

Dated Journal

Netherlands Philately  
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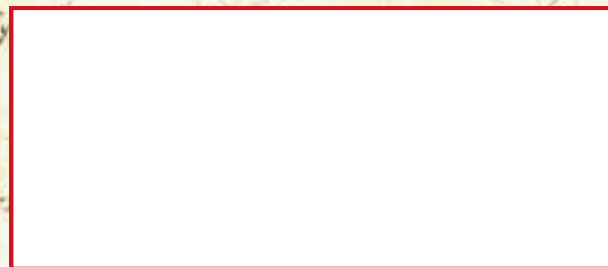
# Netherlands Philately

*Magazine of the American Society for Netherlands Philately*

**Volume 37/5**



**American Society for Netherlands Philately**  
Founded in  
1975





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# NETHERLANDS PHILATELY

Magazine of the American Society for  
Netherlands Philately; **Volume 37/5**

June 2013

Editor's message

In front of you is the latest magazine of our society and in this issue there is a lot of information that you as member should read regarding things that are going on in our society at this moment.

Unfortunally we received also the sad news of the passing away of a member and great philatelist. More about this further in the magazine.

This issue contains the article about the verdict in the postal fraud case of PostNL as promised in the previous issue. For the first time since this case became known to philatelists, details have been made public about how and when this happened and who were involved.

Beside the normal magazine reviews and recent issues there two other interesting articles from our members showing our diversity in Dutch-related philately.

From a wet Adelaide I wish you lots of reading joy and hope that you are inspired to write an article. Especially articles in the range of 2-3 pages are welcome as I have a shortage of those.

Cheers,

Alex

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Paul van Reyen

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## **Magazine Notes**

Our Magazine is the business card of our society. With modern technology available, a full color magazine is warranted.

Potential authors are asked to send in full color scans (at 600 dpi) of their illustrations. I would like to receive the text in MS Word. Keep in mind that you clearly state where each illustration belongs in the article.

Contact the Magazine Editor in case of questions.

## In Memoriam Dr. Albert Louis (1925-2013)

One of the greats of Netherlands philately has closed his albums for the last time. On Monday May 6 my friend Albert Louis died, having suffered recently with poor health. This past February, during a visit to the hospital in Brühl (Germany) it was clear that his health had deteriorated since we saw him in June 2012 although his medical problems were then too quite serious. He was not able to enjoy his new residence in the senior center which had been converted to meet his philatelic needs.

In 1942, at the age of 17, Albert Louis was called up as a conscript in the German army. Two years later he was taken prisoner during the invasion of Normandy and spent the rest of the Second World War in an English POW camp. After the war he studied medicine and met Ilse, a colleague who would become his wife. They were active in their joint-practice until 1990.

His interest in the early stamps of The Netherlands and in particular the plating of the 1852 issue started in the 1950s. At the time he was unaware that other collectors were also working on this. Quoting from the introduction to volume 1 of the "Edition d'Or" series issued by the auction houses of Heinrich Köhler and Corinphila:

*During AMPHILEX 1967, Dr. Albert Louis presented for the first time Plate III of the 5 Cent blue of 1852, which he had completely reconstructed from 100 single stamps. He got to know Dr. Fred Reed of New York, who was also researching plate reconstruction. In 1968, a book concerning the plating of Plate III of the 5 Cent blue of 1852 was published. However, it turned out that the research into all 17 plates with 1700 sheet positions could only be achieved by a larger group of experts. Under the leadership of G.V. van Balen Blanken (Netherlands), Dr. Fred Reed (New York), Dr. Albert Louis (Germany), Frans Driesens (Netherlands), Ferdie de Beaufort (Switzerland), Bert Buurman (Netherlands) and at times Jan Poulie (Netherlands) joined together in order to complete the plate reconstruction of the issue of 1852. This ambitious research project was successful. In 1976, the last book (in a series of 17 volumes) was presented to the philatelic public.*

It is necessary to add here that Johannes (Jo) De Kruyf (USA) also contributed to this project. Dr. Louis was the last survivor of this exclusive group. The extensive correspondence, a part of which has been saved, testifies to the cooperation and exchange of data among these philatelists before the books with the plates of the first issue were published.

Dr. Louis' exhibits of the first, but also in particular the second issue of The Netherlands showed his thorough research. In FIP exhibitions they regularly received high awards. The fact that international jurors often place the greatest emphasis on first issue is the reason that the difficult second issue was probably undervalued.



*Dr. Albert Louis receives a large gold medal for his "Niederlande 1852" exhibit at Amphilex 77 in Amsterdam from Simon Rietveld, vice-chairman of the Organizing Committee.*

The stamp issue of 1867 too had his attention and let us not forget about “Norwegian Ship Mail 1855-1900.” A veritable laundry list of first class collections.

Since about 2000 Dr. Louis also collected and exhibited pre-stamp philately and his display of covers from the Belgian Revolt period was awarded large gold in the FIP Exhibition in Portugal in October 2010. He often gave presentations about this subject among others for the ‘Royal Philatelic Society London’ of which he was a fellow. I was gratefully able to use the letters in his wonderful collection and his articles about the Belgian separation in volume 3 of my trilogy “Netherlands Mail in Times of Turmoil.” His suggestions were of great importance. A more generous philatelist has yet to be born.

He wrote countless articles in “Onder de Loep” (lit: *under the magnifying glass*), the magazine from the ‘Arge Nederlande.’ For many years he was the driving force of this organization and on March 16 of this year it honored him on the occasion of his 60th! membership anniversary.

Dr. Louis was a member of the ‘Bund Philatelistischer Prüfer’ since 1976 en from 1983 of the ‘Association Internationale des Experts en Philatélie.’ Many hundreds of certificates carry his signature.

It goes without saying that many philatelic organizations have shown their appreciation. From the ‘Briefmarkenfreunde Düsseldorf’ Louis received the Carl-Richard Brühl medaille. In 2003 he was honored with the Heinrich Köhler Prize for contributions to philately. I had the honor to present him with our ASNP’s own prestigious Johannes de Kruyf Award in his home in Brühl in 2009 “*In recognition and appreciation of his selfless devotion and outstanding contributions to Netherlands Philately.*” This after after a conspiracy that involved the entire Louis family.



*Kees Adema and Dr. Albert Louis (right) at the Monacophil exhibit in Monte Carlo in 2006.*

In November 2012 Dr. Louis received the Leon de Raay medal for his article “Schatgraven bij de tweede emissie” (lit: *digging for treasure in the second Issue*) in the July/August 2011 issue of “Filatelie” while in March of this year he was honored by Klaus Weis, president of the DASV e.V. (*Deutscher Altbriefsammler- Verein*), with the renowned SAVO Plaque.

Under the glass plate on my desk lies a favorite photo, taken during the Monacophil exhibition in Monte Carlo in 2006. He and I are in deep conversation, surrounded by frames with letters, oblivious to our surroundings. That is how I will remember Albert Louis. A good friend. A brilliant philatelist. I shall miss him terribly.

