

**NETHERLANDS PHILATELISTS
of CALIFORNIA
(now in its 42nd year)**

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December 2011

November meeting. Attending at the home of Hans Kremer were: Ed Burfine, Franklin Ennik, HansPaul Hager, Hans Kremer, Stuart Leven, Burt Miller, Paul Swierstra, and Fred Van der Heyden.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

The following is a translation of a piece from the November 2011 Dutch newsletter of www.knbf.nl with the help of Google language translator and Hans Kremer.



Info PostNL (Update)

Through changes in the stamp issuance program and the political composition of our country, there are some unanswered questions for which no-one has developed a ready answer. For the Netherlands Antilles, the political situation changed radically on October 10, 2010. The Netherlands Antilles as a collection area then ended. The island of Aruba had and retains the "Independent State" status and remains postally/philatelically unchanged. Curaçao and Sint Maarten will now have a separate status and thus become a new collecting area with its own currency: the Antillean Guilder (until 2010 and then the U.S. dollar?). Why these countries will use the U.S. dollar and what the consequences are regarding the postal system, the PostNL does not know.

The islands of Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius have become Dutch municipalities and are now known as the *Caribisch Nederland* (Caribbean Netherlands). The PostNL will not be the printer/publisher of the stamps of the Caribbean Netherlands. These islands will have their own postal service. The PostNL, starting 2012, will no longer offer printing services for foreign postal products. Stamps for the former Antilles islands can be ordered via the **Collect Wereld** (Collect World) or the new issues service of your local stamp association.

Mail to the Caribbean Netherlands should be franked following the "outside of Europe" rate tables. From the Caribbean to the Netherlands they'll have their own postal policy. Whether the stamps will have the 1 and 2 as stated rate or a currency denomination is up to them. The stamps however, will be included in the catalog of the NVPH.

The **December 17th meeting** will be held at the home of Franklin Ennik starting at 1:00pm. Frank's phone number is 925-952 9424.
The site of the **January 21st meeting** will be announced.

In 2012 the Netherlands will issue a thematic-collection series of souvenir sheets depicting various country estates. It is not yet known which country estates. This is still being discussed with the National Cultural Heritage (Rijksdienst voor Cultureel Erfgoed). They will try not to duplicate the *Mooi Nederland* series, as well as, thematic subjects such as castles. The souvenir sheets of *Mooi Nederland* Country Estates series will be available only in the municipality where the estate is located.

The stamp sheets used in the *CD Nederpop* are numbered, which clearly makes the production run of these issues really limited.

2012 ANNUAL DUES. A decision has been made by the NPofC executive board to continue funding the 2012 expenses of NPofC from the donation fund of our generous anonymous benefactor. As a result, 2012 annual dues will be waived.

AROUND THE TABLE

Ed Burfine gave us a preview of his new manuscript, *History and Identification of UNTEA Forgeries*, which will be published in the near future. It has long been known that forgeries of these Netherlands West-New Guinea UNTEA overprints and backdated cancellations exist and are wide spread in collections. But most collectors don't know what they have and most sellers don't realize what they are offering.

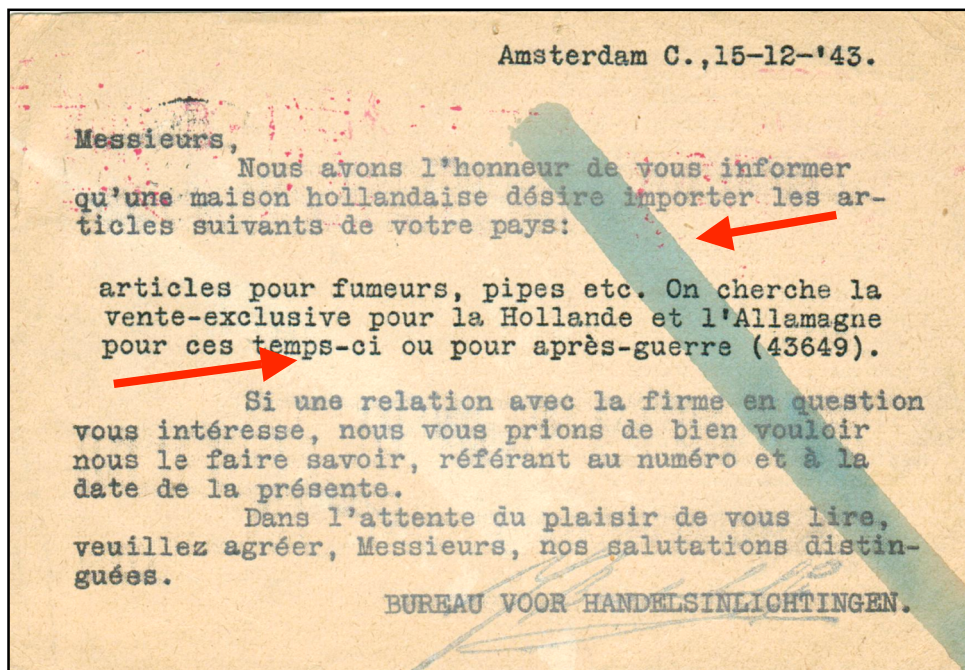
Ed has developed a considerable knowledge of this collecting area and has conducted extensive research to help identify the forgeries. This publication illustrates and describes in exquisite detail the craft of the modern forger and extent of the damage to the hobby of philately. Included and illustrated are the overprint forgeries of the 1st through 4th printings, aerogrammes, postcards, forged cancellation dies and back-dated cancellations, and overprint forgeries of the 1953 *HULP NEDERLAND* series.

