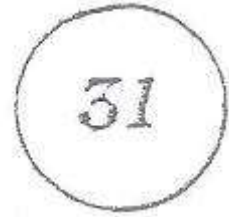


ICELAND PHILATELIC MAGAZINE

An independent journal for collectors of Iceland stamps and postal history



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Iceland Philatelic Magazine

Contents	Page
News	3
Ardrossan <i>Henk Burgman</i>	4
Buðardalur cover	4
Late use numeral cancels (Part 2) <i>Brian Stwalley</i>	5
Mispelling in REYK(J)AVIK <i>Ole Svinth</i>	6
Inverted Year <i>Ole Svinth</i>	7
A Study of crown cancels and their routes <i>Ronald Collin</i>	8
Can anyone beat this date? <i>Pétur Eiriksson</i>	11
Modern letter rates	12
Nice Edinburgh on 5 aur green Chr. X <i>Ole Svinth</i>	12
Reply to an odd airmail issue <i>Mike Schumacher</i>	13
Pór Þorsteins says this cancel is known from 1919	13
Manuscripts	14
A posting in Iceland during WW2	14
Poststempler på Greiðslumerki <i>Jørgen Steen Larsen</i>	15
Comment to B Stwalley's article in ICELAND PHILATELIC MAGAZINE Issue 3, page 6, about late use of Numeral Cancels. <i>Jørgen Steen Larsen</i>	16
Occupation Rules	18
Duration of the validity of stamps Final Part by <i>Ólafur Elíasson</i>	20
Seen through Tri-focals <i>Ronald Collin</i>	21
Åndalsnes Ruten on Ebay	22
I guess the seals "sealed" the price	23
Skilling values on piece with non-Reykjavík postmark	23
Modern Borgarnes postmark	24
The days of wild inflation?	24
A comment on Valpjofsstaður <i>Jørgen Steen Larsen</i>	25
Cancel "made in Germany"? <i>Ole Svinth</i>	26
Another date challenge <i>Pétur Eiríksson</i>	27
Reply to USA postmarks on Icelandic mail <i>Brian Stwalley</i>	28
Do any of our readers collect these FRAMA labels? <i>Henk Burgman</i>	28

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

The editor will help with the English if necessary.

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Iceland Postal Rates 1870 – 2009 publication.

The printed book sold out last year, and a decision may be taken by the Scandinavia Philatelic Society in UK who own the copyright, on what steps, if any, might be taken, to satisfy future requests for the book. An option might be to make it available in digital form. In the meantime, it is necessary to keep the current book up to date when new information comes to hand. Recently, thanks to Vilhjálmur Sigurðsson at Íslandspóstur, the Postal Rates books for the years 1924, 1926 and 1930 have been made available to me. Also much additional data was obtained from Póst-og Símatíðindi from 1936 to 1950s, particularly on C.O.D and Postal Money Order rates for the middle period, which is most welcome given the difficulties previously experienced obtaining accurate information for those services. These require some new pages and other amendments to the book. Please let me know if you wish to receive the updates by email. Belatedly, I must apologize to anyone who has already received a new page 110 from me. There is an error in the headline date for Scandinavia All-In Rates. Please amend 30th September 1953 to read 30th April 1950.

Stop Press. My thanks to Vilhjálmur Sigurðsson of Íslandspóstur who advised me that the latest postal rate changes took effect from 12th January and not 1st January as I had announced (IPM Issue 2). The other surprise he gave me, is that there was a previous increase to the basic inland A and B letters which I did not know about, which took effect from 1st October 2015. I have made changes to the article on page 12 accordingly.

oo

The identity of "The Man with the Suitcases" Issue 3 has been revealed by Johnny.P.

