungummed and ultimately found their way through the perforation process. On the other hand, if the variant sheets went through the normal production process, but were subjected to a poorly formulated batch of gum, perhaps the gum might have been prone to evaporation over these many years. Again, all speculation. Of course, the writer welcomes further input on this interesting subject from fellow readers and philatelic researchers.

Endnotes:

¹Facit *Special Classic 2011*, Facit Förlags AB, Malmö, Sweden, 2010.

²AFA *Specialkatalog 2016*, AFA-Förlaget, Otterup, Denmark, 2015.

³Nielsen, Lasse: “Island 3 Aur “guldgul”,” NFT nr. 1/2017.

⁴*Stamps of Iceland 1872-1904*, Henry Regeling, Heemstede, The Netherlands, 2001.

Private stamp from Norðfjörður Þór Þorsteins

(Previously published in Frímerkjablaðið Issue 4 – 2000. English translation provide by the author)

Several collectors have noticed a peculiar stamp that has been found on stamps from the issues of King Christian IX and Two Kings from 1907. The stamp is square and within the outer frame is an oval shape. In the upper part of the curve is the name "Jón Guðmundsson" and in the lower part "Norðfjörður". The shape is sometimes reminiscent of the appearance on skillings and aurar stamps. But who was Jón Guðmundsson, of Norðfjörður? Reverend Jón Guðmundsson, born in 1863, was a serving priest, first at Skorrastað in Norðfjörður from 1889 and then, when the church was moved, to Nesi from 1894 until his death in 1929, or a total of 41 years.



He was also in charge of the letter collecting offices at Skorrastaður from the opening in 1892 and at Nesi from 1894. On January 14, 1914, Reverend Jón was appointed post master at a new post office called Norðfjörður, and held that position along with the priesthood until his death. A crown cancel existed in Skorrastaður and in Nes until the numeral stamp number 41 was put into use in 1902. After the establishment of the post office, a bridge cancel was issued on January 23, 1914 with the name Norðfjörður.

In a handwritten book about the transfer of numeral cancels, it is recorded that cancel number 41 was sent to the post office on July 2, 1914 from Reykjavík and returned on October 5, 1914. No reason has been found for the use of the private stamp. It may be that the priest requested a private stamp on his letters or that something happened temporarily to the numeral cancel, but it is common on used stamps from this time. Here is another example where collectors need to be alert in case something is found later to explain the use of this stamp.

(Ed. The above article was written 20 years ago, and I have no recollection of seeing other examples of these cancels. Perhaps IPM readers can show some?)

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False Reykjavík cancel Jørgen Steen Larsen

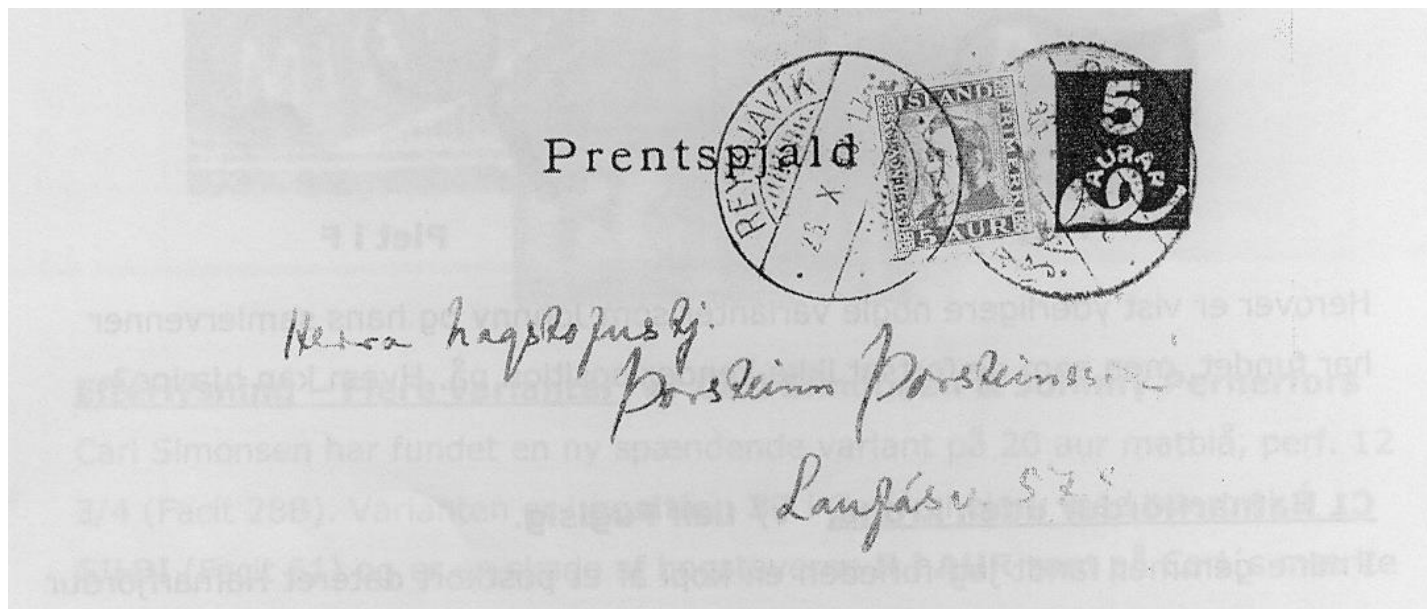
This 25 aur Alping stamp was offered on Ebay. The interesting thing is the cancel – which is false. It looks like B1d (18) but the date is centered in the middle – without the timeclock. I am sure that the seller did not know, and the value was low.



