

NETHERLANDS PHILATELY



JOURNAL of the American Society for Netherlands Philately

Volume 7/1

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NOJEX 81

Just to remind you, we will repeat what you have read already in the April Newsletter about NOJEX 81: this increasingly important exhibition will take place from October 23 to 25 at the Holiday Inn Jetport in Elizabeth, N.J., near Newark Airport.

On Saturday, October 24, from 1 to 3 P.M. the ASNP will have a regional meeting in the small meeting room which seats about 30 people. The program for this meeting will be purely philatelic since we do not have any business to transact at a regional meeting.

After an opening word by our President, Reinder van Heuveln, who will travel from Richmond, Va., for this show, we will have a talk by Dr. Fred L. Reed, one of our Governors, about the first issue of the Netherlands. After a period for questions, we will then have a slide show of fakes and forgeries from our ASNP collection, while photos of other fakes will be available for perusal. Any of you who are present can also look at the frame with fakes and forgeries from the ASNP collection which will be on exhibit in the main hall.

We hope that this meeting will be a success and that many of our members in the New York-New Jersey region will show up on this Saturday.

OUR COVER STAMP

Collectors of the Netherlands East Indies of course know that this is the stamp which was issued - with a 17½ cent value - on October 15, 1938 to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the K.N.I.L.M. (in which you will recognize KLM in addition to the letters N.I. which, of course, stand for Nederlandsch Indië). The stamps which were only sold for a half month portray DC3s in use by the K.N.I.L.M. The 5-ct surtax on each stamp was for the benefit of the Netherlands Indies Air Navigation Fund.

The 17½-ct value was used for the airmail rate within the country (hence the 17½ ct which was part of the new Queen Wilhelmina set of 1941-42). The 20 cents was for the airmail rate to the Netherlands (the inhabitants of the Netherlands in the meantime paid only 12½ cents for a letter from the Netherlands to the Indies). This was probably the reason why Scott gave these two stamps a CB number.

This stamp is one of the best ones of the 1930's designed from an ordinary photograph by Enschede.

ASN P



A non-profit organization registered
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Netherlands Philately

THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR NETHERLANDS
PHILATELY
Volume 7, Number 1

September 1981

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Netherlands Philately is published quarterly by the American Society for Netherlands Philately, P.O. Box 555, Montclair, NJ 07042.

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The ASN P is Affiliate No. 60 of the APS

Advertising: Advertising rates are \$60 for a full page, \$35 for a half page and \$20 for a quarter page.

FROM THE EDITOR

With this issue we start our seventh year and perhaps by now we may say that the letters ASN P stand for something. Of course that does not mean that we are satisfied - we haven't scratched the surface yet, but we think we are on the right way. It also seems that we have been suffering from a vicious circle effect: Before people join and participate, they want to see what's going on. Now that we are established, we cannot complain any more about the lack of participation.

Our Canadian Governor opens this issue with his research article on the 1872 50 cent King William III stamp. With it we are at the end of the original 1872 issues of the Netherlands.

Dr. Frans Rummens then shows us the varieties of the ½ ct overprint of 1945 (NVPH No. 210; Scott No. 180), followed by our regular "Coil Corner," in which Larry Rehm elaborates on the origin of coil stamps in the Netherlands.

"Postal Booklet Notes" this time is concerned with a review of the new de Rooy/Hali booklet catalog. In "Dutch Designs" we hear more about an artist who only worked once for the Dutch PTT: Lex Horn.

"Your Family on Stamps" is an unusual article which may give you some unusual ideas when you get tired of being "ripped off" by the PTT for new issues.

Fakes and Forgeries tells (but does not show) something about "watermarked" stamps of the Netherlands Indies. We then read about "trends" in Dutch collecting: Are combinations and 'doorlopers' really worthwhile collecting?

An Index will give you the articles which have appeared in the past two years, and "Auction Action" takes you to a few recent auctions in the U.S. With two book reviews this issue closes.

Finally, remember that on requesting a list of books available in the ASN P Library, please enclose a SASE (35¢).

In December we hope to have an article on the watermark of the 1852 issue of the Netherlands, something on the one-color postage dues of the Indies, and the next instalment of the "Great Men" on Dutch stamps.

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Netherlands 1872, 50 Cent

by E. Matthews

Introduction

A business trip to Europe in May of 1974 afforded me a long-awaited opportunity to visit with Mr. Gerrish in Esher, Surrey. After many years of contact by letter, I was really looking forward to this personal encounter. My wife and I were received royally and we have very happy memories of this visit. I was able to admire his Netherlands collection, a collection which would be the envy of a Postal Museum. We thoroughly discussed the 1872 issue and I was able to view many multiples, proofs and other very interesting items relating to this issue.

Mr. Gerrish lent me a quantity of the 50-cent stamps as well as photographs of a reconstruction he made using large blocks and multiples. The multiples were all perforated comb 12½:12B small holes and thus originated from the earliest printings. These photographs were very useful in determining the life of the plates.

I received as well again the very valuable assistance from the "Bonds Documentatie Centrum" through the mediation of Mr. Jan Dekker, FRPSL. They supplied photographs of the large blocks nearly constituting an entire sheet still extant in the Postal Museum in The Hague, as well as of the proof sheets. A complete listing of all the printings was also supplied.

The reader can well imagine that without help of this kind plating studies are almost doomed to failure. I therefore wish to thank very much both the late Mr. Gerrish and Mr. Dekker for their assistance.

Period of Circulation of the 50 Cent 1872

Most catalogues, including that of the Dutch Dealers Association NVPH, state that this issue appeared in 1872 and was replaced by the Young Queen issue in 1891. These dates are incorrect for the 50-cent value. Even when this issue is catalogued according to perforation it is usually stated comb perf. 12½:12B small holes 1872 to 1875 for all values so perforated. These dates are correct insofar as they refer to the use of the perforating equipment, but again they are incorrect for the 50 cent.

In those days when thrift was a virtue more practised than today the stock of the previous issue was always used up before the post offices were supplied with stocks of the new issue. Referring the reader to the authoritative article "Hollnad 1872 to 1891, a study in serration," by Mr. Gerrish in the *London Philatelist* 1955, we find the following:

a. according to Moens the 50-cent value was supplied to the post offices for issue on 1 January 1874. As Moens was sufficiently in touch with things philatelic this date is no doubt accurate.

b. the 50 cent 1867 issue occurs in the Gerrish collection with December 1873 and January 1874 dates. It therefore appears highly unlikely that these stamps were issued in June 1872. The January 1874 date is without doubt correct. In the FDC catalog of Avezaat and Okker the earliest date for the 50 cent of the Young Queen issue is stated to be 4 November 1891 (4th ed.), and Mr. Gerrish has a copy dated 20 July 1892 in his collection.

My own collection has copies of the 50 cent 1872 with dates for all the months of 1892, including December. All copies are from larger offices, Amsterdam and Rotterdam. The period of circulation of the 50 cent 1872 can therefore correctly be stated to be 1874 to 1892.

Berlin and Haarlem Plates?

Originally the Berlin "Staatsdruckerei" delivered for each of the six "cent" values five copper plates and a matrix plate which could be used to make additional printing plates. We can assume, therefore, that sufficient material was on hand to make up a printing form consisting of four plates of 50 subjects, five horizontal rows of 10 each, to print sheets of 200 stamps, plus one plate held in reserve. Prior to printing, the plates were mounted on lead bases and they were hardened to resist wear.

Forty years ago collectors had already discovered that there existed two entirely different sets of plates for the 5-cent value. The later type, which differs considerably from the Berlin proof sheets, has been reconstructed. Stamps from the earliest printings, especially many of those with line perf. 13½ x 14 small holes, do not fit in this reconstruction, but do show characteristic flaws found in the Berlin proof sheets. These early printings were made with the original Berlin plates; the plates of the later type we now call Haarlem plates. The oldest reconstruction with comb perf. 12½:12B small holes can be dated prior to 1875. We have to assume that Enschede used up the original Berlin Plates and the fifth reserve plate, and wore out the Berlin matrix as well. It then became necessary to prepare a new matrix, using the original engraving without value and the "5 CENT" slug, in order to make new matrices for new printing plates.

After having learned an expensive lesson with the 5-cent plates, it is highly likely that Enschede kept the reserve plate aside in order to use it as a matrix for the manufacture of new matrices. This seems to have occurred with all the cent values other than the 5 cent, i.e. the 10, 15, 20, 25 and 50 cent.

Both Enschede inventories of April and November 1875 mention, contrary to the data for the 20 and 25 cent with *four* printing plates and *two* matrices each, only the five original plates, the original Berlin matrix and a matrix. One has to realize of course that these inventories are so to speak but momentary "snapshots" of the situation at Enschede in 1875. As Enschede had started to use the 50-cent plates only towards the end of 1873 and the printings were low, plate wear was not yet a problem. Therefore we don't find as yet a trace of discarded plates or replaced matrices. You may be sure that at a later date the



the fifth reserve plate was promoted to patrix duty.

While studying the available material it became evident that the bulk of the stamps could be assigned to a location on the Berlin matrix. We can conclude that for the printing of the 50-cent value, as was the case with the 10 and 20-cent values, Enschede used exclusively Berlin plates or "descendants" of the Berlin reserve plate. We call all these plates Berlin plates as their basic characteristics are identical.

Plates

We are now faced with the second major question: How many plates were used to print the 50 cent?