The man with the 2 suitcases is Mr. Leif Jaråker the former editor for the Facit catalogues and he loves Iceland and also old aircraft that is a hobby he has so he was not so happy to take them both back to Sweden. Brian, if you look at the body on that man it cannot be Leif Nilsson! The best Johnny

(Leif, I thought it was not you. Ed)

oo



Wilbur Jonsson: - The 42aur franking on the numeral 167 cover shown in Issue 3 may not be as bad as had been stated. Provided the cover was posted before 1.10.1925 the rate to the UK was 40aur, and the use of 7 x 6aur stamps might be described as a reasonable attempt to cover the postage rate, albeit 2 aurar overpaid.

Late use numeral cancels (Part 2) *Brian Stwalley*

I'm including another group of late use numerals which I came across. It should be noted I'm not including items which are clearly CTO (have gum). That's a separate discussion for a later time if you want me to bring those forward. (Yes, please (Ed.) these all seem to be cases where the office was still open and both bridge and numeral cancels available for use. . It would be interesting to know readers' opinions about these examples.



16 on 1935 Fac.213



110 on 1935 Fac.213



140 on 1964 Fac. 419



153 on 1964 Fac. 418



172 on 1934 Fac.204



206 on 1957 Fac. 349



221 on 1948 Fac.282



268 on 1957 Fac. 356

Misspelling in REYK(J)AVIK *Ole Svinth*

If you take a closer look at your machine cancels you might find misspelling and or letters/numbers upside down.

Another question is how did this error occur? The cancel is made up by insertion of each letter and the handler just forgot the letter "j". It is not known how many days went past before the error was detected.



Letter to Belgium cancelled Reykavik "9" 12 5 1981. Letter rate was 220 aur 0-20 gr.
"J" missing in postmark.

+++++

Going through my drawers I found this cover also showing the error. Year and date have in the meantime changed position. Error period at least 4 month.



Printed matter to Belgium cancelled Reykavik "9" 10 9 1981.
Printed matter rate 0-20 gr. was 200 aur. "J" missing in postmark.

Was it pure luck? I met this cover on eBay. Now the period of use is extended from April 21st 1981 until September 10th 1981.



Local printed matter in Reykjavik cancelled 21 4 1981. P.M. rate was 150 0-20 gr.

+++++

Inverted year Ole Svinth

Here is an example of inverted year. Has it been inverted since January 1st 1956 – I have my doubts.



Local printed matter cancelled Reykjavik 21 X 1956. P.M. rate was 60 aur 0-50 gr. from April 1st 1956 until March 31st 1957.

In the hopes of further studying Iceland's Crown and Posthorn cancels and covers, I am including scans of three and one-half covers from my collection. The thought was to show the routings taken by the covers to get to their destinations, after having their Crown and Posthorn cancel applied to the cover. Perhaps others will add some of their covers to the mix in future issues of this Newsletter.

The first example is a cover from Hjalteyri to Germany. It is rather heavily franked with 100aur, with no outward indication for such franking. It bears 4 strikes of the HJALTEYRI C&P canceler. In addition, there are four strikes of the Numeral cancel #66, this canceler having also been issued to Hjalteyri. All of the stamps franking this cover are from the 1907 Two Kings issue. I count the perforation tips on the vertical side of each stamp. There are 15 tips, which tell me these are perf 12 3/4, which confirms the 1907 issue. There is an indistinct marking on the reverse, which could be either a transit mark or a receiving mark. I am unsure as to why both types of cancelers were applied to this cover.



The second cover is from Borgarnes. It bears a bold strike of the BORGARNES C&P canceler. The routing was rather straight forward to Reykjavik, with a receiving mark applied on the 21st of May, 1903.



The third cover is from Holtastadir to the city of Ballard, in the state of Washington, U.S. Travel time for this cover appears to be about 34 days. It received a transit cancel from Blönduós on February 1st, a transit cancel from Reykjavik on February 9th (8 days transit to Reykjavik).

The sender endorsed the cover "Via Leith". A transit mark from Edinburgh was applied on February 16th. A New York-Paid All transit mark was applied on March 1st, 1903, and a Ballard, Washington receiving mark was applied on March 6th.



Manuscripts

Is this Presthólar or?