We shall not see his like again.

My deepest sympathy for Ilse, to his children Karl and Renate, en to the rest of the family.

*Kees Adema, Fairfield, Ct., USA*



# To the ASNP Membership

On April 20, 2013, on the occasion of the Aripex 2013 Philatelic Exhibition in Mesa, AZ, we held a face-to-face meeting to discuss some of the issues facing the ASNP. Yes, I know, we have the Internet, but once in a while a face-to-face meeting is more productive.

**A number of our members who have been with the ASNP from the beginning are looking forward to "retiring" from their positions on the Board of the ASNP, with younger members taking their place. We will hold elections in the fall of this year (we are one year late), and I would like to ask all of you to seriously consider being a candidate for election.**

These positions are not very onerous, you will assure the future of the ASNP, and you will be of service to your fellow members.. We also discussed an idea of your Editor, the possibility of setting up a "forum" where members can ask questions, show things, hold a discussion, all of it on the ASNP Website. This requires some work by our Editor who will explain on another place in this issue what such a forum can do for us and how it works.

Our present situation:

- Financial: fairly good, no immediate concern but we think that the members who receive a paper version of our Magazine will end up paying a little more when the USPS will increase its rates. Hard to see how they can avoid this.
- Membership: slowly declining; 111 in 2012, 106 in 2013 **how can we grow our membership?**
- Auction: we will continue to hold one auction per year.
- Magazine: we experience a serious shortage of original articles and translations.

Ed Matthews,  
President ASNP.

## Vacant board position

### Advertisement Manager

The ASNP is in need of a new Advertising Manager. Last season Max Lerk passed away and he did this job for several years. This is not a difficult job at all and if everything goes well it only asks once a year some work to be done. But this is essential work, since all our advertisers are based in the Netherlands!!!

What does the Advertising Manager do?

- Contact all advertisers from previous year to ask to advertise for the upcoming season.
- Advise advertisers how to send in the advertisings, (this advice is made up together with the editor).
- Collect all advertising fees and transfer this to the treasurer.
- Be the contact person for the advertisers during the season in case of questions etc.

This sounds not to difficult .....right?????!!!!!! So send an email to the President or the Editor and help the society!!!

## Changes in the board positions

### Vice President

Franklin Ennik has accepted to become the Vice President to replace Dries Jansma who has become incapacitated. The ASNP accepts with thanks Frank's decision to fill that post.

### Webmaster

As editor and webmaster of our website I'm proud to introduce you to Arno Kolster. Arno volunteered as the societies' second webmaster. With Arno's profession being IT related I'm confident that the society has secured its website environment for the coming years. In a changing world where the internet cannot be ignored, it is vital to offer members something more than just a magazine. Having a good website is also important to attract new members from around the world. Something this society needs to survive!

## New website

As editor I proposed to the board a few months back to build a new website. Some of you might ask why do we need a new one as our present one is good enough. New techniques and newly acquired skills made it possible for us as a society to have a website that is with its time. One of the things that this society can improve is for members having the opportunity to make contact with each other and learn from each other. This option can be found in the tool of a forum. Forums on itself are not new. They have existed for quite some years. However, the opportunity to have a single login name and password that gives you access to a forum and special members pages in an easy and friendly to use environment is something else! The new website will not only be user friendly for the old fashioned desktop computers but also for laptops, tablet computers and the so called "swap phones". Apart from a members-only forum there will also be a few surprises in the bag. What those are is only known to the webmasters and we hope you will be looking forward to the results in a few months time.



## New Members

During the last year, the following members joined:

<i>Name</i>	<i>State/Province</i>	<i>Collecting interests</i>
Edward Burfine,	California,	Netherlands New Guinea and UNTEA.
Gerrit Keizer	BC, Canada	
Nick Laninga,	Washington	Netherlands, FDC's and cancellations.
Henry Lunshof	Ontario, Canada	
Fred Nash,	Utah	Netherlands Indies, Japanese Occupation N.I., stationery and covers, revenues and railroads, Cancellations and Rep. of Indonesia.
Rev. Dr. John F. Piper	Pennsylvania	Netherlands, Netherlands Indies and Surinam.

At present, the paid membership stands at 102, of which 46 receive the Magazine electronically only. We also mail out 10 free copies to advertisers, philatelic societies, media, etc.

## Exhibition Report; Australia 2013

*by Richard Wheatley, FRPSL*

This exhibition was held in Melbourne from 10 to 15 May and it turned out to be a feast of philately.

There were 50 Large Gold medals awarded and 121 Gold medals, so as you can see the standard was exceptionally high.. The Grand Prix National went to Arthur Woo (U.K.) for his exhibit *Western Australia – The Classic Stamps Printed from Perkins Bacon Plates*. The Grand Prix International went to Emil Buhrmann (South Africa) for *Cape of Good Hope – The Hope Rectangular Design during the Victorian Period*. It was no surprise to see the Grand Prix D'Honneur being won by an Australian exhibit, albeit owned by Koichi Sato (Japan) *Tasmania: Imperforate Stamps from "Courier" to "Chalon Head"*.





Exhibits with a Dutch flavour were hard to find, but there were some good ones:

**Indra Kusuma:** *Republik Indonesia 1945 – 1949 – The Local Stamps issued during the Independence War in Java Island.* Large Vermeil.  
**Sven Pahlman:** *Dutch East Indies: Postal Routes and Rates.* Gold.

**Richard Wheatley:** *Netherlands East Indies Mail 1789 – 1877.* Large Vermeil.

**Luis Alemany:** *Holland. Reign of Willem III (1852 – 1864).* Gold.

**Tono Dwi Putranto:** *The*

*Development of Netherlands East Indies Airmail in Conjunction with KLM and KNILM operation in Netherlands Indies until 1942:* Large Vermeil.

**Clara Wijarsih:** *The Glory and the Tragedy of PH – AJU UIVER Flights.* Vermeil.

**Jusak Johan Handoyo:** *The Netherlands Indies King Willem III Side Faces.* Vermeil.

**Gita Noviandi:** *Postal Cards of Dutch East Indies 1874 – 1932.* Vermeil.

**Fadli Zon:** *The Netherlands East Indies Postal Stationery 1874 – 1942.* Vermeil.

There were also three entries in Youth Philately:

**Santoso Soesantio:** *Dai Nippon Postmarks along the Daendels Road in Central Java.* Large Silver.

**Mauritania Wibawanto:** *Republican Java: Inflation Rates 1945 – 1949.* Large Vermeil with Special Prize for Treatment.

**Andrianto Wahyu Wibowo:** *The Development of KLM Flights to Netherlands Indies 1927 – 1942.* Large Vermeil with Special Prize for Knowledge.

Two Dutchmen also exhibited, but their entries were of “foreign” postal stationery:

Hans van Dooremalen: *USA – The Foreign Postal Card of 1879.* Vermeil.

