

**CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF NETHERLANDIC
STUDIES**

**ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE POUR
L'AVANCEMENT DES ETUDES
NEERLANDAISES**

Editor: Basil D. Kingstone / French Lang. & Lit. / Univ. of Windsor / Windsor, ON / N9B 3P4
Phone: (519) 253-4232 ext. 2062 / Fax: (519) 971-3648 / e-mail: bkingst@uwindsor.ca

APRIL 1998

AVRIL 1998

EDITORIAL

BRIEVEN AAN DE TOEKOMST

After the "Canada-Holland My Vision" essay competition for Canadian students (see the report from the Dutch embassy in this issue), comes news of another Dutch essay-writing initiative. The Nederlands Centrum voor Volkscultuur, the Nederlands Openluchtmuseum and the P.J. Meertens-Instituut are urging Dutch people everywhere, both in the Netherlands and abroad, to write an account of what they did on May 15, 1998 - above all, to give details and to give the feel of their lives. We are quite ignorant of the "little" - but important - details of life in past ages; this project will hopefully make May 15th "the best documented day in Dutch history," a useful source for future researchers. In Sweden and Denmark, thousands took part in similar projects, and in 1999 there will be an international symposium comparing the three countries' experience. Before that, however, a book will be published with a selection of the entries, and an exhibition will be held in the Nederlands Openluchtmuseum. Everyone is invited to write (giving their name, the name and contact person of any organisation which is going to arrange for a group to take part, address and phone number, to: Nederlands Centrum voor Volkscultuur, Werkgroep Brieven aan de Toekomst, Lucasbolwerk 11, 3512 EH Utrecht (fax +31-30-2334047).

INSIDE/TABLE	
[Editorial] BRIEVEN AAN DE TOEKOMST	1
List of Officers/Membres du bureau	2
Programme, Annual meeting of CAANS	3
News from Chapters:	
Vancouver	5
Dutch Crossing	6
Septentrion	8
Flanders	9
Canadian students win trip to Netherlands	10
Joint Archives of Hope College	10
Membership Form	11
Bulletin d'adhésion	12

Officers/Membres du bureau

President

Dr. Beert Verstraete
Dept. of Classics
Acadia University
Wolfville, NS B0P 1X0

Vice-President & President Emerita

Ms. Joan Magee
866 Victor Drive
Windsor, ON N8S 2S7

Past President

Dr. Robert Siebelhoff
Scarborough College
University of Toronto
Toronto, ON M5S 1A1

Secretary-Treasurer

Dr. Gerrit Gerrits
Dept. of History
Acadia University
Wolfville, NS B0P 1X0

Journal/Newsletter Editor

Dr. Basil D. Kingstone
Dept. of French
University of Windsor
Windsor, ON N9B 3P4

Archivist

Dr. Gus Dierick
Dept. of German
Victoria College,
U. of Toronto
Toronto, ON M5S 1A1

Members at Large

Dr. Gerrit Gerrits
Dept. of History
Acadia University
Wolfville, NS B0P 1X0

Dr. Gus Dierick
Dept. of German
Victoria College,
University of Toronto
Toronto, ON M5S 1A1

Dr. John Michielsen
Dept. of Germanic Studies
Brock University
St. Catharines, ON L2S 3A1

Mary Eggermont-Molenaar
1416 29 St. NW
Calgary, AB T2N 2V1

Dr. Richard W. Unger
Dept. of History
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, BC V6T 1W5

Chapter Secretaries and Contacts

Windsor

Ms. Hendrika Ruger
1510-8888 Riverside Dr. E.
Windsor, ON N8S 1H2

Toronto

Theodora E. Schryer
2623 Kingston Road
Scarborough, Ontario
M1M 1M1

Waterloo

Dr. A. Zweers
Dept. of Germanic and Slavic
Languages
University of Waterloo
Waterloo, ON N2L 3G1

Ottawa

Martin de Leeuw
School of Industrial Design
Carleton University
Ottawa, ON K1S 5B6

Montreal

Mr. J. F. Beckman
400 Beaconsfield Blvd.
Beaconsfield, Québec
H9W 4B5

Winnipeg

Dr. Jesse Vorst
Dept. of Economics
University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, MB R3T 2M8

