

**NETHERLANDS PHILATELISTS
of CALIFORNIA
(now in its 49^h year)**

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November-December 2017

No meeting was held during November-December 2017, however, local members and spouses enjoyed a Year-end Holiday Luncheon at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Concord, CA. Attendees included JoAnne Miller, Els Winters, Dennis and Carolyn Buss, Franklin and Meriel Ennik, Hans and Willy Kremer, Fred Van der Heyden, and, HansPaul and Maury Hager. We were pleased that HansPaul and Maury could join us for this festive event.

Since there was no meeting or business transacted during November and December 2017, this edition of the Newsletter will contain only four pages.

A Wrong date on 1945 first-flight Amsterdam-Enschede postcards.

by Hans Kremer

I'm regularly looking at Ebay to see if there is anything that interests me. When I saw the "first-flight" postcard shown here I noticed that it had two radertype "Enschede 7" hand cancels on it. Why would there be two sharp cancels if one would have been sufficient?



Upon closer examination you'll notice that the dates in the two cancels are different. They show "18.X.-9" and "18.XI.-9" respectively. Since the 's-Gravenhage departure date shows "17 X 15" and the text on the lower left of the cover also refers to "October", one can safely say that "18.X.-9" is correct.

The **January 20, 2018 meeting** will be held at the home of Hans Kremer starting at 1200 noon. Hans' telephone number is 925 820-5841.
The (February) **March 17, 2018 meeting** will be held at the home of Franklin Ennik starting at 1200 noon. Franklin's telephone number is 925-952-9424.

What I think happened is that the person using the “Enschede 7” hand cancel when he started his work on October 18 around 9 am correctly changed the date from the 17th to the 18th but at the same time accidentally also moved the ‘month dial’ from X to XI.

Once he (or somebody else) noticed the error, the hand cancel was corrected and applied a second cancel, this time showing X instead of XI.

Since the cancel was applied to a postcard sent on the first 1945 “government mail flight” from Amsterdam to Enschede (an item which would be of philatelic interest) I thought that there probably would be more of these postcards around.

Forty five Kg. of mail was onboard this flight and since one of these



postcards weighs no more than 4 gram, at least 11,000 of these cards were sent, unless of course other mail was on board as well. Using Google I came up with two more of these “wrong date” postcards. In both cases the incorrect date of 18.XI was crossed out, which was in compliance with the postal instructions of that time. About 126 Kg. of “first flight” mail was carried on the return flight from Enschede to Amsterdam on the same day.



Since the surface transportation in the Netherlands was still recovering from the effects of WW II, the government chartered KLM planes to move the mail. This was done for only a couple of months. The B.Z.P.C. (Balloon – Zeppelin – Post- Club) paid the special, minimal postal rate on both going and returning flights and got to keep the cancelled

cards which were later sold to collectors with proceeds benefitting the B.Z.P.C. To the left is an example of the **return flight** Enschede to Amsterdam post card. Notice the card number 27,836 at the bottom.

Reference:

J. Boesman, *Uit de Geschiedenis van het Luchtpost-Vervoer*, Uitgeverij Davo, 1970

Using the PTT as a collection agency.

by Hans Kremer

When you look at the two receipts (sent to me by member HansPaul Hager with his request for comments) you'll notice that the first one (**Figure 1.**) has a small round cancel **Goor, May 9, 1884**, while the second one (**Figure 3**) shows **Goor, June 19, 1894**; ten(!) years later. The correspondents on both are the same (the Overijssel provincial offices of the Dutch Protestant church, located in Zwolle) and one of their regional churches). The invoices were for **fl. 15.25** and **fl. 15.10** respectively. The amount paid was for their share of the cost of administrating the provincial church holdings.

