

ICELAND PHILATELIC MAGAZINE

An independent journal for collectors of Iceland stamps and postal history



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Iceland Philatelic Magazine

Contents	Page
News/Comment (including a new handbook on Postal Stationery by Hálfðan Helgason)	3
Review of the series “Was this cancel ever used here?” (IPM Issues 10 to 26)	4
Unusual destinations ~ R	5
A bizarre Seyðisfjörður bridge cancel and others	8
Forgangs-Bréf	9
Late strike of Arngerðareyri <i>Eivind Kolstad</i>	9
Postsaga.is – A launch of a new webpage dedicated to Icelandic philately <i>Brynjólfur Sigurjónsson</i>	10
1956 Charity issue (Issues 34/35) <i>Rúnar Þór Stefánsson and Anders Rodén</i>	11
It is not that easy <i>Ole Svinth</i>	13
A missing stamp on Iceland Brjefspjald – Germany via Faroes <i>Peter Sondhelm</i>	14
Is this another variation of the letter P of Þórshöfn?	15
Were the stamps applied in Reykjavík or in Germany?	16
Inverted centres on the 1925 Views (Issue 35)	16
The Thomas Cook WWII Undercover Mail Scheme for Iceland <i>Ed Fraser</i>	17
10 Pfennig German postal stationery used as (picture) postcard in Iceland <i>Ole Svinth</i>	22
Spot the Sunbeam on 1972 Herðubreið issue (issue 35)	22
A long journey for this cover. <i>Ole Svinth</i>	23
A selective inventory of Iceland stamps in stock in January 1938 <i>Magnús Thorsteinsson</i>	24

Please let me have your articles if you want them in the next issue which will be March 2020. If you need help with translations let me know.

The editor will help with the English if necessary.

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GLÆÐILEG JÓL

As we begin another new year, it might be of interest to show a breakdown of the location of our 163 readers:- Iceland 39; USA 37; UK 19; Denmark 17; Sweden 14; Holland 7; Germany 7; Canada 6; Norway 5; France 3; and one each in Finland, Spain, Singapore, Hungary, China, Czech Rep., New Zealand, Brazil, and Italy.

(We need to recruit a few more in Finland!)

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I am sure all Iceland collectors hope that the cessation of the Iceland club magazine Frímerkjablaðið is temporary, and that we will have the pleasure of seeing it again in the not too distant future. In the meantime, I would like to encourage the Icelandic readers of this magazine, especially those have previously had articles published in Frímerkjablaðið, to send articles me for publication in IPM. The articles do not have to be in English; send them in Icelandic if you wish.

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A new Handbook on Icelandic Postal Stationery *Hálfðan Helgason*

I want to inform you of my new **Handbook on Icelandic Postal Stationery**. Published in early December last, fully bilingual Icelandic and English, covering nearly all aspects of Iceland's postal-stationery issues. The covered topics include postal cards, lettercards, printed-matter cards and aerograms. All aspects are presented in considerable detail on 245 pages and every type as well as numerous variants are illustrated in color. The layout is in A5 format, perfect bound hard cover. The price is 43 Euro + postage. For further information, please contact the author, Hálfðan Helgason at halfdan@halfdan.is.

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Iceland Post are still publishing a website www.postur.is, but nearly everything relates to 2019 and earlier. There is no indication of a future stamp issuing policy. My thanks are due to Jarle Reiersen for informing me that Iceland Post have issued a new postage rate update to take effect from 1.1.2020. The only change which might interest collectors is to inland registration rates. As has been the case previously, there are discrepancies between the English language version and the Icelandic. It is safer to use the Icelandic copy.

There appear to be no changes to overseas rates since 1.1.2019 for letter rates and 1.3.2019 for registration rates.

I appeal to Iceland based readers; please let me have any news you might have concerning the subject of stamp production in 2020, or for that matter any other postal news concerning, for example, office closures/openings.

Finally for now, on the subject of registered letters, I am sure that many letters are sent registered. Can any reader show a registered cover from last year, either inland or to overseas, bearing postage stamps? If by the next issue of IPM none are forthcoming, then sadly that may indicate that we have seen the end of further additions to that popular aspect of cover collecting.

Review of the series “Was this cancel ever used here?” (IPM Issues 10 to 26)

So far in this review, we have dealt with B1a Vogatunga and B1a Þjórsarbrú, and now move on to B2a Þorfinnsstaðir and Þóróddsstaður which were featured in Issue 26. Since that issue in March 2018, no evidence has been provided by readers to prove either cancel was used at the named second offices. Conclusions are drawn below.



B2a Þorfinnsstaðir Vestur-Ísafjarðarsýsla

Recorded use Þorfinnsstaðir 1.07.1930 – 31.12.1944

Kirkjuból 1.1.1945 – 31.12.1964

Þorfinnsstaðir used between 1.07.1930 – 31.12.1944 is rare and Facit gives it a * rating.



The B2a Þorfinnsstaðir is said to have been located at Kirkjuból between 1.1.45 and 31.12.64. No example has come to light to prove that the cancel was used there. However, as Kirkjuból had no other cancel, it is surely inconceivable that the cancel was not used during the 20 years when it was located there. Postal traffic was probably very occasional, and if an example does exist, it must be very scarce. The adjacent picture is said to be of Kirkjuból.



B2a Þóróddsstaður Suður Þíngeyjarsýsla

Recorded use Þóróddsstaður 28.2.1930 – 31.03.1976

Rangá 1.4.1976 – 4.7.1976

The delay in providing the B8b Rangá cancel until 17th May 1976 left an interval of 6 weeks when the B2a Þóróddsstaður could have been used at Rangá. Again, no evidence has been provided of such use by readers. It must however remain a possibility that it was used at Rangá, and will be very scarce.



Unusual destinations ~ R

RHODESIA



Reykjavík 1 dated 19.3.1973.

Bulawayo receiving cancels 23 and 24 Mar 1973.

16kr airmail up to 10gm plus 16kr registration.

Rates valid 1.5.72 to 30.6.73.

Both issues of the Arctic Tern charity issue of 1972.

ROUMANIA



There are various ways of spelling the name of this country; this example is one I am not familiar with!

Hafnarfjörður B8e dated 3.X.1970.

Copenhagen transit cancel 5.10.70 and partial Eforie Nord receiving cancel 8.10.1970.

1450aur airmail to Europe, plus 2000aur express fee, total 3450aur. Rates current 1.1.69 to 30.6.71



Another spelling variation
- Rumania

B2c2 Siglufjörður dated
21.VI.58.

Reykjavík transit and
Craiova receiving cancel
7.7.58

The UPU surface rate was
175aur and 200aur
registration from 1.10.53
to 30.6.58.

The cover is overpaid by
15aur.

