

NETHERLANDS PHILATELISTS
of CALIFORNIA
(now in its 46th year)

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January 2016

December meeting. Due to year-end travel conflicts with the Holiday Season the December meeting was cancelled.

YEARBOOK anyone???? NPofC's eighth (and latest) Yearbook was published in 2009. Several of our members have expressed interest in producing our next one and titles of proposed articles have been aired to start things off. NPofC members have gathered a wealth of knowledge about their special focus regarding Netherlands and former territories philately. Are there any philatelic topics that you've been thinking about or working on that need airing, summarized or clarified?? What say you, members.....Let's hear from you and get your knowledge in print so it doesn't get lost. **Please submit your text in Word .doc or PDF format and illustration scans in not more than 400 dpi.**

We have established a "go to press" date of Fall 2016 for the **NPofC Commemorative 47½ YearBook** edition. As Editor, I urge members to submit their articles as soon as possible so that we can get this done.

TITLES OF ARTICLES RECEIVED

Hans Kremer.....A 47½ Cent Red-Frinking to Medelin, Columbia in 1938.

Jan Verster.....The 1908 sale of remainders in Paramaribo, Suriname.

Franklin Ennik.....Attempts by the Germans to Issue Occupation Stamps for the Netherlands in 1940 and the Theft of Enschede Stamp Stocks --- A summary.

Hans Kremer.....The basics of Dutch Military Mail (Veldpost) during 1914-1918 and a Mysterious IIA marker.

The Abolition of Slavery in the Netherlands Territories 1863

by Franklin Ennik

The Dutch involvement in the Atlantic slave trade has been said to be small compared to the other imperial European powers: England, France, Portugal and Spain. The slave trade followed a triangular route: Renaissance commodities and mail to West Africa; slaves from West Africa to the New World; sugar, cacao, coffee, tobacco, spices, salt, and lumber returned to

The January 23, 2016 meeting will be held at the home of Fred Van der Heyden starting at 1:00 pm. Fred's telephone number is (510)-282-7255. **Please note change of meeting date.**
The February 20, 2016 meeting place is yet to be determined.

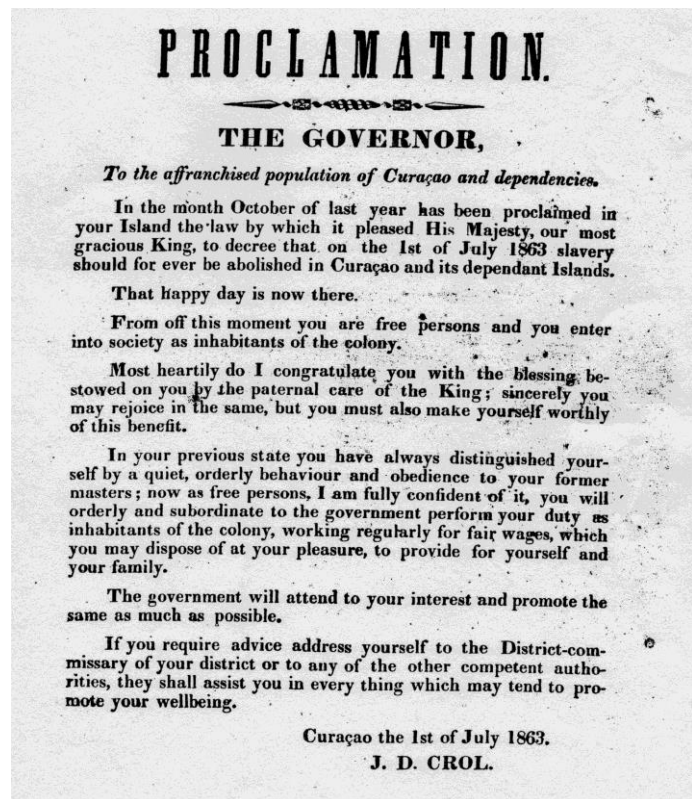
Europe. To ship captains of the period, the human cargo of slaves was considered no different than any other commodity such as sugar, rum, tobacco, or coffee, etc.

In total, it is estimated that 12 million Africans were transported to the New World via 36,000 ship voyages from the 16th to the 19th century. At first, the numbers of slaves transported to the New World, beginning in the 16th century was small, but as the number of plantations increased so did the need for more slave labor. By the mid-nineteenth century there were an estimated 35,000 slaves in Suriname and an estimated 12,000 in the Dutch Antilles. Thousands more were bought by the Spanish, Portuguese, English, French, Danes and Americans.