I apologise for this image but in the circumstances it is presently the best I can do. Browsing through some old notes from 1999 I found a discussion concerning a 10aur red stamp with what appeared to be a faint manuscript cancel. Using digital technology the owner managed to obliterate the stamp under the cancel and produced the adjacent image. Subsequently, Hans von Storkirch, an expert in this field, pronounced it could only be a previously unknown Presthólar. Sure enough in POSTHORN of August 2000, Hans included Presthólar in his table of manuscript cancels. What became of this 10 aurar stamp I do not know? Does anyone know of another example of this manuscript cancel?



It is not very often you see a manuscript cancel with a full date, in this case 26/7-'89.

+++++

A Posting in Iceland during WW2



Life in the R.A.F in Iceland during WW2 must have had its lighter moments. It is reasonable to say this is the work of a stamp collector! When this item was consigned to the post on 19th September 1942, no invalid stamps were used, which required some knowledge. I am happy to be corrected but I calculate the franking as 28kr46 which would have paid for a c.22-23kg package at the rates which applied until 31.12.1942.

It may have been originally addressed to R.A.F Hornchurch, Essex, or an old envelope was reused and the previous address crossed out. I think Fl. Lt. Parnall probably collected used Iceland and this was a good way to fill some gaps.

Poststempler på Greiðslumerki Jørgen Steen Larsen



In IPM # 2 is at page 11 mentioned about Numeral N1a 65 on Greiðslumerki, as follows "looks as if the numeral is applied in order to increase the value, and not as an official consequence of the use of this tax stamp".

I have these 23 copies of Bridge type postmarks used for cancelling Greiðslumerki.

Type	Post Office	Date
B1a	Akureyri	15.3.39
B3c	Borgarnes	19.VIII.40
B2c1	Bíldudalur	22.XI.39
B1b	Blönduós	18-7-1939
B3c	Búðardalur	30.V.40
B5a	Drangsnæs	12.5.38
B1c	Flatey	-4.VIII.39
B3c	Húsavík	5.VII.37
B2c1	Hvammstangi	25.IX.39
B5a	Hveragerði	?9.5.41
B2c1	Ísafjörður	1.VI.38
B5a	Ísafjörður	-9-3-40
B2a	Króksfjarðarnes	26.9.37
B2c1	Mjóifjörður	22.II.39
B1b	Patreksfjörður	?-9-1939
B1d	Reykjavík	15.II.41
B2c1	Raufarhöfn	12.IX.40
B1a	Selfoss	16.6.3?
B2c1	Siglufjörður	9.XII.39
B3c	Suðureyri	15.VII.40
B5a	Vestmanneyjar	-2.3.40
B4c	Vopnafjörður	17.VI.40
B1a	Þingeyri	30.4.41



None of these have additional ink marking.

Furthermore I have seen N1a 65 and N2 258 used for cancellation of Greiðslumerki.

It looks as if it is normal use of the postmarks.

There are still questions to be asked,

Normally Greiðslumerki is cancelled either with ink or a postmark. Why do we find cancellations with both ink and postmark? Cancellation with postmark only comes from the fee on money orders. The ink cancellation comes from the use on bills. Therefore I think it is suspicious to have both on one "stamp".

Ole

Comment to B Stwalley's article in ICELAND PHILATELIC MAGAZINE

Issue 3, page 6, about late use of Numeral Cancels.

Jørgen Steen Larsen

It is good to read, that the big revision, which has occurred in the numeral postmark area in Facit Special Classic 2016 has been useful to other collectors.

One of the tasks on the revision was to find re-use of the numerals after 1930 in at least 3 copies used commercially. In order to try to fulfill the mission, it was necessary to exclude a rather large number of philatelic re-use.

In B Stwalley's article are shown 4 examples of - in my opinion – philatelic re-use.

