



MODEL SAARINEN MIRRORING THE HISTORY OF FINLAND

This exhibit is a social philatelic study of one of the most important periods of the history of Finland. The time span is chosen to coincide with the validity of the model Saarinen issues, namely 1.10.1917 - 31.12.1930. The story is told using postal items with model Saarinen stamps. However, the new FIP postal history regulations allowing a modest use of non-philatelic material are also utilized. The contents of the exhibit is:

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Finland gave the declaration of independence on Dec 6, 1917. One of the preceding acts was the decision to issue new stamps designed by the famous architect Eliel Saarinen, hence the name for the model.

The first year of independence was very dramatic. Finland fell into a Civil war which ended soon but resulted to tens of thousands of prisoners, executions, famine and diseases. The young republic recovered slowly. It had difficulties with its neighbors and

suffered from inflation leading among other things to several raises of the postage rates. On the other hand commerce, arts and science boomed.

The mail system took advantage of technical development of the time. Finland also got its first own Postal Order in 1924.

The material in the exhibit have been chosen to represent a variety of different types of postal items, postages, as well as markings. A good deal of the items are rare or very rare. The frames of the most important examples are thickened.

I have done research on this subject for about two years and published so far the following articles:

- Name has also a meaning (in Finnish). SPL 87(2006)6, p. 14.
- Another way of making an exhibit, Saarinen model as an example (in Finnish). Filatelisti 19(2007)9, p. 22-29.
- Temporary money order form of 1918 (in Finnish). Suomen postimerkkilehti (SPL) 88(2007)5, p. 15-18.
- Air mail in Finland until 1939 (in Finnish). KESFILA 2008 exhibition catalogue, Jyväskylä 28.-30.3.2008. p. 8-15.

Helsinki 26.3.2009

Ari Muhonen
Ari Muhonen, AIJP



Money order 2570 mk, Myllymäki 14.11.1917, arrival cancel on the reverse Ostola 15.11.1917. Postage from 26 to 100 mk 50 p, then every beginning 25 mk costs 25 p and from 26 to 100 mk costs 25 p, total postage 13 mk. Underpaid 1,75 mk.



1. Difficult start

After the Russo-Swedish war in 1808-09 Finland became an autonomous Grand Duchy under the Russian rule. Among other things, Finland got its own stamps already in 1856, one year before Russia itself. However, the autonomy was reduced at the end of the 19th century. The Postal Manifesto given on June 12, 1890 ordered Finland to use kopek valued stamps.

The first revolution broke out in Russia in March, 1917 due to the world war and bad domestic situation. Czar Nicholas II gave out his throne and a new government was formed. It annulled all the Russification acts and gave way to the Finnish parliament for

recollection. It started the work to regain the full autonomy for Finland. This political activity ended up to the declaration of independence on December 6, 1917.

The Finnish parliament named a new senate in March, 1917. Already on one of its first meetings on April 5, 1917 it named a committee to design new penni valued stamps. The sketches of famous architect Eliel Saarinen were chosen for the basis of the new issues, hence the name for the model. The first stamp, 5 penni green, was issued on October 1, 1917.



Postcard, Helsinki 2.10.1917, no arrival cancel. Postage 15 p 4.10.1914 - 14.4.1918. The second day usage of model Saarinen 5 p issue.



Postcard, Helsinki 6.12.1917, arrival cancel Pori 7.12.1917. Postage 15 p 4.10.1914 - 14.4.1918.



Civil war

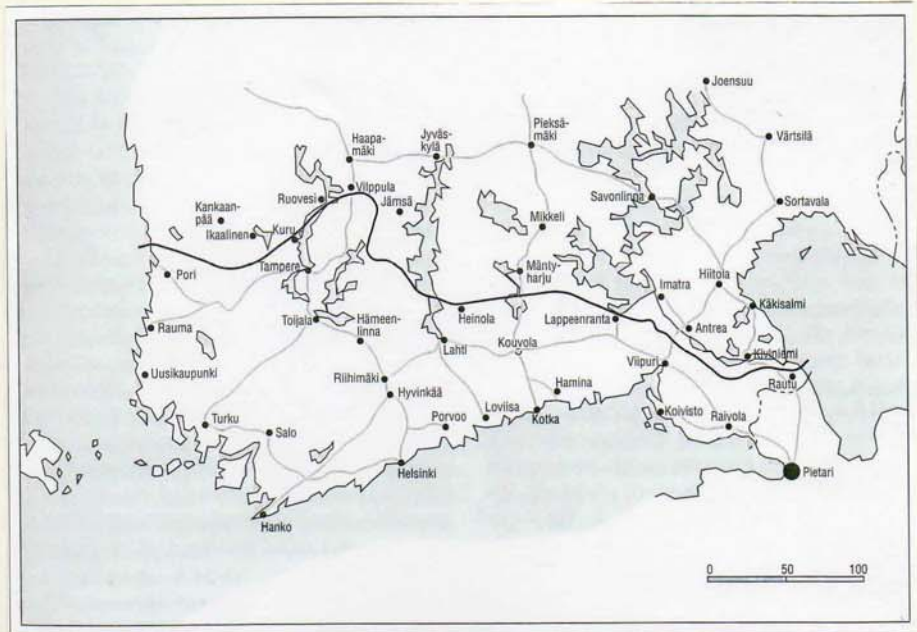
The political situation on Finland became critical right after the declaration of independence. A Civil war broke out on January 28, 1918 and it divided the country and its people in two parties: the Whites and the Reds. The latter ones captured the southern part of Finland including all major cities. In a few weeks the front was formed roughly along the line Merikarvia - Ikaalinen - Virrat - Ruovesi - Vilppula - Jämsä - Lusi - Mäntyharju - Savitaipale - Vuoksenniska - Laatokka (see the map below).

The post card below is addressed to Bruno Heikel in Kankaanpää. He joined the White army during

the first days of the war at the age of 23. He was ordered to the ski battalion of Kajaani under the commandment of his own cousin Iivari Heikinheimo. After the battalion had got three Swedish officers as commanders Bruno and Iivari became their interpreters.

Bruno fought in the battles of Ahlainen and Lavia in Satakunta front. He was killed in action in Suodenniemi on March 16, 1918. Therefore the card never reached him and it was returned to Kiiminki. This is indicated with the heavy blue crayon marking "takasi Kiiminki" (back to Kiiminki).

Map of the front on March 15, 1918. Photocopy.



Postcard, Kiiminki 12.3.1918, forwarded to Poomarkku 18.3., Lavia 19.3., and Hämeenkyrö 27.3., returned to Kiiminki. Postage 15 p 4.10.1914 - 14.4.1918. "Turun ja Satakunnan Suojeluskuntien Päällikkö" (Chief of the Civil Guards of the Turku and Satakunta area) stamp.



The Red Post Office published in their Circular No 6 (Feb 26, 1918) new postal rates which were effective on March 1, 1918. The new rates were comprehensive the Circular being almost three pages long. The most common rates were now 40 penni (instead of 30 p) for a letter and 25 penni (15 p) for a post card. One of the reasons for the increase was the pay raise the postmen got in February. The Reds thought that the Post should be profitable.

I have concluded a research on the postal system

of the Reds. It is based on about 1000 postal items found in the National archive and about 600 items owned by collectors. A vast majority (80%) of the postal items are letters or postcards. The rarest items found are printed matters, registered letters, and parcel cards. Surprisingly enough, also a letter franked with a single 40 penni lilac stamp is very rare, I have found only three of them. Single stamp letters in general are rare or very rare.

№ 30 Ulosmaksu-kassakirjassa.
i Utbetalnings-kassaboken.

Postiosotus } 50 Mrk — p.
Postanvisning }

Kirjaimilla — Med bokstäfver:
Viisikymmentä Mrk — p.

Till Emma Karin Dahlberg

Tila postimerkille

15 FINLANDS 25 FINLANDS 25 FINLANDS

Кав. N:o 135.

Купонъ.

Kuponki. — Kuponng.

Штемпель мѣста подачи.
Sisäänjättöpostitoimiston
leima.

Inlemningspostanstaltsens
stämpel.



Сумма налог. платежа:
Postietuannin määrä:
Postförskottets belopp:

283 Mrk — p.
Mrk — p.

Наименование и точный
адрес отправителя:
Lähetijän nimi ja täydelli-
nen osoite.
Afsändarens namn och full-
ständiga adress.

Сопроводительный адресъ корреспонденции съ наложеннымъ платежомъ.
Postietuanti-osotekortti. — Postförskotts-Adresskort.

Наложённый платежъ
Postietuanti
Postförskott

Kahvi- ja kahvipöytäkirja Mrk — p.

Кому
Till

Puhajärven
Stintarvelahtikuja

Мѣсто назначения
Osoterailikka
Adressort

Puhajärvi U. I.

Улица: № дома и кв.
Asunto: katu ja N:o
Bostad: gata och Nr

Отправление:
Lähetysen:
Försändelsens:

{ письмо: посылка, пр.
laatu: kirje, paketti y. m.
beskaffenhet: bref, paket m. m.

Kirje vapaa

{ содержание
sisältö
innehåll

Lasku

{ ценность
arvo
värde

283

Марокъ
Mrk — p.

Служенія
otus.
Тауеддін
sisäänjättö-
postitoimis-
tosen.
Ifylles & in-
lemningspost-
anstalten.

{ вѣсъ
paino
vikt

2429

{ по реестру подачи.
lähtö-rekisterissä,
i afgångs-register.

кг.
kg. гр.
gt.



