FAROE ISLANDS POSTAL HISTORY TO 1953

INTRODUCTION

The Faroe Islands is a group of islands situated in the North Atlantic Ocean, approximately halfway between Great Britain and Iceland. The



islands were first settled in the 6th century by Irish monks, but Norsemen arrived around 650 and took over, and this is how the Scandinavian link was established. Norwegian control lasted until 1380, when Norway and Denmark entered a Union, and this gradually resulted in Danish control of the islands. When the union between Denmark and Norway was dissolved in 1814, Denmark retained possession of the Faroe Islands, and that is still the case today.

POSTAL HISTORY

Before 1856, trade with the Faroe Islands was a Royal Danish Monopoly, and mail delivery was part of this monopoly. Regular mail communications as such were not introduced until 1801, when a letter box was erected at the Royal Trade Store in Copenhagen. The public could put letters and parcels in the box, which would be brought to the Faroe Islands free of charge, but there was only a couple of mail deliveries per year. Most of the mail during this period was official correspondence. From 1856 trade was free, and any ships could transport freight to and from the islands, but mail was still shipped by contract. In 1870 the first Post Office was opened in Thorshavn, and postal rates to, from and within the islands were introduced. Danish stamps were used in the islands until 1975. When it comes to inland mail deliveries, this was carried out with the so called "Skyds" system, which not only carried mail, but also people. Each village had a "Skyds" team, often with boats, and they were responsible for the transport of the mail, and passengers, to the next village. The "Skyds" system was introduced in the 18th century and not discontinued until 1922. During the latter part of the 19th century, more Post Offices were opened, but it was not until the early part of the 20th century that the entire group of islands could be said to have been linked with Post Offices and a postal route system. Due to the distance from Denmark, stamp emergencies have occured. In January 1919 the inland postal rate was increased from 5øre to 7øre. With no løre, 2øre or 7øre stamps available, bisected 4øre stamps, or bisected 4øre cut-outs from postal stationery wrappers, were used, and there was also a provisional surcharge "2 ØRE" on 5øre. In July 1940 the inland postal rate was increased from 15øre to 20øre. With insufficient quantities of 20øre stamps available, and with Denmark being occupied by Germany, whereas the Faroe Islands were occupied by Great Britain, low value stamps were surcharged to meet the need for higher denominations, 20øre, 50øre and 60øre. Continued shortage of stamps also led to the introduction of "Franco Betalt" (Postage Paid) handstamps in May and June 1941, as well as the sale and use of 6øre stamps as 5øre stamps between May and September 1941.

During the British occupation between 1940 and 1945, British Field Post Offices were in use in the Faroe Islands, FPO 219 and FPO 695 in Thorshavn, and FPO 611 near Midvaag on Vaagø island. On Vaagø, the British also censored local civilian mail going to and from the island. Postmarks used in the islands were of the Danish types. First Numeral cancels (up to 1884) and Lapidar datestamps (up to 1899). Star cancels were widely introduced in 1903, and all the small Post Offices had these postmarks. All Star Cancels had their stars removed in 1929, by order from the Danish GPO. The Star Removed cancels were in use until 1953, when they were all withdrawn from service and returned to Denmark. Regular datestamps, Bridge cancels, were introduced in 1899, but only Thorshavn and the three major sub-offices (Klaksvig, Trangisvaag and Vaag) had datestamps before 1953.

THE EXHIBIT - PLAN AND DETAILS

This exhibit is a study of the development of the Postal service in the Faroe Islands, starting with the pre-stamp period and the opening of the first Post Offices in the 19th century. The early part of the 20th century is shown with different types of mail and postal rates. The stamp emergency period of 1919 and its aftermath is studied in some detail. Postal rates in use between 1920 and 1953 is shown by category of mail as well as destination. The World War II period is represented not only by the stamp emergencies of 1940-41, but also by other interesting mail phenomena necessitated by the communication problems. This is followed by a section which shows sidelines of the postal history and the final part shows virtually all the different postmarks used in the islands until the withdrawal of the Star Removed cancels in 1953.

PRE-STAMP PERIOD (frame 1)

Early mail from Denmark to the Faroe Islands including one sent via Frederikshavn 1848 (two known), 1850 from Thorshavn to Denmark via GB (the earliest known letter with rate markings), 1853 covers to and from Denmark via GB, 1857 to Denmark with Foot Post (six known), 1853 Official cover to Denmark (three known), 1856 and 1857 Parcel letters from Denmark (five known). Early local mail including 1849 and 1850 "Skyds" letters, 1832 and 1837 Official letters, 1835 Official Express letter, 1848 Parcel letter (the earliest of three known), 1878, 1882, 1894 and 1900 local covers without stamps.

THE FIRST POST OFFICES (frame 2)

"238" Numeral on incoming 4sk cover (two known), 2sk Thorshavn Lapidar cover (four known), 4sk Thorshavn Lapidar INVERTED date cover (two known), early incoming mail from Denmark (1874 and 1878) and GB (1878, and 1879 with Thorshavn cds on GB stamp), 1896 Trangisvaag Lapidar cover, 1892 Klaksvig Lapidar cover, SMIRIL and RUTH Star Cancels including 20øre SMIRIL cover 1897, 1901 Registered cover to Denmark, 1894 32øre and 1902 30øre Parcel covers to Denmark.

MAIL AND RATES 1900-1918 (frame 3-4)

1900 12øre rate to Norway (unique), 1901 taxed postcard to Austria with Postage Due stamp, early "Fra Færöerne" mail, COD covers, Insured mail, Parcel Letters including COD, Insured and multiple parcels, Official mail, Ship Mail via GB, Printed Matters, Postal Stationery cut-outs, First World War including Censor Mail and the use of Soldiers Stamps, Paquebot mail via Norway, and incoming mail including DWI.

1919 PROVISIONALS AND THE AFTERMATH (frame 5)

Four covers with Bisected 4øre stamps, eight covers with Bisected 4øre wrapper cut-outs including example on 5øre stationery (three known), and on 3øre postcard (unique). Six covers with "2 ØRE" on 5øre surcharge, four covers/postcards with 7øre stamps, two with 2øre+5øre stamps, and postcards, covers and registered mail to Denmark.

POSTAL RATES 1920-1953 (frame 6)

Rates in use during the period including Local mail, Inland mail, Registered & Insured mail, COD, Printed Matters, Postcards, Parcel Post, COD Money Orders, mail to Scandinavia and to Foreign countries.

WORLD WAR II MAIL (frame 7)

Statsministeriet from and to the Faroe Islands, FPO 219, 611, 695, Red Cross mail, 1940-41 Provisional Surcharges, Franco Betalt handstamps including 10øre(x2) (unique), Non-denominated with manuscript "50"øre, Non-denominated from Klaksvig, two examples of 6øre used as 5øre, Censor mail including US censor on election mail from Iceland, British Registration and Parcel labels.

SIDELINES OF POSTAL HISTORY (frame 8)

Christmas and Charity labels, Perfins including DDPA (rare), Postage Due stamps on local, incoming and outgoing mail, Telegrams and envelopes, Freight mail including Freight stamps on envelopes and freight letters, Route and Ship Mail markings.

POSTMARKS 1903-1953 (frame 9)

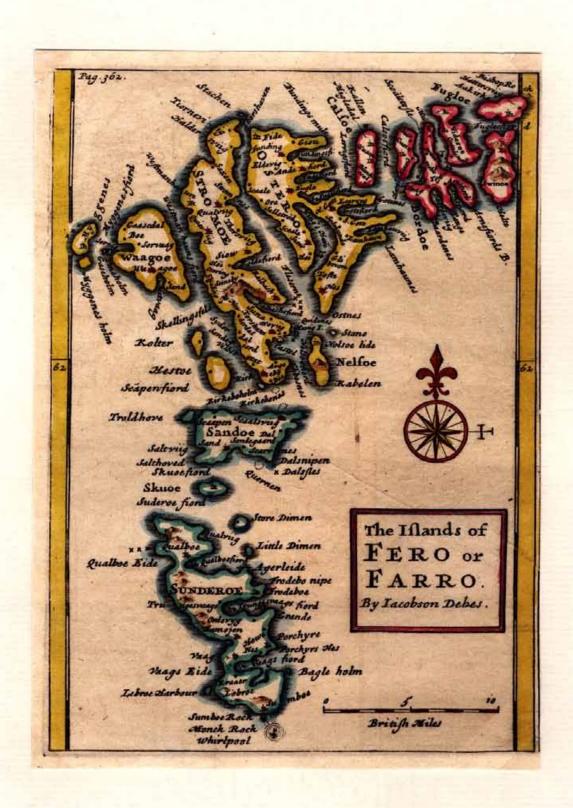
Virtually all Star cancels, Star-removed cancels and Bridge cancels used in the Faroe Islands are shown, presented geographically, village by village, through the four different postal routes, including at least one cover from every Post Office.

REFERENCES

Literature used includes "Faroe Islands, Stamps and Postal History, GF10" (Philtrade Danmark A/S - Daka, 2010), "Faroe Islands Postal Rates 1870-1976" (Flack, 2000), and much personal research.

1720 MAP OF THE FAROE ISLANDS

"The Islands of FERO or FARRO By Iacobson Debes", published in Herman Moll's Atlas, produced in London 1720.



ROYAL PROCLAMATION FOR THE FAROE ISLANDS

Because the Faroe Islands was formally a part of Denmark, and the trade monopoly was not abolished until 1856, legislation for the Faroes was decided in Copenhagen. Royal Proclamations, such as that shown below, with rules and regulations for the Faroes, including Postal regulations, were issued from time to time, and there was no parliament in the Faroes.

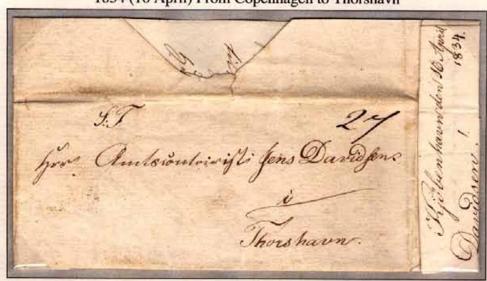
1821 Royal Proclamation for the Faroe Islands "Placat for Færøerne", referring to an 1815 Proclamation

Farverne, angagenbe at den ved Placaten af 15de April 1815, §. 3. befalede farstilte Authorisation paa be sammesteds circulerende Bantfebler, maae bortfalbe. Riebenhavn. Erntt i bet Schultzifte Officin. 1821. hal go 0.18

EARLY MAIL FROM DENMARK - DIRECT ROUTE

Before the 1 March 1870, mail could be sent free of charge between the Faroe Islands and Copenhagen on the Royal Trade Monopoly ships. For mail beyond Copenhagen, normal Danish postal rates applied. Apparently some of the Trade Monopoly ships departed from Frederikshavn, so letters from Copenhagen had to be sent through the regular mail system, and paid for, to Frederikshavn.

1834 (16 April) From Copenhagen to Thorshavn



1834 - from Copenhagen to Thorshavn

1848 (5 March) From Copenhagen to Governor Lunddahl in the Faroe Islands, via Consul Skibsted, Frederikshavn



Rate: "24"sk inland rate from Copenhagen to Frederikshavn. Marked "frit" (free) for transmission to the Faroes.

1848 - from Copenhagen to the Faroe Islands, via Frederikshavn - Rare, only two examples known!

EARLY MAIL TO DENMARK - VIA GREAT BRITAIN

Direct ships between the Faroes and Denmark were not frequent, so quite often urgent mail had to be sent via Great Britain, usually Leith, Scotland, or Lerwick, Shetland Islands, at considerable costs, since foreign rates at this time were quite high.

1850 (21 December) From Thorshavn to Copenhagen, via Lerwick, London and KDOPA Hamburg



Rate: Charged "6"d. British share = "7" Hamburg Schilling = $22\frac{1}{2}$ Danish Skilling + Danish share $22\frac{1}{2}$ sk = Total postage due 45sk.



Copy of reverse: Total postage due 22½sk + 22½sk

1850 - this is the earliest known letter from the Faroe Islands with rate markings!

EARLY MAIL TO DENMARK - VIA GREAT BRITAIN

Direct ships between the Faroes and Denmark were not frequent, so quite often urgent mail had to be sent via Great Britain, usually Leith, Scotland, or Lerwick, Shetland Islands, at considerable costs, since foreign rates at this time were quite high.

1853 (15 April) From Thorshavn to Copenhagen, via Lerwick, London and KDPA Altona



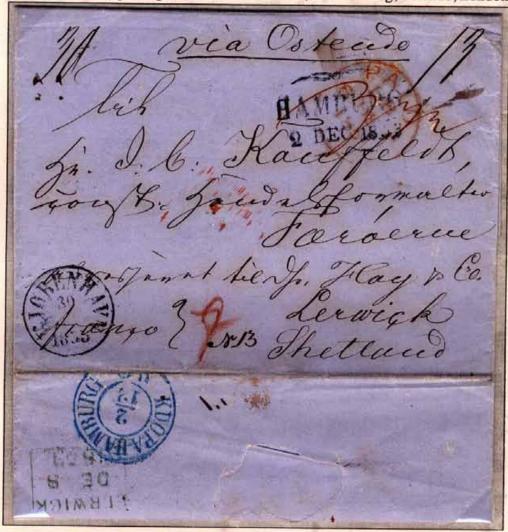
Rate: Charged "6"d. British share = $22\frac{1}{2}$ Danish Skilling + Danish share $22\frac{1}{2}$ sk = Total postage due 45sk.

1853 - from Thorshavn to Copenhagen via Lerwick

EARLY PREPAID MAIL FROM DENMARK - VIA GREAT BRITAIN

Direct ships between the Faroes and Denmark were not frequent, so quite often urgent mail had to be sent via Great Britain, usually Leith, Scotland, or Lerwick, Shetland Islands, at considerable costs, since foreign rates at this time were quite high.

1853 (30 November) From Copenhagen to the Faroe Islands, via Hamburg, Ostende, London and Lerwick



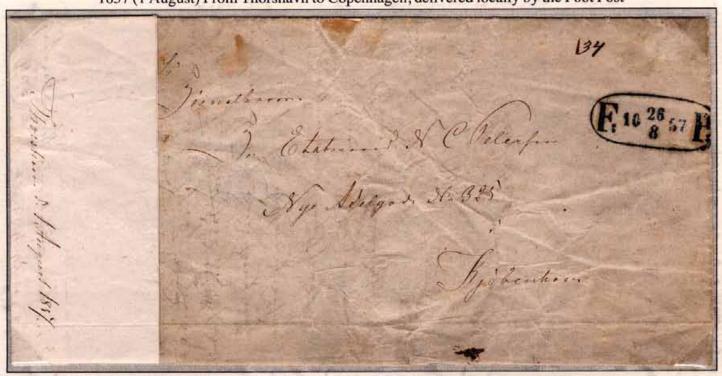
Rate: 43sk ("30"sk foreign share + "13"sk Danish share, both in black); $30sk = "7" Sgr (in red) = 3\frac{1}{2} Sgr GPU share + "3\frac{1}{2}" Sgr (in red) = 4d. credited forward to GB.$

1853 - from Copenhagen to the Faroe Islands via Lerwick

EARLY MAIL TO DENMARK - WITH FOOT POST DELIVERY

The local mail delivery in Copenhagen was established in 1806 and it was called "Fodposten" (the Foot Post). The basic postage for a Foot Post letter was 2sk. Special "F P" postmarks were used. The Foot Post system was discontinued in 1876.

1857 (1 August) From Thorshavn to Copenhagen, delivered locally by the Foot Post

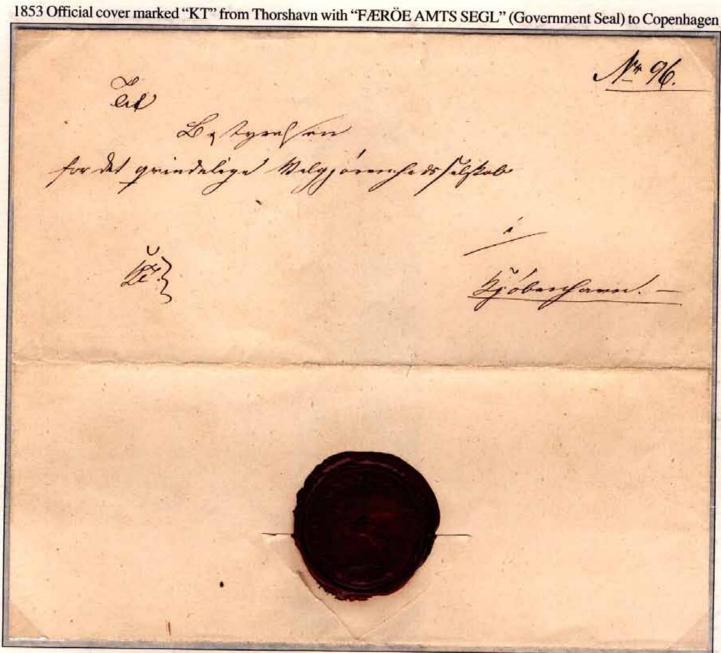


1857 - Foot Post letter from Thorshavn.

Rare - only six Foot Post letters from the Faroes known!

EARLY OFFICIAL MAIL TO DENMARK

Official mail was marked "KT" (Kongelig Tjeneste = Royal Official) and such mail was always forwarded without any charges, both inland and to Denmark. 19th century official mail to Denmark is rare - only three examples are recorded.



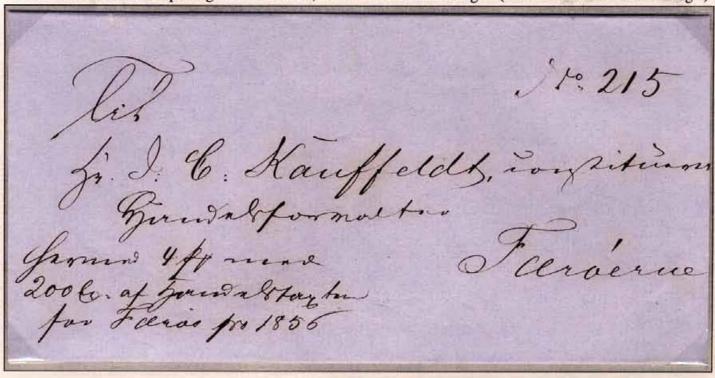
1853 - Official cover from Thorshavn to Copenhagen.

Rare - only three examples known!

EARLY PARCEL POST FROM DENMARK

In the Danish postal system throughout the 19th century, parcels were always accompanied by a parcel letter. The wording on the parcel letter was "Hermed en Pakke..." (Herewith a Parcel...). Parcel post from the 19th century, to or from the Faroe Islands is very scarce, only five parcel letters are recorded.

1856 Parcel letter from Copenhagen to Thorshavn, "Hermed 4 Pk med 200 kg..." (Herewith 4 Parcels with 200 kg...)



1856 - Parcel letter from Copenhagen to Thorshavn - Rare, only five examples known!

1857 (c) Parcel letter from Copenhagen to Thorshavn, "Hermed 3 Pk med 200 kg..." (Herewith 3 Parcels with 200 kg...)