Numeral	Comment
N1a-72	An upright well centered postmark. From my experience one should be suspicious. I have an almost identical copy also on Facit 331.
N1a-76	This copy comes from a Folmer Østergaard letter with originally 5 copies of Facit 282. The letter has been divided.
N1a-164	Known used as shown on Facit 242C3. Also re-use on Facit 282,283,284,285,286,297 and 298, which all are issued in the period 1948-50. In Folmer Østergaard's collection was a letter with Facit 242(2) + 282(2). From this letter I have the pair with Facit 282. The use on Facit 242C3 might come from the same letter. All known copies are found with upright central postmarks. Only one or a few copies of each stamp.
N1c-203	Probably from a Folmer Østergaard letter franked with Facit 235 and 298(2).

We are now left with two possible commercial uses of N1a-31 on F 331 and N1a-163 on F 350.



To me N1a-31 is a big surprise as a re-use. I have never seen other copies of this postmark after 1930. I should like further comments on this.



N1a-163 was used at brjefhirðing Hafnir (also used at Kirkjuvogur, Kalmannstjörn, Hvammur) from 1 10 1945 – 31 12 1979. The re-use must be from Hafnir.

More next page

From Hafnir I have these examples of re-use,



Piece with Facit 151 dated 1.4.1945.



Facit 284(2) used 1950/51.



Facit 349(2) used 1958



Commercial cover with Facit 360 dated 1925.

All copies are with blueish ink.

I think not to have seen other early use of B1a Hafnir from the brjefhirðing Hafnir.

All 6 cancels are in the postal archives.

Occupation Rules

Previously, according to an announcement from the UPU in Berne, the Occupation authorities in Germany had made provision for the exchange of mail with Germany in accordance with a set of rules which would satisfy the varied censorship and security situations in the different zones, as well as meeting the needs of ordinary Germans to normalise their relations with the outside world as far as postal communications were concerned. Incoming airmail from other countries intended for Germany was subject to new UPU regulations.



Póst-og símatiðindi Nr.3-4. March-April 1946 comprehensively covered the regulations for the handling of airmail destined for the Allied Occupation zones in Germany. The rules were strict and in the case of airmail the only permitted items were postcards and letters up to 20gm. Correspondence was allowed exclusively for personal private mail. All other types of correspondence were not allowed. The permitted postcard category must not include picture postcards or similar. Parcels were not forbidden. A fuller description of the 1946 terms is described in an article in IslandsKontakt 88.

Reykjavík B1d dated 2.VII.47 to Koblenz in the French Occupation Zone. 22b was the postal district for the Rhineland. Postage was either 20gm flown to GB at 15aur per 5gm = 60aur (valid 1.4.46 to late 1949); or 10gm flown to a Nordic country at 30aur per 5gm = 60aur (valid 1.4.46 to 30.9.47). Plus 60aur surface rate.



Reykjavík B1d 11.XII.46 to Lübeck in the British Zone 24 post district. Military and Civil Censorship. Routes and postage as for the previous cover.

The zonal division of Germany applied for nearly 3 years before the eventual establishment of the Federal Republic and the DDR, and as time passed it was inevitable that the arrangements for the handling of posts would change, and probably did sometime in late 1947. There were no further post office announcements until the beginning of 1948 in *Póst-og símatiðindi Nr.1-3. 1948*, which described a general relaxation of the regulations. The essential points are these:-



It is now possible to send letters up to 2kg, also postcards both ordinary and with paid reply. Picture postcards previously prohibited are now allowed, but *“the photos may not show anything that could be considered to support fascism or to inspire a crowd and rebellion.”* Letters may contain private and family content but also information of a commercial nature. Some types of commercial mail were allowed and others forbidden.

◀ Picture postcard of Vestmannaeyjar permitted by the relaxation of the regulations. Despite the

airmail label it probably went by surface mail, but was still 5aur underpaid for the 35aur UPU postcard rate. B5a Vestmannaeyjar dated 4.4.48.



Commercial letter with British Civil Censor 5630. Dated Reykjavík ?XI.47 to Köln. Flown to GB and then surface rate to the British Zone in Germany. 60aur surface rate plus airmail rate at 20aur per 5gm (20 x 2) = 40aur, total 1kr. Rates valid 1.10.47 to late 1949.

