

(such as dissertation or archival research) in the Netherlands or Belgium on any subject within Dutch Studies. The field of Dutch Studies is broadly defined and includes research related to, for example, Indonesia or Afrikaans. The grant is intended for citizens or residents of the United States who study or teach at an American university. Preference is given to those scholars who do not receive research support from their home institutions.

Applicants must submit a two-page project proposal (which must include a description of how the funds are to be used), two letters of recommendation, and a set of transcripts (for graduate students). Applications for the Summer or Fall of 1998 must reach the AANS by **March 1, 1998**. The selection committee will consist of the members of the Executive Council of AANS: professors William Shetter of Indiana University, Jolanda Vanderwal Taylor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Amy Golahny of Lycoming College, Anneke Prins of Columbia University and Nelleke Van Deusen-Scholl of UC Berkeley.

To obtain further information or to submit an application, write to:

Prof. William Z. Shetter

Dept. of Germanic
Studies
Indiana University
Ballantine 644
Bloomington, IN 47405
Fax: 812-855-8927
E-mail:
shetter@indiana.edu

Editor's Note

I would like to thank the membership once again for their many contributions to the Newsletter. It has been particularly nice to receive such an impressive number of recent publications by AANS members. Please check out the sections *Reviews* and *Publications of Interest* in this issue for more details! If you would like to review one of the books announced in this issue of the Newsletter or any other publication, please contact me by phone, mail, or e-mail.

The most recent PAANS volume, *The Berkeley Conference on Dutch Literature 1995: Dutch poetry in modern times*, edited by Johan Snapper and Thomas Shannon is now available. The volume comprises eleven articles by a diverse group of scholars from the United States, Belgium, Serbia, and the Netherlands. Members can order a copy for just \$25 from:

Prof. Johan Snapper
Dutch Studies Program
University of California
Berkeley, CA 94720-
3243
e-mail:
dodutch@socrates.berkeley.edu

Thank you very much for your continued interest in the AANS!

Nelleke Van Deusen-Scholl,
UC Berkeley
nvdeusen@uclink2.berkeley.edu

DUTCH STUDY

Zomercursus Nederlandse Taal en Cultuur

Included in this Newsletter is an application form for the five scholarships made available to U.S. citizens for the 1998 *Zomercursus Nederlandse Taal en Cultuur*. The *Zomercursus*, made possible by the *Nederlandse Taalunie*, will be held again at Woudschoten in Zeist. The dates next year are **July 20 to August 8**.

If you know qualified students who may be interested, please encourage them to apply. The scholarships cover all expenses during the three-week *Zomercursus*, but do not include transportation overseas. The minimum requirement is

“*een behoorlijke kennis van de Nederlandse taal,*” which is to be interpreted as approximately two semesters of Dutch or the equivalent level of proficiency.

The form may be photocopied if you need additional forms. All application forms are to be sent to Professor William Z. Shetter at the address below (**NOT** to the Dutch address on the form!), and must reach him by **December 6, 1997**. The applicants will be evaluated by a committee consisting of Profs. Amy Golahny, Rob Howell, and Hilda Yoder.

Even though the application form lists a certificate of health as one of the required enclosures, I suggest that applicants not include it in the initial submission of materials. Only those actually selected for a scholarship will be asked to supply such a certificate.

If there are any questions, please write, fax, or e-mail to:

Prof. William Z. Shetter
Dept. of Germanic
Studies
Indiana University
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Bloomington, IN 47405
fax: 812-855-8927
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shetter@indiana.edu

Central College Abroad in Leiden

U.S. students searching for a European overseas study opportunity where English is widely spoken, often find their paths take them to the Netherlands. The recent “Open Doors” survey published annually by the Institute of International Education indicates that the Netherlands continues to attract undergraduate students from a broad spectrum of academic disciplines/interests looking for a less traditional destination. IIE reports a total of 711 U.S. students studying in the Netherlands during A.Y. 1994/95.

Central College, a private liberal arts college in Pella, Iowa, established its first overseas program in 1963 by sending eight students to the Sorbonne and since then has added six programs. The Leiden program was created in 1987, and Central sends approximately 30-40 students including not only from our own campus but also from other colleges and universities to Leiden each year. Over the last ten years, and especially the last two or three, the program focus has been on two primary areas of study: (1) European studies, including Business, and the European Union, and (2) Art and Art History.