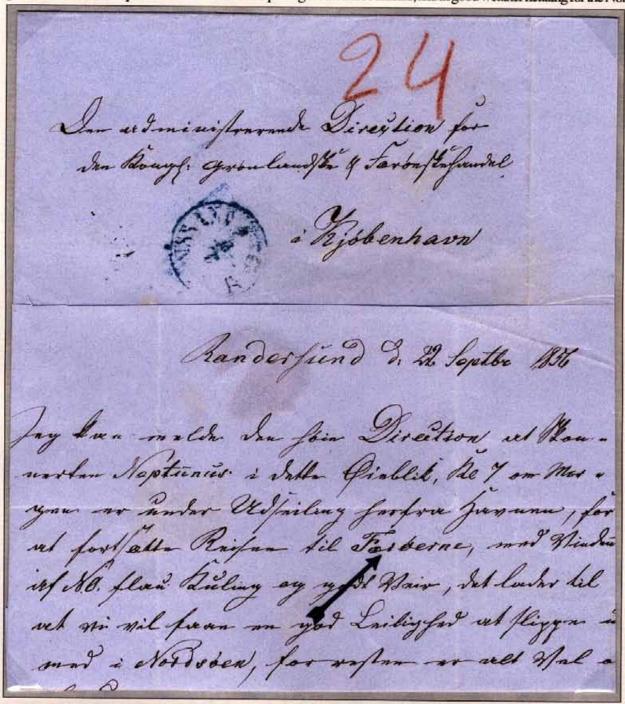


1857 - Parcel letter from Copenhagen to Thorshavn - Rare, only five examples known!

ROYAL TRADE MONOPOLY SHIPS TO THE FAROE ISLANDS FROM NORWAY

Royal Trade Monopoly ships also carried cargo from Norway to the Faroe Islands, and they had agents in the Norwegian ports who acted on their behalf, and sent reports to the Trade Monopoly office in Copenhagen.

1856 (22 September) From Randersund, Norway, to the Directors of the Royal Greenland & Faroe Islands Trade, Copenhagen, reporting that "the schooner Neptunus is in this moment departing for the Faroe Islands, and in good weather heading for the North Sea".



Rate: Charged "24"sk (rate from Norway to Denmark), postmarked CHRISTIANSSAND 23.9.1856

EARLY LOCAL MAIL - SKYDS

In the early days, local mail within the Faroe Islands was forwarded with the skyds system. Each village had the responsibility to escort mail, and officials, to the next village, normally with a rowing boat and a crew of four to nine men. Private mail carried in the skyds system was charged a fee based on the distance, but this was never written on the letters.



1850 (1 November) From Thorshavn to Bö



1850 - from Thorshavn to Bö

EARLY LOCAL MAIL - OFFICIAL

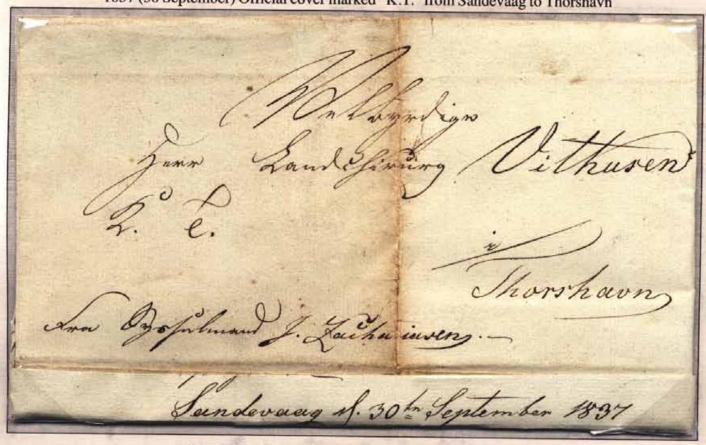
Official mail was marked "KT" (Kongelig Tjeneste = Royal Official) and such mail was always forwarded without any charges. Church mail was also considered to be a form of official mail, but from 1865 there was a charge for church mail.

1832 (6 March) Official cover marked "K.T." within Thorshavn



1832 - Official cover within Thorshavn

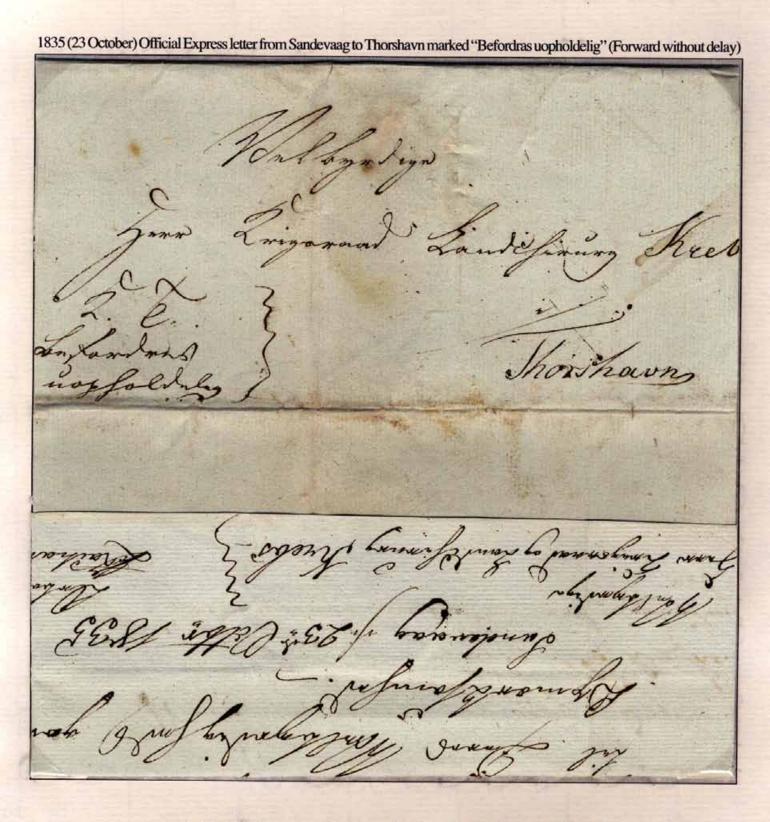
1837 (30 September) Official cover marked "K.T." from Sandevaag to Thorshavn



1837 - Official cover from Sandevaag to Thorshavn

EARLY LOCAL MAIL - EXPRESS

Unlike regular skyds mail, which had to wait to be forwarded until a passenger was being escorted, express mail had to be forwarded immediately whether there was a passenger or not. Express mail always has a notation such as "Haster" (Urgent) or "Befordras uopholdelig" (Forward without delay).

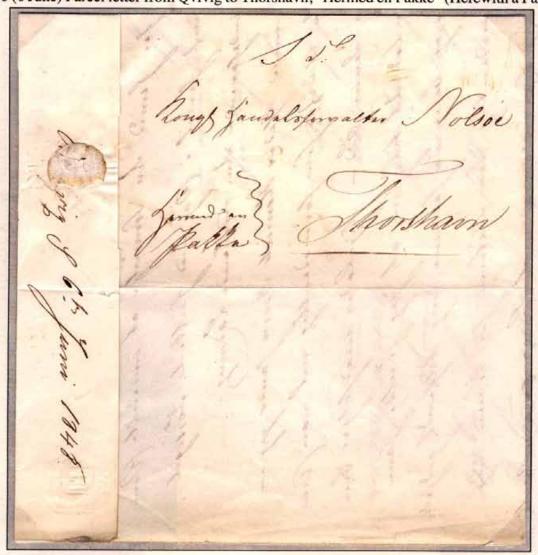


1835 - Official Express letter from Sandevaag to Thorshavn - Rare!

EARLY LOCAL MAIL - PARCEL POST

Throughout the 19th century, parcels were always accompanied by a parcel letter. The wording on the parcel letter was "Hermed en Pakke..." (Herewith a Parcel...). Parcel post from the 19th century within the Faroe Islands is very scarce.

1848 (6 June) Parcel letter from Qvivig to Thorshavn, "Hermed en Pakke" (Herewith a Parcel)



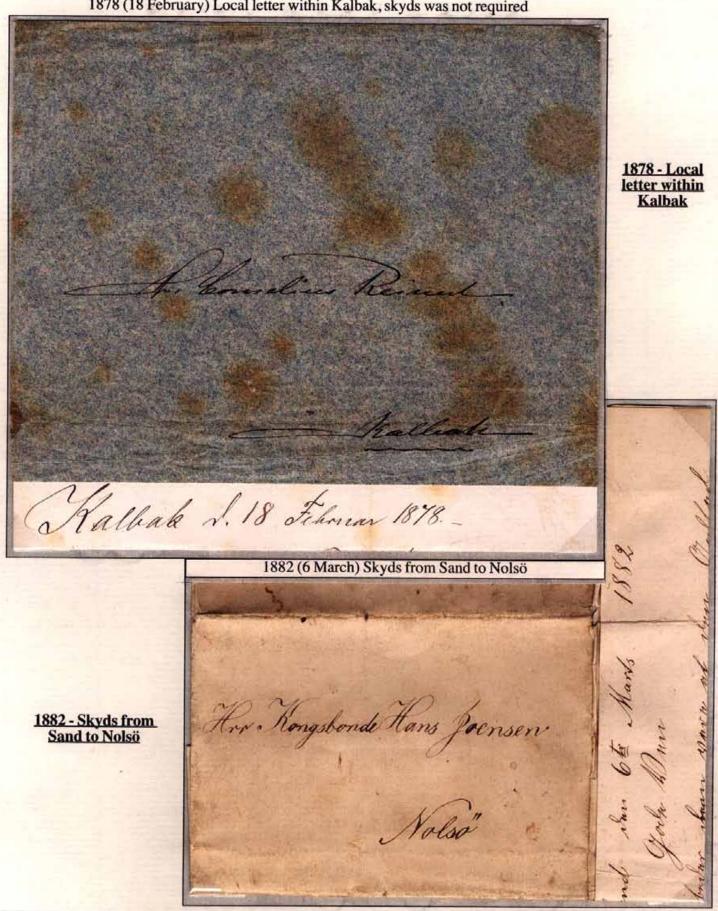
1848 - Parcel letter from Qvivig to Thorshavn.

Rare - the earliest of three known local parcel letters!

LOCAL MAIL AFTER 1870

Although the Post Office in Thorshavn opened in 1870, and postal routes started to be established, skyds mail continued to be used, and it was not discontinued until well into the 1920's when the postal system was fully developed.

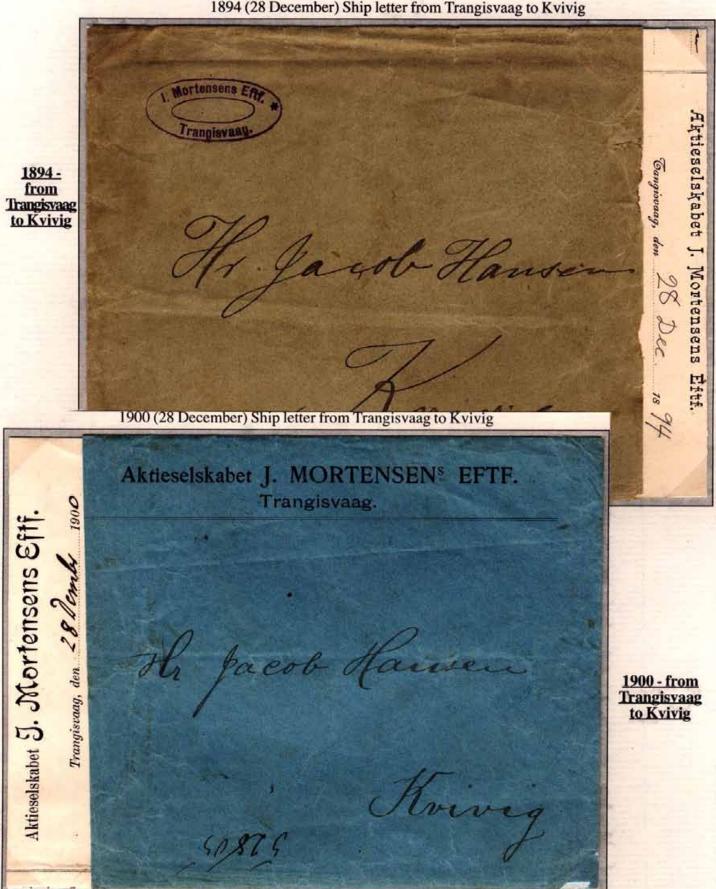
1878 (18 February) Local letter within Kalbak, skyds was not required



LOCAL SHIP MAIL

Mail going from one island to another, without passing through Thorshavn or any of the other villages with a Post Office, was often forwarded by ship without any postal charges. Often these letters accompanied cargo carried by the ship in question and could be referred to as consignee's mail.

1894 (28 December) Ship letter from Trangisvaag to Kvivig



THE FIRST POST OFFICE - THE "238" NUMERAL POSTMARK

The first Post Office in the Faroe Islands was opened in Thorshavn on 1 March 1870. Two postmarks were assigned to the Post Office, the "238" numeral and the Thorshavn lapidar datestamp. The numeral postmark was never used much, and was withdrawn in 1884 anyway. Covers with this postmark are very scarce.

1874 (15 August) From Copenhagen to Thorshavn, 4sk stamp postmarked with "238" on arrival



Rate: 4sk to and from Denmark (1871-74)

1874 - 4sk with "238" numeral postmark on cover from Denmark.

Rare - only two incoming covers with "238" postmark known!

THE FIRST POST OFFICE - THE "THORSHAVN" LAPIDAR DATESTAMP

The Thorshavn lapidar datestamp was brought into use when the Post Office opened on 1 March 1870, and remained in use until 1899. Skilling stamps were only used until the end of 1874, so skilling covers with this postmark are quite scarce. The date and month are known to have been inserted upside down at times.

1874 (23 November) 2sk from Thorshavn to Tveraa. Rate: 2sk inland (1870-74)



1874 - 2sk from Thorshavn to Tveraa.

Rare - only four known 2sk lapidar covers!

1873? (22 August) From Denmark to Tveraa, 4sk stamp postmarked on arrival, date inverted



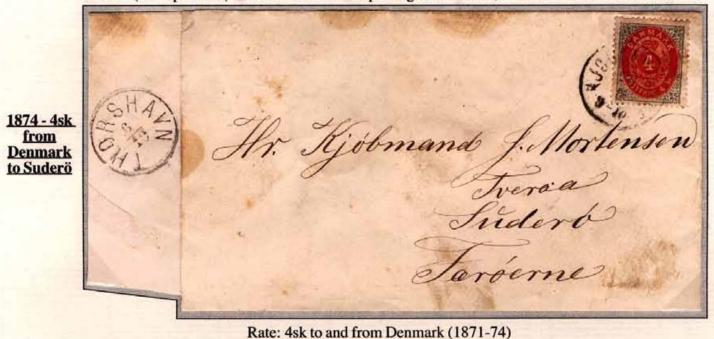
1873 - 4sk postmarked Thorshavn with date inverted, on cover from Denmark.

Rare - only two known skilling cover with inverted date!

1870'S MAIL FROM DENMARK

The postal rate between Denmark and the Faroe Islands was 4 skilling between the 1.4.1871 and 31.12.1874, and from the 1.1.1875 it became 8 øre. Mail to Kjøbmand Johan Mortensen in Tveraa, Suderø, is that most commonly seen from the 1870's; he must have had a significant business correspondence. Sadly he died in 1879, 63 years old.

1874? (28 September) 4sk on cover from Copenhagen to Suderö, with arrival cds Thorshavn 6.10





1878 - 8 øre from Denmark to Tveraa

Rate: 8øre to and from Denmark (1875-1902). Comment: Adressed to Johan Mortensen who died in 1879.

1870'S MAIL FROM GREAT BRITAIN

Trade with Great Britain was natural for the Faroe Islands; communication was easy and frequent and merchandise was readily available. This trade also generated mail; orders, invoices and payments were sent by mail.

1878 (15 July) From Liverpool to Tveraa, marked "Per Mail from Leith", with arrival cds THORSHAVN 20.7



1878 - from Liverpool to Tveraa, 21/d. foreign rate

1879 (4 October) Ship letter "Pr Phoenix" to Tveraa, with GB 21d. postmarked THORSHAVN 4.10 on arrival



Comment: Cover addressed to "Johan Mortensen's widow". He died in 1879.

1879 - ship letter with GB 21d. postmarked Thorshavn on arrival - Rare!

EARLY INLAND MAIL

In the 1870's, the Faroe Islands started to be divided into several postal districts, where mail within each district was forwarded at half the rate compared to mail forwarded to another district, just as in Denmark. This meant that the rate for most inland mail was 8 øre, but the rate for local mail sent within a district was 4 øre.

1878 (17 November) 8øre from Thorshavn to Suderö



Rate: 8øre inland (1875-1902). Comment: Addressed to Johan Mortensen who died in 1879.



1878 - 8 øre from Thorshavn to Suderö

> 1885 - 8 øre from Thorshavn to Tveraa

Rate: 8øre inland (1875-1902)

THE SECOND POST OFFICE - TRANGISVAAG

The second Post Office in the Faroe Islands was opened in Trangisvaag, on Suderø (the Southern island), on 1.4.1877. This Post Office was assigned three postmarks, two of which were hardly ever used: Numeral "284" (two examples known, one in the Postal Museum); Star cancel "Trangisvaag" (one cover and a handful of stamps known); Lapidar datestamp "Trangisvaag".

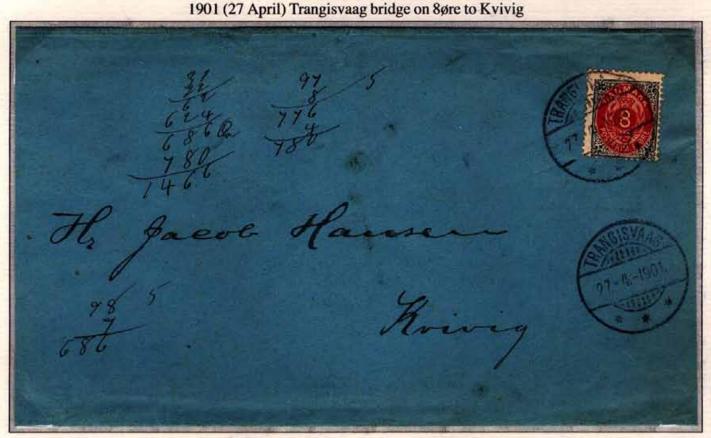
1896 (11 July) Trangisvaag lapidar on 4øre pair (one normal + one inverted frame) to Kvivig



Rate: 8øre inland (1875-1902)

1896 -

lapidar to Kvivig



1901 - Trangisvaag bridge to Kvivig

THE THIRD POST OFFICE - KLAKSVIG

The third Post Office in the Faroe Islands was opened in Klaksvig, on Bordø (one of the Eastern islands), on 1.5.1888. This Post Office was only assigned one postmark: The Lapidar datestamp "Klaksvig" which remained in use until 1899, when it was replaced with a bridge datestamp.

1892 (28 June) Klaksvig lapidar on 8øre to Sorö, Denmark



Rate: 8øre to Denmark (1875-1902)

1901 (14 July) Klaksvig bridge on 8øre to Skodsborg, Denmark



Rate: 8øre to Denmark (1875-1902)

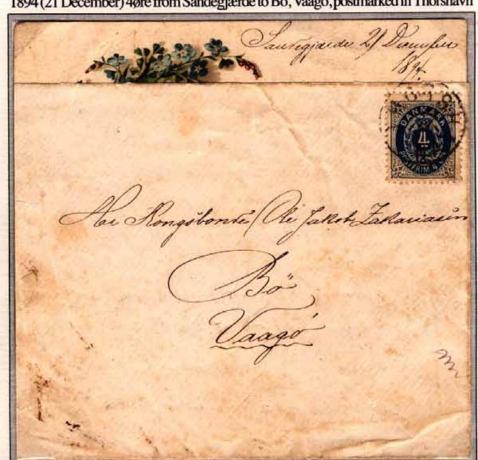
1901 - Klaksvig bridge to Denmark

1892 -Klaksvig lapidar to Denmark

EARLY INLAND MAIL POSTMARKED IN TRANSIT

Mail between the smaller towns and villages, although some of them had Post Offices, was not always postmarked at its closest Post Office, but at the main Post Office in Thorshavn, where the mail would quite often transit. It was of course easier to just bundle up mail to Thorshavn and beyond without postmarking it.

