

NETHERLANDS PHILATELY



JOURNAL of the American Society for Netherlands Philately

Volume 2/3

NEWS

NEW MEMBERS

Since we send all the members the list of members at the end of January, we have enrolled the following:

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9 Linda Lane
Newton, NJ 07860

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Springfield, NJ 07801

Reinstated:

Hartog Okker
Herengracht 167
Amsterdam, Netherlands

REGIONAL MEETINGS

Several members have expressed the wish to meet regionally; that is, some members in the New York-New Jersey metropolitan area have wondered whether it were possible to get together. One of our members in Long Island has already made his home available for such a meeting. To "test the water" it was suggested that an "open house" at the secretary's apartment be organized first. Since an earlier attempt was spoiled by the weather, and since this issue of the journal might not reach you for some weeks, we will make it the last Sunday of March, that is the 27th. The "open house" will be from 1 to 5 or 6 p.m. (if enthusiasm is great the secretary won't throw you at 5 sharp). Members don't have to stay the full time; they can come early and leave early, or come late. It might even get quite crowded if all those in the New Jersey area descend on 16 Roosevelt Place, Montclair. For those of you unknown to the Montclair scene, Roosevelt Place begins across from the Public Library, off South Fullerton Avenue. South Fullerton crosses Bloomfield Avenue in downtown Montclair. If anybody gets confused or doesn't know how to proceed, the telephone number is 744-6420. If all those who want to come let the secretary know by Saturday, March 26, he can decide whether to get one fatted calf of more to feed his guests. Snacks and junk food, that is! But if you spontaneously decide to come, don't stay away because you didn't call or let me know first. There will be enough for all (I hope).

AMPHILEX Flight

The secretary has the sad task to let you all know that the proposed Amphilex flight will not take place, bar a miracle. This was to have been an affinity flight, which means that at least 40 members (and their wives or relatives) should have participated. Up to writing this, only 20 persons (including wives and relatives) have sent the treasurer the necessary 50 dollars. It seems futile to wait any longer, even though originally more than 100 persons had expressed interest in the flight. Of course, all those who sent in money will get a refund. ASNP is very sorry about the whole thing, but there is not much we can do. However, we do have some good news for those who still want to go even if not by ASNP group flight. We have contacted a stamp club in Amsterdam to find out whether it would be possible to find Dutch families who would be willing to put up with American visitors to Amphilex on the understanding that they would get hospitality when they visit the U.S. in the future. This would do away with the horrendous hotel bills that seem a necessary evil of attending the exhibition. Will members who would like to participate in this exchange plan please contact the secretary as soon as possible. Time is fast running out to make arrangements like this.

SHORT ADS

Mr. E. Glassman, P.O. Box 10150, Jerusalem, Israel, would like to exchange Israeli stamps for U.S. Contact Mr. Glassman direct.

Available for quick sale: Mint NH Netherlands and unaddressed FDC's, 1964-74. Some earlier. All reasonable offers accepted. Send want list to L. E. Kieffer, P.O. Box 173, Jamesburg, NJ 08831

ASNP Library Fund has for sale: Neth. Indies No. 1, used, two FRANCO canc. plus contemp. handwriting, close on right side. No reasonable offer will be refused. Also, Neth. New Guinea, Bl-3, NH, tropical stains do not show in front. Also, two each of Neth. NH Nos. 1089, 1075-76, 1084. Send offers to editor.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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Long-term rates on request. Members may place free short ads, limited only by space considerations. Single copies \$1.50.

Notes

First of all, a little background on the contents of this issue of our journal. Our first article is Part II of the translation of the short handbook on the Queen Wilhelmina with long hair set. In our final instalment we will combine this handbook with later criticisms, and try to come up with something worthwhile for you. The Surinam landmarks article is an attempt to give some of the historical background of the buildings portrayed on a Surinam set of 1961. We hope that this article has not got too many illustrations. If you think so, speak up! A new author appears with the article on how to approach collecting purely chronologically; it was produced in close collaboration with the editor who has also leanings in that direction. The article on numeral cancels was offered to us through the editor of a Dutch philatelists' publication. Since we sometimes feel that to begin collecting something one should know the how and why of what one is collecting, this article might fill a real need. Lists of stamps with various cancellations and their relative value comes next in this sequence. The ASNP Library gets mentioned through some belated "Thank you's very much" with new listings. Please note these. In Meet Your Board of Governors we are finally giving you the biographical details promised these many months already. The Book Review of the Junior Catalog prompted the Observations on behalf of your editor. Please note the loosesheet which should be stapled to your copy and which should update the prices in your NVPH Special Catalog. If your copy is missing, let us know. Finally, our faithful correspondent in the Netherlands is present with his observations which are really welcome. We ran out of space (!) and could not bring you Auction Action, nor a short article on platefaults of the Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Netherlands Antilles.

Our next issue will be a special, very special AMPHILEX-issue with 24 pages of fantastic articles and other surprises, and it will come out in time for all members to have received it before the exhibition. That is, it should be with you May 15. If you are anxious to try your talents, get in on this special issue. It takes a lot of articles to fill 24 pages, and although we generally have too much material to fill our prescribed 16 pages, we want to be sure that we get this issue filled.

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Since we printed the first part of this translation in the December issue of Netherlands Philately we have received the criticisms of Mr. H. J. Bernsen and Mr. J. F. Cley, plus comments from Jan Dekker on the original publication. It appears that most of these have to do with the organization of the Condensed Handbook and the assumptions about the printing plates. As for the organization, we agree, but we also believe that the original organization fits our format of three instalments better. As for the assumptions about the printing plates, we bow to the superior knowledge of Jan Dekker - of course - but we also believe that for the purpose of acquainting our members with color and paper varieties in this set we will resume publication with this Part II. We intend to run Jan Dekker's observations about the printing plates at some later time. Once again, the translation of this article is by our member of the Editorial Board, Mr. John W. Van Rysdam, who deserves the membership's thanks.



Catalog numbers

The catalog numbers are those of the NVPH Catalog.

3 Cent

The color of this stamp of the first emission is yellow. At the end of 1892 the yellow appears to be somewhat brownish (spotty printing) and turns in 1893 more towards orange (clear printing). The change to a brown-orange in 1894 is minimal. At the end of 1894 we find the orange turning into a reddish brown tint. Bright reddish in mid-1895, duller towards the end of that year.

In 1896 the tint becomes more orange than brown to change in 1897 into a bright orange, light and dark. The stamps of the last printings are more yellowish orange and often give a faded impression on account of the penetrating gum.

- 34 1892 thick, white paper, dull and glossy white gum
- 34a 1893 thin, soft paper, sometimes bad perforations, dull white gum
- 34b 1894 thin paper, dull white gum
- 34c 1895 rather thick, soft paper and
- 34d soft, but much thinner, clearly laid paper, often bad perforation, dull white gum
- 34e 1896 thin, hard paper, often bad perforation, glossy gum and
- 34f thicker, whiter paper, dull white gum
- 34g 1897 thin, hard paper, glossy gum (dark orange) and
- 34h thin, soft paper, glossy gum (light orange)
- 34i 1898 thin, yellowish paper, high-gloss yellowish gum
- 34j 1899 thin, white paper, glossy yellowish gum

5 Cent

One of the first stamps of this set, the 5 cent came out in October 1891 in a greenish blue color, poorly printed. Soon thereafter the color is clear blue without the greenish shade.

March 1892 shows the appearance of the gray-blue tint with variations from dull to clear light gray-blue which in January 1893 changed to a more lively and somewhat darker blue which also shows several shades. During the years 1893, 1894 and the beginning of 1895 the shades are somewhat duller. In 1896 a very deep clear blue appears, and in 1897 the real ultramarine which in 1898 again turns bluer and duller.

- 35 1891 soft, thick paper and
- 35a less thick paper, dull white gum
- 35b 1892 thick paper, dull white gum
- 35c 1893 thick paper, dull white gum, occasionally bad perforation
- 35d 1893 thin, laid paper, white light glossy gum
- 35e 1894 very thin, clearly laid paper
- 35f 1895 rather soft, thick paper and
- 35g less thick paper, often bad perforation and
- 35h harder, thin, laid paper
- 35i 1896 thin, laid paper, glossy gum, replaced in the same year by
- 35j thicker, whiter paper
- 35k 1897 thin paper
- 35l 1898 yellowish thin paper, highly glossy yellow gum

7½ Cent

This value shows a persistent "plate" fault in the first printing, in that the E of Cent has a center stroke which is slightly damaged and touches the top stroke. In later printings the E is normal (see the figure at the right, in which the first-printing flaw is depicted on the left, while the later printings have an E which is not damaged, on the right).



The color of the stamps with the damaged and partly damaged E, first printing (March 1892) and those printed from the undamaged plates, first printing September 1893, is light and dark dull lilac-brown. This color persists through 1894, but from the beginning of that year in a clearer printing.

In September 1894 a dullbrown shade appears, with a lighter variation in 1895, still lighter in 1896, and changing to a dark or deep dark brown in 1897. In September 1897 a dull grayish brown shade appears.

- 36 1892 first printing, thick paper, dull white gum
- 36a 1893 identical forms of the first printing, thin paper, light glossy white gum, very dark shade
- 36b 1893 new plates, thick paper, dull white gum
- 36c 1894 thin paper, dull white gum
- 36d 1894 dull brown, thin, vaguely laid paper, occasionally bad perforation, light glossy white gum
- 36e 1895 rather thick, soft paper, dull white gum
- 36f 1896 very thin paper, occasionally bad perforation, light glossy white gum
- 36g 1897 thin, hard paper, high-gloss white gum and
- 36h thin, soft paper (gray-brown shade)
- 36i 1898 thin, white paper, glossy yellow gum
- 36j thin, yellowish paper, dull yellow gum

10 Cent

The 10-cent stamps show three distinct colors: carmine-pink, brick-red and hard pink. In 1891 the first printing shows a dull carmine-pink shade, which in 1892 becomes clearer and in 1893 changes to a very deep carmine (wine-red) color. This carmine gets somewhat duller towards the end of 1893.

