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FROM THE EDITOR

THIS second issue of our journal may be an improvement on the first one, but in one respect it is far from what we were planning, namely that every issue would have articles devoted to as many areas as possible. Apart from two items, this issue is mainly concerned with the Netherlands. You will look in vain for anything on Surinam or the Netherlands Antilles. We hope that you will understand that at this early stage we just don't have a whole pile of manuscripts that we can pick from.

So be it. Actually, since almost all of us collect the Netherlands, it won't be too bad, I hope. And, for another thing, this issue opens with an article, very specialized for sure, by our member of the Board of Governors, Dr. Fred L. Reed, and I don't have to tell you what this means. We also have a new feature, which we hope will become permanent: That is the "Comments and Communications" section which means that any time any reader has a comment on some published material, we hope that he or she will let us know. In this case, our Vice President provided some clarification on the article on the two types of phosphorescence which appeared in the September issue. We also have two translated articles which appeared in the *Maandblad* in May and October 1975. We do thank the Editor of the *Maandblad* for his kind permission to reproduce these two articles in translation so that non-Dutch reading collectors in the U.S. and Canada will be able to stay up-to-date on the latest findings. It is our intention in the future to republish other worthwhile articles in translation too, perhaps even some that have appeared quite a long time ago, but are still valid. We also thank Jan Dekker of the BDC for his translations.

One article - by your editor - needs some explanation. It is concerned with the question of the NVPH Special Catalog. If a member disagrees with this article, I hope he will comment!

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A Study Dealing with the Watermarks of the 1852 Issue of the Netherlands

The paper for the first issue of the Netherlands was manufactured by Erven D. Blaauw in Wormerveer. It was handmade and exists in a variety of textures, thickness and hardness in various combinations. The difference between thick and thin paper is recognized by handbooks and catalogs for the 5 Cent Plate I and the 10 Cent Plate X, but is often quite difficult to classify. I have seen variations from thin soft paper to cardboard thickness on other plates.

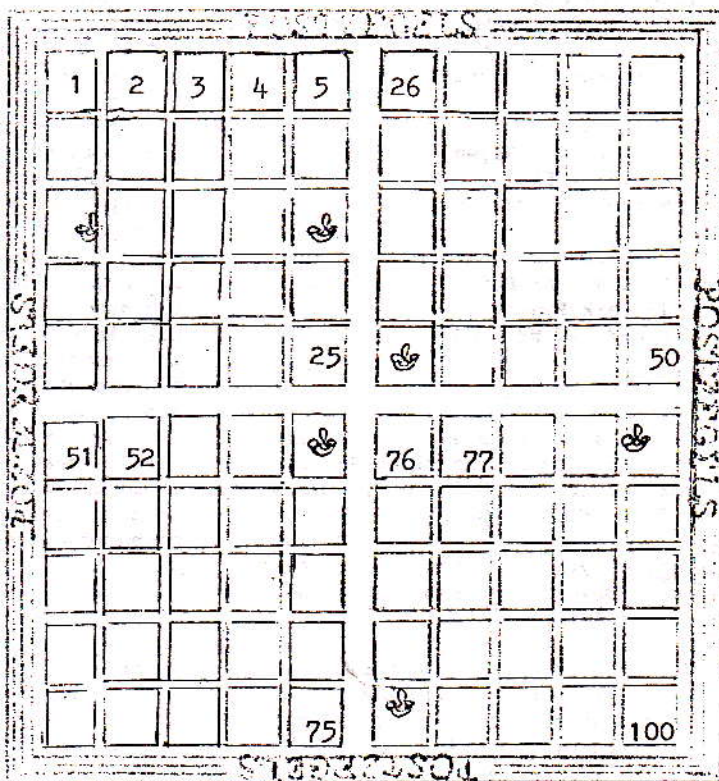
The stamps were printed from engraved steel plates in sheets of 100, subdivided into four panes of 25 by a horizontal and vertical gutter of 10 mm width. The watermark consists of 100 posthorns, one to each stamp, with the mouthpiece to the right as viewed from the front of the stamp. In addition, the sheets are framed by four parallel lines. The two inner lines are interrupted in the center of all four sides to allow for large serified capitals forming the word POSTZEGELS. Inverted or reversed watermarks are not known on stamps; a reversed watermark exists on a proof of the 10 Cent Plate I (No. 7 in Van Dieten's *Proevenboek*).

The individual bits for the posthorns were soldered onto a frame. They were handmade, probably from silver wire, and are theoretically all different from each other. This was in practice utilized by the early platers as an aid in plate reconstruction and has been revitalized lately by Dr. van Balen Blanken, affectionately referred to as BB from here on. After successful completion of his monumental work on the reconstruction of the 17 plates of the 1852 issue (the last three volumes are in print at present), BB is trying to number the 50-odd copies of the 10 Cent Plate I-A accessible to him. In the absence of multiples -- only one strip of three is known (Van Dieten auction of November 24-27, 1975, No. 1172, with color photo and black and white)-- and with so little material at his disposal (less than 100 have been found until now), BB is resorting to the differences in the shapes of the watermarks. In the course of his research he has found that at least three different frames of watermarks have been used for the manufacture of the paper. Although this has considerably added to the trials and tribulations of his efforts, BB has been able, according to his last letter, to place 15 copies of Plate I-A into their proper positions, a very impressive accomplishment.

During my plating research my interest in the watermarks was aroused less from the aspect of their minute differences as from the arrangement and spacing in the sheet. This study which at its inception seemed like a rather dull charting and registration procedure turned out to produce some interesting results.

Research like this is limited by the amount of available material and the fallacies inherent in observation and measuring, in this case the thickness of the measuring device and the outlines of the objects to be measured. Optical phenomena like parallax have to be taken into account and the calculations are aggravated by differences in the sizes of not only the watermarks but also the stamps. Therefore, some critical reservation in evaluating the results is indicated.

For my studies I have been using two reproductions of the wmk paper in actual size. One, which I shall label "I," is white with the posthorns in black, possibly a photographic reproduction of a sheet of paper. The second, labeled "II," is



Drawing in $\frac{1}{4}$ original size showing the numbering and location of the watermarks in positions 11, 15, 46, 55, 80 and 96, conforming to our premise

Abbreviations used in this article:

BB	= Dr. van Balen Blanken	x dev.	= horizontal deviation
wmk	= watermark	y dev.	= vertical deviation
Q	= quadrant	15 E	= 15 Cent early printing up to 1856
pos.	= position	15 i	= 15 Cent intermediate printing to 1860
Q 1	= pos. 1 - 25	15 L	= 15 Cent late printing framed FRANCO cancel
Q 2	= pos. 26 - 50	mm	= millimeter
Q 3	= pos. 51 - 75	ca	= approximately, about
Q 4	= pos. 76 - 100	10 VII: 36	= 10 Cent Plate VII, pos. 36
hor.	= horizontal		
vert.	= vertical		
5 I	= 5Cent Plate I		

I = my white photographic (?) reproduction of the wmk paper
II = my black (photostat) (?) reproduction of another frame of the wmk paper
B = BB's photo in reduced size of my type II watermark paper
"frames" refers to watermark frames on which the paper was made

black with the wmk in white and may be a kind of direct photocopy (photostat) of the sheet of paper. A Complete sheet of Moesman reprints in grey, unfortunately in poor condition, enabled me to make the measurements.

I am indebted to BB and Bert Buurman for sending me three photos of wmk paper made from three different frames, which they have identified until now. Unfortunately these photos are ca 90% actual size and unavoidable photographic distortions are causing me problems.* The BB photos are labeled B, C and D and are distinctly different from each other. My I and II are also different from each other; however, II is positively from the same wmk frame as BB's photo B as documented, among other criteria by a blob 2 mm to the right and slightly above the mouthpiece of the posthorn in pos. 100, which BB believes was caused by a hole in the frame. I am rather of the opinion that it was caused by an accidental particle on the frame, like a speck of solder, as it shows up like the wmk as a thinning of the paper. However, B and II are not taken from the same sheet of wmk paper because II shows a heavy crease through the horizontal gutter which is not present on B. My reproduction I is again different from the three others.

The average size of the stamps is 18 x 20 mm. While the width seems to be rather uniform, 18 mm, there are variations in height from 19-3/4 to 20 1/2 mm which can occur even in two copies of the same plate and plate position. This phenomenon can be explained by the fact that the paper was moistened for the printing process with resulting shrinkage or expansion. Also the chemical influence of alum which was added to the wetting agent and later that of the gum may have played a part. Then, shifting of the paper during the printing process may produce a larger image (erroneously referred to as double print). Surprisingly enough, I observed the least variations in stamp size on 5 VI and 10 X, both kind of papers.