1894 (21 December) 4øre from Sandegjærde to Bö, Vaagö, postmarked in Thorshavn



1894 - 4 øre on local rate cover from Sandegiærde to Bö, postmarked in Thorshavn

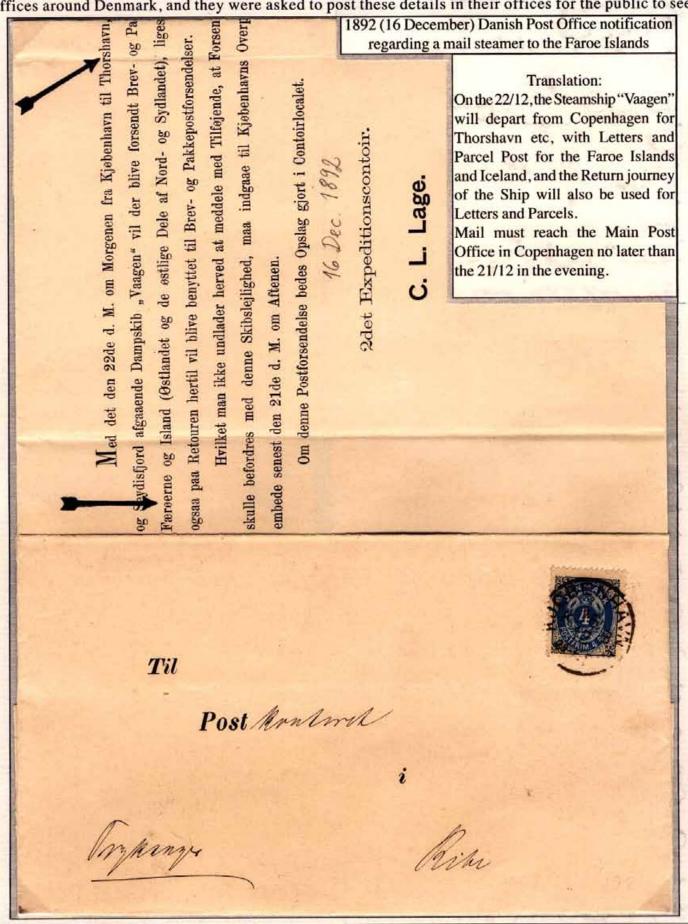
1898 - from Trangisvaag to Kvivig, postmarked in Thorshavn

1898 (30 January) 4øre (x2) from Trangisvaag to Kvivig, postmarked in Thorshavn. Rate: 8øre inland (1875-1902)



MAIL STEAMERS TO THE FAROE ISLANDS

Connections between Denmark and the Faroe Islands were not very frequent, so whenever a mail and freight steamer was scheduled, information was sent out from the Main Post Office in Copenhagen to the other Post Offices around Denmark, and they were asked to post these details in their offices for the public to see.



MAIL FROM DENMARK - DIFFERENT ROUTES AND RATES

The rate for direct mail between Denmark and the Faroe Islands was 8 øre (letters) and 5 øre (postcards), but the connections were rather infrequent. Sending mail via Great Britain could be quicker, although it was more expensive at 20 øre (letters) and 10 øre (postcards).



THE STEAMSHIP POST OFFICES - SMIRIL AND RUTH

Many ships and boats have carried mail between the different Faroe Islands, but only two of them have ever had Post Offices on board, Smiril between 1896 and 1903, and Ruth between 1908 and 1909. Each had its own Star cancellation, and whereas the Smiril marking is known on both stamps and covers, the Ruth marking is only known on a few stamps.

"SMIRIL" Steamship Star cancellation (1896-1903)



5 øre 1895

"RUTH" Steamship Star cancellation (1908-09) - Rare!



1 øre 1905 Also small part of cds

1897 (21 April) "Smiril" star cancellation on 20øre on ship letter to Copenhagen via Trangisvaag and Leith, Scotland



Rate: 20øre foreign rate to Denmark via Great Britain (1875-1920)

1897 - "Smiril" Star cancellation on 20 øre on cover to Denmark via Great Britain - Rare!

THE FINAL DAYS OF THE "THORSHAVN" LAPIDAR DATESTAMP

The Thorshavn lapidar datestamp, which had been brought into use when the Post Office opened in 1870, was taken out of use in September 1899. It had been a rather impractical marking since it did not show the year, only day and month.

1896 (11 February) 8øre from Thorshavn to Copenhagen



1896 -Thorshavn Iapidar cds

Rate: 8øre to Denmark (1875-1902)

1899 (29 September) 4øre (x2) from Thorshavn to Copenhagen



1899 - Thorshavn lapidar cds, the latest known use

Rate: 8øre to Denmark (1875-1902)

THE "THORSHAVN" BRIDGE DATESTAMP

The replacement for the Thorshavn lapidar datestamp was the bridge datestamp, which showed a complete date; day, month and year. Introduced in late 1899, this was the first of a whole group of bridge type datestamps which were in use all the way up until 1988, although this first bridge datestamp was only in use until early 1917.

1900 (21 February) 8øre from Thorshavn to Copenhagen



Rate: 8øre to Denmark (1875-1902)

1901 (23 May) 4øre (x2) from Thorshavn to Copenhagen



1901 - Thorshavn bridge cds

Rate: 8øre to Denmark (1875-1902)

EARLY REGISTERED MAIL

The registration of mail was possible immediately when the first Post Office opened in 1870. No registered covers before 1897 are recorded, and very few are known before 1919. A registration marking was introduced in the 1890's or earlier, and registration labels came into use around 1904. The registration fee was 16 øre between 1875 and 1902.

1901 (14 November) 4 øre + 20 øre on registered cover from Thorshavn to Copenhagen, pr SS "Vesta"



Rate: 8 øre to Denmark (1875-1902) + 16 øre registration fee (1875-1902)

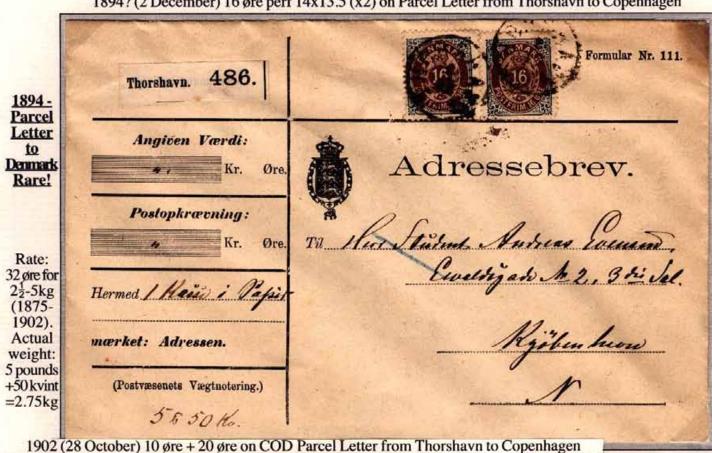
1901 - Registered cover to Denmark.

Rare - only a handful covers known with the DANEMARK R-marking!

EARLY PARCEL POST

Parcel post was also available immediately when the first Post Office opened in 1870, but very few parcel letters are recorded before 1910. Printed parcel letters and special parcel labels came into use in the 1890's or earlier. The parcel rate for $1/2\frac{1}{2}/5$ kg was 16/24/32 øre between 1875 and 1902, and 15/20/30 øre between 1902 and 1908.

1894? (2 December) 16 øre perf 14x13.5 (x2) on Parcel Letter from Thorshavn to Copenhagen





SHIP FREIGHT LETTER TO DENMARK

Goods was, of course, also sent by consigment with a shipping company rather than through the Post Office. A group of parcel letters (used as ship freight letters) are known sent with consignments from the Faroe Islands to Copenhagen, where the parcel letters were sent through the mail within Copenhagen, informing the addressee that the goods had arrived.



LOCAL MAIL

Local mail sent within a postal district was forwarded at a lower rate than mail sent to a different postal district. Between 1875 and 1902, the rate for local letters was 4 øre, and for local postcards the rate was 3 øre between 1888 and 1916.

1901 (13 August) 3øre postcard from Thorshavn to Bö



1901 - local postcard

Rate: 3øre local postcards (1888-1916)

1902 (8 April) 4øre from Thorshavn to Bö



1902 - local cover

Rate: 4øre local letters (1875-1902)

EARLY FOREIGN MAIL

It was not until the beginning of the 20th century, when tourists started to visit the Faroe Islands, that more mail was sent to other countries. Previously almost all mail was either sent locally or to Denmark.



1900 - 12 øre rate to Norway.

Rare - the only known example!

1901 (27 March) 10øre postcard from Thorshavn to Germany via Edinburgh

Rate: 12øre to Norway (1875-1919)

1901 - postcard to Germany



1901 (24 May) Taxed 5øre postcard from Thorshavn to Austria, with 10H Postage Due stamp



Rate: 10øre foreign postcards (1875-1920)

1901 - taxed postcard to Austria, with Postage Due stamp

SHIP MAIL "Fra Færöerne"

Mail to Denmark did at times not pass through a Post Office in the Faroe Islands, but was forwarded directly by ship to Copenhagen, where it was postmarked upon arrival. In the 1880's, a "Fra Færöerne" (From the Faroe Islands) marking was introduced on such ship mail to indicate that the letter had arrived from the Faroes.

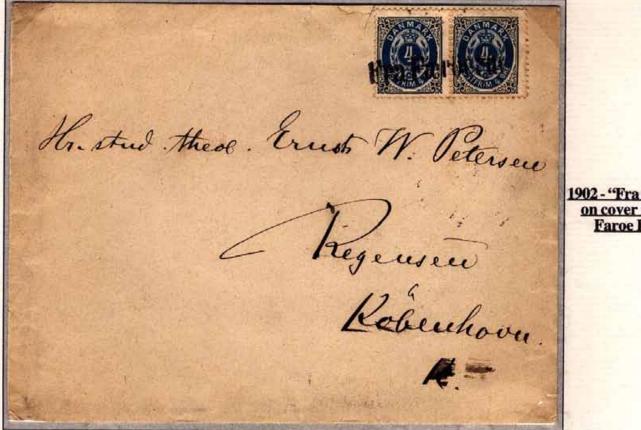
1902 (19 April) 5øre postcard from Thorshavn to Denmark, with "Fra Færöerne" marking



1902 - "Fra Færöerne" on postcard from Thorshavn

Rate: 5øre to Denmark (1888-1918)

1902 (September) 4øre (x2) to Copenhagen, with "Fra Færöerne" marking



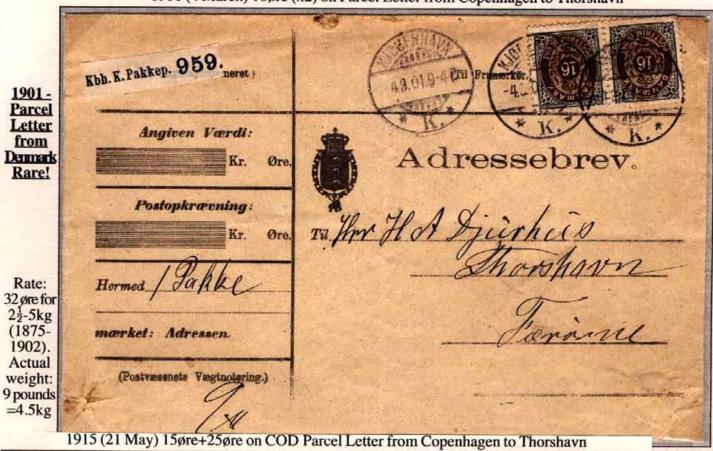
1902 - "Fra Færöerne" on cover from the Faroe Islands

Rate: 8øre to Denmark (1875-1902)

EARLY PARCEL POST FROM DENMARK

Parcel post from Denmark to the Faroe Islands was also available from 1870, but very few parcel letters are recorded before 1910. The parcel rate was the same as from the Faroes, 16/24/32 øre for $1/2\frac{1}{2}/5$ kg between 1875 and 1902, and 15/20/30 øre for $1/2\frac{1}{2}/5$ kg between 1902 and 1917, but from 1908 the minimum fee was 20 øre.

1901 (4 March) 16øre (x2) on Parcel Letter from Copenhagen to Thorshavn





1915 -COD Parcel Letter from Denmark

Rate: 20 øre for 2½kg (1902-17) +COD fee 20 øre for 10-50kr (1907-17). Actual weight: 2kg

LOCAL POSTCARDS

The local postcard rate of 3 øre was introduced on 1 October 1888, and remained in force as such until 30 September 1916, when all of the Faroe Islands became a local postal district, and 3 øre became the inland rate until 1 January 1919.

1910 (18 January) 3øre from Thorshavn to Sand

2 18/1 1910 BREVKORT Kun for Adressen: Julin. Du med Hr Pastor Cov. 1910 - local postcard from 10822

Rate: 3øre local postcards (1888-1916)

1914 (22 December) 1øre+2øre from Haldersvig to Thorshavn

Thorshavn to Sand



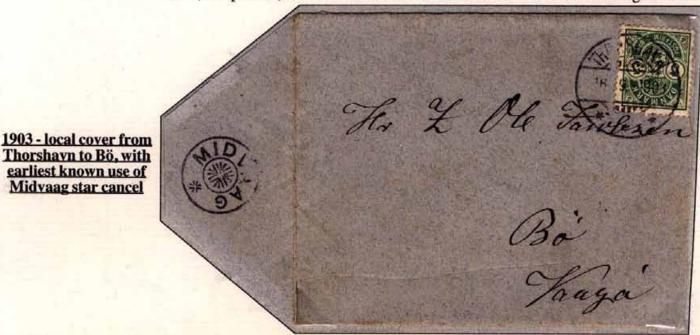
1914 - local postcard from Haldersvig to Thorshavn

Rate: 3øre local postcards (1888-1916)

LOCAL LETTERS

The local letter rate was increased from 4 øre to 5 øre on 1 October 1902, and remained in force as such until 30 September 1916, when all of the Faroe Islands became a local postal district, and 5 øre became the inland rate until 1 January 1919.

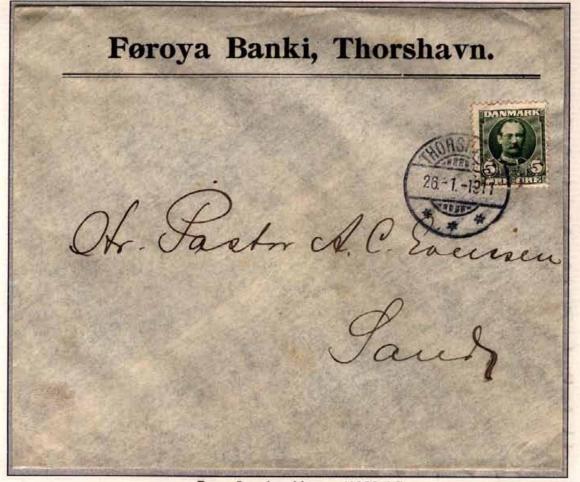
1903 (16 September) 5øre from Thorshavn to Bö with earliest known use of Midvaag star cancel



Rate: 5øre local letters (1902-16)

1911 (26 January) 5øre from Thorshavn to Sand

Midvaag star cancel



1911 - local cover from Thorshavn to Sand

Rate: 5øre local letters (1902-16)

INLAND POSTCARDS

The inland postcard rate of 5 øre was introduced on 1 October 1888, and remained in force as such until 30 September 1916, when all of the Faroe Islands became a local postal district, and 3 øre became the inland rate until 1 January 1919.

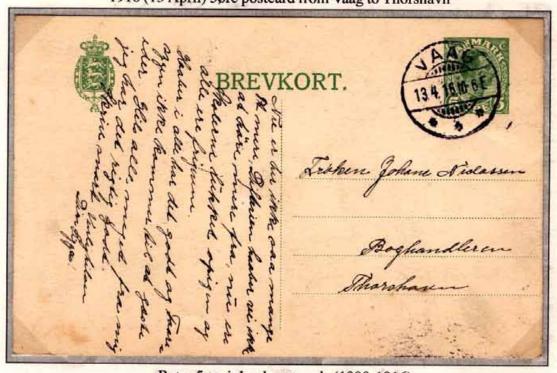
1909 (28 April) 5øre from Trangisvaag to Thorshavn

Tuesaa 2 28/4 1909. 1909 - from Trangisvaag Venlig Hilan Anna

Rate: 5øre inland postcards (1888-1916)

1916 (13 April) 5øre postcard from Vaag to Thorshavn

to Thorshavn



1916 - from Vaag to Thorshavn

Rate: 5øre inland postcards (1888-1916)

INLAND LETTERS

The inland letter rate was increased from 8 øre to 10 øre on 1 October 1902, and remained in force as such until 30 September 1916, when all of the Faroe Islands became a local postal district, and 5 øre became the inland rate until 1 January 1919.

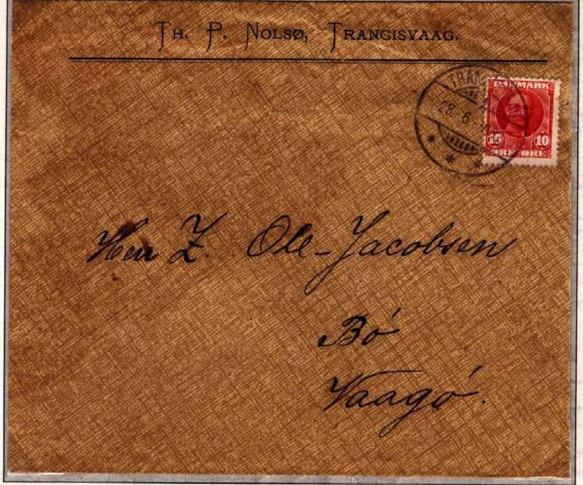
1904 (17 April) 10øre from Trangisvaag to Sörvaag



1904 - from Trangisvaag to Sörvaag

Rate: 10øre inland (1902-16)

1912 (28 June) 10øre from Trangisvaag to Vaagö



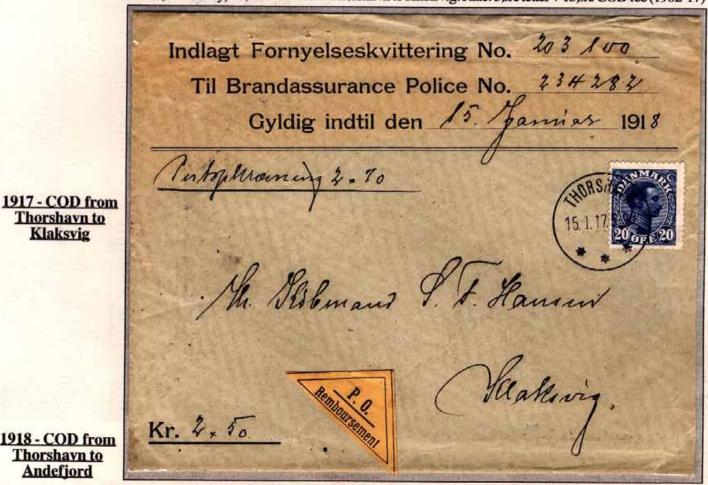
1912 - from Trangisvaag to Vaagö

Rate: 10øre inland (1902-16)

C.O.D. - CASH ON DELIVERY (Postopkrævning)

This service was introduced as early as 1871, but it was not used much until well into the 20th century. The early minimum fee for the COD service was 12 øre, but this was increased to 15 øre in 1902, and 20 øre in November 1917.

1917 (15 January) 20øre COD from Thorshavn to Klaksvig. Rate: 5øre letter + 15øre COD fee (1902-17)



1918 - COD from Thorshavn to

1918 (9 September) 5øre+25øre COD from Thorshavn to Andefjord. Rate: 5øre letter + 25øre COD fee for 10-50kr (1917-18)

| 4 | Forsikringssum Kr. 4500. 4 | Præmie H. 77 x 50 |
|------------------|----------------------------|---|
| les. | | |
| | | 5 m 5 2 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 |
| , 7 | be Handelmund Jacob | E Jaiobsen |
| 44,80. Indefjord | | lind |
| | | 77000 |

INSURED MAIL (Værdipost)

This service was introduced in 1875, but it was not used much until well into the 20th century. The early minimum fees for insured mail was 8 øre and 16 øre, but this was changed to 10 øre in 1902, and 15 øre in 1908.