In March 1894 the second color appears, better known to the collector as brick-red. In September 1894 the third color shows up, first as bright pink, eventually turning lighter, and in 1895 changing into a shade which is close to the first shade but darker. In 1896 the pink becomes brighter. In 1897 this pink changes into a nice "soft" shade called "rosine." This shade is very light-sensitive. Discolored copies look like the pink of 1896. This "rosine" shade had a very short life: Used copies on piece run from May till October 1897.

In 1898-99 the shade becomes dull because of the use of the light yellow paper and the yellow gum.

- 37 1891-92 thick paper, dull white gum
- 37a 1893 thick paper, dull white gum, occasionally bad perforation
- 37b thin paper, light glossy gum (wine-red), occasionally bad perforation
- 37c 1894 brick-red, thin paper, dull white gum
- 37d bright pink, thin paper, dull white gum
- 37e rather thick, soft paper, dull white gum (December 1894), occasionally bad perforation
- 37f 1895 harder paper, light glossy gum
- 37g 1896 thicker, whiter paper, occasionally bad perforation
- 37h 1897 thin paper
- 37i 1898 thin, yellowish paper, high-gloss yellow gum and light glossy gum

12½ Cent

Initially the gray color is dull greenish (October 1891). In November 1892 the gray becomes brighter, and finally turns in March 1894 into a dark olive-gray, often erroneously called "black-gray." In September 1894 a light gray shade appears with greenish overtones. From January 1895 to the end of 1899 the shade is predominantly blueish gray, from very light to very dark in 1897, with the exception of the violet-gray shade (January 1896), known as "pearl-gray" and the dull gray shade in 1898, known as the "smoke" gray.

- 38 1891-93 thick, soft paper, dull white gum. In the bright shade of 1892 occasional bad perforation.
- 38a 1894 less thick paper, dull white gum (March 1894)
- 38b thin paper (September 1894)
- 38c 1895 rather thick, soft paper usually bad perforation (January 1895) and
- 38d very thin, clearly laid paper, light glossy gum, occasionally bad perforation (June 1895)
- 38e 1896 thin paper and
- 38f very thin paper, light glossy gum (January)
- 38g thin paper, dull white gum (May) and
- 38h thin paper, dull white gum (deep blueish gray, July)
- 38i 1897 somewhat thicker, white paper, light glossy white gum
- 38j 1898 thin paper, high-gloss yellow gum

15 Cent

The 15-cent stamps show only three color variations: a. red-brown; b. orange-brown; c. yellow-brown. a. The first one to show up in December 1891 is the red-brown stamp in dark shades, poorly printed. In January 1893 the shade gets darker and the printing better, and in March 1894 turns into a lighter shade.

b. In October 1894 the orange-brown shade appears.

c. In January 1896 the darker yellow-brown shade appears, with the darkest variety in November 1896 and the lightest one in December 1897.

- 39 1891-92 thick paper, dull white gum, poor printing

- 39a 1893 thick paper, dull white gum, carefully printed
- 39b October, thin paper, dull white gum, carefully printed
- 39c 1894 (March) thin paper, dull and light glossy gums
- 39d (October) thin paper, dull white gum (orange-brown)
- 39e (December) rather thick, soft paper, occasionally bad perforation
- 39f 1896 thin paper, light glossy gum
- 39g 1897 thin, white paper, high-gloss white gum
- 39h 1898 thin paper, high-gloss yellow gum
- 39i 1899 thin paper, light glossy yellow gum

20 Cent

The green color is initially dull (poor printing), soon changing into a brighter and more emerald-green shade, the shade which has the "Specimen" overprints.

In May 1893 a light yellow-green shade appears in a fine, careful printing, which shade becomes darker in June 1894. In October 1894 the grass-green shade appears. December 1894 gives us a blueish green shade in various variations, up through 1898, with the exception of a light yellow-green that runs from January 1896 to August 1896, and returning in 1898 and 1899 with a yellow gum.

- 40 1892 thick paper, dull white gum
- 40a 1893 (May) thick paper, dull white gum, occasionally bad perforation
- 40b (August) thin, slightly laid paper
- 40c 1894 (June) thin paper, dull white gum (dark green)
- 40d (October) thin paper, light glossy white gum (grassgreen)
- 40e (December) thin paper, light glossy white gum (Blueish), occasionally bad perforation and
- 40f soft paper
- 40g 1896 (January) thin paper (light yellow-green)
- 40h (September) thin paper, light glossy white gum (bright blueish), occasionally bad perforation
- 40i 1897 (May) thin, hard paper, light glossy white gum (dark blueish)
- 40j 1898 thin yellowish paper, high-gloss yellow gum
- 40k 1899 thin yellowish paper, light glossy yellow gum

22½ Cent

The green color is initially a dull dark blueish green. In March 1893 it turns brighter and bluer. In October 1893 a lighter and yellower shade appears, with small variations continuing until 1895.

May 1895 gives us a deep dark blueish green, changing in July 1895 to a very deep dark olive-green. The last shade appears in April 1896, a light blueish green in various varieties.

- 41 1892 thick paper, dull white gum
- 41a 1893 thick (bluish) paper, dull white gum
- 41b (October) less thick paper, dull white gum, occasionally bad perforation
- 41c 1895 (March) thin (yellowish) paper, light glossy gum
- 41d (May) thin, soft paper, dull white gum, occasionally bad perforation
- 41e (July) thin, clearly laid paper, light glossy gum, occasionally bad perforation
- 41f 1896 thin paper, light glossy and white gum, in the lighter shades occasionally bad perforation

25 Cent

This stamp has a very sensitive color. The shades do not change gradually; all of a sudden a previous shade appears again. We can distinguish five colors:

- a. dull violet (1891-1894), of which in December 1891 the dullest, in the spring of 1893 the brightest and in 1894 the darkest shades appear.
- b. blue-violet, in darker and brighter shades, from October 1894 on.
- c. red-violet in many shades starting March 1896.
- d. rather bright blueish shades in many varieties, from October 1896 till May 1898. In the spring of 1897 turning into mauve and then to darker and more blueish lilacs.
- e. lighter and reddish shades from March 1898 on, becoming paler and more brownish from June 1898, and finally changing into more blueish shades in December 1898.

- 42 1891 dull violet, thick paper, dull white gum
- 42a 1893 (brighter shade) thinner paper, dull white gum, occasionally bad perforation
- 42b 1894 (darker shade) thin paper, dull white gum
- 42c blue-violet, thin paper, dull white gum, often bad perforation
- 42d blue-violet (December), thicker paper, dull white gum, often bad perforation
- 42e 1895 dull blue-lilac (August), thin, hard paper, dull white gum, occasionally bad perforation
- 42f light blue-lilac, thin paper, light glossy gum, occasionally bad perforation
- 42g 1896 red-violet in several shades, thin paper, occasionally bad perforation
- 42h bright blueish, thin paper
- 42i 1897 mauve, thin paper, glossy white gum
- 42j 1898 lilac pink, thin paper, high-gloss white gum
- 42k pale dull lilac, thin paper, light glossy yellow gum

50 Cent

In June 1892 the grayish brown 50-cent stamp appears, known as the sand-colored stamp (light dune-sand color according to the pre-1900 collectors). Two printings appeared in this color but under ultraviolet light they show up completely different. Under UV the stamps of the first printing show up as an even dark brown on white paper. Even without UV the first printing is distinguished from the second by the sharp printing which accentuates the picture.

Under UV the second printing shows a lilac-brown on paper which is not as white as that of the first. In daylight the second printing looks faded and dull.

In January 1893 a dark olive-yellow shade appears, often erroneously considered as the "sand" color and sold as such in stores. The picture is dull; the ink seems to have flowed; identical to the appearance of the second printing of the real "sand" color stamp. In October 1893 and in 1894 the color changes into a lighter brown (beige). Under UV the paper is hard yellow or dull yellow, the color of the 1893 olive-brown paper. Even with the naked eye we can detect the difference in paper: white for the real sand-color and dirty yellowish for the so-called sand-color.

In December 1894 we get a shade which is more dull-dark yellow-brown (dark beige) in various varieties.

The real sand-color is canceled with a numeral cancel or with a small circular cancel until late 1893, while the so-called sand-color shows December 1894 and both years 1895 and 1896.

- 43 1892 (June) grayish brown (sand color), white, thick paper, dull white gum
- 43a (August) light grayish brown (dull), less white paper, dull white gum
- 43b 1893 (January) light olive-brown
- 43c dark grayish brown, yellowish thick paper, under UV hard yellow
- 43d 1893 (October)-1894 light brown (beige), thin paper, under UV hard yellow
- 43e already in 1893 also thinner paper; bad perforation in September and November 1894
- 43f 1894 (December) dull-dark yellow-brown (dark beige), in various varieties, thick paper, under UV hard yellow and dull yellow

1 Guilder

In 1892 the 1 guilder stamp appeared in the gray-violet color, but the oldest known cancellation is January 7, 1894. Although there probably was only one printing of this stamp so that no variation in shade should be possible, there are three distinct shades known, namely light gray-violet (1894), a deeper gray-violet (1895) and slate-gray, the latter being a very rare shade.

- 44 1894 gray-violet, thick, white paper, dull white gum
- 44a later turning into a deeper gray-violet and
- 44b slate-gray

Two-colored Stamps

2½ Guilder

In December 1891 the 2½-guilder stamp appeared in the wine-red color with light blue center medallion, with line perforation 11½ x 11½.

- 45 1891 wine-red and light blue, in light and dark varieties, thick, white paper, light glossy gum

From 1896 the values of 50 cents and higher appeared in two colors and in the larger format. October 14, 1896, the 50 cents appears in light green with light brown medallion.

In January 1898 we get the dark green with dark brown medallion 50-cent stamp. In this shade we find the line perforation 11 x 11, of which only 7 mint copies are known.

