

**NETHERLANDS PHILATELISTS  
of CALIFORNIA**  
(now in its 44<sup>th</sup> year)

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**Honorary Members:**

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

**April 2013**

**March meeting.** Attending at the home of Dennis Buss, were: Dennis Buss, Franklin Ennik, HansPaul Hager, Hans Kremer, Stuart Leven, Burt Miller, Paul Swierstra and Fred Van der Heyden.

**NEW/OLD BUSINESS**

**Mark your calendars now** for the upcoming WESTPEX 2013 Stamp Show, April 26-28, 2013, San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront Hotel, Burlingame, CA 94010. NPofC has reserved a meeting room on **Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 11.00 am**. All NPofC members and the public are invited and welcomed to attend. Attendees are urged to bring Show & Tell items to pass around the meeting. See additional details about the Stamp Show online at [WESTPEX.org](http://WESTPEX.org).

**The Western Philatelic Library** has found a new location in Redwood City, CA for one of the largest depositories of philatelically related literature in the western US. During the coming months this new location will be transformed and made ready for the transfer of books, journals and papers.

**AROUND THE TABLE**

**Paul Swierstra** passed around a series of envelopes with red, meter-cancels and a 7½ cent, 1943-1944 Sea Captain series illustrating Michiel de Ruyter cancelled with a railroad block cancel on a *section* (=route) from Maastricht to Eindhoven. The 1944 date numbers on this cancel show two different font styles for the 4s with open and closed numbers. The 4s used in Dutch cancellers of the period were closed. When the southern Netherlands was liberated, the PTT cancelling equipment in post offices was found to be worn or damaged. Replacement parts for these cancellers came from neighboring liberated Belgium rather than from The Hague which was still occupied by the Germans. See illustrations next page.

**Fred van der Heyden** passed around two books: *China and the East Indies* and a post card picture book with scenes of *Santa Rosa (California) and Vicinity Before the 1906 Earthquake and after*. The City of Santa Rosa, like San Francisco, was heavily damaged by the earthquake.

The **April 26<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held at WESTPEX 2013 Stamp Show on Friday 26 April 2013 starting at 1100am. The public and all NPofC members are cordially invited to attend. **Note change of meeting date.**

The **May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held at the home of John and Eve Heimans starting at 1:00pm. Eve Heimans telephone number: 408-264-5752.

**Hans Kremer** passed around an article from *Linn's Stamp News* (March 11, 2013) describing the new stamp issues illustrating outgoing Queen Beatrix and incoming King Willem-Alexander. The PostNL announced that a souvenir block of five stamps for each of them has been printed and will be issued April 30, 2013. Hans also passed around several mourning cover notices with



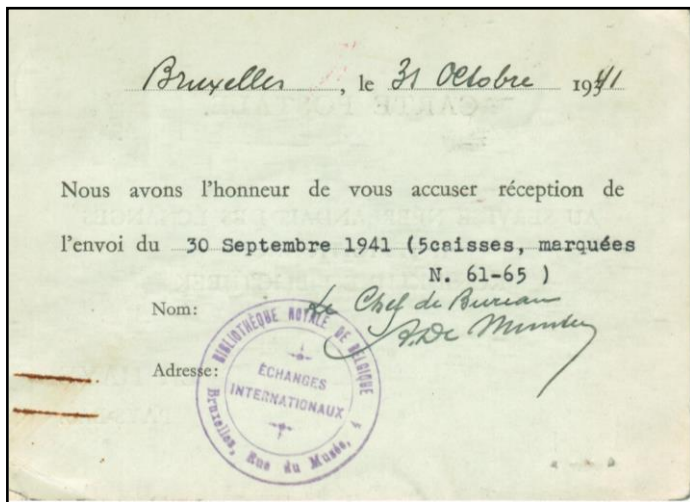
wide black borders; an article from *Filatelie* (nr. 2, 2013 ) entitled, *1912-2012: 100 Jaar Drukwerkrolstempels*, in which he found some questionable information given (see attached response in this newsletter) and examples of cancels used in the southern liberated Netherlands with different font styles. Notice on the left the **straight one** (*sans serif*) and **open four** (1945) (cancel made in Belgium) and on the right a **closed four** and **serified one** (1947) in these two Eindhoven cancels.

**HansPaul Hager** passed around examples of *Spaarbankzegels* (saving bank stamps). The Rijks Spaarbank was started in 1881 as a means for the Dutch public to own a savings account and it was administered through the Postal Service. At first, postage stamps were bought and pasted in a booklet as a record of the account but later special adhesive stamps in various amounts were printed for the purpose. HansPaul also showed us examples of "dry" fiscal "stamps" issued in Utrecht 1625 that when attached to documents made them legal and defensible in court; examples of a luxury tax (=Weelde Belasting 1806); a tax applied to newspapers in 1837 that indicated the paper was for internal use only and will not be sold; and a series of documentary proof designs. He showed proof color designs of postage stamps offered to the Dutch Government in exile in London by the British print firm Bradbury--Wilkerson & Co which were refused.....The American Bank Note Co. got the contract to print Netherlands Antilles airmail and fiscal stamps; and during WW I the Curaçao newspapers, "*De Tijd*," and the "*Curaçaosche Courant*," printed needed postal supplies when postage and fiscal stamps sent from the Netherlands became scarce due to the submarine danger to Atlantic shipping.