Has anyone ever seen a parcel card to Germany dated 1946 or 1947? It would be very interesting to see one both for the postal rate and any postal markings. Parcel rates to other countries were announced in 1946 and 1947 but Germany was not mentioned in either listing.

Duration of the validity of stamps Final Part by Ólafur Elíasson - translation from the original published in Frímerkjablaðið Nr.11/2004 edited and approved by the author.

This is the second and final part written by Ólafur Elíasson and covers the stamps of the Republic period as well as the earlier official stamps and all post cards.

The Republic plus the official stamps

In the last issue, the stamps of the Kingdom period were covered. I will now continue where it left off, and cover the Republic and the official stamps and postal cards.

The Republic

Only a few have been found with an individual notice of invalidity. They are as follows:-

	<i>Date valid to</i>	<i>Notes</i>
<i>Jón Sigurðsson 1944</i>	<i>01.01.47</i>	
<i>Airmails 1947</i>	<i>01.01.59</i>	
<i>Hekla</i>	<i>01.01.59</i>	
<i>Hekla overprint</i>	<i>01.01.59</i>	
<i>UPU 75th Anniversary</i>	<i>01.01.59</i>	
<i>Overprint "Hollandshjálp"</i>	<i>01.07.53</i>	
<i>Jón Arason</i>	<i>01.04.52</i>	<i>In Póst-og símatiðindi nr.10-12/1951 and nr. 1-3/1952 the stamps were shown as valid until 01.04.52. In the same newspaper in 1953 it said they were valid until 01.09.52.</i>
<i>175th Anniversary of the Postal System</i>	<i>01.01.53</i>	
<i>Sveinn Björnsson</i>	<i>01.01.54</i>	
<i>Hannes Hafstein</i>	<i>01.01.59</i>	
<i>50th Anniversary of the Telegraph Service</i>	<i>01.01.58</i>	
<i>Jónas Hallgrímsson</i>	<i>01.01.60</i>	
<i>Jón Þorkelsson</i>	<i>01.01.61</i>	

According to an announcement by the Post and Telecommunications Administration all stamps which had been issued before 1 January 1973 (that is stamps up to Facit 507) were withdrawn from 1 July 1981. This revocation was directly related to currency exchange rate changes of the year 1980-81. After July 1, 1981 none of these stamps or miniature sheets was to be used for payment of postage. The post office has always understood that the official stamps, postcards and letter cards with a printed value, would be part of their relevant issue and were therefore withdrawn simultaneously with the stamps.

(Postscript) Ólafur pointed out that in Frímerkjablaðið Issue 13, Íslandspóstur made an announcement that all stamp issues from 1973 to 1982 inclusive were invalid for postage from October 1st 2006. Ed.)

Official stamps

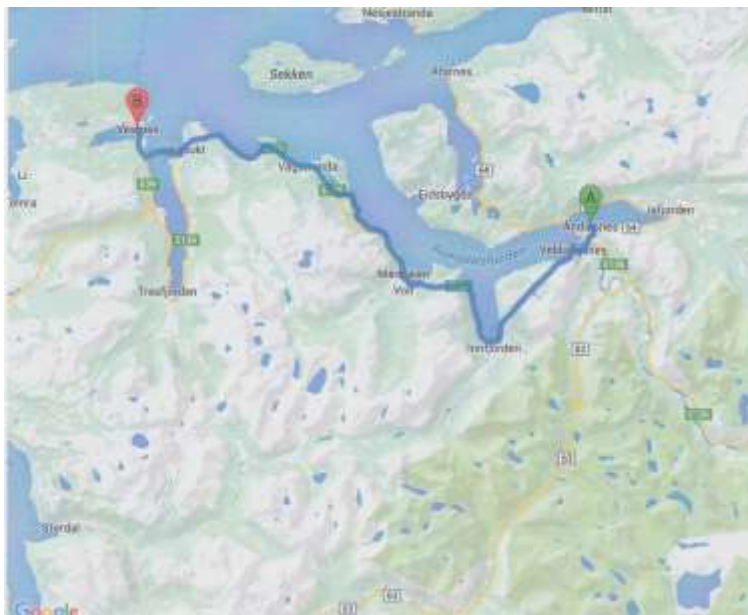
<i>Skilding stamps</i>	<i>27.09.77</i>
<i>Aurar stamps</i>	<i>09.10.02</i>
<i>Overprint "Í Gildi 02-03"</i>	<i>01.01.04</i>
<i>Christian IX</i>	<i>01.01.22</i>
<i>Two Kings</i>	<i>01.01.22</i>
<i>Christian X</i>	<i>01.01.47</i>
<i>Overprint "Þjónusta"</i>	<i>01.01.47</i>
<i>The Parliament Festival</i>	<i>01.08.30</i>