Wim Tukker: *Australia Pre Decimal Airletters and Aerogrammes.* Vermeil.

It is to the credit of the Indonesian contingent that they brought along two Special Prizes.

*Editors Note:*

*Congratulations to Richard with his result at this international exhibition.*

*It is good to see that members participate and express their interest in Dutch-related philately.*



**Centenary of  
Kangaroo Stamps**



# Conviction in the Postal Fraud case of PostNL

by Alex Nuijten

On 10 April 2013 the Dutch Court reached a verdict in the postal fraud case between PostNL and Verzendpro. Verzendpro was the “name” of the company that the people behind the fraud used to sell their stamps over the Internet. The scale of the fraud was huge and, as far as I know, it is till now the largest fraud case in the history of Dutch Philately.

PostNL did not provided much information before the court case was due and only a small news article was issued when the verdict was reached; by then the case had almost been forgotten by the public at large. Even after the court case PostNL did not provide much information about how they found the fraudsters and how they operated. Thanks to the fact that I was able to get a copy of the court report I can give my fellow collectors more insight. The court report has made it clear that a stamp dealer was involved.

Now the how's and when's of this fraud;

## PostNL discovers the forgeries

Media 2011 it was pointed out to PostNL by several (anonymous) companies that forged postage stamps were used, mainly on parcel mail. From research by PostNL it turned out that the forged stamps didn't have the fluorescent coating which the real postage stamps had. Secondly the postage stamps where perforated in such a way that it did not match that of the real stamps. The stamps forged where those of Queen Beatrix 1981 issue, the 3 Euro version of the inverse type of 1991 and the 0.44 Euro cent the Van Halem stamp. These forgeries where placed on sticker sheets each containing a value made up to meet the need of the customer to send their parcel with the correct amount of postage stamps. Most times one genuine postage stamp was added to trigger the cancel machine.

After this discovery PostNL wanted clarification and contacted a well-known philatelist and expert on forgeries, whose name is unknown. In a letter of 22 November 2011 he writes to PostNL (the important part of the message):

*“(...) Zoals je inmiddels bekend is, ben ik naar Utrecht geweest en heb bij de bewuste boekhandel een aantal frankeerstroken beplakt met vervalste ‘zegels’ en één echte postzegel gekocht.*

*Met behulp van deze vervalste ‘zegels’ heb ik bepaalde kenmerken van vervalsing beter kunnen onderzoeken. Heb vastgesteld, (...) dat het inderdaad om vervalste ‘rolzegels’ in de frankeerwaarden nl. 1,5G - 2G - 2,5G - 3G - 4G - 6,50G en 7G gaat.*

*Verder de ‘gewone’ €3 zegel (Beatrix inversie) en de 44 cent zakenzegel (type [F]).*

*Bij deze boekhandel waren een behoorlijk aantal voorgefrankeerde plakstroken aanwezig bestemd voor verschillende frankeringen, zowel voor gewone als aangetekende post.*

*Deze vervalsingen zijn in grote getalen aangemaakt.*

*Gezien het werk dat daarvoor verricht is, zoals het kopiëren van de zegelbeelden, het vervaardigen van de drukvormen, het drukken en het maken van de stansvormen in drie verschillende stansmaten, is mijn vermoeden dat de oplagen minstens vele tienduizenden moet zijn geweest om dit lonend te maken. (...)”*

Translated to English:

*“(...)As you already know I traveled to Utrecht and bought at the bookstore in question some labels affixed with forged postage stamps and one original stamp. With the help of these forgeries I was able to research the characteristics of the forgeries. (...) it deals with forged coil stamps with the face value 1.5G- 2G-2.5G-3G-4G-6.,50G and 7G. Also the 3 Euro (Beatrix Inverse) and the 44 Euro cent business stamp (Type Van Halem).*

*At this bookstore a significant number of pre-franked labels were stocked for different franking, including normal and registered mail.*

*These forgeries have been made in large numbers.*

*Based on the work that is needed for this, such as copying the stamp image, making the printing plates, the printing itself and constructing the perforation dies in three different measurements, it is my opinion that the number of these forgeries must be in the 10.000's to make this process profitable. (...)"*

Further investigation made PostNL to concluded that there were 14 websites on which postage stamps where offered far below the face value. These websites where equal in their lay-out, showed pre-franked labels similar in composition, and, on average offered the postage stamps at 30% below the face value.

After these findings, PostNL placed an order on two websites, in particular [www.verzendpro.nl](http://www.verzendpro.nl) and [www.posttarieven-binnenland.nl](http://www.posttarieven-binnenland.nl). After PostNL received the orders it turned out that the labels contained original and forged postage stamps. The addresses of the senders were Rijksweg Noord 63B and 188 in Sittard.

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Wij hopen U snel als klant te mogen begroeten!

**Ga naar onze webwinkel**

Sandra de Jong,  
Team Verzendpro.nl

Oh ja, voor ik het vergeet: Meld U aan voor onze nieuwsbrief, het loont zich!

Enkele klanten die gebruik maken van onze postzegels:

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**Kussen en Zo**  
online shoppen voor dan elke dag

**Musthaves 4you**  
trendy sieraden en accessoires

**KLANTEN**  
2010

**ING**

*A screenshot of the homepage of Verzendpro. Even showing some links to WebPages of their customers. Or better said victims!*



On 9 December 2011 PostNL placed a test purchase to the address Handelsstraat 34a, in Sittard. Once PostNL found out that the stamps bought were forged, PostNL went to the police and filed charges against Verzendpro for fraud on the same day.

From 7 thru 16 December 2011 PostNL checked in the Mail Center Registered Mail items sent from the addresses mentioned on the 14 websites discovered by PostNL. These items were franked with combinations of original and forged stamps. In total 148 items were checked. In one case the item was damaged and open. It turned out that this item contained A4 size label sheets with pre affixed stamps. All similar in composition as the ones used on the 148 sent and previous discovered items that led to Verzendpro.

On 14 December PostNL conducted a check in all sorting centers and all parcels offered for mailing where inspected. On that day alone, there were approx. 1000 pieces that contained forged postage stamps. This resulted in the sequestration and to prejudgment attachment of evidence of all the stamps, documentation and administration on seven addresses from the director of Vago B.V. as well as its bank accounts on 16 and 19 December 2011 by PostNL. The confiscated material was handed over by PostNL to the prosecution which started their enquiries.

Under the confiscated material on Handelsstraat 34a in Sittard were 77 envelopes with forged stamps of 0.44 Euro cent that were sent return to sender from the director of Philamunt, Three envelopes from the Sittard office with forged stamps of 0.44 Euro cent, 107 commercial folders from the director of Philamunt, that were sent return to sender with forged stamps of 0.44 Euro cent and a label with forged stamps; 1 x 0.44 Euro cent and the 7G, 6.5G and 2G coil stamps of Queen Beatrix.