Burt Miller showed us a selection of color proofs of the 1876 cijfers, NVPH numbers 30-33; a normal and plate fault copy of the 1940, 12½ cent blue Wilhelmina with **Gent** instead of **Cent**; a plate fault copy of the 1926, 2 cent orange cijfer with a large white spot under cent; a registered letter franked with the 1913 5 cent and 50 cent Jubileum series; and a "make work" 1st Flight cover produced by the Den Haag stamp dealer, Gerard A.G. Thoolen.

Stuart Leven passed around a pamphlet describing Kees Adema's recent publication, *Netherlands Mail in Times of Turmoil, Volume 3. 1815-1839*; another article by K. Adema, *World War II: Severed Connections. Part 2.*, that appeared in *The Collectors Club magazine*, 90(6):363-372; and a selection of newly acquired DEI bestelhuis covers. The bestelhuis (delivery-house) system was initiated by the Dutch colonial postal authority in 1920 and was continued by the Indonesians after gaining independence.

Fred Van der Heyden showed us a series of business reply envelopes with added postage due stamps and a series of vintage photos of San Francisco street scenes ca 1915-1920.

Franklin Ennik passed around a postcard that was chemically censored by the German postal authority and posted to Herstal, Belgium on December 15, 1943. The two detection chemicals swiped (see red arrows) on the card reverse were likely copper sulphate (blue) and sodium carbonate (colorless). The card was sent by the Amsterdam Office of Trade Information (Bureau voor Handelsinlichtingen) soliciting the import of various smoking items (smokers, pipes, etc.) on behalf of a Dutch client. Censor clerk no. 89 examined the card. Notice the **K-243** marker on the lower left corner. These control K-numbers identify the printing firm that printed the card during WW II, in this case: Holdert & Co., Amsterdam, in order to keep track of the use of scarce paper stock.



Frank also passed around a recently mailed registered envelope from Netherlands franked with high value gulden stamps totaling f 21.80 to make up the correct mailing rate in euros.

Hans Kremer showed us a series of covers franked with various examples of the current postal rate (95 cent) to the US; a copy of the new PostNL (logo) stamp on cover that was free to all Dutch households for the asking; a copy of a special issue of the *Dutch Aerophilately Journal* commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Vliegende Hollander. It contains about 25 interesting articles dealing with Dutch airmails; and a 30 x 110 mm. visitekaart cover that was posted with insufficient postage (1½ cent) to the US. It



was withheld by the postal clerk who later allowed the sender to add the extra 1 cent needed to make up the correct postage rate rather than charging him a 2 cent postage due penalty. The cover has two Zaandam cancels with different time indicators: **9 V** and **10 V**.

HansPaul Hager passed around a series of hand-painted, pro-Indonesia propaganda postcards made prior to Indonesian Independence and also a series of bank (kwitantie) =receipts on which postal and fiscal stamps have been applied. The stamped receipts are now legal documents proving that a financial transaction or obligation has been concluded. HansPaul also showed us the November 2011 issue of *American Philatelist* with an article on **The First and Second Presidents of Indonesia** by NPofC member Mardjohan Hardjasudarma.

CANCEL OF THE MONTH

The December winner is **Burt Miller** with a centered, double-ring, short bar cancel of **Amsterdam Centr.(al) Station**, dated February 3, 1932 on a 1928, 27½ cent, dark grey Veth issue (NVPH nr. 193). **Notice** that the inner ring of the cancel appears perfectly centered on the inner circle surrounding the portrait vignette of the stamp. And, that February is indicated by the roman letter **II**.



COVER OF THE MONTH

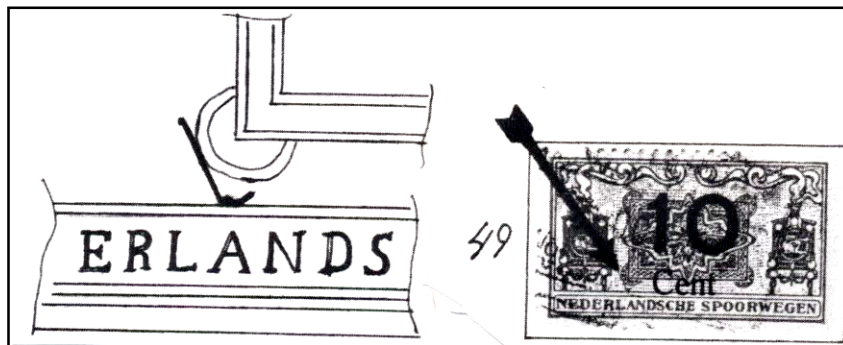
The December winner is **Hans Kremer** with a plated railway stamp on an EXPRESS cover sent September 25, 1940 from Rotterdam to Amsterdam.