All stamps show certain characteristic flaws which can be classified according to origin, i.e. primary or secondary flaws. The primary flaws can have their origin on the patrix as well as on the matrix. If more than one matrix, each with its number of printing plates, has been used we will have different matrix flaws, but the patrix flaws will be the same on each plate. Each printing plate has, because of wear and tear, its own secondary flaws. These flaws are not repeated on any other plate. Through careful study of these flaws one can determine the number of plates used, and dated copies and covers with help to determine the length of period of use. Paper and perforation varieties of course also help in dating a certain plate.

Primary flaws always have the same location on each plate and it is precisely the goal of a plating study to determine this location. Then by studying the various secondary flaws which accompany a given primary flaw one is able to determine the number of plates used.

The Dutch Postal Museum in The Hague possesses a number of large blocks, strips and multiples of this value. It is possible to reconstruct an almost complete sheet of 200 subjects using these multiples. As usual in such a reconstruction, there is some overlapping and there remain some open spaces as well. All the above-mentioned multiples are perforated 12½:12C and can be dated around 1886. The Museum also has a number of proof sheets from a single Berlin plate.

I also had at my disposition the photographs of the Gerrish reconstruction, perforated comb 12½:12B small holes, as mentioned earlier.

The four plates of the "complete" sheet in the Postal Museum I have numbered Plates 1, 2, 3 and 4, starting from the top. While studying the photographs of this sheet it became quickly evident that Plates 1, 2 and 3 were made from the same Berlin matrix, but that Plate 4 came from another matrix, but this matrix was a Berlin one too. To my surprise, however, I was not able to pinpoint the source of the proofs to any of these four plates.

Careful study of the multiples gave the following data:

Plate 1

This plate was represented by copies perforated 12½:12B small holes from the Gerrish reconstruction, as well as copies perforated comb 12½ large holes dated 1892. This plate therefore did yeoman's duty from 1873 till 1892, i.e. the entire period of use.

Plate 2

Of this plate I was able to find but a few stamps and most of these were perforated comb 12½:12C, indicating a rather short life for this plate. Possibly this plate which appears to have replaced an earlier one must have met with an accident in the printing shop.

Plate 3

This plate exhibits the same durability as Plate 1. Again it is represented by Gerrish stamps perforated comb 12½:12B small holes as well as copies with perforation 12½ large holes. Plate use was from 1873 till 1892.

Plate 4

Of this plate I found only stamps perforated comb 12½:12C and comb 12½ large holes. These last ones were not a 100% certainty. Again a plate with a relatively short life.

The bulk of the stamps which were at my disposition could be located on Plates 1 and 3. This fact as well points to a short life for Plates 2 and 4.

In the Gerrish reconstruction there is a beautiful strip of 10 stamps, positions 1 to 10, perforated comb 12½:12B small holes. This strip cannot be located on any of the four plates 1, 2, 3 and 4. Neither could it be assigned to the plate from which the proofs were printed. Some of the Gerrish multiples were rather heavily cancelled which made identification a hazard.

On the other hand, I did find a number of well-printed stamps perforated comb 12½ large holes with clear secondary flaws that could not be located on any of the four plates. Such well-printed stamps give the distinct impression of having been printed from a new plate or new plates.

Below I have compiled what is known about the periods of use of the various plates, together with the supply curve of this value for the years 1874-1892.

Changes in the Use of the 50-Cent Value

What precisely was the purpose of this value? Initially there was the overland route to the Indies with its high rates of postage. Even after 1 May 1877 when the then Dutch colonies joined the UPU, the rate for a single letter via the overland route still remained 25 cent per 15 grams. This value could therefore be used for heavier letters. Then registered mail with declared value would use this value as well. Transmittal of funds by banks was not yet very popular in that era. Next came money orders at a rate of 5 cents for every £12.50, thus 50 cents for money orders from £112.51 to £125.00. Larger money orders would have copies of the 50 cent with other stamps as well.

Inland parcel post on the other hand could not use the 50 cent as the maximum rate was 25 cent for a

parcel up to 5 kilograms, the maximum allowed weight.

Without doubt the Gerrish multiples perforated 12½:12B small holes all originated from heavy letters addressed to foreign countries and the former colonies from before the UPU era.

The supply curve clearly reflects the general lowering of postal rates caused by the UPU in the distribution for the years 1877 till 1881. A very marked lowering of the usage of the 50 cent is shown by the issue of the £1.00 stamp which appeared in December 1888. The 50 cent somehow never recuperated from this event! The use of the remainders in 1892 is too low to register on this curve.

Analyzing further data we find the following:

The total printing of the 50 cent was 4,238,250 stamps or 21,191 sheets of 200 stamps. The average printing run of the plates for the 5 cent 1872 issue was roughly 250,000 sheets. We can assume therefore that, barring accidents in Enschede's printing shop, four plates should have been amply sufficient to print some 21,000 sheets. You have to realize, however, by using the plates for printings almost every three or four months, the subsequent cleaning of the plates, the handling in the storage area, all add to the wear and tear, even though the actual printing may be relatively small.

From the above-mentioned inventories of printing material in 1875 and Enschede's listing of 1872 we can conclude:

Received from Berlin in 1872	1 matrix	5 printing plates
Should be booked as	1 matrix	4 printing plates
April 1875 inventory	1 matrix	5 printing plates
Nov. 1875 inventory	1 matrix	5 printing plates

There is no indication of the "housecleaning" of 1875 when worn and/or unserviceable plates were destroyed, such as was the case with the 5 and 10 cent. This is understandable in the light of the fact that printing of the 50 cent value 1872 only started in late 1873.

The quantity of 50-cent stamps which Mr. Gerrish loaned me had long since been searched through for "puntstempels," small round postmarks and the early small hole perforations. His stock gives therefore a somewhat distorted impression of the early as well as the late periods of use. As it happens, the stamps from the beginning and the end of the period of use are those that are important for the determination of plate usage or life.

Among the material perforated comb 12½ large holes I found a number of stamps which were clearly printed, indicating the possibility that around 1888 one or more plates may have been replaced by new ones.

From all this we can draw the following conclusions, with some reservations, of course:

Minimum number of plates:	Plates 1 to 4, the plate of the proofs, the plate of the Gerrish strip of 10, and the plate replacing Plate 2. Thus seven plates.
Maximum number of plates:	As above 7 plates
	Plus replacement plate for Plate 4
Total	8 plates

As the number of stamps at my disposition was small relative to the quantities available for the lower values, I was not able to resolve the question of how many replacement plates were actually used.

Plate Reconstruction

The lessons which I learned when reconstructing the 10 and the 20 cent plates stood me in very good stead with the reconstruction of the 50 cent plate. Right from the start I was able to work with the photographs from the Postal Museum of the multiples and proofs as well as the Gerrish reconstruction.

I duplicated the Museum blocks using primary and especially secondary flaws visible on the photographs to locate each stamp.

Next came checking of perforations and correlation of the vertical row to which the stamp belongs by use of contact prints of large blocks of perforated stamps. Checking the perforation of a stamp against a contact print allows positive identification of the vertical row to which it belongs and is in my opinion the only reliable way to distinguish positively between the 12½:12B and 12½:12C perforations.

I then proceeded to compare stamps of the same plate position of Plates 1, 2, 3 and 4 to discover the primary flaw(s). As Plate 4 was made from a different matrix than Plates 1, 2 and 3, primary flaws which are found on all four plates must originate on the matrix.

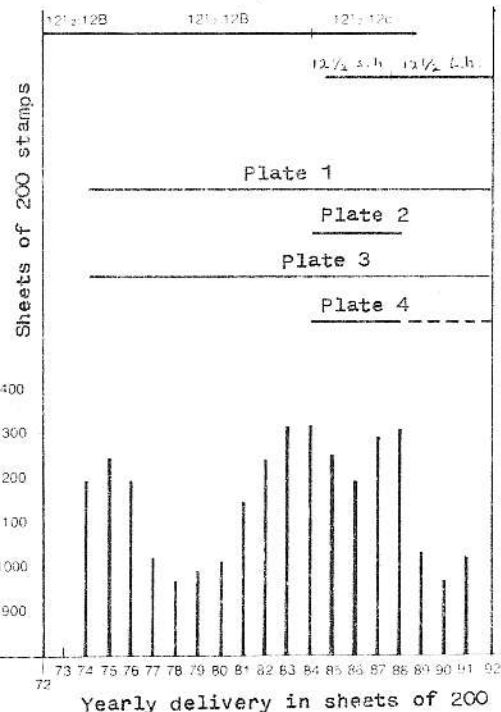
Primary flaws which are found on Plates 1, 2 and 3 but not on Plate 4 therefore originate from the original Berlin matrix.

Drawings of the primary flaws that could be identified accompany this article, numbered according to plate position. Matrix flaws are indicated by a P, e.g. 6P. Due to the lack of large quantities of this stamp, certain flaws are not 100% positively identified and are indicated by a question mark. Plate flaws marked (ZTM) are discoveries by Mr. Zoutman of Rotterdam who graciously allowed me to include these.