Line Perforation 11½ x 11

- 46 1896 50 cent, light green and light brown, bad perforation, dull white gum
- 46a 1898 50 cent, dark green and dark brown, bad perforation, white glossy gum
- 47 1896 1 guilder, light brown and light olive green, thin paper, dull white gum
- 45a 1897 2½ guilder, light anilin-red and blue, thick paper, white glossy gum

Line Perforation 11 x 11

- 46aA 1898 50 cent, dark green and dark brown, white glossy gum
- 47a 1896 1 guilder, light brown and light olive green, thick paper, dull white gum
- 45aA 1897 2½ guilder, anilin-red and blue in light and dark shades, thick paper, white glossy gum
- 48 1896 5 guilder, bronze-green and red-brown, thick paper, white glossy gum

Editorial comment: *This concludes the second instalment of our translation. While the first one may be seen as the introductory material, this part certainly contains the "meat" of the information for our purposes. Since this "Handbook" has been around some time, I wonder whether any of our members has tried to separate the various stamps in the multiplicity of shades mentioned for his or her collection. If anyone has done so, the editor would appreciate to hear the result. With the prices of these classic stamps where they are going now - and have gone - it will be extremely difficult to get a collection of unused stamps together to comment on the gum variations. But this too may have been done in the past. Let me know!*

Surinam Landmarks

Paul E. van Reyen

In 1961 Surinam issued a new set of definitive stamps portraying various historical buildings in the capital, Paramaribo. The designer of the stamps was N.C. Loning whose first attempt at designing stamps for Surinam appeared in 1953-1954. The stamps were offset-printed in sheets of 50 on unwatermarked paper by Joh. Enschede at Haarlem, the Netherlands.

Since it is not generally known that notwithstanding some disastrous fires in the last century Paramaribo has a fair number of eighteenth and early nineteenth-century buildings left, most of them built in wood, it seemed worthwhile to tell a little bit about these stamps and the buildings shown. Of course, we also should not forget that Surinam up to the middle of the eighteenth century supported some kind of a luxury economy built on the prosperous sugar plantations. The owners generally did not live on the plantations - there are very few good examples of plantation homes - but in the capital, while the plantations were left to overseers. Towards the end of that century the situation became less advantageous because of slave revolts, and generally declining markets for the products that Surinam could offer. Paramaribo slowly declined into a provincial town with a few landmarks.

The 10-cent stamp shows the Ministry of Finance. This is the former Town Hall, built from 1836 until 1841. Prior to 1810 the Town Hall and the Reformed Church shared one building at the Kerkplein, but in that year this building was torn down. I have been unable to find out where church services were held in the meantime, nor where the "burgomaster" plied his trade. The Ministry of Finance was designed by the architect Johan August Voigt, who followed the "Greek Revival" style then also popular in the United States.

The 15-cent stamp shows only the stoop and entry of the Court of Justice, built in brick in 1774; in 1793 and 1804 minor changes took

place. Lately the windows in the mansard roof were completely rebuilt with disastrous results, as can be seen when we compare the old drawing to the left with the top part of the stamp.

To show the refinement practiced in building even towards the end of the eighteenth century, we also show a detail drawing of the stoop and cast-iron railing leading to the main floor of the building. It can also be seen that the general level of Paramaribo has been raised since the construction of 1774.

The 20-cent stamp shows what is now the office of the Prime Minister of Surinam. It has been called the

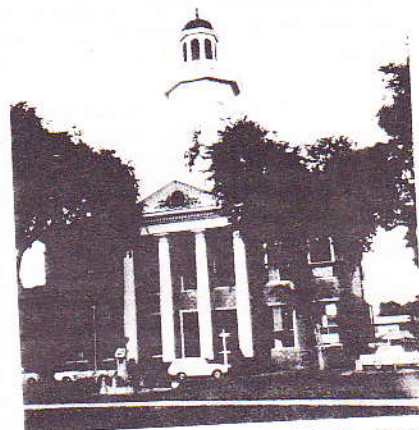


Court of Justice after an old drawing

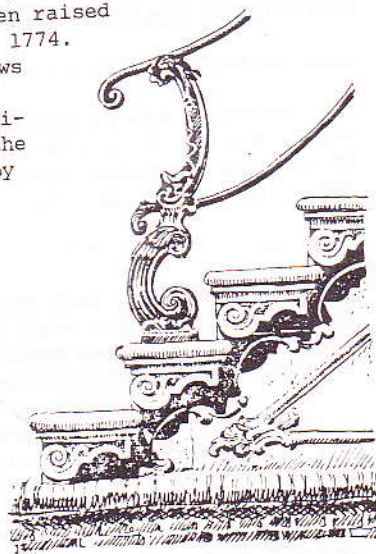
largest and most beautiful wooden house in Paramaribo. It was built in 1774 by Governor Jean Nepveu. The entry in Louis XV style is unique for Surinam. The stamp shows this entry. The whole building is shown in the photograph on the following page. One publication says of it "reminiscent of a small chateau," which is easily seen. For more than a century the club "Concordia" was located here, but in 1962, after restoration, it became the Ministry of General Affairs. The description in the Philatelic Service booklet (1961) still calls it "Concordia Building."

Before we go to our next stamp, the 25-cent, which portrays the "German Synagogue," we should mention that in Surinam the remains are found of the oldest synagogue in the Western Hemisphere, which was commemorated in 1968 by the release of three stamps. One of these shows the map of the Suriname River with prominently "Joods Dorp," which is now called Jewish Savanna. The second one shows the synagogue built on a bluff above the river, and the third one a gravestone which was found in the vicinity.

Joden Savanna was abandoned during the eighteenth century and Paramaribo took over as the main Jewish settlement. The German synagogue "Neve



The Ministry of Finance, housed in the old town hall, is a fine example of colonial architecture



Detail of staircase and stoop



"Shalom," built in 1835-36 after a design by J. F. Halfhide, was a replacement for a synagogue which had burned down in one of the many town fires. The first synagogue of that name seems to date from 1719. It is one of the most beautiful houses of worship in Surinam as the photo below clearly shows. There are two galleries inside. Next to this building is found a ritual bath from 1830 with a wooden story above a brick arcade surrounding the bath.

Our 30-cent stamp shows one of the many sluices that are prominent in the plantation district on the left bank of the Commewyne River. This one is lo-

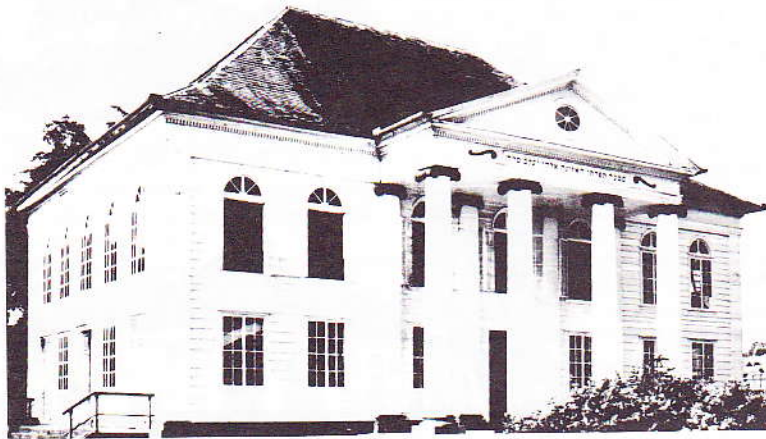


Ministry of General Affairs

cated in the "Fort Nieuw Amsterdam Park," across the river from Paramaribo. These sluices are interesting pieces of useful architecture; they were meant to let superfluous water escape, or to prevent too much water to enter the irrigation ditches on the plantation. Earlier sluices (this one is from the beginning of the nineteenth century) had large wheels with spokes on either side of the two pillars to raise or lower the wooden doors that regulated the water flow.



The building on the 35-cent stamp is the old office of the State Land Commissioner. I have been

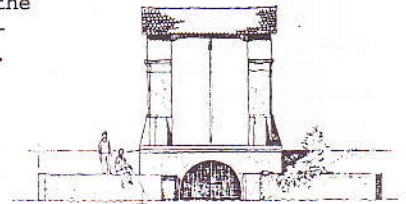


German Synagogue "Neve Shalom"

unable to find out more about this building. Perhaps one of our members can tell us more about it. Noting the large balcony, it may here be the place to say that the elaborate balconies that are found all over Paramaribo are late nineteenth-century additions in most cases. They are generally built onto existing structures, as may be the case in this building too. Some of these balconies are decorated with wrought-iron railings that are as good as anything found in New Orleans.



The 40-cent stamp shows the Palace of the President, formerly the Governor's Mansion. It dates from 1728-34, but was often rebuilt and enlarged (in 1792, 1802 and 1834), while the portico and the garden room were added even later. The draw-

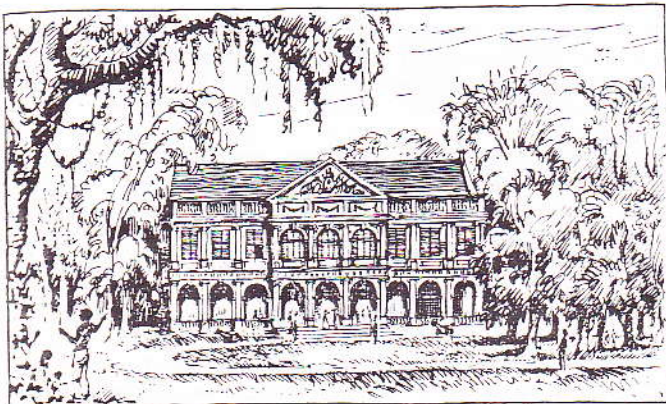


ing at the bottom of the page shows the Governor's Mansion as it was in

The sluice at Nieuw Amsterdam

1830. The lower part is built in brick while the rest is wood. Of the wooden staircase in this building it is said that it is as steep as the staircases generally found in the Netherlands, a deplorable heritage, especially if one considers the easier-sloping stairs in the neighboring countries.

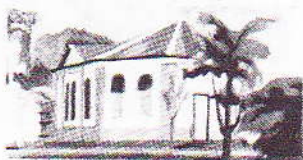
On the grass-grown square in front of the Palace is found a rather unique monument. Notwithstanding Queen Wilhelmina's wish that no monument would be erected for her during her lifetime, the people of Surinam at the occasion of Queen Wilhelmina's silver anniversary put up a monument showing her as a youthful woman striding into the future.