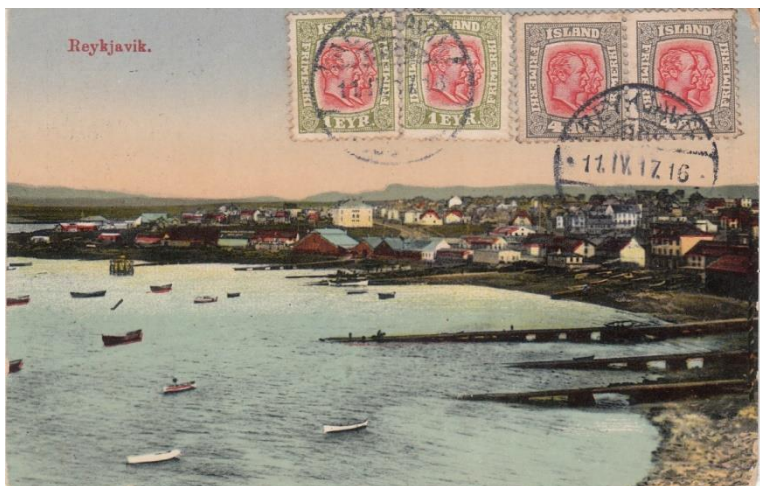


A third spelling of the name.

Reykjavík B1d dated 16.IV.38. arrival 25.Apr.38

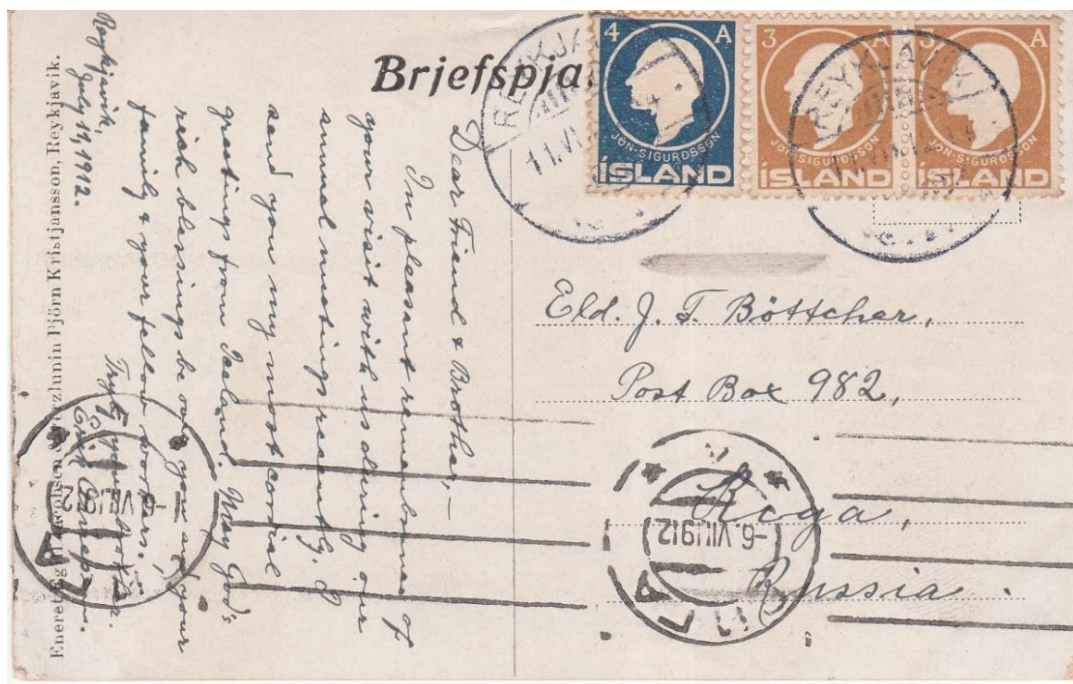
35aur surface rate

RUSSIA



Reykjavík Bld dated 11.IV.17 to Moscow. 10 aur postcard rate.

Although the receiving cancel is unclear, the card is likely to have arrived between the first and second Bolshevik revolutions March and October 1917. The message in French suggests a postcard exchange.



Reykjavík B1d dated 11.VII.12. 10 aur postcard rate.

Riga is now the capital of independent Latvia, but at the time this card was sent, it was one of the largest cities in the Russian Empire. The Riga arrival cancel in Cyrillic is dated 6.VII.12 according to the Julian calendar which remained in use in Russia until 31.1.1918. The Gregorian calendar used in Iceland was 13 or 14 days ahead of the Julian calendar at that period. The card appears to have arrived 5 days before it was sent! It is addressed in English to an elder, probably of the Lutheran church, which was one of the main religions in Latvia.

A bizarre Seyðisfjörður bridge cancel and others



I knew I had seen this cancellation before, and I thank Jørgen Steen Larsen who referred me to Frímerkjablaðið Issue 11 in which the late Þór Þorsteins wrote an article entitled 'False Icelandic Bridge cancels'. Þór listed about 19 bridge cancels, including the Seyðisfjörður shown opposite, but his is on a postcard with a 10aur Two Kings.

Here is my attempt at a translation of the main text of his article.

In recent years, there has been some evidence that stamps, cards, and envelopes stamped with forged cancels, have been placed on the market. These are cancels that the Icelandic postal administration have not created or used. With increased knowledge of the date cancels it has become easier to identify such cancels and thus reduce the possibilities of the manufacturer of forged cancels for sale to collectors.

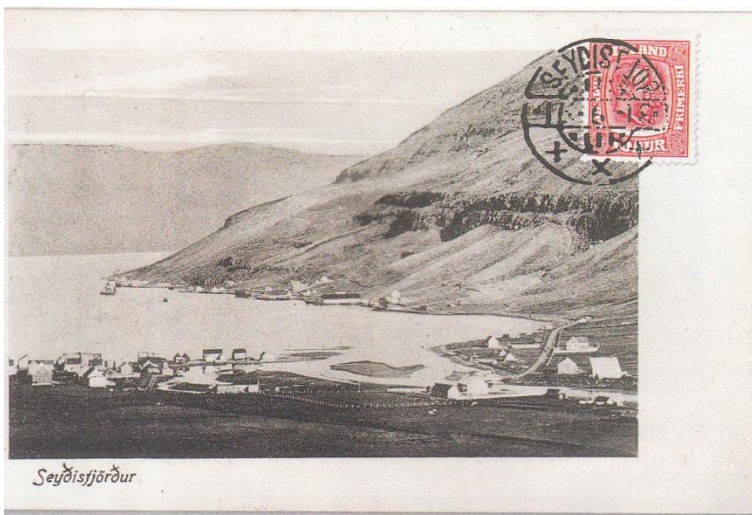
This article only covers the bridge cancels, but omits the postage stamps where for value enhancement genuine cancels have been used for stamping older stamps that have long since expired. It is envisaged that a subsequent article will appear later on that use.

