

NETHERLANDS PHILATELISTS
of CALIFORNIA
(now in its 43rd year)

Correspondence to:

Franklin Ennik
3168 Tice Creek Drive # 3, Walnut Creek, CA 94595
E-mail: ennik123@att.net
Telephone: 925-952-9424

Honorary Members:

John Heimans
George Vandenberg
† Ralph Van Heerden
Website: <http://www.npofc.org>

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

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

Our **annual NPofC New Year's Soirée and Dinner**, held on January 14, 2012 at the *Three Flames Restaurant*, San Jose, CA, was enjoyed by all who attended the event.

Mark your calendars now for the **52nd Annual WESTPEX 2012 Philatelic Exhibition** to be held April 27-29, 2012 at the San Francisco Airport Marriott Hotel, 1800 Old Bayshore Highway, Burlingame, CA 94010. See additional details on their website: www.WESTPEX.com. NPofC has reserved a meeting room at the show from 11:00am to 12:30pm on Saturday April 28th that is open to members and also to the public. NPofC President HansPaul Hager will give a presentation entitled, "Review of the Dutch East Indies Company (VOC)."

Beware of bogus Netherlands stamps. During the 2011 year-end holiday season the PostNL Security intercepted a large series of bogus stamps applied to mail and offered for sale on various internet websites. Asking prices for the stamps are far below the normal value of the stamps. This fraud has cost the PostNL an estimated several million Euros in lost revenue.

The PostNL mail sorting systems can easily recognize mail franked with single bogus stamps by the absence of the phosphorous strip. The bogus stamps, to the eye, are almost indistinguishable from the real. The series of bogus stamps are recognizable because they are always printed on a blank sheet of stickers and offered via the website. These bogus stamps are used mainly on registered mail, parcels and international mail that require high franking.

The gang of forgers was apprehended in the Sittard area and a large stock of bogus stamps and equipment has been seized. These faked stamps have also turned up in Utrecht, Breukelen and Maarsse. **References:** For further information see the article in the January 2012 *KNBF.nl* (newsletter). To view a list of websites that offered them for sale and various examples of the bogus stamps offered for sale see the PostNL website <http://www.postnl.nl/voorthuis/postzegels/valse-postzegels>. Also on the Internet in Google with the search words: *PostNL valse postzegels*.

The **February 18th meeting** will be held at the home of Ed Burfine starting at 1:00pm. Ed's telephone number 650-726-5586.
The **March 17th meeting** will be held at the home of HansPaul Hager starting at 1:00pm. HansPaul's telephone number 408-770-9132.

AROUND THE TABLE

Paul Swierstra summarized his recent holiday visit to the Netherlands and passed around a copy of the Amsterdam Metro train time-schedules (*OV ChipKaart* now required); a brochure describing the 2012 PostNL stamp issue schedule; an article illustrating the Railway (*Spoorweg*) Museum in Utrecht; a PostNL brochure explaining that discounted December holiday stamps are available at 34 cent rather than the regular postal rate of 44 cent; and a 2010 postal card commemorating the 65 year anniversary of PO & PO = *De Nederlandse Vereniging van Poststukken & Poststempel Verzamelaars* .



Burt Miller passed around stamps of the Netherlands December 1906 Tuberculosis issue (NVPH nr. 84-86, Scott no. B1-B3) and a series of covers franked with these stamps. These three stamps in 1, 3, and 5 cent denominations were the first charity stamps issued by the Post and Telegraph Service. A surcharge equal to the value of the stamp was not a popular idea with the frugal Dutch public. The surcharge benefitted the *Amsterdamsche Vereeniging tot Bestrijding der Tuberculose* (Amsterdam Society for the Suppression of TB). A total of three million stamps were printed but only 810,000 were sold. The stamps were issued 21 December 1906; they could be purchased in Amsterdam through 3 January 1907 and were valid for use only *within the Netherlands* through 31 January 1907. The remainders were CTO cancelled with **Amsterdam 31 JAN 07 10-12 N** and sold by the Society. The time notation, **10-12 N**, was especially chosen for this CTO cancel and is a misnomer..... **10-12** indicates MORNING hours.....The **N** on this CTO cancel stands for *NAMIDDAG*, which means AFTERNOON. **Heads Up** The correct last day of valid use of this series is 31 January 1907.....not 31 December 1907, as stated in the NVPH catalogue starting in 2007.

Stuart Leven showed us an oversized copy of the Dutch East Indies atlas entitled, *Atlas van Tropisch Nederland* by Martinus Nijhof published in 1938. Stuart's interest focuses on the philatelic history of the DEI and a high magnification atlas is essential in identifying the various topographic features, towns and villages of the islands.

Franklin Ennik passed around an example (front and reverse) of *kapselgeld* or “encapsulated money,” that is, early 1900-1920s stamps that were encased in celluloid. These kind of coin-sized disks were used for a short period in the US and some European countries in bars/cafés/pubs in lieu of money due to a shortage of coinage. Many varieties exist and they are now a highly collectable item. Frank also showed us several postal cards from the late 1800s and an **EXPRESSE** cover post-dated 3 November 1941 and addressed to the Dutch Red Cross in The Hague.



Hans Kremer showed a series of postcards cancelled with WW II vintage slogan cancels. The slogans urge the Dutch public to conserve and recycle all waste products due to dire shortages of basic materials, and, “it is your duty” to support the Dutch citizens who joined the German army through *Frontzorg*. Hans also passed around a DEI DaiNippon occupation postcard 3½ cent; and a postcard with an advertising cancel from the city of Elst 1936, *Veemarkt op Donderdag*.