1) Money order 112 mk 95 p, Korja 17.3.1918, arrival cancel on the reverse Helsinki 18.3.1918. Postage up to 25 mk was 50 p and every 25 mk or part thereof 25 p, total 1 mk 50 p 1.3.1918 - early May, 1918.

2) Official letter COD 283 mk, Helsinki 16.3.1918, arrival cancel on the reverse Högfors 17.3.1918. COD fee 3,25 mk 1.3.1918 - early May, 1918. The only known official letter COD from the "Red" side.



On the postal system of the Reds

The bulk of the postal items (82%) is mail from, to, or between big cities (Helsinki, Viipuri, Turku, and Tampere). Therefore mail between other post offices can be considered uncommon.

I have observed in my research cancels from 215 different post offices, that is 44% of the total of 494 post offices. New observations will surely be done.

However, it should be remembered that many post offices were closed during the war.

Some 20 rural mail carrier stamps (both numeral and line stamps) have been observed.



Postcard, rural mail stop cancel Hilskanmäki and Koivisto cancel 31.3.1918, no arrival cancel. Postage 25 p 1.3.1918 - early May 1918. Underpaid, therefore boxed T-stamp. However, the item fullfills the conditions for a local printed matter and the rate should have been 10 p! The stamps worth 15 p match with normal printed matter rate.

Letter - 15g, Nummela 13.3.1918, arrival cancel on the reverse Helsinki 14.3.1918. Postage 40p 1.3.1918 - early May 1918. Rural carrier stamp 1279 (route Nummela - Vuorela - Niemi). I have found 23 postal items with rural carrier stamps in the archives and **only 3 in private collections.**



The Whites

When the war broke out half of the Senate could have new stamps printed because the main stock was not escape Helsinki. The other half formed temporary left in Helsinki. Senate to Vaasa on January 31, 1918. The temporary Post Office started its work a few days later. Its main duty was to re-organize the mail connections. Especially the loss of the southern part of the railroad caused problems. The temporary Post Office also compelled to

Unlike the Reds the White Guards had a field post system. It delivered letters and parcels up to 1 kg to the front and back home without postage. A normal rate had to be paid for parcels weighing more than 1 kg.



Postcard, Mikkeli
17.4.1918, arrival cancel
Savonlinna ??4.1918. De-
livered by field post, sta-
tionery postage was unnec-
essary. Lilac Kent-
täposti" (Field post) stamp,
type I according to Aho-
nius classification.

Kaav. N:o 1.

Kuponki

(johon sopii panna kirjalli-
sia ilmoituksia ja jonka
vastaanottaja saa pitää).

N:o _____ läht. rekisterissä. N:o _____ tul. rekisterissä. Postimerkkejä varten.

Osotekortti

kotimaista paketti lähetystä varten.

seuraa tätä paketti, arvoltaan _____ Smk p:tä pa
nava _____ kg. _____ gr. ja sisältävä _____

Lähettäjä: _____

lähettäjän osoite: _____

Yllämainittu paketti kuitataan _____

Kaav. hinta 3 penniä.



Parcel 1,5 kg, Oulu 26.2.1918, no arrival cancel. Postage for a parcel weighing 1 - 1,5 kg was 1,40 mk 1.10.1917 - 14.4.1918. "Turun ja Satakunnan Piirin Suojeluskuntien [Rah]astonhoitaja" stamp. Field post system delivered parcels up to 1 kg free of charge. Heavier parcels had to be paid for using normal postage.

Censorship on the White side



The White Guards were aware of the importance mail was censored in Tornio. Domestic mail was censored from the beginning of the war. Several preliminary orders were given, but no official guidelines have been found. It is known that foreign



Letter - 15 g,
Ikaalinen 3.5.1918,
arrival cancel on the
reverse Tampere
5.5.1918. Postage 40 p
15.4.1918 -
19.10.1919. Tampere
censoring slip.



Letter - 15 g, Loviisa
3.5.1918, arrival can-
cel on the reverse
Helsinki 6.5.1918.
Postage 40 p
15.4.1918 -
19.10.1919. Under-
paid 5 p. Loviisa
censoring stamp.
**Earliest recorded
usage of this cen-
soring stamp**
(Ahonius p. 51-52).

Swedish volunteers



Even though the official Sweden was tightly neutral, many Swedish soldiers wanted to fight in the White Guards. A special organization called "Friends of Finland" was formed and it helped several hundred men to an adventure of their life. The first officers arrived to the headquarters of the Whites at Seinäjoki already on February 10.

The volunteers served in a unit of their own. It was called "The Swedish Brigade" even though it consisted only of about 500 men, half of a battalion. The

unit is remembered best from the battle of Tampere, where it fought courageously in an open field against machine guns and suffered heavy losses.

The letter below is from a young man writing to his mother. He writes: "Vi hava nu åter beträtt Finlands jord. ... Resan var rätt besvärlig såväl på svenska som finska sidan, men man får lov att övervinna alla svårigheter...". He continues that his group is in the headquarters and is waiting for new instructions. The story doesn't tell whether he survived the war.



Swedish letter card sent from Finland to Sweden, Seinäjoki 2.4.1918, no arrival cancel. Postage 20 p 12.3.1918 - 31.1.1921. Underpaid by 10 p, however no postage due markings. Examined in Tornio, re-sealed with three slips.

German troops in Finland



About one division of German troops commanded by General von der Goltz landed to Hanko on April 3, 1918. Already eleven days later they captured Helsinki. Another smaller unit landed to Loviisa and fought their way from there to Lahti where they and the White Guards surrounded about 40 000 Reds. After the surrender of Helsinki on April 13, the troops concentrated on seizing Viipuri. It was conquered on April 29. The last Red troops surrendered at Pyhtää

near the town of Kotka on May 5, 1918. The Civil war was over. German troops stayed in Finland and helped training the newly formed Finnish army. The last German units left on December 16, 1918.

German troops had its own field post which took care of the postal connections to Germany. Its field post number was 957. For domestic mail in Finland the Germans had to pay for the postage normally.

Der deutsche General
in Finnland

Tgb. Nr. _____

Helsingfors, den 13. XII 1918.

Dem Finnischen Offiziellen Presse-Büro

mit der ergebensten Bitte um Veröffentlichung.

Beim Scheiden rufen wir: Lang lebe das freie und selbstständige Finnland, der treue Freund unserer deutschen Heimat.

Von der Goltz

Generalmajor und deutscher General in Finnland.



Postal stationery, Kyrkslätt 8.8.1918, arrival cancel Helsinki 8.8.1918. Postage 20 p 15.4.1918 - 11.4.1920. German censoring stamp.

Foreign connections and censorship



During the Civil war the foreign connections on both sides were very limited. The Whites were able to send mail to Sweden and onwards from thereon, the Reds delivered mail only to Russia. However, single items are known to have gone to France, China and even to the USA. The routes opened up quickly after the Civil war. The postal connections to the Soviet Union were not established until August, 1922 after signing the Tartu peace treaty.

During the Civil war one temporary mail route

went from just liberated South-Eastern part of Finland to the White area through Sweden. This was needed for only two to three weeks in April, 1918.

The Post Office of Finland ordered the foreign mail to be censored in May, 1918. The mail was first stamped using three language cancelers. German was removed in June and July, 1918. New cancelers were taken in use in January, 1919. The censoring was ceded in October, 1919.



Letter - 20 g, Turku 20.4.1918, no arrival cancel. Postage 50 p 12.3.1918 - 31.1.1921. "Via Stockholm" marking.



Registered letter to Sweden, Oulu 26.3.1918, arrival cancel on the reverse Stockholm Ank. A 29.3.1918. Postage for the letter 50 p and registering fee 50 p, total 1 mk 12.3.1918 - 31.1.1921. Tornio censoring re-sealing tape.

2. Young republic



Postcard, [dated on the reverse Helsinki 6.3.1918], no cancels. Postage 25 p 1.3.1918 - early May 1918 (the red zone). "P.K. Sotavankien Komissaari, Helsinki" censoring stamp. **Only two items known.**



Postcard, rural mail stop cancel Bobäck, Postilj.v. H-K (Hanko - Karjaa) 16.3.1918, no arrival cancel. Postage 25 p 1.3.1918 - early May 1918 (the red zone). Overpaid by 15 p. Mail to white prisoner in Liisankatu prison.

Prison camps



The Reds took close to 500 White prisoners during the cleaning operations in Kirkkonummi at the end of February, 1918. They were brought to Helsinki and imprisoned in the school building at Liisankatu in the center of Helsinki. The previous page shows postcards from and to Liisankatu. The latter one has a very rare censoring stamp "S.P.K. Sotavankien Komissaari Helsinki" (The Red Guards commissioner of the POWs Helsinki).

Not many people know that the school in Liisankatu was used as a prison also by the White guards. After the liberation of Helsinki on April 13, 1918, they kept there mainly female prisoners for a few weeks.

The postcard below was sent from there. A girl named Laina writes to her sister complaining her misery and asking for food. However, a guard or censor has written on the card a clear order that food cannot be brought to the prisoners. This order was given in Helsinki already on April 16, 1918.

The censoring stamp has the text "Viapori Vankileiri Postijaosto" (Postal section of Viapori prison camp). Bogdanow writes that the stamp was taken in use in August, 1918. Here it has been used about four months earlier. Paavolainen explains the usage of the stamp on the mail of Liisankatu prisoners: the mail of all prisons was censored in one office only.