The straight forgery of cancels seems to come in waves. There are quite a few old maximum postcards from about 1913 stamped with the types Blb and B1d. If there is text written on them in French, the cards are addressed to recipients in Belgium, France or Tunisia. The same handwriting seems to be on most of them.

*Here you can see pictures of known counterfeit bridge cancels, which show the main characteristics in their design. ***



If there is a large difference in the value of used and unused stamps, the collectors must be very careful not to buy the "Köttin í sekknum" "The cat in the bag". ☺



Many collectors have reached out to provide this information, and especially appreciate the following for invaluable help:

Arne Fahnöe, Don Brandt, Johnny Pernerfors, Joergen Steen Larsen, Kim Ravn Mortensen, Hans C. Mogensen and Ólafí Elíassyni.

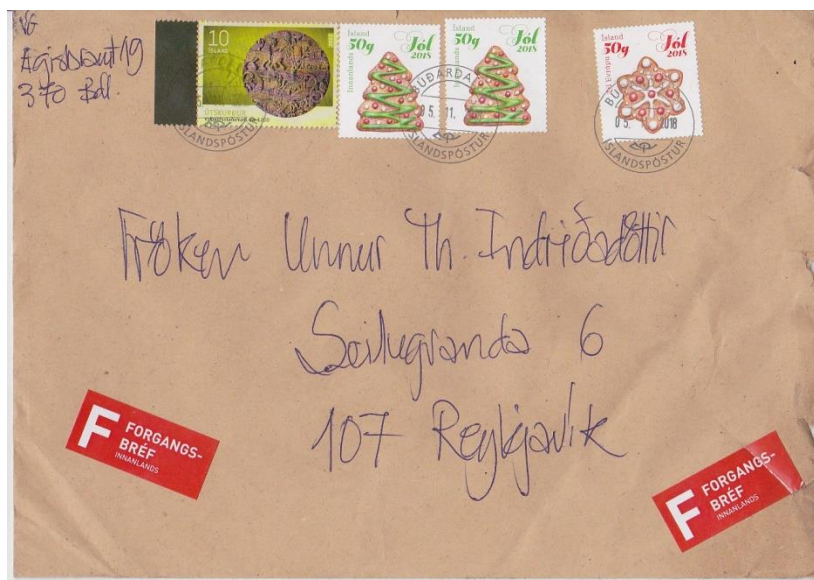
**** In Þór's article he showed numerous other examples**

Seyðisfjörður same date 16.6.12 as the first example

Forgangs-Bréf

Examples have been shown in previous issues of this ill-fated next day delivery service, which lasted only from February to December 2018. I could not resist showing another one dated 05.11.2018 cancelled at Búðardalur.

Afficionados of modern postal rates will work out that the 2 x 50gm innanlands sold at 180kr = 360kr, plus one Evrópu 50gm sold at 225kr, plus a 10kr filler stamp, totalling 595kr. This was the Forgangs-Bréf rate throughout its short life.



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Late strike of Arngerðareyri Eivind Kolstad

Thanks for another great magazine, and I fully agree with Ole Svinth: if you don't see the clear sunbeam on the lower Herðubreið-stamp to the left, you need new spectacles, for sure. (Ed.☺) It is very clear here in Norway, even if the daylight is gone almost all the day now.

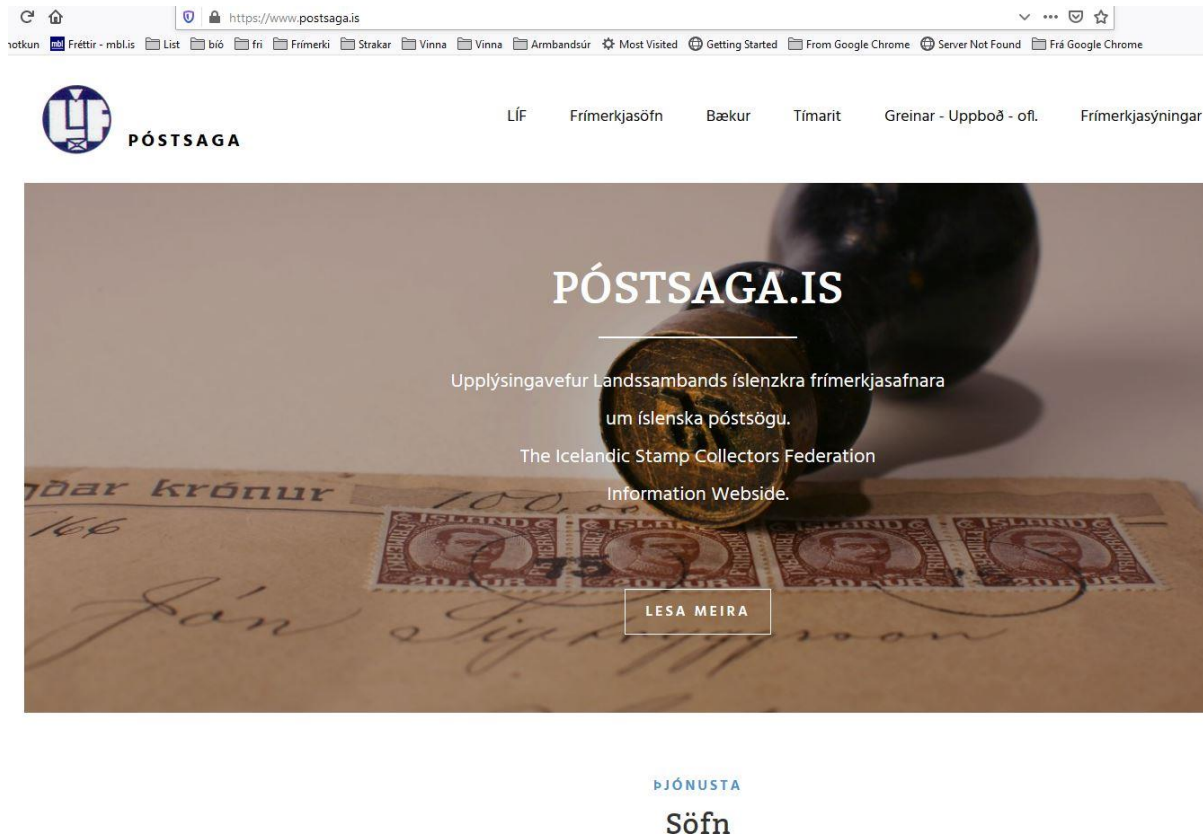


I enclose a photo of a good Arngerðareyri. According to the books, Arngerðareyri was closed by the end of 1959, but this is from 19.1. -0, which must be 60, and it is definitely a postally used one. Any later strikes please?