Students are able to take courses in History of the Low Countries, Modern European History, US-EU Business Relations, The Netherlands and its European Context, The Process of European Integration, and Comparative European Politics. In addition, students are eligible to take course work at Webster University in Business and Finance or a selected number of courses at Leiden University taught in English. Humanities and Arts oriented students may take courses in Dutch Art and Architecture, Drawing in Leiden, and a Studio Arts course in the ARS Studio *atelier* where Rembrandt painted!

For Education majors, Central College has developed a third track especially for student classroom teaching/internship opportunities for academic credit at the American School in the Hague as part of the Leiden study program. Other education internships are available at ILO, the Graduate School of Teaching and Learning, Nursery school “Krullebaar,” and NUFFIC, the Netherlands Organization for International Cooperation in Higher Education. Business and management students have interned at KPMG, a widely known and respected international accounting, management, and tax firm, as well as MSP, a management

consulting firm. European Studies majors have interned at the Library of the Institute for East European Law and Russian Studies, which is part of Leiden University.

Complementing the academic program, students may opt for a home stay for two weeks with a Dutch family before settling into dormitory life, while taking a required intensive "Dutch language crash course." Several field trips, including one to Brussels and NATO headquarters, as well as a weekend bicycling trip in the Netherlands. Local cultural events and activities in Leiden are also featured in the program.

Central College Abroad in Leiden offers a wide range of academic and co-curricular programs and activities that appeal to students with a broad range of interests and backgrounds. A distinguishing hallmark of all Central College Abroad programs is the presence of a full-time resident director, Drs. Oscar van den Wijngaard, who administers the entire program and teaches the core seminar "The Netherlands and its European Context."

For further information about Central's Leiden program, please call Central College Abroad at 1-800-831-3629 or e-mail the program at studyabroad@central.edu. You

may also visit our web page at <http://www.studyabroad.com/central>.

Linda A. Goff, Associate Dean, Central College

CONFERENCES, EXHIBITIONS, EVENTS

Call for papers for the Ninth ICNS: "History in Dutch Studies"

Plans for the Ninth Biennial Interdisciplinary Conference on Netherlandic Studies (ICNS) are underway. The next conference will be held at the University of Wisconsin-Madison from May 27-30, 1998. The theme for the conference is "History in Dutch Studies." Abstracts of 1-2 pages for 20-minute papers are due no later than **December 10, 1997**. For complete details, please refer to the insert in this Newsletter.

Berkeley Conference on Dutch Linguistics

The 1997 Berkeley Conference on Dutch Linguistics was held on October 16-18 on the campus of the University of California, Berkeley. An international forum of speakers from Europe and the United States presented their most

recent research on the Dutch language. The topics ranged from phonological and syntactic change, linguistic geography, and sociolinguistics to word order and prototypes. The keynote speaker was Professor George Lakoff of UC Berkeley, who spoke about "Metaphor systems: Are English and Dutch different and how?" The proceedings will be published in a forthcoming volume in the PAANS series, edited by Thomas Shannon and Johan Snapper.

GLAC 4

The Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures at The Ohio State University announces the fourth Germanic Linguistics Annual Conference, to be held in Columbus, Ohio, on April 17-19, 1998. The conference is sponsored by the Society for Germanic Philology.

Abstracts are invited for thirty-minute papers in all areas of linguistics dealing with any Germanic language, past and present. All abstracts will be evaluated anonymously by a panel of reviewers. Please send five copies of a one-page abstract (font size 12). On the abstract include the title of the proposed paper but do not include the author's name.

