

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

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May-June 2017

Attending at the WESTPEX Stamp Show on Friday, April 28, 2017 were Dennis Buss, Franklin Ennik, Arno Kolster, Hans Kremer, Jan Verster, Fred Van der Heyden and visitor, Doug Vanderlee.

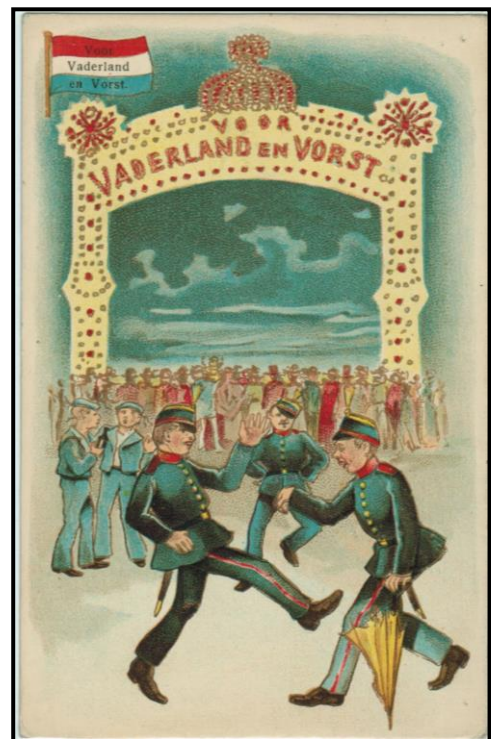
Dennis Buss gave an interesting power-point presentation on the life and art of *Chris Lebeau: Dutch Stamp designer*. Chris Lebeau (1878 -1945) was well known for his portrait paintings, art novae batiks, and graphic designs of postage stamps, posters and commercial artwork.

AROUND THE TABLE

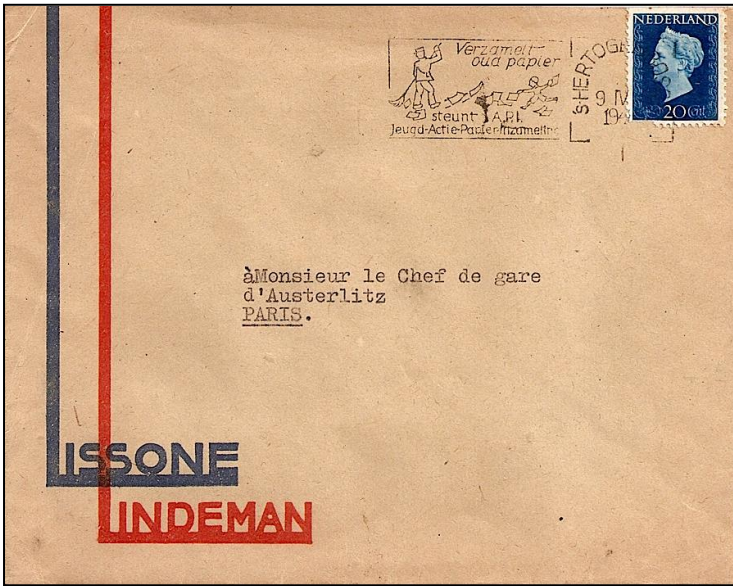
Fred Van der Heyden passed around several large post card sized illustrations of provincial *klederdrachten* (traditional Dutch costumes), a post card showing the route of the periodic winter-season *Friesche elf steden* (ice skating competition on the canal system connecting eleven-cities in Friesland), a copy of a letter sent from the Netherlands to President Hoover, a vintage post card sent from the Hotel de Bilderberg in Oosterbeek (Gld..) to Curaçao, a cover sent from Metro-Golden-Meyer Hollywood Studios to DEI, and an 1898 patriotic post card celebrating *Voor Vaderland en Vorst* (Dutch nationalistic love of country and royalty =king/queen).