The size of the wmk is: width $11 + \frac{1}{2}$ mm; height $10 + \frac{1}{4}$ mm. There may be variations not yet known. I have found two striking variations: a 5 VI: 36 thin paper where the wmk measured 12 x 10 mm, and a 10 IV:1 with a wmk measuring 13 x 9 mm and the opening of the posthorn having a long diameter of 6 1/2 mm. (The stamp was sent to BB for verification.)

To determine and register the position of the wmk on a stamp I have arbitrarily taken the crossing of the loop of the posthorn as the center of the wmk. In reality it is in most instances slightly below and to the left. The center of the stamp is horizontally in line with the upper lip of the king's head and vertically with the front of the sideburns. I have applied the coordinate system for measuring the horizontal deviation of the wmk in + x and the vertical deviation in + y, the added numbers representing millimeters (mm). A well-centered wmk will be 5 mm away from top and bottom framelines and 4 mm from right and left framelines: x 0, y 0. The distance between two identical points on two stamps in rows separated by the gutter is horizontally 28 mm and vertically 30 mm with slight differences due to irregular alignment. By comparison the median distances between identical points on the wmk's are for the same rows:

**I have tried to compare B and II by detailed measurements and adding 12% to the readings on B. Significant differences in the results indicate that either one or both are distorted and I have been unable to find a formula to reconcile the discrepancies. I have asked BB to compare the measurements of II with those of the actual sheet of paper. His reply will tell whether II is a photo or a true photostat.*

Code of wmk paper	II (B)	C*	D*	I
horizontal	27	27	25½	27
Vertical	29	29	30	29

*converted by adding 12% to the actual measurements; all figures in mm

Using my Moesman sheet and reproductions of wmk papers I and II the hor. distance between the mouthpiece of wmk pos. 1 and the opening of the posthorn of wmk pos. 30 is 170 mm. On the stamps the hor. distance from the right frameline of pos. 1 to the left frameline of pos. 30 is 172 mm. This means that the wmk frame is too narrow for the sheet of stamps and even with the utmost care in the placing of the sheet of paper in the printing press the wmk must move out of the center of the stamp towards the center of the sheet, either in the extreme right or left row.

Vertically the distance from the bottom of wmk pos. 1 to the top of the loop pos. 71 is 193 mm. Corresponding measurement from the bottom frame line of pos. 1 to the top frameline of pos. 71 on the Moesman sheet is also 193 mm, which is sufficient to keep the wmk confined to the inside of the stamp design with reasonable paper adaptation. However, there will also be a tendency to contraction of the wmk towards the center of the sheet. This contraction applies to all three different frames known to BB and also to my "I." It implies that the more to the left the wmk is on a stamp, the more to the right this stamp is likely to be found on the plate and vice versa; also -- but not quite so applicable -- the higher the wmk in the stamp, the lower this stamp is likely to be located in the sheet, and vice versa. For the purpose of comparison in this study we shall arbitrarily assume that this premise is valid.

Figure 1 shows a schematically drawn outline of a block of 12 with the wmk drawn in as they appear actually spaced on II. The coordinate readings are:

pos. 25	1	0
pos. 46	-2	0
pos. 47	-3	0
pos. 48	-4	0
pos. 49	-5	0
pos. 50	-6	-2
pos. 55	1	2
pos. 76	-1	0
pos. 77	-3	0
pos. 78	-4	0
pos. 79	-5	-1
pos. 80	-6	-2

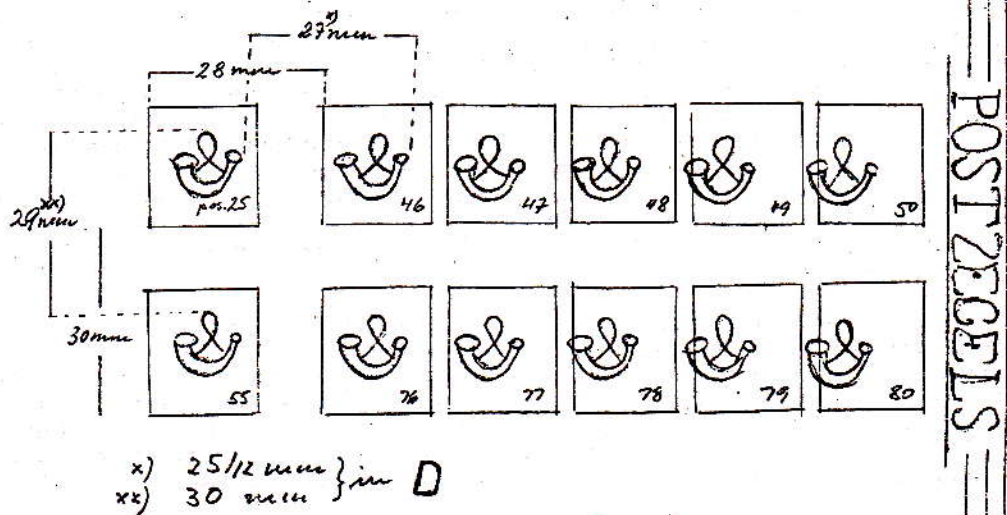


Figure 1

The y spacing in pos. 25 and 55 shows the wmk contraction towards the center. The block of 10 on the right side of the sheet shows the y spacing as it would appear from wmk paper D which, incidentally, is the only one which in the gutter area shows considerably more x contraction but normal y spacing compared to the others. The overall measurements not reproduced here are comparable with the three others. The one gutter pair which I have measured: 5 V: 25/55 has the y spacing of D.

I have measured and recorded 4,680 stamps by plates and positions of the three values, thin and thick paper of the 5 VI and 10 X, and early (to about 1856), intermediate (ca 1857-1860), and late (framed FRANCO postmarks mainly) printings of the 15 Cent. It is understood that all measured stamps had their plate positions correctly identified. At least one copy of each of the 1700 plate positions was recorded up to a maximum of 12 copies for one stamp (5 III: 18).

Table 1

Plate	I		II		III		IV		V		VI		VI*
	5c	10c	5c	10c	5c	10c	5c	10c	5c	10c	5c	10c	5c
Q 1	72	68	48	54	141	75	68	95	54	99	31	54	49
Q 2	70	61	53	67	130	60	72	76	73	106	31	45	41
Q 3	75	72	64	61	135	73	75	64	41	122	22	54	41
Q 4	81	58	58	53	140	75	79	66	57	98	22	53	39
	298	259	223	235	546	283	294	301	225	425	106	206	170

Table 1 (continued)

10 Cent Plate	VII	VIII	IX	X	X*	15 Cent		
						early	interm.	late
Q 1	40	29	36	36	23	58	39	17
Q 2	40	30	30	34	26	59	30	15
Q 3	40	36	38	38	29	52	32	25
Q 4	40	36	40	36	25	47	32	21
	160	131	144	144	103	216	133	78

*on thin paper.

It is not feasible to reproduce here the 4,680 x and y readings for 1,862 5 Cent, 2,391 10 Cent, and 427 15 Cent stamps measured. However, in Table 2 the results are computed after eliminating all neutral coordinate readings (0, + 1). The number of stamps conforming to our arbitrary premise is recorded in column A; the number deviating from that premise is recorded in column B. To arrive at the number of eliminated neutral readings the reader can deduct the number of tabulated stamps (Table 2) from the total number of measured stamps (Table 1).