Attach a three-by-five inch index card with the following information: author(s), academic affiliation(s), title of paper, postal address, e-mail, phone, and fax (if available). Deadline for submissions is January 2, 1998. Send abstracts to:

GLAC 4 Conference
Committee
Dept. of Germanic
Languages and
Literatures
314 Cunz Hall
1841 Millikin Road
Columbus, OH 43210-
1229
phone: 614-292-6985
fax: 614-292-8510
e-mail:
glac4@lists.acs.ohio-
state.edu

***Masters of Light:
Dutch Painters in Utrecht
during the Golden Age***

The 17th-century artists in Utrecht created some of the most beautiful and luminous paintings of the Dutch Golden Age. This exhibition, which is the first in either the United States or Britain to focus solely on the achievements of the Utrecht school, features approximately 80 paintings from North American and European collections. The paintings on view number works by over 20 artists, such as Abraham Bloemaert, Joachim

Wtewael, Hendrick ter Brugghen, Dirck van Baburen, and Gerard van Honthorst.

Two publications are available to accompany this exhibition: *Utrecht Painters of the Dutch Golden Age* by Christopher Brown (pp. 72; ISBN 1-85709-214-7) and the fully-illustrated catalogue *Masters of Light: Dutch Painting in Utrecht during the Golden Age*, edited by Joaneath Spicer.

Masters of Light can be seen at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor in San Francisco, CA, from September 13 to November 30, 1997, at the Walters Art Gallery in Baltimore, MD, from January 11 to April 5, 1998, and at The National Gallery in London from May 6 to August 2, 1998. A website, which contains a slide preview of the exhibition, has been set up at <http://www.thinker.org>.

Old Masters Brought to Light

This exhibition of European paintings from the National Museum of Art of Romania premiered on September 6, 1997, at the Brauer Museum of Art at Valparaiso University in Indiana. The twenty-seven masterpieces chosen for this exhibition reflect the general trend of European art of the

Renaissance and baroque eras: sacred paintings of the fifteenth through seventeenth centuries in Italy, Spain, Germany, and the Netherlands. Many of these pictures were commissioned by private patrons—royal, aristocratic, and bourgeois—for use in churches, private chapels, and homes for devotional use. Works by several Flemish and Dutch artists, such as Bartholomeus Spranger, Joachim Wtewael, Jacob Jordaens, and Rembrandt, are included.

Following its premiere, the exhibition will travel to four museums: the Denver Art Museum, Denver, CO (November 22, 1997 – January 18, 1998); the Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, NE (February 14 – April 12, 1998); the Philbrook Museum of Art, Tulsa, OK (May 17 – July 12, 1998); and the San Diego Museum of Art, San Diego, CA (August 31 – October 18, 1998).

A full-color scholarly catalogue, entitled *Old Masters Brought to Light: European Paintings from the National Museum of Art of Romania*, is available as well. For further information and catalogue orders, please contact:

Ana Maria Lim
Art Services
International
700 North Fairfax Street

Suite 220
 Alexandria, VA 22314
 phone: 703-548-4554
 fax: 703-548-3305

***The Dutch in the Americas,
 1600 to 1800***

This exhibition, which, as announced in the Spring Newsletter, was held at the John Carter Brown Library from May 9 to September 15, 1997, will re-open in an expanded form at the Equitable Gallery in New York City (7th Avenue and 51st Street). An illustrated exhibition catalogue, written by Dr. Wim Klooster, will be available in October 1997.

The John Carter Brown Library owns one of the largest collections in the United States of early modern Dutch books relating to the colonial Americas. Of the approximately 100 titles of books printed in the Dutch language in New York before ca. 1800, only about 50 are now extant. The library announces its recent acquisition of two of these exceedingly rare works, which brings their collection of such imprints to seven titles in all.

The Library offers both Short-Term and Long-Term Research Fellowships which allow scholars to be in residence at the

Library and to conduct research relevant to its collections. The deadline for submission of applications is January 15, 1998.

Further information on the exhibition or the catalogue, or application forms for the fellowships may be obtained from:

The John Carter Brown
 Library
 Box 1894
 Providence, RI 02912
 phone: 401-863-2715
 fax: 401-863-3477

REVIEWS

DuBruck, Edelgard E. and William C. McDonald (Eds.). *The current state of research in fifteenth-century literature. Germania-Romania, II (1985-1995). Studies in Mediaeval Literature*, 16. Lewiston, Queenston and Lampeter: Edwin Mellen, 1996. ISBN 0-7734-8754-9, LC 96-17582. \$89.95.

(A notice of this volume appeared in the *AANS Newsletter*, no. 46, for October, 1996. The present review focuses on the chapter "Low Countries," 61-80, by Johanna C. (Anneke) Prins.)