Hans Kremer passed around a ca 1890, *visitekaartje* (small-sized) mourning-card cover with a **wide**, black border and a copy of the commemorative KLM history book, *50 Years of KLM, 1919 - 1969*.

Jan Verster passed around an example of a *Plikart*, a popular folding post card used by European secretaries during the 1930s-1940s that promoted time efficiency of contacting business clients.



The **June 17th meeting** will be held at the home of Franklin Ennik, starting at 1200 noon. Frank's telephone: 925-952-9424.
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 cover shown here was sent in April 1948 from's Hertogenbosch to Paris. It was canceled with an advertising cancel with the (translated) text:

Collect used paper; support J.A.P.I (Youth Action Paper Collecting)



Schooljeugd verzamelt oud papier

Onder de pakkende initialen J.A.P.I. is op 1 November een van de Minister van onderwijs uitgaande actie begonnen om met behulp van de jeugd oud papier in te zamelen en aldus de nog steeds nijpende paperschaarste te helpen bestrijden. J.A.P.I. betekent Jeugd-actie papier-inzameling en als de actie populair wordt, zal ieder haar wel Japi gaan noemen. De praktische uitvoering berust bij de Ondervakgroepen. „Opkopers van oude materialen en afvalstoffen” en „Groothandel in oud papier”. Aan de scholen, die gemiddeld per leerling over de periode November 1947 t.m. April 1948 het meeste papier hebben ingezameld, worden premies uitgekeerd, die voor schoolreisjes, uitbreiding van de schoolbibliotheek of feestjes kunnen worden gebruikt. Ook worden boeken en tijdschrift-abonnementen als prijzen uitgelooft.

De kinderen moeten dus thuis en bij de bureaus en kennissen om oud papier vragen en dit mee naar school brengen, waar het hoofd er een plaats voor aanwijst. Vuil en vet papier en asfaltpapier zijn waardeloos.

Wij willen deze actie gaarne steunen, ook al omdat onze tijdschriften van de paperschaarste nog steeds te lijden hebben!

I went back thru 1947 and 1948 Dutch publications (www.delpher.nl) to see what was written about this.

The oldest publication was “De Kampioen” of November 1947. Under the heading ‘Schoolkids collect used paper’ it says “On November 1, 1947, at the recommendation of the Ministry of Education, the youth is asked to collect used paper to combat the still existing severe shortage of paper. The action has the name J.A.P.I (Jeugd Actie Papier Inzameling). If successful it undoubtedly will be called Japi from then on. (Japi is also a Dutch boy’s name (HK)). The implementation rests with the organizations “Buyers of old materials and waste matter’ and ‘Wholesalers of used paper”. Schools (average per student) collecting the most paper between November 1, 1947 and May 1, 1948 will win prizes such as school trips, expansions of

libraries, school parties, magazines and books. The kids have to ask their families and neighbors for used paper and then bring it to school where the principal will set aside a spot to store the paper. Dirty and greasy paper as well as asphalt paper is worthless. We wholeheartedly support this action, because we are encountering a paper shortage for our own magazine.”

Jeugd verzamelde 1.500.000 k.g. papier

's GRAVENHAGE, 9 Febr. — Door de Jeugd Actie Papier Inzameling werd in de maanden November en December 1947 ca. 1.500.000 Kg. oud papier bij elkaar gebracht. Berekend tegen de prijs, welke bij import van oud papier betaald zou moeten worden, vertegenwoordigt deze hoeveelheid een bedrag van ca. f 255.000,—. ten-Commissie.

The first report about the success of this used paper collection I read in a 's-Gravenhage 'newspaper of February 8, 1948. It mentioned that already about 1,500,000 Kgs. (3.3 million pounds) of used paper had been collected, which represented a value of about fl 255,000 (around \$ 100,000 then).



Since the action was considered a great success the advertising slogan shown on the previous page was handed out in April 1948 to about 30 of the largest Dutch post offices, hoping for a successful repeat of the action, to be started again on October 1, 1948.