Postcard, [dated on the reverse Helsinki 20.4.1918], no cancels. Unpaid, but no postage due markings. "[Viapori]n vankileiri Postijaosto" censoring stamp. **The only known postal item sent by a red prisoner from Liisankatu prison.**

On August 13, 1918 the Senate decided that any-

one sending food or goods through mail needed a permission from the local rationing board. This order was used also for parcels sent to soldiers and prisoners. The sender had to write on the parcel card "Lupakirja esitetty" (permission showed) and the clerk at the post office had to confirm this with his/her initials as well as a cancel.

Q. A. Hallman ^{oikeutetaan} ^{ranatieteiden}
^{maantieteen}
 Oulusta poiskajettamaan Uppseerikoulus
 Amari Hallmanin ^{vastanoite} ^{avaksi} Wiipurissa - Jmsan talouteensa
 kuuluvaan ruokataivaran
 kolme kiloa
 Passitus on primassa ^{W. puorok.}

Lupa todistus.

i, _____ № _____

Nr _____

Paketti-Adressikortti.

*Yhteiskokelas Kuori Hählhammarille
Viipuri Yhteiskokelas Kurssi Mascoilla
ssa seuraa tätä paketti, arvoltaan*

markkaa _____ penniä, painava *3* kilogr. ja sisältävä _____
Muokatuksena

Lähettäjä: *Hählhammar*

asuva *Rotakatu 11 viippi Kemi Kotona*

Yllämainittu paketti kuitataan:

A. Birkén

Lanketti maksaa 2 penniä.

Uusi Kokelas Kurssi



Parcel 3 kg, Oulu As. 22.1.1919, arrival cancel on the reverse Viipuri 24.1.1919. Postage for a parcel up to 1,5 kg was 2 mk 20 p and for every 0,5 kg and part thereof 60 p, total 4,00 mk 15.4.1918-19.10.1919. Hand made marking "Lupatodistus". The certificate is attached on the reverse side of the card. The card is of the old fashioned 1881 model.

3. Finland in the 1920's



Emigrants

Attorney Robert Schichmann worked in Helsinki after the Civil war. He was specialized on helping emigrants who fled from Russia escaping the communist

rule. Therefore Schichmann had connections to all over Europe.

Registered letter to the Soviet Union - 20 g, Helsinki 19.11.1923, arrival cancel on the reverse 23.11.1923. Recipient unknown, therefore a slip and several cancels on the reverse. Returned, arrival cancel Helsinki 7.12.1923. Postage for the letter 2 mk and registration fee 2 mk 1.1.1922 - 30.11.1931, total 4 mk.



Insured letter (500 gold francs) to Germany - 20 g, Helsinki 22.11.1924, arrival cancel on the reverse Ettlingen 26.11.1924. Postage for the letter 2 mk (1.1.1922 - 30.11.1931), insurance fee for every 300 gold francs 2 mk (1.1.1922 - 30.6.1945), subtotal 4 mk, total 6 mk.

Parcels



Finland started to organize its own foreign mail connections right after the declaration of independence. First it applied for membership of the UPU and already on February 12, 1918 the government of Switzerland informed that the application had been accepted. However, the ongoing Civil war postponed the Finnish actions until March, 1918. Later on Finland made separate agreements with some individual countries who didn't belong to the UPU.

The Circular No XIII/1918 of the Post Office

(dated July 5, 1918) informs that parcels can be sent to Sweden and Germany. Further on Circular No III/1919 (January 18, 1919) declares that parcels can be exchanged with "all countries where Sweden has connections to in the present circumstances".

Finland joined the international parcel exchange agreement right after the world meeting of the UPU held in Madrid 1920. The agreement came into force in the beginning of 1922.

V.1923

Numeros d' Sisäänjätin Inlämning	283	Helsinki Helsingfors
Pays d'origine Sisäänjättö Inlämnings		
BULLETIN D'EXPÉDIT		
Pakettiosotekortti. — Paketadresskort		
Ci-joint Tämän mukana Bilagd		Nombre de déclarations en douane Tullilukumäärä Antal tulldeklarationer
Valeur assurée Ilmoitettu arvo Angivet värde		
Montant du remboursement Postietuunnan määrä Postförskotts belopp		
A Till	Herr Arne Björnstad.	
(Lieu de destination) (Määräpaikka) (Adressort)	Stockholm 16.	
(Rue et N:o) (Katu ja N:o) (Gata och N:o)	Skandinaviska Kredit A.B. Sverige.	
Poids Paino. Vikt.	4,700	Droits de douane (1) (Tullimaksut) Tullavgifter (1)
		Acheminement: Kuljetustie: Befordringsväg:

bureau d'échange d'entrée ou par le service de la douane du pays de destination.
opostitoimiston tai tulliviranomaisten täytettävä.
se-ingångspostanstalt eller av tullmyndighet i adresslandet.

Parcel to Sweden 4,7 kg, Helsinki 20.11.1923, arrival cancel on the reverse Stockholm pak.ank.utr. 22.11.1923. Postage for a parcel weighing 1 - 5 kg 18,25 mk, sea transport fee 1,75 mk, total 20 mk 27.12.1921 - 16.11.1925 (source: Mattila E., SPL 1991 no 4, s. 15).

The Nordic countries



Sweden, Norway and Denmark formed the Nordic Postal Union already in 1869. Finland had wanted to join the Union for decades, but it did not get its chance until the beginning of the 1920's. It signed separate agreements with the countries in May, 1922 and they came into force on June 1, 1922. The agreements were published in the Circular No 17/1922 (30.5.1922).

Third-rate letter to Sweden, Lappeenranta 22.7.1926, no arrival cancel. Postage 4,50 mk 1.6. 1922 - 31.1.1931.

The letter rate to the Nordic countries was first 1,50 mk being in between the domestic (1 mk) and foreign (2 mk) rates. When the domestic rate was increased on January 15, 1926, it coincided with the Nordic rate. This correspondence was held for the rest of the period of the Nordic Postal Union.



Express air mail to Denmark, Helsinki 27.7.1928, arrival cancel on the reverse København 28.7. 1928. Postage for the letter 1,50 mk 1.6. 1922 - 30.11.1931, air mail fee 1 mk 1.4.1928 - 30.9.1942 and express mail fee 4 mk 15.1.1926 - 31.12.1934, total 6,50 mk.

Ethnic wars



Letter - 15 g, Suomussalmi 18.6.1918, no arrival cancel. Postage 40 p 15.4.1918 - 19.10.1919. "Karjalan retkikunnan" (Karelia expedition) stamp. Originally 3rd Company of the expedition A had its own two-line stamp "Karjalan retkikunnan / III Komppania". The lower line was removed after the Companies were merged. (Ref: Kalliala, PhF 1988 no 10, s. 728).



Postcard to Estonia, Tampere 5.3.1919 and Helsinki 5.3.1919, no arrival cancel. Postage 20 p 12.3.1918 - 31.1.1921. Overpaid by 10 p. Finnish two language censoring stamp.



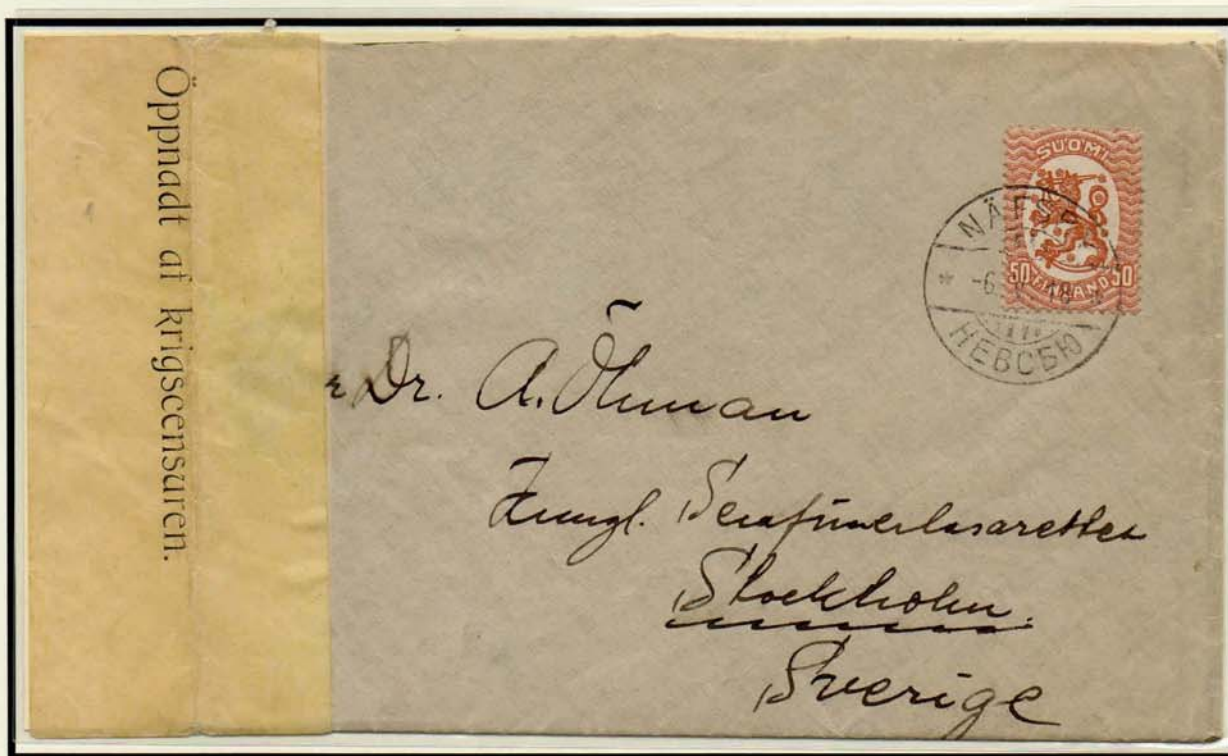
The Aland islands question

Activists in the Aland Islands collected a petition of about 7 000 names during the winter of 1917-18 where Sweden was asked to take the islands over. In February, 1918 Sweden did send troops there "to safeguard the people". The civil war had brought already in Russian troops, the Red Guard forces as well as some units of the White Guards. When the Germans landed to the islands in the beginning of March, the Swedes withdrew, Russians were interned to Latvia and the Finnish troops fled to the mainland.