The author would appreciate very much any additional information readers may have regarding this stu-

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Supply curve with perforations and plates

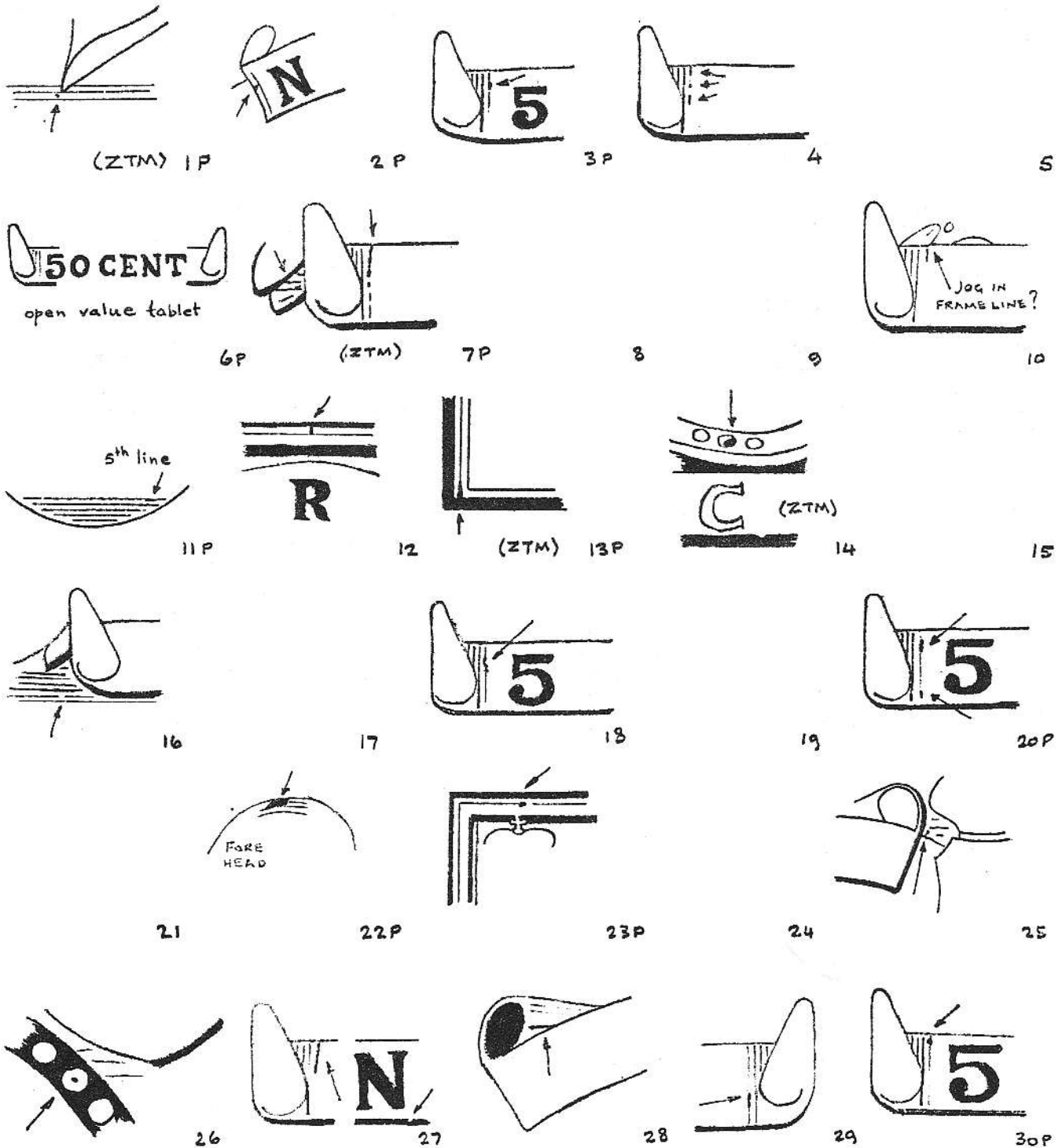


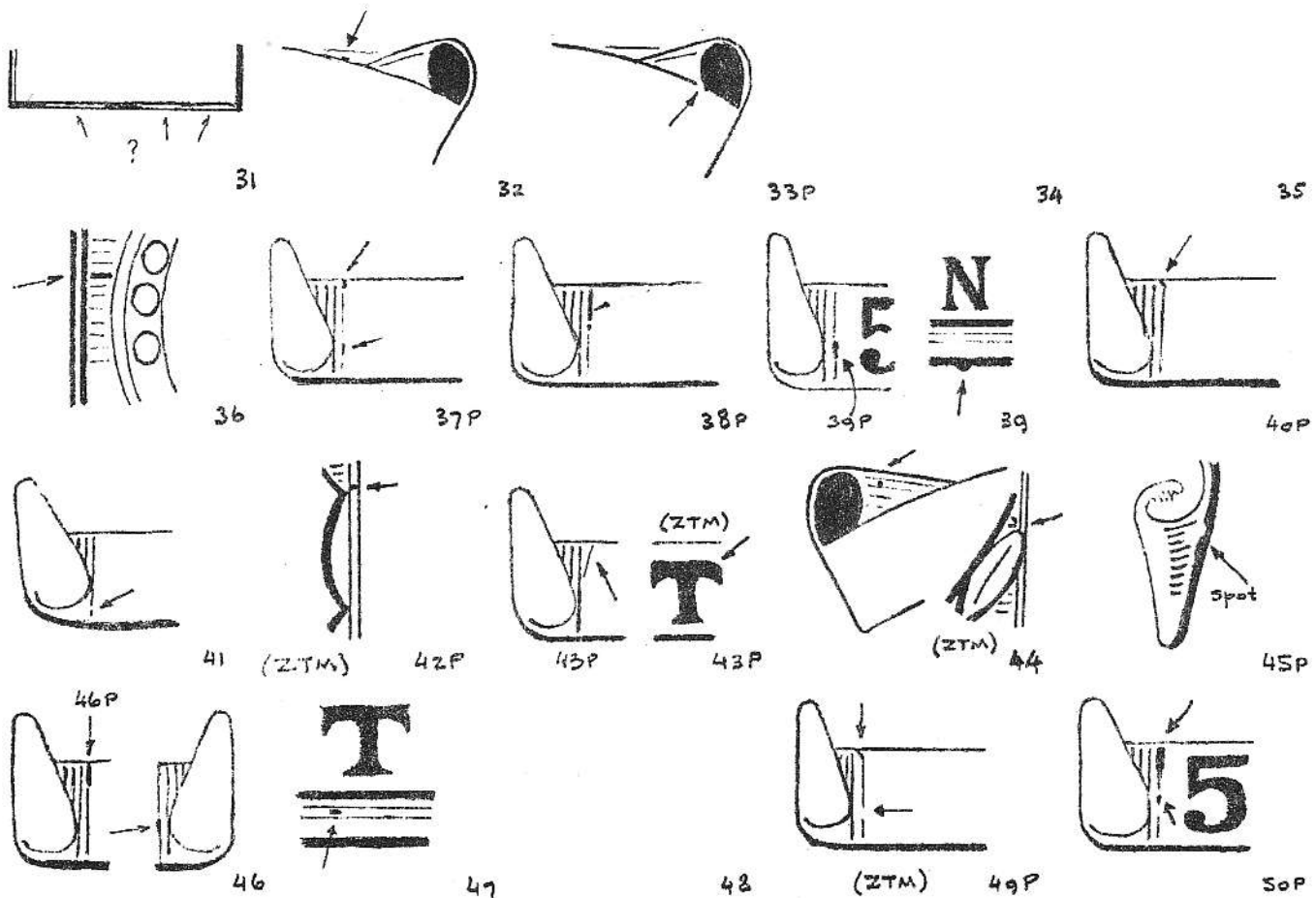
dy.

In addition I have listed the actual plates and plate position of some of the well-known secondary flaws which are mentioned in the NVPH catalogue and other publications:

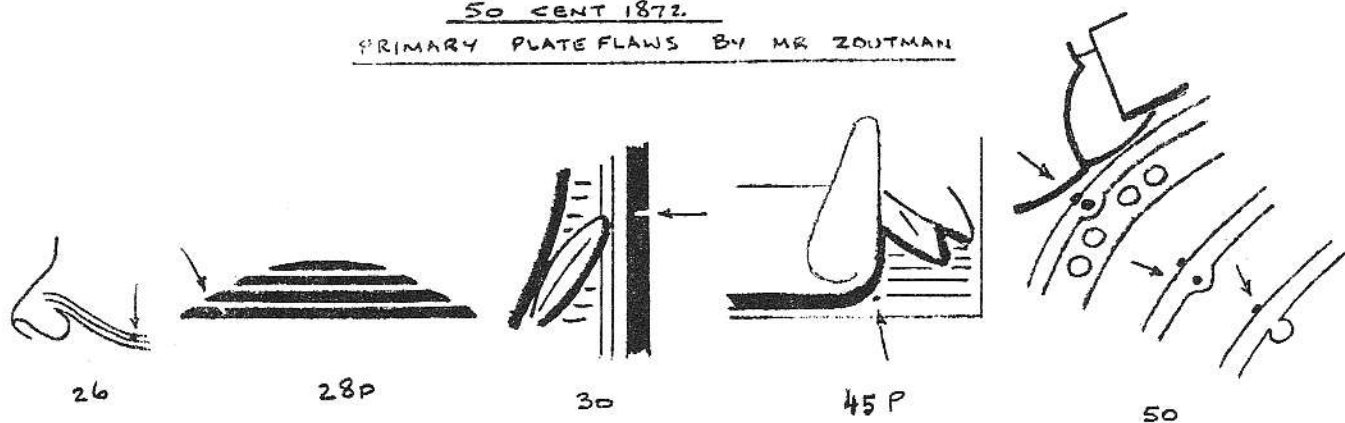
	Plate	Position	Publication
Open value tablet (primary!)	All	6	NVPH
Spot in left coat of arms	2	1	NVPH
Spot in left coat of arms (other position in arms)	3	1	NVPH
Break in left frame near top of leaves	1	41	<i>London Philatelist</i>
Spot under C of CENT	2	41	<i>Netherlands 1872 Issue</i>

PRIMARY PLATE FLAWS 5 Oct 1872 ISSUE





50 CENT 1872.
PRIMARY PLATE FLAWS BY MR ZOUTMAN



Literature

1. Jan Dekker, FRPSL, "De Haarlemse Postwaardenproduktie in de 19e Eeuw," *NMP*, Nov. 1964-Feb. 1965.
2. W. E. Gerrish, OBE, FRPSL, "Holland 1872-1891: A Study in Serration," *London Philatelist*, 1955.
3. E. Matthews, "Nederland 10 Cent 1872," *NMP*, July-August 1972.
4. E. Matthews, "Nederland 20 Cent 1872," *NMP*, September 1975.
5. Netherlands and Colonies Philatelists of Northern California, *Netherlands: the 1872 Issue*.
6. Private correspondence with Messrs. Gerrish and Dekker.