The Governor's Mansion in 1830



SURINAME 50 CENT



SURINAME 60 CENT

The 50-cent stamp shows the Parliament or Staten Building where the local representatives have sat for over 100 years. The ground floor is plastered brick while the top floor is wood. The basement and first floor are seventeenth century - on a map of 1722 it is indicated as a "brick house." By 1770 the office of the West-Indian Company was located in the building. In this century the house was added to both left and right, but this was done so carefully that one wouldn't guess that the last windows on either side are not original. The photo on the right shows the building as it appears from the air.

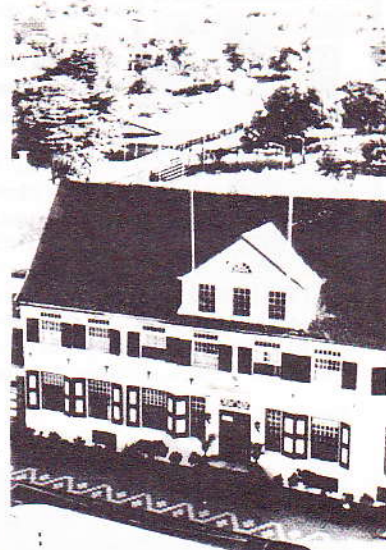
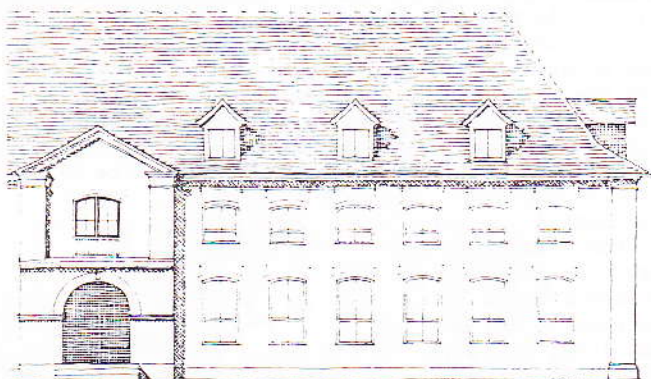
As we wrote above, in 1810 a large building which served both as the Reformed Church and the Town Hall was destroyed. At the same spot a new church was built which was used from 1814.

Very little is known of this church, because the town fire of 1821 completely demolished it. It might have been a church with a central cupola.

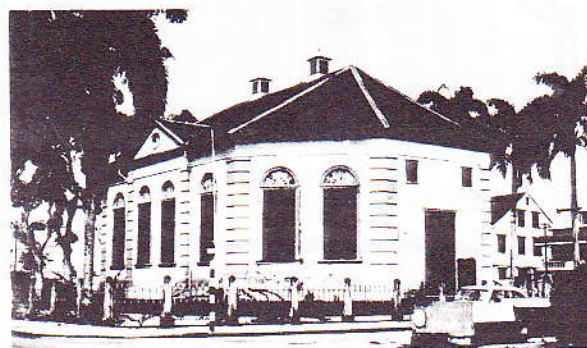
In 1833 the first stone was placed for the new church, which we see on the 60-cent stamp, and two years later the building was opened in the presence of a royal prince. Since 1835 there have been no changes made to the building, which you also see in the photo to the right.

The church was designed by the town architect, C. A. Roman, who also designed the Lutheran Church. The floor consists of ancient gravestones - most of them pretty worn. The organ dates from 1842.

As the last of the set we have the 70-cent stamp which shows the Ministry of Education, also called the "1790 Building," because this former warehouse for the army was built in 1790.



The Staten Building

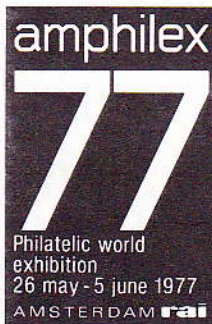


The Dutch Reformed Church in Paramaribo

The "1790 Building" is built entirely of brick of two vitually empty floors originally. The exterior was unchanged for its present function. The drawing left is an architectural rendering.



SURINAME 70 CENT



AMPHILEX is extending. The organizers have decided to increase the floor surface by 4000 square meters. The Oosthal and the Noordhal will be added to the Europahal and Zuidhal, originally reserved in the RAI Exhibition Center, giving the exhibition a total space of more than 28,000 square meters.

H.R.H. Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands will be Patron of the exhibition, which takes place under the auspices of the Federation Internationale de Philatelie. There will be 600 exhibitors, 120 stamp dealers from the Netherlands and foreign countries (our fellow-member Frank Geiger will have a booth too), and 40 postal administrations will be represented.

There will be the following special days: Saturday, May 28, Entire Day; Monday, May 30, Aerophilately Day; Tuesday, May 31, Youth Day; Wednesday, June 1, United Nation's Day; Thursday, June 2, British Day; Saturday, June 4, Thematic Stamp Collection Day.

Perhaps here I should mention that the projected trip to three Dutch castles is planned for May 31, a Tuesday (Hernen Castle being closed on Mondays). If 20 people want to go on this trip, we can share the bus fare at 400 guilders, so each one pays \$8. This does not include lunch, because we will stop at a restaurant where everyone can have his/her own choice--simplifies matters. Anybody who goes to Amphilex, let me know if you are absolutely sure that you will go, right away. The bus will have to be reserved soon!

How to Set Up Your Own Pages:

A New Approach

Willem van Zandhoven

Let me first confess that almost from the beginning of my collecting the stamps of the Netherlands and its colonies (in those days they still were) I made my own pages. I am sure it was very unscientific, whatever that may mean, but it served my purpose, which was to get all my stamps decently housed.

Then, after years of doing other things with my spare time and money such as collecting antiques and Victoriana, I went back to my first love - with a vengeance. And then the problems began. At first I totally discarded the idea of a preprinted album. Most of the examples I had seen had too many stamps on one page. Others had "cutesy" borders which did not appeal to me. So, from the beginning I was back where I had been - making up my own pages, which is what I did.

My "bible" was, of course, the NVPH *Speciale Catalogus*. When one collects the Netherlands, having a "local" catalog is a must, especially if one goes a little beyond the major numbers - as I do - and collects perforation varieties, some color and paper variations, and some of the listed errors. Luckily I also had a copy of the incomparable *Manual* (1940) by Schiller and de Kruyf for backup. Because, even apart from the fact that the *Manual* lists the two 12½:12 perforations for the older issues of the Netherlands and former colonies, it also gives additional information on issue dates which is not found in the *Speciale*. So I set out and pretty soon - in a year or two - I had albums for all five areas (Netherlands New Guinea was naturally separate from the Netherlands Indies, although it could be seen as a continuation).

And pretty soon thereafter I got somewhat disturbed feelings when I looked at my stamps. Let me give you an example:

Take Netherlands Nos. 56-76, the so-called "Queen with fur collar" stamps. Here are 21 stamps which have to be accommodated on one page practically. On the following page the perforation varieties go which will give you 13 stamps in three perforations. The next page is reserved for the two tete-beche varieties. Now, my album pages looked very crowded, to say the least, except for the last one. The next numbers in the catalog, Nos. 77-80, the high values, were even worse, because handled the same way, here I found myself with a page that was duller than dull, having three rows of three identical stamps, and one row of

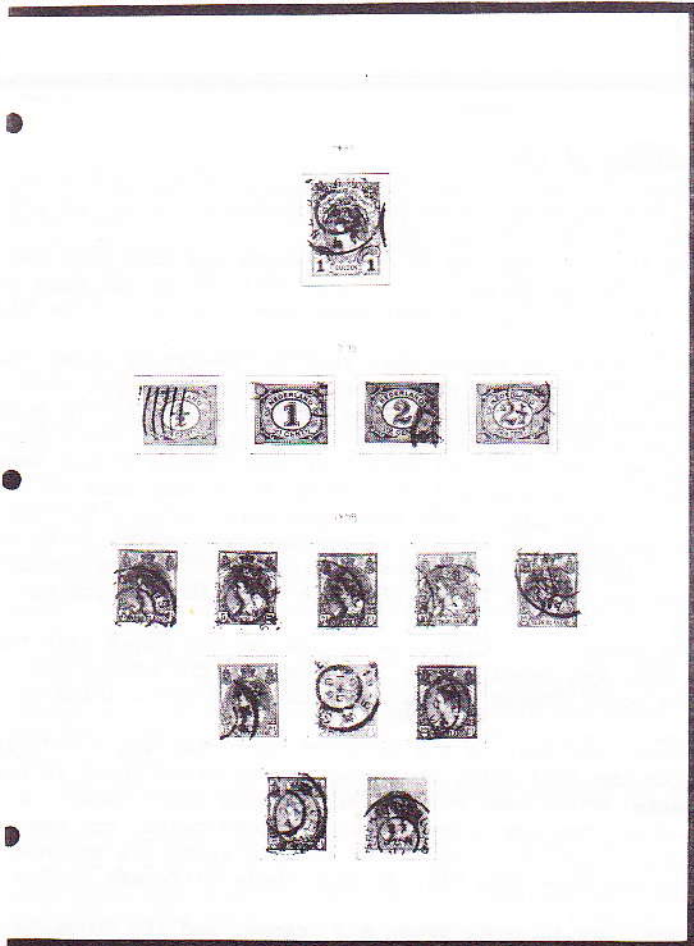
four stamps with, of course, a nice blank spot where No. 80 was supposed to go.

Not only did this approach produce crowded or dull-looking pages, it also began to bother me that in these four pages we had accumulated stamps that were issued between 1899 and 1921 (1924 if you count the tete-beche stamps too). Let's follow the catalog some more. After No. 80, issued in 1905, we get No. 81, the 10 cent with the differing background, issued in 1922. This stamp in my original set-up would obviously go at the top of the page, followed by the two imperfs from 1923, and where does that leave you? With Nos. 84-86, issued in 1906.

I must say that it was this set in particular that finally forced me to try a different approach which I will call the chronological approach, although it also could be called the postal history approach, because it immediately shows - more or less - what stamps were available at what time, and frequently reflects postal rate changes.