Table 2

Plate	5 Cent												15 Cent										
	I		II		III		IV		V		VI		VI*		early		interm.		late				
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B			
X	Q 1	45	1	30	2	101	4	53	2	40	0	25	0	41	0	47	0	26	2	16	0		
	Q 2	42	2	35	2	75	10	48	2	52	1	21	0	27	1	25	13	25	2	10	0		
	Q 3	38	1	32	1	106	1	55	1	31	1	17	0	32	1	42	3	21	0	19	2		
	Q 4	48	2	40	2	85	13	49	4	37	3	16	1	19	6	28	9	26	2	14	1		
y	Q 1	46	4	11	23	62	46	14	31	6	35	16	8	12	20	43	2	29	0	9	2		
	Q 2	42	7	11	21	43	33	16	27	10	29	17	13	14	8	38	2	28	0	2	3		
	Q 3	4	26	36	4	72	24	54	4	26	1	11	1	32	3	4	37	0	20	6	6		
	Q 4	9	41	35	4	49	42	41	6	29	2	7	3	18	5	1	35	2	25	7	3		
Plate	10 Cent																						
	I		II		III		IV		V		VI		VII		VIII		IX		X		X*		
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	
X	Q 1	54	2	32	5	65	0	71	2	78	3	49	0	30	0	22	0	26	0	27	0	20	0
	Q 2	42	6	45	1	25	6	47	3	73	1	30	8	26	1	23	1	23	1	22	2	18	3
	Q 3	50	0	42	1	55	4	52	0	110	0	47	0	31	0	26	0	30	0	39	0	27	0
	Q 4	34	4	33	3	31	10	39	2	63	10	29	5	23	4	20	2	30	2	11	4	20	2
y	Q 1	41	11	11	33	67	0	46	34	30	54	43	4	8	30	6	14	3	23	4	22	5	14
	Q 2	42	9	6	46	52	0	40	18	42	36	48	2	5	20	10	14	7	17	3	21	8	12
	Q 3	11	41	48	2	2	60	29	10	76	20	6	25	30	1	23	2	36	0	31	0	24	1
	Q 4	13	24	29	6	1	60	22	21	45	14	4	34	27	0	20	4	29	0	21	2	24	0

*on thin paper.

Before evaluating the figures in Table 2 I once again remind the reader of the limitations in the available material which may cause distortions in some results, especially those with few readings. It is important to visualize that deviation from our premise as recorded in column B means generally move of the wmk away from the center of the sheet and permitting it more freedom within the design of the stamp. It means an improvement of the contracting defects in our four known frames.

For better comparison the pertinent readings are translated into percentages. For example: For 10 VI the figures for x in Q 2, 4 read 30 8 29 5 which add up to 72. The B figures for these x readings are 8 and 5 which add up to 13, which is 18% of 72.

Analysis of the figures in Table 2 shows that there are few x deviations of significance and they are all confined to the right half of the sheet, Q 2, 4. Also, they are all interrelated to the y deviations in the lower half of the sheet, Q 3, 4.

Plate I III VI
5 C 12.5%

10 Cent	11.5%	22%	18%
15 Cent early	30%		

The y deviations are much more drastic and plentiful, and the patterns allow for different ways of grouping. I am publishing here the grouping which seems to me the most simple and practical. I am fully aware that many subdivisions or different groupings can be made, and I have tried them.

Table 3

Group 1	x dev. Q 2,4	y dev.		Group 2	x dev. Q 2,4	y dev.	
		Q 1,2	Q 3,4			Q 1,2	Q 3,4
5 I	(4%)	11%	84%	5 II		66%	10%
10 I	11.5%	19%	72%	5 IV		66%	9.5%
10 III	22%	0	85%	5 V		80%	5%
10 VI	18%	6%	85%	5 VI*		52%	14%
15 E	30%	5%	92%	10 II		80%	9%
15 i	(7%)	0	96%	10 VIII		64%	12%
Group 3				Group 2a			
5 III	13%	43%	35%	10 VII		79%	1%
10 IV	5.4%	38%	29%	10 IX		80%	0
10 V	7%	60%	22%	10 X		86%	3%
Group 4				10 X*		66%	2%
5 VI	-	25%	18%	15 L		30%	41%

I wish to interject the thought here that there can be no logical reason to assume that a paper shipment was from ONE type only or that stamps of a certain plate had to be printed on paper of one type or shipment only. It is possible that older stock remained at the bottom of a heap for later use while new deliveries were piled on top. Also, more frames than one were in use for the manufacture of the paper at any one time and a ream was likely to contain sheets of different wmk composition. Yet, in spite of this, all my figures indicate strongly the existence of definite patterns which permit certain conclusions.

Now we are ready to go back to our groups, first

Group 1

of which 10 III and 15 i are prototypes. The y dev. in the bottom part of the sheet, Q 3,4, is so overwhelming that the vast majority of these stamps must have been printed on paper of a wmk composition unknown to us. The vertical spacing of the wmk in the lower half of the sheet is very generous, starting at the gutter with ca 2 to 3 mm added and increasing to 6 mm in the bottom row. There were probably more than one such frame used with at least one also displaying a much wider x spacing in the right half of the sheet, Q 2,4, to allow for comfortable placing of the wmk in 22% of the stamps. This type was used as early as for 5 I, 10 I, and 15 E, and therefore copies of 10 I-A are likely to exist from these frames.

Group 2

was predominantly printed from sheets where the y spacing in the upper half of the sheet, including the gutter, is considerably wider than on our known sheets. The widening between the wmk could be 2 mm for the gutter, progressing to an increase of 4 mm in the top row. I have experimented with an overlay of the outline of the 100 stamps in the Moesman sheet on my wmk reproductions I and II and could not get the results in any different way.

Group 2a

is like group 2 with hardly any y deviations in the lower half, Q 3,4. In fact, 5 V is in between the two subdivisions.

Group 3

shows a wide spectrum of deviation and conformation, and is probably printed from all frames, known and unknown.

Group 4

displays very little deviation and is most likely predominantly printed from our known frames.

Conclusion: At least three more different types of watermark frames have been used for the paper for

the first issue than are known from existing unprinted sheets of paper.

The here discovered (so to say, on the drawing board) new frames were used from the early beginning. There may be a termination or reduction in the later period just as the known papers seem to have been used more in the later than the earlier period.

These new frames could be described as:

1. a frame with drastic correction of the vertical wmk spacing in the lower half of the sheet, widened by ca 2-3 mm in the gutter and progressing to 6 mm in the bottom row.
2. a frame with the same corrections, which has also a drastic correction of the horizontal spacing in the right half of the sheet.
3. a frame with drastic corrections in the upper half of the sheet, not necessarily connected with any corrections elsewhere.

It is possible that during the 12 years of paper supply for the first issue repairs on wmk frames were executed.

This study is only a beginning, but the results point the way for further research. I hope that we will find unprinted wmk sheets of the frames projected in this study and that the true likeness of my reproductions I and II can be confirmed or true reproductions secured. Then only can many more questions which I have not brought up here be investigated.

Dr. Fred L. Reed

Research in Progress

The Netherlands Philatelic Circle of Great Britain, through its Netherlands East Indies Study Group, is investigating the "large round" postmark. Collectors in the U.S. - members of the ASNP - would be able to help in this study by going through their collection, and sending their finds to the editor for further "shipment" to the N.P.C. Following are a few comments on the "large round" postmark which were sent by Mr. W.L. Morton.

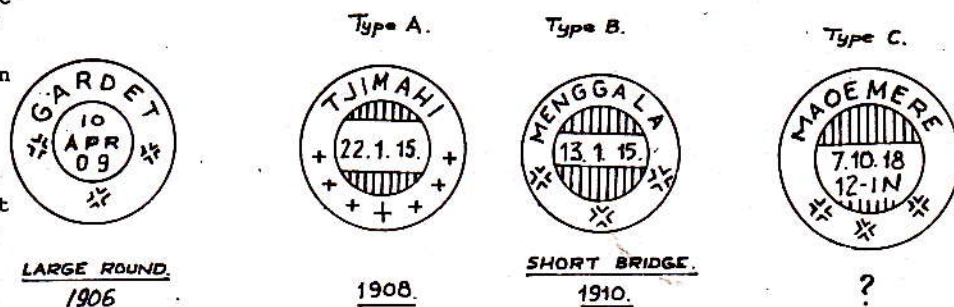
This postmark followed the "squared circle," being introduced in 1906 appearing in black. It has open crosses below the town name and shows the date in the center in three lines (see the figure). The circle diameters are constant but varieties occur in the number and position of the crosses, and in the size and spacing of the letters (presumably to accommodate longer names). Intended for use at post offices, it had a wider use in the suboffices from about 1912.

Depending upon the availability of material it should be possible to identify variations as mentioned above, but a standard form of recording should be adopted, and where it is not possible to complete all the information, blanks will have to be left. It is suggested to record under columns:

Town	Date	Number of crosses	Comments
------	------	-------------------	----------

Under comments any significant variation from the standard (see the figure) should be noted. One of the important factors in regard to this mark

is the dates of use as information is lacking on when the change-over took place to the "short bridge," and it is therefore suggested that this study be combined with the study of the "short bridge," formidable as this task is, due to the type variations. The three main "short bridge" types are also illustrated, and it is suggested to use the following columns to record your findings.



Town	Type	Date	No. of Crosses	No. of Segment Bars	Timing	Comments
------	------	------	----------------	---------------------	--------	----------

Under Comments such things as color, if other than black, might be recorded, along with any point which makes the cancel radically different.