Editorial note: This article was written in January 1976 when Mr. Gerrish was still alive. It is the last article on the plate reconstructions of the 1872 Netherlands King William III issue by our Canadian member of the Board of Governors. Additional information can be sent to Mr. E. Matthews, 157 Wellington, Bracebridge, Ontario, Canada POB 100. More information on the earlier articles is also welcome, of course.

Surinam NVPH No. 210

By F. H. A. Rummens

HERE IS A stamp that costs only a few cents, but one that can give you lots of happy hunting hours. The *Speciale Catalogus* of the NVPH gives several varieties, but (as usual, one is tempted to say) their information is incomplete and thereby partly incorrect.

To begin with, there are *three* kinds of type C used in the overprint and not two, as the NVPH implies. The types I and II are known as the large and small C, respectively, but type III is a different C altogether, intermediate in size, but much thinner and with a straight cut-off at the top. Figures 1 and 2 hopefully show the distinctive nature of this variety (which occurs only once per sheet), along with the more common types I and II.

Another variety not mentioned in the NVPH catalog is that, in positions 90 and 100, the obliteration bar is not only in two pieces, but these are of unequal length, being 7 + 11 mm rather than the 9 + 9 mm of the other two-part bars. Figure 3 shows the difference.

The main varieties are then, in summary:

straight C (CIII): position 59
 small c (CII) : 10th column
 large C (CI) : all other positions
 bar-in-two (7+11): positions 90 and 100
 bar-in-two (9+9) : top eight of 10th column, 9th column, and bottom half of 8th column
 bar-in-one (18mm): all other positions



Fig. 1: Example of type CIII in the overprint.



Fig. 2: Strip of four, positions 57-60, with, respectively: CI one-piece bar, CII bar-in-two, CIII bar-in-two, CII bar-in-two.



Fig. 3: Lower-right corner block of four, showing bars in two unequal pieces in positions 90 and 100, as well as the small c's common to the 10th column.

There are some minor varieties to report as well: (1) in position 24, the left foot of the 1 is broken off, while in position 48 this 1 has a broken right foot; (2) in position 4 the numeral 2 is broken just where the downstroke joins the foot; (3) the letter C is broken in two places at position 20, whereas in position 72 the top curl has a break; and (4) the letter t is broken just under the crossbar in position 41, in the bottom curl at position 68, while in position 83 the bottom part is misshapen.

Editorial Afterword: Most catalogs list the four overprints of 1945 in one "set," even though the 2½ on 7½ ct and the 5 on 10 ct appeared on March 12, 1945, and the ½ on 1 ct and the 7½ on 10 ct on June 26. (It has always seemed somewhat "ridiculous" to me to use 50,000 7½-ct stamps and overprint them with 2½, while at the same time creating 200,000 7½-ct stamps by overprinting 10-ct stamps.) If we keep these dates in mind, it begins to make some sense.

We also begin to see some shared characteristics between the two overprints of June 26. For one, the third type of C, as listed above, also appears in the 7½ on 10-ct overprint, in position 53. For those readers who are interested in a definitive article on the 7½-ct overprint, look at Volume 1, No 1 (September 1975), where a photo of this Type III also accompanies the article. A xerox copy of the journal can be ordered from the editor for \$2.00 postpaid.

COIL CORNER

by Laurence W. Rein

It was recently announced by Dienst Zegelwaarden that until early 1980 all stamps were printed on Harrison paper which had been gummed by the supplier. Toward the end of 1979, Joh. Enschede & Sons introduced a new gum-applicating machine, permitting them to start gumming the paper themselves.

This is a synthetic gum, as are the Harrison gums, and it has been used for sheet, booklet, and coil stamps. No records were kept as to which issues used Harrison or Enschede gum. It is reasonable to assume that all stamps (sheets, booklets, and coils) printed since the spring of 1980 have been supplied with E (Enschede) gum.

This month we shall cover the origins of coil stamps used in the Netherlands. This subject was briefly mentioned in an earlier article (Vol. 1, No. 2), but much more is known about its history.

The first trials of dispensing stamps from coils or rolls were held in the main post office in The Hague in 1903. A vending machine was obtained which held coils in both 2½-ct and 5-ct denominations. Results were unsatisfactory, primarily due to the weakness of the paper used, and a special printing of the 2½-ct value was then made on stronger paper as used for recess-printed stamps. This did not show sufficient improvement, so the trials were discontinued and the machine returned.

Trials were again conducted at Haarlem in 1908 and The Hague in 1910. These trials were judged more satisfactory, and 1911 saw vending machines in use in the post offices at The Hague, Scheveningen, and Amsterdam.



The Eggink vending machine of 1908

A parallel development was the need for stamps in coil form by commercial establishments, for use in office-type stamp affixing machines. The first reference to the need for stamps in rolls is found in a letter to the Postmaster General from the Belgian distributor of the German POKO machine, dated March 20, 1911. This was the firm which provided the Dutch Post office with a machine that facilitated the making of stamp rolls ten at a time.

On June 6, 1911, it was announced that stamps in rolls of 500 or 1000 were available to the public in each of the then-current values of ½ ct to 50 cts, at face value plus a premium of 5 or 7½ ct per roll. Requirements of different devices, including an American-made stamp affixing machine, the "Postamper," resulted in 1915 and in 1918 in the availability of rolls of stamps in several different core dimensions (the core is the hole in the center of the roll of stamps).

At this time these rolls of stamps had to be assembled by hand. Normal sheets of 100 or 200 subjects were used. Both side margins were removed as well as the bottom margin, and the top margin was trimmed, leaving a 5-mm strip. Frequently this strip was clipped at a slight diagonal for each vertical row. Then the sheets were pasted together into ribbons with a total of 5,000 or 10,000 stamps in the ten rows. Such ribbons were placed in a roll device, slit into individual rolls and rerolled, ready for shipment.

This method of producing coils

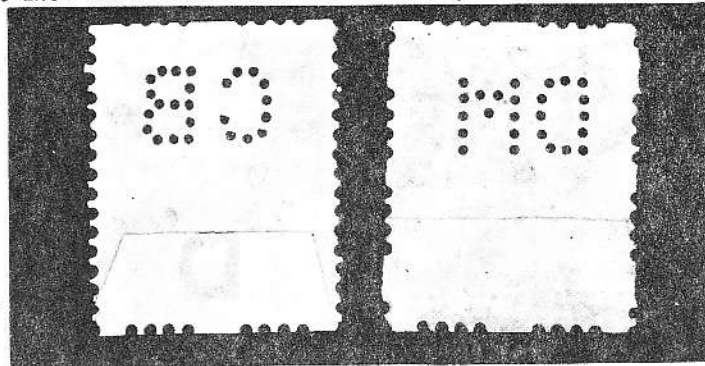
continued until the mid-thirties. And while these coil stamps were being dispensed from the vending machines with little or no problem, this was not true of the office-type units. The main problem was found in the operation of the POKO machine.

This machine was made for the "Deutsche Post und Eisenbahn Verkehrswesen Aktiengesellschaft" of Berlin by Goebel of Darmstadt, the same firm which manufactures the Regina gravure press covered in the last column. The Netherlands distributor, G. M. Dehlinger, was quite successful in having the POKO machine adopted commercially in Holland, a total of 67 units known to have been used with a perfin die and about half that number used without a perfin die.

With a single turn of the crank this unit would perforate the desired stamp with the chosen die (usually initials), separate the stamp from the roll, moisten the gum, and affix the stamp to the envelope. It held seven rolls of stamps of various denominations, selected by a lever extending from the side. See the photo at the top of the next page.

However, poor separation and other problems with operation of the POKO machine led Dehlinger in 1923 to request modification of the perforations then in use, 12½:12½. Three different types of syncopated or interrupted perforations were used from 1925 until the introduction of the new 13½:12-¾ perforation at the end of 1933, bringing about improvement in the operation of this machine. The trial 3-hole syncopated perforation of 1927 was used in a test of an English stamp-affixing machine; the test was unsatisfactory.

A complete history of the use of the POKO machine and the syncos is found in *POKO Issues of the Neth-*



Connecting strip examples

erlands by the late Burton Bauder, so there is no point in duplicating that information here. This book is now out of print, but a copy may be borrowed from the ASNPL Library, merely for the cost of the postage both ways.

By the time the new 13 $\frac{1}{2}$:12-3/4 perforation was introduced, use of the POKO machine was in sharp decline, its duties largely taken over by meter machines. This had little effect on the demand for the production of coil stamps, as the use of vending machines was steadily increasing.