Since so much medieval literature in Dutch and Flemish dates from the period commonly termed "the late Middle Ages," the present work is indispensable for any scholar, whether in the earlier or in the more advanced career stages, who wishes to keep abreast of research on the textual legacy of the medieval Low Countries. In our own era so eager for "value added," Prins' essay offers much more than first meets the eye: not only an impressive list of recent publications, but also an important overview of current trends and directions in scholarship. For those who want to be "in the know," this is the place to start!

Of no small importance to those of us who teach Dutch in North America is the fact, pointed out at the beginning of Prins' essay, that several attractive works on medieval Netherlandic literature are now available in English. We have all known for some time that our field is one of broad potential appeal, and it is gratifying to have the resources to document the basis for our conviction.

It is equally important to note, as the author does, that there are not only major individual scholars at work (Herman Pleij, Frits van Oostrom, W. van Anrooij, and others), but also a number of collaborative "themagroepen" devoted to

research on specific aspects of medieval literature and culture. Averaging some two books per year, the project “Nederlandse Literatuur en Cultuur in de Middeleeuwen” (NCLM) and those in the popular and praiseworthy “Griffioen series have brought medieval literature to a broader audience, thereby offering a model from which scholars in other countries might learn important lessons.

It is also important to note that both editions and critical studies of medieval texts are being actively produced. This bodes well for the future of scholarship on the medieval Netherlands, and the author is able to list a number of exciting publications in such diverse areas as religious texts, drama, artes literature (“Vakliteratuur”), history and historical texts, and manuscripts and early printed books. The chapter concludes with a list of over one hundred of the most germane publications from the period 1985-1995.

We owe a debt of sincere gratitude to the author for her useful work, though I suspect—and hope—that the greatest indebtedness will be on the part of scholars who find here the inspiration and direction for studies to be cited in bibliographies that will be compiled in years to come.

Philip E. Webber, Central College, Pella, Iowa

Golahny, Amy (ed.) *The Eye of the Poet. Studies in the Reciprocity of the Visual and Literary Arts from the Renaissance to the Present*. Lewisburg: Bucknell UP/Cranbury, NJ: Associated University Presses, 1996.

As the editor of the volume and many of its contributors note, the Western tradition of writing poems about “pictures” (paintings, mostly, but also statues as representatives of the visual arts), is a long and varied one. The essays collected by Amy Golahny encompass discussions of such ekphrastic poetry ranging from—as the title indicates—the Renaissance period to the present. The book contains ten essays, of which the first four consider painting, sculpture, and writing from the Italian Renaissance. The remaining six essays in the second part are more diverse. They explore topics from 17th century Dutch and English poetry, 16th and 17th century Dutch painting, and modern American, English, and Dutch poems.

The reciprocity of the visual arts and literature suggested in the subtitle of the book is discussed predominantly in general terms of “sibling rivalry”

of the sister arts: which one—painting or poetry, poetry or sculpture—is better able to give an appealing image of reality? For example, the first part of James S. Mirollo's essay gives an interesting theoretical introduction to this kind of competition. The two essays about Michelangelo's art (by Rebecca Smick and James M. Saslow), address the tension and *mutual* influence between the arts more directly, since the conflict existed within one artist: the great Italian who created masterworks of painting, poetry, as well as sculpture. However, most essays show ways in which poems represent real or invented pictures and thus explain poets' perspectives on images and their consequent interpretations, extensions, or reductions. As such, the book is very enlightening. It is also attractive with its many photographs of works of art illustrating the texts.

Here, I want to draw specific attention to three essays discussing aspects of Netherlandic poetry and painting, and the relationship between them. Teachers of Netherlandic literature in America often try to appeal to the students by first making a connection with Dutch and Flemish painting. (Many anthologies of Dutch poetry in English translation, too, assume

similarities with the more familiar paintings in their introductions.) The question is, whether there really is such a connection in terms of a specifically Dutch or Flemish aesthetics.