Unfortunately over the summer the price of used paper dropped by 50% and the used paper dealers were stuck with a large inventory of used paper. In October 1948 the newspapers announced that the J.A.P.I collection of old paper would not be repeated.

1921 Batavia Noodport (Temporary postage due) markers

by Hans Kremer

The 1921 Dutch East Indies cover shown here got my attention because of the red "POST - KANTOOR BATAVIA/ De Kantoorchef" ("TE BETALEN 2½ CENT PORT") (=postage due 2½ cent) marker on it. The under-franked ("ONTOEREIKEND") printed matter cover was sent July 25, 1921 from Batavia to Weltevreden. It was franked with overprinted stamps of ½ and 1 cent, totaling 1½ cent .



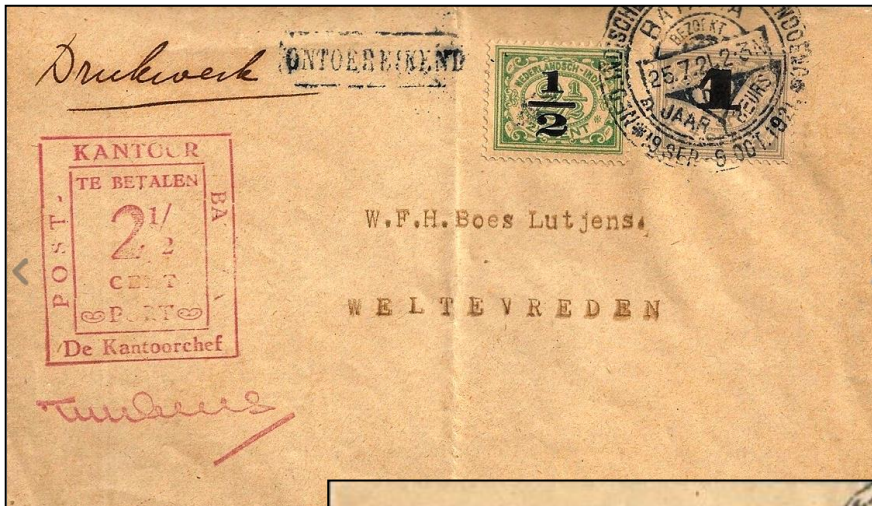
Printed Matter envelope sent July 25, 1921 from Batavia to Weltevreden.

P.R. Bulterman (also other sources) writes: *In January 1921 a postal increase (starting February 1921) was announced. The basic rate for printed matter was upped from 1 to 2½ cent, postal cards from 5 to 7½ cent, and letters from 10 to 12½ cent.*

During February 1921 no postage due 'penalty' (which would amount to double the short franking amount) would be charged, but just the short amount, with a minimum of 2½ cent. This quickly caused a shortage of 2½ cent postage due stamps at various post offices (Bulterman lists 12 such post offices). This then was the reason for the introduction of these temporary postage due markers. The various post offices handled it their own way, with the Batavia post office coming up with the marker shown here.

Although, by the end of March 1921, there were sufficient postage due stamps available the Batavia post office kept using the red marker. Collectors caught on and created postal items purposely under-franked to receive these new markers but they should be considered '**maakwerk**' (made to order).

After a bit of digging I found two more covers like the first one, both addressed to the same person (W.F.H. Boes Lutjens) and on the same day. Interestingly enough the 1929 article by P.C. Korteweg specifically mentions these letters sent to W.F.H. Boes Lutjens. What is already suspicious about these letters is that they have the Batavia Postage Due marker on it while they were sent to Weltevreden. Usually postage due is applied at the **receiving** post office (Weltevreden in this case) not at the sending post office (which was Batavia). This is one more reason to consider these covers as being 'maakwerk'.



The Batavia post office must have held the marker back for a while after March 1921 only for it to be used again in July 1921 as shown on the previous page." Please notice the red imprints of the postmaster's signature.

It was applied separate from the marker itself.