1911 (19 January) 10øre+15øre Insured from Klaksvig to Copenhagen



1911 - Insured cover from Klaksvig to Copenhagen

Rate: 10øre to Denmark + 15øre insurance fee (1908-18)

1915 (29 September) 20øre Insured from Thorshavn to Strænder



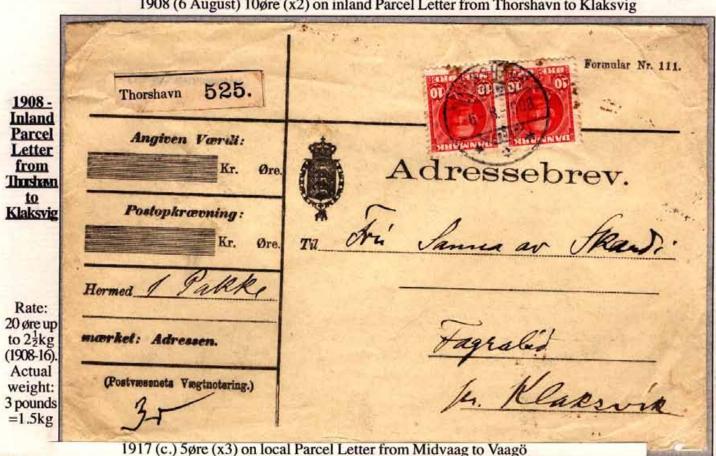
1915 - Insured cover from Thorshavn to Strænder

Rate: 5øre local + 15øre insurance fee (1908-18)

INLAND PARCEL POST

Internal Parcel Post was also introduced when the first Post Office opened in 1870, but very few items are recorded before the 20th century. There was a distinction between local rates (within one postal district), and inland rates (from one postal district to another), but from 1 October 1916, the local rates applied all over the Faroe Islands.

1908 (6 August) 10øre (x2) on inland Parcel Letter from Thorshavn to Klaksvig

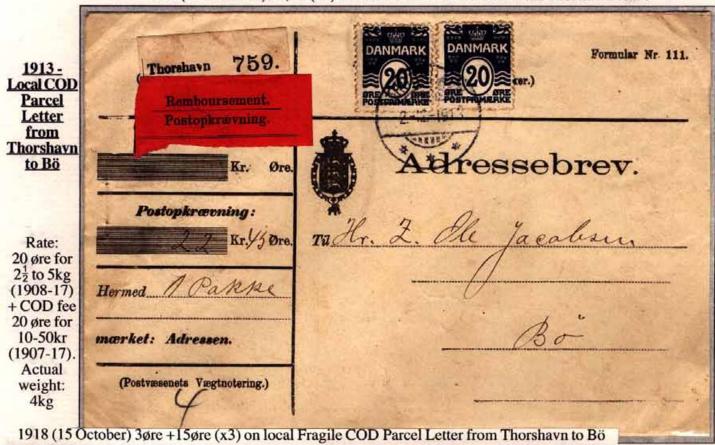




INLAND C.O.D. PARCEL POST

Parcels, as well as letters, could be sent with the Cash On Delivery service. The additional fees for parcels with C.O.D. was the same as for letters, and for parcels a red label "Remboursement / Postopkrævning" was normally used.

1913 (2 December) 20øre (x2) on local COD Parcel Letter from Thorshavn to Bö





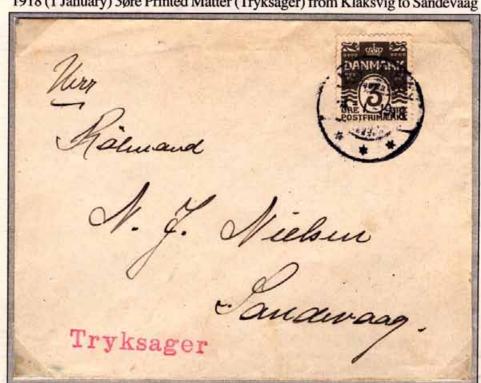
1918 - Local Fragile COD Parcel Letter from Thorshavn to Bö

Rate: 20 øre up to 2½kg (1917-18) +COD fee 20 øre (1917 - 18) +Fragile fee 8 øre. Actual weight:

LOCAL RATES FOR INLAND MAIL

On 1 October 1916, all of the Faroe Islands became one local postal district, and this meant that all inland mail could be sent using the local rates. This remained in force until 30 June 1920, when a separation between local and inland mail was reintroduced.

1918 (1 January) 3øre Printed Matter (Tryksager) from Klaksvig to Sandevaag



1918 - Inland Printed Matter sent at local rate

Rate: 3øre local printed matters (1888-1918)

1918 (23 December) 3øre postcard from Klaksvig to Thorshavn



1918 - Inland postcard sent at local rate

Rate: 3øre local postcards (1888-1918)

OFFICIAL MAIL

As during the pre-stamp period, official mail was sometimes marked "KT" (Kongelig Tjeneste = Royal Official), but the privilege of sending official mail free of charge was abolished when official stamps were introduced, although regular stamps were also used at times.

1902 (7 July) 4øre on local Official cover marked "KT" from Thorshavn to Bö



1902 - Local Official "KT" cover

Rate: 4øre local (1875-1902)

1906 (9 March) 5øre (x2) on inland Official cover marked "KT" from Thorshavn to Kunö



1902 - Inland Official "KT" cover

Rate: 10øre inland (1902-16)

OFFICIAL STAMPS

Official stamps were introduced in the Danish Postal System in 1871, but very few examples are known used in the Faroe Islands. Obviously, only a very small number of officials had the right to use Official stamps on their mail.

Official stamp 32 øre



THORSHAVN 6.8 lapidar cds

Official stamp 4 Skilling



THORSHAVN 19.6
lapidar cds

Rare - only two Official skilling stamps
used in the Faroe Islands are known!

Official stamp
5 øre



VESTMANHAVN star cancel

1906 (7 July) 10øre Official stamp from Copenhagen to Sandö, Faroe Islands



Rate: 10øre to and from Denmark (1902-19)

1906 - Official stamp on cover to the Faroe Islands

MAIL FROM NORWAY

Although Norway is geographically much closer to the Faroe Islands than Denmark, there seems to have been limited connections with Norway until the 20th Century. By then shipping links started to be established and communications became easier.

1903 (10 October) Cover from Stavanger, Norway, to Sandö, Faroe Islands



1903 - from Norway to Sandö, Faroe Islands

Rate: 10øre to Denmark and the Faroe Islands

1914 (11 December) Postcard from Sandefjord, Norway, to Klaksvig, Faroe Islands



1914 - from Norway to Klaksvig, Faroe Islands

Rate: 5øre postcards to Denmark and the Faroe Islands

MAIL TO DENMARK - POSTCARDS

On 1 October 1888 the postcard rate to Denmark was reduced from 8 øre to 5 øre. This rate remained in force until 1 January 1919 when it was increased to 7 øre in connection with the general rate changes taking place then.



MAIL TO DENMARK - LETTERS

On 1 October 1902 the letter rate to Denmark was increased from 8 øre to 10 øre. This rate remained in force until 15 October 1919 when it was increased to 15 øre in connection with the general rate changes taking place in 1919.

1913 (18 February) 1øre+2øre (x2)+5øre from Thorshavn to Copenhagen via Leith, Scotland



1913 - to Denmark via Scotland

MAGNUS EINARSSON

Thorshavn. Færøerne.

Hr. C. M. Obels Masalg Nextergade 10

Ho'henhaun

Denmark direct

MAIL TO DENMARK - PARCEL POST

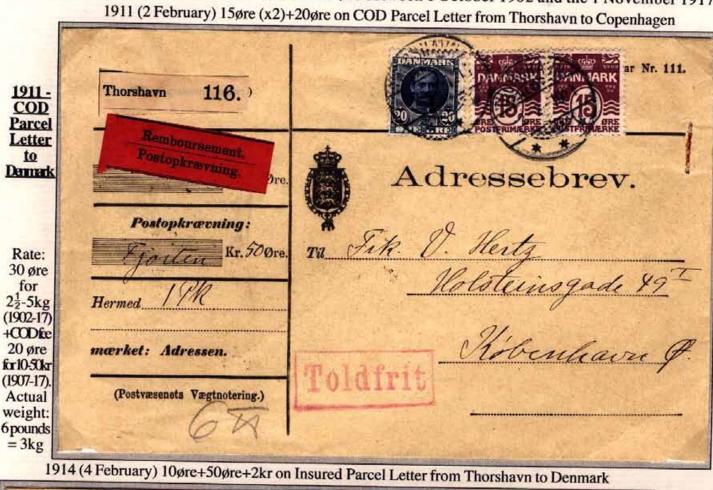
The parcel rate to Denmark was 15/20/30 øre for $1/2\frac{1}{2}/5$ kg between the 1 October 1902 and the 1 November 1917, but from the 1 June 1908 the minimum fee was 20 øre. Parcels over 5kg were charged 5 øre per $\frac{1}{2}$ kg throughout.

1911 (19 January) 15øre (x2) on Parcel Letter from Klaksvig to Copenhagen DANMARK Formular Nr. 111. 262 Klaksvig. 1911 -Parcel Angiven Værdi: Letter from Adressebrev. Øre. Klaksvig to Denmark Postopkrævning: Hermed Rate: mærket: Adressen. 30 øre for $2\frac{1}{2}$ -5kg (1902-17)(Postvæsenets Vægtnotering) Actual weight: 6 18 6 pounds =3kg1916 (31 January) 5øre+20øre (x3) on Parcel Letter from Trangisvaag to Copenhagen

Trangisvaag 99. 20 or 620 5 ent 1916 -Angiven Værdi: Parcel Letter Adressebrev. Øre. Kr. from Trangisvage to Postopkrævning: M. Chr. Welllind Denmark Kr. Øre. Hermed mærket: Adressen. Rate: 65 øre for 62kg (1902-17). Actual weight: 6½kg

MAIL TO DENMARK - INSURED AND C.O.D. PARCELS

The minimum insurance fee was 10 øre between 1 October 1902 and the 1 July 1908, and then 15 øre until 1 January 1919. The minimum COD fee was 15 øre between 1 October 1902 and the 1 November 1917.



Formular Nr. 111. Ohshava 1914 -Insured Angiven Værdi: Parcel Letter Kr. O Ore. to Denmark Ord of Teldstod Postopkrævning: Hermed Rate: An borg Toldkammer. 245 øre for 242kg mærket: Adressen. (1902-17)+ Insured (Postvæsenets Vægtnotering.) fee 15 øre (1908-18). Actual weight:

242kg

MAIL TO DENMARK - MULTIPLE PARCELS

If several parcels were sent to the same addressee at the same time, one Parcel Letter could be used for up to three parcels. If more than three parcels were sent at the same time, several Parcel Letters had to be used.

1915 (24 September) 15øre+25øre (x3) on Parcel Letter for three parcels from Thorshavn to Copenhagen



1915 (24 September) 1Kr (x4)+25øre (x3) on Parcel Letter for three parcels from Thorshavn to Copenhagen



1915 -Parcel Letter for three parcels to Denmark

Rate: 30 øre for 2½-5kg + 225 øre for 22½kg + 220 øre for 22kg (1902-17). Actual weight: 5kg + 22½kg + 22kg

SHIP MAIL VIA GREAT BRITAIN

Because of infrequent connections from the Faore Islands to Denmark, mail was often sent with ships going to Great Britain, where it was handed over to the Post Office at the first port of call. Such mail often received ship letter or paquebot markings.

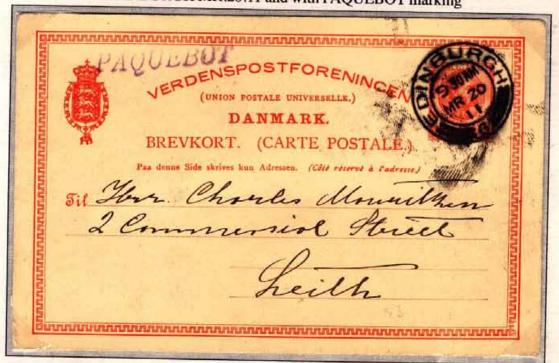
1904 (17 August) from Thorshavn to England, with SHIP LETTER TROON marking



1904 - SHIP LETTER TROON marking

Rate: 10øre foreign postcards (1875-1920)

1911 (16 March) 10øre postcard from Trangisvaag to Leith, postmarked EDINBURGH MR.20.11 and with PAQUEBOT marking



1911 - PAQUEBOT marking and EDINBURGH cds

Rate: 10øre foreign postcards (1875-1920)

MAIL TO EUROPE

The foreign postcard rate of 10 øre was introduced as early as the 1 July 1875, and remained unchanged until the 1 January 1921, when it was dramatically increased to 25 gre. Few foreign postcards are recorded before 1900. The foreign letter rate of 20 øre was introduced on 1 July 1875, and remained unchanged until 1 January 1921.

1909 (17 November) 10øre from Vaag to Switzerland



1907 - cover to Scotland via Norway

Rate: 20øre foreign letters (1875-1920)

PRINTED MATTERS

The printed matter rate between Denmark and the Faroe Islands was 4 øre from the 1 January 1875 until the 1 January 1919. The foreign printed matter rate of 5 øre was introduced on 1 April 1879, and remained unchanged until 1 January 1921.

1914 (11 March) 4øre on printed matter from Aarhus to Sandö





Stern Corl Schrife Ober Fortweety Wirmer trance 586 Bestin 26

Rate: 5øre foreign printed matters (1879-1920)

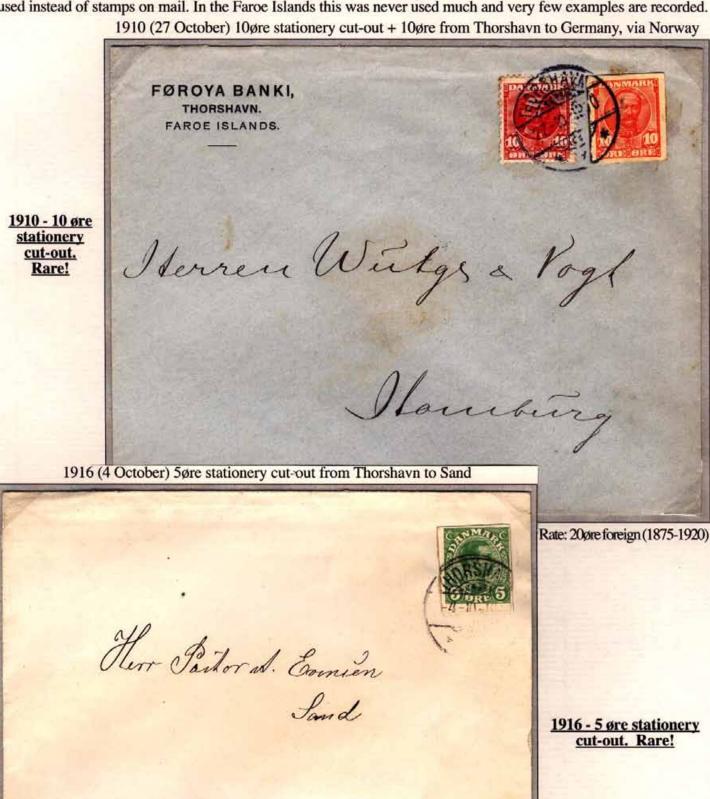
1908 - printed matter to Germany

1919 - printed paper wrapper to Holland

Rate: 5øre per 50gram foreign printed papers; 20øre = 150-200gram

POSTAL STATIONERY CUT-OUTS

The Danish Postal Administration was one of very few that officially allowed cut-outs from postal stationery to be used instead of stamps on mail. In the Faroe Islands this was never used much and very few examples are recorded.

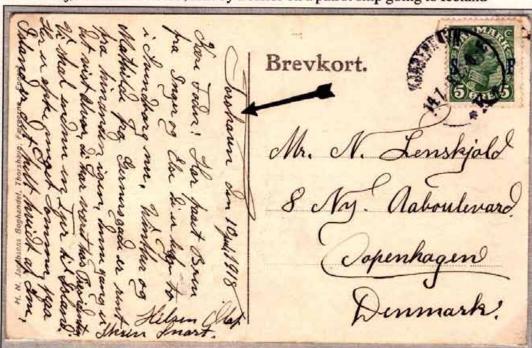


Rate: 5øre local (1902-18)

FIRST WORLD WAR - SOLDIERS STAMPS AND CENSOR MAIL

In 1917 regular 5 øre and 10 øre stamps were overprinted "S F" (Soldater Frimærker = Soldiers Stamps) and these were used by the conscripts of the Danish Security Force. The use of these stamps from the Faroe Islands is very rare.

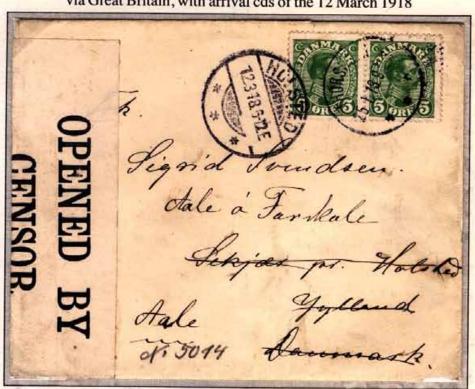
1918 (10 Julyl) 5øre Soldiers Stamp from Torshavn to Denmark, postmarked Kjøbenhavn 14.7.18, sent by a sailor on a patrol ship going to Iceland



1918 - Soldiers Stamp from Torshavn. Very rare!

Rate: 5øre postcards to Denmark (1888-1918)

1918 (25 January) 5øre (x2) on censor cover from Thorshavn to Denmark via Great Britain, with arrival cds of the 12 March 1918



1918 - censor cover to Denmark via Great Britain

Rate: 10øre to Denmark (1902-19)

FIRST WORLD WAR - CENSOR MAIL TO AND FROM THE FAROE ISLANDS

During the First World War, mail from the Faroe Islands to Denmark was quite often sent via Great Britain. There it was handled by the Postal Censors and frequently opened and examined by the censors.

1917 (23 May) 5øre (x2) on censor cover from Copenhagen to Sandevaag, via Great Britain



Rate: 10øre to and from Denmark (1902-19)

1918 (23 April) 10øre on censor cover from Trangisvaag to Denmark, via Great Britain, with arrival cds of 3 June 1918

the Faroe Islands via Great Britain



1918 - censor cover to Denmark via Great Britain

Rate: 10øre to Denmark (1902-19)

PAQUEBOT MAIL VIA NORWAY

Outgoing mail did not always pass through a Post Office in the Faroe Islands, but was forwarded directly by ship. In the early part of the 20th century there were frequent connections with Norway, and such ship mail would receive Paquebot markings upon arrival there.

1919 (July) 10øre from Thorshavn to Copenhagen, postmarked BERGEN 21.VII.19 and Paquebot



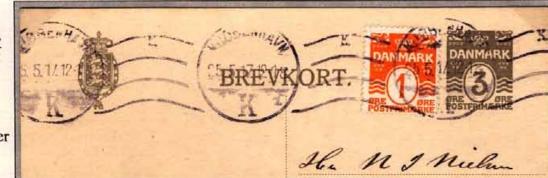
MAIL FROM DENMARK

The printed matter rate from Denmark to the Faroe Islands was 4 øre from the 1 January 1875 until the 1 January 1919. The postcard rate was 5 øre from the 1 October 1888 until the 1 January 1919, and the letter rate was 10 øre between the 1 October 1902 and the 1 October 1919.