This growing demand for coil stamps was in part responsible for the installation of an Albert Frankenthal two-color web rotogravure press as the Enschede plant in Haarlem. This press permitted the production of coil stamps in continuous strips of great length, thus eliminating the need for the hand assembly of the sheet-printed offset stamps into the required coilform. This change to the use of a rotogravure web press was briefly touched upon in another earlier article (Vol. 1, No. 4).

The first coils to be produced on the Albert Frankenthal were the 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -ct Lebeau numeral and the 5- and 6-ct Veth design, which were delivered by Enschede on April 14, 1936. These were followed subsequently by the 3- and 4-ct Lebeau and the 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -ct Veth. The 4-ct roll was never placed in use due to a change in rates.

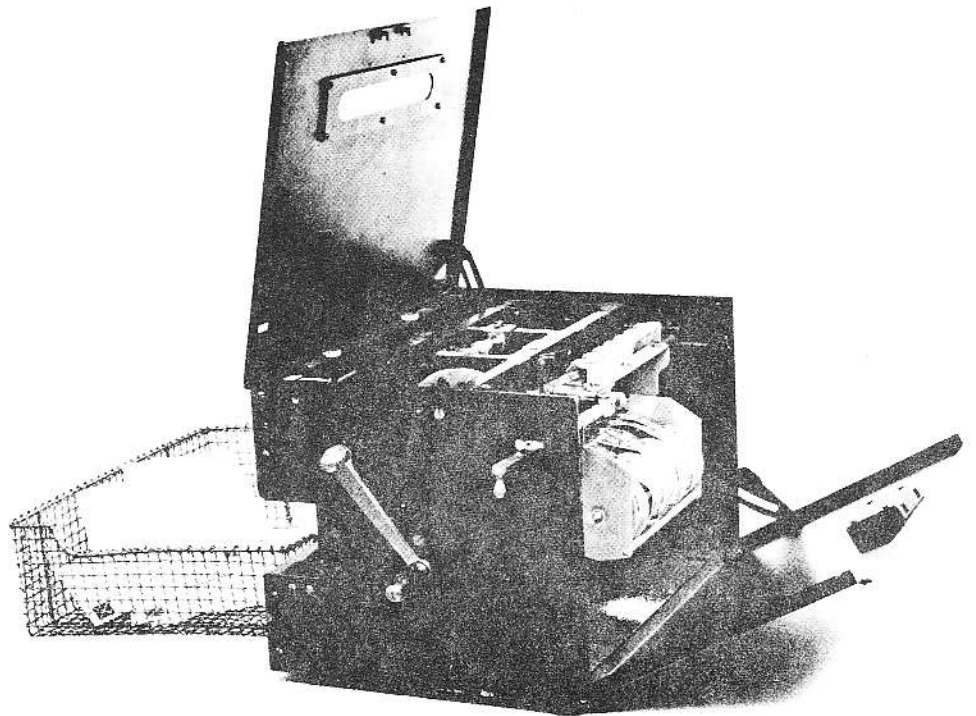
At about the same time as the introduction of the Albert Frankenthal press, the Post Office in 1936 embarked on a program of placing the familiar blue vending machines outside many post offices and other public buildings all over the country. This machine was in widespread use throughout the Netherlands (except for the war years) until it was replaced by the yellow unit which was pictured on page 42 of Vol 1, No. 3 of this journal. The last blue vending machine was withdrawn from use in March 1971 at Naarden.

In order to test the operation of repaired or adjusted vending machines, trial coil adhesives were prepared in 1936 using the portrait of a young girl, now popularly called "Shirley Temple." These adhesives are known in green, red brown and blue, and some time later, in brown. A year or so after this, other trial coil adhesives were produced, using the design of the St. Andrew's cross. These are known in at least eight different colors.

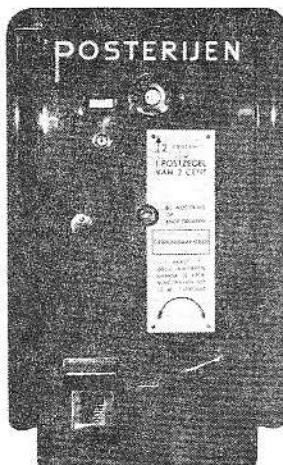
None of these trial adhesives were known to have been used in tests involving a POKO machine as their primary purpose was in being used for testing vending machine operation. However, the only known remaining POKO machine in the Netherlands is in the annex of the Postal Museum in The Hague, and it contains several rolls of the Shirley Temple trial coil adhesive, in blue.

In 1940 the 5-ct Konijnenburg coil was printed on the Albert Frankenthal, and later that year the 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ +2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ct Traile coils were issued, to be followed in 1941 by the Lebeau 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ +2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -ct coils. The vending machines were adjusted to deliver a pair of these se-tenant coils for a 10-ct coin ("dubbeltje").

However, the shortage of coins during and following the war forced the discontinuance of the vending machines between May 1942 and March 1949. In late 1948 two new coils appeared, the 2-ct van Krimpen and the 10-ct Juliana "en face," sig-



The POKO machine, opened to show rolls of stamps



The blue vending machine, a familiar sight for many years



Test coil adhesives

nalling early resumption of the use of vending machines.

The next major milestone in the production of coil stamps was the installation in 1955 of the Goebel Regina web rotogravure press at Enschede which resulted in the printing of 12 values of the Format A van Krimpen and Juliana "en face" coils during the period 1955-1965.

Starting in 1965, a control number was printed on the back of every fifth stamp as a means of facilitating record-keeping. This control number made possible the positive identification of coil stamps as distinguished from sheet stamps of the same value, and has already been covered in some detail in an earlier article. Therefore, at this point we will conclude our account of the history of coil stamps in the Netherlands.

For those readers who can read Dutch and would like more information on the production of coils on the Albert Frankenthal and Regina presses, highly recommended is Jan Dekker's article "Dertig Jaar Rasterdrukkdruk aan de Rol," published in the 1966 Uphilex Philatelic Exhibition catalog, also available from the ASNP Library.

And to Jan Dekker goes our thanks for making available much of the information used in this article.

POSTAL BOOKLET NOTES

by Frank W. Julsen

A WELCOME bit of news is the appearance of the 1981-82 edition of the de Rooy-Hali catalogue of vending machine booklets and combinations of the Netherlands. This excellent publication was placed on sale during my visit to the Netherlands in May to attend the auction sale of J. L. van Dielen. Members interested in acquiring a copy, please order from Mr. John W. Van Buskirk, 11 Park Place, New York, NY 10007. The price will be \$6.50 postpaid. Please make checks out to the ASNP.

The newsworthy features of this edition include:

1. A listing of the booklet stamp combinations, classified according to the margins as in the NVPH Special Catalog, i.e., 'imperf at top,' etc., but with the added feature of paper type, gum type and booklet of origin. Especially, I like the "perpetual" numbering system employed. By assigning letter 'A' to single stamps imperf at the top, and 'B' for pairs imperf at the top, etc., provision is automatically made for all subsequent combination varieties.
2. Prices have been adjusted more in line with prevailing auction realizations for the scarcer varieties (but in some cases still too high). The prices for the commoner varieties are generally in line with retail, but the prices for postmarked combinations appear to be much too low in relation to retail availability. I happen to be especially interested in completing my collection of used combinations; a rather thorough search of Amsterdam, Rotterdam and The Hague left me empty-handed; the dealers simply do not have stocks of these elusive varieties, especially the early ones.
3. First Day Covers and Maximum Cards are now listed and priced, including known towns of origin. Some items, I notice, are listed but not priced, apparently awaiting additional data on relative scarcity. This is a worthwhile addition that ought to be expanded in subsequent catalogues.
4. Listings are carried through booklet No. 26, issued January 2, 1981 - thus, completely up-to-date.

If I might make a serious request of our Dutch cousins, it would be a plea for pages 3-5 also to be in English for those of us who are not fluent in the language. This background information is vital to building a collection of booklets and it undoubtedly would instill more interest in this specialty on this side of the big pond.

In any case, this is another well-edited and researched effort by Messrs. de Rooy and Hali. They deserve our commendation for an excellent work of reference.

Request

OUR three regular columns so far seem to have been a success; at least, we haven't received any negative letters about them, and that may be as much as we can expect. However, there is no reason why we should stop with three regular columns. For some time we have thought about a regular column on postal stationery. So far postal stationery has been a stepchild, at least if we consider the amount of space devoted to it. But, as with all other aspects of Netherlands philately, there are still gaps in our knowledge, even if we didn't spend any time on 'new issues.' Is there a member whose main interest lies in postal stationery who could provide all of us with a regular column? As you have seen, this doesn't mean that there MUST be a column in every issue of *Netherlands Philately*. Three out of four is fine too!

Are there other areas where a member might be willing to spend some time to let his or her fellow-members know more about it? Let your editor know.

Dutch Designs

by Benjamin Zeichick

Have you ever really looked at the 1959 "Summer" stamps - NVPH Nos. 722-726? I must admit that until recently I hadn't, the other issues of that year at first being more interesting.

Yet there is something striking about the "Summer" set. Perhaps it is the colors - how often do you see Dutch stamps printed on such bright paper as the green, gray, blue, yellow, or especially red backgrounds used for this issue? Perhaps it is that the stamps look larger than usual because they do not have the white borders so typical of Dutch issues of the period. After all, borderless designs did not really come into fashion until 1970, more than ten years after this set made its debut. Perhaps it is the way the designs themselves were drawn and printed with a most realistic marker-like quality. In fact, the stamps look much like rough marker drawings, a technique which the Dutch PTT has never seen fit to repeat in over twenty years despite its simple effectiveness (much more than the drawings by children which do occasionally make their appearance).