I already mentioned James V. Mirollo. He also presents an illuminating essay on poems about Bruegel's *Fall of Icarus*. Moreover, Mirollo presents the only case in the volume of a painting reacting to a text. In its turn, this painting has inspired well-known poets such as, among many others, Auden and Williams. It is somewhat unfortunate that Mirollo did not also include Dutch language poems reacting on Bruegel, for example by Judith Herzberg who presented Icarus' fall almost as a still-life.

Amy Golahny's discussion of poems by Vondel and Oudaan on paintings by Pieter Lastman poses intriguing problems of canonization in both art and literature. Lastman was highly praised in the literature of his time, but his reputation declined for later generations under the burden of Rembrandt's fame, his brilliant pupil. Still, Lastman was the most important Pre-Rembrandtist consolidating a Dutch tradition of a very well-documented "archaeological exactitude", a precision in rendering historical subjects. Vondel acknowledged this and

so did Oudaan, although the latter also referred to the former as the poet more capable to do so. Oudaan may have made a self-fulfilling prophecy and contributed to his own position in the canon as merely marginal.

Wilfred Jonckheere wrote the third essay on Dutch painting and/or poetry. Jonckheere interprets all five poems in J. J. A. Mooij's cycle on Rembrandt's *Staalmeesters* (*Syndics of the Drapers' Guild*). Jonckheere emphasizes Mooij's contemporary (1991) view of the prevailing mystery surrounding the members of the Drapers' Guild, in spite of the painting's structure and the control of its maker. Jonckheere also reads a postmodern realization of the limitations of time and culture in Mooij's poetry. There will always remain gaps between the direct image of a painting, its intended meaning, and its interpretation in a poem. On the other hand, one might venture, poems do also keep paintings alive as challenging rewritings of the originals.

These essays in *The Eye of the Poet* implicitly raise the question whether the esthetic value of what Svetlana Alpers has brought forth as the art of describing also applies to Netherlandic poetry. In relation with this, Michelangelo's remark, referred to by James S.

Saslow, that Flemish art was too superficial and "merely fooled the external eye", is doubly interesting. Most revealing in this respect are Mooij's contemporary versions of Rembrandt's famous 17th century painting, because they show a shifting away from, or a problematizing of, the art of describing. Instead of viewing poems on paintings in terms of competition, they can be taken as continuations that time and again shed new light on the originals.

Contributors to *The Eye of the Poet*: Amy Golahny, Rebekah Smick, Giancarlo Maiorino, James S. Saslow, Luba Freedman, James V. Mirollo, Philip McCaffrey, Wilfred Jonckheere, Abigail S. Rischin, John Hollander.

Marian de Vooght, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim

Spronk, Ron. *More than Meets the Eye: An Introduction to Technical Examination of Early Netherlandish Paintings at the Fogg Art Museum*. Harvard University Art Museums. Fall 1996. Volume V, Number 1 (ISSN 1065-6448). 64 pp. *More than Meets the Eye* is an excellent contribution to the technical study of Early Netherlandish painting. For the

specialist, it provides a insightful examination of the scientific methods now regularly used to study fifteenth- and sixteenth- century painting from the Low Countries. For the general reader, it demonstrates the ways modern science can reveal the hand and specific practices of artists who lived centuries ago. Ron Spronk's investigation focuses on early Netherlandish painting in the permanent collection at the Fogg Museum of Art, Cambridge, or on long term loan to that institution. His study centers on the means of technical analysis used to examine the different stages employed in the production of a Northern panel, ground, underdrawing, the paint film, etc. The well-illustrated text aids the reader in comprehending Spronk's detailed discussions.

In his examination of *The Holy Family with an Angel* triptych, Spronk makes the connection between what the eye sees and what technology reveals. Although once associated with the Master of Frankfurt, an unidentified artist active in Antwerp around 1500, the visual analysis of the triptych suggests an origin other than Flanders. The triptych's painting style differs significantly from the practice of Antwerp artists of the period: the colors are opaque and painted relatively thickly and apparently in a single

stroke, while the brushstroke is broad and visible. Using a minute sample of the painting's ground, electron probe microanalysis (EPMA) confirmed that the painting was executed outside of Flanders. The EPMA showed that the ground was composed of gypsum, a material common in Southern European grounds, rather than the natural chalk found in the North. It is most likely that the triptych was executed in Spain by a local master imitating the Antwerp school. The fact that *The Holy Family with an Angel* seems to have been copied after a dispersed Antwerp altarpiece, whose side panels have a secure Spanish provenance, further supports this assertion.