Let us see what my example above now looks like. On my first page (see Fig. 1 on the left) I have under 1898 the inauguration - coronation - stamp of 1 guilder. This is followed in 1899 by the four low values issued in that year, ½, 1, 2 and 2½ cents, on one line, and then we get the 10 stamps with the "fur collar" that were issued in 1899 too, the 3 cents orange, the 5 cents red, the 7½ cents brown, the 10 cents grey, the 12½ cents blue, the 15 cents light brown, the 20 cents green, the 22½ cents brown and green, the 25 cents blue and red, and finally the 50 cents bronze and brown.

The next page begins with the three high values of 1899 in the 11½ x 11 perforation, followed by the 1901 change in color of the 3 cents, from orange to green. Then we have another three high values, this time issued in 1901, in perforation 11 x 11.



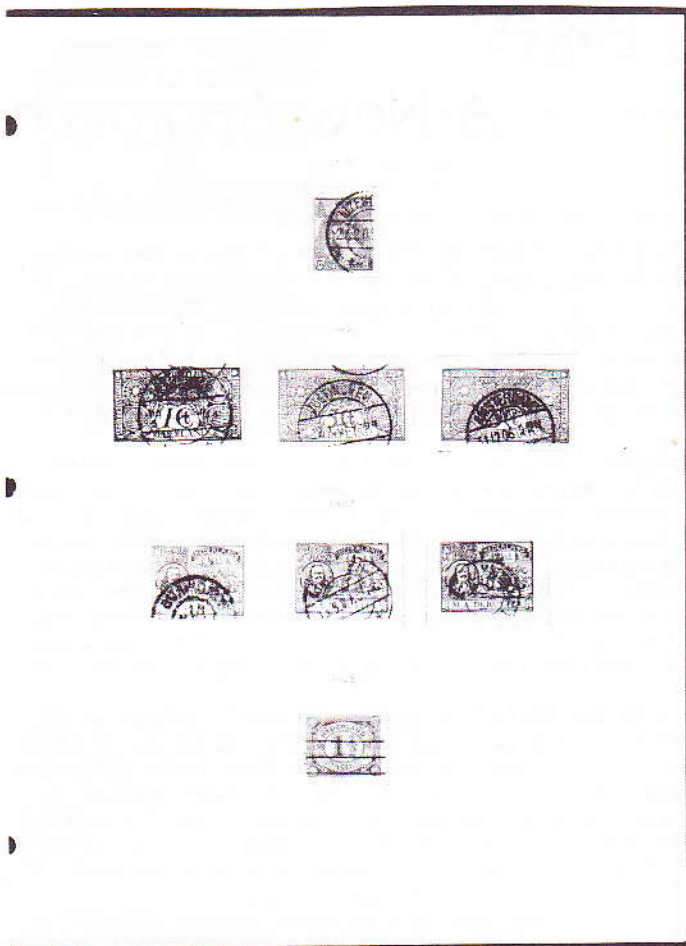


Figure 2

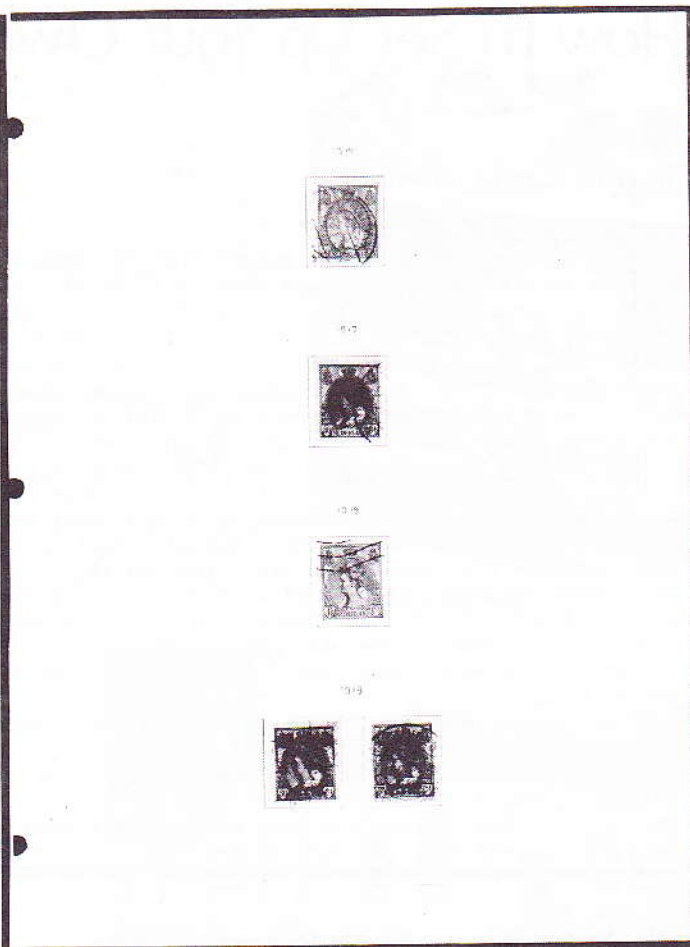


Figure 3

Finally, at the bottom of the page, the famous 10 guilders of 1905.

Page 3 of my example begins with 1906, a new value, 17½ cents lilac. Following that stamp is the set of the same year, Nos. 84-86, the first semipostals. Then we have the De Ruyter commemorative set of 1907, and the added low value, the 1½ cents ultramarine (No. 52) of 1908 (see fig. 2).

Page 4 begins with two color changes in 1908, the 15 cents and the 20 cents, which now both have two colors. The next row has the 1908 perforation 11½ x 11½ of the three high values, followed by the next color change, of the 17½ cents to blue and dark grey in 1910. Finally, in that same year, the last three high values in the perforation variety 11 x 11½.

Let's stop here for a moment and comment on some interesting things that show up. Everybody knows that there are many color varieties in the "fur collar" set. The *Speciale* even mentions a few. In 1899, when these stamps first appeared, the heavy-handed double-circle cancel was the one generally used in the Netherlands. If we try to get a set of the stamps issued in 1899 with this double-circle cancel we are almost sure - I would say we are sure, but I am cagey - that we have the *first* colors in which these stamps were issued. From there it is almost easy to get color varieties because all we have to do is just look at the different cancellations or the date on the cancellation, most likely the next type which shows a bar thru the center. We can even build up a sequence of color varieties if we have enough dateable stamps. With the high values it is also remarkable that the perforation issued in 1899 almost always has this same double-circle cancel. It gets so that I don't have to use the perf gauge to see that the stamp in question has the 11½ x 11 perf. The cancel tells me enough.

Well, enough about that for now. To go back to my example, in this case we now get two pages with the two perforation varieties of the 1913 commemorative set. Two pages is the least because the stamps are big, and at the end we also have to make room for the color change of the 1½ cents, from ultramarine to blue. That one came out in 1913 too.

I have to confess that my next page is awfully bare, but that is the fault of the Dutch who didn't issue too many stamps in those happy days. We begin with the 1914 color change of the 50 cents which is now grey and violet. Then we have a new value, the 30 cents, which came out in 1917 - three years later. In 1919 another new value, the 4½ cents violet, and finally, two new values, the 40 and 60 cents, but these were frugally applied as overprints to the 30-cent stamp. The color varieties in this stamp are so unbelievable that the three 30-cent stamps I have on this one page (see Fig. 3) have three different shades in both the violet and lilac-brown.

In 1920 the new values really appear as new stamps, the 40 cents green and orange, and the 60 cents olive and green. These come at the top of a new page, followed by the two overprints on the superfluous

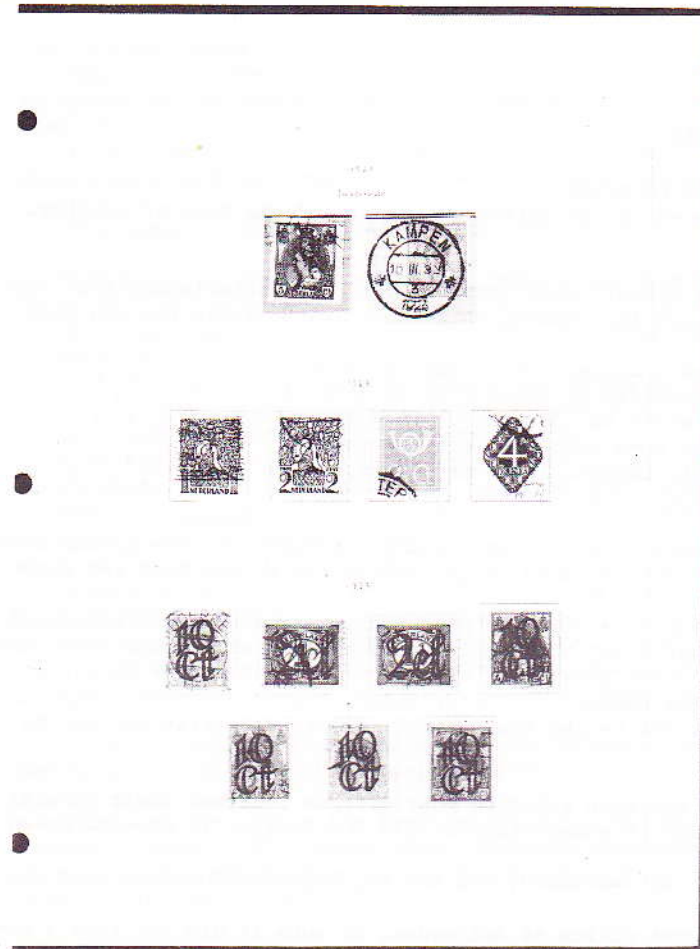


Figure 4

10-guilder stamps (Nos. 104 and 105). Finally, at the bottom we find the first line perforation of the "fur collar" stamps (because the regular comb 12½ machine had broken down), the 11½ x 11, seven values.

The next page starts with the exceedingly rare 11 x 11½ 15-cent stamp (I like my empty spaces better at the top of the page), followed by the five values in perforation 11½ x 11½. The bottom of the page shows the 4 cent overprint on 4½ cents, issued in 1921.

The next page is pretty bare again. We begin with 1921, the 4 cents purple, and on the next row the 20 cents blue, numeral type, which also appeared in 1921. Then we get the rest of the modified numerals, the 5 cents and the two types of the 12½ cents (I put the two types next to each other because they appeared within the same sheet: the flat "R" showed up 62 times per sheet of 200). In 1922 we have the 10 cents grey with the modified background (no success, esthetically speaking).