Postal Service 1938 *Leif Fuglsig.*

(Previously published in IslandsKontakt Issue 55. Translated from the Danish).

Here we see a postcard (printed matter card from the first impression of the posthorn type, printed Gutenberg 1934) cancelled Reykjavík 24.10.38, and with an additional franking of a 5aur Mattias Jochumsson, which partly covers the first cancellation and is itself postmarked the day after, 25.10.38.



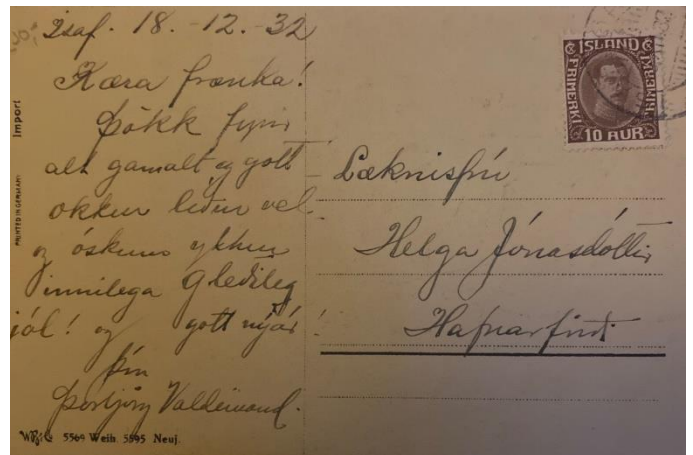
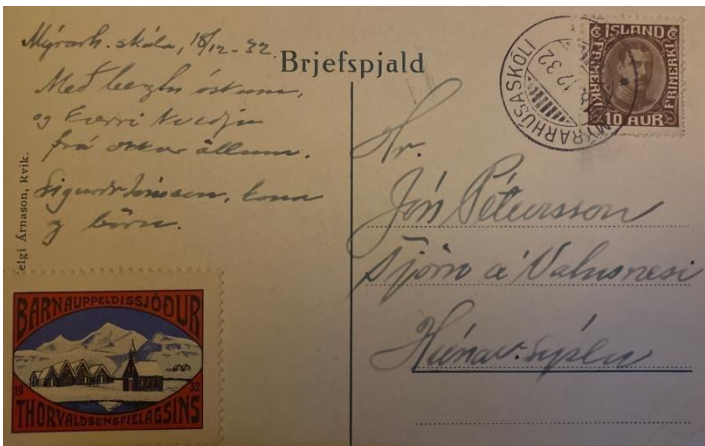
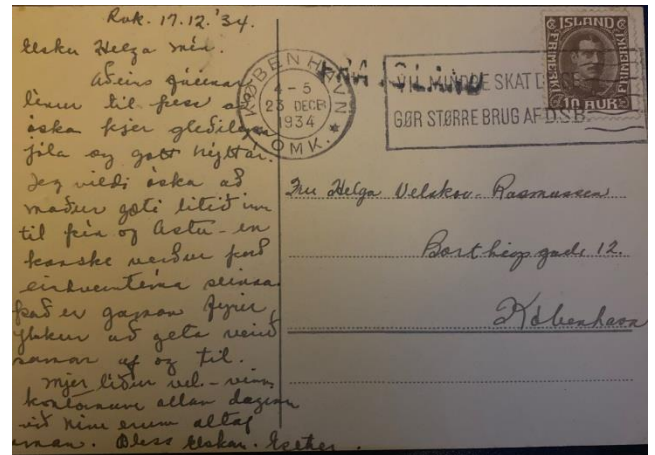
The text on the card is a summons to a meeting of the Icelandic Science Society, - and here is an explanation – the card is handwritten and it does not fulfil the conditions for printed matter, according to which a delivery should include at least 25 similar (items) which says otherwise

Fundur
í Vísindafélagi Íslendinga í Ad-
fellowshipsinu föstud. 28. okt. kl. 8 1/2 udt.
Dagkrá:
1. Dr. Björn Þórðarson lýmaður: Frindi
um dómstóð í Landeppirátinum
á oppidómaraárum Bjarna
Þórðarsonens
2. Félagsmál. Þyborinn

The nice postal service then chose not to charge excess postage, but instead upfranked the card to local post letter rate (10aur), and then presumably sent the bill to the Honourable Gentleman.