(Ed. Ignoring the bit about spectacles, I am grateful to Eivind for raising this query. Has any reader got a 1960 or later copy of this cancel? My latest clear date is 1947.

Postsaga.is – A launch of a new webpage dedicated to Icelandic philately

Brynjólfur Sigurjónsson



On November 9, the website of the National Association of Icelandic Stamp collectors (LÍF) went live. This is a collaboration between the Icelandic Ministry of Transport and LÍF. Work started on the website earlier this year which has the URL: www.postsaga.is. The aim is to put all kind of material related to Icelandic stamps such as magazines, collections and books, as well as pictures of social activities of clubs both in Iceland and abroad. The site's editor will be Gústaf A. Gústafsson, and if you have a suggestion regarding content for the site then please send it to gusti@stampauction.is.



Páll A. Pálsson photographer captures the moment when Gústaf A. Gústafsson editor of postsaga.is, launches the webpage. A long-awaited and historic moment which both Eiður Árnason and Sigurður R. Pétursson witnessed. (Image: Brynjólfur Sigurjónsson).

1956 Charity issue (Issues 34/35) *Rúnar þór Stefánsson and Anders Rodén*

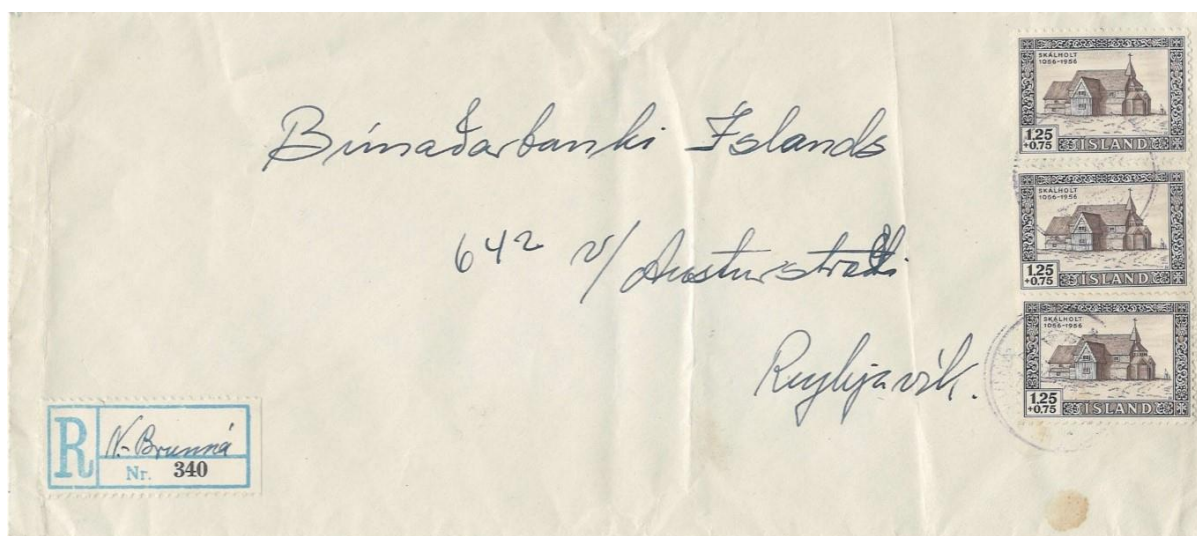
The appeal by Ole Svinth in Issue 34 for examples of the non-philatelic use of the 1956 Skálholt charity issue has produced some fine examples.

From Rúnar þór Stefánsson,

As you mention in your articles in issues 34/35 it is hard to find covers where stamps from the charity issues are correctly used (i.e. non-philatelic). I have collected covers from the Republic for the last 35 years and I have only a few from the Skálholt issue 1956. Attached are covers from my collection which show correct use of the stamps and with correct postal rates.



Reykjavík 4.3.1956. Registered letter sent to the Skálholt Committee, the sender is the priest Þórarinn Þór, Reykhólum. Fee for registration 1,50 kr + inland surface letter 1,25 kr. Total **2,75** kr. $0,75+0,75+1,25 = 2,75$). Valid in the period 1.10.1953-31.3.1956



Neðri Brunná 1957. Registered letter sent to Búnaðarbanki Íslands, the sender is Staðarhólsþing / Dalaprófastdæmi (organization within the church) Fee for registration 2 kr + inland surface letter 1,75 kr. Total **3,75** kr. $(1,25 \times 3 = 3,75)$. Valid in the period 1.4.1956-30.6.1958



Gerðar 28.1.1962. Inland letter sent to Ríkisútvarpsins (The Icelandic National Broadcasting Service) the letter is marked Pátturinn íslenskt mál, Mr. Jón Aðalsteinn Jónsson was in charge for this program. Surface rate **3,50** kr (1,75 x 2 = **3,50**.) Valid in the period 1.9.1961-31.12.1963

From Anders Rodén:-

In the last issue of IPM the question was asked about postally used Charity issue of 1956. I have a cover with stamps from this issue in my collection sent to Sweden and I send you a scan of that cover



Reykjavík B1d dated 9.XI.57 to Sweden.

2kr55 Scandinavia airmail rate. Valid 1.4.57 to 30.6.58

It is not that easy *Ole Svinth*

In my philatelic life I sometimes meet the question, true or false? We have all met the problem, when specialists have different opinions. One makes an OK certificate another says false. I have an example. Neither of us common collectors have a clue in this case. No names will be shown, because that is not the question.

Here we have the statement A,

Took a closer look at the subject 16-aur OS and I am virtually certain that it is fake. At least some of the overprint characters are not consistent with the original typography. This includes the extra-large upper ball on the “3, the downward curve seen on the upper serif of the “D”, and the uneven (ragged) outline of various characters on the top line of the overprint.

Here I show statement B (translated from Danish),

I have seen the statement from “A”. I have studied my sat copies and the sheets I have from sats 1 and 2. I can well see that there are some “discrepancies” from the typical position 22 and 27. However, I find that varieties, which occur through all 6 settings, must have been victims of minor alterations. I still think overprint is genuine.

Should it be a forgery, we here have a scoundrel who knows too much.

I have two copies perforated K2 with inverted overprint like this with Reykjavik postmark in correct time and one unused, which I doubt is 1st print.



This is a good example of what to believe. What do we common people do?

A small statistic says that 3 certificated examiners say OK and one no.

Another area is the postmarks on the skilling issues. Is the cancel OK? In this area we have some help from e.g. the Facit catalogue.

In the end one must believe in our own eyes and wit (and wallet).