The page which is shown in Figure 4 (see left) has only stamps issued in 1923, and I believe is completely chronological too. First come the two imperf's, then we have a row with the four new low values, the 1 and 2 cent "lion in Dutch garden," the 2½ cents posthorn, and 4 cents "diamond." The last stamps on the page are the overprints 2 ct and 10 ct on various values of the "fur collar" stamps and numerals which, after the new low values, were demonitized.

The next page has the line perforation varieties of the 1923 overprints, the 11½ x 11, and the 11½ x 11½, and the bottom of the page has plenty of space for the two types of tete-beche 7½-cent stamps which came out in 1924. This was a deliberate move away from pure chronology merely to save space.

The next five pages have the 1923 Jubilee stamps in their various perforations, but I want to get to the last of the "fur collar" issue, the complicated 1923 overprint of the 3 and 17½ cents with DIENST ZEGEL PORT EN AANTEKENRECHT, but not issued, and finally - exceedingly frugally - used up by applying another overprint, 10 ct and 1 gld. We have room for the regular two, and on the following row the two line perforations of the 1 gld stamps. The bottom of the page, finally, has the second semipostal set.

It wasn't easy to get this organization on paper. For one, the *NVPH Speciale Catalogus* does not give all the issue years completely, let alone dates, so I had to go to the extremely useful - in more ways than one - FDC catalog of Okker and Avezaat, who, of course, give exceedingly good dates, and if they haven't got the day itself, they usually give enough information to make up a sequence of issue dates for various stamps.

It also is not easy to change over to this system - I know because so far I have only attempted the Netherlands, and I am poised to tackle Curaçao-Netherlands Antilles, especially since we now have *A Postal History of Curaçao* by Julsen and Benders to help out. But sometimes you can have too much information: I haven't been able to figure out how to make a completely chronological set-up of Curaçao Nos. 44-70, the numerals, the "little ship" stamps, and the palm tree high values. That is, it would be easy to do IF the *Curaçao Handbook* didn't also give the various paper and gum varieties. This makes it into a real difficult job. If any member has a good idea on that, please let me know through the editor.

Well, there may be people who will, after reading this, call me a chronology nut, and perhaps they're right. On the other hand, most collections are set up chronologically to a large extent, and I am merely doing it completely, without any excuse such as is found on page 50 of the 1977 *Speciale Catalogus*: "Although the additional values 6, 17½, 50 and 60 cent, as well as the high values 1, 2½, 5 and 10 guilders ought to have been listed later, they are given here for a better overview." This concerns the 1940 definitive set, of which some values came out six years later. The 6 cents appeared almost seven years later, but they are all listed before the 1940 "summer" semipostals, and the German occupation overprints on the 3 cents "dove."

Any remarks pro and con are eagerly awaited by the author (as well as by the editor).

Editor's remark: If there is enough interest (and we can only know through your letters) perhaps we could give this kind of treatment to some other complicated definitive set which lasted for years. I have in mind NVPH Nos. 144-165 and 169-198, with the watermark varieties, and perforation variations, including the syncopated perforations. Or perhaps, all varieties as listed above, but without the syncopated perfs. Should air mail stamps be included in this treatment? That is, should air mail stamps be interspersed with the regular issues? Give us your answers.

Numeral Cancels

E. Haak, *President of the Postzegelvereniging Drachten*

Applying a cancel to letters or envelopes has two purposes:

- a. it is a means of identifying the post office from where the letter was sent, and the hour of sending.
- b. it prevents the re-use of the stamps applied.

Following the example of France, in 1869 numeral cancels were introduced in the Netherlands. This cancel consists of a number of dots in the center of which is a number which is characteristic for the post office where the cancel is used.

The official name given to this cancel was "numeral cancel," although in Dutch it is now generally called a "dot cancel." The cancel consists of seven rows of dots. In a cancel without numeral the number of dots per row would be: 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - 5 - 4 - 3 (see Fig. 1), thus forming a hexagon. In the center some dots are left out to make space for the numeral(s). When this numeral is 10 or higher, the rows consist of: 3 - 4 - (5 - 1 = 4) - (6 - 2 = 4) - (5 - 1 = 4) - 4 - 3 (see Fig. 2).

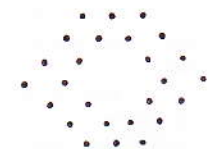


Figure 2

The numerals under 10 would have a fairly large space available if this system were applied, so for those cancels one dot is added on the middle row to the left and right of the numeral.

Although the shape of the 6 and 9 is slightly different, confusion might be caused. The same applies to 66 and 99. That's why originally one dot was placed under the 6 and 9. Later models of these cancels don't show these extra dots. For 66 and 99 an extra dot was added between and under the numbers. In later models these dots also disappeared, although there exists a cancel 99. with an extra dot behind the numeral. All these variations can be found on stamps.

On the date of introduction, April 1, 1869, all the then existing post offices received their numeral in alphabetical sequence. Alkmaar began with No. 1 and it ended with No. 135 for Zwolle. It must be noted

1. that Zaltbommel - with No. 13 - comes between No. 12, Bolsward, and No. 14, Boxmeer. The name used for alphabetization was Bommel!
2. that Delfshaven - No. 21 - in 1886 became a sub-post office of Rotterdam. As such it did not rate a numeral cancel anymore. In 1891 this numeral was given to the new post office of Emmen.
3. that Dirksland - No. 25 - in 1890 became a sub-post office. Number 25 went to the new post office of 's-Graveland in 1891.
4. that the post office in Kampen - No. 64 - next to the normal cancel also used one with abnormally small figures.
5. that the post office of Leeuwarden - No. 67 - next to the normal cancel used one with a different 6, the so-called "6 without curl."
6. that many post offices, especially the larger ones, during the 24 years that the numeral cancels were in use, utilized many cancels. They also often used more than one cancel at the same time. The new cancel was not always identical to the old one. Many post offices show thus different types.

Not only the regular post offices received a cancel but also the existing railroad post offices. Thus Amsterdam-Emmerich received No. 136; Arnhem-Oldenzaal received No. 137; and Moerdijk-Antwerpen (later Amsterdam-Antwerpen) received No. 138. In 1872 No. 141 was added for Utrecht-Zwolle. The rest of the numerals up to 150 was kept in reserve.

A month after the official date for the use of the numeral cancel, May 1, 1869, a new post office was opened, namely Oisterwijk. This office received No. 151, and from there on succeeding post offices were supplied with numerals in chronological sequence (rather than alphabetical).

This was done until December 1, 1890, after the new post office of Middelharnis had received No. 257. Thereafter the unassigned numbers 139-140 and 142-150 were used.

Finally, shortly before the numeral cancels were discontinued, two more post offices were supplied with a numeral cancel: April 1, 1893 Soest received No. 258, and June 1, 1893 Waddinxveen No. 259.

Fifteen days later, namely June 15, 1893, all numeral cancels were discontinued.

It is obvious that the numerals of the large post offices which used their cancels for a long time occur most frequently. The higher the numeral, the shorter the time they were used. Also, with small post offices it goes without saying that the numerals are scarce. As is usual, the supply influences the price, so there are great differences in price between the various cancels.

Not all post offices were open all the time. The post offices of Scheveningen and Zandvoort originally were only open during the bathing season, only later on a permanent basis.

The temporary post offices of the military (summer) camps were open only a very short period during the year. Evidently the numerals 155 and 159 will be exceedingly scarce.

The large post offices often had sub-offices in their precinct. These sub-offices employed the same number as the main post office, which also happened with some railroad post offices in some towns. Only when one has entire pieces or covers can it be ascertained whether the main office or the sub-office used

the relevant cancel.

The numeral cancel was only a cancel to prevent the re-use of stamps, so a date-line cancel also had to appear on the postal piece, first the so-called "two-letter" cancel, later the "small round" cancel. Even the "little branch" cancel, officially only to be used on printed matter, can be found.

Postal regulations stated that the numeral cancel should be applied in black ink. However, different colors such as blue, green, red and violet also occur.

The numeral cancel was used as an obliteration cancel on various stamps:

- a. from April 1, 1869, on stamps on letters and samples.
- b. in 1870 the postage due stamps of 5 and 10 cents were issued, which from January 1, 1871, also were used as "double-amount" postage due stamps. On these postage due stamps and the later ones numeral cancels were used.
- c. regular stamps on postcards without imprinted value, or added as additional postage were also obliterated with the numeral cancel. Imprinted postcards had to be canceled with the date-line cancel. Yet, many postcards are known with a numeral cancel.
- d. from January 1, 1871, it was possible to collect money through the mail by sending invoices; instead of a revenue stamp, regular stamps could be used, and these were obliterated with the numeral cancel.
- e. from July 1, 1871, a money order form was used which used regular postage stamps which were to be canceled with the numeral cancel.
- f. from January 1, 1876, it was possible to send letters in imprinted wrappers. These imprinted stamp impressions were also to be canceled with the numeral cancel.
- g. from April 1, 1892, it was possible to use lettersheets (postbladen). The stamps imprinted on these were also to be obliterated by the numeral cancel.
- h. in 1884 modified money order forms were issued. The stamps on these originally had to be canceled with the date-line cancel. From April 1, 1892, these stamps also had to be canceled with the numeral cancel.

June 15, 1893, the numeral cancel was discontinued. From that day on all postage and postage due stamps had to be canceled with a date-line cancel.

This article originally appeared in Dutch in the Jubilee Issue 1955-1975 of the Postzegelvereniging Drachten, August 1975. Netherlands Philately appreciates the permission given to translate the article into English for publication in our March issue. This permission was given by the Editor, Mr. H. J. van den Bosch in Akkrum, Friesland.

ASNP Library

For an editor, your editor is quite disorganized. After listing numerous publications we have in our own library, it appears that several were missed. This is especially grievous since we did not give credit to the people who donated these publications to our library. Let us first give thanks to Mr. J.J. Goss in England, who, a long time ago, donated a copy of:

Beknopt Handboek over de Nederlandse Postzegels: Uitgave 1891 "Koningin met hangend haar." The Hague, 1957 (in Dutch).