Fred van der Heyden passed around a tin container with tobacco revenue stamps attached that once held 100 *Cavalier* brand cigarettes; a *Wall Street Journal* article on SinterKlaas (Saint Nicolas); a copy of the book, *The Dutch in America*; an article entitled *Vanished Kingdoms: The Rise and Fall of Nations* by Norman Davis; and a pamphlet entitled, *The 2000 year History of the City of Cuyk (Lb.)*, ca 1948, that summarizes the history of the 2nd oldest city in Europe, 52 BCE to 1948.

HansPaul Hager passed around copies of receipts from bicycle shops with attached revenue stamps; a magazine advertisement for *Wybertjes* throat lozenges; a copy of a post-WW II allied military government travel permit, with fiscal stamps, used in Germany ca 1947-1951; and a copy of *The Revenue (stamp) Journal* 22(3):129-138.

CANCEL OF THE MONTH

The January winner is **Burt Miller** with a 10 cent (NVPH nr. 2), plate 1, field 73, with a half-round GOUDA franco, type A (Egyptische letters) cancel, dated 22 October ??



COVER OF THE MONTH

The January winner is **Burt Miller** with an **EXPRESSE** cover franked with a strip of six of the 1941 Flying Dove *se-tenant* 7½ cent and 2½ cent stamps (NVPH nr. 379c/d, Scott no. 243A/E). The letter is addressed to Dresden, Germany and was cancelled in Hilversum on 28.V.1943. The cover is also cancelled with a continuous machine, **red-circled A.c. censor cancel** from Cologne. At first, **all mail** originating in and sent to the Netherlands and Belgium from other European

destinations, was censored in Cologne, Germany. Later, a sub-office of Cologne was established in Brussels, Belgium and they used the same censor markings. The two boxed numbers, 50 and 59, are censor clerk identifiers and indicate that this letter was handled twice.



OTHER CATEGORY OF THE MONTH

The January winner is **HansPaul Hager** with a Netherlands Indies **SPECIMEN** set of the 1921 Documentary revenues.....20 values from 15 cent to 100 guilder.



Mobile Post Office “Feyenoord Stadion”, 1939

with thanks to Hans Kremer

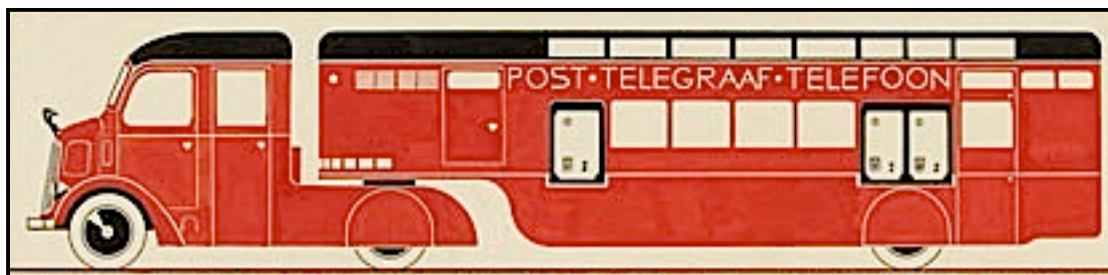
In the ASNP auction of May 2011 I noticed a mobile post office cover with an interesting slogan cancel. The text read:

**AUTOPOSTKANTOOR
GEN^L. APPEL
3-VIII-39
N.C.R.V.
FEYENOORD STADION**



For the background about the Dutch mobile post offices I refer to an article I wrote in the ASNP Journal *Netherlands Philately*, Volume 29: 22-23 September 2004, or to go to the (online) reference at the end of this article.

This special type of cancel was used at only four events, first at the Tourist Trophy motorcycle races in Assen (June 1939), then at the Nijmegen 4 day walk (25-28 July 1939), followed by the event August 3, 1939 at the Feyenoord stadium and the last time at the OLANTA agricultural exhibition in Olst (24-27 August 1939).



Most of us know Feyenoord stadium as the home field of Rotterdam's best known soccer team, Feyenoord. However, it was, and is being used for other purposes as well, in this case for a "Generaal Appèl" of the N.C.R.V. N.C.R.V stands for Nederlandse Christelijke Radio Vereniging. The N.C.R.V (Dutch Christian Radio Association) is a public radio and television broadcaster in the Netherlands.

The Dutch word *Generaal Appèl* can probably best be defined here as a Christian appeal. About 40,000 people attended the event in Rotterdam. Its main purpose was of course to generate interest in remaining or becoming a member of the N.C.R.V. The attendants were entertained with a daylong event of Christian music and speeches.

What made this cover somewhat special is the name of the person this cover was addressed to: Sydney Lake. I recognized this name from "*Netherlands and Colonies Philately*" (NCP), the official organ of the "Stamp Club for Collectors of Netherlands and Colonies". Mr. Lake was the organizer (in 1934) and member # 1 (Johannes de Kruyf was # 4) in this organization. This organization should be seen as the predecessor of the A.S.N.P.

This mobile post office was ultimately confiscated by the Germans during WW II, transported to Germany and supposedly met its demise during an October 1944 air raid of Kassel, Germany. After the War a new mobile post office was built to serve the Dutch public.



References:

For more information about the mobile post offices, go to the Internet website: <http://www.postzegelblog.nl/2010/09/20/het-autopostkantoor-van-1939/>, and then click on **Translate** at the top of the page to get an English translation.

J. M. Hager. De Nederlandse autopostkantoren, 1939-1994. *Posthistorische Studies* 18. PO & PO. 107 pg. 1996.