

NETHERLANDS PHILATELISTS of CALIFORNIA (now in its 48th year)

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July-August 2017

Attending at the home of Franklin Ennik on Saturday June 17, 2017 were Dennis Buss, Franklin Ennik, Hans Kremer, Fred Van der Heyden and visitor, Rich Kirby.

AROUND THE TABLE

Fred Van der Heyden passed around a copy of the *National Anthems of the Allies* in use during WW I; a 1910 calendar illustrating the United States *Great White Naval Fleet*; and a 1945 post card mailed from the desert Manzanar Detention Facility where Americans of Japanese descent were imprisoned during WW II (1942-1945).

Franklin Ennik passed around several illustrations, found on the internet, of post cards flown during August-September 1928 on five, trial round-trip **night-flights** between Stockholm-Malmö-Hamburg / Bremen-Amsterdam-London.

Hans Kremer kindly provided the following explanation of this series. These flights were not flown on KLM planes but instead on the Swedish airline ABA S-

AAC. Mail leaving Rotterdam and Amsterdam CS included airmail, post cards and packages and was processed by a postal clerk on-board the airplane. Mail originating in the Netherlands was franked with various Netherlands stamps of the period. For these trial-flights, a mail slot was made available on the door of the plane so that people could deposit postal items at the various airports. The various mail destinations were provided with two special hand cancellers (leaving and return flights)



Third flight -- 22 August 1928. Sweden – Amsterdam--London

The **August 19th Summer meeting and picnic** will be held at the home of Dennis and Carolyn Buss starting at 1200 noon. Dennis' telephone: 707-774-6296.
The **October 21st meeting** will be hosted by Fred Van der Heyden starting at 1200 noon. Fred's telephone is 510-282-7255.

for the intended airmail office. Some pieces of mail were given only the standard departing (Dutch) city cancel.



Boxes of flowers were handed over from Queen Wilhelmina, who was visiting Abisko, Sweden, for the Swedish Royal family. As a result of these five round-trip flights, a series of ten covers/post cards were produced.

Fifth return flight--5 September 1928--London--Amsterdam--Sweden

Dennis Buss passed around a special AMPHILEX 1977 souvenir card franked with the four, Stamps on Stamps that commemorated the 1977 Amsterdam Stamp Show, an envelope franked with incorrectly used 1921 airmail stamps sent several days after they were declared invalid for such use, and some examples of 1876–1894 Bossche double perforated numeral issue used on printed matter mail. Dennis also showed a registered cover illustration franked with a 2½ guilder stamp that was legitimately used (not make-work) – the letter weight was 33 grams and was also marked with an added value of 300 Swiss francs.



Hans Kremer showed us examples of the new hand cancellations that will be issued to all auxiliary postal outlets; these new cancellers will be 33mm in diameter and will replace the former, larger (37mm) round cancels. They will all be the same except for date and postal counter location. This decision satisfies wishes of collectors and the KNBF. Hans also showed us examples of the 1943 **Breda PZV** PERFINED post card, including one without the PERFIN; and lastly an example of the small round **Amsterdam E** train cancel which indicates an EXPRESS trajectory.



PostNL handling of postage due mail in 2017.

By Hans Kremer

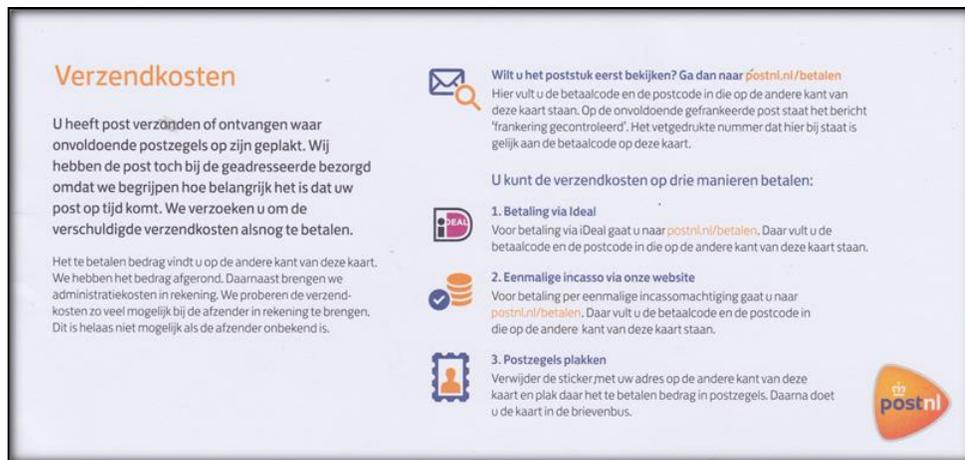
When I visited a relative in the Netherlands during the summer of 2017 I noticed a letter she had received from the Dutch postal service (PostNL). The word *herinnering* (= postage due reminder) pointed to the fact that she had received a similar letter before, which was indeed the case but she had ignored it.