16 aur off. 1st print inverted overprint-

A missing stamp on Iceland Brjefspjald – Germany via Faroes *Peter Sondhelm*

Reading through my Rapport magazine that arrived recently, I noticed an Icelandic stamp cancelled with the early Thorshavn Lapidar postmark. This reminded me of an Icelandic stationery postcard I bought many, many, years ago - it had been landed at Klaksvig, where the stationery imprint stamp had received a Klaksvig Lapidar postmark (and subsequently a Thorshavn Lapidar postmark, and I think an Edinburgh Ship Letter mark). I think that Icelandic mail landed at Klaksvig is scarcer than such mail landed at Thorshavn, although I believe Klaksvig had a boxed Fra Island incoming shipsmail mark already from the 19th century, so mail amounts landed at Klaksvig from Iceland obviously merited such a handstamp being produced. Not that I recall seeing large numbers! I also think I've seen another letter or card cancelled on the same day in Klaksvig, arriving from Iceland, as the Stationery card I have. Presumably such mail was carried on fishing boats or the like – this card was written in Eskifjörður, on the east coast, so it might make sense to send it to the Faroes, rather than westwards to Reykjavík.

Unfortunately, the card I have, although nicely cancelled, is also missing a stamp in the top left hand corner, where the outer bits of another Klaksvig Lapidar cancel can be seen. The card also has a Postage due T surcharge mark, so it's always possible that the stamp had come off earlier. However is this likely? I cannot quickly find my book on Icelandic postage rates, but from recollection when I originally tried to determine the stamp missing, I think the overseas postage rate at this time, as the card is addressed to Germany, was 10 Aur. I don't think there was a 2 Aur stamp at this time, so I suspect the card was franked with a 3 Aur, being 1 Aur over-franked.

After all these years, when from time to time I notice Icelandic stamps cancelled in Klaksvig coming up for auction, I see if they might be a match. It would be nice to know whether this missing stamp still exists, and may be in a collection somewhere – or perhaps the Postage due T surcharge mark has some significance I do not understand. So maybe one of your readers may know of the stamp, or understand a significance of the surcharge handstamp, or whatever.

I wondered if at some point when you have a 'smaller issue' of IPM going out, perhaps you could include a short piece asking about the 'missing stamp'. Perhaps one of your readers can assist. (Ed. Readers search your copies.)

With thanks and regards,



Were the stamps applied in Reykjavík or in Germany?



I have seen a cover like this before but cannot find the reference to it.



Did Reykjavík apply the 3 x 20aur stamps, and if so why? Any combination of prevailing UPU letter rates from 1908 plus registration fee of 15aur makes it impossible to reconcile the 60 aur franking.

Is it possible that August Kalz in Berlin supplied a stamped pre-addressed envelope complete with their registration label? The Reykjavík office accepted and cancelled the 60aur franking on 13.5.1911 and sent it by surface via Edinburgh MY 26, arrival Berlin 27.5. Views anybody? I cannot find any trace of ‘August Kalz’; presumably it was a commercial enterprise in Berlin. There were 9 bidders and it sold for \$238.92

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Inverted centres on the 1925 Views (Issue 35)

There has been no response to Magni Magnússon’s request for information on the inverted 25ur Views (Issue35).

Here are three more, described on Ebay as “gummed reproduction stamps”. I guess they might come from the same source as Magni’s?



Iceland was in an unusual situation in WWII when Denmark was occupied by the Nazis in the Spring of 1940. Germany treated both the Danish Faroes and Iceland in an unusual way vis-à-vis mail service, in that they allowed for some civilian mail service from Denmark to pass through to Iceland and the Faroes (and Greenland). British or Allied censorship would always accept such mail from Denmark and would generally deliver it after censorship, but generally did not allow mail going back to Denmark except through the Red Cross Message Scheme or the intermediary service, the Thomas Cook Message Scheme. While there are known examples of Icelandic mail being allowed to go through to Denmark, the service was apparently quite irregular and uncertain when such mail would be allowed. Although Iceland was not “British” or within the British Empire, Britain did actively offer access to use the Thomas Cook mail scheme to write to Occupied Europe throughout the war. (Usage of the service was formally forbidden and never allowed within the U.S. by the U.S. Government, although right after Dec 1941 Thomas Cook did request to be able to offer their services within the U.S., but the U.S. denied allowing.)

An interesting clue about the availability of this service within Iceland is suggested by the usage of an instruction form about the Thomas Cook service that was distributed by British Censorship! This can be seen from their form PC 85 written in Icelandic! Censorship would insert these forms into incoming mail that involved writers in an occupied country in order to advise the addressee that any reply to go to an enemy or enemy occupied country could only be done through the Red Cross or the Thomas Cook service. Such forms were generally in English, and only a handful are in another language. I know only of PC 85 form examples in German, a different form in Hebrew...and the PC 85 form in Icelandic. This Icelandic censorship form however is perhaps unique as it is perhaps the only censorship form that relates the full instructions for using the Thomas Cook service - something otherwise only found in information instructions from Thomas Cook itself.

Here in Figure 1 is a typical Thomas Cook instruction sheet, this example from sometime probably just after June 1941 when Germany had attacked Russia. This can be compared with the instructions given in the PC 85-Icelandic form apparently inserted with a November 1941 letter from England to Iceland shown as Figures 2, 3, and 4. This Nov 1941 cover, without a likely letter from Denmark as Thomas Cook would forward from London, is shown in Figure 7.

Over time, Thomas Cook edited their instructions. Likewise, this unusual PC 85 – Icelandic was also changed slightly, as shown here from a January 1943 cover, and is shown as Figures 5 and 6. The “Trading Addendum” slip has been incorporated into the one sheet back, and an item 16 has been added.

I am not aware of a full translation of the Icelandic text, but there appears to be a Danish translation in the Hopballe & Eliasson book, "Island 1939-1945" on pages 260 and 264. It appears to likely be of the Nov 1941 PC 85 form?

I have four questions for anyone:

1. Are there additional versions of this PC 85-Icelandic reported?
2. Is there an English translation of either version?
3. Like the later Thomas Cook instructions, do the PC 85-Icelandic forms mention to not put the Box 506 return address on the envelope to go to Occupied Europe? (The earlier Thomas Cook ones from 1940 do not say anything about putting a return address on envelopes, but the Figure 1 example here does say not to put it on the flap, in Item 3. Later ones I have seen specify to not put it on the “envelope”.

4. Is the addressee in the Figure 7 cover a known Icelandic person or is name recognized? (Karlig Hilson, or Lundholm?)

Notes for persons wishing to communicate with friends in Enemy Countries, or Territory in the occupation of the Enemy

Authority has been given to permit communication with persons in enemy territories, subject to the following conditions.

