

BULLETIN

April/avril 1989

NEWSLETTER

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CAANS Learned Societies Meeting, Université Laval, Quebec City,
May 27-28: Provisional timetable

Réunion de l'ACAEN aux Sociétés savantes, Université Laval,
Québec, le 27 et 28 mai 1989: horaire provisoire

Chief Theme: The East Indies in Dutch Literature, Art and
Society

Thème principal: Les Indes orientales dans la littérature, l'art
et la société des Pays-Bas

Room / Salle: Pavillon Comtois 3106

Saturday May 27 / le samedi 27 mai

9.30 Robert Siebelhoff (Toronto): Tempo doeloe in the East Indies

10.00 Joaneath Spicer (Toronto): Did the Utrecht Painter Abraham Willaerts (?1603-1669) Visit the East Indies?

Coffee

11.00 Lieven Heistek (Ottawa): Delft and the East India Company

11.30 Marijke Jalink (Calgary): A Forgotten War

Lunch

2.00 Seymour Flaxman (New York): The Role of the East Indies in Eddy du Perron's Het land van herkomst

2.30 Gus Dierick (Toronto): What if the Two Do Meet? Prevalent Patterns in the Encounter of East and West in Novels by Augusta de Wit, Johan Fabricius, H. J. Friedericy, Maria Dermoût and E. Breton de Nijs

Coffee

3.30 Christine Benny (Vancouver): The Theme of the Loser in Coolie and in Tjoet Nja Din, Two Novels by M. H. Székely-Lulofs

4.00 Haijo Westra (Calgary): The East Indies Novels of P. A. Daum

7.00 Dinner

Sunday May 28 / le dimanche 28 mai

9.30 Adrian van den Hoven (Windsor): Hugh Cook's Cracked Wheat and Other Stories: A Dutch Calvinist Writer in Canada

10.00 Basil Kingstone (Windsor): Dutch Literature on the Holocaust Translated into English

Coffee

11.00 Beert Verstraete (Acadia): Creative Translation in Guido Gezelle's Version of Longfellow's Hiawatha

11.30 Lies Ouwerkerk (Ottawa): The Dutch Viewed by Foreigners

Lunch

2.00 Annual Business Meeting

followed by a film

DUTCH CROSSING

Number 36 (December 1988) revolves around two dates, 1600 and 1900. It opens with a major article by L. M. Gilbert (London) who asks "What is New in Hooft's Achilles en Polyxena?" A witty question, since the play dates from 1598, but a perfectly serious one, for Hooft's treatment of the oft-retold Trojan love story (added to the legend in the Middle Ages) shows a fresh independence from tradition. Next we have a translation by Jacqueline Penniall Boer and Charles Ford of the first chapter of Carel van Mander's Grondt der Edel vrij Schilder-const. Readers will recall that their translation of the Voorrede of this work appeared in the August 1987 issue, number 32. This time they reproduce (not very legibly, alas) the 1618 text of the chapter.

Judit Gera (Budapest) perhaps builds a bridge across time in her article "Medieval Motifs in Frederik van Eeden's Van de koele meren des doods." Hedwig's cure from drug addiction, Prof. Gera argues, is not naturalistic, it is a miracle. Van Eeden wished to show someone being saved for once; a social problem that other novels merely described is here solved. The motifs are: the fall and salvation of a woman tempted by the city lights (used as a moral exemplum); the insistence on the truth of the story; the personal confession of the heroine (her diary); and the picture of a communally useful way of life (the Harmsen farm; cf. van Eeden's community of Walden).

Lastly, Gerda van Woudenberg (Rome) offers "some notes" on the reception of Couperus in the United States, based mainly on the entries concerning translations of him in the Book Review Digest from 1892 to 1930. They offer a useful supplement to what articles by others have told us about Couperus' reception in Britain.