The difference between types A and B is that in type A the segmental bars touch the inner circle and the date bar line, whereas in type B they do not. Type C is a scarce type; the time system below the date bar has the hour of cancellation separated by a dash between the numerals and the usual "v" for A.M. and "N" for P.M.

As far as possible, please list the town names alphabetically.

Some of the towns and dates which have been found so far are given below:

	Earliest	Latest		Earliest	Latest
Bandoeng	4 Nov 10	13 Feb 13	Makassar	10 Apr 12	
Bangil	8 Dec 10		Modjokerto	2 Oct 09	
Batavia	12 Mrt 06	4 Feb 11	Padangsidempoean	13 Feb 1-	
Djember	11 Oct 10	12 Sep 11	Pangkalpinang	15 Oct 10	
Djombang	17 Aug 08	19 Apr 10	Pasoeroean	15 Jan 10	
Garoet	22 Dec 09		Salatiga	16 Apr 10	
Goenoengsoegi (?)	17 Mrt 16		Semarang	19 Dec 07	15 Nov 10
Kraksaan	7 Mrt 11		Soerabaja	14 Feb 06	27 Aug 09
Kwala	23 Jan 13		Tanjongpoera	28 Mei 07	8 Mei 11
Madioen	16 Aug 08		Tjimahi	15 Jan 13	
Malang	9 Dec 11		Weltevreden	19 Jan 06	20 Jan 08
Medan	4 Sep 07	12 Apr 11	Weltevreden-Noordwijk	20 Jly 14	

It will be noted that for several places only one date is so far available.

The scarce type C has been recorded on a 1 Gld 1923 Jubilee stamp from Muntok, dated 23.2.24 / 12-3N in the lower segment bars, and the outer circle is dotted. The postmark has 9 segment bars and 5 crosses. It is interesting to note that Schiller states that he has only two examples of this type C: Benkoelen 28.12.18 / 12-1N, and Siloengkang 8.4.21 / 3-4N.

An Unknown Variety

This summer a New York auction house listed a "double overprint" one of which was an "invert" of the 30 on 40 ct Netherlands Indies air mail in green (NVPH No. 12 (Scott No. C 12)). The very small photograph did not do justice to the stamp. One of our members acquired the stamp and had it sent to the "Bond" expertization service for an opinion. That was that both overprints were "original," hence it was not a fake.

If we go to the NVPH Special Catalog, we don't find any variety listed, except for the imperf. left margin. So here we have an unknown variety.

But what is the variety exactly? If we look closely at the photograph, we see that although there clearly are two overprints, there is no "inverted" overprint. What is the matter with the second one then? The top overprint is a perfect "mirror-image." These are, of course, well known on the back of stamps, and one example that comes to mind is Netherlands Indies NVPH No. 171 (Scott No. 158), which has always been notorious for the "offset" on the back. But this is the first example of a mirror-image on the front of the stamp which has been noticed, which means that during the printing process one sheet (?) landed upside-down on the pile of finished sheets. Whatever the explanation for this variety, it is a nice addition for any collection of the Netherlands Indies. Perhaps one of our members has another copy of it, since these sheets consisted of 100 stamps, and if there is one stamp with a mirror-image, there must be more around.

(If any of our members has some stamp which shows a variety which is not listed in any catalog, we would be very happy to devote some space to it. Some variety might be worth a listing in the catalog, others perhaps will never get that far, but that does not mean that the stamp with the variety is not worth adding to one's collection. For an unknown reason your editor is not too fond of the so-called "freaks," which seem to be popping up more and more these days. "Misplaced" perforations which really make a stamp look like nothing, cutting through the design, do not excite me. Perhaps some of our members think I am "crazy"; opinions pro and con are eagerly awaited.)



How Two Postage Due Stamps Were 'Excommunicated'

In October of this year it was fifty years ago that two hitherto unknown postage due stamps showed up at the government auction of used stamps on October 29. There was one lot containing apart from the four overprinted dues issued in 1924 (SG D 95-98, Scott J 76-79) an 11 CNT on 22½ and a 15 CNT on 17½ cents. The lot contained 200 of the 11 CNT and 100 of the 15 CNT, and brought f531.31. The well-known dealer Rootlieb was the buyer, who offered three of these stamps for f12.00, having found two different perforation varieties of the 11 CNT in the lot.



The Board of the Federation of Stamp Clubs became active at once, but this did not prevent a storm of indignation and protest against these unknown "accounting" stamps. The Board advised not to buy these stamps at fancy prices and to wait some time. On November 24 an explanation for these stamps was published in the press, where the word "accounting" was wrongly used. The Federation, after having held an urgent meeting, apparently did not stir any more. In July 1926 it received a letter from the Postmaster General announcing that members could buy both stamps for f4.00. The Federation then claimed that it had reached its objective as speculation had been prevented, but it named both stamps "postpakketverrekenzegels" (parcel post accounting stamps), to be catalogued in a separate section. In 1933 the first 11 CNT showed up in a Rietdijk auction, which, by error, had not been canceled and since then five of the six varieties have emerged by and by. The only one still missing is the 15 CNT perforated L 11½ x 11.



The 15 CNT mint perf. 12½, worth f20,000.00

In the administration book of the Post Office we found the proof that all six overprints formed one set as they were ordered together and delivered between June 4 and July 19, 1924. The date of issue 1923-24 derived from the Post Office document already mentioned was a mistake, accepted by all catalogs. This has to be altered to 1924. A piece is known canceled 'sGravenhage August 14, 1924, possibly the earliest known date of usage.

So far two different figures for the quantities issued were known, showing a difference of 2700 stamps. It turned out to be the number of stamps for the Post Office Department and the Postal Museum together. Thus the exact number issued are 11 CNT 66,300 and 63,600 and 15 CNT 15,300 and 22,600, respectively.

To understand the fuss made by the Federation and the philatelists we must know something about what had happened since January 1923 when, because of a printers' strike, the imperforate 5 and 10 cents 1899 type (NVPH Nos. 82-83; Scott 111-112) were distributed officially to the post offices. The result was a huge speculation! After that seven provisionals of 2 and 10 cents were issued, printed on stock at the Haarlem Controller office.

Right after these the Jubilee set appeared in 11 different values, up to 5 guilders, while only two values had been proposed by the Federation with the full consent of the Postmaster General and the responsible Minister; the colonies followed the same scheme, including the high values. In December followed two surcharges on not-issued official stamps (NVPH Nos. 132-133; Scott 135-136), together with the four earlier mentioned surcharges on outdated postage dues.

In April 1924 the notorious tete-beche pairs of the 7½ cents (some with white gutters yet) aroused new speculation followed by the four postage dues on sheets returned to the Post Office Department of the same values surcharged with 2 and 10 cents in 1923, containing again two tete-beche pairs, all in two varieties, with and without gutter between the stamps.

After all these "surprises" two unknown postage due stamps emerging in October 1925 put the lid on

The main argument of the Post Office Department in ordering the six postage due stamps on the remainders returned by the post offices was that they could not again have these surcharged with 2 and 10 cents because of the fact that the issue figures of these surcharges had already been made known. Therefore, some other use had to be found, and that was to have them surcharged as postage dues in current values. It is easy enough to understand the use of the 5, 10 and 12½ CNT; the 4 CNT was meant for unpaid printed matter, the 11 CNT for post cards franked as printed matter, and the 15 CNT for unfranked post cards. For a special use in the parcel post service these values were unfit as the current rates at that time were 40, 50 and 60 cents.

When these six values were received by the Post Office Department at The Hague, it was realized that the low numbers of the 11 and 15 CNT available for general distribution would cause difficulties. An "emergency" solution was found by using these stamps solely for the collection of postage and fees on parcels returned or forwarded, for in that case the postage had to be paid anew. According to Postal Regulations, article 615, 2nd paragraph, these postages and fees had to be collected using postage due stamps in the same way as amounts due on letter mail. It was decided to use these stamps at the post offices of Amsterdam, The Hague and Rotterdam only, for then three officials would be responsi-

ble for these stamps, and speculation would be prevented. The stamps had to be pasted onto bills No. 88 that were attached to the parcel post address cards which were returned to the mailman after the recipient had signed for receipt, and in that way returned to the officials responsible. The accounting of the postage and fee received is a merely internal bookkeeping affair without using stamps at all. Therefore, it was so deplorable that the phrase was used in the Post Office Department document. And this slip provided the stick to beat the dog!

The main argument against these stamps was that they were not found on letters. That was the narrow-minded idea about postage due stamps in those days. Not the use in the post office was decisive, but the preconceived ideas of the collectors.