The separatist movement came into live again in the Fall of 1918. Sweden supported it strongly and demanded a referendum for the position of the islands. Finland opposed, of course, because the result was self

evident. Sweden took the question to the peace treaty conference in Paris in April, 1919. However, Finland was able to show that Aland Islands was its territory according to the peace treaty done in Hamina in 1809. Thus Sweden and the activists failed.

The Finnish parliament passed a law giving the Aland Islands autonomy on May 6, 1920. In spite of this the international negotiations were continued in the newly formed League of Nations. It formed a committee which concluded in May, 1921 that Finland had sovereignty over Aland islands with no doubt. The struggle was finally over, but Finland had to give special rights to the Swedish speaking citizens as well as to neutralize the Aland Islands.



Letter -15 g, Näfsby 6.5.1918, no arrival cancel. Postage 50 p 12.3.1918 - 31.1.1921. Examined on the Aland islands, re-sealing slip. **Less than 10 items known.**

Domestic letter rates 1918 - 1921



Finland suffered from heavy inflation during the first years of its independence. The First World War had caused shortage of many goods. This raised price levels which again led to pay raises. Russia paid its large import from Finland with rubles with a forced low rate. When the value of ruble collapsed the Bank of Finland made great losses.

The government faced soon a situation where it had to lend money from the Bank of Finland which then tenfolded the issuing of bank notes compared to

the level of 1914. Finland was on the slippery slope of inflation; there was a lot of money but very little goods to buy. There was little chance to get credit from the foreign countries. The value of markka dropped to less than half just in a few months from February to September, 1921.

The inflation meant that the postage rates had to be raised frequently. Between the springs of 1918 to 1921 the letter rate was increased four times from 30 penni to 1 markka.

Letter - 15 g, Tampere 14.4.1918, arrival cancel Oulu 16.4.1918. Postage 30 p 1.10.1917 - 14.4.1918. **The only recorded letter** in my research with the Whites' rate used in Tampere after the siege. Last day usage of the rate.



Letter - 15 g, Rääkylä 15.4.1918, no arrival cancel. Postage 40 p 15.4.1918 - 11.10.1919. **First day usage of this rate.**

Letter -20 g, Helsinki 4.8.1924, arrival cancel on the reverse Alberga 5.8.1924. Postage 1 mk 1.2.1921 - 14.1.1926. Sent to the daughter of famous painter Akseli Gallen-Kallela.



Income for the country

Finland was recovering from war and was poverty-struck. All possibilities for income were utilized. Among other things the parliament passed a law for a stamp duty on June 21, 1918. It stated that a special tax had to be paid for a customs office bills the amount being 50 p for sums up to 10 mk, 2 mk for bills more than 10 mk up to 100 mk and so on. The law was renewed several times and it was not got rid of until the end of 1921.

A special tax had to be paid for amusements during the years of 1915 - 1920. It was collected with stamps because there were no suitable revenue stamps. There are two very good articles about this written by Björn-Eric Saarinen (Abophil 1998, no 2, p. 18-20) and Kari Lehtonen (Filatelisti 2007, no 6, p. 21-23).



Entrance tickets, amusement tax paid with stamps.



Customs money order 12 mk 62 p, Kajaani 11.10.1918, arrival cancel on the reverse Helsinki 13.10.1918. Postage up to 100 mk was 50 p 15.4.1918 - 11.4.1920. 2 mk revenue stamp on the reverse, hand made cancel 26.11. Only three items known.

Society

Finnish society was unstable in many ways after the Civil war. Politics was very short-spanned, Finland had 14 governments during the 1920's.

The Civil Guards attracted many right wing activist soldiers after the war. The leftists feared this. They thought that the guards could be used politically or even for a coup-d'etat. The fears were not without basis. The government collided with the guards in the summer of 1921. The conflict was settled, a new commander named and the guards were given an independent role beside the regular army.

The Academic Karelian Society was another typical movement in the 1920's. First it helped the karelians who fled to Finland after the Ethnic wars. Later on it broadened its scope to defending Finnish language and culture against Russians and over-dominance of the country's Swedish cultural inheritance.



Varkaus 16 p. helmikuuta 1923

LASKU

O. Karvonen

Varkauden Suojeluskunnalle

Maksava

an 1 kpl S.K. lehti	40.-
Suht.	40.-

VARKAUDEN SUOJELUSKUNTA



Bill from the Civil Guards of Varkaus to O. Karvonen for a subscription of S.K. magazine. The amount is 40 markka. "Varkauden suojeluskunta" (Civil Guards of Varkaus) stamp.

Local printed matter, Helsinki 2.12.1925, no arrival cancel. Postage 20 p 1.2.1921 - 14.1.1926. Sender's stamp "Akateeminen Karjala-Seura" (Academic Karelia Society).

Commerce



After the inflation period commerce in Finland boomed in 1922 - 1928. The gross national product increased on average 6 percent annually. This was more than anywhere else in Europe.

When the international recession arrived to Finland in the fall of 1929 the country had already suffered from domestic problems for about a year. The NPI sunk 22 percent during 1929 - 1932. The economic roller-coaster went up and down on a fast pace.

Business documents ("Asiakirjoja") - 200 g, Rantsila 19.1.1921, arrival cancel on the reverse Oulu 21.1.1918. Postage 80 p 12.4.1920 - 31.1.1921.



Sample - 100 g, Vaasa 23.12.1927, no arrival cancel. Postage 80 p 15.1.1926 - 30.11.1931. Sent locally ("Taällä").

Agriculture and rural areas



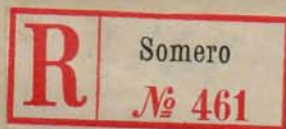
Agriculture developed quickly in Finland after the Civil war. Land reform law, one reason for the war, had been passed in the parliament already in January, 1918, but was put into action in 1919 - 1920. The law allowed crofters to buy the land they had been renting from the land owners. Another law allowed landless rural people to buy 20 hectares of land from the government. With these acts about 100 000 new farms were formed in two years.

The farmers were keen on adopting new techniques in agriculture. Better plants and fertilizers as well as mechanical tools led to better crops. The farmers also got quickly used to the market economy thus getting better income.

Life in rural areas was simple. One of the big changes there was the radio. However, a special permit was needed for that, see below.

SOMERON MAANVILJELIJÄIN KAUPPA-OSAKEYHTIÖ

SOMERO



Herra Viljam Joutsen,

*Somero.
Pärula.*

Registered second-rate printed matter (51 - 100 g), Somero 10.11.1920, no arrival cancel. Postage 40 p 20.10.1919 - 31.1.1921 and registering fee 80 p 12.4.1920 - 31.1.1921, total 1,20 mk. Logo "Someron maanviljelijäin kauppa-osakeyhtiö" (Farmers of Somero Company Ltd.).

Sarja
Serie 1.

No 09603

Lomake
Blank. 521 A.

KUUNTELULUPA

RADIOLICENS

voimassa

gällande t.o.m. den

kuun 30

päivään

1920

Nimi

Namn

Asunto

Bostad

Osoite (posti-)

Adress (post-)

Osoite (laitteen paikka)

Adress (för anläggningen)

Sukunimi Tillnamn.

Ristimänimi. Förnamn.

Ammatin. Yrke.

Toisella sivulla mainituilla ehdoilla myönnetään Teille lupa pitää ja käyttää yleisradio-vastaanottolaitetta yllämainittuun päivään saakka.

På de villkor, som å omstående sida angivas, medgives Eder rätt att in-
hava och använda rundradiomottagningsapparater intill ovanstående datum.

Kuuntelulupamaksu Smk. 100:— suoritettu.

Licensavgift Fmk. 100:— erlagd.

POSTI- JA LENNÄTINHALLITUS.

POST- OCH TELEGRAFSTYRELSEN.

Toimittanut
Exped. av

Permission for listening to the radio, cancelled at Peipohja 1.10.1929. Fee 100 mk.





Cultural life

The struggle for independency did naturally affect the cultural life of Finland. Many of the artists adhered to the Runebergian ideal of values and unity of the nation. Not even the leftist or right wing radical movements made the cultural elite open its eyes.

The post civil war period changed the attitudes. Art nouveau and other new trends came to Finland. Especially literature boomed along with the young new

generation of writers. Comic magazine Tuulispää was very popular at that time.

Composer Jean Sibelius was the corner stone of Finnish musical life. He wrote some of his masterpieces in the 1920's. However, he lost his creativity at the end of the decade and stopped composing. However, he was still famous conductor and he took part in many musical festivities.

Letter - 20 g, P.vaunu
H-T 12.4.1919, arrival cancel on the reverse Tampere 13.4.1919. Postage 40 p 15.4.1918 - 19.10.1919. Advertisement cover for "Tuulispää" comic magazine.



Kuponki-Kupong

Kirjallisia tiedonantoja varten. Vastaanottaja saa irroittaa. För skriftliga meddelanden. Får av adressaten avskiljas.

Lähtörekisterin N:o _____ Tulorekisterin N:o _____
Avg. registrerts _____ Ank. registrerts _____

kotimaisen paketin Osoitekortti.