Somehow, however, though all of these factors are important, they fail to explain fully the special 'something' about this set. After much thought I have come to the conclusion that this set is so striking because it manages both realistically and attractively to portray a type of industrial activity unique to the Netherlands, something that is not easy to do (after all, who wants to buy a stamp which shows a factory wreathed in smog?). With relatively simple drawings of five aspects of the struggle against the sea we are shown one of the high points of Dutch industry and technology. Perhaps we better say 'simple-looking' drawings because the preliminary sketches at the bottom of the page show that the designer improved considerably on his earlier stamp-sized designs. While it might be fairly easy to show lacemaking or some such traditional industries in a tasteful way, a dredger or sand spouter is a different matter. Too photographic a design would have been a disaster with none of the romance which we associate with the dikes and polders of Holland.

A few noteworthy points to notice on the stamps themselves are the small triangles which appear on each one - a 'trademark' of the designer - and the lack of exact uniformity among the value figures (notice the 4's on the three low values), while NEDERLAND is the same on all five stamps. Also, on the two high values look carefully at the color of the designs - doesn't it seem that they are the accidental result of blue marker on colored paper?

The set was designed by Lex Horn, "one of Holland's most talented artists," according to the former Esthetic Advisor of the PTT, Christiaan de Moor. Even so, either he was never again invited to design any more stamps for the PTT, or, if he was, he refused.

For those interested in statistical information, the NVPH Special Catalog shows sales for the set of between 610,756 (6 cent) and 1,286,504 (10 cent), with obviously no more than the former amount of complete sets possibly available. The stamps were on sale from May 11 to June 27, 1959, and were valid for postage until December 31 of the following year. The money raised by the surcharge was to be spent on cultural and social work.

As a final, sort of editorial note, let me say that I find these stamps both different and attractive, an effect the PTT has been trying (with very limited success) to achieve over the past few years. As these stamps show, Dutch stamps do not have to be completely outrageous to take advantage of the latest in postage stamp design.

This set shows what can be accomplished and still stay within the bounds of good taste, so take a minute and take another look at Netherlands NVPH Nos. 722-726, the 1959 "Summer" set.

P.S. Mr. de Moor was not too happy with the results of Lex Horn's work: "But again though interesting and fascinating, the final results failed to come up to expectations," and "The difficulties inherent in the printing process were perhaps also underestimated by Horn...." I wonder whose expectations were not fulfilled.



4 + 4 cent tugs with caisson
blue against a green background



6 + 4 cent dredger
orange against a light-grey background



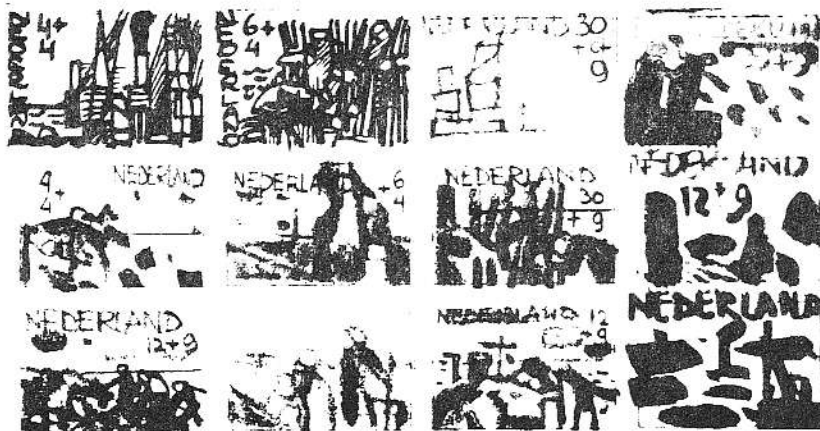
8 + 4 cent labourers making fascine
mattresses
violet against a light-blue background



12 + 9 cent grab-cranes
green against a yellow background



30 + 9 cent sand spouter
black against a red background



Lex Horn: Preliminary sketches to size of stamps

Your Family on Stamps

by Dr. Constant L. Kerkhoven

Introduction

When I started 'collecting' stamps I think I did so because I liked to look at them. The stamps on the mail for my parents at that time were the Nos. 50-60 NVPH. My mother told me that - when she was a child - our Queen on the stamps wore long hair because she was still a young girl. Two events boosted the incentive to 'collect':



1. We once got an envelope with a 15-cent stamp (No. 65) in red and blue; this *two-color* stamp was the most beautiful thing I had ever seen, and

2. My mother gave me the child's album of her young deceased sister; this album contained though of course usually damaged, Netherlands No. 1 and a few of the series of the Queen with long hair.

We also got mail out of the Netherlands Indies but I did not collect these stamps because (I think!?) I considered them (NVPH Nos. 40-128) ugly.



Meanwhile I grew up. There came World War I stamps from Germany with overprints ("Belgien," you remember), and overprints on other stamps. My interest and knowledge rose.



Purchasing stamps was of course impossible - my weekly allowance was 10 cent or less, and often cancelled by way of punishment - so progress was indeed slow. I still remember the first stamp I ever bought from accumulated allowances: It was 'Armenwet' 1½ cent with *red* overprint (No. 8) which was *very expensive* (fl. 1.50!) but I could - as a ten-year-old boy - not resist the temptation ... But now I was without any money for many months.



Stamps were bought only rarely. Sometimes a seemingly attractive series was obtained in bookstores which displayed them on paper strips hanging in the front window.

I received an all-world Schaubeck album with maps of the various countries and the (catalogue) value of the stamps indicated in the margin. This was perhaps the most beautiful present I ever got in my whole life ... It helped considerably to systematize my method of collecting which had been haphazard, of course.

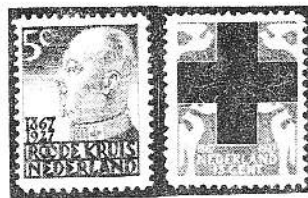
The album proved unequivocally that it was totally impossible to obtain *all* the stamps of the world. So I limited myself - like mostly everybody - to stamps of my own country (that's Netherlands and Colonies) because they were easiest to obtain.

So it remained over the years. Many years the hobby slumbered entirely because other "hobbies" like girls, sports, etc. were more interesting

Consequently at a riper age I picked up the hobby again. And with a relatively bigger pocketbook it was easy to complete the original collection to a 'complete' one. I attended auctions, got catalogues, and so on and so forth. Completeness was the incentive but I never reached it *entirely* because well, every collector knows the answer.

Topical Collecting

It took me a considerable time to gather interest in a topical subject. In my narrow-minded view a stamp belonged to a certain country. Three events changed this point of view:



1. A brother-in-law had a marvellous collection of *technical* stamps because he happened to be a professional engineer. Ships, bridges, locomotives, etc. on stamps from all over the world.

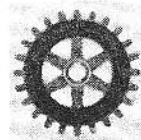
2. Another brother-in-law (who was a physician) collected *medical* stamps (Red Cross, etc).

3. I became a member of Rotary International and several Rotary-on-stamps existed already, some 10 or so. I picked up collecting technical (being an engineer myself) and Rotary stamps. At first this was fairly easy and interesting but it became increasingly time-consuming (and *expensive*) because of the explosion of "topical" stamps all over the world for purely commercial purposes. I first gave up the "technical" stamps and after 1980 Rotary likewise. The *fun* of collecting was gone. If I just spend money I can easily obtain every stamp I want, even imperforates, souvenir sheets, overprints, and so on and so forth. There is an abundance of dealers eager to supply me every new issue from even the most unimportant small islands somewhere in the Pacific or Indian Oceans ... I apologize that this is *for me* no stamp collecting any more. The excitement as I initially developed it, namely to *see*, and foremost *obtain*, a missing stamp from a certain series of the Netherlands - whether cancelled, or unused, or even a bit damaged! - lacks completely in this "new" form of collecting.



The New Era

Totally unexpectedly, however, a new topical subject came up: Collecting stamps that are *related to your family*. Ancestors, blood-relatives, marriage-related members of the family, birthplaces, burial places, coats-of-arms, even ancestral "castles," and so on and so forth.



They must (and *do*) exist on stamps. To collect them combines an interest in your family with a pictorial display of important events and a development of your knowledge of history, sociologically, economically, ecclesiastically, geographically, etc.

So if your last name is deWitt, you are probably related to Admiral de Witt (NVPH No. 417; Scott No. 257). Try this out and you are on your way!

This form of collecting stamps is exiting, interesting, cheap, highly appreciated by your *living* family-members and descendants (if any), very informative and limited only by the time you can afford to put into it. Required is only a real interest in your ancestry and their relatives: For this you must obtain or make genealogical tables and search in encyclopedias and history books. This is exiting in itself and moreover useful.



I started with only *one* known ancestor on a stamp (of the Netherlands). But *within one year* this collection has extended to eleven ancestors on stamps (from Hungary, Greece, Monaco, France, Belgium, England, St. Vincent, etc), and literally over a hundred stamps of blood-related and marriage-related members of the family; plus all kinds of stamps of birthplaces, sepulchres, churches, coats-of-arms, etc., as far away as Kiev and Nicaea, or as close by as Renesse (in Zeeland).



And if you are a photographer you can even make enlargements of slides you make yourself of your family stamps and watch how beautiful they become, especially the portrait paintings in color! Your stamps need *not* be "never-hinged," undamaged, imperforated, etc. They have not necessarily a commercial value - though some of them may be very expensive to get - but they have something else:

1. They have an *intrinsic family value* for you. (Not one other stamp has this!)
2. They have been discovered after a careful *research by yourself*. (Not imposed upon you by a commercial dealer!)
3. They open your mind to all kinds of values, communications, historical events you had originally no idea of!