L.E. Kieffer donated (and I hope that I don't miss any here)

J. van Deth, Ed., *Postal Stationery of the Netherlands*. Blaricum, 1948, 108 pp.
Catalog of Japanese Occupation Overprints on Dutch East Indian Stamps. Amsterdam: Hekker, 1950.
Periodic Publication No. 1 of the Nederlandsch-Indische Vereeniging van Postzegelverzamelaars, Batavia, 1949. Contents: Initial "overprints" in the early Japanese occupation period in Palembang (in Dutch); Also, Remarks about Stamps Used in East Sumatra during the Japanese Occupation Period, and Amboina Overprints.

Dr. Fred L. Reed gave us a copy of his famous book

Dr. Fred L. Reed, *The Halfround Postmarks on the First Issue of the Netherlands*. The Hague: Van Dieten.

Mr. Alex ter Braake donated a folder named:

Alex ter Braake, *Articles on Postal History (in Dutch)*. These are a series of articles written for *Mijn Stokpaardje*, a philatelic periodical in the Netherlands.

Finally, Dr. A. M. Benders has promised us some volumes of the *Maandblad* running from 1971 through 1974, but these have not been shipped yet.

Here I would encourage all our members who have philatelic publications which are not available in the Library to make these available to our members on a loan basis. If any member has something of interest, please let the editor know. We will have to list these publications and loans can go through the Librarian or direct.

Meet Your Board of Governors

As promised a while back, here we will publish some biographical notes on our Board of Governors members, with photos. The only one who does not believe in photos is Dr. Fred L. Reed, who, I believe, is so well-known that a photo actually is not really necessary. We will let our Governors speak for themselves.

I was born in 1905 in Bloemendaal, Holland. My first recollection of interest in philately, if I remember rightly, was about 1910 or 1911, when I found a wrapper franked with a ½-cent stamp of 1899, whereas I only knew the 1½-cent denomination (issue 1908). Since then there was a general collection until I began my studies of medicine in Utrecht in 1923, where I shared rooms with another student-collector. We both became 'Netherlands' fans (1923 being a stormy year in Netherlands philately) and two years later we were both appointed editor for Netherlands stamps of the *Nederlandsch Maandblad voor Philatelie*.

In 1947 my work as a general practitioner forced me to leave the job to others. The compilation of the avalanche of Netherlands Indies stamps overprinted by the Japanese, and reaching us that year, was too heavy a task and could not be combined with my work.

By the end of 1969 I retired, and now time is too short to do all the philatelic work I would like to do. My interests now are especially in the stamps and postal history of the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam, which has led to *A Postal History of Curaçao* of last year, together with Frank W. Julsen.

I am a member and in a few cases an honorary member of some stamp collectors societies, a member of the Board of the 'Bonds Documentatie Centrum' and a 'Knight' of the 'Costerus medal' for important philatelic studies.

Besides the West Indies, I am an ardent collector of the stamps of the Indian Native States (such as Bhopal, Bamra, Kishengarrh and the like), which are a most fascinating field of study.



My interest in Dutch philately goes back to 1933, when a fellow collector showed me some of the colorful semipostals issued in the '20's. My memory is quite vivid on that subject, as "the" stamp that started me on the Netherlands was the red and black stamp of the 1927 Xmas set. Inevitably, when I had accumulated all the Netherlands stamps within my financial means, I began to expand my interest into numeral cancels, precancels, covers and the like. When I had gone as far as I could in those fields, my interest began to lag a bit, I must confess. Then one day I picked up a Curaçao stamp with cancel from St. Maarten. Realizing that there were only 6 islands - and not many more post offices within that group - I decided to try for one example of each. That was back in 1947. In the intervening 30 years that little decision started me in a direction that now represents a collection of Curaçao postmarks big enough to choke a horse, so to speak! It was while I was "writing up" my collection that I did the original article for NCP journal back in 1952. Then, several years ago, my good friend Hans van Dieten suggested that I expand the original notes into a handbook. With the total and invaluable

help of another old and dear friend, Dr. A. M. Benders, the recently published *Postal History of Curaçao* came into being.

Although my basic interest still is in postal history, I have an especially soft spot for the "roltanding" stamps, AND in particular for the POKO issues. One of my earlier studies was on these stamps, along with precancels. It seems that the urge to write about Dutch stamps emerges periodically. One of these days, after the typewriter cools off a bit, I have another book in mind! Meanwhile, there are a few stamps that need to be mounted in albums, things that took a backseat during the past few years of doing the Curaçao book.

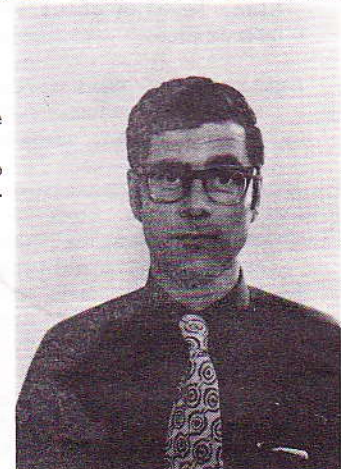
My age is 44, I have a wife Claire (who collects Red Cross stamps and covers), and three children aged 18, 16 and 13. We live in Bracebridge, out in the beautiful vacation county of Muskoka.

I am an engineer by profession, and manager of a wire and cable plant. Also President of the Muskoka Philatelic Society, Chapter 126 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

I collect Netherlands and Overseas Territories in all aspects with special emphasis on Netherlands prestamp covers, Japanese occupation issues and postal history.

I am presently making a plating study of the Netherlands 1872 issue before stocks disappear altogether. The 10, 20 and 50 cents are completed, and I am now working on the 25 cents. The results are published in Holland, England and the U.S.A. These studies are done with the invaluable help of Jan Dekker and E. Gerrish of England.

As an interesting sideline I also collect Canada 19th century, especially



prestamp covers with some emphasis on Canada-U.S.A. across the border mail. I am a member of Dai Nippon, Po & Po, NCP, ISIS.

Finally, here is Dr. Reed:

I was born and raised in Berlin through the First World War, inflation, depression into the Hitler period. I started stamp collecting at the age of 8 and formed quite a collection with the aid of my maternal grand father and an uncle. I was fortunate to be able to take the collection out to Teheran, Iran, in 1937 with help from a benevolent examiner.

After 2 years in Teheran as assistant to the dentist of the Shah I came to New York in February 1940. Graduated from New York University in 1946 and resumed the practice of dentistry. I had to sell part of the stamp collection salvaged from Germany and kept only Netherlands classics in which I had developed a keen interest. Research in plate reconstruction and postmarks later got me in contact with Drs. van der Willegen and Dr. van Balen Blanken.

I have two sons, 21 and 19 years old, who to my great frustration do not bring up any interest in philately. I was President of N.C.P. in 1955, interrupted through draft into the Korean War for two years. I am a member of the Collectors Club, a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, and of the Netherlands Philatelic Circle, England.

Book Review and Observations

The 28th edition of the Junior Catalog published by the NVPH in January has appeared. An airmail copy enables your editor to comment on this publication, and give a few observations in connection with the appearance of this catalog, the second with color illustrations.

As you all know, the Junior Catalog (so listed by Van Dieten) only lists the main numbers, although a few - a very few - exceptions are made. A color variety of No. 30, the ½ ct rose, is listed, as is the earliest set of Nos. 34-45, the issue of 1891-92. Likewise the values of the 1953-67 definitive set on phosphorescent paper are given. According to the foreword the section on combinations, used, from booklet panes, has been totally rewritten. While the Special Catalog stopped with the Bicentennial commemorative stamp (No. 1091), the Junior goes on to list the rest of the 1976 issues. As the last stamps given for 1976 we find the low-value numerals under Nos. 1108-12. Since the first numerals appeared in April, placing them all after the Child Welfare set is somewhat strange.

The last stamps of the Netherlands Antilles are listed too.

The most remarkable thing about this catalog is that prices have been changed from those listed in the Special Catalog. Not all of them, but sufficient in number for the NVPH to issue a special appendix to the Special Catalog in which these prices are indicated. As far as we know this is the first time in 36 years that prices went up so much in the time between the appearance of the Special and five months later that it was found necessary to issue an appendix. A reprint of this appendix will be found with this copy of your journal. It has been printed in the same size as the Special so you can keep it in there.

The statement of the NVPH is interesting enough to translate for you: "Because of the large price increases in the past few months, compared with those in the Special Catalog 1977, the Netherlands Society of Stamp Dealers has decided, after ample consideration, to order the Committee which is concerned with the production of catalogs to state these new prices in the January issue of the Catalog of the Stamps of the Netherlands and Overseas Parts of the Kingdom. For the benefit of the users of the Special Catalog these changes are included in this Appendix (Bijlage)."

As the NVPH did not give any indication that a distribution system would be set up to supply these appendixes to the buyers of the Special Catalog, the ASNPH decided to reprint the Appendix, and distribute it to our members. This was done to make sure that all our members would get the benefit of knowing how much some prices have gone up since the Special Catalog appeared.

A quick check will show that of all these changes only five are concerned with the Netherlands Indies: the Bandoeng Fair set, the 1923 Jubilee set, the watermarked definitives of 1938-39, and the 1941 definitive set, and finally the last set with Queen Wilhelmina. Two changes in the Dutch Indonesia issues, and one with the United States of Indonesia, all of which are listed under Netherlands Indies, of course. The floating safe issue also went up, as well as the first set for Netherlands New Guinea. For Curaçao-Netherlands Antilles six regular sets went up, and two airmail sets. For Surinam only three sets went up in the regular issues, and the Do. X set and the 5-guilder 1941 stamp.

All the other changes are concerned with the Netherlands, and they range around 35-50 percent, I would say, after a quick look. Note that the earliest stamps which didn't move last year didn't go up again. The price changes start with No. 48, the 5-guilder Wilhelmina with long hair, which is now an impressive 1250 guilders used. The 1932 Tourist set went up the full 50 percent mint and used. Another spectacular item is the El FDC of 1950 which has a rather remarkable history. After reaching 1000 guilders in 1971 (I am not sure this is right) it went down to 500 guilders, and then started to climb again to reach 3000 guilders with this Junior Catalog. If this trend keeps up - and I don't see any reason why it should not, except perhaps not on this scale - philately really becomes big business and some collectors might become discouraged before they even start. I hope that most of you will be philosophical about not being able to fill some empty spaces and turn instead to some of the sidelines, which can be of even greater interest as is shown above by the biography of Frank Julsen. Try to find aspects of your hobby that are not "fashionable" at the moment and concentrate on that without letting the rest slip. And, of course, as soon as you are an expert in this field, your editor will be delighted to publish your results.