Of course my philatelic curiosity made me check out what was going on.

On the left side of the cover was a note, *“Te betalen bedrag € 2,34 (3 * Postzegel)”* which meant that she had to pay € 2,34, which would be the equivalent of three current postage stamps, which are € 0.78 cent each in 2017.

At the center of cover is a diagonal note reading (translated): *“Remove this sticker if you would like to pay with stamps.”* Instead of paying with stamps there were two other options as indicated



on the back of the letter. Also on the back is a reference to a Website: postnl.nl/betalen which provides details about the postage due item.

On that Website you can type in the “Betaalcode” which is listed on the front (in this case it is Z02.170605.500424). By doing that you will be able to see a scan of the original letter that was sent to you.

It also shows how much postage was paid, and what should have been paid. In this case € 0.75 (the correct rate in 2016) and € 0.78 (the correct rate for 2017). So the letter was underpaid by only 3 cent.

The screenshot displays the PostNL website interface. On the left, under the heading "Uw poststuk", there is a list of postage details:

Portincidentnummer:	Z02.170605.500424
Lengte in cm:	21,40
Breedte in cm:	15,80
Hoogte in mm:	0,50
Gewicht in gram:	13
Frankeerwijze:	Postzegel
Frankeermachine:	
Priority:	1
Betaalde port:	€ 0,75
Benodigde port:	€ 0,78
Te betalen port:	€ 2,34
Uiteindelijk betaalde port:	€ 2,34
Verrekenpartij:	geadresseerde
Betaalstatus:	betaald
Herinnering:	Ja
Portkaart/factuurregel:	portokaart
Verzender een PostNL klant?:	Nee
Ontvanger een PostNL klant?:	Nee

Below this list, the sender and recipient information is shown:

Afzender:	Z02.170605.500424	Geadresseerde:	Z02.170605.500424
Naam:		Naam:	
Straat:		Straat:	HAZELAARLAAN
Huisnr.:		Huisnr.:	4
Postcode:		Postcode:	7313EW
Plaatsnaam:		Plaatsnaam:	APELDOORN
Land:		Land:	

In the center, a scan of the letter is shown. The scan includes a postage meter reading of 360, a postage stamp of €0.75, and the recipient's address: "Dokter A.G. Hazelaarlaan 4 7313 EW APELDOORN". A blue arrow points from the "Berg en Bos" logo at the bottom of the scan to the "Berg en Bos" text at the bottom of the page.

Berg en Bos

Why had € 2,34 to be paid. This is explained as well on the Website and how postage due is calculated.

It turns out the minimum “penalty” would be € 0,78 cent; if she had paid 1 cent or € 0.77 cent, in both cases the penalty would € 0,78 cent. Added to this is an “administrative fee” of € 1,56,

Hoe wordt het te betalen bedrag berekend?

Het bedrag bestaat uit twee delen:

1. Het tekort aan postzegels, afgerond naar de waarde van een hele postzegel (0,78 euro).
2. Administratiekosten à 1,56 euro. Dit zijn de kosten voor het drukken en versturen van de portokaart, en voor het verwerken van de betaling.

explaining the total of € 2,34. Pretty good business for PostNL I would say. First the sender had already paid € 0,75 cent and now on top they hoped to get another € 2,34 from the receiver of the letter. Since this is all handled by computer I assume their administrative costs are minimal.