Vancouver

Ms. Mariken van Nimwegen
2449 Dundas St.
Vancouver, BC V5K 1P5

Programme
Annual meeting of CAANS
University of Ottawa, May 30-31, 1998

May 30, Saturday, Room LMX 124

- 9.00 Beert Verstraete, President of CAANS, and others
Welcome, opening remarks and announcements
- 9.15 Adrian van den Hoven (University of Windsor)
Opperlandse taal-en letterkunde, theory and possible applications
- 9.45 Augustinus Dierick (University of Toronto)
The *vorm of vent* debate in Willem Paap's satirical *roman à clef Vincent Haman* (1898)
- 10.15 Coffee break
- 10.30 Hendrika Ruger (Windsor)
Kees Stip and his role in Dutch literature
- 11.00 Beert Verstraete (Acadia University)
The literary achievement of Louis Couperus in *De komedianten* (1917)
- 11.30 Harry van Dyke (Redeemer College)
Groen van Prinsterer's diction in his two editions of *Unbelief and Revolution* (1847 and 1868)
- 12.00 Lunch
- 2.00 Guest Speaker
Dr. J.H. de Wilde (University of Twente, The Netherlands)
In commemoration of the 350th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Westphalia, 1648
- 4.30 - 6.30 President's Reception (Tent, University Centre terrace)
- Evening Royal Netherlands Embassy function, to be followed by
Private showing for delegates of the film *Character*, winner of the Oscar for Best Foreign Film of 1997

May 31, Sunday, Room MRT 015

- 9.30 Barbara Noske (York University)
Liftenderwijs, a short philosophy of hitchhiking
- 10.00 Ingeborg van Driel (AANS Dutch Language Programme, Toronto)
Waar vind je een lekker dier? A paper chase through the Dutch language
- 10.30 Coffee break
- 11.00 Martijn Zwart (retired, North Central College, Naperville, Illinois) and Ethel Grene (Wilmette, Illinois)
Kaleidoscope (1998): problems in the translation of Dutch poetry
- 11.30 Jesse Vorst (University of Manitoba)
The Netherlands rail system and the European Union's competition policy
- 12.00 Lunch
- 2.00 Jacqueline Balteau and Elisabeth D'Halleweyn (Taalunie)
Recent developments in the work of the Taalunie
- 2.30 Frans Schreyer (University of Guelph)
Pillars, class and Dutch ethnicity: Dutch immigration into Ontario
- 3.00 Coffee break
- 3.30 Gerrit Gerrits (Acadia University)
The Kamminga/Comingo family of early Lunenburg, Nova Scotia
- 4.00 Annual General Meeting

NEWS FROM CHAPTERS

VANCOUVER

Op 11 December j.l. brachten wij, t.w. een gehoor van tenminste 50 leden en enkele gasten, een verrassend bezoek aan Nederland onder de inspirerende leiding van de nederlands-canadese architect Joost Bakker. Een schitterende dia-presentatie, gemaakt in 1995, begeleidde zijn betoog getiteld "Speculations on Dutch Architecture."

In setting the context, he likes to draw on three themes: technology, domesticity and lands. Ursula Franklin states, in her 1989 Massey lecture: ". . .technology has built the house in which we all live. This house is continuously being extended and remodelled. More and more human life takes place within its walls, so that today there is hardly any human activity that does not occur within this house. All are affected by the design of the house, by the division of its space, by the location of its doors and walls. Compared to people in earlier times, we rarely have a chance to live outside this house. And the house is still changing; it is still being built as well as being demolished." She sees technology as a system that entails more than material components: it involves organisation, procedures, symbols and above all, a mind set.

In Witold Rybczinski's book: Home - A Short History of an Idea (1989), he argues that a major attribute of the idea of home is the notion of domesticity. It is the evolution of the Dutch home in the early 17th Century that becomes Rybczinski's focal point for illustrating the appearance of domesticity and the early emergence of a unique bourgeois society in Holland. He argues that the Dutch prized three things above all else: first their children, second their homes and third their gardens. It is the predominance of painting in 17th century Holland that is able to reveal much of this domestic reality. And it is women who manifest domestic order in the Dutch household.

Bakker's own speculation is that it is these roots that ultimately underlie that word "gezellig."