Adresskort för inrikes paket.

Professor Jean Sibelius
(Vastaanottaja - Adressat)

Osoitepaikka: *Järvenpää*
Adressort: _____
Asunto-osoite: _____
Bostadsadress: _____

seuraa paketti, arvoltaan *270* mk. _____ p.
medföljer ett paket, värt _____
paino _____ kg. _____ gr. sisällys: *Cigarretter*
vikt _____ kg. _____ gr. innehåll: _____

Lähettiläjä: *Wacanna Magasinet*
Avsändare: _____
Lähettiläjän osoite: *A. Esplanadg. 39*
Avsändarens adress: _____

Lomake Blankett } N:o 1. Käännä. Vänd.

Jean Sibelius
(Alkuperäinen - Underskrift)

Tuulispää - Aikamietäminen

Parcel to composer Jean Sibelius, Helsinki 8.11.1929, arrival cancel on the reverse Järvenpää 8.11.1929. Postage for a parcel of 1 - 3 kg was 7 mk 1.2.1921 - 31.8.1942. Contents was cigars, Sibelius was a keen smoker.

Science



The scientific community suffered from recession as the society in general after the Civil war. Salaries of the professors were cut by inflation and their well-being lowered. Many of them made another career in politics, fully 10 of the 22 prime ministers during the period of 1918 - 1944 were professors.

Higher education boomed during the first two decades of the 20th century. Helsinki university got company, when another five universities were estab-

lished in about 15 years. One of them was Turku University which was established in 1921.

Language struggle went on in Finnish science for decades. This led to many duplicate organizations, separate institutions for Finnish and Swedish speaking scientists. One example of this is the Svenska Tekniska Vetenskapsakademien (Academy of Technology for Swedish speaking scientists). It is one of the oldest academies of technology in the world.

SVENSKA TEKNISKA VETENSKAPSAKADEMIEN I FINLAND

HELSINGFORS

12.1.28

HELSINGFORS

12.1.28

HELSINGFORS

HELSINGFORS

HELSINGFORS

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Local letter - 20g,
Helsinki 12.1.1928,
no arrival cancel.
Postage 1 mk
15.1.1926 -
30.11.1931. Logo
"Svenska tekniska
vetenskaps-
akademien i
Finland" (Swedish
academy of tech-
nology in
Finland").

Herr

Professor Ossian Aschan

Helsingfors.

TURUN SUOMALAISEN
YLIOPISTON KIRJASTO

TURKU ABO

BIBLIOTHECA UNIVERSI-
TATIS FENNICÆ ABOENSIS

ABO — FINLANDIA



K. Herra Tohtori Rolf Lagerborg.

7065

(Kirjoihin).

Tapuskirja

Helsinki.

Museokatu 16.

Registered free mail
privilege letter,
Turku 16.1.1930,
arrival cancel on the
reverse 16.1.1930.
Registration fee 1,50
mk 15.1.1926 -
30.11.1931. Logo
"Turun suomalaisen
yliopiston kir-
jasto" (Library of
Turku Finnish Uni-
versity).

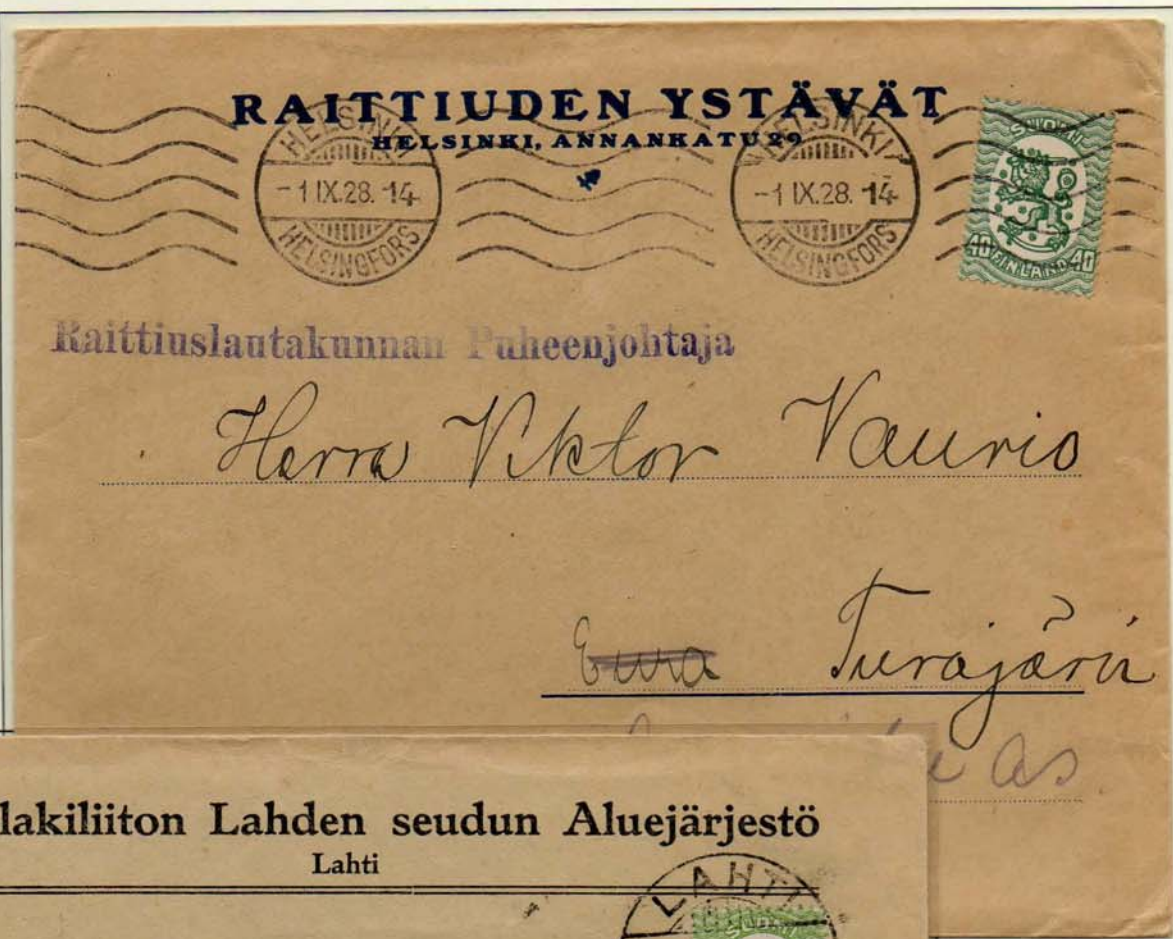
The prohibition law



The prohibition law was first accepted in the parliament in 1907. The Czar, however, did not accept it and therefore the law came into force on June 1, 1919 in the independent Finland. This was soon found to be a big mistake. By that time most of the people were against it and smuggling from Estonia and Germany was a rule. It was easy to order "heavy tea" in cafés.

The prohibition law was first supported by all political parties except for the Swedish People's Party. The most faithful parties were Social democrats and Agrarians. In late 1920's it became a burden for them and a referendum was organized in December, 1931. 71% of the votes were against the law and thus spirits came back into shops and restaurants on April 1, 1932.

Printed matter, Helsinki 1.9.1928, arrival cancel on the reverse Eura 3.9.1928, Postage 40p 15.1.1926 - 30.11.1931. Logo "Raittiuden ystävät" (Friends of prohibition) and "Raittiuslautakunnan puheenjohtaja" stamp (Chair of the prohibition ...)



Kieltolakiliiton Lahden seudun Aluejärjestö
Lahti



R. U. Koe III
Puheenjohtaja (Anto Salo)

Kausala

Radansuu

Printed matter, Lahti 2.2.1927, no arrival cancel. Logo "Kieltolakiliiton Lahden seudun aluejärjestö".

4. Development of the mail system



Many issues of model Saarinen

The frequent price increases caused headache to the Post Office because the UPU had ordered special colors to be used on certain types of stamps: blue for letters, red for postcards and green for printed matters. When the Finnish government decided on the usage of model Saarinen stamps for foreign mail there were no suitably colored stamps available. Instead, 50 penni brown, 20 p yellow and 10 p red stamps were used for letters, postcards and printed matters respectively.

The Circular No 37/1919 (dated November 14, 1919) informs that new stamps will be issued to meet the international regulations. Because the Post Office already had a good stock of stamps, they were first used to produce overprinted stamps. This was done to save money. Corresponding new stamps with the right colors were issued somewhat later. The 5 penni green supplement stamp was replaced with 5 penni grey. Yellow 75 penni stamp was needed for parcel rates. This was first issued as an overprint, the proper stamp was not printed until 1924.

Wrapper to Italy, Porvoo 19.1.1920, no arrival cancel. Postage 10 p 12.3.1918 - 31.1.1921. Wrapper contains the first issue of Suomen postimerkkilehti, the first ever philatelic magazine published in Finnish.

Second-rate letter 15 - 30 g, Helsinki 3.11.1923, arrival cancel on the reverse Kuusankoski 3.11.1923. Postage 1,75 mk 1.2.1921 - 14.1.1926.

Keräilyrengas
Terijoki
Suomi (=Finland)

II. 18. 10.



Vördsamt:
NIILO LEHTO
Tampere. Suomi (=Finland.)

Y. Unsimaan kirjapainossa 1920.



Demonetizing the issues



The same Circular No 37/1919 also informed that the 50 penni brown, 25 p blue, 20 p yellow, and 10 p red stamps (including stationaries) which have not been overprinted can be used until June 1, 1920.