You might have wondered why the receiver of the letter had to pay the penalty and not the sender.

If you look at the first letter that was sent (top of the previous page) you'll notice that all it says about the sender is "Berg en Bos", without any address. PostNL claimed that it couldn't trace the sender so they asked the receiver (my relative) to pay the penalty. Since the receiver is not the guilty party (the sender is) the € 2,34 is not enforceable, but PostNL figured it wouldn't hurt to ask.

Ironically my relative did not realize that she already had received the letter a while back. When the letter had arrived originally a note similar to the one shown in the first figure was attached. The translated PostNL form letter reads:

"You sent or received mail with insufficient postage. We did deliver the item because we know how important it is to receive your mail on time. We ask you to pay the money owed....We try as much as possible to charge the sender. Unfortunately this is not possible if the sender is not known."

My relative was nice enough to send in the postage due (even overpaid 10 cent!). If she hadn't sent in the money there would have been no further consequences.



Postage Free postcards in 1939. By Hans Kremer

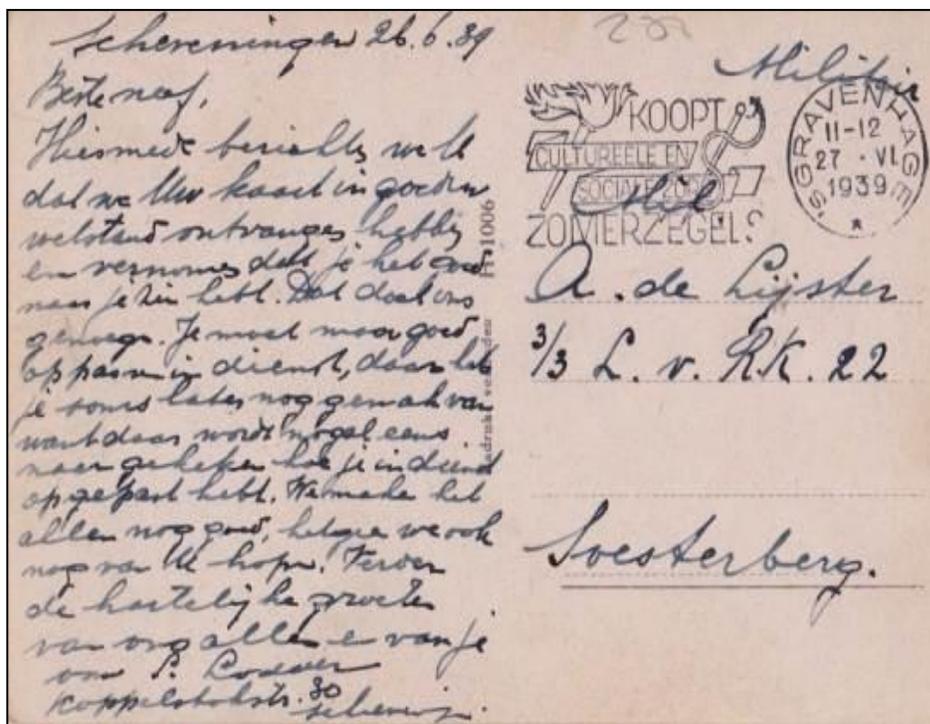
In the *Maasbode Courant* of April 15, 1939 was an official notice, which basically reads:

“Post Cards for the Military Postage Free Temporary Situation”

The Staatsblad no. 385 contains a decision of April 12, listing the items which can be transmitted postage free.

It states that as of April 12, until further notice, there will be free postage to-and-from those in military service for those below the rank of second lieutenant and those of equal rank for :

- a. postcards, with the exception of those with commercial orders or offers to trade or contain factory goods;
- b. newspapers and inserts, which meet the definition given in Article 1 of the Postal Act for these pieces, not heavier than 100 grams.”



Unfortunately a lot of people didn't read the official notice close enough so many letters and 'ansicht kaarten' (picture postcards without any written text on it) were sent without any stamps on them. The receivers of these stamp-less pieces then had to pay postage due at twice the short amount.

Postcard sent postage free June 27, 1939.