The very term "landscape" is a Dutch invention, as Simon Schama suggests in "Landscape and Memory." So it was surely not accidental that in the Netherlandish flood-fields, itself the site of formidable human engineering, a community developed the idea of a "Landschap." Holland is an enormous engineered landscape, or infrastructure, undergoing continual construction and reconstruction. Of particular interest is that this infrastructure combines compactness with multiplicity of use.

It has been generally recognized that all that is 'modern' in Dutch architecture begins with Berlage. Within the modern period there are considered to be 3 crucial epochs. First, the early 1920's to mid 1930's constitutes the coming of age of the modern movement. The second epoch converges on 1968, the revolt against the established social and philosophical premise of modernism. The third epoch, our own, is the dusk, the now limited cultural role of architecture.

Under the Dutch Housing Act of 1901, every municipality of over 10,000 inhabitants was obliged to establish an expansion plan. It also introduced housing standards and the ability for housing to be financed by councils or co-operative associations. This had an enormous impact on the development of both housing and urban design in the 20th Century.

Joost Bakker, a fourth generation architect, studied economics and architecture at the University of Toronto. He is a Principal in the firm Hotson Bakker Architects with offices in Vancouver and Toronto. The firm has received international acclaim for such projects as the redevelopment of Granville Island in Vancouver and the new University of Northern B.C. in Prince George. The firm has received more than 25 design awards for their work in urban design, heritage and architecture. Zijn presentatie werd door alle aanwezigen uiterst gewaardeerd.

De voordracht van **Professor Ann Jensen Adams**, van de Universiteit van Californie-faculteit kunstgeschiedenis, op 15 januari was uiterst boeiend en gaf ons een 'nieuwe kijk op oude meesters.' Onder de titel "**The Golden Age of Dutch Landscape Painting: Historical change and cultural continuity**" verkregen haar historische sociaal-economische en religieuze gezichtspunten op een verfrissende wijze een integrale dimensie. Een dubbele dia-presentatie (Een copie van haar voordracht is beschikbaar).

Na de jaarvergadering op 12 februari j.l. sprak voor ons Jos van Stekelenburg over "De politieke implicatie van het huwelijk tussen Willem III en Mary Stuart." Alvorens haar goed voorbereide lezing te beginnen heeft zij ons voorzien van de stambomen van het huis Stuart et van het huis Orange, alsmede van een kaart van Ierland.

Op 11 April 1689 werd Prins Willem van Oranje, Stadhouder van Nederland, en zijn vrouw Mary Stuart uitgeroepen tot Koning en Koningin van Engeland, Schotland en Ierland. Het koningsschap was van korte duur - slechts 12 jaren - doch de politieke gevolgen waren en zijn tot aan vandaag herkenbaar. De overwinning, bij de Slag aan de Boyne in 1690, door Willem III als legeraanvoerder op de sinds 5 jaar aan het bewind zijnde katholieke Koning Jacobus II (James II) wordt sinds 1790 jaarlijks op nadrukkelijke wijze herdacht op 12 juli door de leden en sympatizanten van "The Loyal Orange Institution of Ireland" (ofwel "The Orange Order"), in verschillende delen van de wereld. Na Mary 8 jaren te hebben overleefd, stierf Willem III in 1702. Zijn graf in Westminster Abbey is uiterst bescheiden. Deze hartstochtelijke protestantse Nederlander was in Engeland een vreemdeling gebleven, ondanks zijn introductie van de hollandse jenever die de bierdrinkende Engelsen over deden gaan op gin. Een copie van deze voordracht is beschikbaar.

Herman Suttorp
(waarnemend voor Herman van Wermeskerken)

DUTCH CROSSING

Vol. 21 no. 1 (Summer 1997) opens with a long article by Annette Munt (UC London) on the reactions recorded in literature, pamphlets and the arts to the "disaster year" of 1672. A condensed version of her MA thesis, it establishes an overview similar to that done, also as an MA thesis, by R. Borgerhoff Mulder for the Great Fire of London (vol. 20 no. 1, summer 1996, p.3-86). In 1672, it will be recalled, France and Münster conquered the eastern Netherlands as far as Utrecht and occupied it for two years, and (despite de Ruyter's defeat of the English and French fleets) all shipping and therefore commerce came to a halt. Mass riots persisted, and a mob brutally murdered the ruler Johan de Witt and restored the stadholderate (William III). Poets mostly condemned the murder; the numerous pamphlets and prints mostly blamed the lax morality and fondness for French fashion that had marked the previous regime. Their call for moral reform was not heeded, however, despite efforts by the clergy. Prolonged economic depression persisted, affecting the art market (among other sectors) for years; there were fewer apprentices and fewer good painters, and demand for mediocre work was very low.