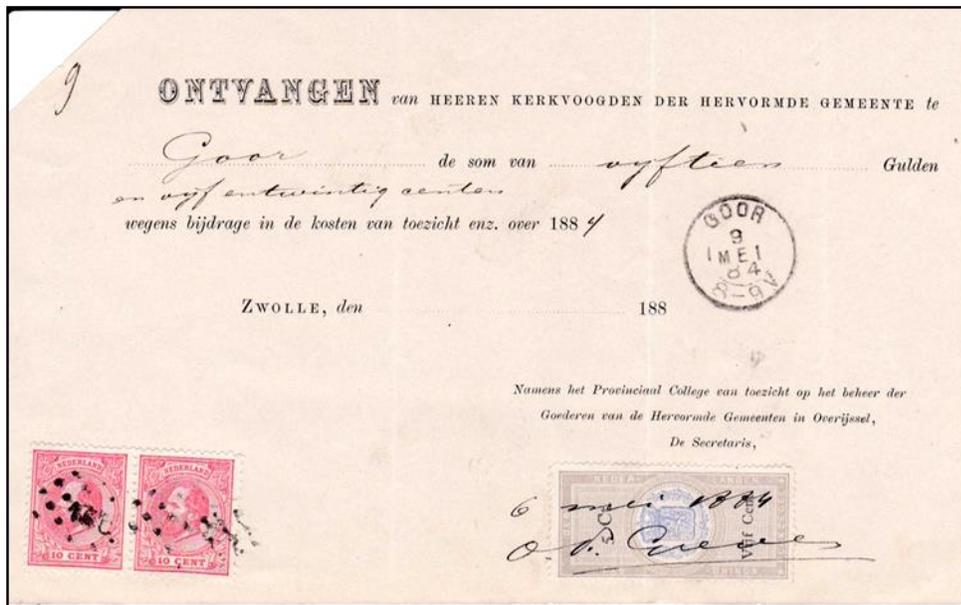


Figure 1. 1884 receipt. Note the 20 cent fee.

The stamps in this case are not used to pay for postage, but as a fee to the PTT for collecting the money due. The postal law of 1870 stipulated that for the service of collecting invoices (*kwitantien* in Dutch) the fee would be 10 cents for every **fl. 10** collected. It also mentions that the stamps paying for this service had to be canceled with a numeral cancel. This then explains the 20 cent fee (the invoice was for **fl. 15.25**) and also the "135" Zwolle numeral cancel on the 1884 invoice (**Figure 2.**)



Figure 2. Zwolle "135" numeral cancel.

What struck me as strange was the amount of 'postage stamps' on both. The 1884 invoice shows two red 10 cent stamps (20 cent total) (**Figure 2.**) while the 1894 invoice only has one 5 cent stamp on it (**Figure 5**). To see a 15 cent decrease in 'postage' is very unusual, however, it turned out to be correct.



Figure 3. 1894 receipt. 5 cent fee.

the date marker from then on. On the 1894 receipt (Figure 4.), you will notice the Zwolle small round cancel. Although, according to the PTT guidelines, the stamps had to be attached to the top left corner this was hardly ever enforced. Receipts as the ones shown here did not even have room for stamps on the top left corner.



Figure 4 Zwolle Smallround June 18, 1894

References:

Jans, H. J.W.M., *De Poststempels van Nederland, Nederlandse Puntstempels*. 1 april 1869 – 14 juni 1893, PO&PO, 2016
 Noviomagus.nl

The 10 cent per 10 guilder fee stayed into effect until April 1, 1892 when the rate was lowered dramatically. From that day on, until June 15, 1896 there would be a flat fee of 5 cents per invoice (Figure 3.).

Also, the requirement of using the numeral cancel was replaced by the requirement to use

the date marker from then on. On the 1894 receipt (Figure 4.), you will notice the Zwolle small round

cancel. Although, according to the PTT guidelines, the

stamps had to be attached to the top left corner this was hardly ever

enforced. Receipts as the ones shown here did not even have room for

stamps on the top left corner.

You might also have noticed the fiscal stamps (5 cent each) on the receipts (Figure 5.). This too was a mandatory fee (in Dutch referred to as 'zegelrecht'). It had to be paid if the amount due was more than fl. 10, which was the case here.

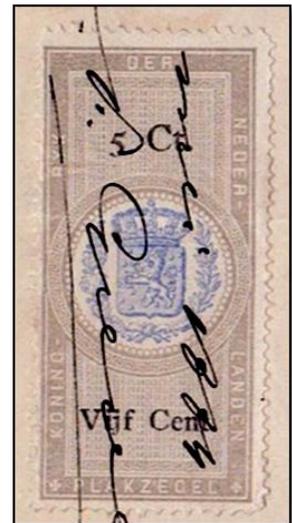


Figure 5. 5 cent fiscal stamps 1884 (top) and 1894 (bottom).