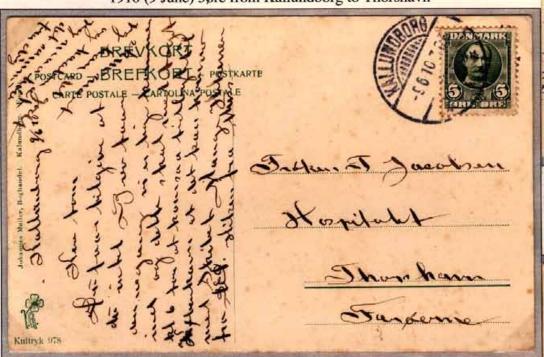
1917 (25 May) 1øre on 3øre postcard printed matter from Copenhagen to Sandevaag

1917 - printed matter card from Denmark to Sandevaag

Rate: 4øre printed matter (1875-1918)



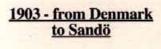
1910 (9 June) 5øre from Kallundborg to Thorshavn



1910 - from Denmark to Thorshavn

Rate: 5øre postcards (1888-1918)

1903 (7 February) 10øre from Copenhagen to Sandö



Rate: 10øre to and from Denmark (1902-19) Hr. Sognepræet A le Brensen!

Todnæs Græstegaard?

de' Garvierne

CONNECTIONS WITH ICELAND

Mail steamers from Denmark to the Faroe Islands quite frequently continued to Iceland, and on their return journey back to Denmark, they normally stopped at the Faroe Islands again. Thus the connections with Iceland were quite good.

1908 (10 August) 10aur postcard from Iceland to Denmark, via Thorshavn 12.8.1908



1908 - from Iceland to Denmark. via Thorshavn

1911 (8 August) 10øre posted on board from Thorshavn, postmarked Reykjavik 9.8, to Germany, taxed

Rate: 10aur postcards

1911 - taxed ship postcard to Germany

1914 (21 March) 20aur from Reykjavik to Sand

Rate: 10aur postcards, taxed 20Pf

1914 - from Iceland to Sand

Rate: 20aur letters

CONNECTIONS WITH GREAT BRITAIN

Connections between the Faroe Islands and Great Britain were quite frequent, since much freight was shipped directly, especially from Scotland. Mail was also sent with these ships instead of via Denmark.

1909 (January) Printed paper wrapper from Great Britain to Trangisvaag



1909 - printed paper wrapper from Great Britain to Trangisvaag, direct

1915 (April) GB 21d. postmarked Thorshavn 23.4.1915 on ship letter from Leith to Sandevaag



1915 - ship letter from Leith to Sandevaag, direct

INCOMING MAIL

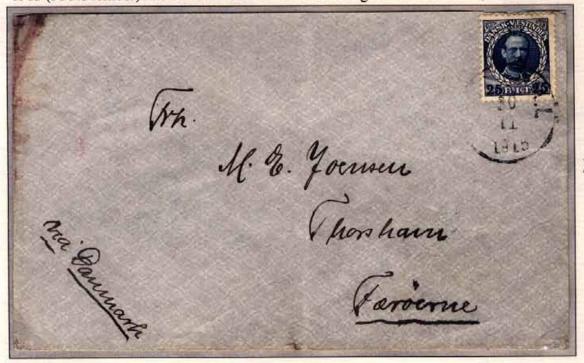
Mail sent from abroad to the Faroe Islands would normally transit through Denmark, since this was the only scheduled mail route. But mail was also sent with ships going directly from Great Britain.

1909 (30 July) Parcel card for two parcels from Germany to Thorshavn, via Copenhagen



1909 - Parcel card from Germany to Thorshavn via Denmark

1915 (30 November) 25bit Danish West Indies from Kingshill to Thorshavn, via Denmark

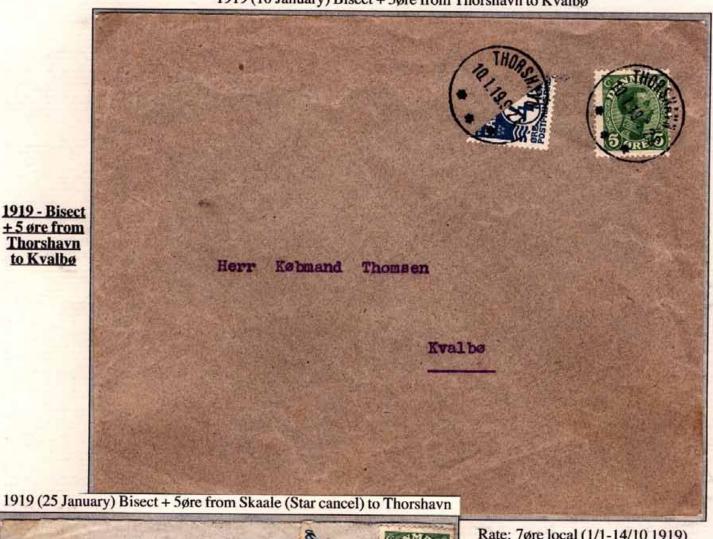


1915 - from the Danish West Indies to Thorshavn via Denmark

1919 PROVISIONALS - 4 ØRE BISECTS - NORMAL USE

On 1 January 1919 the local letter rate was increased from 5 øre to 7 øre. With no 7 øre stamps available yet, the stock of 1 øre and 2 øre stamps was soon exhausted, so the bisecting of 4 øre stamps, using each half as 2 øre, was authorized from Copenhagen. A total of about 11-12 sheets of 4 øre stamps were bisected, thus creating 2,200-2,400 bisects.

1919 (10 January) Bisect + 5øre from Thorshavn to Kvalbø



Hen bepedition Miller Monshaur

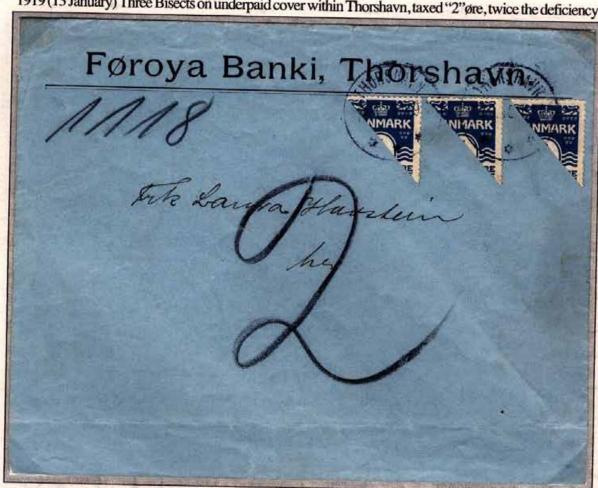
Rate: 7øre local (1/1-14/10 1919)

1919 - Bisect + 5 øre with SKAALE star cancel

1919 PROVISIONALS - 4 ØRE BISECTS - ABNORMAL USE

Although only one bisect was required to make up the 7 øre rate, together with a 5 øre stamp, covers with several bisects may be found. The reason for this multiple use could be a wish to get rid of bisected stamps on hand, but stamp interested people are also known to have "decorated" their covers with several bisects.

1919 (13 January) Three Bisects on underpaid cover within Thorshavn, taxed "2" ore, twice the deficiency



1919 - Three Bisects on underpaid and taxed cover. Rare!

1919 (6 January) Three Bisects + 1øre within Thorshavn



Rate: 7øre local (1/1-14/10 1919)

1919 - Three Bisects + 1 øre

1919 PROVISIONALS - 4 ØRE WRAPPER BISECTS - NORMAL USE

The small stock of normal 4 øre stamps was not sufficient, so the bisecting of 4 øre cut-outs from postal stationery wrappers was authorized from Copenhagen on 5 January. A total of 1,850 wrappers in stock were used, thus creating 3,700 wrapper bisects.

1919 (13 January) Wrapper Bisect + 5øre within Thorshavn



1919 - Wrapper Bisect + 5 øre

Rate: 7øre local (1/1-14/10 1919)

1919 (1 March) Wrapper Bisect + 5øre from Vestmanhavn to Thorshavn



1919 - Wrapper Bisect + 5 øre, late use with VESTMANHAVN star cancel

1919 PROVISIONALS - 4 ØRE WRAPPER BISECTS - ABNORMAL USE

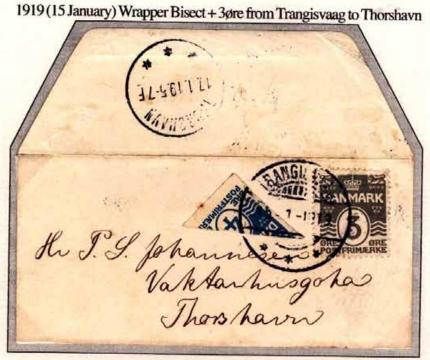
Other combinations than the normal bisect with a 5 øre stamp, to make up the 7 øre rate, are known. It was most probably the result of using whatever was available or on hand locally, and interesting combinations can be found.



1919 PROVISIONALS - 4 ØRE WRAPPER BISECTS - PRINTED MATTERS

The local printed matter rate was increased from 3 øre to 5 øre on 1 January 1919, and although it wasn't necessary to use bisects on printed matters if 5 øre stamps were available, some examples are known anyway.

1919 - Wrapper Bisect + 3 øre on printed matter from Trangisvaag



1919(10 January) Wrapper Bisect on underpaid printed matter within Thorshavn, taxed "6" øre, twice the deficiency

Rate: 5øre local printed matters (1/1 1919-30/6 1920)

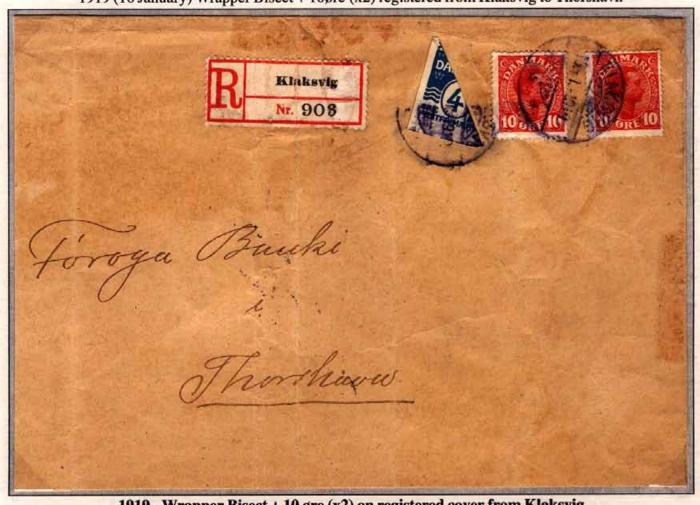


1919 - Wrapper
Bisect on
underpaid and
taxed printed
matter.
Rare!

1919 PROVISIONALS - 4 ØRE WRAPPER BISECTS - REGISTERED MAIL AND POSTCARDS

The registration fee remained unchanged 15 øre during this period, but the postage for a registered local letter became 22 øre, thus requiring a bisect. The local postcard rate was increased from 3 øre to 5 øre on 1 January 1919, so any 3 øre postcards would require a bisect to make up the new rate.

1919 (16 January) Wrapper Bisect + 10øre (x2) registered from Klaksvig to Thorshavn



1919 - Wrapper Bisect + 10 øre (x2) on registered cover from Klaksvig

1919 (20 January) Wrapper Bisect on 3øre postcard within Thorshavn

imalallino Thorshavn

Rate: 7øre local (1/1-14/101919) +15øre registration fee (1902-20)

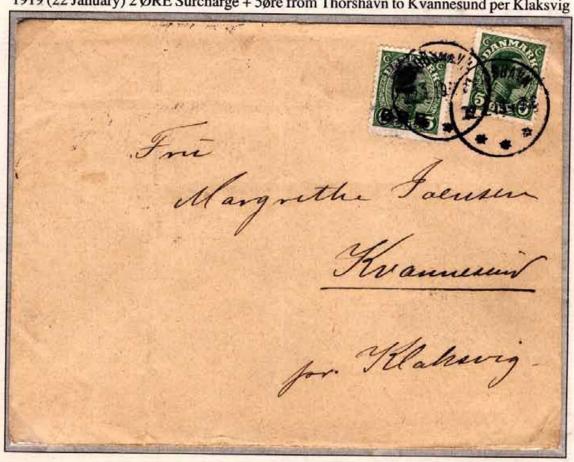
1919 - Wrapper Bisect on 3 øre postcard. Very rare - the only known example!

Rate: 5øre local postcards (1/1-14/10 1919)

1919 PROVISIONALS - 2 ØRE ON 5 ØRE SURCHARGE - NORMAL USE

With stocks of bisects getting low, permission was given from Copenhagen to surcharge the current 5 øre stamp with a new value "2 ØRE". A total of 155 sheets were surcharged, thus creating 15,500 provisional 2 øre stamps.

1919 (22 January) 2 ØRE Surcharge + 5øre from Thorshavn to Kvannesund per Klaksvig



1919 - 2 ØRE Surcharge + 5 øre from Thorshavn to Kvannesund

Rate: 7øre local (1/1-14/10 1919)

1919 (30 January) 2 ØRE Surcharge + 5øre from Sørvaag to Thorshavn



1919 - 2 ØRE Surcharge + 5 øre with SØRVAAG star cancel

1919 PROVISIONALS - 2 ØRE ON 5 ØRE SURCHARGE - ABNORMAL USE

Other combinations than one surcharge together with a 5 øre stamp, to make up the 7 øre rate, are known. It was most probably the result of using whatever was available or on hand locally, and interesting combinations can be found.

1919 (15 January) 2 ØRE Surcharge (x2) + 1øre+2øre from Thorshavn to Tofte



1919 - 2 ØRE Surcharge (x2) + 1 øre + 2 øre from Thorshavn to Tofte

Rate: 7øre local (1/1-14/10 1919)

1919 (17 January) 2 ØRE Surcharge (x3) + 1øre within Thorshavn



1919 - 2 ØRE Surcharge (x3) + 1 øre

1919 PROVISIONALS - 2 ØRE ON 5 ØRE SURCHARGE - POSTCARDS AND PRINTED MATTERS

The local postcard rate was 5 øre, so any 3 øre postcards would require a surcharge to make up the new rate. The local printed matter rate was 5 øre, and although it wasn't necessary to use provisionals on printed matters if 5 øre stamps were available, some examples are known anyway.

1919 (18 January) 2 ØRE Surcharge on 3øre postcard within Thorshavn



on 3 øre postcard

Rate: 5øre local postcards (1/1-14/10 1919)

1919 (22 January) 2 ØRE Surcharge + Bisect + 1øre on printed matter within Thorshavn



1919 - 2 ØRE Surcharge + Bisect + 1 øre on printed matter

Rate: 5øre local printed matters (1/1 1919-30/6 1920)

1919 PERIOD - NEW STAMPS ARRIVE

A new stock of stamps, including 7 øre and 2 øre values, arrived from Denmark in the evening of the 23 January. So from the 24 January it was no longer necessary to use any of the provisional bisects or surcharges.

1919 (26 January) 2øre+5øre on piece from Thorshavn



1919 - early use of 2 øre

1919 - 2 øre on 5 øre letter card with VIDERE IDE star cancel 1919 (27 February) 2øre on 5øre letter card from Viderejde to Svinö



Rate: 7øre local (1/1-14/10 1919)

1919 7øre from Midvaag (Star cancel) to Bø

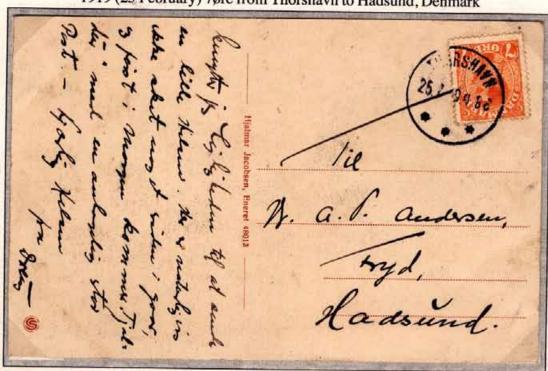


1919 - 7 øre with MIDVAAG star cancel

1919 PERIOD - 7 ØRE POSTCARD RATE TO DENMARK

The postcard rate between the Faroe Islands and Denmark was increased from 5 øre to 7 øre on 1 January 1919, creating another need for 7 øre stamps. This was a shorlived rate and it was increased to 10 øre on 15 October 1919.

1919 (25 February) 7øre from Thorshavn to Hadsund, Denmark



1919 - 7 øre on postcard from Thorshavn to Denmark

1919 (7 August) 7øre from Dragør, Denmark, to Thorshavn

There Onema!

Den hjærteligste
Lykopsknilg sendes

Dig til Tottselsdym

Alos tre. Villed me Earkefren E. C. Oleen

get kede af at hore

blevet noget sløj,

forhabbettig har

det me fortiget sig

igen. Har me kkr.

ligst hilesty

Ellen og Tohanne

Ellen og Tohanne

Ellen og Tohanne

Rate: 7øre postcards to and from Denmark (1/1-14/10 1919)

1919 - 7 øre on postcard from Denmark to Thorshavn

1919 PERIOD - 7 ØRE LOCAL POSTCARD RATE

The local postcard rate of 5 øre, introduced on the 1 January 1919, was increased to 7 øre on 15 October 1919. This was another shortlived rate, and it was increased to 8 øre on the 1 July 1920, together with the reintroduced separation between local and inland rates.

1919 (December) 7øre from Midvaag (Star cancel) to Thorshavn

Job 1919.

Jast ynskis!

lykhuin allim

gleetilie jola;
hakist ag eil

lagningarik!

ay happarayk!

myltin,

fri fajounen

Rypgorti

Rypgorti

1919 - 7 øre with MIDVAAG star cancel

> Rate: 7øre local postcards (15/10 1919-30/6 1920)

1920 (18 February) 2øre+5øre from Trangisvaag to Thorshavn

Stender Forlige Hunderelliget

Schwie Sante Stan 14-2-1920

Sinskes ha os alle

Kathure og Ishid.

Kathure og Ishid.

1920 - 2 øre + 5 øre from Trangisvaag

1919 PERIOD - 10 ØRE LOCAL LETTER RATE

The local letter rate of 7 øre, introduced on the 1 January 1919, was increased to 10 øre on 15 October 1919. For inland mail, this rate was only in use until the 1 July 1920, when the separation between local and inland rates was reintroduced.

1920 (7 February) 10øre from Klaksvig to Andefjord

1920 - from Klaksvig to Andefiord

Rate: 10øre local (15/101919-30/61920)



1919 (10 December) 10øre+35øre on COD from Thorshavn to Klaksvig. Rate: 10øre local + 35øre COD fee for 25-100kr (1919-20)



1919 PERIOD - LOCAL PARCEL POST

Local Parcel Post saw many changes in 1919 as well. The rates for 1/3/5kg was changed to 20/30/40 øre on the 1 January, and to 30/40/50 øre on the 1 October. And from the 1 July 1920, until 1933, local Parcel Post was suspended. 1919 also saw the introduction of Parcel Cards, which replaced the Parcel Letters which had been in use since the 1890's.

1919 (7 March) 25øre+1Kr on COD Parcel Letter from Thorshavn to Bö



1919 PERIOD - MAIL TO DENMARK

The old 10 øre letter rate to Denmark, introduced on the 1 October 1902, was increased to 15 øre on 15 October 1919. This was another shortlived rate, and it was increased to 20 øre on the 1 July 1920. The postcard rate to Denmark was increased from 7 øre to 10 øre on the 15 October 1919, and to 15 øre on the 1 July 1920.