**Franklin Ennik** passed around two similar post cards that were mailed to the Nederlandse Koninklijke Bibliotheek (=Royal Dutch Library) in 's Gravenhage: one card sent 31 October 1941 from the Bibliothèque Royale De Belgique in Brussel and the other sent 1 April 1944 from the Royal Danish Library in Copenhagen, Denmark. The cards acknowledge receipt of Library materials sent from the Netherlands.



Both cards have been censored by the German censor office. Notice on the front of the card sent from Belgium that



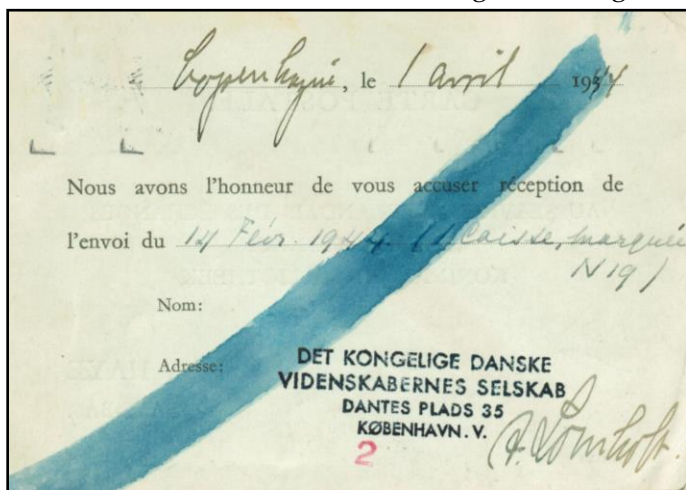
**Koninklijke** (= Royal) has been crossed off and replaced with **NATIONALE** as required by the German occupiers. In contrast, Koninklijke on the card sent from Copenhagen is not altered but the reverse has been chemically censored with a swipe of blue, copper sulphate.

An international consortium of the major Royale and State Libraries of the world have exchanged their publications through this organization. Contact between members continued in spite of WW II. At periodic conferences information is exchanged amongst its

members on all manner of archival improvements, management, preservation and conservation of library materials.

**Dennis Buss** passed around two books: *A Bittersweet Land, 1890-1980: The Dutch Experience in Canada*. This book describes the joys and disappointments that Dutch immigrants encountered upon their arrival in Canada.

The other book is one of the popular series filled with vintage picture post card scenes of the many towns and villages of the Netherlands. This one features the village of Arum, Friesland, located southeast of Harlingen. Some of the post card illustrations show the buildings where the grandparents of Dennis lived.



**Stuart Leven** announced he was successful in bids for a collection of the scarce *bestelhuis* (rural postal delivery house) cancels of Dutch East Indies/Indonesia and several of the elusive DEI LUX SOAP advertising post cards that feature Hollywood movie starlets of the 1930s and 1940s.

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**Previously Unknown Rollercancels ? I don't think so!**

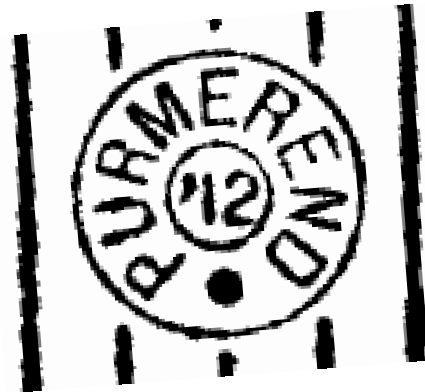
*By Hans Kremer*

In *Filatelic* of February 2013 is an article about additional rollercancel (*Drukwerkrolstempels*) cancellations found since 1966 on the ½ cent numeral issue of 1899-1913.

The list reads as follows:

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Baarn 1921       | Lunteren 1914    |
| Emmen 1920       | Meppel (no year) |
| Hoogeveen 1918   | Raalte 1918      |
| Joure 1916       | Uithuizen 1919   |
| Leens (Gr.) 1920 | Wolvega 1918     |

Some of these additions were already listed in Cees Janssen's article in the 2010 NVPH catalog, but it also contained two new town names: Lunteren and Raalte. These do not appear in the *Munt Stempelboek*, where a copy of newly issued cancels was printed.



When I took a closer look at the "LUNTEREN" cancel (shown on the left) I noticed that only the "EREN" part of the cancel is showing. EREN is not a Dutch town.

### Figure 1. LUNTEREN ?

But which town could it be? Lunteren seems like a possibility, since it ends in "EREN" but are there other Dutch towns that either end in "EREN", or at least have "EREN" as part to the last letters of the town name.

However, I first went through the list of known roller cancels and there I came upon PURMEREND, which has "EREN" as four of the five last letters. In the *Handboek Nederlandse Poststempels #2*, all Drukwerkrolstempels are shown.