On 22 December 2011 the Police searched a building and a Porto cabin located on the premises at Handelsstraat 34 in Sittard. At this search employees from PostNL were present. The Porto Cabin was almost empty but the Police found a few labels with forged stamps on it, a couple of business cards, lists with postal rates and a couple of boxes with about 1200 invoices.



*An example of a label with forged stamps*

From the material found by PostNL it became clear that the forged stamps were in circulation as early as 13 December 2010 as one of the items had a postmark from PostNL on it of that day.



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## **The case**

The case is against four defendants: Vago B.V. and her director, and Philamunt B.V. and her director. From the court report it is clear that Vago B.V. and her director were sentenced in absentia. It was in their opinion probable already clear that they could not win this case since evidence was overwhelming. Philamunt and her director were in the courtroom and represented by their lawyer and defended the accusations of PostNL against them.

PostNL explained to the court that they would be satisfied with the conviction of Vago B.V. and her director as they were the key players in this forgery case.

Philamunt, defending the accusations of PostNL in the court room, said that they were not involved with the fraudulent organization. The court did not give this much value as research by PostNL and the Dutch Police proved that there was a necessary interdependence between Vago B.V. and Philamunt B.V. There is no other possible way than that they have worked together, according to the court. An interesting part is that the properties of Vago B.V. and Philamunt B.V. were neighboring properties, located on the Handelsstraat 34 and 34a. Another important detail is the fact that the portocabin was placed near the fence line and a part of the fence was removed between the two properties to make it accessible from both properties. Reading through the defense report of Philamunt it also comes to light that they did not answer important questions from the court.

PostNL also explained during the procedure that they were shorted for almost 5 million Euro. PostNL comes to this conclusion on the basis of the 14 websites, the time frame, and the fact that the defendants provided a service for stamps that were sold at 70% of the face value. The court found this calculation not acceptable and proven.

First, the 14 websites did not all operate from the start. Secondly, not all websites generated the same amount and some were only linked through to the main website. Also the confiscated invoices indicate that they sold about 1.8 million Euro of forged stamps over the whole time line given by PostNL. The court accepted the part of the calculation by PostNL that on top of the 1.8 million sold stamps also the 30% difference in sale price had to be added to the damage. This brings the total amount to 2.6 million Euro as an estimation of the damage.

## **The verdict**

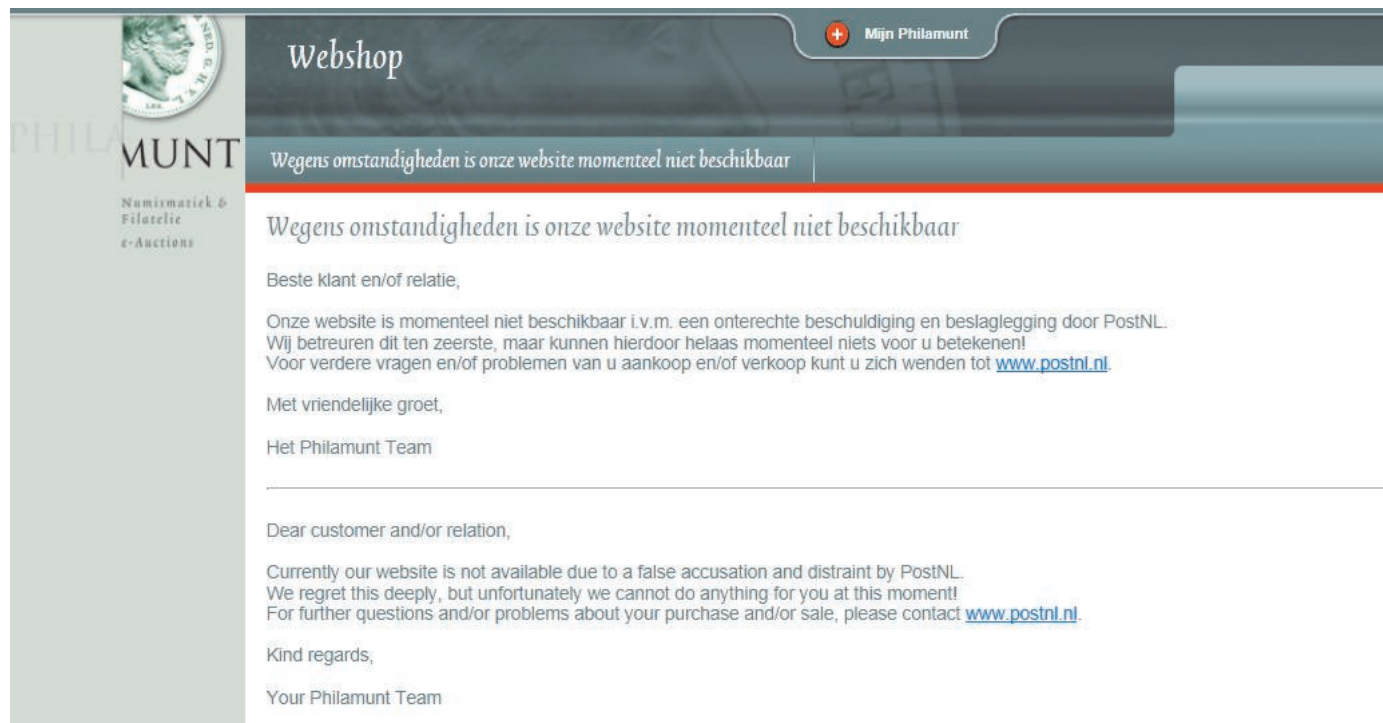
The court convicted Vago B.V. and her director of being guilty of forging stamps and selling them as real stamps and ordered a payment of 2.6 million Euro in damages with statutory interest from 24 February 2012 till the day of full completion. Also they have to cooperate with PostNL in:

- Handing over all forged stamps in their possession.
- Informing their clients with a copy of the verdict to return the forged stamps in their possession to PostNL and reimburse the transportation costs of this.
- Hand over all tools and/or materials used for forging the stamps.
- Hand over all forged stamps to PostNL that will be sent back to Vago B.V. and her director.
- To cooperate in providing insight in their financial position that can be used to pay the damages of 2.6 million Euro back to PostNL.
- To pay all the process costs made by PostNL and the confiscation costs.
- Breach the copyrights of the stamps where PostNL (Van Halem stamp) and Peter Struycken, Vincent Mentzel, Gerard Unger (Beatrix stamps) are the copyright owners.

That Vago B.V. and her director are convicted doesn't mean that Philamunt B.V. is off the hook. Because Philamunt did not give a satisfying answer to all questions by the court the judges can, under Dutch law, come to a conclusion of what is the 'highly likely event.' This means that even though Philamunt was not convicted of forging stamps, in the opinion of the court it was involved in the operation as proven by PostNL. Therefore under the Dutch law (article 6:166 BW) Philamunt is still accountable for the damages done in this case since they were a part of a Group. This means that PostNL can retrieve the total damages of 2.6 million Euro from Vago B.V. and from Philamunt B.V.

