

Iceland's King Christian X, Silver Jubilee Issue 1937

by Michael Schumacher

This year marks the 80th anniversary of Iceland's King Christian X, Silver Jubilee stamp issue. The issue consists of Iceland's first souvenir sheet (**Figure 1**) and three sheets of different denominations stamps. (**Figures 2 & 3**) Aside from honoring the King's Silver Jubilee this souvenir sheet and three sheets of stamps are important in Icelandic Postal history.

The souvenir sheet made Icelandic Postal history in the following ways:

- First Icelandic souvenir sheet issued;
- It was sold for more than twice face value (Price 2Kr - face value 90 aur);
(Surplus funds were designated for a post office building fund.)
- Nearly 50% of them never made it to Iceland, due to a presale in London.



Figure 1

Souvenir sheet info: typography; perf. 14 x 14.5; 55,000 made; Printing: J. Jorgensen printing works in Copenhagen. Three stamps with the following values: 15 aur., 25 aur. and 50 aur.

The three different individual sheets of stamps, per an Icelandic Postal Administration announcement, were to only be sold in sets. (Not sure how that could be accomplished considering a different quantity of each value was issued.) Such a method of sale had never been used before by the Icelandic Postal Administration.

Sheet Stamp info: Design and engraving from a photograph (Jobs. Britze)

- Steel engraving recess; perf. 13 x 13; 100 stamps per sheet
- Printing: Danish Postal Administration, Vareksteder, Copenhagen. (Note conflicting quantity report.)
 - 10 aur (175,000) 30 aur (159,200) 40 aur (170,000) (One Hundred Years of Icelandic Stamps)
 - 10 aur (175,000) 30 aur (160,000) 40 aur (170,000) (Facit)



Figure 2

The official First Day of issue for both the souvenir sheet and the individual stamps was on May 15, 1937. They were only sold during the period of May 14 - December 31, 1937. Their usage was only valid until April 30, 1938. Thus finding the stamps or souvenir sheet on cover with proper postal rate usage does present a challenge, but let that not stop us from remembering the upcoming 80th Anniversary of this issue. We say: **“Hail to the King”**.



Figure 3

Phil's Corner by Phil Fetting

A Family of Hungarian Stamp Dealers

If one does not exist, a book should be written about the Hungarian family of stamp dealers by the name of Sekula. **Figures (1) & (2)** show both sides of a registered cover sent by dealer Eugen Sekula from Luzern Switzerland in 1930 to a customer in the United States. The cover has a really informative label, **Figure (3)** shouting out to the world “STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS ONLY”. I don't believe I would use that today!



Figure 4

The cover has a really informative label, **Figure (3)** shouting out to the world “STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS ONLY”. I don't believe I would use that today!

Eugen had three brothers who were also stamp dealers. I could not find out anything about Frank and Geza Sekula. That is not the case with brother Bela Sekula!

This brother left a trail of forgeries and involvement with dubious issues. He is believed to be the force behind the issues of the Tanna Tuva stamps from the 1920s – 1940s. **Figure (4)** shows three of the issues. Although the stamps are listed in Scott, many philatelists doubt the validity of some of these issues.

Now, do you know where Tanna Tuva was located without looking in the catalog or online?

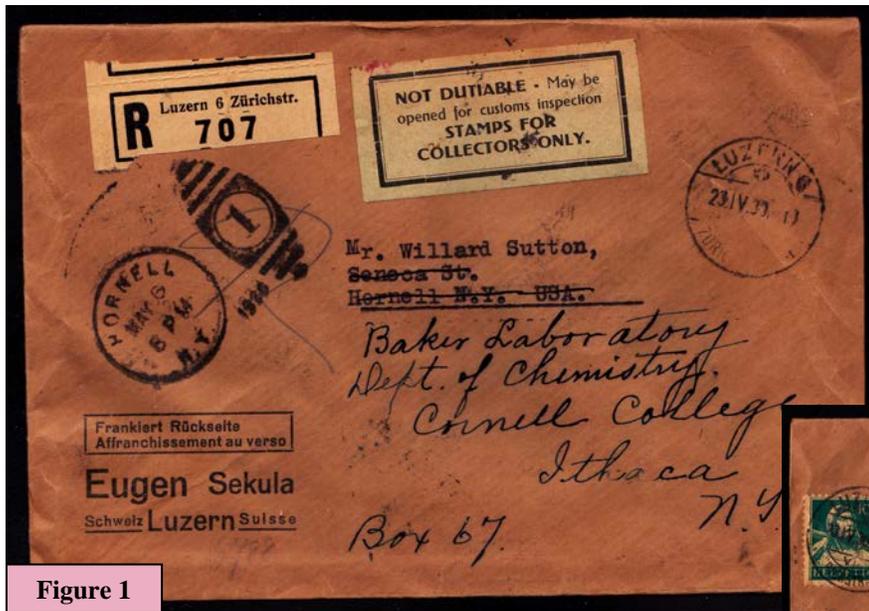


Figure 1



Figure 3



Figure 2