

Oh, The Things You Can Learn Stamp Collecting

The Postman Cometh Postcard!

by Mike Schumacher



Figure B1

This is one of those philatelic gems that catches your eye and you just can't pass it up, even though it is not in your collecting area of interest. But it is a postman **[Figure B1]** and without them, what would we have to collect? I picked this "pretty" (a Fergie philatelic term) postcard up from a Scandinavian internet auction site because the postman just looked very cool. No, it's not Icelandic.

It's an undivided back Danish postcard, **[Figure B2]** canceled in Ringsted, Denmark on December 31, 1900, addressed to a Vera Hatteresen in Maribo, Denmark. So, our postman is no doubt carrying a special message into the New Year!

Where you might ask is Ringsted, Denmark? Reference map **Figure B3**. Well, it is in the center of the Danish island Zealand (13th largest island in Europe) about 60 km south west of Copenhagen. Ringsted is one of the busiest transit hubs in Denmark, as it serves domestic and international rail lines headed in all directions. Ringsted is also home to the oldest Scandinavian brick church - St. Bendt's Church **Figure B4**. It dates back to around 1170 and was originally part of the Benedictine monastery. The Benedictines are a monastic religious order of the Catholic Church, founded by Saint Benedict of Nursia in the 6th century. It is the first Royal church of Denmark and houses the tombs of many of Denmark's early monarchs and nobleman.

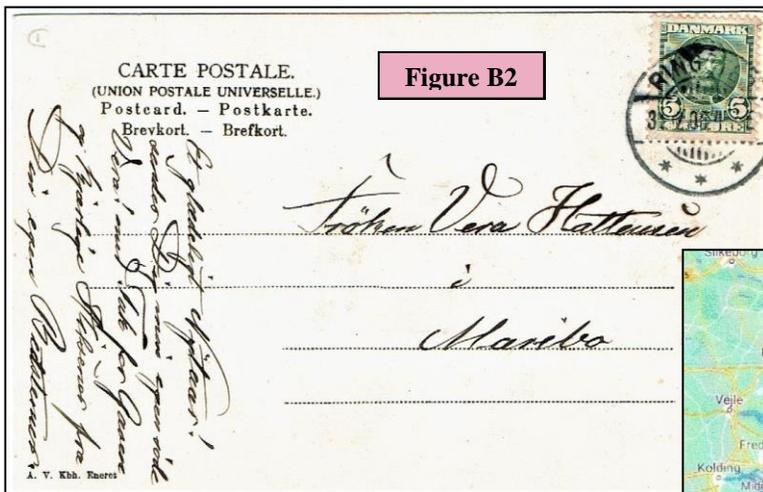


Figure B2

Ringsted was home to "Santa World" which featured hundreds of animatronic Santa Clauses and elves. It was renamed to Fantasy World in 1993, when 4 outdoor adventure gardens were added.



Figure B3

The destination that the postman is headed with the postcard is Maribo, Denmark, which is located about 104km south of Ringsted on the island of Lolland, home to the gothic style Maribo Cathedral which was part of the Maribo Abby founded around 1416. Queen Margaret I of Denmark encouraged by her childhood tutor (Marta Ulfsdottir – the daughter of St. Bridget of Sweden) provided the land for the monastery to be built. The church was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Bridget of Vadstena (founder of the Bridgettine order of nuns and monks).

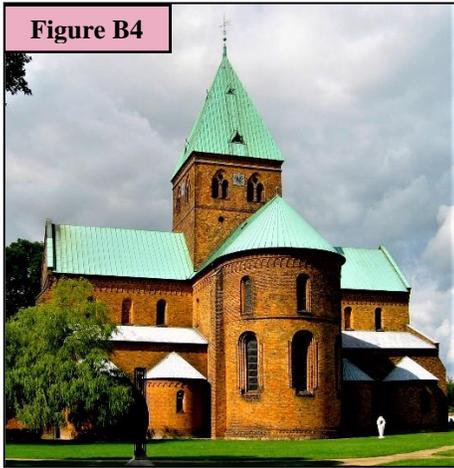


Figure B4

It's always amazing where a little research on a "pretty" philatelic item can lead. But before I conclude this article, I must let you in on a surprise. The flap on the Postman's satchel opens and inside it is a small, folded piece of paper indicating to whom it should be delivered

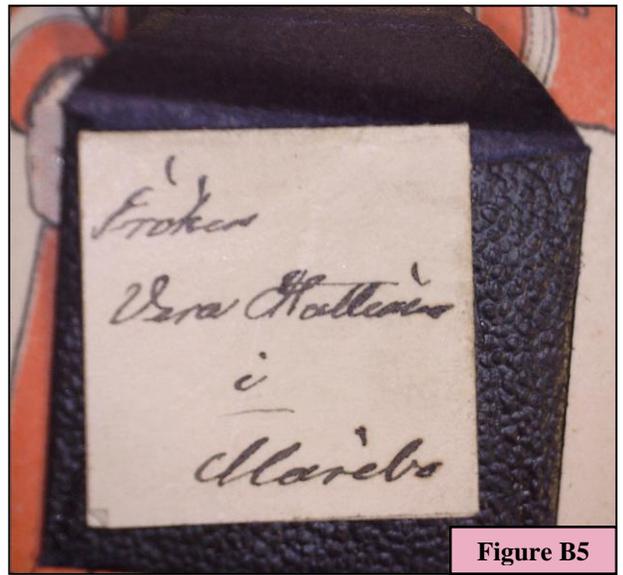


Figure B5

find many enjoyable philatelic gems in the New Year!

Another Look at Dr. Lytle Adams

by Phil Fettig

Event Covers - Demonstration of Adams System of Air Mail Pick-Up at Century of Progress Exhibition Chicago, IL - October 31, 1934

TOP - Dr. Adams (left) is shown with his pilot, Eddie Gerber with model of equipment.
BOTTOM - Pick-up demonstration. (Both covers autographed)

Although this invention by Dr. Adams was not a commercial success, the concept has lasted to this day, used by the military and NASA to make flying pick-ups of soldiers and catching satellites in the air.



A short time ago I wrote about the inventor and dentist, Dr. Adams. Recently I came across a page from an exhibit I prepared several years ago. **Figure B6** shows Dr. Adams, his pilot Eddie Geber and a view of the equipment used for the mail pickup. This demonstration took part at the Century of Progress Station in Chicago in 1934.

The signatures of the inventor, Dr. Adams and of the pilot Eddie Gerber appear to the right of the cachet.

[Editor's note: The earlier article referenced can be found in the June of 2020 issue, Insert F.]