I copied the Purmerend cancel (see above on the right) to compare it to the "EREN" cancel." If you look at the Purmerend cancel you'll notice that the first "E" of Purmerend is located above and between the "1" and "2" of "12." By looking at the 'Lunteren' cancel, you'll notice that the first "E" of "EREN" is located above and between the "1" and "4" of "14"; a nice match with the Purmerend cancel.

You would then think that it is a Purmerend, not a Lunteren, cancel, but if we look at the second "E" of "EREN" you'll notice that for Purmerend it is positioned at what I would call North East of, "12." The 'Lunteren' cancel however, shows the second "E" lining up (East) with "14," so now we have a mismatch. Based on this I disregarded the Purmerend 'option.' All drukwerkrolstempels are symmetrical relative to the North direction, i.e. an equal number of letters to the left as to the right of the North direction.

Based on this symmetry we should then ask how many towns with post office names were there in 1914 that read "...EREN," thus three letters in front of "EREN," for a town name of seven letters totals, ending with "EREN."

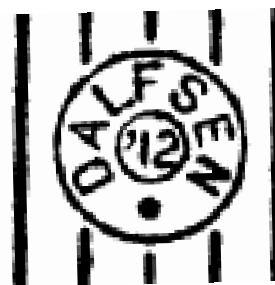
Consulting the reverse listing of Large round cancels (which most likely include all possible drukwerkrolstempel possibilities) (Kremer, 1993) I came up with quite a few.

ANGEREN	METEREN
ASPEREN	OMMEREN
GAMEREN	ZOMEREN
HETEREN	

Would all of these qualify as the user of a roller cancel? Probably not.....Since they all were small sub-post offices and, more importantly, none of them were listed in the *Stempelboek van de Munt*. Could there be another solution?

We all have seen wear and tear of cancels or just sloppy canceling which make cancels appear different from what they really are. Such is the case here I believe.

Upon closer examination of the "EREN" letters it does not take too much to read it as a distorted "FSEN" and this then leads us to the existing DALFSEN cancel. So instead of a new cancel we are dealing here with a Dalfsen '14 cancel in my opinion.



The other discovery concerns RAALTE. I believe that this is a similar story. Comparing it to the known BAARN cancel it is not hard to see that the "R" from RAALTE is a damaged "B" of BAARN. The second "A" of Raalte sits on top of the '18 numbers, so based on symmetry there are two letters after this second "A", making Baarn a perfect fit.



**Figure 2. RAALTE ?**

In conclusion, these are not unknown roller cancels, but merely badly printed or worn out Baarn and Dalfsen cancels.

References:

Gerard Karman. 1912-2012: 100 Jaar Drukwerkrolstempels. *Filatelie* 2013/2.

Cees Janssen. *Handboek Nederlandse Poststempels#2*.

Cees Janssen. Drukwerkrolstempel 1912, *NVPH Speciale Catalogus* 2010.

Hans Kremer. Reverse alphabetical listing of Netherlands large round cancels. *Netherlands Philately* 18. Volumes 1 and 2. 1993. (Online: <http://www.asnp1975.com/>)

**P.S** It turns out that Mr. Karman has received correspondence from a number of readers pointing out the Dalfsen and Baarn cancels, as being the correct ones. He has passed on that information to the Editor of *Filatelie*.

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## The Village of Thorn in Limburg

by Franklin Ennik

The village and area of Thorn (Lb.) is located southwest of Roermond less than a kilometer from the border of Belgium and less than 20 kilometers from the border of Germany and has a rich, colorful history.

The region of Thorn was once a swamp that was drained and reclaimed and in about 975 a Benedictine nunnery was established. The nunnery was run by an abbess and was occupied by a limit of twenty daughters of the highest nobility until they were ready to marry. Membership was restricted to young women who could prove 16 ancestors of noble birth: eight on their father's side and eight on their mother's side.



At first the abbess and her chapter conducted religious tasks but since 1200 they served secular matters and formed the government of a sovereign miniature principality. It had its own laws and currency. This type of institution, known in Dutch and German as a "*stift*," was a monastic community without strict rules. It became known as the smallest independent state in the German Holy Roman Empire. The village center of Thorn comprised only 250 x 250 meters and it, along with seven other villages, made up the principality.

With the invasion of the French in 1794-1795 came the end of the abbey and the principality after 800 years and with it, the cloistered life of Thorn. After the abbess and noble ladies fled, the French established a tax on the remaining village occupants based upon the size of the large windows in the palatial dwellings. In response, the poorer occupants, who could not afford the tax, bricked in the windows. In order to hide the added construction of bricks (known locally as "*littkens van de armoede*" or "scars of poverty") all the houses were whitewashed. Thereafter, Thorn was known as the "*Witte stadje*" or "white village."

The village is now known as a popular focus of tourism and for its *pannekoek* restaurants.

Shown here is a small round cancel, dated July 31, 1893, on a 5 cent blue, 1891 Princess Wilhelmina issue.

References: Various links in Google/Wikipedia with the key words: village of Thorn (Lb.).