1920 (30 June) 1øre (x3) on 7/5øre letter card from Thorshavn to Copenhagen



1920 - letter card to Denmark

Rate: 10øre postcards to Denmark (15/10 1919-30/6 1920)

1920 (30 January) 10øre on postcard from Thorshavn to Copenhagen

Hareste ollia;

Fig beder Tuarind

dange undskylde

pez ihhe har shrevel

shrike har min tra

acus forprævej grage
ont ahar del nok bliro

bedre, ollange Oak for

de hort pez har moddage

fra dig, lad mig ord

anatt faa et pint

on trov ja met en jeg

to tivern gift og fade;

legel bynd det the hete

show, kerlez fielsen hie die og Delle

1920 - postcard to Denmark

1919 (15 December) 15øre from Thorshavn to Copenhagen



1919 - 15 øre to Denmark

Rate: 15øre to Denmark (15/10 1919-30/6 1920) h. Maskinnes les Visles Soiborg Hangade 3

1919 PERIOD - REGISTERED MAIL

The old registration fee of 15 øre, introduced in 1902, was increased to 20 øre on the 1 July 1920, and soon after there was a further increase, to 30 øre, on the 1 March 1921. These rates applied to inland and foreign mail.

1920 (17 January) 10øre+20øre on registered cover from Thorshavn to Copenhagen



1920 - registered cover to Denmark

Rate: 15øre to Denmark (15/10 1919-30/6 1920) + 15øre registration fee (1/10 1902-30/6 1920)

1920 (9 October) 3øre (x2)+27øre on 7øre envelope, registered from Thorshavn to Copenhagen



1920 - registered cover to Denmark

Rate: 20øre to Denmark (1/7 1920-28/2 1921) +20øre registration fee (1/7 1920-28/2 1921)

POSTAL RATES 1920-1953 - LOCAL LETTERS

Local letter rates were: 10 øre (1920-46), 15 øre (1946-52), 20 øre (1952-55), 25 øre (1955-57). On 1 April 1957 local letter rates were abolished and inland rates were used also for local letters.



POSTAL RATES 1920-1953 - LOCAL POSTCARDS & PRINTED MATTERS

Local postcard rates were: 8 øre (1920-26), 7 øre (1926-46), 10 øre (1946-52), 15 øre (1952-55). Local postcard rates were abolished on 1 May 1955. Local printed matter rates were: 7 øre (1920-21), 8 øre (1921-22),

5 øre (1922-30), 4 øre (1930-40), 5 øre (1940-46). Local printed matter rates were abolished on 1 July 1946. 1920 (24 December) 8øre local postcard rate (1920-26), within Thorshavn 8 øre local postcard rate (1920-26) 1927 (23 December) 7øre local postcard rate (1926-46), within Thorshavn 1942 (13 January) 5øre local printed matter rate (1940-46), from Gøtegjov to Fuglefjord 7 øre local postcard rate (1926-46)5 øre local printed matter rate (1940-46) FØROYA VANLUKKUTRYGGING G/S (THORSHAWN, FARBERNE)

POSTAL RATES 1920-1953 - LETTERS INLAND & TO DENMARK

Letter rates inland and to Denmark were: 20 øre (1920-26), 15 øre (1927-40), 20 øre (1940-50), 25 øre (1950-52), 30 øre (1952-63).

1924 (10 December) 20 øre inland rate (1920-26), from Thorshavn to Klaksvig



1927 (27 February) 15øre inland rate (1927-40), from Thorshavn to Bö

Johan Evensen.

Thorshavn,

Færøerne.



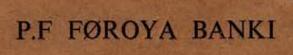
1947 (27 June) 20øre inland rate (1940-50), from Klaksvig to Kvivik

1951 (13 January) 25øre inland rate (1950-52), from Svinø to Copenhagen





1952 (22 July) 30øre inland rate (1952-63), from Klaksvig to Torshavn



GRANNSKOÐANARDEILDIN

TÓRSHAVN

POSTAL RATES 1920-1953 - REGISTERED MAIL 1

The registration fees were: 30 øre (1921-26), 25 øre (1926-40), 30 øre (1940-51), 40 øre (1951-57). 1924 (23 April) 30øre registration fee (1921-26) + 20øre inland rate, from Thorshavn to Klaksvig



POSTAL RATES 1920-1953 - REGISTERED MAIL 2

The registration fees were: 30 øre (1921-26), 25 øre (1926-40), 30 øre (1940-51), 40 øre (1951-57). 1940 (28 December) 30øre registration fee (1940-51) + 30øre double inland rate, from Sandevaag to Thorshavn



POSTAL RATES 1920-1953 - INSURED MAIL

The insurance fees up to 1000 kroner were: 25 øre (1920-21), 50 øre (1921-51), 70 øre (1951-62). The additional fees per extra 1000 kroner were: 5 øre (1920-40), 10 øre (1940-62).



POSTAL RATES 1920-1953 - C.O.D (CASH ON DELIVERY)

The COD fees to 25/100 kroner were: 30/45 øre (1920-46), 50/65 øre (1946-50), 60/75 øre (1950-52), 70/80 øre (1952-55).



Sandevaag 80 øre COD fee (1952-55)

POSTAL RATES 1920-1953 - PRINTED MATTERS

The printed matter rates inland and to Denmark were: 10øre (1920-26), 7øre (1926-30), 5øre (1930-40), 6øre (1940-52), 8øre (1952-55).

1921 (23 July) 10øre printed matter rate (1920-26), from Thorshavn to Klaksvig





POSTAL RATES 1920-1953 - POSTCARDS

The postcard rates in land and to Scandinavia were: 15 øre (1920-26), 12 øre (Apr-Dec 1926), 10 øre (1927-40), 15 øre (1940-52), 20 øre (1952-67).

1921 (21 December) 15 øre postcard rate (1920-26), from Vaag to Denmark



POSTAL RATES 1920-1953 - PARCEL POST

The parcel rates 1/3/5kg inland and to Denmark were: 50/70/90 øre (1920-21), 60/75/90 øre (1921-22), 50/65/75 øre (1922-26), 40/50/60 øre (1926-40), 50/60/75 øre (1940-46), 60/75/90 øre (1946-51), 70/90/100 øre (1951-53).



POSTAL RATES 1920-1953 - C.O.D. MONEY ORDERS

The COD money order fees for 25/100/300/1000 kroner were: 30/45/60/75 øre (1920-46), 50/65/80/95 øre (1946-50), 60/75/90/100 øre (1950-52), 70/80/90/100 øre (1952-55). 1920 (3 November) 30øre COD fee up to 25kr (1920-46), from Thorshavn to Tjörnevig



POSTAL RATES 1920-1953 - LETTERS TO SCANDINAVIA 1

Letter rates to the Scandinavian countries (except Denmark) were: 20 øre (1920-26), 15 øre (1927-40), 20 øre (1940-50), 25 øre (1950-52), 30 øre (1952-63).

1925 (4 September) 20öre letter rate (1920-26), from Trangisvaag to Norway

20 øre letter rate 1920-26)

1938 (18 February) 15øre letter rate (1927-40) + 25øre reg fee, from Thorshavn to Sweden



1937 (4 September) 30øre double rate (1927-40), from Thorshavn to Norway

MB.

15 øre letter rate (1927-40)



A/S. De forenede Uldvarefabriker

Grensen 16 (P.B. 767)

0 s 1 o .

POSTAL RATES 1920-1953 - LETTERS TO SCANDINAVIA 2

Letter rates to the Scandinavian countries (except Denmark) were: 20 øre (1920-26), 15 øre (1927-40), 20 øre (1940-50), 25 øre (1950-52), 30 øre (1952-63).



POSTAL RATES 1920-1953 - FOREIGN MAIL 1

Foreign (non-Scandinavian) letter rates were: 40 øre (1921-26), 30 øre (Apr-Dec 1926), 25 øre (1927-33), 30 øre (1934-40), 40 øre (1940-50), 50 øre (1950-52), 60 øre (1952-65). Postcard rates were: 25 øre (1921-26), 20 øre (Apr-Dec 1926), 15 øre (1927-33), 20 øre (1934-40), 25 øre (1940-50), 30 øre (1950-52), 35 øre (1952-65).



POSTAL RATES 1920-1953 - FOREIGN MAIL 2

Foreign (non-Scandinavian) letter rates were: 40 øre (1921-26), 30 øre (Apr-Dec 1926), 25 øre (1927-33), 30 øre (1934-40), 40 øre (1940-50), 50 øre (1950-52), 60 øre (1952-65). Postcard rates were: 25 øre (1921-26), 20 øre (Apr-Dec 1926), 15 øre (1927-33), 20 øre (1934-40), 25 øre (1940-50), 30 øre (1950-52), 35 øre (1952-65).



POSTAL RATES 1920-1953 - FOREIGN MAIL 3

Foreign (non-Scandinavian) letter rates were: 40 øre (1921-26), 30 øre (Apr-Dec 1926), 25 øre (1927-33), 30 øre (1934-40), 40 øre (1940-50), 50 øre (1950-52), 60 øre (1952-65). Postcard rates were: 25 øre (1921-26), 20 øre (Apr-Dec 1926), 15 øre (1927-33), 20 øre (1934-40), 25 øre (1940-50), 30 øre (1950-52), 35 øre (1952-65).



WORLD WAR II MAIL

Great Britain occupied the Faroe Islands on 13 April 1940, four days after Denmark and Norway were invaded by Germany, and the direct connections between the Faroes and Denmark were cut off or disturbed for the duration of the war. This led to provisional stamps and other emergencies, since supplies from Denmark were delayed or impossible to get through.

February-April 1940: Statsministeriet courier service between the Faroe Islands and Denmark.

April 1940: Regular mail service suspended, mail returned to senders.

3 May 1940: British Field Post Offices commenced. In operation until September 1945.

27 May 1940: Red Cross mail service commenced. In use until the end of 1945.

Nov 1940-June 1941: Postal rates increase on 10 July 1940 lead to locally surcharged stamps.

February-May 1941: Faroe Islands to Denmark airmail routes via London/New York/Lisbon/München. 16 April-31 May 1941: Direct mail route between Denmark and the Faroe Islands temporarily re-opened.

10 May-10 June 1941: Franco Betalt handstamps used during continued shortage of stamps. 26 May-Sept 1941: Shortage of 5øre stamps. 6øre stamps sold for and used as 5øre.

July 1942-1944: British censorship of civilian mail on Vaagø island, where the British troops were stationed. August 1943: US Army censorship on election envelopes, sent by Faroese fishermen in Icelandic waters.

1945-1948: British registration and parcel labels used when the Danish supplies were exhausted.

1940 - MAIL SERVICE SUSPENDED

The ship "Islands Falk" sailed from Copenhagen on 8 April 1940 carrying mail, accumulated over several weeks, for the Faroe Islands, Iceland and Greenland. When German forces invaded Denmark the following day, the ship was recalled to Copenhagen, and the mail was off-loaded and returned to the senders with the addition of a two-line cachet: "Postudvekslingen indstillet, Retur Afsenderen" (Mail exchange suspended, Return to Sender).

1940 (5 March) "Postudvekslingen indstillet, Retur Afsenderen" cachet, from Denmark to the Faroe Islands, "Retur 16/4 1940"



"Postudvekslingen indstillet, Retur Afsenderen" cachet

1940 - STATSMINISTERIET COURIER SERVICE

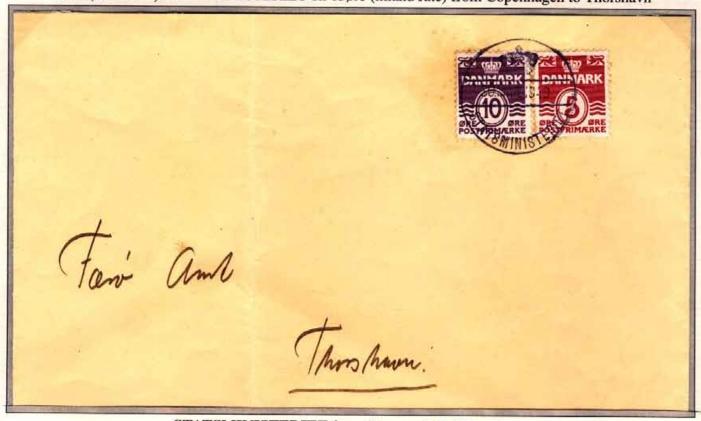
The last regular postal delivery by "Islands Falk" from Denmark to the Faroe Islands arrived on 23 February 1940, and the last mail out from the Faroes departed on 12 March. Because of the irregular mail service, a special courier service was introduced for official Government mail, which was cancelled with the STATSMINISTERIET postmark.

1940 (7 March) STATSMINISTERIET on 15øre (inland rate) from FÆRØ AMT to Copenhagen



STATSMINISTERIET from Thorshavn to Denmark - Rare!

1940 (30 March) STATSMINISTERIET on 15øre (inland rate) from Copenhagen to Thorshavn



STATSMINISTERIET from Denmark to Thorshavn

1940-45 - BRITISH FIELD POST OFFICES - THORSHAVN (FPO 219 & FPO 695)

The British troops established their main garrison in Thorshavn, and a Field Post Office was opened on 3 May 1940, allocated FPO Number 219. Two postmarks were used, type 1 with 3.25mm between D and P (1940-43), and type 2 with 2.75mm between D and P (1942-43). In 1943 the FPO Number was changed to 695 and a new postmark was introduced.



1942-44 - BRITISH FIELD POST OFFICES - MIDVAAG (FPO 611)

In 1942 the Royal Engineers began to construct an airfield near Midvaag on Vaagø island, and since there were more than 2,000 troops involved in this task, a Field Post Office was opened there as well, allocated FPO Number 611. There are two types of the postmark used, type 1 with code letter A (June-July 1942), and type 2 without code letter (July 1942-44).

1942 (8 June) FPO 611 code letter A (type 1) and Passed by Censor, to England



FPO 611 code letter A (type 1)

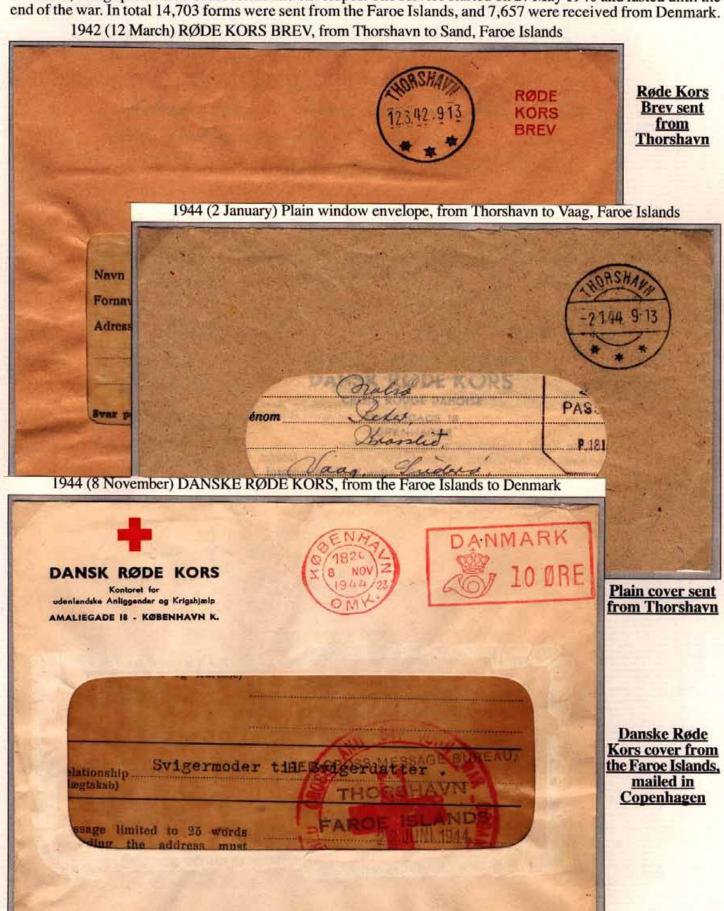
1942 (28 August) FPO 611 blank (type 2) and Passed by Censor, to England



FPO 611 blank (type 2)

1940-45 - RED CROSS MAIL

The Red Cross provided a postal message service that allowed short letters to be sent to and from occupied countries, using special Red Cross forms and envelopes. The service started on 27 May 1940 and lasted until the end of the war. In total 14,703 forms were sent from the Faroe Islands, and 7,657 were received from Denmark.



1940-41 - PROVISIONAL SURCHARGES

Because the Faroe Islands and Denmark were occupied by opposing forces until May 1945, the supply of stamps to the Faroes became problematic. Increased postal rates took effect on 10 July 1940, and since new denominations had not yet reached the islands, the Danish Post Office authorized the production of provisional surcharges to meet the new rates.



1940-41 - PROVISIONAL SURCHARGES

løre, 5øre and 15øre stamps were surcharged "20"øre, which was the basic letter rate (inland and to Denmark/Scandinavia), 5øre stamps were surcharged "50"öre (basic registered letter rate, and parcel rate to 1kg), and 6øre stamps were surcharged "60"øre (basic insured local letter rate, and parcel rate for 1-3kg).

1941 (9 January) "50" on 5øre (x2) (20øre inland rate + 80øre insurance fee), from Ejde to Thorshavn



1941 (7 February) "60" on 6øre (triple rate to Scandinavia), from Thorshavn to Stockholm

"50" on 5 øre (x2) insured



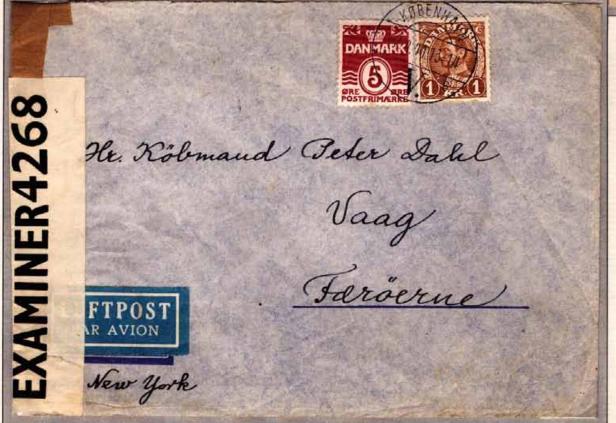
"60" on 6 øre to Sweden

1941 - AIRMAIL TO DENMARK VIA LONDON, NEW YORK, LISBON, MUNCHEN

In November 1940 the Danish GPO in Copenhagen introduced an airmail service between Denmark and the Faroe Islands, via Lisbon and New York (in practice via München, Lisbon, New York and London). The airmail fee for this service was 85øre per 5 grams, in addition to the normal postal rate of 20 øre. It was in use mainly between February and April 1941, because between 16 April and 31 May 1941 there was a temporary re-opening of direct mail service.

1941 (17 May) 105øre (20øre inlandrate + 85øre airmail fee) from Thorshavn to Copenhagen, with British and German censor





Denmark to Vaag via New York

1941 - FRANCO BETALT HANDSTAMPS

In a further attempt to overcome the shortage of stamps, the Postal Authorities produced four sets of 5øre, 10øre and 20 øre FRANCO BETALT (Postage Paid) handstamps, with the intention of providing one set each to the Post Offices in Thorshavn, Klaksvig, Trangisvaag and Vaag. They were only in use between 10 May and 10 June 1941.

1941 (13 May) 10 ØRE FRANCO BETALT (local rate) within Thorshavn

*/s Thorshavns Mælkeforsyning og Margarinefabrik
Thorshavn – Færøerne

10 ØRE FRANCO BETALT

Hvilehjemmet, Naina,

1941 (3 June) 10 ØREFRANCO BETALT (x2) (inlandrate) from Thorshavn to Sand ler. -



1941 (5 June) 20 ØRE FRANCO BETALT (inland rate) from Thorshavn to Hvalvik



10 ØRE FRANCO BETALT x 2 -Unique!

Hrr. Købmand Axel Jacobsen,

Hvalvík.