In short, this kind of collecting stamps is really fun. It is so much fun that your editor (you know him: Paul E. van Reyen) has already started his search for stamps with a picture of the Reyen castle. (No such luck: Reyen comes from a Carolingian county named Rien situated north and east of Antwerp; on an 18th-century map this area is still called "the Land van Rijen," Ed.)

Fakes and Forgeries

OUR fellow-member Vic Esbensen of Toronto, Canada, a few weeks ago sent us two forgeries which caused something of a big shock. It was quite a surprise to see this particular kind of forgery which must be a first of its kind: at least, we had never heard of it before.

As all of us know who collect the Netherlands Indies, between 1934 and 1937 a definitive series was issued of which the lower values show the famous "caribou" and the higher values the "Kreisler" portrait of Queen Wilhelmina. Starting in 1938 many values of this series were replaced with the same stamps, but now printed on the normal watermarked paper of the Netherlands, the watermark small circles.

One look at the catalog (NVPH Nos. 186-210 and 246-265; Scott Nos. 164-188 and 200-225) will show big price differences between some watermarked stamps and the regular ones without watermark. Of course, the prime example is the 50 ct gray, which was only sold in Amsterdam at the philatelic window, and later on stolen from the Government Printing Works in Melbourne.

But apart from this outstanding example, there are plenty of stamps which would gain a healthy increase in price if they were on watermarked paper. So, some intrepid faker has decided to provide this watermark on regular unwatermarked stamps. Unfortunately we cannot show you photos of this phenomenon because the camera also picks up the front of the stamp which shines through the paper. So far we have seen a 25ct and a 60ct, both of which have *printed* on the back a pattern of light gray circles. In both examples the circles are not perfectly horizontal on the stamp, and the distance between circles is also not that of the real watermarked paper.

In buying these stamps, especially the more expensive ones, be sure to look for the watermark holding the stamp in front of a light source; don't just rely on some "circles" on the back. In some cases indeed the watermark does show up as grayish circles on the back, but don't be fooled by them. Make sure the watermark is indeed there by looking for lighter circles in the paper. And when you are looking for the watermark, compare whatever you find with the circles as they are shown in the NVPH Special Catalog next to the 1938-1939 set. For those of you who do not have a Special Catalog, compare the watermark with that plainly visible on the back of any Dutch watermarked stamp. There are always a few who show the watermark better than others. Pick one of these, and use it as a benchmark!

Finally, thanks to Mr. Harold F. MacDonald who donated a fake Netherlands Indies postage due to us.

TREND

Combinations from blocks, the spring fashion of 1981?

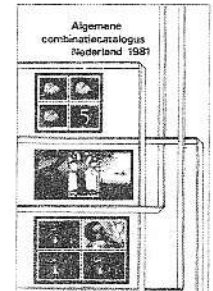
The 'special collections' are sprouting up so fast now that we are falling behind in reporting them. It will be Fall when you will be reading this, and by then the Summer collection (by Maxim Umcards) will have come and gone and you actually will want to hear about the Fall-Winter 1981-82. But *this* story began to take shape when, last October, the NVPH 81 'Speciale' appeared. Not much change compared to 1980 price levels, except for some substantial if not spectacular increases in the prices for Child Welfare blocks of the Netherlands. What happened was that investors and dealers were stockpiling and that some of them were tearing these blocks to pieces, carefully. The result of that became visible in the *Maandblad* of December 1980, when one dealer took out a full-page ad offering all the combinations from the Child Welfare blocks (and from a few other se-tenant issues). One month later a special catalogue came out, then yet another month and presto a special combinations album was on the market.

Of course, there is nothing wrong with collecting combis: they form interesting philatelic species and are certainly collectible. But if you consider the above-noted speed of development as precipitous, if not suspicious, you have my sympathy. The situation grows even murkier when in the general combi catalogue the author writes that "*unfortunately*" the PTT has designed the more recent child blocks in such a way as to produce only a few different combinations!

We feel compelled at this point to protest vigorously against the promulgation of such crass commercialism, and to thank the Dutch PTT for remaining conservatively sensible and sensibly conservative (although they seem to have fallen flat with the latest booklet (see ASNPN News, vol. 6, no. 5).)

Finally some facts. The *Algemene combinatiecatalogus Nederland 1981* (general catalog of combinations) is authored by A. Sauerbier and published by Philanca (owned by Mr. Sauerbier), The Hague. For the price of Hfl 8.00 one gets, in 52 pages, a comprehensive listing, illustrated with many B/W photos, of all the combinations from booklets, from Child Welfare blocks and from all other se-tenant issues (such as the 1977 Amphilex issues, of which no fewer than 52 combinations exist). The front cover - see photo above - says it all.

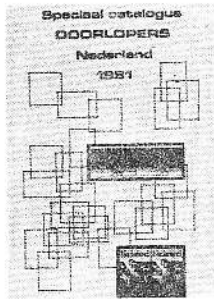
And the special album? Oh, yes, it too is published by Philanca.



F. H. A. Rummens

Doorlopers - those bleeddy stamps

Speciaal catalogus DOORLOPERS Nederland 1981 by A. Sauerbier, 2nd edition, 28 pages, Philanca, Hfl 9.50.



Ever since the "cows" appeared (NVPH No. 1052) collectors have been taking a second look at other issues to see if more of these 'image bleeders' existed. And sure enough, there are red-white-blue bunting designs of the 1970 liberation and 1972 400 years Dutch flag (NVPH No.s 970 and 1040-11) issues, the 1973 tulip stamp (NVPH No. 1025) where the design 'bleeds' both horizontally and vertically, the 'bleeding' chain link of the 'joint development' stamp of 1973 (NVPH No. 1037), the KMA stamp of 1978, and quite a few more where part of the design flows over into the next stamp. Then there are the so-called 'color bleeders' where the background color(s) run over, and finally the 'white bleeders' where (one of) the background color(s) is white, and this white continues into the next stamp without so much as even a frame line to interrupt it.

Of course one does not necessarily need a special catalogue to appreciate the above, but it *does* form a handy guide. And - lo and behold - even Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles are included in this colorful richly illustrated booklet. As a fashion trend one would expect the 'doorlopers' to be slightly faded by now, but apparently the whole issue is still in turmoil. The prices for such bleeding pairs are still very unstable, those in this particular catalogue being sometimes equal, but more often either double or half those in the 1981 Zonnebloem catalogue (which lists image bleeders of the Netherlands).

White edges and frame lines, or the lack thereof, are design features. Whenever a significant trend develops in such design features, it is certainly of interest to collectors to take note of it. To those who specialize in design aspects of stamps all this is a great boon, of course, and they will certainly want to collect such pairs to dramatize the effect.

But from a pure philatelic standpoint a bleeding pair is no more than two single stamps, i.e. one of them being redundant. If it is true, as we heard, that DAVO (a popular brand of preprinted quality albums in the Netherlands) now preprints pairs of the most conspicuous image bleeders rather than single stamps, thus virtually forcing DAVO owners to purchase these extraneous and expensive items, then we feel somewhat alarmed at a development that - in our opinion - is not in the long term interest of philately.

F. H. A. Rummens

Editorial Note: Those of you who do not agree with the feelings expressed above on these new trends in the collecting of stamps in the Netherlands (not Netherlands philately, according to the author), can certainly write to the editor to have their different opinion registered in a future issue of this journal. It may even be that some of you agree with the author, but feel he hasn't gone far enough. Write too!

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Our Readers Speak Out . . .

Dear Editor,

In the A.S.N.P. News of January 1981 I was struck with surprise by the statement of Dr. Reed when he pretends under "Correction: There are no town cancels on Plate IX."

I can prove the contrary as I have a stamp Plate IX, pos. 23 in my collection with town cancellation Amsterdam.

A picture of this stamp is in the book 10 Cent Plaat IX by G. C. van Balen Blanken/Bert Buurman on page 8, which Dr. Reed probably overlooked.

H. C. Lodder

Auction Action

The following observations on the "auction market" in the U.S. are based on actually only two auctions and one booklet result from a third auction. The two auctions are Harmer's of March 11 and 12, and Gala Stamp Auction of May 8 and 9. The booklet was sold by Metro Stamp Co. on May 27. At this sale a Netherlands booklet Horn No. 4A, that is four panes of six 12½-ct stamps (Scott 68a) was sold for \$625. Since the price in Horn's handbook is 1250 guilders, this is more than full catalog.

But before we go further, a few remarks seem to be warranted. At Harmer's various Dutch dealers were either buying or represented. If we translate this into philatelic terms it means that American auctions still have material at a price which makes it worthwhile for Dutch dealers to buy here. This, of course, means that American auctions do not seem the place to *sell* your Netherlands material, but rather to *buy*. The smaller American auctions also suffer from an insufficient list of customers who like to buy Netherlands material while the Dutch auctions of course have lists which include most of the buyers of Dutch material. Even though real Dutch buying power for philatelic items (not speculative stamps and sets) has gone down - Mr. van Dieten last year claimed that most of his expensive lots "disappeared" from the Dutch scene - prices are still set in the Netherlands, at the big auctions.