The front of the cover shows 20 cent franking, which satisfied the EXPRESS rate for a letter

weighing between 20 and 100 grams. EXPRESS delivery only meant that the letter would be delivered promptly *after* arriving at the Amsterdam post office.



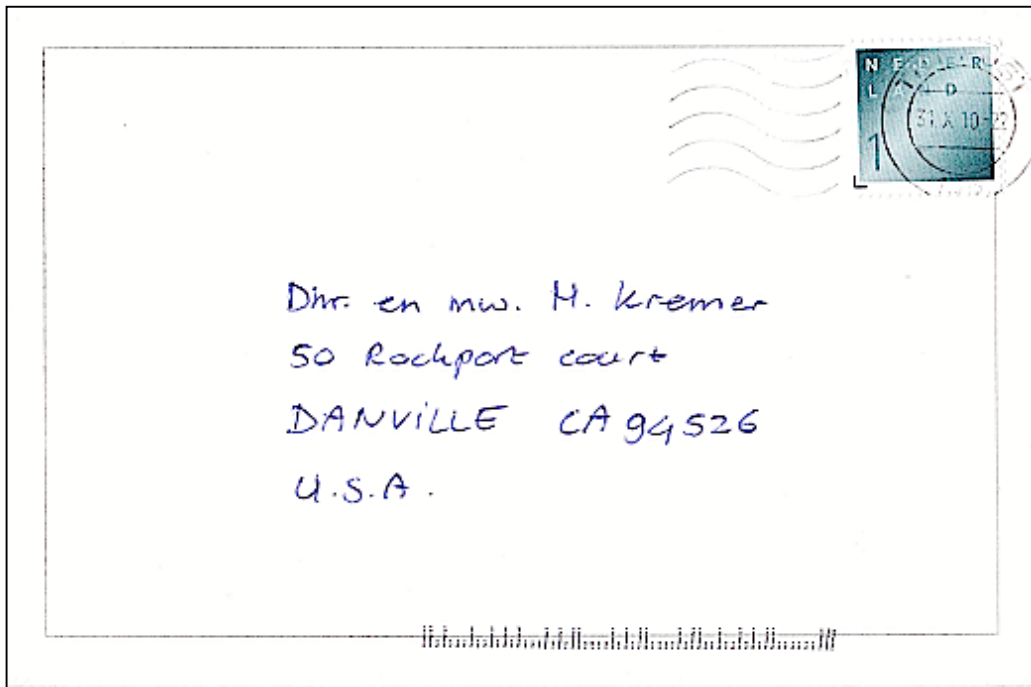
In order to speed up the delivery one could drop off a letter at the railway station, in this case Rotterdam, pay an extra 10 cent for a so-called railway stamp, and the letter would then go on the next train to its destination (Amsterdam). In *De Postzak* nr. 152 (June 1987), the 10 cent railway stamp shown here on the back of this envelope is plated. It turns out that this is stamp position number 49 on the print sheet.



44 cent mourning cover sent to the US without penalty. *With thanks to Hans Kremer.*

This cover, sent (October 31, 2010), contained a funeral announcement. A special 'mourning stamp' was attached; the announcement most likely was one of a large bundle of these 'funeral letters' hand-delivered to the post office.

Such mail not only receives priority handling in the Netherlands, the cancellation is also different from the usual procedure. The cancellation used for this type of mail does not contain the usual advertising flag, but a neutral wavy line cancel, as can be seen on this cover.



The TNT Post cancel is a Klüssendorf cancel (# 136; barely visible), which was used instead of the currently common Braungardt cancel. These Klüssendorf cancels are also used during the busy Christmas holiday period.

Upon closer examination of the stamp you might notice two things: There is no denomination on it, but just a number "1". This is one of the new Dutch 'forever' stamps which have been in use since July 1, 2010. The other thing is the **L shaped symbol** on the lower left corner of the stamp. This signifies that this stamp is to be used for domestic mail only (in this case it represents 44 Eurocent).



There are no separate 'forever' mourning stamps specifically issued for letters to be sent to European or worldwide destinations. The reason most likely is that there would not be a sufficient demand for such stamps.

I assume that this letter was forwarded without a demand for additional postage because of its nature (mourning mail).

References;

ASNP Magazine, *Netherlands Philately*. Volume 34(6):149-150. July 2010.

Max Lerk. Personal correspondence.