The results of scientific investigation are rarely more dramatic or more impressive than in the case of infrared reflectography (IRR) which employs a highly sensitive infrared light capable of revealing the preparatory drawings, now generally hidden by the paint layers, made by the artist on the chalk ground. The range of underdrawings, as they are called, described by Spronk in *More than Meets the Eye* demonstrates their complex functions. In Jan Provoost's *Last Judgment*, the drawings in the area of Christ's face have a free and expressive quality that suggest the artist's working method. For Christ's face, he

used abbreviated and even crude looking placement lines to indicate the major features which would be fully developed in the later painting stage. In Provoost's trumpet-blowing angels, the painted trumpets are longer than those evident in the underdrawing, apparently reworked at the painting stage to give depth to the center of the composition. Spronk's analysis shows that for Provoost underdrawing was a preliminary sketch that could be altered as the design progressed.

The true complexity and variety of underdrawing is best revealed in the painting of *Virgin and Child* from the workshop of Dirck Bouts. In an infrared reflectogram of the whole panel, a drawing of nude woman appears in the area the Madonna's head and neck. This startling figure suggests that an entire other kind of composition was begun on the panel. Spronk also compares the underdrawing of the Christ Child in the Fogg painting with an underdrawing of the Child in a related painting also attributed to the workshop of Dirck Bouts at the Städelches Kunstinstitut, Frankfurt. This comparison reveals that the figures of the Christ Child are virtually identical on the level of the underdrawing, despite the evident differences on the painting surface. Spronk rightly concludes that the near identical

nature of the underdrawings implies that the same workshop pattern was used to render both images of the Christ Child. Thus in these *Virgin and Child* compositions the underdrawing implies the repetitive methods of the workshop rather than the subtleties of the individual hand. While *More than Meets the Eye*, has more good points than the short review can acknowledge, there is one aspect that particularly disturbs this reader. In the introduction Spronk states: "Technical studies were initially applied to resolve problems of authenticity and attribution, but this focus has gradually changed." This statement reads apologetically, a disclaimer of "we don't do this anymore." Although, as Spronk notes, technical studies have significantly increased our knowledge of painting structure and workshop organization, it is not as if the traditional questions of attribution and authenticity have disappeared or been vanquished by science. In several places in his text, Spronk remarks on the potential of technical examination to solve issues of artistic identity and authenticity. His examples include the microanalysis of the isolation layer which promises to lead to the identification of artists by the materials they employed. The questions of authorship particularly affect the study of underdrawings which permits both the

classification of individual drawing styles and the recognition of workshop participation. In a time when contextualization dominates the history of art, one can understand a hesitance to focus on issues concerning the artist and his hand. The two thousand nanometers of infrared light used in infrared reflectography, however, does not bring us to some brave new world of art history but links us to the era of Giovanni Morelli. The terms, hand, workshop, authentic and copy, connect technical examination with the tradition of connoisseurship. This relationship must be acknowledged and pursued with the greatest nuance for the field of technical studies to fulfill its potential. No apologies necessary.

Leslie Ann Blacksberg,
Elvehjem Museum of Art

Jacobs, Aletta. *Memories. My Life as an International Leader in Health, Suffrage and Peace.* Edited by Harriet Feinberg. Translated by Annie Wright. New York: The Feminist Press, 1996. xx+248pp. \$18.95.

The life and work of Aletta Jacobs has always intrigued me. She was born and raised in a village in the Netherlands not far

from where I grew up and advocated causes with which I could readily identify. Some years ago I read her memoirs in Dutch, which appeared in 1924, for my Peace History class. I was happy to see this fine English translation which tells the story of her interesting life to a much larger audience. In the first part of her memoirs Jacobs tells us about her upbringing and struggle to persuade her parents to allow her to pursue a medical career and to gain admission to the University of Groningen, the Netherlands. Her father was a medical doctor in Sappemeer and held liberal, progressive views on female emancipation. He became one of the most influential persons in her life and supported her in her determination to pursue a medical career. Unfortunately, Jacobs tells us nothing about her Jewish background. Only very incidentally and accidentally does the reader learn much later in her memoirs that Aletta was of Jewish descent. Did she try to hide her Jewishness? The reader would have liked to know something about her father's religious, political and other views. Was her father a typical exponent of Dutch Jewry at that time, and where did he receive his ideas? Nor do we learn anything about what it was like to grow up Jewish in a small Dutch village where, I am

sure, at least some antisemitism existed.