The Harmer's auction was somewhat unusual because at several points a bidder for the owner of the lots intervened so that the lot went for more than it might have without this "help." Nevertheless, prices generally were over Harmer's estimates. A collection of postage dues including the "colonies" with types and shades went for \$1050, while the estimate was \$400-500. A specialized Netherlands collection 19th century with an estimate of \$1500-2000 went for \$4000. Another collection between 1898 and 1950 with an estimate of \$500-600 was sold to the Netherlands for \$1900. A Neth. Indies collection between 1864 and 1912 with some varieties, proofs and essays went for \$2100 against an estimate of \$750-1000. A Neth. Indies and Guinea collection between 1908 and 1949 also went to the Netherlands for more than double the estimate at \$1600. Three Neth. Antilles collections barely made the estimates, as well as a Surinam collection.

The Nos. 1 from the Dr. Spector collection made prices which had nothing to do with the Scott evaluation. A Schyndel straightline went for \$100, a Texel ditto for \$125, but a steel blue for only \$100. A Hoogezand cancel brought \$120. Four covers with Amsterdam town cancel (\$200), straightline Oosterwolde (\$400), Straightline Dragten (\$700) and steel blue with Amsterdam (\$210) proved that covers always bring a premium.

Of the Nos. 2 a close strip of 5, pair and single on 1 piece brought only \$800, but a cover with a Pl. 1, pos. 96 sold for \$290. A No. 3 with a blue cancel sold for \$260 to the Netherlands, and two others for \$170 and \$210. A 50 ct gold of 1867 on cover to the U.S. brought no less than \$850.

The young queen high values were disappointing: a fresh and fine o.g. 5 gld sold for only \$375. So were the copies of the first 10 gld: mint sold for \$500, a neatly cancelled one on piece for \$525, and a fine cancelled one for \$400. The second 10 gld (No. 101), o.g., fine sold for \$500, but a fine clearly cancelled copy brought \$1000. A used pair of which one had the broken "E" variety sold for \$1550, and went to the Netherlands. Of the high values of the 1923 issue, a block of 4, o.g., of the 2½ gld brought \$675 and ditto of the 5 gld no more than \$800. All the syncopated stamps went for less than a third of Scott catalog prices, with few exceptions.

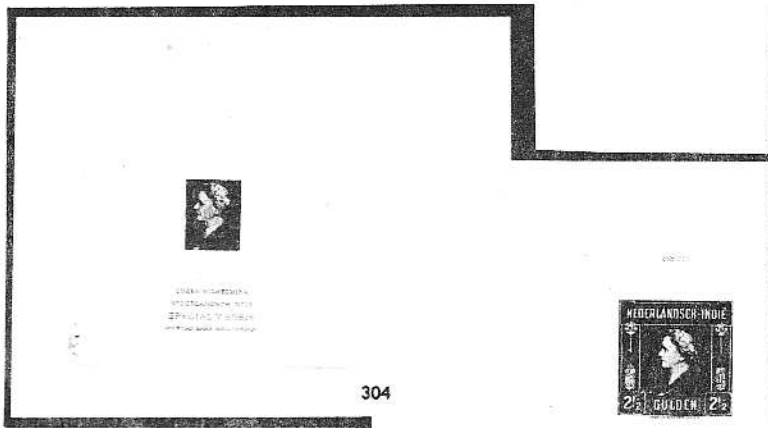
In the Neth. Antilles section, a very fine 1.5 gld on an R-cover to Germany, 26.4.1897, brought \$210, and lot 270 (see photo), ex-Roosevelt collection, brought \$400. The first air mails in blocks of four, lot 277 (photo), NH, sold for \$200 only. In the Indies prices were generally just as low, but some covers did very well. Of the illustrated items, lot 283 brought \$180; lot 285, \$190; lot 289, \$140; lot 286, \$160; lot 290, \$125; lot 288, \$130; and lot 291, \$130. One cover with a 5 and 50 ct King William with the marking "INDIA PAID" sold for \$130, and a cover with unreadable numeral cancel 84, Deli, brought \$26. The Bandoeng Fair set in blocks of four, lot 300, brought no more than \$450, with two small thins. The 50 ct with watermark brought \$210, and the Am. Bank Note Co. proofs, lot 304, sold for \$950. Lot 281, in not a perfect condition, still brought \$240.

In the Surinam lots, a 1 gld 1897 on cover to the Netherlands sold for \$160, and a mint copy of the 50 on 2.5 gld for \$90, and a used copy for \$100. A cover with 5 copies of the ¼ ct on 1 ct crown overprint with a regular 20 ct to the Canal Zone sold to the Netherlands for \$100, while the whole crown overprint set on cover (philatelic) sold for a mere \$115. The ½ on 1, ½ on 2 and 20 on 30 ct crown overprints on a small cover to the U.S. sold for \$40. A cover with the 1912 local printings in pairs, with the types of the 2½ and 12½ ct, R to the U.S. sold for \$75. The 1945 Am. Bank Note Co. proofs, complete except for the 2 ct, plus one green proof with value tablet blank, sold for \$1150 and went to the Netherlands. The DO-X set, all margin singles, NH, lot 323, sold for \$220. The same on flight cover, brought \$320, and the used 1941 set, lot 325, brought \$220. The inverted 22½ ct overprint, lot 327, sold for \$200, and a block of four of the 10 on 50 ct postage dues, two Types I and two types III, sold for \$125.

In the Gala auction, the first 10 gld used with minor creases brought \$525, and the No. 101 again with minor creases and stain, still sold for \$525. A mint hinged 25 gld sea gull airmail brought \$100; The Marine Insurance set stuck to album pages with faults brought \$320. The "postpakket-verrekenzegels," Dutch catalog value 233 gld, brought \$85. The telegraph stamps 1-6, 8-11, the 3 ct with a square hole (rare) brought \$90, while the 25 ct in very nice condition brought \$490, for a Dutch catalog price of 5000 gld. The 2 gld telegraph stamp with perforation hole only brought \$110 (Dutch catalog 600 gld).

Other stamps sold cannot be judged really because of trivial faults and the like, but all of these depress the price to an unknown amount. One can compare prices for VF or perfect stamps, and in the case of rarities with some faults, but what is the price of a common set with album black, or tropical stains?





Ex Libris

Postzegel Catalogus Nederland 1981. Publisher: Zonnebloem B.V., Amsterdam. \$4.75

With the NVPH "Speciale" and "Junior" catalogues already solidly entrenched in the market, why would anyone want to buy another catalogue of the stamps of the Netherlands? Well, this 95-page, multicolor booklet *is* different. It resembles the junior catalogue in that no varieties are listed (except the Le-beau-Veth sets with and without watermark and the syncopated perfs). It does list some specialties such as booklets and combinations thereof, first-day covers, some special cancels, and some of the design-bleeders in pairs. Overseas Areas are not listed.

The big item of interest, however, is that this catalogue generally gives *three* prices: used, unused with hinge, and mint NH. This makes it fundamentally different from the NVPH "Speciale" whose prices for unused are supposed to be for mint NH for issues *after* 1940 and for unused with hinge for pre-1940 issues. (That sloppy definition left the stamps issued *in* 1940 high and dry. At least, by comparing prices in the two catalogues, we can now solve that problem: the prices of the 1940 issues in the "Speciale" are for unused with hinge, *and that includes the additions to the Konijnenburg set which really came out in 1946-47.*)

If we can believe this Zonnebloem catalogue, then indeed 1940 is a breakpoint; after 1940 unused with hinge is worth from 10-30% less, compared to mint NH, but pre-1940 mint NH stamps are worth 100-200% more than their hinged counterparts.

All this is useful to know, even for those who do not care for mint NH, if only to know how much discount to expect. But we still do have a big question mark as to the accuracy of these 'Zonnebloem' data. The publisher maintains that the prices are based on the most recent market prices, but how come that the Zonnebloem prices as a whole are 10-20% above the NVPH level, while we also know that the latter are already too high in a very soft Dutch stamp market?

F.H.A. Rummens

Van Putten's Catalogus Weldadigheidsuitgaven 'Voor het Kind' 1980. G. Huisman, Ed., 160 pages. De Courier, Putten, Gld. \$6.25

This specialized catalogue lists all the items related to the Netherlands Child Welfare emissions. One will find in this book not only the stamps, the blocks and the combinations, but also the various kinds of special cancels, the first-day covers (this section is considerably more detailed than the Ave-zaat-Okker FDC catalogue), maximum cards and 'Kinderbedankkaarten' (the latter two sections being rather summary).

The catalogue is richly illustrated, be it in black and white, and contains a wealth of information on various issues, their design, format, numbers issued, primary and secondary plate faults, plate and etching numbers, and the like. For all that detail, though, it is the more remarkable that no information is given on the complete sheets. We would have liked to know the number of stamps per sheet, margin markings, perforations, whether printed in double sheets, etc.

There are some small errors that need be corrected, such as the nonexistent denominations indicated under the syncopated perfs in pairs. Under '1928' we found the remark that the stamps of that year would be the first to bear the words 'voor het kind,' which of course overlooks the 1924 Child stamps.

This catalogue constitutes an open invitation to start a thematic 'Voor het Kind' collection. This is the more appealing since each section (stamps, cancels, FDC's, etc.) can be a part collection by itself. And here, for a mere \$6 or so is a comprehensive handbook to guide you along. Our congratulations to editor and publisher for a service well-rendered. Nos, if in the next edition Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles could be included as well, we would be completely happy.

F.H.A. Rummens

As you know, all these reviewed publications can be ordered by sending a check for the amount mentioned made out to the ASNP to the Treasurer, Mr. John W. Van Buskirk, 11 Park Place, New York, NY 10007. As soon as the books or catalogs have been received from the Netherlands, they will be distributed to the members who ordered them.

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