The leading review, by Martha L. Brogan (Minnesota), is of Peter King and Michael Wintle's bibliography The Netherlands (Santa Barbara, CA: Clio Press, 1988). (An abridged version of the review appeared in last October's AANS Newsletter). While the reviewer is unhappy with some of the omissions and uncertain what criteria were used to include or exclude items in some fields, she none the less praises it highly. Michael Wintle has also published Pillars of Piety: Religion in the Netherlands in the Nineteenth Century, an account of the two secessions in the Calvinist church and the formation of an alliance between one of them and conservative Catholics; it is reviewed here and praised. A review of Kenneth D. MacRae's Conflict and Compromise in Multilingual Societies, vol. 2: Belgium finds the book interesting and valuable, but notes that, being a Canadian, MacRae has an interest in showing that multiculturalism works when perhaps Belgium's language groups in fact practise something closer to peaceful but separate coexistence.

The issue closes with:

- a review of Louw Potgieter's Afrikaans Dissidents: a Social Psychological Study of Identity and Dissent, a most interesting work which explores the tensions within a by no means monolithic group (which, however, claims to be one and chosen by God);
- Yann Lovelock's report from Poetry International, a week-long (June 20-25, 1988) event in Rotterdam; and
- an account by Charles Ford of this past winter's National Gallery (London) exhibition Art in the Making: Rembrandt, the first of a proposed series in which secrets of the process of making pictures is revealed by X-ray and infra-red photography, microscopy and chemical analysis. The catalogue of the show is "an invaluable addition to any library."

SEPTENTRION

Dans le n° 4 de 1988, les rapports entre les Pays-Bas et la France, sujet évidemment central à cette revue, occupe une place importante. Cela convient au moment où on célèbre "Quatre siècles de relations diplomatiques" entre les deux pays par une exposition de documents (à La Haye) dont Sadi de Gorter donne un compte rendu. Nous avons vu dans le n° 3 aborder l'histoire d'un contact prolongé dans un autre domaine, à savoir "L'Influence du catholicisme français aux Pays-Bas;" le présent numéro nous apporte la conclusion. On voit divers ordres religieux, fuyant la Révolution française (tiens, encore un anniversaire), venir se réfugier aux Pays-Bas, et on voit aussi le contre coup des idées de divers auteurs catholiques français, de droite et de gauche. On revient également à un moment plus ancien de cette histoire pour nous peindre "L'Exil d'Antoine Arnaud [le célèbre théologien, philosophe, grammairien et mathématicien] en Belgique et aux Pays-Bas."

On nous présente dans ce numéro trois auteurs et des extraits traduits de leurs œuvres. A. Roland Holst, né en 1888, a abandonné les idées socialistes (à l'inverse de sa tante Henriëtte) pour rechercher "une existence humaine qui échapperait au temps;" c'est au bord de la mer qu'il avait l'impression de frôler cet autre monde. Miriam Van hee (l'orthographe est exacte), pareillement, recherche d'autres horizons et garde donc une certaine réserve vis-à-vis de la vie, mais son style est exempt du pathétique de Roland Holst. F. Springer, né dans les Indes Orientales et devenu depuis diplomate chevronné (New York, Dacca, Teheran, Luanda, Strasbourg, Bonn), tourne ses riches expériences en romans; on nous offre ici un extrait de Bougainville, qui vient de paraître en traduction française.

Pour les arts plastiques, ce numéro commémore Henri de Braekeler (mort en 1888), peintre méconnu parce qu'on n'arrive pas à le classer: il peignait des scènes de genre, donc il serait un classique, mais la technique de sa dernière manière

annonce (ou n'annonce pas, selon le critique) l'impressionnisme, le fauvisme et l'expressionnisme. Le sculpteur contemporain Henk Visch, par contre, n'est plus méconnu: ses œuvres, rébus visuels qui nous présentent des pensées énigmatiques, viennent de représenter les Pays-Bas à la Biennale de Venise.