If Philamunt had been succesfull in their defense, it would have meant that they were not a part of the Group and therefore only accountable for their own actions and only would have to pay the damages linked to their actions. In that case, the amount of damages what they would have to pay would probably be much lower than 2.6 million Euro. As of today (1 June 2013) Philamunt's website is still closed as PostNL still have a restraining order on it.

Vago B.V. and Philamunt B.V. have been given the chance of appeal within a three month period starting 10



*A screenshot of the website of Philamunt.*

April 2013. When no appeal is made the verdict will become permanent. So far nothing is known to the outside world regarding an appeal in this case and the question is if we will hear anything about this in the near future.

Since Philamunt was a member from the Dutch stamp dealer association NVPH this case also attracted their attention. From a comment the president of the NVPH made in the magazine Filatelie we know now that Philamunt's membership has been suspended from the organisation. Most likely, Philamunt will be expelled as member when this case is closed.

The opportunity for the collector to obtain some of these forgeries is unknown at this point. Since the rest of the "large" clients were mainly webshops with no philatelic connection we have to assume that most forgeries ended up in the trash bin. My guess is that even as it was the forgeries were done on large scale, they will not be widely offered as of the above given reason. The best source to look for is mail from Philamunt as that would be the main philatelically- related source.



## When necessity over-ruled the rules

*by Dick Phelps*

In my research on the cancels used in Curacao I have identified several situations that were very real but should not have existed. Some of them, like the one I am writing about now, are very understandable but illustrate the way that the postal people in the Curacao colony would sometimes break the rules set down by the postal authorities in the Netherlands. Of all the things I have seen they all seem to be matters of solving a difficult problem which either couldn't be solved by the authorities in the Netherlands, or the authorities simply refused.

This situation is about the shortage of 25 Cent stamps they were unsuccessfully dealing with. Apparently the 25 Cent rate was a commonly used rate and the supplies of that denomination were quickly used up. Willem III died in 1890 leaving the throne to Wilhelmina but the postal authorities in the Netherlands did not provide new stamps with her portrait right away. The postal people in Curacao soon used up the supply they had on hand of the Willem III portrait 25 Cent denomination and the postal authorities would not send more because the king had died.

In 1891 a hand-stamp (probably made locally) was put into use to overprint seldom used 30 Cent stamps for use as 25 Cent stamps. Records show that 25,000 of these overprinted issues were made. But the inevitable result is probably that they started to run low on 30 Cent stamps to do the overprints on. So what could they do? In early 1892 the new Princess issues were finally sent to Curacao, but for some unexplainable reason they were told that the new 25 Cent stamp was not to go on sale until June 1, 1893. So here they were with a need for 25 Cent stamps and a supply of them that they were told not to use. Obviously they solved this problem by using the new ones anyway and ignoring the June 1, 1893 issue directive.



*Examples used at Aruba.  
Left the date 5 October 1892 and right 23 May 1893*

And this was not done just at Curacao since the 19 examples that I will show come from four of the islands. I have found no examples from St. Eustatius or Bonaire but I would guess that it was done there too.



*Examples used at Curaçao.  
Left the date 16 June 1892 and right 28 June 1892*

*Examples used at Curaçao.  
Left the date 30 August 1892 and right ? August 1892*





*Examples used at Curaçao.*

*Left the date 19 September 1892 and right 7 October 1892*

*Examples used at Curaçao.*

*Left the date 20 January 1893 and right 21 February 1893*



*Examples used at Curaçao.*

*Left the date 13 March 1893 and right 11 April 1893*

*Examples used at Curaçao.*

*Left the date 11 April 1893 and right 12 May 1893*



*Examples used at Saba  
date 29 October 1892*

*Examples used at St. Martin  
Left the date 27 March 1893 and right 16 April 1893*

*Early example of the 10 cent.  
8 May 1894, This also happens  
to be the very rare Curacao  
Small Double Circle cancel  
type 2 (21mm diameter).*

This is just one of many problems that were solved by the Curacao postal people when it became necessary to do “something” to get by with their daily operations. The “proper” issue date of June 1, 1893 is taken from “A Postal History of CURACAO” by Frank Julsen and A. M. Benders. This book also states the “proper” issue date for the Princess 10 Cent blue as November 15, 1895. But the copy pictured here says otherwise.

**Sources:** “A Postal History Of CURACAO” by Frank Julsen and A. M. Benders published in 1976.



# 1834 Letter from Belgian-occupied Venlo to Grave in the Netherlands

by Franklin Ennik

The Belgian Revolution which erupted August 25, 1830 had many causes. There was a long dissatisfaction by the French speaking Catholic Walloons in the Dutch dominated southern region of the United Kingdom of the Netherlands. The region had deep, political, economic, social, linguistic and religious differences and complaints with the way the Dutch government of King Willem I treated them and they responded by mounting a revolt. On June 4, 1831, the newly formed Belgian Congress chose Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg as King of the new country.

Willem I did not accept the settlement drawn up at the initial Treaty of London conference that established independence for Belgium and mounted a rather weak offensive against Belgium to regain the territory. Despite early Dutch victories, a combined Belgian-French Army stopped their advance. A new border was drawn but the Dutch Army held onto Maastricht and the eastern half of the Duchy of Limburg because that's where the coal mines were. The conflict dragged on until Willem I was eventually compelled to agree to the provisions of the April 1839 Treaty of London and recognize the sovereignty of Belgium.

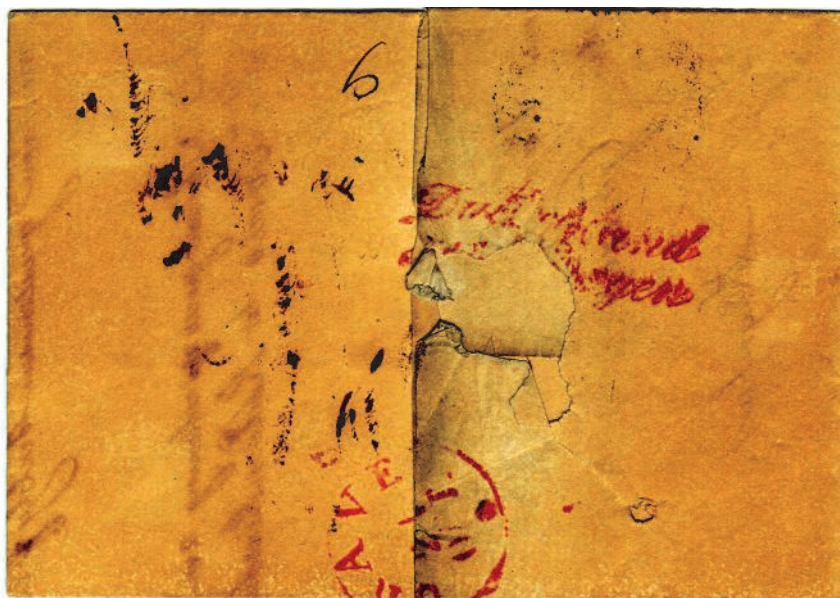


The folded letter shown here, dated October 21, 1834, was written in Venlo and addressed to Grave, but it has a 23 October Kaldenkirchen, Prussia departure cancel. This unusual delivery route was explained by Erling Berger in Denmark who provided an answer. Erling writes:

*Direct exchange of mails between northern Netherlands (Grave) and the revolted area (Venlo) was forbidden during 1830-1835. We must imagine that the letter was hand-carried a few miles across the border from Venlo to Kaldenkirchen and posted there. Further dispatch by the Prussian Post followed to Kleve (opposite Nijmegen) where the red marker **Deutschland / over Nymegen** was added. From Nijmegen the letter was sent on to Grave by the official Netherlands Post arriving 24 October 1834.*

*Deutschland  
over Nymegen*

*Other letters that have travelled this route during this period normally come from Belgium, but this example originates in occupied Limburg. The postage rate at this time for this letter was Prussian Post 15 cent plus Netherlands Post 10 cent.*



The recipient of the letter, *De Heer (Mr.) van Gemert (koopman te Grave)*, (merchant at Grave) was likely a prominent person in Grave but there is no obvious indication in the text of the letter to connect him with a profession or public office. A search of the internet for a *van Gemert, Koopman te Grave* was not productive. The letter begins with the usual greetings and salutations. There does not seem to be much substantive information in the letter either.....rather cryptic. There is no direct mention of the ongoing territorial conflict between Belgium and the Netherlands or the impact it might have on the daily life of the citizens in the region.

The writer of the letter, J.J. Joiris, talks about the depth of the water flowing in the Maas River with concerns whether barges can safely navigate and thanks van Gemert for the two letters recently received. Joiris closes the letter by telling van Gemert to refer the postal cost of the letter to a mutual colleague and with the expectation they will remain in contact, and lastly, that return mail can be sent to either the Venlo or Kaldenkirchen address. It is curious that the ongoing conflict between the Netherlands and Belgium had little apparent effect on mail traffic.

In the LIMPHILA Catalogus '89, there is the notation by H.A. van Vucht:

*During the entire period of 1830-1839, the then Belgian secondary border post offices of Sittard and Venlo kept exchanging their mail with the Prussian border post offices of Geilenkirchen and Kaldenkirchen respectively.*

**Acknowledgements:** This letter sheet comes from the archives of our deceased NPofC honorary member Ralph van Heerden.

#### **References:**

Personal email correspondence from Erling Bergen to Hans Kremer. November 2012.

P.C. Korteweg. *300 Jaar Postmerken van Nederland 1570-1870*. J.K. Rietdijk n.v., 's-Gravenhage. 328 pg.

H.A. van Vucht. 9 Jaren Belgisch Postwezen in Limburg, 1830-1839. *Catalogus Nationale Postzegeltentoonstelling LIMPHILA '89*. Blz. 66.

Wikipedia: The 1830 Belgian Revolution.....and numerous websites with the keywords "causes of the Belgian Revolution."



# Magazine & Book Reviews

*Note: In general only those articles with philatelic subjects related to the Netherlands and its (former) Overseas Areas are discussed here; many other articles of interest appear in these publications. Only those publications with new information are discussed.*

*Digital scans can be made available to anyone interested in a particular article.*

*Contact your magazine editor for this service, see the e-mail adress under The Board.*

## Magazine Reviews

### Maandblad Filatelie

*Language: Dutch.*

Maandblad Filatelie- Brouwer Media-, P.O.Box 20, 1900 AA Uitgeest, The Netherlands.

Supscription € 27,= /yr., € 47,05 for foreign countries, free to members of Dutch philatelic societies, who are member of the KNBF.

**Website:** <http://www.defilatelie.nl/>

### May 2013

In this issue there is news about the conviction in the postal fraud case of PostNL. It also contains an article that is about this case from Ben de Deugd. It is in my opinion good to see that Filatelie finally gave this case some attention in a proper way.

Further in the magazine we find an article by Frans Hermse who writes about the handling of Christmas mail in December 2012.

Bert van Marrewijk writes in his article about the postmarks with name relations to the Royal family used throughout the whole kingdom. This issue published part 2 and will be continued.

For the rest it is the usual mentioning of recent issues which are also covered in our magazine.

### SPP (Studiegroep Particuliere Postbezorging)

*Language: Dutch.*

SPP is the society for private mail companies or so-called Local Mail of the Netherlands. They study the history and recently issued stamps and/or post-marks used by the companies and their company history.

Secretary: Drs. A.F. Buitenhuis, Tolhuis 2030, 6537 LW Nijmegen, The Netherlands. E-mail: [t.buitenhuis@planet.nl](mailto:t.buitenhuis@planet.nl). No websiste!

### # 34-2

In this issue the latest news of new and closed private mail companies is shared. The magazine also looks back into the history of 8 small and short-lived private mail companies. For the rest the magazine contains the usual society news and auction list.

### Netherlands Philatelists of California

*Language: English.*

Membership dues are US \$ 12,= for corresponding USA and Canada based members; US \$ 17,= for regular members attending the monthly meetings, and US \$ 18,= for international corresponding members. Secretary/Editor: Frank Ennik, 3168 Tice Creek Dr. # 3, Walnut Creek, Ca 94595-3772 E-mail: [Ennik123@att.net](mailto:Ennik123@att.net)

**Website:** <http://www.angelfire.com/ca2/npofc/>

### May 2013

In this issue the normal report of the meeting and items members brought with them. Further two small articles.

The first one written by Hans Kremer is about the Red "D" Line. This was the main transportation line between the USA and Venuzuela 1820-1936.

The second article is written by Franklin Ennik and is about a letter sent from occupied Belgium (1834) Venlo to Grave in the Netherlands. A very interesting piece of postal history! This article is also published in this magazine.

## Recent Issues

### Inauguration King Willem Alexander 1 May 2013

PostNL is issuing two stamp sheetlets on the occasion of the inauguration of King Willem-Alexander on 30 April 2013. The stamps have the non-value indicators '1' and '2' respectively for destinations in the Netherlands and are available at all stamp sales outlets in booklets of five and ten stamps respectively. Special stamps were also issued on the occasion of three previous inaugurations (1898, 1948, 1980). The newest Inauguration Stamps differ from their predecessors in several ways: they are smaller, they are self-adhesive, and the design is typographical. The design of the Inauguration stamps is by Piet Gerards Ontwerpers in Amsterdam.

In addition to these stamps, a stamp booklet and a first-day cover will be issued.

A strongly enlarged monogram of King Willem-Alexander's first two initials is shown on the Inauguration Stamps. The stamp with non-value indicator '1' has the colors of the Dutch flag with a red initial 'W', a white background and a blue initial 'A'. The stamp with non-value indicator '2' has the same monogram but with a blue initial 'W' and a green initial 'A'. In this way, each stamp has its own character. The name 'Willem-Alexander' is printed across the monogram, together with the inauguration date and the designation 'Nederland', all in small capitals. The monogram letters are set in capitals.