The territories included in these arrangements are: Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, Denmark, Finland, France (Occupied), Germany, Greece (Mainland), Greek Islands and Crete, Holland, Hungary, Italy and Italian Possessions, Luxembourg, Norway, Poland (German occupied), Roumania and Yugoslavia, also Estonia, Latvia & Lithuania

1. Communications must be clearly written or typed on one side of the paper only, on plain, unwatermarked stationery, and must not exceed two pages of normal size. Writers should not put more than one letter in the same envelope. Erasures and corrections or mutilated stationery and additions by other people are not permitted.

2. Letters and envelopes must omit the sender's address. They may be in English or in the language of the country for which they are intended (except Czech and Hebrew), and must contain nothing but matters of personal interest.

(a) No reference may be made to any town, village, locality, ship or journey, or to the Censorship or to any other phase of the war, or to Thos. Cook & Son, Ltd., or any of their offices, or to the means by which the letter is sent. No printed matter, map, plan, sketch, drawing, print, photograph, or other pictorial representation, or postage or revenue stamp, may be enclosed.

(b) Business letters and letters containing directions about property or money matters must not be sent to Thos. Cook & Son, Ltd., but should be submitted by the sender to the Trading with the Enemy Branch of the Treasury and Board of Trade, 24 Kingsway, London, W.C.

3. Each letter must be placed in an open unstamped envelope fully inscribed to the addressee, who should be asked to address any reply to your full name, care of Post Box 506, LISBON, Portugal. Poste Restante addresses are not accepted. The use of titles or Naval, Military or Air Force rank is forbidden. The Lisbon Post Box must not be mentioned on the flap of the envelope.

4. The open envelope containing the letter should be placed in an outer stamped envelope and sent to THOS. COOK & SON, LTD., BERKELEY STREET, PICCADILLY, LONDON, W.1., together with a memorandum, plainly written, containing in block characters the name (Christian name first) and full address of the sender. A married woman should give her own as well as her husband's initials.

5. The communication to Thos. Cook & Son, Ltd., must enclose Postal Order value 2s. (stamps or International Coupons cannot be accepted), which fee will cover the postage of one envelope containing one communication to the neutral country, and from the neutral country to the addressee, also of a reply (if any) from the neutral country to Messrs. Cook's Head Office in London, and from that office to the intended recipient. The fee does not include the cost of postage of the reply from enemy territory to the neutral country.

For an extra fee of 6d. each, letters can be sent by Air Mail between London and Lisbon.

Envelopes must not be endorsed "Air Mail."

Thos. Cook & Son, Ltd., undertake this transaction at the sole risk in all respects of the party requiring their services, and on the express understanding that no action will lie against them by reason of any act or default on their part or on the part of any person or agent employed by them.

6. Letters under this scheme may not cover remittances, directly or indirectly, to enemy territory, for which a licence of the Trading with the Enemy Branch (see paragraph 2b above) is necessary.

7. Communications for Prisoners of War, i.e., British and Allied Naval, Military, and Air Force prisoners and Civilian internees, must not be sent under the foregoing arrangements, but forwarded in accordance with the regulations of which particulars may be obtained at any Post Office.

Parcels cannot be dealt with under the foregoing scheme.

O/N 3476 JRP

Figure 1

Instructions for using the Thomas Cook scheme to send letters into Nazi Europe.

Undated form, but definitely after June 1941 as Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia were only added after German Occupation with attack on Russia.

K.E.R.

FRÁ BREZKU RITSKOÐUNINN.

P.C.85 (Icelandic)

Sem stendur getið þér aðeins haft samband við óvinalönd, eða lönd hertekin af óvinum gegnum annanhvern af hér eftir tilgreindum milligöngumönnum fyrir:-

A. Bréf
og
B. Orðsendingar

A. Messrs. Thomas Cook & Son Ltd.,
Berkeley Street,
London, W. 1.

Sendið bréf sem þér hefið skrifað til óvinalands, eða lands sem hertekið er af óvinum, til ofangreindrar utanáskriftar. (Thos. Cook & Son) ásamt fylgibréfi sem gefið fullt nafn og heimilisfang yðar og sömuleiðis peningsávisun au upphæð 2 shillings; þetta er nægilegt bursgjöld undir bréf yðar og svarbréf.

Fyrir 6 pence aukagjald geta bréfin farið loftleiðis frá London til Lissabon.

LEIÐBEIÐINGAR VEVINLANDI BRÉFUM TIL ÓVINALANDS Eða LANDS SEM HERTEKIÐ ER AF ÓVINUM.

1. Aðeins má nota óbrotinn skrifpappír án vatnsmerkis.
2. Bréf verða að vera greinilega skrifuð, eða vélrituð, og aðeins öðru megin á hvert blað.
3. Þau mega ekki vera mörk en ein örð af skrifpappír af venjulegri stærð.
4. Útstrikanir og leiðréttingar eru ekki leyfilegar og ekki heldur skrifpappír, sem er gallaour eða á annan hátt skemmdur.
5. Aðeins ein manneskja má skrifa hvert bréf.
6. Þér megjið ekki gefa heimilisfang yðar.
7. Ekkert má minnst á stríðið, staðanöfn, hérað, skipan öfn eða skipaferðir, ekki má heldur minnst á ritskoðun, eða á hvern hátt bréfið er sent.
8. Þér megjið aðeins skrifa um einkamál yðar, en megjið ekki minnst á verðum eða viðskiftamál.
9. Það er ekki leyfilegt að setja innlegg í bréfin.

Figure 2

Front of British Censorship PC 85 – Icelandic form as included in a Nov 1941 letter by Censor.

10. Aðeins má vera eitt bréf í hverju umslagi.
 11. Hvert bréf verður að setja í opið ófrímerkt umslag, með greinilegri utanáskrift, fullu nafni og heimilisfangi viðtakanda.
 12. Biðjið viðtakanda að skrifa utaná svarbréfið fullt nafn yðar,
c/o POST BOX 506,
LISSABON,
PORTUGAL.
 13. Bréf má skrifa á íslensku, eða á máli lands þess, sem bréfin eiga að fara til.
 14. Bréf til stríðsfanga, f.e. sjóhers, landhers eða flughers - fanga brezkra eða bandamanna, eða kyrsettra borgara (civilian internees) má ekki senda gegnum Messrs. Thomas Cook & Son.
 15. Bréf eru móttakin algerlega á ábyrgð sendanda.
- B. ORÐSENDINGAR - RAUÐAKROSS - ORÐSENDINGAVIÐSKIFTI.
Fyrir tilhlutun Rauða Krossins er hægt að koma orðsendingum sem nema 25 orðum (aðeins 25 orð eru leyfileg) til attingja og vina, og má afhenda þessar orðsendingar, eða senda þar til:

RAUÐI KROSS ÍSLANDS,
HAFNARSTRÆTI 5
REYKJAVÍK.

LEIÐBEININGAR VIÐVIKJANDI ORÐSENDINGUM TIL ÓVINALANDS EÐA LANDS SEM HERTEKIÐ ER AF ÓVINUM.