The Board of the Federation's main complaint was that they had not been advised about these unknown stamps. Therefore, they decided to fight them to the utmost. When the battle was over in July with the offer of the Post Office Department to make the stamps available for the collectors, the Federation had reached all it could expect to achieve. The speculation was halted, but the explanation of the Post Office Department about the use of the stamps was not accepted. They had the stick and used it to beat the dog. These postage due stamps had to be separated from the others issued at the same time and had to be called "parcel post accounting stamps," to be listed separately in the catalogs. Nowadays there are still three world catalogs that do not list these underdogs. Scott and Yvert mention their existence in a note to the 1924 issue of the same type (see 1st column, page 347, Scott 1976, Vol. III). Stanley Gibbons, even after fifty years, seems to know nothing.

Today, after fifty years, one question still stands: Who was right, the Post Office Department or the Federation? Officially seen there is no doubt. The Post Office Department called them postage due stamps and the Postal Museum has them in its postage due section. It is clear enough that the aim of the Post Office was to use these six stamps ordered together as normal postage due stamps, but the small quantities available of two of the six led to the "emergency" solution to restrict their use, actually, for a purpose for which they were not fit. Does this alter their status? That is the crux of the question. The Post Office Department said NO and the collectors said YES.

There also is the queer point that as long as the same stamps were used for both letter mail and parcels, no one objected when postage due stamps were offered by the Post Office through the government auctions; even stamps bearing a clear parcel post cancellation were accepted for collections. Nowadays the views of the collectors are broadened and we are happy when we can add a postage due stamp bearing a parcel post cancellation, and even pay a premium for such stamps with a "klein-rond" P.P. cancel.

There are even special values in the postage due sets, issued for use on unpaid parcel cards. The first one was the 30 CNT, issued in June 1935, and in the last Van Krimpen set we find the 85, 90 and 95 cents as well as the 1.75 guilder. Do these values have a separate listing apart from the "normal" postage due stamps? Do we discriminate against these values? Let us put an end to the "apartheid" of both surcharges from 50 years ago. Let us do what the former Board of the Federation refused to do. They are both real postage due stamps!

Jan Dekker

Comments and Communications

This is a new feature in the Journal to print comments on published articles or answer questions that have been raised in previous articles. These communications should be signed and strictly concerned with philatelic matters. More 'personal' reflections will be published under Letters to the Editor.

The following comments might provide a better understanding of Dr. Belinfante's interesting article on phosphorescence, which appeared in the first issue.

Some well-recognized philatelic definitions would help to clear up any misunderstanding of the terms being used:

Fluorescent: A stamp which glows only when subjected to ultraviolet light. It is used primarily to activate automatic mail-sorting and facing equipment, to insure that the stamp is in the proper position for automatic canceling.

Phosphorescent: A stamp which not only glows under ultraviolet light, but also has a brief after-glow. These are also used in automatic-sorting equipment. The term "tagged" is more commonly used in this country.

Luminescent: A general term which can include both of the above.

Hi-brite: A paper in which is incorporated a brightening agent during manufacture, so that the paper not only glows a bluish-white under ultraviolet illumination, but also can appear "whiter than white" under normal illumination. This is an appearance feature, and has no function in automatic-sorting equipment.

Inert: A paper containing no brightening agents.

A distinction should be made between the 1962 Gouda series and the concurrent Juliana definitives. The Gouda series was printed on paper of German origin which incorporated the yellow fluorescing agent during manufacture of the paper itself; the back of the stamps glows as brilliantly as the face. The *Speciale Catalogus* correctly states that these stamps were printed on fluorescent paper (which has no after-glow).

The Juliana set which started to appear in 1967 with a yellow phosphor was printed on inert paper on which a phosphor coating was applied during the printing process. The back of the stamp is still inert. The degree of the glow under ultraviolet light is much less from the phosphor-coated stamps than from the Gouda series, but more importantly, they emit a 1/10 second after-glow and are therefore phosphorescent.

The 12 cent Juliana, for instance, is found in four distinct types:

- Inert paper (dark under UV)
- Hi-brite paper (bluish-white under UV)
- Fluorescent paper (brilliant yellow under UV)
- Phosphor-coated on inert paper (yellow under UV)

The *Speciale Catalogus* lists only three of these varieties (Nos. 618, 618a and 776), but there are clearly four distinct types, as an inspection under UV will show. The editors of the *Speciale Catalogus* also err in continuing to refer to the phosphor-coated varieties as "phosphor paper." They are more properly "phosphor-coated paper" varieties. A UV check of the back of a used stamp will bring out this point.

Dr. Belinfante calls attention to the change from a yellow phosphor coating to a white phosphor coating, starting with the Juliana Regina series. This is also noticeable when comparing the 1969, 1970 and 1971 Europa issues with the 1972 Europa and 1972 Thorbecke Stamps under UV light. The earlier series have the normal yellow phosphor coating on inert paper, while the newer series have a white phosphor coating applied onto a high-brite paper. His noting of the older-type yellow phosphor coating on two values of the Juliana Regina series is quite interesting; since the coating is applied during the printing operation, it is obviously not a matter of using up some older paper on hand.

Dr. Belinfante's suggestion to compare the three types of the 25 ct Juliana Regina value is well taken; the contrast between the inert paper, yellow phosphor-coated, and white phosphor-coated is quite marked. I also have a single copy of the 60 ct Juliana Regina with the yellow phosphor coating, canceled 13 XI 72, which is a fairly early use of this value.

Laurence H. Rehm

Paper and Shade Varieties of the Juliana Profile Hartz Type

SINCE the collecting of coil stamps with a number on the back has become popular among Netherlands stamp collectors, and consequently a special catalog was published by Schlosser, Portheine and Hali, we know that these coil stamps were printed primarily on three types of paper: the old "white" paper (slightly bluish-white luminescent in the dark under ultraviolet light), the nonluminescent "dull" paper (that looks straw brown in the dark under UV light), and the yellowish phosphorescent paper which we know from the Rotterdam experiments. I am talking here about the coil stamps that were issued before 1971. (After that time, the bluish phosphorescent paper came into use, and while at the same time the switch was made to the Juliana Regina type, I read in *Mijn Stokpaardje* that stamps in the old Juliana profile Hartz type of 12, 15 and 25 ct have been discovered that were printed on this new paper.)

Not every collector looks for numbers on the back of his stamps, and if he is collecting used stamps, he would not be able to find these numbers anyhow. Moreover, if different types of paper were used for coil stamps, they might have been used for stamps in sheets as well. Therefore, I recently looked over a handful of arbitrary (loose) Juliana profile Hartz stamps with the help of my ultraviolet lamp, for seeing what I could find. (If you merely have a long-wavelength ultraviolet lamp, it suffices for the purpose.)

My findings are, of course, not exhaustive, as I had too few copies to look over. I am anxious to hear from other readers what they have found, and if they have varieties which I have not found, I am anxious to acquire them for my collection.

I found a whole range of papers, from bright bluish-white luminescent and less bright so, to in-

intermediate types of paper and to dullish stamps with a slight yellowish brown look under UV light in the dark, to really dull copies. Moreover, I found that often the color of the printing ink on different types of paper would look quite different under UV light, even if in daylight not much of a difference in color was noticeable. Thus the UV lamp turned out to be valuable in discovering color shades!

I found, of course, also the yellowish phosphorescent ones, but in what follows I will report only about the nonphosphorescent stamps I found.

The coil stamps really seem to be either the brightest or the dullest among the Juliana profile Hartz stamps. (Brighter luminescence does occur on a number of commemoratives and charity stamps.) However, also among stamps from sheets we may easily recognize three grades of paper which I shall call bright, medium and dull. (Or, by color of appearance in the dark under UV light: bright is bluish, dull is brownish, medium looks bluish compared to a dull stamp, but looks a bit yellow-brownish when compared to a bright copy.) The three kinds are not sharply distinct, in that in-between copies may be found.

Of the following values I have not yet found outspokenly bluish-bright luminescent copies that are not recognizable as coil stamps: 15c, 20c and 62c.

Of the following I have not yet found outspokenly dull copies that are not recognizable as coil stamps: 10c, 18c, 24c, 35c and 95c.

Of some other values I do have bright or dull copies, but would like to find them even brighter or even duller.

Medium copies (usually more bluish than brownish under UV light) are found of most any denomination.

Of the guilder values I found conspicuous differences in paper for the values of 1 and 5 guilders (medium to bright). I did not have material of the 2½ and 10 guilders to look over; I had only my own one copy.