#### Technical Details

Stamp size:	20.8x25.3mm
Perforation:	slit
Paper:	phosphorescent paper with phosphor tagging
Gum:	self-adhesive
Print process:	intaglio
Printer:	Walsall Security Printers, England
Print run:	non-value indicator '1': 4,117,000 sheetlets non-value indicator '2': 508,000 sheetlets
Product code:	non-value indicator '1': 330465 non-value indicator '2': 330464
Stamps type:	two different semi permanent stamps
Print colors:	Non-value indication '1': orange, blue and black Non-value indication '2': blue, green and black



Until 2011, the “Beautiful Netherlands” series was dedicated to cities. For 2012 and 2013 PostNL has opted for a new coherent thematic approach and has chosen historic country houses and regional dress respectively. On 21 May, PostNL will issue the last Regional Dress stamp sheet, this time with the Northwest-Veluwe regional dress, and the collective sheet. The first two sheets of the series appeared on 28 January with the regional dress of Staphorst and Bunschoten-Spakenburg. The two sheets with the regional dress of Walcheren and Marken were issued on 25 February 2013.

In addition to the stamp sheet, a stamp booklet and a first-day cover will be issued.

### Design Northwest-Veluwe stamp sheet

The stamp sheet “Beautiful Netherlands Regional Dress Northwest-Veluwe” consists of five identical stamps with the non-value indicator ‘1’, the year ‘2013’, the designation ‘Nederland’ and the designations ‘NOORDWEST-VELUWE’ and ‘STREEKDRACHTEN’ (regional dress). The silhouette of a woman’s head is shown in profile on the stamps in a vivid green color (tone-on-tone) to make the black-and-white head cover stand out even better.

The woman wears a ‘knipmuts’ (goffered bonnet), a closely fitting headdress with a lappet covering the nape. The sheet consists of four stamps in portrait position – two older photographs in monochrome and two more recent photographs in color. On the photographs from left to right: the church in the village street in Nunspeet, an old picture postcard with the caption ‘drie Geldersche vrouwen in klederdracht’ (three Gelderland women in regional dress) a thatched day laborer’s cottage (so-called ‘locomotiefhuisje’ – locomotive cottage – which was later moved to the Netherlands Open Air Museum) and a woman from Nunspeet with a ‘droefmuts’, a bonnet that came into fashion in around 1920 to be worn on special occasions on weekdays. The name of the Beautiful Netherlands series is printed across the photographs in perforations. A soft, light purple area between the five stamps and the four photographs serves as an intermediate layer to connect the various components on the stamp sheet with each other. Short texts about Northwest-Veluwe regional dress are printed here and there on the stamp sheet.



## Collective sheet design

The collective sheet “Beautiful Netherlands Regional Dress Northwest-Veluwe” consists of five different stamps with the non-value indicator ‘1’, the year ‘2013’, the designation ‘Nederland’ and the designation ‘STREEKDRACHTEN’ (regional dress). On or next to each stamp, the name of the village, town or region refers to the respective regional dress: Bunschoten-Spakenburg, Marken, Staphorst, Northwest-Veluwe and Walcheren. The silhouette of a woman’s head is shown in profile on the stamps in a vivid color (tone-on-tone) to make the black-and-white head cover stand out even better.



These colors return in the place names printed elsewhere on the sheet. The sheet consists of eight photographs in portrait position – four older photographs in monochrome and four more recent photographs in color. On the photographs from left to right: the harbor of Spakenburg, a woman in Spakenbrug dress, a view of typical Marken houses, a present-day photo of a young woman in Marken dress wearing the so-called girl’s bonnet, a woman from Staphorst in regional work dress at a washtub, the church in the village street in Nunspeet in Northwest-Veluwe, a woman from Walcheren wearing a casque hat, head brooch, striking forehead needle and a necklace made of red coral, and a portrait of a young woman from Walcheren with a linen bonnet, curling head brooch ends and a garnet necklace. The name of the Beautiful Netherlands series is printed across the photographs in perforations. A soft, light green area between the five stamps and the eight photographs serves as an intermediate layer to connect the various components on the stamp sheet with each other.

## Technical Details

Stamp size:	20.8x25.3mm
Perforation:	14½ : 14¼
Paper:	normal with phosphor tagging
Gum:	synthetic
Print process:	offset
Print run:	85,000 sheets (Northwest-Veluwe) 287,000 sheets (collective sheet)
Printer:	Joh. Enschedé Security Print, Haarlem
Product code:	330562 (Northwest-Veluwe)
Product code:	330563 (collective sheet)
Type of stamp:	Sheet with five identical stamps (Northwest-Veluwe) Sheet with five different stamps (collective sheet)
Stamp print colors:	yellow, magenta, cyan and black.



## Dutch Writers

21 May 2013

On 21 May 2013, PostNL will issue the Dutch Writers stamp sheetlet. The Dutch Writers stamp sheetlet consists of two times five unique stamps with the non-value indicator '1' for destinations in the Netherlands. The portraits of five well-known Dutch writers are shown on the stamps: Louis Couperus (born 150 years ago), Adriaan Roland Holst (born 125 years ago), Godfried Bomans (born 100 years ago), Simon Carmiggelt (born 100 years ago) and Gerrit Kouwenaar (born 90 years ago). Their significance is indicated by means of characteristic quotes and aphorisms.

In addition to the stamp sheetlet with ten stamps including five different images, a stamp booklet and a first-day cover will be issued.

The Dutch Writers stamp sheetlet consists of five portraits of the Dutch Writers Louis Couperus, Adriaan Roland Holst, Godfried Bomans, Simon Carmiggelt and Gerrit Kouwenaar. The monochrome illustrations of these portraits are based on photographs. For each writer a specific pastel tone is used: old rose for Couperus, sea blue for Ronald Holst, light orange for Bomans, light green for Carmiggelt and ochre for Kouwenaar. The writer's name and year of birth are printed on the right of the stamp. The writers in the top row are arranged by year of birth. This order is retained in the bottom row but with a different starting point. The background color of the illustrations runs across some of the stamp perforations. The color areas are repeated in smaller sizes on the margin, making the impression of a table with books as found in book shops. Quotes of these writers are printed on a row of text stamps (without any postage value) between the two rows of stamps. Pithy statements of each writer are printed on the bottom margin. The quotes are set in Kepler, and the other typography is set in Neue Helvetica (texts) and Grottesque (non-value indication).

**Louis Couperus** (1863-1923) is one of the greatest novelists of the Netherlands. After the publication of the The Hague novel *Eline Vere*, he published travelling impressions and stories, many historical novels, and psychological novels. These are written in a refined, sometimes lavish style, but quite typical of this most sensitive, decadent writer. Although Couperus spent a large part of his life outside the Netherlands, he is famous for saying: 'If I am anyone at all, I am a man from The Hague.' His work is strongly liked among foreign writers, like Oscar Wilde. TV series after his novels have gained wide popularity long after his death.