1. Aðeins 25 orð eru leyfileg, auk nafns og heimilisfangs móttakanda.
2. Orðsendingar mega vera á íslensku, eða á máli þess lands, zsm þar eiga að fara til.
3. Gefa skal fullt nafn og heimilisfang móttakanda.
4. Umslag með nafni yðar og heimilisfangi, skal afhenda, eða leggja innan í bréf yðar til Rauða Krossins, svo að Rauði Krossinn geti sent svarið til yðar.
5. Einnig skal leggja innan í peningsávisun að upphæð 1 shilling sem er nægilegt burðargjald fyrir orðsendinguna og svar við henni.
6. Orðsendingar mega aðeins vera um einkamál og fyrirspurnir. Um verzlunar og viðskiftamál er ekki leyfilegt að skrifa.

Figure 3
Back of British Censorship PC 85 - Icelandic Form
As included in a Nov 1941 letter by Censor.

ATHEUGASEMD:

Peningasendingar eða verzlunar og viðskiftabréf til óvinalands eða lands, sem hertekið er af óvinum má aðeins senda ef fengið er leyfi hjá:

THE TRADING WITH THE ENEMY OF THE TREASURY AND BOARD OF TRADE,
ALEXANDRA HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON W.C.1.

Figure 4
Attachment to British Censorship PC 85 – Icelandic Form
As included in a Nov 1941 letter by Censor.

FRÁ BREZKU RITSKODUNINI

P.C.85 (Icelandic).

Sem stendur getið þér aðeins haft samband við óvinalönd, eða lönd hertekin af óvinum gegnum annanhvern af hör eftir tilgreindum milligöngumönnum fyrir:-

A. Bréf, og
B. Ordsendingar

A. Messrs. Thomas Cook & Son Ltd.,
Berkeley Street, London, W.1.

Sonnið bréf sem þér hafið skrifad til óvinalands, eða lands sem hertekið er af óvinum, til ofangreindrar utanáskriftar. (Thos. Cook & Son) ásamt fylgibréfi sem gefi fullt nafn og heimilisfang yðar og sömuleiðis peningaávisun að upphæð 2 shillings; þetta er nægilegt burðargjald undir bréf yðar og svarbréf.

Fyrir 6 pence aukagjald geta bréfin farið loftleiðis frá London til Lissabon.

LEIÐBEININGAR VIÐVIKJANDI BRÉFUM TIL ÓVINALANDS Eða LANDS SEM HERTEKIÐ ER AF ÓVINUM.

1. Aðeins má nota óbrotinn skrifpappír án vatnsmerkis.
2. Bréf verða að vera greinilega skrifuð, eða vélrituð, og aðeins öðru megin á hvert blað.
3. Þau mega ekki vera meira en ein örsk af skrifpappír af ynjulegri stærð.
4. Útstríkanir og leiðréttingar eru ekki leyfilegar og ekki heldur skrifpappír, sem er gallaður eða á annan hátt skemmdur.
5. Aðeins ein manneskja má skrifa hvert bréf.
6. Þér megid ekki gefa heimilisfang yðar.
7. Ekkiert má minnst á stríðið, staðanöfn, hérað, skipanöfn eða skipaferðir, ekki má heldur minnst á ritskodun, eða á hvern hátt bréfið er sent.
8. Þér megid aðeins skrifa um einkamál yðar, en megid ekki minnst á verzlun eða viðskiftamál.
9. Það er ekki leyfilegt að setja innlegg í bréfin.
10. Aðeins má vera eitt bréf í hverju unslagi.
11. Hvert bréf verður, að setja í opið ófrimerkt unslag, með greinilegri utanáskrift, fullu nafni og heimilisfangi viðtakanda.
12. Biðjið viðtakanda að skrifa utana svarbréfið fullt nafn yðar,

g/o

Figure 5
Front of British Censorship PC 85 – Icelandic Form
As included in a Jan 1943 letter by Censor.

- C/o Post Box 506, Lissabon, Portugal.
13. Bréf má skrifa á íslensku, eða á máli lands þess, sem bréfin eiga að fara til.
 14. Bréf til stríðsfanga, þ.o. sjóhers, landhers eða flughers - fanga, broskara eða bandamanna, eða kyrsettra borgara (civilian internees) má ekki senda gegnum Messrs. Thomas Cook & Son.
 15. Bréf eru meðtekið algjörlega á ábyrgð sendanda.
 16. Ekki má nefna bréf, skrifuð til eða meðtekið frá óvinalandi, eða landi sem hertekið er af óvinum. Í stað þess mátti segja. "Fróttir" eða "Skilaboð".
- B. ORDSENDINGAR - RAUÐAKROSS - ORDSENDINGAVIDSKIFTI.
 Fyrir tilhlutun Rauða Krossins er hægt að koma ordsendingum sem nema 25 orðum (aðeins 25 orð eru leyfileg) til ættingja og vina, og má afhenda þessar ordsendingar, eða senda þær til:

Rauði Kross Islands, Hafnarstræti 5, Reykjavík.

LEIÐBEININGAR VIÐVIKJANDI ORDSENDINGU TIL ÓVINALANDS Eða LANDS SEM HERTEKIÐ ER AF ÓVINUM.

1. Aðeins 25 orð eru leyfileg, auk nafns og heimilisfangs móttakanda.
2. Ordsendingar mega vera á íslensku, eða á máli þess lands, sem þær eiga að fara til.
3. Gefa skal fullt nafn og heimilisfang móttakanda.
4. Umslag með nafni yðar og heimilisfangi, skal afhenda, eða leggja innan í bréf yðar til Rauða Krossins, svo að Rauði Krossinn geti sent svarið til yðar.
5. Minnig skal leggja innan í peningaávisun að upphæð 1 shilling sem er nægilegt burðargjald fyrir ordsendinguna og svar við henni.
6. Ordsendingar mega aðeins vera um sýnarmál og fyrirspurnir. Um verzlunar og viðskiftamál er ekki leyfilegt að skrifa.

ATHUGASEM:

Peningasendingar eða verzlunar og viðskiftabréf til óvinalands eða lands, sem hertekið er af óvinum má aðeins senda ef fengið er leyfi hjá:

The Trading with the Enemy Branch of The Treasury and Board of Trade, Alexandra House, Kingsway, London, W.C.1.

Handwritten note:
 2nd
 10/11/41

Figure 6

Back of British Censorship PC 85
 – Icelandic Form
 As included in a Jan 1943 letter by
 Censor.