20 ØRE FRANCO BETALT

FÆRØERNES
OFFENTLIGE VAREFORSYNING
THORSHAVN – FAROE ISLES

1941 - FRANCO BETALT HANDSTAMPS

Two non-denominated handstamps were produced by drilling out the values of 5øre handstamps. These were used either without value, or with the value added in manuscript. The post offices in Thorshavn and Klaksvig were the ones to use these handstamps, but examples from Klaksvig are very rare.

1941 (30 May) FRANCO BETALT non-denominated with manuscript "50" (20 øre inland rate + 30 øre reg fee), registered to Thorshavn



1941 (30 May) FRANCO BETALT non-denominated on COD money order (60 ore for 100-300 kr) from KLAKSVIG to Sörvaag



FRANCO BETALT non-denominated from KLAKSVIG - Very Rare!

1941 - 6 ØRE STAMPS USED AS 5 ØRE STAMPS

Between May and September 1941, the Post Office was totally without 5øre stamps. 180 sheets (=1,800 stamps) of 6øre stamps were re-accounted into 5øre stamps, and subsequently used as and sold for 5øre each. Later usages are also known.

1941 (9 July) 6øre used as 5øre (x4, one with repaired corner) (20øre inland rate), from Thorshavn to Eidi



6 øre used as 5 øre (x4) - Very rare!

1941 (23 December) 6øre used as 5øre + 10øre (15øre postcard rate) from Thorshavn to Gjogv



6 øre used as 5 øre. Rare!

1942-44 - BRITISH MILITARY CENSORSHIP OF CIVILIAN MAIL ON VAAGØ

Because of the large number of British troops stationed on Vaagø island in connection with the construction of the airfield there, local civilian mail sent from the settlements on Vaagø and Myggenæs was subject to Military censorship. Opened letters were re-sealed with brown tape and an OPENED BY MILITARY CENSOR cachet, and un-opened letters had the cachet applied across the joint.

1943 (6 January) OPENED BY MILITARY CENSOR and signature on brown tape, from Midvaag to Thorshavn



1939-45 - CENSOR MAIL

Throughout the war, incoming and outgoing mail was routed through Great Britain and censored there. Many different censor labels were in use. Mail to or from Denmark was often censored in Germany as well. 1940 (26 October) 5øre(x2) + 15øre(x2) (40øre foreign rate), from Kyalbo to London, with Opened by Examiner labels



1943 - US ARMY CENSORSHIP ON ELECTION ENVELOPES

In connection with the general election in 1943, Faroese fishermen in Icelandic waters were permitted to submit postal votes from Iceland. These envelopes were censored by the US Army in Iceland, and carried to the Faroe Islands by fishing boat to Thorshavn, where Danish stamps were added, and the letters sent to the fishermen's counties. 1943 (16 August) OPENED BY ARMY U.S. EXAMINER labels (applied in Iceland) with 20 øre (inland rate), from Thorshavn to Nes



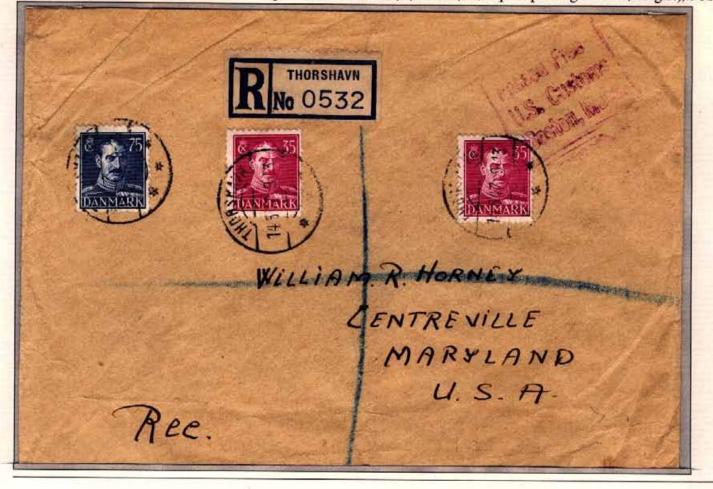


1945-48 - BRITISH REGISTRATION LABELS - THORSHAVN

Towards the end of the war, supplies of the Danish red-and-white registration labels began to run short in Thorshavn, Klaksvig, Trangisvaag and Vaag. With no further shipments arriving from Denmark, orders were placed in Great Britain for British style blue-and-white labels. Most Thorshavn labels had the town name printed.

1945 (11 December) British "THORSHAVN" label on registered cover with 50 ore (20 ore inland rate + 30 ore reg fee), to Thorshavn





1945-48 - BRITISH REGISTRATION LABELS - KLAKSVIG - & PARCEL LABELS

The other towns received blank labels, and the town names were handstamped on the labels. All of these handstamped labels are rare. British style parcel labels were also ordered from Great Britain and used during this period, and they are rare. 1945 (30 December) British "KLAKSVIG" label, with 5øre(x2) + 20øre(x2) (20øre inland rate + 30øre reg fee), to Thorshavn

British registration label "KLAKSVIG" - Rare!

1945 (3 September) British "Thorshavn" parcel label on parcel card with 60øre (rate for 1-3kg), to Copenhagen



British parcel label "Thorshavn" - Rare!

DANISH CHRISTMAS LABELS

From 1904 onwards, Denmark has issued Christmas labels which were sold for charity purposes, and the surplus was used to help children with tuberculosis. Danish Christmas labels were also sold and used in the Faroe Islands, and the label issued in 1923 was particularly interesting in the Faroes since it shows the rowing boat "Thorshavn" in Faroese waters.



FAROESE CHARITY LABELS

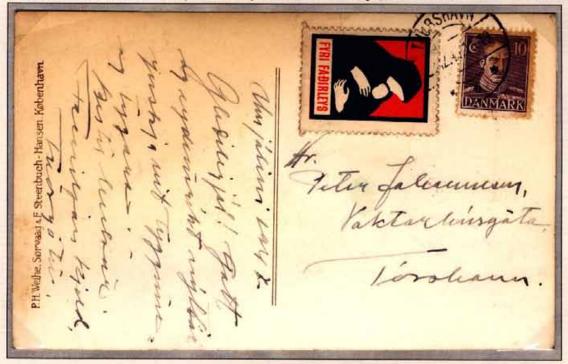
During and after the second world war, the Faroese charity Barnahjalpin (Children's Help) issued charity labels, and the surplus from sales was used to help children in need, including those that were fatherless.

1944 (21 February) 1944 "Barnahjalpin" (Children's Help) and 10øre, within Thorshavn



"Barnahjalpin" 1944

1947 (23 December) 1945 "Fyri Fadirleys" (Fatherless Boys) and 10øre, within Thorshavn



"Fyri Fadirleys" 1947

PERFINS - "D.D.P.A." & "D.E.C."

Perfins are security punctures used to prevent theft of stamp stocks in companies. In the Faroe Islands this was never needed to any great extent. "D.D.P.A." (Det Danske Petroleums Aktieselskab - The Danish Petroleum Company Ltd) use perfins in 1925; these are rare on cover. "D.E.C." (Dansk Elektricitets-Compagni) used stamps with perfins on pre-franked covers in the 1950's.

1925 (20 March) "D.D.P.A." perfin on 20øre (inland rate), from Thorshavn to Kvivig





D.E.C.

DANSK ELEKTRICITETS-COMPAGNI

Vesting and 37 ODENSE

"D.E.C." perfin

PERFINS - "V.L."

The main user of stamps with perfins in the Faroe Islands was the company of Valdemar Lützen, a trade and insurance business. They started using their perfin "V.L." in the 1930's and it was used up until the 1970's at least.

1938 (1 April) "V.L." perfin (reversed) on 15øre (inland rate), from Thorshavn to Sandevaag

"V.L." perfin reversed



1935 (10 August) "V.L." perfin on 30øre(x2) + 10øre(x2) without perfin, insured (25øre double inland rate + 55øre insurance fee), from Thorshavn to Hellerup



1940 (13 April) "V.L." perfin (one reversed) on 30øre(x2), COD (15øre inland rate + 45øre COD fee), from Thorshavn to Sandevaag



POSTAGE DUE STAMPS - INCOMING MAIL

Danish Postage Due stamps were first issued in 1921, and they were also used in the Faroe Islands on unpaid and underpaid incoming mail. The postal charges for unpaid or underpaid mail was normally double the deficiency.

1940 (9 November) 2øre+10øre Postage Due stamps, from Sheffield to Thorshavn with 2½d, taxed "12" øre

2 øre + 10 øre **Postage Due** stamps, from England





1947 (20 March) 10øre(x4) Postage Due stamps, on ship letter to Thorshavn, taxed "40" øre (double inland rate)

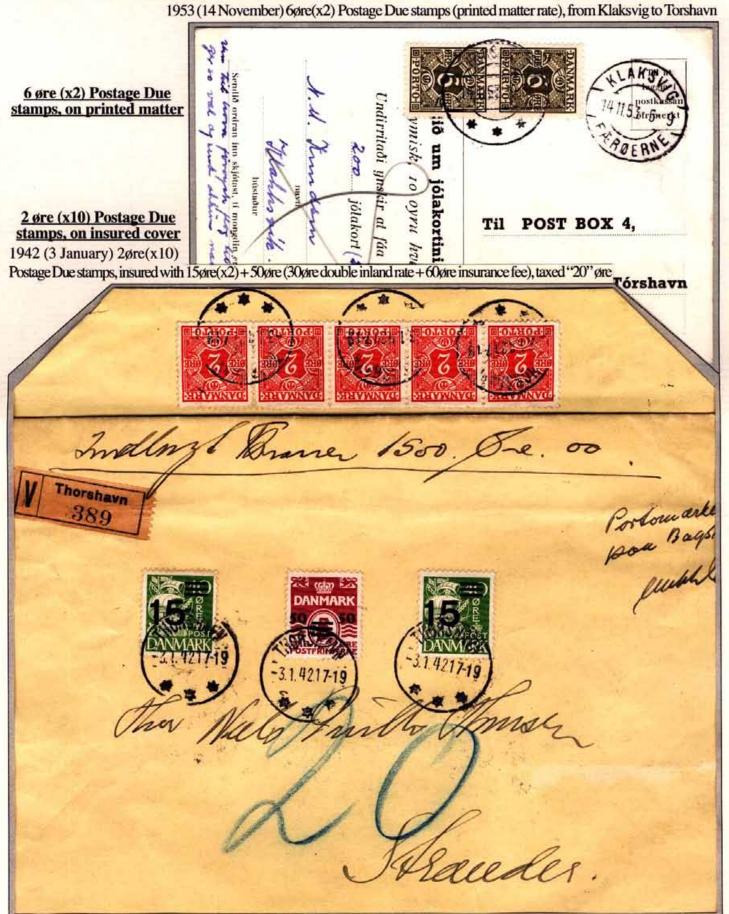
50 øre (x4) **Postage Due** stamps, from Germany

10 øre (x4) Postage Due stamps. on ship letter



POSTAGE DUE STAMPS - INLAND MAIL

Unpaid and underpaid mail within the Faroe Islands was also taxed, and the amount due was normally paid with postage due stamps. Some retailers allowed their customers to send mail orders unpaid, and paid the postage upon receipt.



POSTAGE DUE STAMPS - OUTGOING MAIL

Some retailers in Denmark had special arrangements with the Danish Post Office in that they only had to pay the actual postage costs for unpaid mail orders, sent by their customers in Denmark and the Faroe Islands.

1928 (8 August) 10 øre Postage Due stamp (inland postcard rate), from Vestmanhavn to Copenhagen



10 øre Postage Due stamp, from Vestmanhavn to Denmark

1937 (24 November) 15 øre Postage Due stamp (inland rate), from Viderejde to Copenhagen



TELEGRAMS

With the irregular communications between the Faroe Islands and the outside world, telegrams was quite an important alternative for urgent messages. But it was also a very expensive way of communication.

1930 (17 September) Telegram (9 words) from Frederikshavn to Thorshavn TELEGRAM fra Frederiks have Nr. 6 Telegram to Thorshavn Adresse: 17- SER 193 1934 (23 August) Telegram-envelope with 15øre (inland rate), from Thorshavn to Sandevaag ollationné) 2 4, AUG: 1934 TELEGRAM Telegram envelope from Thorshavn 1928 (23 July) Receipt for telegram from Copenhagen to Thorshavn, with 10 ore Gebyr (Fee) stamp STATSTELEGRAFY ÆSENET TELEGRAMKVITTERING Receipt for telegram to Thorshavn

FREIGHT ENVELOPES

The transport of parcels and freight within the Faroe Islands was not limited to the Postal system only. Initially there were two shipping companies operating in the islands, J Mortensens Eftf in Trangisvaag, and Thorshavns Mælkeforsyning in Thorshavn. The ship "Smiril", first operated by Mortensens, was sold to the Government in 1919.

1933 (11 July) Freight cover per S/S "Smiril", "Franco 1.00"kr, one empty barrel from Funding to Thorshavn

Hermed Jest S. Smirel 1/4,33

Bom Sonde

He Kilmand Sh. Lambaa

Thornshave

Johnshave

Standard Soldio

The Smire of the separation

Freight letter per S/S "Smiril"

1942 (3 March) Freight cover per "Streymur", "Franco 1/-"kr, from Strømø to Sandevaag

Maria Ajalmar Michaem

Mich arem: "THORRANDS MEINEFORGYNIA"

MO Boku. Janta vagas

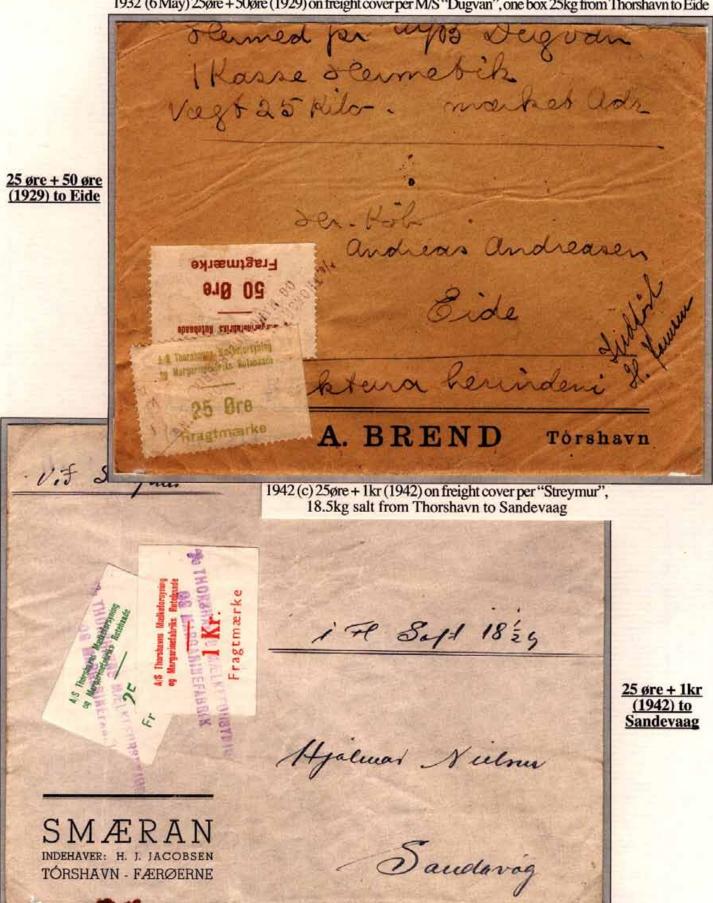
Manco. /-

Freight letter
per
"Streymur"

FREIGHT STAMPS - ON ENVELOPES

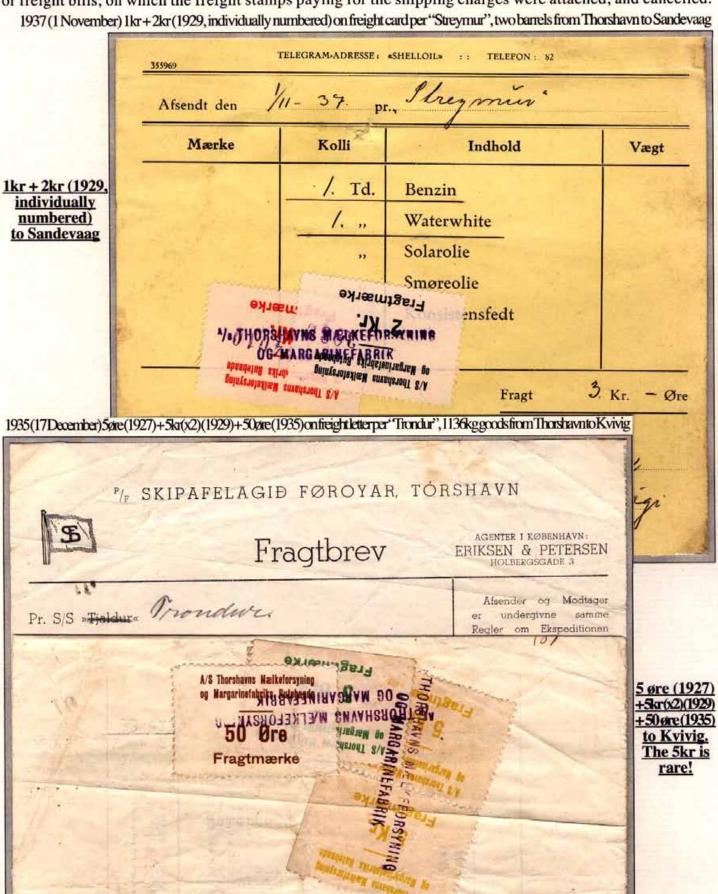
Thorshavns Mælkeforsyning (later A/S Thorshavns Mælkeforsyning og Margarinefabrik - Thorshavn's Milk & Margarinefactory) was the only company to issue freight stamps. The first ones in 1915 and the last ones in 1943.

1932 (6 May) 25øre + 50øre (1929) on freight cover per M/S "Dugvan", one box 25kg from Thorshavn to Eide



FREIGHT STAMPS - ON FREIGHT LETTERS

Many of the companies using the freight services of Thorshavns Mælkeforsyning, printed freight letters or freight bills, on which the freight stamps paying for the shipping charges were attached, and cancelled.



ROUTING MARKS - "VIA LEITH"

In the 1930's two routing marks were used for mail sent via Leith. The most well known is "Via Leith med S/S Sleipner" (1933-35), but there is also a second one, "Via Leith med s/s Island" (1934-35), of which only a few examples are known.

1934 (2 May) "Via Leith med S/S Sleipner", "PAQUEBOT" and Edinburgh on 15øre (inland rate), to Copenhagen



1935 (30 March) "Via Leith med s/s Island", "PAQUEBOT" and Edinburgh on 15øre (inland rate), to Copenhagen

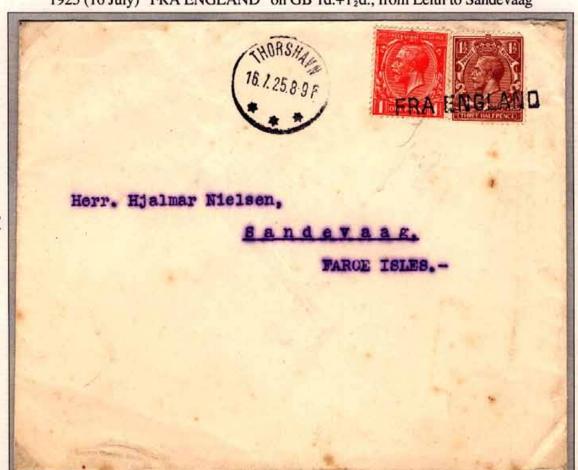


"Via Leith med s/s Island". Rare!

INCOMING SHIP MAIL MARKINGS - "FRA ENGLAND" & "Fra Island"

Origin markings on incoming ship mail was first introduced in 1890 when the "Fra Island" marking came into use. The "FRA ENGLAND" marking was introduced in 1919, and it is not as scarce as the "Fra Island" marking.