The other articles form a unity: they apply contemporary critical methods to 20th-century authors. Jane Fenoulhet (UC London) discusses Ina Boudier-Bakker, a novelist whom Menno ter Braak dismissed as not literary but whose works have social interest. In an essay she felt women's place was in the home — there should be education for motherhood — but that sexual love was needed for life to be fulfilling. However, in her novella *De straat* (1924), there is precious little sign that such fulfilment occurs: almost all the women of the small town lack it and are unsatisfied. Things are more complicated but no better in *Vrouw Jacob* (1935); Jacoba van Beieren experiences passion but is also a warrior, and each trait frustrates the other, leaving her unhappy and an unsuccessful ruler.

Henriette Louwerse (Sheffield) looks at some second-generation Turkish and Moroccan immigrants who are beginning to write in Dutch. Again, their literary value may be uneven, but they must be read in the context of other cultural expressions by immigrants. Indeed, Louwerse argues that the clichés in Naima El Bezaz's *De weg naar het noorden* (1995) are those of Dutch writers about the colonies, only reversed: it is the Dutch who are faceless stereotypes, Dutch weather that is hostile, Europe and its riches are the *stille kracht* that corrupts Moroccans.

Luc Renders (Limburg) discusses the work of Cyriel Buysse as an anticolonialist. In the (imaginary) *Verslagen over den Gemeenteraad van Nevele* (1885-6) he shows the acquisition of the Congo being used for political advantage at home; in *De zwarte kost*, a novella published in 1898, a local nonentity goes to the Congo, is appalled by the way the Europeans teach the Africans to drink and swear, and succumbs to the temptation named in the title, namely cohabiting with a black woman (or else this is a sign of his losing his European arrogance and becoming human). Flemish villagers are ignorant and rude, politicians power-hungry and unscrupulous; neither are fit to civilize anyone. Like the good naturalist he is, Buysse lets facts speak for themselves.

Today we have post-colonial writing, whose authors acknowledge that they are as subjective as the exotic "subjects" they write about. Both ethnographic and literary writers mingle "scientific" facts with the words of a narrator who describes how both sides are changed by the encounter; the account of the "other" sheds light on the self and his culture. Thus Marian de Vooght (Trondheim) examines two hybrid travel books made up of collages, H.C ten Berge's *De beren van Churchill* (1978) and Cees Nooteboom's *De zucht naar het Westen* (1985).

To conclude the articles, Bertram Mourits (Utrecht) takes another look at the 60's review *Barbarber*, seeing in it not a reaction against the 50's and the overly solemn approach to literature then current, but rather a reflection of movements in art. His example: K. Schippers published "found texts" as poems, as Duchamp turned a urinal into art, simply by changing the context in which we meet it. Artist and poet seem to say that anything can be art, or poetry.

Reviewed in this issue are:

- Grant E. Simpson, ed.: *Scotland and the Low Countries*, Edinburgh: Tuckwell Press, 232pp., £25.00. It is amazing that no study of this important and lasting trade and cultural link has been written before; this volume is a sampling of the topic. To take but one example: from the late 16th century onwards, Scots Calvinist ministers, then lawyers and doctors, were educated at Leiden, and the social and cultural institutions of Edinburgh bore the mark of this well into the 18th century.
- Aletta Jacobs: *Memories, my life as an international leader in health, suffrage and peace*, tr. Annie Wright, CUNY: The Feminist Press, 1996, 272pp., US\$45. The title announces what this "courageous and determined Dutchwoman" achieved in her lifetime (she pioneered birth control clinics 35 years before they existed in any other country). Her memoirs, which are strictly about her public and professional life, appeared in 1924 but no English publisher would bring out a translation, so this is the first.
- Peter van Rooden: *Religieuze regimes: over godsdienst en maatschappij in Nederland 1570-1990*, Amsterdam: Bert Bakker, 1996, 29pp. The author is *prikkelend* in both senses: stimulating and irritating. He is needlessly rude to everyone else in the field, past and present, maintaining they are all wrong and he is revolutionizing it, but he is very well read and sometimes he says something new and

important. He sees the position of religion as lurching several times in the course of centuries from having public political importance to being a purely private matter, and back again.