Wrongly franked postcards in 1934?

I know from time to time I have offered an opinion that incorrectly franked post before WW2 is quite unusual. My reasoning has been that the postal rates for surface mail remained the same for years and people were used to them. Brian Stwalley has now given me cause for worry by providing five images of postcards all using the 10 aur Christian X issue, with no evidence of any concern by the postal authorities.



Two are 1932, one 1933 and two 1934. Two are inland, two to Denmark and one to Sweden.

The only 10aur postcard rate in this period was for local post, and none of these can be so described.

The correct postal rate for all 5 cards was 15 aur. So what went wrong?

Is there any significance in the period when all these cards were posted, 1932-1934?

I have all copies of Póstblaðið for 1932 to 1933, and there is no indication of any change to the postcard rates.

I throw this open to readers for their opinions.

Money letter from BH Strönd: R vignette instead of V vignette *Jørgen Steen Larsen*

(Previously published in IslandsKontakt Issue 54. Translated from the Danish).

The day before Frimærker i Forum started, I visited Reynir Sverrison, who had come to Copenhagen with a large number of exciting letters. Among the many letters we can show here the following:



Money letter, in which - as can be seen from the endorsement in the upper right corner - DKK 45.00 was deposited. The letter was sent from the letter collection center Strönd in Vestur-Skaftafellssýsla on 17.4.1946. On the back there are the following stamps: Reykjavik 23. IV. 46. Akureyri 27.4.46. Reykjavik 30.IV.46. Akureyri 8.5.46.

In addition, on the back there are several wax seals with the inscription *Leiðvallahreppur*, which is precisely the name of the area in southern Iceland where the farm Strönd is located. The stamps on the back match the fact that it appears from the front of the letter that it was first sent to Akureyri, then redirected to Reykjavik and finally sent back to Akureyri.

The postage for a domestic letter of up to 20 gm. was in the period 15 November 1942 to 30 September 1947 at 50 aur. In addition, 150 aur for a money letter with up to DKK 300, a total of DKK 2.00 - corresponds to the franking of the letter. However, the letter has an R vignette so that one could get the idea that the letter was also registered. However, it does not fit with the franking, as at this time an additional postage of 60 aur was charged for a registered letter. My guess is therefore that the R-vignette was used instead of a V-vignette, perhaps because the correct V-vignette was missing at the letter collection site Strönd.

From Brian Flack, we can add the following comment: "The postal regulations at the time of this letter are clearly stated in the regular Gjaldskrá from which much of my postal rate data is derived. Only money letters sent to foreign countries must have a compulsory registration fee paid as well as the value letter rate and of course the normal postage letter rate. So inland value letters did not need to be registered. The

franking on your cover is correct for a 50aur letter and a value letter fee of 150aurar. A very nice cover indeed.

So why is there a registration label on the cover? An educated guess is that the office at Strönd was not a very busy one (to put it mildly). The person responsible for the posts at Strönd may have been confused about whether a registration label should go on, but not confused enough to charge the sender for registration, which would be wrong. He or she got the postage charge right, and possibly stuck the label on and then realized he/she need not have done so. I do not think that very many money letters would have passed through Strönd!"

Ólafur Elíasson has the following comments on the letter: "Postage on this letter is correct. It is also correct to say that registration fees did not have to be paid on domestic money letters. Regarding the registered label, I can perhaps add a small detail: In Póstblaðið March 1928, it was announced that a new type of value labels is being issued. Then the following instructions follow (in translation): "The post offices that have not been sent red labels for value letters must use the labels used on registered letters; however, before the label is stuck on the letter, the "R" must be cut or torn of." This was therefore 18 years before the sending of this particular letter. I do not see that this instruction has been changed in that period. One almost has to forgive the letter collector in Strönd that he has not followed this old instruction to remove the "R". I might add that I have a few money letters from small letter collecting places in the 1930s where the "R" has been conscientiously removed from the registered label which is used as a value label."