A lot more work should be done here, and I hope that some readers may help me.

Dr. F. J. Belinfante

How 'Special' Is the *Speciale Catalogus*?

SINCE a review of the price changes in this 35th edition of the *Speciale Catalogus* of the N.V.P.H. seems to be somewhat of a recurrent operation in futility - every year the prices go up more or less - perhaps it is time to assess the value of this catalog - the only one available - for the collector of the stamps of the Netherlands and former colonies.

For the following "review" I am also making use of the sentiments expressed by a spokesman for the committee to publish the catalog in a letter answering some of my "complaints." Subscribers to NAS will remember that last year and the year before I published some total sales figures for various issues of Curaçao/Netherlands Antilles, among others the 1947 air mail set, the high values, and the 1948 Queen Wilhelmina high values. Last year's *Speciale Catalogus* for the first time published sales figures that were in some cases 2,000 copies higher than the figures published in NAS. And that for stamps which had a total issue of, for instance, 3,070 (the 25 guilder air mail) is just too much! I kindly requested the N.V.P.H. to let me know where they had their figures from (I am always willing to correct faulty statements) but after more than a year I am still awaiting a reply. In the meantime I brought up the dropping of the proofs from the *Speciale Catalogus*, and lately the removal of all plate-number listings. Also the fact that while in the past the catalog had given three columns of prices for the classic stamps (mint, unused without gum and used), that had been given up too. And, finally, a complaint about the totally unrealistic prices of some used stamps of the two American "colonies," not to mention some used values of the 1941-42 regular set of the Netherlands Indies.

As for the proofs - to tackle that first - it was explained to me that since there now is a Van Dieten *Proevenboek*, it was felt unnecessary to list these proofs any longer. Yet, the *Proevenboek* was published in 1966 - almost ten years ago - and even in the last years that the *Speciale Catalogus* included proofs, these were given different prices from those listed in the *Proevenboek*. Besides, even though we get the message that anybody who collects proofs better buy the *Proevenboek* (or else), there may be people who would like to know what these proofs are worth now, in 1975-76, and also, are perhaps interested only in proofs of one area and don't want to spend upward of 45 guilders for a book that gives almost all the proofs (and why - with a loose-leaf construction - some necessary additions and changes have not been printed and distributed is beyond me) of all the areas we are concerned

with.

The plate numbers are something else again. As far as I know there is no publication that gives these plate numbers. So, if one is interested in plate numbers, better keep an old copy of the *Speciale Catalogus* handy! Even then, what is the value of plate numbers on Netherlands stamps? Is that completely unimportant? Can the catalog imply: Whatever it's worth to you?

Something I also brought up concerns the status of some "dubious" imperforates, which up to last year have been treated with: Imperforate copies of these stamps exist but they are not valid for postage, or some such thing. To be specific, these are the four stamps of the 1940 Queen Wilhelmina issue of the Netherlands (footnoted in Scott), and almost all the stamps printed by the Kolff Co. of Batavia for the Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Curaçao. Two years ago, to my utter surprise, the four values of the Netherlands 1940 imperfs were included. A very low price - fl.50 - was given to them. When I brought up the question why the others were not treated the same way, so that collectors would have an idea of what to pay for these imperfs, the answer was that since there was quite a bit of business in the four Netherlands stamps (in the Netherlands), but not in the others, the committee had deemed it necessary only to list these. What has always disturbed me is that when the "Germans" got these four stamps from the printing plant in Haarlem, all or almost all of the imperfs were sold to the U.S. Roughly about two years ago these stamps started traveling back to the Netherlands, with a lot of others. But, at the same time - 1940 - the "Germans" also acquired a batch of unused *Cour Permanente de Justice* stamps. These, of course, were only sold to collectors canceled to order. The unused ones, however, did not travel to the U.S. but were sold locally, and lo and behold! these four mint stamps have always been listed by the *Speciale Catalogus*. They were just as "illegal" as the four imperfs, but the "position" was different." Perhaps we should let more Curaçao, Surinam and Netherlands Indies imperfs travel to the Netherlands; then they might get a listing too!

About the third column for the classics. After trying to get the "reason" behind this dropping of the unused without gum column for the classic stamps, I only got to hear that the committee does not believe in a third column, which I already knew, of course. With the present situation I would not be surprised if this were not a good reason for having these no-gum stamps sent to Germany to get gummed. Perhaps, if a realistic price was put on them, people might be perfectly satisfied selling them in that condition, and collecting them too without gum.

The consistent undervaluation of used stamps of the Netherlands Indies, Curaçao/Netherlands Antilles and Surinam has been an old complaint. Apart from the 1923 Jubilee stamps of Curaçao and Surinam - which is an interesting story in itself - let us go to the 1931 semipostals of Surinam (Scott B12-15). Yes, the used set is slightly higher in price than the mint one, but let us see what the sales were. The *Speciale Catalogus* gives us for the four values: 35,850; 32,818; 32,022; and 34,097. Of these in Surinam were sold (and not all of them used): 8,448; 7,293; 7,637; and 9,758, roughly one-fourth. You want to hear of a better case? Take the 1936 semipostals (Scott B22-25). The *Speciale Catalogus* says about totals sold: 50,114; 45,253; 43,375; and 43,226. Of these in Surinam were sold: 5,104; 4,702; 4,800; and 4,950, roughly from one-tenth to one-eighth. Since these figures come from the BDC, I am sure the N.V.P.H. is also aware of them. By the way, have any members lately tried to acquire used semipostals and others of Surinam? Have you tried to get a used set of Surinam air mail NVPH Nos. 24-26 (Scott C23-25), the overprints?

The catalog committee claims that to give realistic prices to these and other used stamps would only encourage "fraud," but I am not so sure that the fraud is not already there. The September *Maandblad* had an article on just these semipostals (we hope eventually to reprint part of this article for the benefit of members who do not read Dutch or do not subscribe to the *Maandblad*). Even with a depressed price of only 1000 guilders for the 5 guilders Netherlands Indies No. 287 (of course, in 1971 it was only 450 guilders, and in 1956 150 guilders) faked cancellations of this stamp show up time and again. I really don't believe that giving this stamp a serious value of, say 5,000 guilders, would encourage the fakers even more. And we might finally see a few of these stamps, but "really used" come out of the woodwork.

Enough about the undervaluation of some used stamps. Somewhere I believe that the problem lies in the fact that the catalog instead of being a service to the collectors is only a service to the dealers. If that is so, let's state it openly, and let's not be content with a statement from the spokesman for the catalog committee that the *Speciale Catalogus* is not meant to be a "handbook" and that 99.99% of the users like it this way. Now, every year in December the N.V.P.H. also issues a catalog which does not boast of the "Special" in its title and consists merely of the main numbers - no perf varieties, no misprints, no "nothing." If the idea is to "simplify" the *Speciale Catalogus* to the point where it becomes totally useless for a great many collectors - it was even stated that after the Handbook on Curaçao/Netherlands Antilles by our two members of the Board of Governors, Frank Julsen and Dr. Benders, is out, the listing for the Netherlands Antilles will become even more simplified - why go to all the trouble of issuing the little catalog in December? Or, why go to all the trouble of publishing the *Speciale Catalogus*, when all of us who collect a little more than the main numbers can go out and buy - sometimes quite expensive - handbooks?

Perhaps it is time that the Dutch Federation of Stamp Clubs - the *Bond* - sponsor a "collectors" catalog with a catalog committee consisting for 50-60% of collectors and 40-50% of dealers. Perhaps then the Netherlands philatelists would get something comparable to the *Facit* catalog.

PEvR

Netherlands 1923 Jubilee Set

The Case of the 35 Cent Perf. L 11 x 11

The 35 cent Jubilee stamp, perforated 11 x 11 for many years has presented a controversial issue. Many articles have been published about its status. The most important ones were written by M. Bölian (*Philatelist*, 1930, pp. 81-82), Korteweg (*Philatelist*, 1930, pp. 82-83), Dr. Frenkel (*Maandblad*, 1938, p. 49), and finally Dekker (*Maandblad*, 1966, pp. 457-458). To summarize, Bölian explains the perforation 11 x 11 as an effect of the paper; Korteweg questions this and concludes that there is a perforation 11 x 11; Frenkel agrees with Bölian that the perforation is the result of stretching/shrinking of the paper; while Dekker in his thorough article of 1966 comes to the conclusion that this perforation cannot be explained because of paper action. The N.V.P.H. catalogs have shown the following listings through the years:

1934/35:	127 A 35 cent brown yellow 11 x 11	f 75.00	f 40.00
1936	127 A 35 cent brown yellow 11 x 11	75.00	35.00
1938	127 A 35 cent brown yellow 11½ x 11½	75.00	35.00
1940	127 A 35 cent brown yellow 11 x 11	75.00	30.00
1942	127 A 35 cent brown yellow 11 x 11	75.00	30.00

A perforation machine perforating exactly 11 x 11 was not used. Most likely this perforation was caused by action of the paper.