- Elsbeth Etty: *Liefde is heel het leven niet*, Henriette Roland Holst, Amsterdam: Balans, 1996, f69.50. The latest work in a great flowering of Dutch biographies of the period 1848-1939 (but socialists are represented in greater proportion than their political influence at the time warrants), it is a "wonderful" account of a woman who experienced disillusionment with every ideal she embraced yet never lost hope.

There are a few more misprints than we are used to with *Dutch Crossing*, things like "it" for "is" and "it its" for "it is," "bring" for "brings" and "that" for "them," "the deep blue see," and occasionally a sentence with a bit missing. The pressure of shortage of staff and growth of paperwork must be having its effect over in London, as it is here. An enlightened government would see in this fact an argument for wielding the financial axe a little less savagely.

SEPTENTRION

Dans le n° 4 de 1997, les auteurs discutés sont choisis hors des chemins battus. D'une part, Charles van Lerberghe, Flamand mais symboliste français, qui a consacré sa vie à la poésie au prix de la pauvreté. D'autre part, l'auteur antillais Tip Marugg, qui nous présente des personnages isolés par plusieurs facteurs: descendants blancs de colons sur Curaçao, minoritaires, en perte de pouvoir, ils sont en même temps créolisés, donc les Hollandais ne les acceptent pas non plus. Enfin, une comparaison entre deux auteurs antillais, l'un francophone, l'autre néerlandophone; j'ai nommé Aimé Césaire et Frank Arion. Tous deux attaquent vigoureusement le colonialisme, mais on constate des différences entre eux. Si Arion garde une vision romantique de ses ancêtres africains, Césaire assume pleinement l'abjecte humiliation éprouvée par les siens; mais alors que Césaire écrit dans un français très pur, comme pour prouver qu'un Noir en est capable, Arion insiste sur l'autonomie des langues vernaculaires.

Les auteurs des "métropoles" ne sont pas oubliés pour autant. Nous faisons la connaissance de Robert Anker, qui cherche des points de repère entre le village frison où il est né et la grand'ville où il habite. Du côté de la peinture, nous faisons le tour du Palais des Beaux-Arts de Lille, qui a été magnifiquement rénové et dont la collection, d'art flamand notamment, est remarquable. (Ai-je dit combien les reproductions en couleur publiées dans *Septentrion* sont superbes?) Un peintre contemporain, Thé van Bergen, a appris et désappris les règles qu'on apprend dans les académies, puis a passé par le minimalisme (sans trop le savoir; il se préoccupe peu des écoles et mouvements) pour arriver à un stade où certains thèmes simples se dégagent de son travail sans être prémédités. Et pour finir, une vue en sens inverse, pour ainsi dire: un journaliste flamand donne ses impressions de la France, pays "nombriliste" qui ignore les autres pays, qui ne sait guère qu'elle est européenne, qui a peur des autres, mais qui a le goût du débat politique et de la culture.

FLANDERS

In the December 1997 issue, as always, innovation and modernization are the watchwords. Flemish furniture makers, hitherto content to copy or else to produce single pieces of old-style craftsmanship, are producing work by local designers who were previously better known abroad. Since 95% of Flemings have cable TV (USA: 55%) it is possible to use the coaxial cable already in place to provide every household, within five years, with access to the Internet, data transmission and other services. The art scene in Flanders is equally up to date; it has been enjoying a flowering of geometric-abstract and constructivist art (abstract expressionism is created also, but less). The Colruyt grocery chain has adopted a low-prices policy, with warehouse-style supermarkets, but in other ways they do not imitate America: so far from outsourcing, they start up subsidiaries for any ancillary activity (e.g. information technology), which end up doing similar work for other companies. All the employment offices in Flanders are linked by a computer web and offer not only lists of vacancies but also lists of candidates; the European Union is trying out the system.