N'oubliions pas l'article sur l'historien marxiste Jan Romein, qui fut inspiré par Huizinga mais ne partagea nullement l'élitisme de celui-ci, et qui laissa des ouvrages magistraux d'histoire des Pays-Bas et une théorie générale de l'évolution des pays selon laquelle la Russie et la Chine sont sur le point de nous dépasser. Par contre, nous ne risquons pas d'oublier la mort, l'été dernier, de 70% des phoques de la mer des Wadden, leur mécanisme de défense ayant été tellement affaibli par la pollution qu'ils ont succombé à une maladie des chiens? C'est à étouffer de fureur.

Heureusement, le lecteur peut encore s'intéresser à toutes les informations apportées par la rubrique Actualités, et même rire avec Sadi de Gorter dans sa Chronique lorsqu'il dit:

J'ai essayé de traduire la phrase suivante empruntée dans un quotidien parisien: "Le directeur de la Logistique d'un des leaders de la grande distribution articule le dispositif opérationnel de ses flux de marchandises autour de plusieurs jeunes ingénieurs opérationnels (...) chargés de l'organisation et de l'optimisation de tous les mouvements physiques de centres d'exploitation: du concept à la réalisation." Je n'y suis pas arrivé, sans doute parce que je suis incapable de gérer les interfaces des espaces appros.

SSHRC GRANTS CUT

We have received a complex letter from Mr. Robert Lalande of SSHRC to the effect that they gave us too large a grant for administrative and travel costs for the current three years. Briefly, one gets the lesser of (i) a figure arrived at by a formula or (ii) the amount we take in ourselves in membership fees; and in our case they gave us the greater amount in error. Therefore we get \$1660 per year and not \$3516. The travel grant is likewise \$1660, and this they got right. However, since we owe them \$1856 for this year's overpayment, they will claw it back at the rate of \$618 per year for the next three years, which reduces our annual grant for each year in the period 1989-91 to \$1351 for administrative costs and the same amount for travel refunds. I trust all this is clear. It does, alas, mean a little less travel money is available.

NEWS FROM CHAPTERS: WATERLOO

The second meeting of the season was held in Hagey Hall of Humanities, University of Waterloo, on November 25.

After a word of welcome to all members and guests, the chairman Dr. Kooistra mentioned some of the topics for our meetings in 1989, such as a documentary on Dutch architecture by Dr. Pelt and a lecture on the philosopher Spinoza.

An interesting film was then shown about the fishermen of Urk. In spite of the dangers related to fishing at sea, the men of Urk did not change over to agriculture as expected when their town and island became part of a large polder. The people of Urk are very religious and adhere to their own traditional life style. A lively discussion followed the showing.

After the intermission, Dr. Zweers introduced us to three Dutch composers of the 19th century, one of them his grandfather

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gardens, and to several other cities and villages, ending in Amsterdam with its stately buildings, many of them reminding us of the prosperity of the Golden Age.

After intermission, which gave us an opportunity to talk to old friends and make new ones, Dr. Robert van Pelt, professor of architecture at the University of Waterloo, presented an interesting lecture, with slides, on the development of architecture in the Netherlands in the 17th century by Constantijn Huygens and Jacob van Campen. They based their designs on Masonic and Rosicrucian teachings about the harmony between the universe and man. This was illustrated by schematic pictures and poems written in those days.

We look forward to what the next season, starting in the fall, will bring.

Corry Derksen

CALGARY

We have formed a reading club with others interested in Dutch literature and we have been reading and discussing authors and works ranging from Harry Mulisch's De aanslag to Van den vos Reynaerde. We are planning to devote our next meeting to a discussion of Een dal in Ambarawa by Hans Helfferich-Koch, about the camp experience in Indonesia during the Second World War.

I am also happy to report that the Dutch language courses offered by the University of Calgary and sponsored in part by the Nederlandse Taalunie are doing very well. We have planned a CAANS "borrel" for January, together with the Dutch Student Club of the University of Calgary.