1943 As in 1942

1947 127A - a perforation machine which produced exactly 11 x 11 was not used. The 35 cent in this perforation was caused by action of the paper.

The subsequent editions say about the same (with the exception of the 1976, which under 127A refers the reader to the *Maandblad* article of May 1975 of which this article is an English translation--Note of the Editor).

In 1942 and 1943 the perforation was questioned for the first time, and was "probably" caused by action of the paper, while in 1947 the word "probably" was even left out. From that time the catalog committee was sure that the paper was "guilty" and no price was listed anymore.

Because of all these contradictory publications we will once again mention all the facts and try to come to a conclusion. First the question of the paper: In the *Maandblad* of 1923, pages 21 and 22, Mr. Pull, at that time Controller of the P.T.T. at Haarlem, gave an excellent explanation of differences in the size of recess-printed stamps. Part of this article follows, slightly adapted to include the 1923 Jubilee stamps in the discussion, which, at that time, had not yet appeared:

Each piece of paper has two directions as regards the position of the paper fibers, the so-called "machine direction," and the one perpendicular to that. The machine direction is the one that follows the flow of the pulp in the manufacture of the paper: It could also be called the fiber direction. The perpendicular direction is the one at right angles to the machine direction and follows the width of the paper.

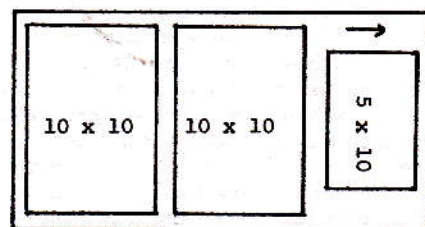
Each piece of paper is elastic; one more than another. Quality paper is very elastic; newsprint is not elastic at all and tears easily when pulled.

But there is also a big difference when paper is pulled in the two directions mentioned above: in the machine direction or the perpendicular one. In the latter the elasticity is largest, up to 8%, while in the machine direction it is very small, little more than 1%. Recess-printed stamps have the ink lying on top of the paper in greater or less thickness; the paper also needs to be wetted before printing. This causes it to stretch compared to the dry dimension. When we measure a full sheet of, for instance, the 10 cent Jubilee stamp of 1923 along the longest part of the sheet, and we then measure the same distance of the printing plate, we find that the ten stamps have become smaller: the sheet does not fit the plate any more. The reason is that the paper, in drying, has shrunk, more in the perpendicular direction than in the machine direction. If not all sheets are put on the press in the same direction, that is, some in the machine direction or fiber direction, and others in the perpendicular direction, then we will find that the sheets after printing and drying won't be alike any more, which is also the case with the 35 cent Jubilee stamp.

How did the different paper directions occur with the 35 cent Jubilee stamp?

Korteweg in his 1930 article had an attractive theory which partially follows: "If a sheet of paper is larger than is needed for two sheets of 10 x 10 stamps, and too small for the printing of three such sheets, a fairly wide piece of paper will be left, which can be used to print the smaller sheets of 5 x 10 stamps. In these latter stamps the direction of the fibers naturally changes, according to the sketch."

How the paper was handled in the case of the 35 cent stamps causing the differences in size is unknown, but in any case the stamps can only show a difference in size in one direction only from the original engraving. Either the stamp is narrower, but



→ machine direction

just as high as the original engraving, or the stamp is shorter, but just as wide as the printing form.

The dimensions of the original engraving of the 1923 Jubilee stamps were 29.0 mm high, and 21.0 mm wide. All values with the portrait of the Queen, except the 35 cent, occur with a width of 21 mm, but the height varies between 28.1 and 28.5 mm, because of paper shrinkage during drying. Not all stamps have shrunk in the same proportion, but one side has never shrunk, and is as high or as wide as the original engraving.

There are also 35 cent stamps with a height of 29.0 mm, the same as the engraving. The width of such a "long" stamp is then usually 20.5 mm (as against the 21 mm of the engraving). "Long" 35 cent stamps thus can only stretch (wetting) and shrink (drying) in the width and never in the height. This also means that the perforation on the long side of a "long" 35 cent stamp cannot change through action of the paper. Because of the various dimensions in the 35 cent stamps, we measured 591 of them to find how many were "short" and how many "long." If we leave the stamps with the perforation 11 x 11 out, we find that 44.3% is "long" and so 55.7% "short." According to the following table:

	11x11	11x11½	11½x11½	In percentages:	Total(- 11x11)		
short	-	284	42	- 69.0	24.3	55.7	
long	6	127	132	100	31.0	75.8	44.3

If the scarce perforation 11 x 11 derived from another perforation by paper action (Bolian, Frenkel and the catalog committee) the only possibility is L 11½ x 11, perforated when absolutely dry, becoming 11 x 11 when absorbing moisture under normal atmospheric conditions, and thus expanding. However, copies perforated 11½ x 11 have never been found, so this possibility has to be excluded. This argument was also brought forward by Korteweg and Dekker who both accept the 11 x 11 perforation. Besides, we have to remember that in "long" stamps the height cannot be altered by "action of the paper."

As for the perforation, so far we have only proved that it couldn't have derived from another one, but where did it come from? In February 1924 Mr. Waller published a list of the perforating machines used: Line 11, used horizontally only; 11½ three machines horizontally and two vertically; 12 horizontally first, vertically afterwards; and 12½ vertically only. He gave a list of the nine possible combinations with the values found in each of these. The only perforation missing was the 11½ x 11. This combination was reported by Mr. van der Wiel in the April issue, thus two months later! So far, the earliest date of this 11½ x 11 is March 1924.

Notwithstanding this, the fact that Mr. Waller did not mention L 11 used vertically was the main argument against the rare perforation of the 35 cent. As the last delivery of the 35 cent stamps took place on May 31, 1924, there was the possibility that some sheets missing the vertical perforation were finished by adding this with the L 11 vertically used. Furthermore, two out of the five used copies known have an EDAM cancellation and this supports the existence of the rare variety.

A visit to the Postmuseum, shortly before this article was finished, brought a surprise, however. Looking through the proof collection, Mr. Kamphuis - in charge of the Museum's stamp collection - proposed, just for the heck of it, to measure the perforation of a color proof pasted on an envelope of P.T.T. headquarters together with an imperforate copy, dated in pencil Oct 16, 1923, with "handpers" below. The perforation was actually L 11 x 11!

The explanation could be the following: Just before the first issue of the 35 cent stamp on Oct. 21, 1923, a few sheets of the first run were perforated separately on an idle perforating machine to send some as quickly as possible to the Post Office Department in The Hague, and the idle machine happened to be L 11. The remainder was added to the central stock and being mixed with later perforations were only sent to the post offices, among which Edam, around April 1924. Dated copies were found as late as May-June 1924. This is all mere theory, but it adds to the authenticity of the L 11 x 11 perforation.

Our conclusion is that the 35 cent Jubilee stamp perforated L 11 x 11 must be considered genuine, subject to evidence to the contrary.

Gert Holstege

Note from the Editor: Are there any members who believe they might have this rare, rare stamp? If so, please write to the editor. Mr. Holstege is still working on this particular issue, and would, no doubt, welcome any new information he can get. Given the "negative" attitude of the N.V.P.H. catalog committee to this perforation variety, it might be best to have a possible 11 x 11 35 cent Jubilee stamp sent to the "Bond" expertization committee. Personally, I can say that Mr. Holstege's arguments have convinced me. There is a 35 cent with the perforation L 11 x 11.



Four used 11 x 11 perf. stamps. The two stamps at the top, from different collections, both canceled EDAM. The two stamps on the left from the Collection C. Versteeg and the two on the right from the Postmuseum.

Reviews and Other News About Books

WE received a copy of *Korte Kroniek van de Geposte Brief* by our fellow-member Alex L. ter Braake, published by Van Dieten, The Hague, 1975.