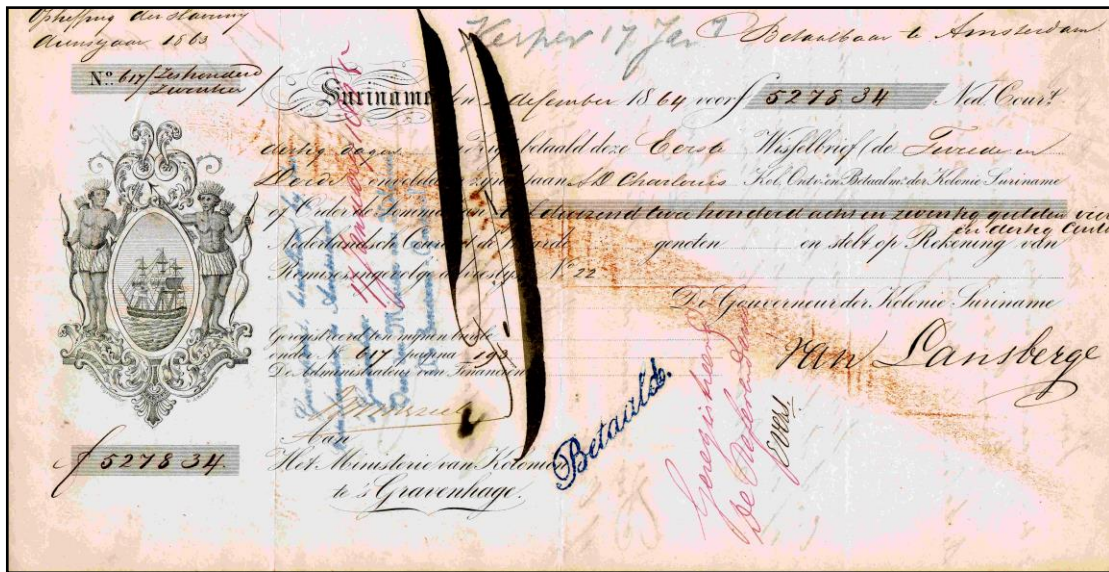
Rebellion amongst slaves in the Dutch territories began in earnest in 1795 and escapes were common. Whole towns made up of escaped slaves and others sprang up in the adjacent tropical wilderness areas of Suriname and the Guianas. This was a mix of races and ethnic groups, including Africans, Maroons, Whites, Native Indians, etc. Rebellion amongst slaves on Caribbean island plantations also occurred, but these events were often short lived because escapees had no place to hide.

Starting in 1803, Imperial European governments began to outlaw or abolish slavery and its transport on the high seas. The abolition movement in England managed to speed up sentiment against slavery and passed laws in 1807. Treaty arrangements with other European countries helped to move the process forward. Willem I signed the treaty on behalf of the Netherlands in 1814. But the final abolition against slavery still had a long way to go: Denmark in 1803, Britain in 1834, France in 1848, Netherlands in 1863, the United States in 1865 (after a civil war), Portugal in 1869, Spain in 1886 and Brazil in 1888.

In the Netherlands, the Dutch Crown, after much discussion, finally issued Proclamation No. 26, **shown at right**; dated July 1, 1863 that ended 200 years of slave trade and slavery was abolished in the Dutch Antilles, Suriname and Indonesia. This English language broadside is a poorly translated version of the original proclamation issued by the Dutch Crown.



When the Proclamation was delivered to Willem III for his signature, he replied, "Can't Parliament take some time off when I'm away? Right now I'm being bothered at my holiday home in Wiesbaden (Germany) to sign an Act!!"



The Dutch Government allocated twelve million guilders and paid slave owners up to 300 guilders for each freed slave to compensate for the loss of property but slaves received no monetary benefit. This example of a slavery check (=slavernij kwitantie), number 617 made out to a Suriname plantation slave owner, is in the amount of fl. 5278.34.

It was not so easy for some freed men and women; in Suriname freed slaves were required by the terms of emancipation to continue working for their former masters for another ten years until 1873. Former male slaves usually continued to work for a meager wage on the plantations because of the nature of the hard work but many females exited to the larger cities to find work as nannies, maids, cooks, etc.

After emancipation, European plantation owners still needed a steady work force and imported low-paid workers from other countries and their other colonies, including Indonesia, South Africa, India, China, etc., to make up for their loss of workers. There is now a sizeable representation of each of these ethnic groups in the Suriname population.

In 1938 the Suriname Postal Authority issued a set of four stamps commemorating the 75th anniversary of the emancipation of slaves. In 1963 they issued a two stamp set commemorating 100 years



of freedom. Every year, the citizens of Suriname and the Dutch West Indies celebrate the First of July as **KETI-KOTI**, from the Sranantongo native language meaning “the chains are cut.” This national holiday is now called **De Dag Van De Vrijheden in Suriname**.

Shown below is a cinderella (sluitzegel) celebrating 50 years freedom from slavery in Suriname.

I acknowledge with thanks the use of and assistance in finding these illustrations from the collections of Hans Kremer and HansPaul Hager.

References:

- Internet website: Nationale Bibliotheek van Nederland. *Afschaffing Slavernij*.
- Internet website: Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek. <http://www.cbs.nl/nl-NL/menu/themas/dossiers>
- Internet website: Noord-Hollands archief. *Vrijgemaakte slaven 1863*.
- Internet websites: Numerous sites with the search words: *Vrij van slavernij 1863*.



EXP(iditie) RAADHUIS/AMSTERDAM cancel (1920s).

By Hans Kremer



On Ebay I noticed an unusual "Typenrader" cancel. It was a purple EXP. RAADHUIS/AMSTERDAM cancel dated 25.X23 VM.

I went to the impressive *Ned. Academie voor Filatelie* website (<http://poststempels.nedaacademievoorfilatelie.nl/index.php>) where all PTT issued typenrader cancels (and many other types) are listed and illustrated. I could not find the **Exp. Raadhuis Amsterdam** cancel.



Anytime I have a question about a typenrader cancel I contact Bert van Marrewijk and as always he supplied me with the answer. It turns out that the cancel in question was used by the offices of the City of Amsterdam. It is not a PTT cancel, but a cancel applied to the mail delivered by *their own* mail

delivery services.

Instead of paying the PTT to deliver their official mail, local City mail was delivered by their own delivery services, called the **Exp.** (expeditie) **Raadhuis** (City Hall). One could compare it to the **Koerierdienst** (Courier Service) used in The Hague by some Government Departments just after WW II. However, instead of a special cancel, The Hague offices merely applied a **red K sticker** as shown on the right.

References:

- Website: *Nederlandse Academie voor Filatelie*
- Personal email correspondence with Bert van Marrewijk.