Haijo Westra

VANCOUVER

The Vancouver chapter of CAANS continues to be active and enthusiastic. The annual Sinterklaas dinner was held on Dec. 7th at the Brock House Conservatory Restaurant. It was attended by 21 people and the evening was certainly "gezellig". Special mention should be made of the delicious spice cookies and chocolate balls created by Herman van Wermeskerken; they were so good that not one Dutch mother could have improved on them. A very nice gesture, and much appreciated.

On the first meeting in the new year, Mr. Jan van Bruchem compared the media in the Netherlands with those in Canada and read funny examples of the different approaches taken in news reporting. Mr. van Bruchem broadcasts the Dutch hour on the multilingual radio station in Vancouver.

Last fall the members of CAANS Vancouver were polled about their specific interests and preferences with regard to programming. In order to increase the membership's participation in the planning of activities, it was suggested that those members who shared certain interests could form small study groups and prepare a lecture, which would be presented in addition to those of our visiting and expert speakers. Several such groups have since formed; the first of these lectures by "non-expert" members took place on Feb. 9th. After the annual "Report from the Board," our Voorzitter Tom Brand and the undersigned (who is now secretary-treasurer) presented a talk on "The Unification of the Netherlands until the Union of Utrecht, and social life and times of ordinary Dutch people." It seemed a useful exercise to refresh people's memories about early Dutch history. It was encouraging to see such a large and enthusiastic audience: almost the entire membership turned out to support two of its fellow members, who definitely do not give lectures very often!

For the month of March, two meetings are planned. On March 2nd Basil Kingstone of the University of Windsor will speak about the poet Gerrit Achterberg, and on March 16th Mrs. J. van Stekelenburg will talk about the painter Jan Steen. The video interview which Hella Haasse conducted with Her Majesty Queen Beatrix will be shown in April, while our members Mrs. C. Benny and Mr. H. Vander Horst plan to address the literary works of du Perron and Vestdijk respectively, in May. Videos from the Nederlandse Taalunie on Maarten 't Hart and Harry Mulisch follow in June, before we break for the summer period.

Mariken van Nimwegen

DUTCH STILL LIFE EXHIBITION

We note for the record - unfortunately this newsletter will reach members too late for many of them to take advantage of the information - that the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum of Wausau, Wisconsin (located at Franklin and 12th Streets, zip code 54401-5007, phone (715)845-7010) has an exhibition from March 4 to April 16 entitled "Delights for the Senses: Dutch and Flemish Still-Life Paintings from Budapest." It shows 40 Dutch still lifes from the Budapest Museum of Fine Arts, which has never sent a show to the United States before. A 176-page fully illustrated catalogue can be had for US\$14.50, and a 34 x 22 inch colour poster of Abraham Mignon's Still Life with Flowers is being offered for US\$7.50.

STUDIEGENOOTSCHAP CANADA

We learn from this body's latest newsletter that a seminar on "The Dutch in North America - Immigration and Cultural Continuity" will be held on June 7 - 9 at the Roosevelt Centre in Middelburg. Among the speakers will be two of our members: Aritha van Herk and David Moyer.

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CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF NETHERLANDIC STUDIES
REQUEST FORM for National and -----Chapter Membership

I wish to start/renew my CAANS/ACAEN National membership as follows:

| | |
|--|---------|
| Regular membership January - December 1989 | \$15.00 |
| Student or Senior membership January - December 1989 | \$ 7.50 |

Members of CAANS receive the Canadian Journal of Netherlandic Studies and the Newsletter (total value \$10.00). \$5 is a charitable donation.