Åndalsnes Ruten on Ebay



Sold on Ebay for US\$202

Åndalsnes is shown as A on the map. Why 'Ruten' in the postmark? Is it a railway postmark?



A comment on Valpjofsstaður *Jørgen Steen Larsen*



In IPM # 2 page 9 is an article on the collecting place Valpjofsstaður.

C1 Valpjofsstaður was shown on a piece with 10 aur I GILDI after the cancel has been widened by use of paraffin or a similar solvent.

Horizontal diameter app. 27 mm and vertically 28½ mm. (should be checked on the original cut)



I have C1 in the original size showing a diameter of 24 mm on a cut with a pair of 5 aur two kings perf 14.

It tells us that the cancel was widened after 1914.

The nice cut shown by Brian Flack is therefore a CTO.



I have another copy of C1 on a 10 aur two kings perf. 14 with the widened postmark. Horizontal diameter is about 27 mm.

This stamp was issued 1916 and valid until end of 1921. I don't know if my cut is genuine or a CTO after 1921.

On a registered cover from February 1961 I have C1 used on the registration label. Diameter shows horizontal 27 mm and vertical 28½ mm.



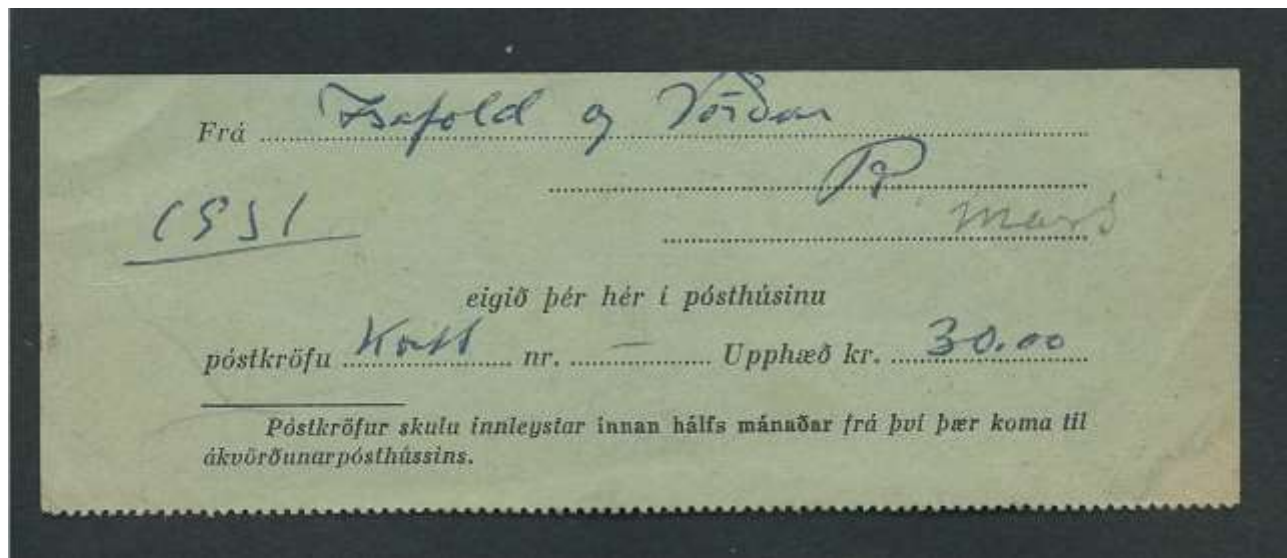
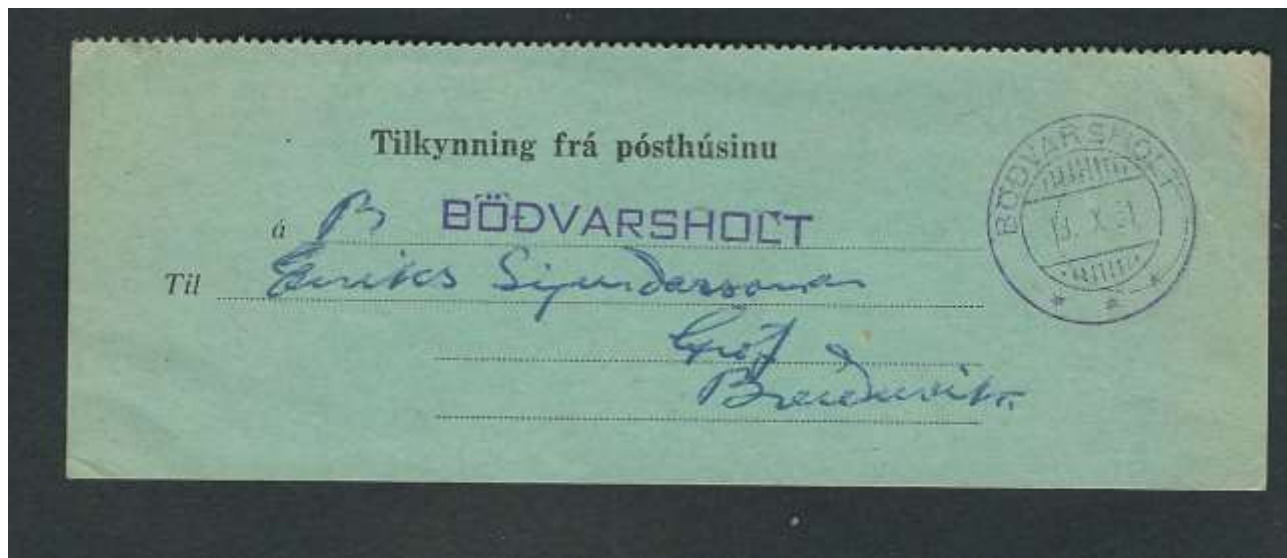
Another date challenge *Pétur Eiríksson*

I'm still looking for that early REYKJAVIK B1a, but instead I came across this one, a VERY early BÖÐVARSHOLT from 1951, which fits for pushing the limits. I am fond of this one. Besides the non-postal official use, there is the excellent strike, plus the seldom seen rubber stamp.

But the personal touch is that the addressee, Eiríkur Sigurðsson was my great-grandfather, and the Böðvarsholt postmaster was his friend. This fell out of one of my grandfather's books, sitting in a box since 1975, when he passed away. A humble family heirloom.

Best, Pétur

Nice one Pétur, Now can anyone go earlier than 13.10.51?



Reply to USA postmarks on Icelandic mail by Ole Svinth *Brian Stwalley*

In response to Ole Svinth's invitation for US postmarks on Icelandic mail, here is a fine example from Brian Stwalley.



oo

Do any of our readers collect these FRAMA labels? *Henk Burgman.*

I just got some Scandinavian material in for our next auction. Most of this material are "philatelic inspired" items to give them a name. Nearly all of them are franked with FRAMA labels, including some Icelandic material. It made me wonder if there are collectors among our readers who do collect these on genuinely used Icelandic covers.

I show one funny cover as an illustration. Greetings, Henk

