ICELANDIC STAMPS

Issue June 1st 1954

in Commemoration of Mr. Hannes Hafstein

first native Minister of Iceland.

Denominations:

Kr. 1.25 blue . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1,000,000 copies
— 2.45 green . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 250,000
— 5.00 red . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 250,000

The stamps are printed by the firm Thomas de la Rue & Co., Ltd., London, in sheets of 100 stamps. Each denomination shows a different portrait of the late Minister, and the framework is drawn by the artist Steingrímsur Guðmundsson.

Hannes Hafstein was born on December 4th, 1861, at Möðruvellir in Hörgårdalur. He was an undergraduate from Reykjavík classical school in 1880 and graduated in law from the University of Copenhagen in 1886.

On February 1st, 1904, he was appointed Minister of Iceland and was thus the first Icelander to occupy this post and the first Minister directly responsible to the Icelandic Parliament. He was leader of the Home Rule Party for 12 years, a member of the Althing for 22 years, its President in 1912, and Minister for 7 years in all.

Hannes Hafstein was one of the nation’s outstanding poets and for many years the country’s chief political leader. He was a man of unusual physical and spiritual gifts.
The stamps are sold at face value with the addition of postage and sent at buyer's risk.

Customers are requested to send payment plus postage with their orders by International Postal Orders or by Checks payable through banks in Great Britain, U. S. A. Denmark, Norway or Sweden. The amount can also be paid to the account of:

»Direction Générale des Postes d’Islande« at the following Banks:

Privatbanken A/S, Børsgade 4, Köbenhavn K.
Bergens Privatbank, Kirkegatan 23, Oslo.
Skandinaviska Banken A/B Stockholm, 16.
Guaranty Trust Company of New York, 140, Broadway, New York.

The rate of exchange is at present:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Icelandic kr.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 £</td>
<td>45.60</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.00   Dan. kr.</td>
<td>2.36</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.00   Norweg. kr.</td>
<td>2.28</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.00   Swed. kr.</td>
<td>3.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.00   U. S. A. $</td>
<td>16.30</td>
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Customers may obtain prior information of any new issue (new printing or overprints). As orders from abroad do not always reach this Office before the day of issue we beg to point out that several of our customers have a standing order for all new issues and “first day covers” to be shipped on the day of issue. In order to do so they have to advance an amount necessary to meet the expenses each time.