Handling of postal items franked with demonetized stamps had its own regulation (Aleksejeff, Chapter I § 38): "... the stamp must not be cancelled. In-

stead, a zero preceding with an equal sign ("=0") has to be marked beside the stamp". The upper postcard is an example of this with the addition that the demonetized stamp has been nulled manually. It was also common that the demonetized stamp(s) were "separated" with a blue crayon line as shown on the postcard at the bottom.

Postcard, Loimaa 14.9.1920, arrival cancel Kausala 15.9.1920. Postage 40 p 12.4. 1920 - 31.1.1921. 20 p stamp has been nulled, a boxed "T" postage due stamp.



Postal stationery, Mahlu 30.9.1920, arrival cancel Helsinki 2.10.1920. Postage 40 p 12.4. 1920 - 31.1.1921. The stationery has been nulled, a boxed "T" postage due stamp and hand written "40 p".

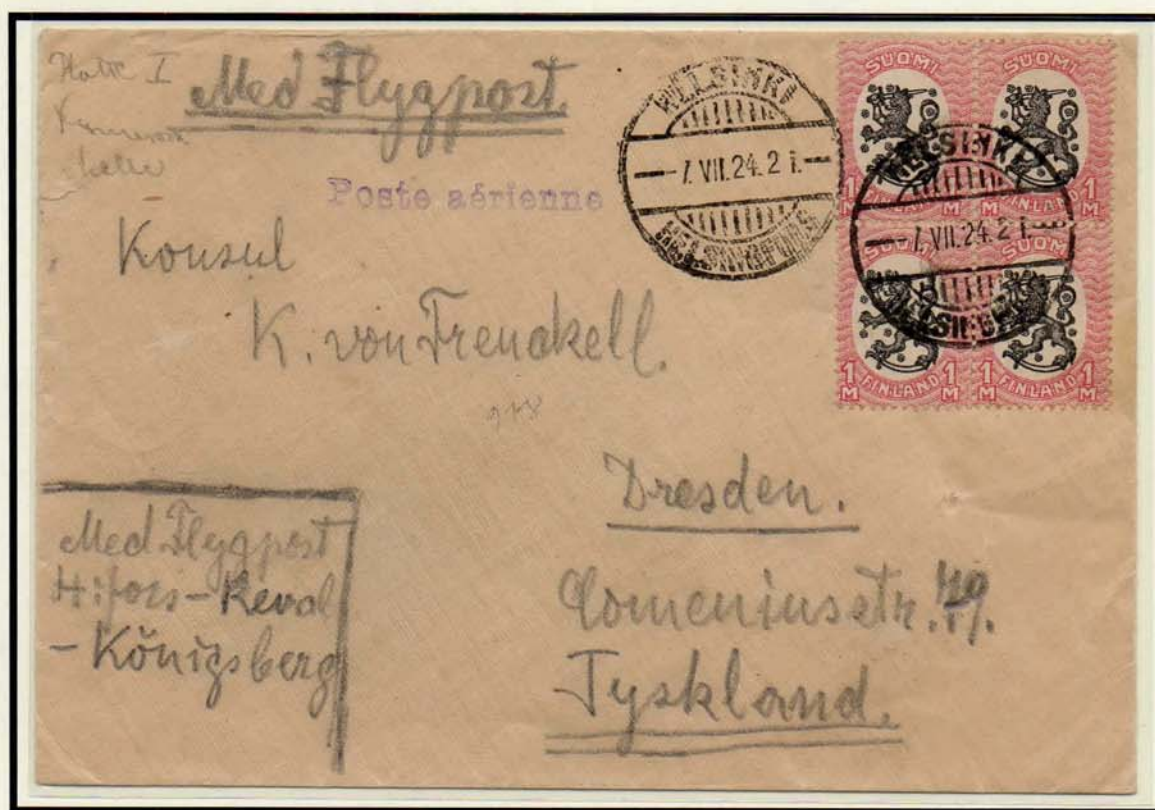
Air mail



It did not take many years after the first flight by the Wright brothers (1903) when aeroplanes were first used for carrying mail. However, the pace in Finland was much slower. There were no aeroplanes and the international routes did not reach to this far end of Europe. The Post Office itself was not interested in the new means of transportation, they thought that the technology was too primitive for their use. The flights depended too much on weather conditions. Heavy wind or bad weather made flying impossible. In addition, the first planes used in Finland were seaplanes which used water or ice for take off and landing. Thin ice cover was not suitable for them and flights had to

be halted for a period during the spring and fall. Thus regular transportation was not possible even though that was what the Post Office needed.

The Post Office got finally interested when the first Finnish airline company, Aero Oy, started its first routes to Tallinn and Stockholm. The company was founded in 1923 and the flights were started in the spring of 1924. The first airmail regulations were issued on May 30, 1924, just in time for the first flying season. These introduced special cancels, slips and other markings which were to be used for airmail. The rules also set a standard for the flight schedule. Mail transportation was faster than ever.



Air mail letter to Germany to consul von Frenckell - 20 g, Helsinki 7.7.1924, no arrival cancel. Postage for the letter 2 mk 1.1.1922 - 30.11.1931, air mail fee 2 mk 20.5.1924 - 31.5.1926, total 4 mk. "Poste aérienne" stamp.

Post bus traffic



The Post Office started to use cars for transportation in Helsinki in 1911 and Turku in 1920. In the spring of 1921 it suggested to the government of Finland that "an automobile transportation should be arranged between Rovaniemi and Sodankylä" (in Lapland). The noble idea was "give satisfaction to the citizens of that Northern area". In practice it also meant savings because the salary of the postmen in those areas had gone up remarkably because of lack of competition.

The traffic to Sodankylä was started with a spe-

cially equipped truck on May 20, 1921. The route was extended to Ivalo already in July when another truck was available for use. The Postitorvi journal reported: "Specially equipped trucks were used to transport mail on a trial route between Rovaniemi and Sodankylä. The trucks traveled the journey three times a week and to Ivalo twice a week. ... The road crosses the Maaselkä ridge and it offers a traveler interesting views. Many a postman has already hurried to test the new means of transportation which has to be kept to be very important to the habitants of this distant area".

Kuponki - Kupongit

lähete-kisterissä. N:o 1684 tulorekisterissä. i avgångsregistret. i ank. registret.

R Ivalo No 339 kortti Adresskort

Kirjallista tilin varten. Vero roitts

För skriftliga meddelanden. Kan från-skiljas.

kotimaista pakettia varten. för paket inom landet.

Till Kello ja Kultaseppäliike Pekka Räsänen

Osoitepaikka ja asunto-osoite: Rovaniemi

Adressort och bostadsadress:

seuraa paketti arvoltaan medföljer härjämte ett paket värt mk. p.

painava 1/2 kg. sisältävä hellan

välgande 1/2 kg. innehållande

Lähetäjä: W. Mälykierpi

Avsändare: Ivalo / Lappi

Lähetäjän osoite: Ivalo / Lappi

Avsändarens adress: Ivalo / Lappi

Lomake Blankett N:o 1.

Postage stamps and cancellations: Ivalo 15.5.1925, Rovaniemi 20.5.1925.

Registered parcel 0,5 kg, Ivalo 15.5.1925, arrival cancel on the reverse Rovaniemi 20.5.1925. Postage up to 1 kg was 5 mk 1.1.1922 - 31.8.1942 and registration fee 1 mk 1.2.1921 - 14.1.1926, total 6 mk.



Railway and ship mail

"Without doubt the railroad post routes are the arteries of mail transportation. They connect even the most distant areas of our country together" (Annual report of the Post Office, 1918). This was the case for a long time. However, the importance of railroad transportation diminished in the 1920's. Roads were constructed and they allowed cars to replace trains in many places.

The importance of ship routes did not diminish

in the 1920's, just the opposite. After the civil war the steam ships were soon used as much as before the war. However, bells started to ring also to the ships, they were slower than cars and thus they were doomed to loose the competition.

The ratio of different means of mail transportation in 1930 was as follows: car transportation 24%, rural mail carriers 32%, railroad 32%, ships 11%, and airmail 1%.



Letter - 20 g, Stettin 4.6.1923, arrival cancel on the reverse Turku 9.6.1923. Postage 1 mk 1.2.1921 - 14.1.1926. "Aus Dampfschiff" stamp. Mailed on a ship.



5. The 1924 Postal Order

Return part of a double postcard from Soviet Union, Petrograd 19.9.1923 (3 cancels) and 20.9.1923, on the reverse Petrograd 21.8.1923 (should be 21.9.), no arrival cancel. Postage 1,20 mk 1.1.1922 - 30.11.1931.



Printed matter to Czechoslovakia - 50 g, Helsinki 19.3.1925, arrival cancel on the reverse Bensen 23.3.1925. Returned (= Zpět), arrival cancel on the reverse Helsinki 28.3.1925. Postage 40 p 1.1.1922 - 30.11.1931.



Third rate (41 - 60 g) registered letter to USA, Koski As. 13.5.1924, arrival cancel on the reverse New York 28.5.1924 and 29.5.1924. Postage for the letter 4 mk 1.1.1922 - 30.9.1925 and registration fee 2 mk 1.1.1922 - 30.11.1931, total 6 mk. Stamp "Called after delivery - Not in Registered mail" and on the reverse "Received in bad condition - N.Y.P.O. - (Hud.term.sta.). Opened in USA and closed with a re-sealing tape.