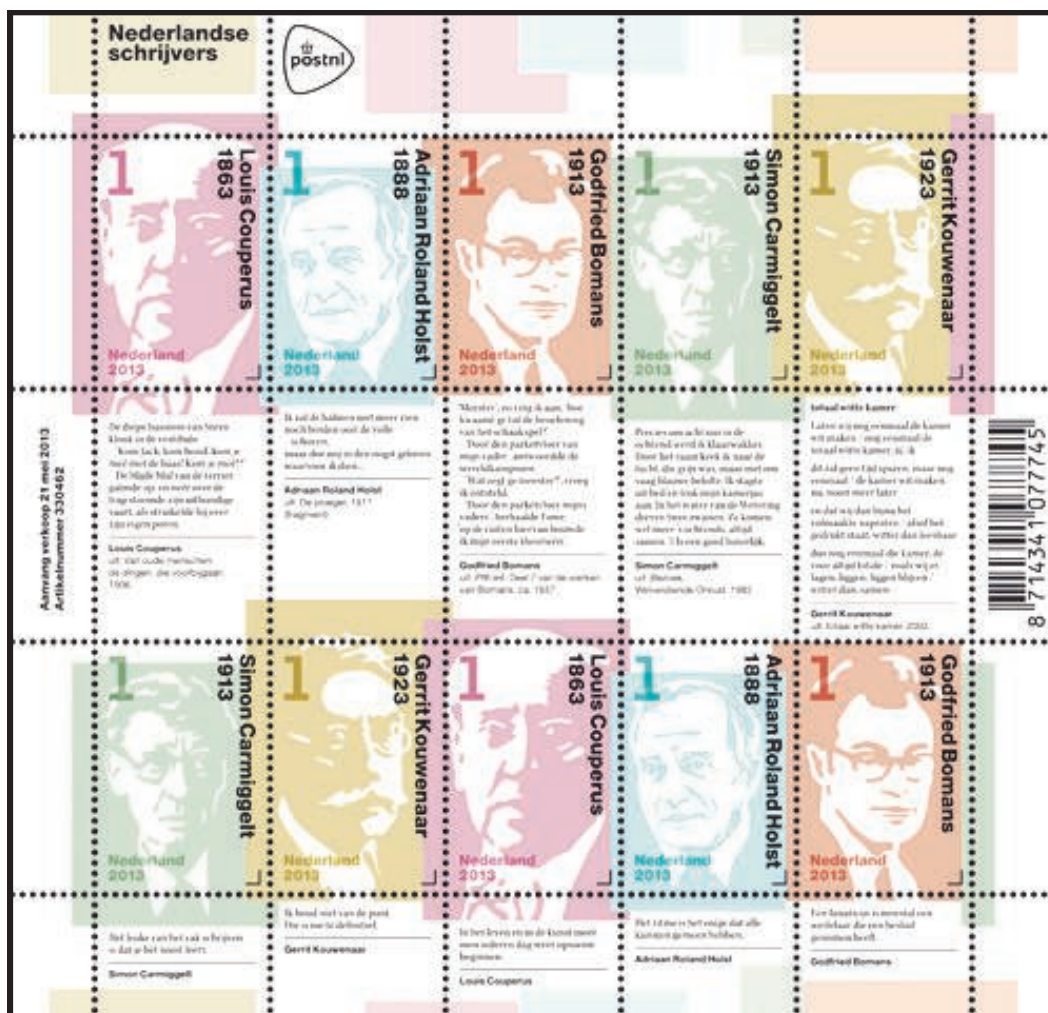
During his long life, **Adriaan Roland Holst** (1888-1976) had the honorary title of Prince of Poets. Especially before the Second World War, his status was almost sacrosanct. Roland Holst was a poet who only existed for literature. Although he lived well into the twentieth century, he was essentially a nineteenth-century poet. The central theme in his poetry is his longing for an utopian Elysium. For many people today, this theme makes him an inaccessible and old-fashioned poet, also because of his solemn style. Yet, there are many who know Roland Holst's verses by heart, like the President of the European Council, Herman van Rompuy.

**Godfried Bomans** (1913-1971) was one of the first media personalities in the Netherlands. His official debut, *Memoires of Gedenkschriften van Mr. P. Bas*, appeared in 1937. Bomans' major breakthrough was early in the Second World War. *Erik of Het Klein Insectenboek*, a fairy-tale-like story about little Erik who gets lost in a fantastic world of animals, was published in 1941. With his performance in quizzes and TV shows, Bomans became a Dutch celebrity. His image as a humourist has often hampered the appreciation for his literature. His attitude towards the Catholic church was more critical than many people thought.

**Simon Carmiggelt** (1913-1987) single-handedly gave the column prestige. He wrote over ten thousand *Kronkels* (his newspaper columns) in his favourite paper *Het Parool*, invariably endearing observations on encounters with a wide variety of people, mostly from Amsterdam. The *Kronkel* is always melancholic in tone. Carmiggelt is the spiritual father of later columnists, like Martin Bril.

When he was awarded the P.C. Hooft Prize on 1974, there was some grumbling among men and women of letters, but nowadays hardly anyone doubts the literary status of the column. The collections of Carmiggelt's *Kronkels* were sold by the hundreds of thousands.

In the 1950s, **Gerrit Kouwenaar** (1923) worked as a freelancer at *Vrij Nederland*, and he was an editor of *Podium*. Later, he wrote for *Het Vrije Volk* and *De Gids*. Since the 1950s, Kouwenaar has been among the major poets of the Dutch-speaking regions. In 1953, he made his debut with *Achter een Woord*, a collection of poems. As a result of his introduction to the anthology *Vijf 5 tigers*, he was associated with this school for a long time. In the last few decades, his poetic work is praised for its thoroughly unique idiom and authentic syntax. Kouwenaar's many awards included the P.C. Hooft Prize (1971) and the Prijs der Nederlandse Letteren (the prize for Dutch literature, 1989).



These biographical details were taken from the website of the Letterkundig Museum (Literary Museum)/De Koninklijke Bibliotheek (National Library of the Netherlands).

Non-value indicator '1'	: Louis Couperus
Non-value indicator '1'	: Adriaan Roland Holst
Non-value indicator '1'	: Godfried Bomans
Non-value indicator '1'	: Simon Carmiggelt
Non-value indicator '1'	: Gerrit Kouwenaar

## Technical Details

Stamp size:	25 x 36mm
Perforation:	14½ : 14½
Paper:	normal with phosphor tagging
Gum:	synthetic
Print process:	offset
Print run:	147,000 sheetlets
Printer:	Joh. Enschedé Security Print, Haarlem
Stamp type:	sheetlet with two times five different stamps and five text stamps without any postage value
Product code stamp sheetlet:	330462
Stamp print colors:	yellow, magenta, cyan and black



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