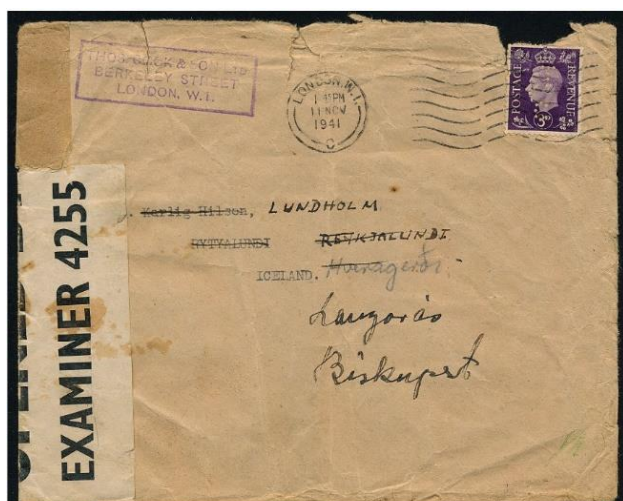
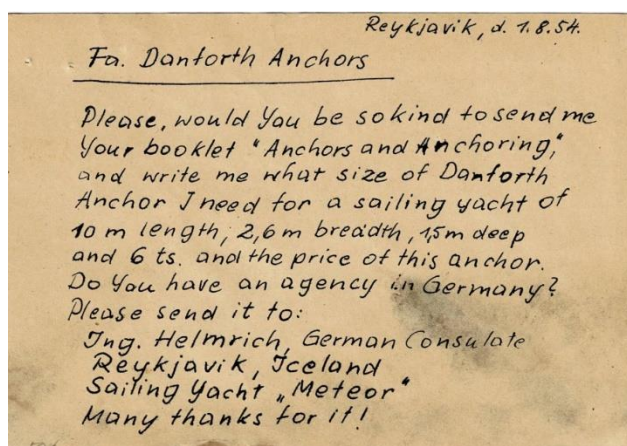


Figure 7

Front and back of cover from Thomas Cook.
 Canceled London 11 Nov 1941. Twice forwarded so
 backstamped in Iceland on 31 Nov 1941 and 18 Dec 1941.

10 Pfennig German postal stationery used as (picture) postcard in Iceland *Ole Svinth*

Mr. Helmrich sent for information on an anchor for his yacht. I hope he had the yacht in Germany. It is a tough voyage in a yacht from Germany – Iceland and back.



Postcard franked as airmail to US without airmail label August 1st 1954. Postage was 100 aur for the card and an additional 70 aur airmail fee.

Maybe you think this item would fit perfectly in a collection of German postal stationery. I am inclined to say you are right. However, it's a funny item.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Spot the Sunbeam on 1972 Herðubreið issue (Issue 35)

Many thanks to all those kind and well-meaning suggestions about the editor needing spectacles. OK, I give in. Although I knew there was a scratch ☺ on the stamp, I was reluctant to flatter it by calling it a sunbeam. Thank you for all the excellent enlarged images of the “sunbeam”, from Holland, Denmark, Norway and Canada.

A long journey for this cover. Ole Svinth

In the early seventies my interest in postage rates was awakened by Folmer Østergaard. From then I looked for fellow stamp collectors in several countries in order to have covers and cards showing the actual rate, Surface – Airmail - Printed matter and Registered. It didn't take many years before I had to give it up. The task was too big. The shown letter was sent in a cover to the post office at Akranes in order to have it forwarded. That was not a problem. The cover left Iceland October 23rd 1986. On October 28th the postmark of 0042 Garsfontein told of the arrival. In the meantime, David had moved and left no new address. This was noted on the label and cover left Garsfontein November 3rd. The letter was then returned to Cape Town and sent on to Iceland November 11th. The “next” postmark we find is the Reykjavík postmark dated December 14th. Icelandic postal “detectives” solved the question of identity of sender and the cover was returned to me. The ink written remarks Denmark and Jyderup (different hand styles) were made there. Unfortunately, I did not get arrival postmark, but I assume I received the cover early for X-mas.



Registered airmail cover from Akranes 23 10 1986. Arrival Garsfontein 28 10 86 (on back). Returned from Garsfontein 3 11 86 (on front). Cape Town transit 7 11 86 and Reykjavík 14 12 86.

I assume the Reykjavík mark was when cover was sent back to Denmark after the puzzle solving detectives worked on the case.

Postage rate 0-20 gr. was 20 kr. for airmail. Registration fee 30 kr.

Farie Glen was under the Garsfontein post office in Pretoria.

(Ed. I was intrigued by the name “Farie Glen”, and asked Google.

“Faerie Glen”, is, like Garsfontein, a suburb of Pretoria, with the post code 0403

The name “Faerie Glen” originates from the story of large dragonflies which flew over the mountains, and were so big, the locals said they resembled fairies.



A selective inventory of Iceland stamps in stock in January 1938 *Magnús Thorsteinsson*

I'm not sure if you're interested in this for your magazine, but I bought a stamp collection from the grandson of Guðmundur Hlíðdal, Póst og Síamálástjóri (Head of postal affairs and telecommunications...not exactly sure how to translate the title) from 1935 to 1956. This was a very typical Icelandic stamps collection, except for a few document papers containing a stamp inventory done by his granddad in 1938. Not sure why the inventory was done at the time, and why only these stamps were picked for the inventory. The numbers match what's being presented in the book "100 Years of Icelandic Stamps" by Jon A. Jonsson, but not everything though. Perhaps what's more interesting is that the inventory also shows how many stamps the Icelandic postal authorities had in stock in January 1938. I've attached scans of the inventory, but you'll decide if this is interesting enough to share with your readers.

Warm regards,

Magnus

1	Útgáfu- dr	Upplag	Eftir 1.1.1938	
	1902	1.000.000	6.000	
	1902	300.000	16.300	
	1902	400.000	22.300	
	1902	300.000	24.700	Yfirprentur 147.900
	1902	200.000	14.000	Yfirprentur 79.600
	1902	200.000	18.400	Yfirprentur 99.600

(Ed. There are 8 pages in the inventory covering some but not all of the CHIX, Double Head, Frederik VIII and CHX issues. I have reproduced the three pages covering the CHIX issues. If any reader is interested in seeing the other 5 pages I shall gladly send them.)

2.	Útgáfu- ár	Upplag	Eftir 1/1. 1938	
	1902	100.000	46.600	
	1904	111.700	12.850	Yfirprentuð 79.900
	1904	113.300	2.780	Yfirprentuð 94.600
	1902	200.000	9.400	
	1902	200.000	52.200	
	1902	100.000	20.800	

3.	Útgáfu- ár	Upplag	Eftir 1/1. 1938	
	1902	100.000	1.000	
	1902	100.000	45.600	
	1907	1.380.800	45.000	
	1908	501.500	17.400	
	1907	300.000	9.700	Yfirprentuð 179.700
	1907	657.900	6.700	