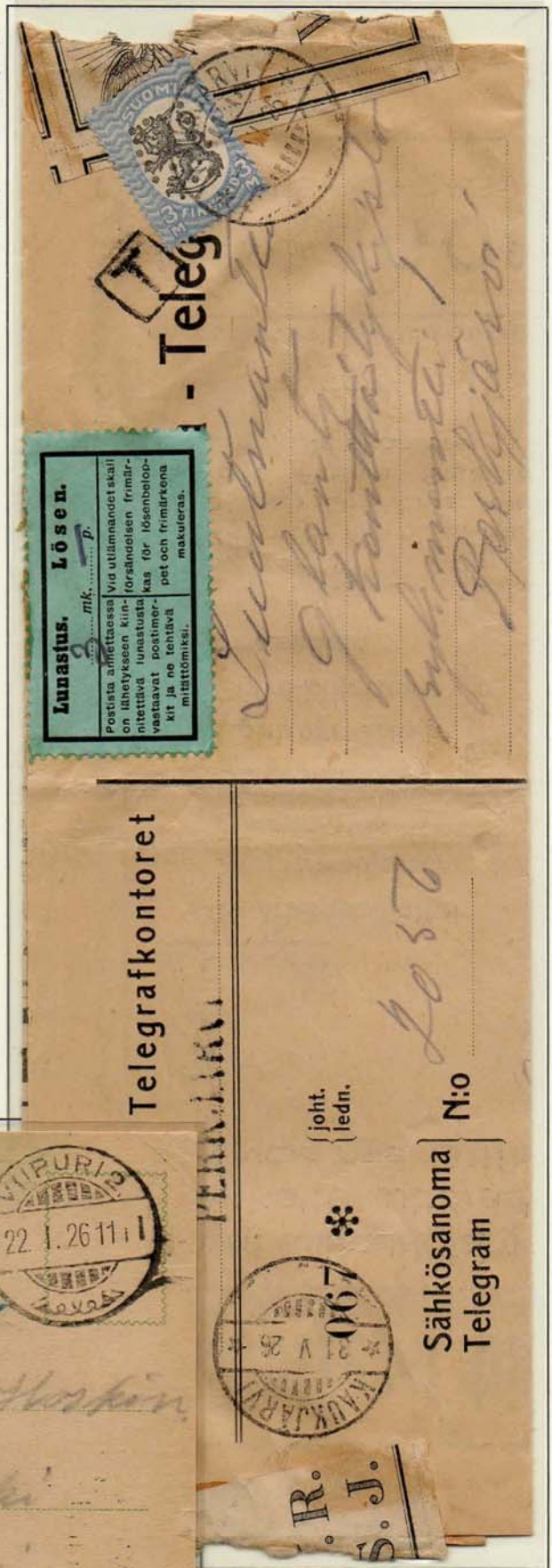
Unfranked postal items

"A letter or a postcard that has been found from a mailbox or a loose bag and taken to a post office fully or partly unfranked has to be carried to its destination to be offered as a postage due item. ... The receiver has to pay the prescribed overdue fee in order to get the item" (Postal Order, Chapter VIII, § 59 and 60).

"The prescribed fee for a fully or partly unfranked letter or postcard or other type of partly unfranked item is double the deficiency" (Circular No 43/1925).

Telegram, received at Perkjärvi on a special form, forwarded unfranked as a letter. Arrival cancel Kaukjärvi 31.5.1926. Postage for a letter 1,50 mk 15.1.1926 - 30.4.1931. Postage due, double deficiency paid with a single 3 mk stamp.

Unfranked postcard, Viipuri 2
22.1.1926, arrival cancel Voikoski
(date unclear). Postage 1 mk
15.1.1926 - 30.11.1931. Postage due
stamp a boxed "T", double defi-
ciency paid with a single 2 mk
stamp.



"The money orders left in a post office have to be stamped with a special control canceler. This stamp is not allowed to be used on canceling stamps" (Application directive, Chapter IV, § 53).

Money order 150 mk, Helsinki 23.4.1927, arrival cancel on the reverse Helsinki 23.4.1927. Postage for a 101 - 500 mk money order 2,50 mk, return receipt fee when paid beforehand 1,50 mk 15.1.1926 - 30.11.1931.

Money order 1330 mk, Viipuri 2.7.1928 and a temporary control cancel, arrival cancel on the reverse Tampere 3.7.1928. Postage up to 1000 mk is 3,50 mk and every 1000 mk from thereof is 1 mk, total 4,50 mk. Underpaid and therefore an after taxation slip of 50 p has been sent ("Jälkitak läh 2/7 50 p").

Telegraphic money order



"Money orders can also be sent via telegraph. ... The sender of a telegraphic money order has, in addition to the ordinary content, the right to add a personal message to the telegram. A normal payment is taken of this message.

The receiving post office has to handle the tele-

graphic money order as an express item. ... The sending post office has to confirm the telegraphic money order by immediately sending the money order signed by the sender to the receiving post office" (Postal Order, Chapter II, § 24).

Lennätinkonttori — Telegrafkontoret

11 27 A 11 49
{ joht. 52
ledn.

92

Sähkösanoma
Telegram No. 353

Mistä Från *Lahti*

Kuponki. — Kupon.

Sisäänjättöpostitoimiston leima.
Inlämningspostanstaltens stämpel.

LAHTI
27.11.26 12a

Osoituksen määrä:
Anvisningens belopp:

1.600 Mrk. / Mk. / prii. / pri.

Lähetäjän nimi ja täydellinen osoite:
Afsändarens namn och fullständiga adress:

Arvi Laaksanen
Rautatieasema
Tallahiti

Lainasta N:o 4313 à 700
lyhenne ja korot.

Sähköpostiosotus Suomessa
Telegrampostanvisning inom Finland

N:o

Ulosmaksu-kassakirjassa.
i Utbetalnings-kassaboken.

Kirjaimilla: — Med bokstäver:

Tuhattakuusisataa

Kene Till: *Tatvan Rautateiden & Lähelaitos.*

Osoitepaikka Adressort: *Helsinki*

Asunto: katu ja N:o / Bostad: gata och Nr:

Sisäänjättöpostitoimiston leima ja kassakirjan numero.
Inlämningspostanstaltens stämpel och kassaboks nummer.

LAHTI
KONTR.
27.11.26 12a

N:o 402

Laaksanen

Postivirkailija, Postfunktionär.

Telegraphic money order 1600 mk, Lahti 27.2.1926, no arrival cancel. Postage up to 1000 mk was 3,50 mk and every 1000 mk from thereof 1 mk, subtotal 4,50 mk and express fee 4 mk, total 8,50 mk 15.1.1926 - 30.11.1931.

This is because governmental offices (in this case the Veterinary lab) did not have to pay for the return.

"Free mailing privilege allows an organization to send postal items without the payment of postage as well as insurance and registration fees. Free porto privilege means only free postage. ... Free mailing or porto privilege is allowed for those governmental officials, offices and scientific societies which have been granted for that. They can use the right only when exchanging mail concerning governmental issues, office or society" (Aleksejeff, Chapter III, § 373 and 374).

Free mailing
privilege letter
sent as COD
(10 mk), Joen-
suu 8.12.1925,
arrival cancel
on the reverse
Polvijärvi
10.12.1925.
Postage up to
100 mk was 1
mk 12.4.1920 -
14.1.1926.
Sender's stamp:
"Liperin kihla-
kunnan hen-
kikirjoittaja" (re-
gistrar of Liperi
county).

laatu: kirje, paketti

Exprès

N^o { tulo-re
i anko } N^o 675

luettelossa tulleista postietu-
antilähetyksistä.
i förteckning öfver ankommna
postförskottsfrändelser.

Postietuannin osotekortti. — Postförskotts-Adresskort.

Postietunanti { 120 } Mrk 82 p.
Postförskott }

Till Herrn Pärmeier
Oiva Sakari Wasmata
Turku
Lundgren & Co

Osoitepaikka }
Adressort }

Aanito: katu ja N:o
Bostad: gata och Nr }

Lähettyksen { laatu: kirje, paketti y. m. }
Förändelsens { beskaflenhet: bref, paket m. m. }

{ sisältö
inhåll }

{ arvo
värde } Mrk _____ p.

paino
vikt } kg. — gr.
N^o 757 lähtö-rekisterissä.
i afgångs-registor.

TÄMMEINEN
suomen
postivirasto
postitoimitus
Helsingin
postitoimiston
kanslia

7 VI 1905

FINLAND M
FINLAND M
FINLAND M
FINLAND M

Kuponki-Kupong

Kirjallisia tiedonantoja varten. Vastaanottaja saa irrottaa.

För skriftliga meddelanden. Får av adressaten avskiljas.

rekisterin N:o _____

gistrats _____

Tulorekisterin N:o _____

Ank.registrats _____

Lösen.

Postista annettaessa Vid utlämnandet skall
 on tehtävä kuusi kuukauden kuluksi
 nitettävä lunastusta kas for lösenbetog.
 vastaavat postimaksut och frimärken
 mitattomiksi.

Kuponki-Kupong

Kirjallisia tiedonantoja varten. Vastaanottaja saa irrottaa.

För skriftliga meddelanden. Får av adressaten avskiljas.

Osoitekortti

Adresskort

Postin kautta Posti- ja telehallituksen kautta

Posti- ja telehallituksen kautta

Kuponki-Kupong

Kirjallisia tiedonantoja varten. Vastaanottaja saa irrottaa.

För skriftliga meddelanden. Får av adressaten avskiljas.

Osoitekortti

Adresskort

Postin kautta Posti- ja telehallituksen kautta

Posti- ja telehallituksen kautta

Three parcels á 10 kg, Oulu 17.3.1928, arrival cancel Muonio 22.3.1928. Postage for a parcel up to 5 kg was 9 mk and every 1 kg from thereof 3 mk 15.1.1926 - 31.8.1942, thus each parcel cost 24 mk, total 72 mk.