Name-----

Address -----

----- (postal code) -----

Phone (home) ----- (work) -----

Local chapters may assess an additional fee (Montreal, Winnipeg \$5).
CAANS/ACAEN ----- Chapter \$-----

Mail form and cheque or money order to local chapter, if you are joining one, in which case please add the local fee; or to:

Mrs. Trudy Joldersma, Treasurer CAANS,
2835 - 26A St. S.W.
Calgary, Alta.
T3E 2C8

Please list your suggestions for CAANS/ACAEN activities (types and topics) below:

ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE POUR L'AVANCEMENT DES ÉTUDES NÉERLANDAISES
 BULLETIN D'ADHÉSION nationale et à la section de -----

Je désire adhérer/renouveler mon adhésion (rayer la mention inutile):

| | |
|--|---------|
| Cotisation régulière, janvier-décembre 1989 | \$15.00 |
| Etudiant ou troisième âge, janvier-décembre 1989 | \$ 7.50 |

Les membres de l'ACAEN reçoivent la Revue canadienne des études néerlandaises et le Bulletin, valeur 10 \$. 5 \$ comptent comme donation charitable.

Nom-----
 Adresse pour correspondance-----

-----Code postal-----

Téléphone (domicile)-----(travail)-----

Les sections locales peuvent exiger une cotisation supplémentaire (Montréal et Winnipeg: 5 \$).

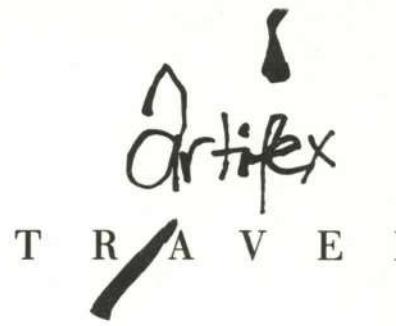
Section locale de -----\$-----

Veuillez envoyer cette formule et votre chèque ou mandat à l'éventuelle section locale (n'oubliez pas la cotisation locale), sinon à:

Mrs. Trudy Joldersma, Trésorière de l'ACAEN
 2835 - 26A St. S. W.
 Calgary, Alta.
 T3E 2C8

Nous vous invitons à noter ci-après vos suggestions pour des activités (nationales et locales):

University of Windsor
t.a.v. Dhr. Dr A. van den Hoven
Ontario N9B 3P4
Canada



betr.: Artifex Travel

Amsterdam, februari 1989

Geachte heer Van den Hoven,

U hoeven wij niet te vertellen dat Nederland in toeristisch opzicht meer te bieden heeft dan bollenvelden en molens. Maar in het land waar u werkt, zijn velen onbekend met het rijke cultuur-historische bezit van Nederland. Door uw werk levert u een waardevolle bijdrage aan verspreiding van onze cultuur. Dit is voor ons de aanleiding u te informeren over de aktiviteiten van Artifex Travel.

Artifex Travel, opgericht door twee kunsthistorici, tracht de belangstelling voor de Nederlandse cultuur en geschiedenis door middel van excursies te vergroten. Thema's van onze programma's zijn ondermeer kerkelijke kunst, Joodse geschiedenis, moderne en 17de-eeuwse schilderkunst, ceramiekverzamelingen, kastelen, landhuizen en parken, oude Hollandse steden, waterwerken en molens en geschiedenis van de Nederlandse geld-en effectenhandel.

Al onze excursies staan onder leiding van academisch gevormde reisleiders die zich in meerdere talen uitstekend weten uit te drukken. Graag organiseert Artifex Travel voor uw studenten of andere geïnteresseerden, cultuur-historische reizen door Nederland. Indien u dit wenselijk acht werken wij speciale reizen uit. Bovendien kunnen wij zorgdragen voor goede accommodatie en vervoer.

Met vriendelijke groeten,

Marceline Kortenbout van der Sluijs

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R.W.C. Dessing".

Marceline Kortenbout van der Sluijs

René W. Chr. Dessing

Artifex Travel

drs René W. Chr. Dessing

drs Marceline Kortenbout van der Sluijs

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