Letter from the Netherlands

Bert van Eijck

The stamp collectors in the Netherlands are beginning to get very enthusiastic about the international exhibition Amphilex 77, which - as has been noted before - will take place in Amsterdam from May 26 up to June 5. From many parts of the country trips to this "Mecca" for philatelists have been organized. A newspaper in the northern part of the country, *Nieuwsblad van het Noorden*, has chartered a special train, and hopes to go to Amphilex 77 with some 1000 people "on board" on Saturday, June 4. From the Central Station the group will proceed to the RAI building by canal boats.

The sale of the first Amphilex-set with reproductions of earlier issues of definitive stamps with the portrait of Queen Wilhelmina has been a great success. Notwithstanding the surcharge of 100 percent they are being sold very well throughout the country. Total figures of sale were as of writing this letter (early January) not available as yet. It seems that it is not sure a second Amphilex set will be issued, but insiders say that we can count on one in May. A later release gives us more details on this set, which will consist of four stamps again concerned with the 50-year reign of Queen Wilhelmina, but this time the reproductions will show the "Coronation" stamp of 1898, one of the Silver Jubilee stamps of 1923, one of the stamps issued in 1938 for the 40th anniversary of her reign, and one for the golden anniversary in 1948. The surcharge will also be used to defray the cost of AMPHILEX 77. Of the earlier set about 2 million were sold.

On January 25 the first stamps for 1977 appeared: one of 40 cents "Save Energy," and one of 45 cents which notes the elections for the Second Chamber of the States-General on May 25 of this year. Printings for both stamps will be 15 million. Both will also be available in coil-format with perforations on two sides only. The stamps will be sold until May. On February 21 a special stamp was issued commemorating the 300th anniversary of the death of Benedictus de Spinoza (1632-1677) in the international letter value of 75 cents. This philosopher was one of the most influential thinkers born in the Netherlands. His most important works were *Tractatus theologia-politicus* (1670) and *Ethica* (1678). De Spinoza was born in Amsterdam with Portuguese-Jewish parentage. In 1656 he was thrown out of the Jewish community because of heresy.

Nederland 55c
Fragment uit de Delftse Bijbel
(Job 19:23, 24) Loden letters (b en a)
en een electronisch gevormde a. Ontwerp
Gerrit Noordzij. Druk Joh. Enschedé en Zn
Uitgave 8-3-1977. Oplage 200.000 vel
(5 x 10).
De Delftse Bijbel, het Oude Testament
zonder de Psalmen, is het eerste
Nederlandstalige boek dat met losse
letters gezet is (1284 pag.)

1477 Delftse Bijbel 1977

would need a block of five and a strip of four to get all the possible combinations. The label not only tells about the stamp, but also mentions that it is printed by Enschedé in 200,000 sheets (X 50 stamps and 50 labels). Another announced stamp is the 50 cents in the design of Prof. Crowel. Earlier stamps in this series are the 5, 10, 25, 40 and 45 cents. These are also available in coils.

Notwithstanding an overall profit of 340 million guilders over 1976, the state-operated PTT will raise the rates for the loss-causing part of the operations, the mail service, on July 1. A letter within the country up to 20 grams will then cost 60 cents (now 55). The airlettersheet will go from 75 to 80 cents; the postcard within the country will be 45 cents (now 40), and the foreign postcard will go from 45 to 55 cents. The lettersheet of 50 cents which was issued last year will not be raised. It is possible that this will make the lettersheet more popular. Up to now one hardly finds them used. Really used lettersheets have a chance to become a philatelic rarity!

The stamps of the Netherlands Antilles are collected more and more in the Netherlands. This is partially caused by the extravagant prices of Netherlands stamps issued before 1950. Even the United States have "discovered" the stamps of the Antilles. Of the "salute" set issued for the American Bicentennial (the recognition of the American flag on the *Andrew Doria* from the island of St. Eustatius) about 100,000 sets were sold in the U.S. This caused the Director of the Antillian Postal Service, Mr. G. Hernandez, a great amount of pleasure.

He will try to have stamps issued about every two years which may be of especial interest to Americans. "We must concentrate more on America and the Caribbean," he recently said. His goal is to make the postal service productive and to keep the issue policy attractive to the collector.

On January 18, the well-known auction house in The Hague, Rietdijk B.V., had a unique sale of the collection blocks of four of the Dutch-American Prof. W. J. Luyten, an astronomer who lived in New Jersey. The total proceeds were estimated to top one-half million guilders. This collection contained all the stamps of the Netherlands, including the first three, in blocks of four, with some of the better pieces coming from such collections as the Burrus and Kohn collections. Several absolutely unique pieces were included, among which a used block of four of the 15 cents 1876 (see next page). This piece brought 44,000 guilders plus 15% auction costs, and was bought by Van Dieten.

Prof. Luyten left about 40 years ago for the U.S. As an astronomer he discovered several red dwarf stars that are named after him, such as the Luyten-789-6 at a distance of 11.1 light years. From his youth he was a stamp collector. Because he is in his seventies and wants to give some funds to his children, he decided to have his enormously valuable collection sold.





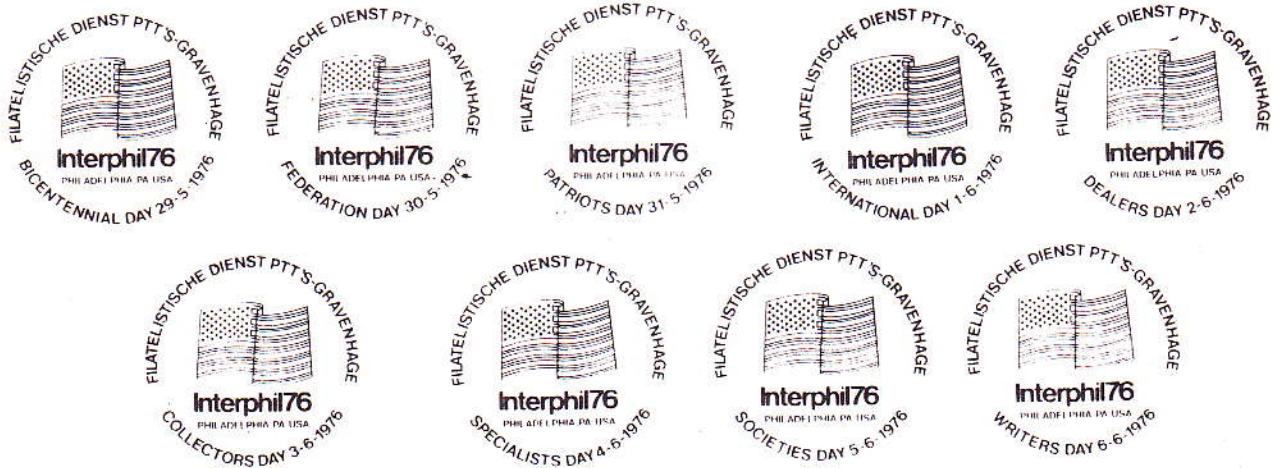
Thanks to a decision of the government of the Netherlands Antilles no more stamps of the Antilles will be sold at philatelic windows in the Netherlands. This applied from January 1, 1977. Until March 1 all earlier stamps of the Antilles which are still available will be sold by the Philatelic Service in The Hague only. Stamps and postal stationery of the Netherlands Antilles will from now on only be available through the stamp dealers. Agents for the U.S., Canada and Mexico are: World Wide Philatelic Agency Inc., 116 West 32nd Street, New York, NY 10001. Publications regarding new Antillian issues will also not be issued by the Netherlands Philatelic Service.

The projected issues of the Netherlands Antilles for 1977 are:
 January Carnival stamps: 3 stamps, 25, 35 and 40 cents, total printing was 350,000 of each value
 March Indian Inscription stamps: 3 values, 25, 35 and 40 cents
 April-May Sport stamps with surcharge

Instead of the usual set with surcharge for Social and Cultural purposes, in 1977 the first set will be issued of a continuing series of sport-related stamps with surcharge. These will appear in the spring. The subject of the 1977 set will be the 6th International Bridge Tournament to be held in Aruba for the Central American and Caribbean championship. 3 stamps: 20 + 10, 25 + 12 and 40 + 18 cents.

July "Flora" stamps: Antillian flowers in 3 values: 25, 40 and 55 cents
 September Jubilee stamps for Spritzer & Fuhrmann, jewelers in Curaçao, who will have a 50th anniversary, 2 stamps: 20 and 40 cents
 October Children's Welfare stamps with surcharge: 3 stamps, 20 + 10, 25 + 12 and 40 + 18 cents.
 November Tourist stamps devoted to the islands of Saba, St. Eustatius and St. Martin, 3 stamps: 25, 35 and 40 cents.

Special Cancels



For the members of ASNPN who collect cancellations, above are given the nine different cancels used by the Dutch PTT at INTERPHIL 76, running from May 29 - Bicentennial Day - to June 6 - Writers Day. At the end of May 1976 a philatelic exhibition was also held at Emmeloord in the Netherlands, where a special cancel was used (see bottom right). This was the first national exhibition where the Julsen-Benders Curaçao handbook received a gold medal. It also received a gold medal at the International Exhibition in Milan, Italy, late last year. Around the same time KLM commemorated 30 years of regular Amsterdam-New York flights for which the cancel shown at bottom, far left, was used. Finally, a special cancel was used on May 16, 1976, on the occasion of a steamtram (steam-powered trolley car, Editor) trip from Leeuwarden (Friesland) to Groningen.

If this kind of information serves a real purpose for ASNPN members, please let your editor know. This aspect of philately is real fun and doesn't cost an arm and a leg either. I'll be with you again, next time.

Editorial comment: Yes, please let me know about cancels that you collect.