This type of postal item has to be equipped with a marking "Express" on the address side. What comes to a parcel, the marking has to be done both to the parcel and the address card" (Postal Order, Chapter IV, § 40).

Express parcel 1 kg, Mikkeli 15.2.1928, arrival cancel on the reverse Kotka 18.2.1928. Postage for a parcel up to 1 kg was 5 mk (1.1.1922 - 31.8.1942), express fee 4 mk (15.1.1926 - 30.11.1931) and home delivery fee 3 mk (1.2.1921 - 30.11.1931), total 12 mk.

Cumbersome parcels



"Cumbersome parcel is a parcel the dimension of which is more than 1,50 m in one direction or at least 1 m in one and 50 cm in another direction; a parcel which has such special form that it is not suitable to be packed with other parcels; or a parcel the contents of

which is fragile and therefore need special handling such as plants in baskets, empty cages, pasteboard packages and wooden hatboxes, hampers etc." (Postal Order, Chapter II, § 14).

Cumbersome parcel 0,5 kg, Lahti 4.9.1928, arrival cancel on the reverse Karstula 5.9.1928. Postage for a parcel up to 1 kg was 5 mk (15.1.1926 - 31.8.1942), extra fee for a cumbersome parcel 50% (1.7.1924 - 31.12.1981), total 7,50 mk. Special boxed "50%" stamp used only in Lahti.

Kuponki-Kupong

Kirjallisia tiedonantoja varten. Vastaanottaja saa irroittaa.

För skriftliga meddelanden. Får av adressaten avskiljas.

Lahtörekisterin N:o _____

Avgångsregistrets _____

Tulorekisterin N:o _____

Ank. registrets _____

Osoitekortti

kotimaista pakettia varten.

Adresskort

för paket inom landet.

Vastaanottaja: *Rouva*

Adressat: *Ellen Tallinen*

Osotepostitoimisto: *Karstula*

Adresspostanstalt: _____

Lähempi osoite: *Kunnalliskola*

Närmare adress: _____

Kuponki-Kupong

Kirjallisia tiedonantoja varten. Vastaanottaja saa irroittaa.

För skriftliga meddelanden. Får av adressaten avskiljas.

Lahtörekisterin N:o _____

Avg. registrets _____

Tulorekisterin N:o _____

Ank. registrets _____

Osoitekortti

kotimaista pakettia varten.

Adresskort

för paket inom landet.

Kauppi Oskar Muonio

(Vastaanottaja — Adressat)

Osotepostitoimisto: *Yli muonio*

Adresspostanstalt: _____

Asunto-osoite: _____

Bostadsadress: _____

seuraa paketti arvoltaan _____ mk. _____ p.

medföljer härjämte ett paket värt _____

painava _____ kg. _____ gr.

vägarande _____

sisältävä _____

innehållande *Lohke*

Lähetäjä: _____

Avsändare: _____

Lähetäjän osoite: _____

Avsändarens adress: _____

Lomake N:o 1.

Blankett _____

Käännä. Vänd.

Bulky parcel 5,5 kg, Viipuri 11.9.1928, arrival cancel on the reverse Muonio 13.9.1928. Postage for a parcel up to 5 kg was 9 mk and every 1 kg from thereof 3 mk, subtotal 12 mk (15.1.1926 - 31.8.1942), extra fee for a bulky parcel 50% (1.7.1924 - 31.12.1981), total 18 mk.

Return receipt



Previous page: "If a sender wants to get information about the arrival of the registered or insured letter, COD, parcel or money order he/she has sent he/she has to fill in a special form and give full details of the receiver as well as type of the postal item and address. The sending post office writes an **inquiry** using this information" (Alexejeff, Chapter XVIII, § 860).

"By using a **return receipt** a sender of a registered or insured letter, COD or money order can get a notice that the postal item has been properly signed for by the receiver" (Postal Order, Chapter V, § 48).

Lomake } N:o 66
Blankett }

Administration des postes de Finlande.
Suomen Postihallinto.
Postförvaltningen i Finland.

Timbre du bureau expéditeur.
Lähtöpostitoimiston leima.
Avsändningspostanstalts stämpel.

AVIS DE RÉCEPTION
SAANTITODISTUS
MOTTAGNINGSBEVIS

d'une lettre avec valeur déclarée de
koskeva kirjettä määräärvoltaan
ang. ett brev med angivet värde av
d'un objet recommandé
koskeva kirjattua lähetystä
ang. en rekommenderad försändelse

d'un colis postal
koskeva postipakettia
ang. ett postpaket

de
i
expédié par M.
lähetänyt
avsän av
et adressé à M.
ja osoitettu
och adressera till
(adresse complète)
(täydellinen osoite)
(fullständig adress)

le
den
sous le N°
N:o:lla
under N°

enregistré
rekisterö.
registerför

à postanstalten

858

Laura Selin
Lohjankylä

qu'une lettre avec valeur déclarée
että määräärvoinen kirje
att ett brev med angivet värde
qu'un objet recommandé
että kirjattu lähetys
att en rekommenderad försändelse
qu'un colis postal sans — avec valeur déclarée
että määräärvoton — määräärvoinen postipaketti
att ett postpaket utan — med angivet värde

à l'adresse susmentionnée
ylläolevalla osoitteella
med ovanstående adress

Le soussigné déclare.
Allekirjoittanut ilmoittaa
Undertecknad förklarar

et provenant de
ja lähetetty
och avsän från

Timbre du bureau distributeur.
Jakelupostitoimiston leima.
Utlämningspostanstalts stämpel.

Signature du destinataire,
Vastaanottajan allekirjoitus,
Adressatens underskrift,

Signature de l'agent du bureau distributeur.
Jakelupostitoimiston virkamiehen alle-
kirjoitus,
Tjänstemannens vid utlämningspostan-
stalten underskrift,

Laura Selin
F. J. J. J. J.

(1) Nature de l'objet (lettre, échantillon, imprimé, etc.).
Lähetystyypin (kirje, tavarankäyte, painotuote, j. n. e.).
Försändelsens beskaffenhet (brev, varuprov, tryckalster, o. s. v.).

(2) Bureau d'origine; date de dépôt à ce bureau; n° d'enregistrement au même bureau.
Postiinjättötoimisto; päivämäärä, jolloin lähetys jätettiin tähän postitoimistoon; saman postitoimiston
postiinjättönumero.

Inlämningspostanstalt; datum för inlämnandet å denna postanstalt; samma postanstalts inlämningsnummer.

Nota. Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire ou, si les règlements, ou pays de destination le com-
portent, par l'agent du bureau distributeur et renvoyé ensuite par le premier courrier, directement à l'a-
dresse indiquée au recto.

Muist. Tämän todistuksen allekirjoittaa vastaanottaja tahi, jos osoitemaan ohjesäännöt sen sallivat, jakelu-
postitoimiston virkamies, ja on se sen jälkeen ensimmäisessä postissa palautettava etusivulla ilmoitetun osoit-
teen mukaan.

Anm. Detta bevis skall undertecknas av adressaten eller, om adresslandets reglementen det medgiva,
av tjänsteman vid utlämningspostanstalten, samt därefter med första post återsändas direkte enligt den å
framsidan angivna adressen.

Return receipt, Helsinki 27.2.1926, Lohja 1.3.1926, arrival cancel on the reverse Helsinki 1.3.1926. Postage when paid before-hand 1,50 mk 15.1.1926 - 30.11.1931.

Final year



When model Saarinen stamps were issued they were received with joy. However, by the mid 1920's they started more and more to be criticized. For example *Iltalehti* journal wrote on November 22, 1927: "The philatelists consider this current model [Saarinen] impossible as well as the ugliest stamp in the world...". There was also a general wish for new stamps showing landscapes. (Interestingly enough, the model 1930 stamps which followed model Saarinen were considered old fashioned already at the end of the 1940's).

The Post Office organized a competition in 1926 in order to find new motives for pictorial and airmail stamps. The results were not satisfactory as the competition did not result to any new issues. It was not until February 17, 1928 when the Post Office made a suggestion to the Ministry of Transportation of changing the dimensions of stamps. This was needed because of the new stamp vending machines which were about to be taken in use. The proposal suggested that the dimensions of model Saarinen stamps should be increased by 1 mm with a white border along the edges.

The government of Finland accepted new dimen-

sions for stamps on April 26, 1928 adding an order that a totally new issue has to be designed. The work was given to Mrs. Signe Hammarsten-Jansson. It is generally known that the sketches as such did not please the Secretary of Transportation, Mr. Jalmar Castrén. Instead, he drew his own version based on a Norwegian stamp. Mrs. Hammarsten-Jansson used this sketch to finalize the proposal. This was accepted on April 4, 1929, the values and colors were accepted on August 9, 1929 and the issue date was set to be January 1, 1930. Model Saarinen stamps were used along with the new issues for one year and they were demonetized on December 31, 1930.

Next page: Model Saarinen stamps were used even after the demonetation. In some cases this was not noticed or they were accepted on purpose (the upper letter). Later on they were nulled and the postage had to be paid with new stamps or the receiver had to pay for postage due (the lower letter).



Second-rate insured letter 1100 mk, Salo 1.11.1930, arrival cancel on the reverse Hyvinkää 1.11.1930. Postage 3 mk and registering fee 1,50 mk 15.1.1926 - 30.11.1931, insurance fee up to 1000 mk was 40 p and every 1000 mk from thereof 40 p, subtotal 80 p, total 5,30 mk.