For those of you who read Dutch, this is a delightful introduction to Postal History from the viewpoint of a letter mailed in the Netherlands, what happened to it, and what has changed through the years with that. The author has found his material in old archives and some unlikely places where the "tooth of time" has done some damage. Nevertheless, the outside of the mailed letter can show all manner of things, from the address - sometimes little more than "Amsterdam" - to various colored markings and handwritten amounts due. Mr. ter Braake also remarks that those old-time postal clerks and delivery men must have been wizards in foreign languages.

Via the "provincial" postal systems - and those of the towns - Mr. ter Braake brings us, showing us many excellent illustrations, to the French revolution and the results in the Netherlands after 1795, and finally the difficult times after Napoleon had been defeated and the United Netherlands Kingdom (Netherlands and Belgium) tried to bring order out of some kind of chaos.

The author has discovered that the letter in Fig. 98 (page 102) shows written in ink "Sh 4" rather than St 4, which means that this was a "Shipletter," for which the recipient had to pay 4 pennyweights (see page 87 about these rates).

All in all, a book which is well worth sending an order to Van Dieten for. (And, please, mention their ad in this issue when you do.)

Mr. ter Braake also wrote to say that he had donated a number of publications in the Netherlands philately area to the APRL. These can be added to the list we published in the September issue of the holdings in the APRL. Their titles follow:

- J. F. Cley, *Postwaarden van Nederland, Emissie 1864.*
- J. de Kruyf, *Postal Stationery: Dutch East Indies.*
- J. de Kruyf, *Postal Stationery: Curaçao.*
- P. C. Korteweg, *300 Jaar Postmerken van Nederland.*
- P.T.T. The Hague, *De Geschiedenis van het Postwezen in Utrecht.*
- Wolff de Beer, *Poststempels in Nederl. Oost Indie 1789-1864.*
- Dr. J. D. Riddell, *Suriname, A Postal History.*
- W. G. Stitt Dibden, *Four-hundred years of Anglo-Dutch Mail, 1574-1965.* (In a binder with other material. The APRL can make a xerox copy of it.)

By now you have also received the November newsletter in which you found the list of the books and publications Mr. ter Braake had donated to the ASNP, and which you can borrow from the Society's Librarian, Mr. Fernand H. Möllenkramer, 6301 Downey Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90805. And again, if any of you have publications which you would want to loan to your fellow-members, please send a list to Mr. Mollenkramer. These books will be no part of the holdings of the ASNP: you will only consent to loan them for a specified time. Please also indicate whether you want to handle the sending of these publications, or whether you want Mr. Möllenkramer to handle it.

We have also received the Dai Nippon Society's catalog of the stamps issued in the Netherlands Indies under Japanese occupation, 1942-1945, a formidable compilation of 173 pages, which not only includes listings and prices of all the known overprints, but in Appendix 1 some information about the Merauke marking "Frankeering Betaald / Postage Paid," the NICA TIMOR issue of 1945, and the NICA SOEMBA issue of the same year. Another appendix gives the names of all the post offices that were open during the Japanese occupation, in some cases with the Japanese characters that were used to signify that post office, and finally in the last appendix a glossary of Japanese words used in overprints and cancels, with the Japanese characters, which are also explained and transliterated.

There is an introduction in English, which, among other things, explains that the prices mentioned are not absolute but that the relationship between prices stays the same. If a stamp priced at one guilder is offered to you for ten dollars, then a stamp priced at ten guilders should be worth one hundred dollars. The copies which were ordered for subscribers of NAS in June are all sold out. If you want to order a copy, write to the secretary of Dai Nippon Society, J. Bonn, Porto Buenolaan 15, Ouderkerk a/d Amstel, Netherlands. The price is 20 guilders.

Lest I be called prejudiced in reviewing a booklet which "our own U.S." Netherlands Philatelists of Northern California have produced (see our Book Review in the last issue), let me quote from *The Stamp Lover*, a British periodical, in which our fellow-member John Goss - who at that time was not a fellow-member - wrote:

There must be many collectors of the stamps of the Netherlands who have little or no command of the Dutch language or who do not have runs of the leading Netherlands' philatelic journal, the *Nederlandsch Maandblad voor Philatelie*. This journal has published many important articles on the issues of

its home country, very few of which, to the best of the writer's knowledge, have been translated into English. Many collectors therefore will welcome a handy little book published by a small study group in California on the 1872-88 Willem III definitive issue, namely *Netherlands - The 1872 Issue*, compiled by the 1872 Committee of the Netherlands and Colonies Philatelists of Northern California and published 'because of the wide divergence of interest of this set to the collector and partly because it seemed worthy to gather together the scattered information from many sources into a handy form' as the committee states in the foreword. Thus the collector without references to the 1872 issue will find the book divided into sections dealing with the reasons for the issue of a new definitive series in 1872, the dates of issue of each value from 1872 to 1888, a listing of postal rates occasioning the requirements for the issue of certain values, the quantities of each value delivered, the many perforation compounds found in this long-lived issue, the major cancellation types - this rather in the manner of A.M.A van der Willigen's study of the 1867 definitives, published in *Ned. Maandblad voor Philatelie* in 1967-68. As the issue was in use from 1872 until long after Willem III's death in 1890, the various stamps of this issue will be found cancelled with a considerable variety of postal markings, and examples of such markings are illustrated. Notes on the papers and proofs of the issue are provided, such information being of considerable use to those collectors who do not possess the detailed catalogue of proofs published by J.L. van Dieten in 1966. Probably most collectors will be interested in the various printing varieties and flaws and in this the book does not leave them disappointed, for enlargements are provided showing the major flaws. The halftones might have been a little clearer, especially those on the second page of the flaws on the 5ct value, but this in no way detracts from the value of this work. As might be expected, some of the flaws are more 'spectacular' than others, and these illustrations are meant to be taken as starters for the collector taking up the stamps of the 1872 issue for the first time. In other words, given the printing process employed in the production of this issue, letterpress, it might be reasonable to assume that more such varieties await the student's magnifying glass. The book concludes with a quite extensive bibliography of major sources of reference - an exhaustive bibliography on this issue alone would run to several pages, and therefore the references that the student is most likely to turn to are given."

So far Mr. Goss. The price of the book is \$3.50 and it can be ordered directly from Netherlands and Colonies Philatelists of Northern California. We may add that in the September 1975 issue of the *Maandblad* Mr. E. Matthews (with two "t's"), member of the Board of Governors of the ASNP, has written another article on the 1872 issue, namely "Nederland 20 cent 1872." If there are members who would like to read this article in English, please let the editor know. The more requests we receive the sooner we will ask Mr. Matthews to assist us with the English version for future publication in the journal.

Are there members who are interested in reviews of the many specialized catalogs which have appeared lately, such as the FDC catalog, the booklet catalog, and the coil-stamp catalog? Or are you going to order these - if you need them or want them - regardless of a review? In a future issue of the journal we will have some articles on the Dutch coil stamps, and perhaps after those articles have appeared in print, we might set up an ordering system for members who would like to buy the catalog.

Since this is a page which we get for "free," and which actually "costs" us money because we have not been able to get advertisements for this page, we will be able to give some ASNP News too:

The January newsletter will go out early to take advantage of the old 10-cent rate for first-class mail. We will also be sending out our first list of members, with addresses listed, except for those who have asked us specifically not to list their addresses. We trust that these lists will not be used for commercial purposes. After this list has appeared, new members will be listed in the issues of ASNP NEWS.

And, getting repetitious, we still need an Advertising Manager for the journal. This would be a person who would correspond with possible advertisers, and who would be responsible for "digging" these up. Who will volunteer?

And, finally, you know that Surinam will become independent on November 25 (it will have become a sovereign state by the time you get this issue). This creates a small problem for Netherlands and former colonies collectors. If we judge by the popularity of Indonesia among this group, we are worried about the future of Surinam stamp collecting among our members. From the Netherlands we received some news too. First, the NVPH Special Catalog is going to drop the issues of independent Surinam, but will keep on listing the issues up to the Independence stamps. Second, there was some grumbling about the sheetlets of ten stamps of the Independence issue, plus the new high values. Personally, I don't think that sheetlets of ten stamps is much to grumble about. Nobody did a lot of grumbling about the 1967 Amphilex sheetlets, and I think that Independence Day is a little more important than a stamp exhibition. As far as the high values is concerned, these are issued to replace those with the portrait of Queen Juliana, a very logical move. What we will watch with eagle eyes will be the moves of the U.S. distributor of Surinam stamps! We will also see whether it will still be possible to get all Surinam issues from the Philatelic Agency at Paramaribo. And we will not hesitate to attach "black blots" to all future issues which, in our opinion, seem to be superfluous, or based on considerations other than the legitimate ones of the Post Office Department in Surinam.