1925 (16 July) "FRA ENGLAND" on GB 1d.+12d., from Leith to Sandevaag



"FRA ENGLAND" to Sandevaag

1929 (7 June) "Fra Island" on Iceland 20aur, from Reykjavik to Thorshavn



"Fra Island" to Thorshavn

INCOMING SHIP MAIL MARKINGS - "Paquebot"

The "Paquebot" marking was introduced in 1923 and remained in use until 1976. It was used on loose letters arriving with uncancelled stamps, but also on mail posted on board ships arriving in the islands.

1932 (23 November) "Paquebot" on GB 2½d., from Leith to Sandevaag



25. NOV. 1932

"Paquebot" from Scotland

Herr. Hjalmar Nielsen

SANDEVAAG.

1936 (8 August) "Paquebot" on Norway 10øre (x2), from Bergen to Thorshavn



"Paquebot" from Norway Herr N. S. Johannessens Efterfgr

Thorshavn

1951 (13 February) "Paquebot" on Iceland 50aur (x2), from Reykjavik to Klaksvig

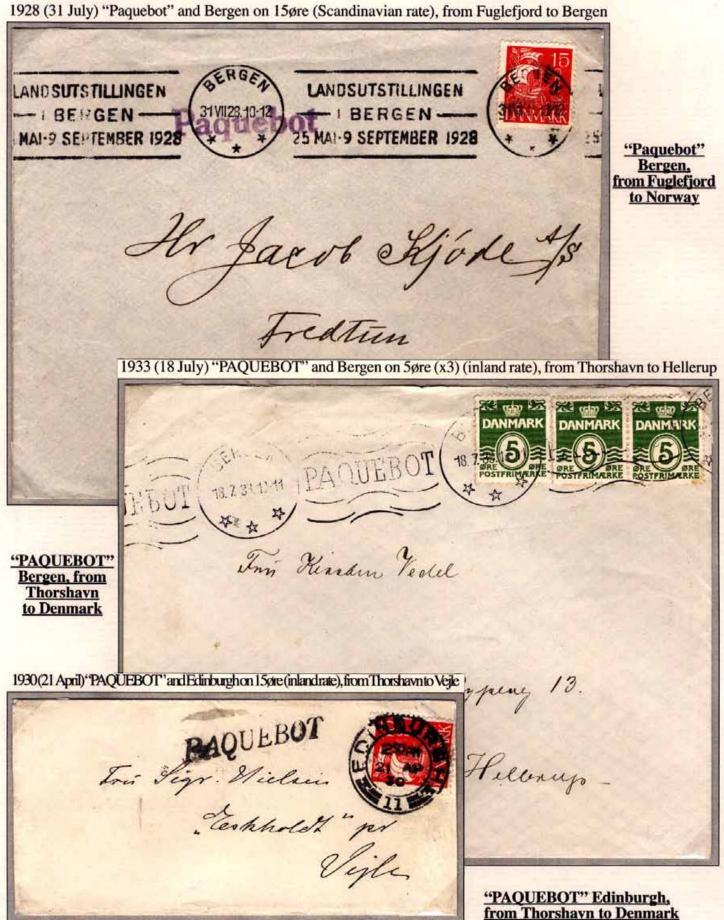


Bergen

"Paquebot" from Iceland

OUTGOING SHIP MAIL MARKINGS - PAQUEBOT

Since all mail from the Faroe Islands was shipped by sea, loose and late posted mail, as well as mail posted on board the departing ships, was treated as paquebot mail, and postmarked as such at the ports of arrival.



OUTGOING SHIP MAIL MARKINGS - FRA FÆRØERNE

Copenhagen handled most of the mail from the Faroe Islands, and the first "Fra Færöerne" marking was introduced as early as 1882, to be used on loose letters and ship mail. In 1937 the first machine canceller "FRA FÆRØERNE" was introduced.

1938 (25 June) "Fra Færöerne" (36 5mm) and København on 15øre (inland rate), from Thorsbavn to Copenhagen.

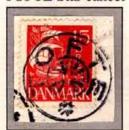


POSTAL ROUTES - EASTERN ROUTE 1(5) - TOFTE & SALTANGERAA

Eastern Route: Thorshavn - Tofte - Saltangeraa - Solmundefjord (leaving mail for Skaale) - Gøtegjov (leaving mail for Fuglefjord & Andefjord) - Lervig - Klaksvig - Norddeble (leaving mail for Svinø & Kirke/Fuglø) - Viderejde.



TOFTE Star cancel



TOFTE Star-removed cancel, postcard to Strender 1945



SALTANGERAA Star-removed



SALTANGERAA Star cancel, parcel card to Sweden 1923. Very scarce!



POSTAL ROUTES - EASTERN ROUTE 2(5) - SOLMUNDEFJORD & SKAALE & GØTEGJOV

Eastern Route: Thorshavn - Tofte - Saltangeraa - Solmundefjord (leaving mail for Skaale) - Gøtegjov (leaving mail for Fuglefjord & Andefjord) - Lervig - Klaksvig - Norddeble (leaving mail for Sving & Kirke/Fuglg) - Viderejde.

SOLMUNDEFJORD * Star cancel

SOLMUNDEFJORD Star-removed cancel, to Leith 1941



SOLMUNDEFJORD o Star cancel



SKAALE Star-removed cancel, to Klaksvig 1946



SKAALE Star cancel

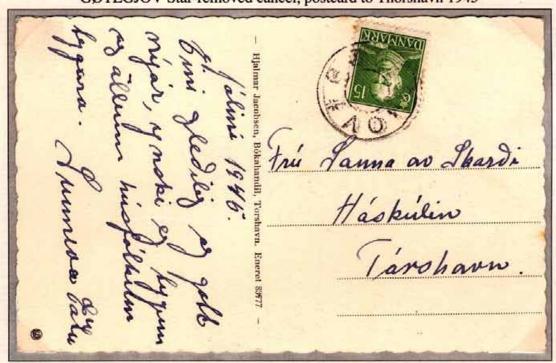




GØTEGJOV Star cancel

GØTEGJOV Star-removed cancel, postcard to Thorshavn 1945





POSTAL ROUTES - EASTERN ROUTE 3(5) - FUGLEFJORD & ANDEFJORD & LERVIG

Eastern Route: Thorshavn - Tofte - Saltangeraa - Solmundefjord (leaving mail for Skaale) - Gøtegjov (leaving mail for Fuglefjord & Andefjord) - Lervig - Klaksvig - Norddeble (leaving mail for Svinø & Kirke/Fuglø) - Viderejde.

FUGLEFJORD Star cancel via Klaksvig

FUGLEFJORD Star cancel via Thorshavn, insured to Thorshavn 1925



FUGLEFJORD FUGLEFJORD Star-removed I



ANDEFJORD Star cancel



ANDEFJORD Star-removed cancel, to Thorshavn 1940



LERVIG Star cancel



LERVIG Star-removed cancel, to Copenhagen 1939





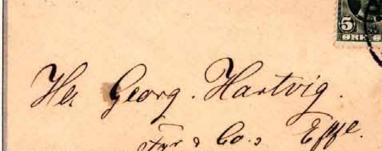
POSTAL ROUTES - EASTERN ROUTE 4(5) - KLAKSVIG & NORDDEBLE

Eastern Route: Thorshavn - Tofte - Saltangeraa - Solmundefjord (leaving mail for Skaale) - Gøtegjov (leaving mail for Fuglefjord & Andefjord) - Lervig - Klaksvig - Norddeble (leaving mail for Svinø & Kirke/Fuglø) - Viderejde.

KLAKSVIG Klipfisk cancel

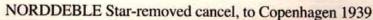
KLAKSVIG Bridge I cancel, to Copenhagen 1911







NORDDEBLE Star cancel







POSTAL ROUTES - EASTERN ROUTE 5(5) - SVINØ & KIRKE(FUGLØ) & VIDEREJDE

Eastern Route: Thorshavn - Tofte - Saltangeraa - Solmundefjord (leaving mail for Skaale) - Gøtegjov (leaving mail for Fuglefjord & Andefjord) - Lervig - Klaksvig - Norddeble (leaving mail for Svinø & Kirke/Fuglø) - Viderejde.

SVINØ Star cancel

SVINØ Star-removed cancel, to Thorshavn 1939





KIRKE(FUGLØ) Star cancel

KIRKE(FUGLØ) Star-removed cancel, to Thorshavn 1940

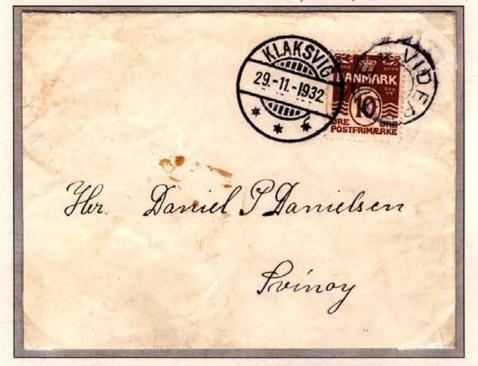




VIDEREJDE Star cancel

VIDEREJDE Star-removed cancel, to Svinø 1932





POSTAL ROUTES - NORTHERN ROUTE 1(3) - STRENDER & SELLETRÆ

Northern Route: Thorshavn - Strender - Selletræ - Kvalvig - Haldersvig - Ejde (leaving mail for Funding & Gjov).







STRÆNDER Star cancel



STRÆNDER Star-removed cancel, to Copenhagen 1935



SELLETRÆ Star cancel

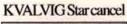


SELLETRÆ Star-removed cancel, to Copenhagen 1951



POSTAL ROUTES - NORTHERN ROUTE 2(3) - KVALVIG & HALDERSVIG & EJDE

Northern Route: Thorshavn - Strender - Selletræ - Kvalvig - Haldersvig - Ejde (leaving mail for Funding & Gjov). KVALVIG Star-removed cancel, to Thorshavn 1941







HALDERSVIG Star cancel



HALDERSVIG Star-removed cancel, to Thorshavn 1940



EJDE Star cancel



EJDE Star-removed cancel, postcard to Lejnum 1934



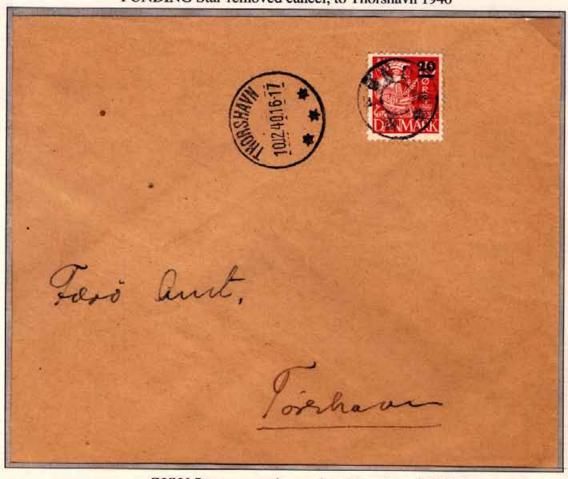
POSTAL ROUTES - NORTHERN ROUTE 3(3) - FUNDING & GJOV

Northern Route: Thorshavn - Strender - Selletræ - Kvalvig - Haldersvig - Ejde (leaving mail for **Funding & Gjov**).

FUNDING Star cancel

FUNDING Star-removed cancel, to Thorshavn 1940





GJOV Star cancel

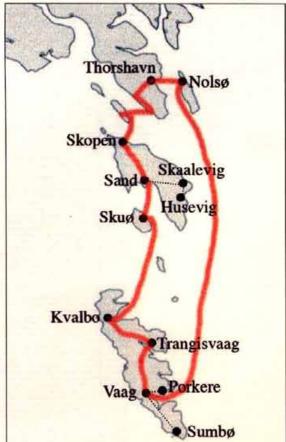


GJOV Star-removed cancel, to Thorshavn 1945



POSTAL ROUTES - SOUTHERN ROUTE 1(5) - SKOPEN & SAND

Southern Route: Thorshavn - Skopen - Sand (leaving mail for Skaalevig & Husevig) - Skuø - Kvalbo - Trangisvaag - Vaag (leaving mail for Sumbø & Porkere) - Nolsø - Thorshavn.



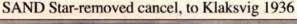
SKOPEN Star cancel



SKOPEN Star-removed cancel, to Thorshavn 1941



SAND Star cancel





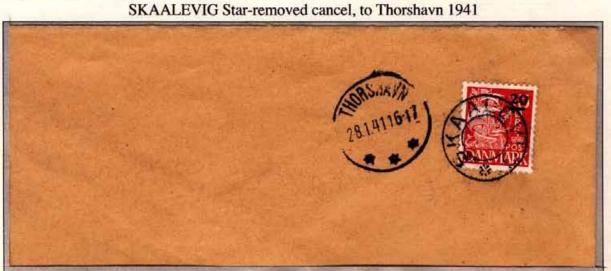


POSTAL ROUTES - SOUTHERN ROUTE 2(5) - SKAALEVIG & HUSEVIG & SKUØ

Southern Route: Thorshavn - Skopen - Sand (leaving mail for Skaalevig & Husevig) - Skuø - Kvalbo - Trangisvaag - Vaag (leaving mail for Sumbø & Porkere) - Nolsø - Thorshavn.

SKAALEVIG Star cancel





HUSEVIG Star cancel



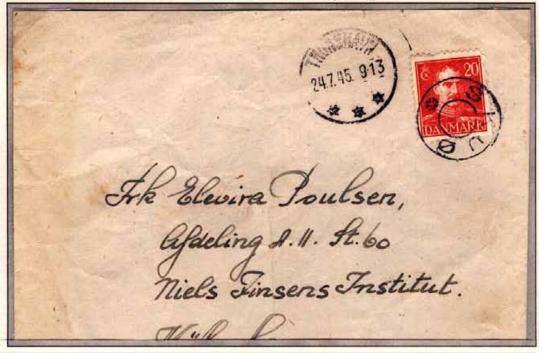
HUSEVIG Star-removed cancel, to Thorshavn 1940. Very scarce!



SKUØ Star cancel



SKUØ Star-removed cancel, to Copenhagen 1945



POSTAL ROUTES - SOUTHERN ROUTE 3(5) - KVALBO & TRANGISVAAG

Southern Route: Thorshavn - Skopen - Sand (leaving mail for Skaalevig & Husevig) - Skuø - Kvalbo - Trangisvaag - Vaag (leaving mail for Sumbø & Porkere) - Nolsø - Thorshavn.

KVALBO Star cancel

KVALBO Star-removed cancel, to Vordingborg 1933







POSTAL ROUTES - SOUTHERN ROUTE 4(5) - VAAG & SUMBØ

Southern Route: Thorshavn - Skopen - Sand (leaving mail for Skaalevig & Husevig) - Skuø - Kvalbo - Trangisvaag - Vaag (leaving mail for Sumbø & Porkere) - Nolsø - Thorshavn.

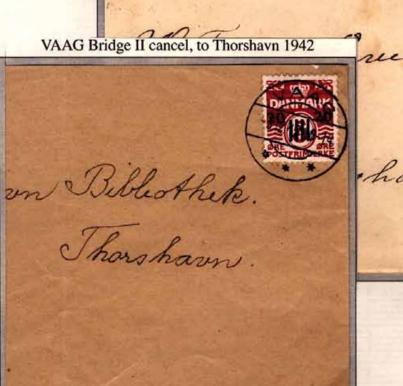
VAAG Star cancel

VAAG Bridge I cancel, to Thorshavn 1926



VAAG Klipfisk cancel





recesser.

havn

SUMBØ Star cancel

SUMBØ Star-removed cancel, to Copenhagen 1938

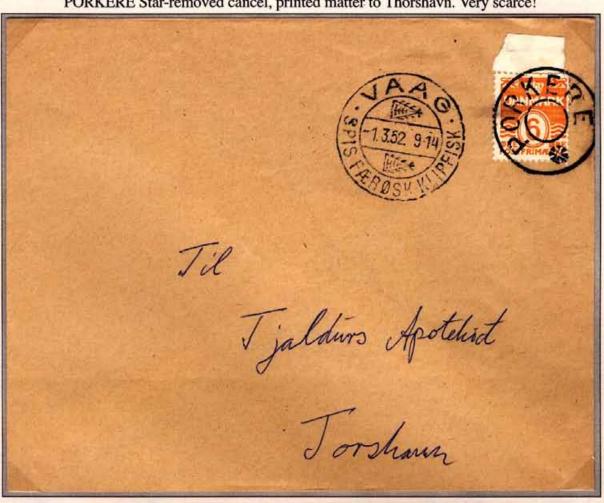




POSTAL ROUTES - SOUTHERN ROUTE 5(5) - PORKERE & NOLSØ

Southern Route: Thorshavn - Skopen - Sand (leaving mail for Skaalevig & Husevig) - Skuø - Kvalbo - Trangisvaag - Vaag (leaving mail for Sumbø & Porkere) - Nolsø - Thorshavn.

PORKERE Star-removed cancel, printed matter to Thorshavn. Very scarce!



NOLSØ Starcancel

NOLSØ Star-removed cancel, insured to Kalsø 1933





POSTAL ROUTES - WESTERN ROUTE 1(3) - KOLLEFJORD & KVIVIG

Western Route: Thorshavn-Kollefjord-Kvivig-Vestmanhavn-Sandevaag-Midvaag-Sørvaag (leaving mail for Myggenæs).



KOLLEFJORD Star cancel



KOLLEFJORD Star-removed cancel, to Copenhagen 1938



KVIVIG Star cancel, parcel cover to Bö 1919



KVIVIG Star-removed



POSTAL ROUTES - WESTERN ROUTE 2(3) - VESTMANHAVN & SANDEVAAG

Western Route: Thorshavn - Kollefjord - Kvivig - Vestmanhavn - Sandevaag - Midvaag - Sørvaag (leaving mail for Myggenæs).

VESTMANHAVN Star cancel, postcard to Thorshavn 1918



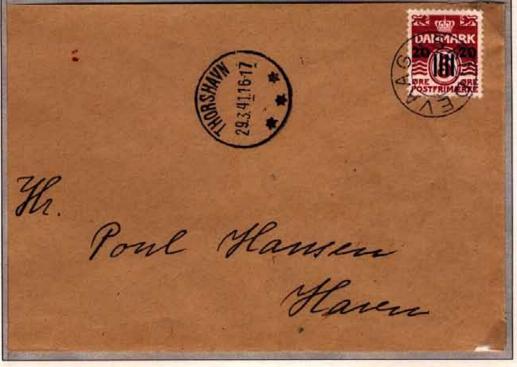
VESTMANHAVN Star-removed



SANDEVAAG Star cancel



SANDEVAAG Star-removed cancel, to Thorshavn 1941

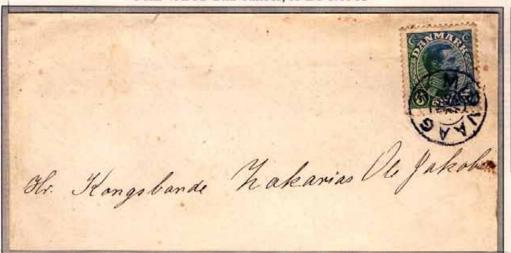


POSTAL ROUTES - WESTERN ROUTE 3(3) - MIDVAAG & SØRVAAG & MYGGENÆS

Western Route: Thorshavn-Kollefjord-Kvivig-Vestmanhavn-Sandevaag-Midvaag-Sørvaag (leaving mail for Myggenæs).

MIDVAAG Star cancel, to Bö c.1915

MIDVAAG Star-removed





SØRVAAG Star cancel, to Bö c.1920



SØRVAAG Star-removed



MYGGENÆS Starcancel

MYGGENÆS Star-removed cancel, to Thorshavn 1940. Very scarce!