As a complement to the above, the (ISK) editor allows himself to show this money order from Eiðar with numeral N1a 108 sent to Akureyri, arrival stamped 12.4.1921.



Please note that there is NOT either a V label or a torn R label and therefore not a complete R label either, but simply signed Valuation certificate registration N83. The postage 45 aur is correct for 1st weight rate (18 gr.) 15 aur + value charge, basic rate DKK 0-100, 30 aur.

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Boxed cancels Íslandspóstur Þór Þorsteins

(Previously published in Frímerkjablaðið Issue 14 - 2006)
translated from the Icelandic and edited by Steinar Fridthorsson

Shortly after the establishment of Íslandspóstur hf. in 1998 a self-contained box hand stamp with an adjustable date was created by the hand stamp manufacturer Boði. After appropriate experiments with use, such hand stamps were purchased for all post offices in the country.

Over the past 8 years (Ed. This written in 2006) we have seen various types of them and we will try to use the main ones to illustrate the variety, but these hand stamps have only been covered very briefly in Frímerkjablaðið in the past. Attempts will only be made to explain the different types extant; we will not be going into the number of different names within each of the different types nor the total of hand stamps within each specific type.

The purpose of all the stamps was to confirm the payment of postage without the use of stamps. The oldest

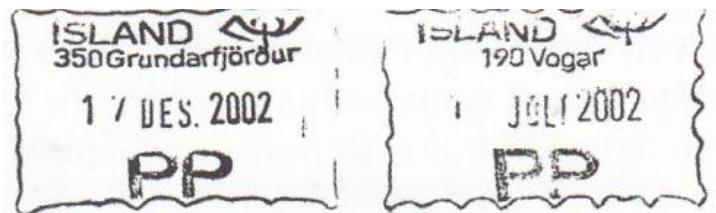


type (1) came into use on all post offices and postal outlets in February 1999. The name of Íslandspóstur hf. together with the number of the relevant post office and date together with the word "Paid". In addition, there was a registration number for each cashier, but each cashier received his or her own special stamp. Comments were soon received from abroad that the stamps were not in accordance with international postal practices and agreements. The text within the hand stamps therefore had to be edited. It was also decided that the hand stamps should from then on only be used on domestic mail.

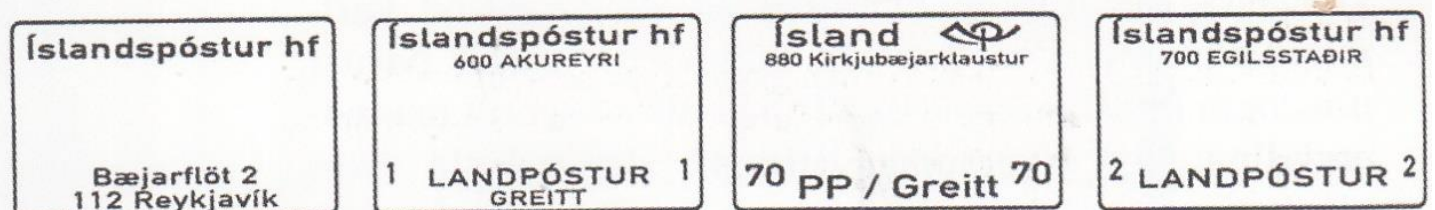
Later in 1999 came the so-called "PP" stamps (2). The name of Íslandspóstur within the hand stamps is now



Replaced with the word "Ísland". In addition "PP" in capital letters that stands for "Post Paye" (postage paid) (Ed. It actually stands for porto payé). As before, there is a frame around the text, but due to the use of incorrect ink, hand stamps with wrinkles are found on the frame



(3).



(4) Some deviations are known from types 1 and 2 and here are some samples of them without date



(5) In the same year, an experiment was carried out with so-called three-color box hand stamps at three post offices; these are however by a different manufacturer. As before, these are self-contained stamps, but unfortunately at first the names of the months were in English. The months were soon changed into being numerical. After a short period of use, the use of these hand stamps was discontinued.

The special labels, such as Company Services (Fyrirtækjapjónusta), must not be forgotten with the words: processed (afgreitt), charged (gjaldfært), paid (greitt) and Distribution Station (Dreifingarmiðstöð), to name but a few

(6)



After the introduction of agency post offices, several payment stamps of savings banks are known to have been used to confirm the payment of postage, but this is undoubtedly due to mistakes.

(7)



(8)



8

Stamps should now be used on all pre-paid (ed. spot paid, without credit), and the use of most of these stamps on postage will be discontinued, but if postage is charged to the account, Íslandspóstur's ordinary bridge type circular date stamps will replace it (8).

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