Notice that both items were sent July 25, 1921



Due to the amount of New Year's mail in January 1922, some of these markers were used again, but why one had to pay just the missing amount and not the double postage due amount in this case was not clear.

Another Batavia find on eBay is a letter sent January 1923 (!). It has a different handwritten signature than the 1921 examples. Probably a new 'kantoorchef' (=postmaster) was on board.



A cover sent January 31, 1923 (!). Notice different Postmaster signature.

References:

P.R. Bulterman, *Poststempels Nederlands-Indië, 1864-1950*, Uitgeverij Davo Deventer, 1981
 P.C. Korteweg. De Noodporten van 1921 en 1922 van Nederl.-Indië, *De Philatelist*, July 1929
 N.V.P.H *Speciale Catalogus*. Ned.Indië Noodportstempels (NP).
 A. Arthur Schiller and Johannes De Kruyf. *Manual of the Stamps of Netherlands, Netherlands Indies, Curaçao and Surinam..* New York, May 1940 page 194.

The Land of Bartje

by Franklin Ennik

In 1935, Dutch author Anne de Vries (born in Assen (Dr.)) published a children's book that would become a popular iconic symbol in the Netherlands, especially in the provinces of Friesland and Drenthe. The book was soon translated into German, Swedish, Finnish, Danish, Norwegian, Czech and Hungarian.

This coming of age story takes place in the province of Drenthe about a young boy growing up in a poor working class family. His parents expect Bartje to follow in his fathers' profession as a farmer but Bartje has other ideas. The early death of his



mother causes him to have to look after his brothers and sisters. Author De Vries clearly describes the lightheartedness attitude of Bartje in spite of the poverty and troubles of the working class, as well as, the usual mischief that young Bartje seems to fall into. In this poor farm family brown beans are often served at mealtime which Bartje firmly dislikes. But Bartje provides the classic response during prayer time: “*Ik bid nie veur Brune bonen*” (**I don’t pray for brown beans**).

In 1954, sculptor Boschma Suze Berkhout produced a stone image of Bartje that was placed in the garden of the old town hall in Assen (shown here). This attracted the attention of pranksters who would kidnap/abduct the figure, eventually damaging it. This stone version was then repaired and moved to the Assen City Hall. The figure was replaced by a bronze copy which fared no better with pranksters repeatedly abducting or kidnapping the structure (*sans* clogs) and leaving it in a conspicuous public place. Finally, the figure was situated in a more secure location.



Nearly every year the figure of Bartje is honored with a birthday celebration(=*feest*) in Assen on the first Saturday in September. Contrary to normal practice, Bartje celebrates every year his twelves’ birthday. This feest is free for all children under the age of 13, with all kinds of fun activities and food. In many households in Drenthe there are displayed these iconic pictures or miniaturized figures of Bartje.

In 1972, a television drama series was crafted by Willy van Hemert with stories centered on the character of Bartje. A series of seven episodes was produced with Dutch subtitles. The cast was played by native Friesian language speaking actors and it was very popular with the Dutch public.

A family park, **Landal Het Land van Bartje**, (=Village Bartje) was constructed nearby in Rolde, some five kilometers from Assen, where families can enjoy in an open-air-museum atmosphere various historical and archeological exhibits of the Rolde and Drenthe region, the farm life of the period described in the story and the many literary achievements of author Anne de Vries.

In 2009 the PostNL issued a five-stamp souvenir block (NVPH nr. 2637) in the popular *Mooi Nederland* series that features the City of Assen. The 44 cent euro stamp shows the figurine of Bartje, his classic remark, spot announcements for the Annual T.T. Motorcycle races held in Assen, and the children’s traffic education park in Appelscha.



Information Sources:

Internet website: <https://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bartje/>

Internet website: <http://www.dorpvantbartje.nl/>

Internet website: www.regiocanons.nl/drenthe/drenthe-po/ik-bid-nie-veur-brune-bonen/