So is anything old left in Flanders? To be sure. They are expanding the museum of photography in Antwerp, in the riverside district on the south side which is being rejuvenated. And there is a descriptive list of Flanders' old belfries.

The March 1998 issue (no. 37) has a number of articles about things ancient and modern being combined. Thus Ooidonk Castle near Ghent has been the subject of a prizewinning restoration. In the industrial field, design has again become something basic to all products, whereas since the industrial revolution it had increasingly been a mere change of decoration; in this respect we have gone back to the ideas of the craftsman of old. One medieval craft, building stringed instruments, had to be relearned from cratch from old documents and instruments; it is now taught in three Flemish trade schools. On the other hand, there are entirely modern activities like those of the Sioen textile group, which specialises in coated fabrics (tarpaulins, safety clothing etc.), and others for which Flanders has only become important in recent years, like the illustration of children's books. The issue opens with a description of the Belgian pavilion at Expo 98 in Lisbon, whose theme is the ocean and our past and future use of it. The pavilion will have three parts as one might suppose: national, Flemish and Walloon. Art, music and dance from Flanders will also be offered in Lisbon this year.

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN TO PAY YOUR DUES?

FLANDERS

**PRESS RELEASE:
CANADIAN STUDENTS WIN TRIPS TO THE NETHERLANDS**

Ottawa, 15 April 1998. - The Netherlands Embassy announced the five winners of the "Canada-Holland - My Vision" essay contest.

Last November, Canadian university and college students aged 18 to 25 years were invited to submit essays describing "their personal perception of any aspect of the history, culture and present economic and political situation of the Netherlands and the Canada-Netherlands relationship." Over 50 entries were received from across Canada, in both official languages. The students came up with new and original visions of Holland and the Canada-Holland relationship. They gave the jurors a daunting task in reviewing the essays.

The winners are:

Nathalie Baroud, a 23-year-old University of Ottawa student in communications, who wrote about the very Dutch concept *gezellig*: "le premier mot qu'on m'a appris, a quand même retenu mon attention, celui qui m'a permis de mieux saisir et comprendre l'univers qui m'entourait [aux Pays-Bas]."

Odilia Bonebakker, a 23-year-old Master of Art History student at Queen's University, who wrote about the art of Dutch-Canadian-ness: "children of Dutch-Canadians have learned the unique art of footing the two cultures. For us the special bond between the two nations is not only a product of the war, it is a fabric of our being."

Paul Hanks Drielsma, an 18-year-old student from Ottawa, who talked about his Restless Roots: from "casually saluting the Dutch flag at Café Wim" to "an active participation in the maintenance of my heritage."

Chris Salzberg, a 21-year-old student from McGill University, who wrote about his Dutch-Canadian roots: "the memory I have of Holland is fragmented... Holland and Canada complement each other... Holland and Canada will always be my two homes."

Ingrid Vanderkloet, a 23-year-old student of English literature at Brock University, who gave her ideas about her Dutch origins: "I hope there can be an exchange between Netherlanders and Canadians; our paths crossed and diverged during catastrophe; we would be mistaken to assume that can be a bookend."

The winners will travel on KLM to the Netherlands in May for a week of activities organized by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs to fully immerse them in contemporary Dutch society. The trip will include a visit to Brussels for a taste of the European dimension of Dutch life. The students will keep journals, which the Embassy hopes to publish along with the winning essays.

For more information on this contest, which was organized in collaboration with the Canadian Association for the Advancement of Netherlandic Studies (CAANS), call, fax or e-mail Mieke Bos or Dianne Meijeringh at the Royal Netherlands Embassy.

THE JOINT ARCHIVES OF HOPE COLLEGE

announce that they have the following publications for sale (all prices in US dollars):

The Sesquicentennial of Dutch immigration: 150 years of ethnic heritage, \$5.00

A Sesquicentennial Dutch birthday calendar, \$2.99

A.C. van Raalte, Dutch leader and American patriot, \$29.95

Dutch immigrant memoirs and related writings, \$35.00

Sites of Dutch influence in western Michigan, a n illustrated tour guide, \$4.00

In Christ's service, the Classis of Holland, Michigan and its congregations 1847-1997, \$5.95

These may be ordered (enclose payment) from The Joint Archives, Hope College, P.O. Box 9000, Holland, MI 49422-9000.