In spite of this somewhat mysterious omission of her Jewish background Aletta's struggle to obtain approval to study medicine makes fascinating reading. She was undoubtedly a very gifted, sensitive young woman with incredible determination to overcome innumerable obstacles in realizing her dreams. One of those obstacles was her own mother who discouraged her from seeking admission to the university. It is fascinating to read how the great, liberal Dutch Prime Minister and statesman, Rudolph Thorbecke, personally intervened to help her gain admission to the university in 1871! Did Thorbecke know Aletta was Jewish? I am sure he did, but to him Aletta's Jewishness was not important. He felt she should be admitted because she qualified. Once Aletta was admitted she experienced very little discrimination, and she began her medical practice in Amsterdam in 1879. But soon much of her time and energy were absorbed by many causes. It is truly amazing how Aletta, in spite of some formidable health problems, was able to generate so much energy to help solve so many problems. Her ardent advocacy of female suffrage was one of her first major endeavors. Her account of

various activities on behalf of this important issue of the day covers many pages and makes interesting reading. Her crusade took her to many parts of Europe and the United States and soon she became internationally known. Yet, too many of these pages read like a travelogue. What is lacking is reflection and some philosophical discourse. Nor does one find this in her private correspondence.* However, there is no doubt that her contribution to cause of female suffrage especially in the Netherlands was very significant. Historians will have to sort out precisely how decisive her role has been. Aletta also fought battles against prostitution, and militarism, and on behalf of planned parenthood. Again we are not told what motivated her to become active in the European peace movement prior and during World War I. Would Aletta ever have approved of some wars? Would she have condoned, if she had lived long enough, the war against the Third Reich to end the slaughter of the European Jewish community? Especially interesting are Jacobs's discussions with the great peace advocate, Bertha von Suttner, over female suffrage. Jacobs argued, I am sure passionately, on behalf of female suffrage as one means to end war.

Suttner disagreed and felt it was more important to concentrate on eliminating the scourge of war. We know that Jacobs was wrong. Female suffrage did not end war; there is nothing in female hormones that makes women more peaceful. On the contrary; women have made very important contributions to modern war efforts.

A very interesting chapter in her book is the story of her relationship with her husband, Carel Victor Gerritson. Jacobs would have preferred not to marry him and to live together as many couples do today. But convention of the day made that impossible. Her marriage was not one of female subordination to her husband; each person was allowed much space and freedom. Her marriage or union, was a very happy one and ended sadly upon his sudden death in 1905. They had one child who died shortly after birth. So we will never know how successful a parent she would have been. Aletta died in 1929 at age 74. She had lived long enough to see the fruit of her labor; among them were female suffrage in the Netherlands and elsewhere and the establishment of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

Memories is a very interesting account by a major advocate of female equality and peace. The

English edition includes excellent notes identifying events and persons of the day. It also includes a very good bibliography and two very interesting essays "Aletta Jacobs in Historical Perspective" by Harriet Pass Freidenreich and "Patterns of Remembrance: A Literary Afterword," by Harriet Feinberg.

* See for instance Inge de Wilde, ed., *Brieven van Aletta Jacobs aan de familie Broese van Groenou* (Zutphen: Walburg Pers, 1992).

Gerlof D. Homan, Illinois State University

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

The Netherlands in Perspective

Many readers will undoubtedly join me in welcoming back professor Shetter's well-known text on Dutch culture, *The Netherlands in Perspective*. This new edition, subtitled *The Dutch way of organizing a society and its setting*, has been updated, shortened, and revised, and offers a fascinating description of the Netherlands, the Dutch, and Dutch society.

The twenty short chapters present the physical setting and the form given to land and

water, with special attention to physical planning. They go on to the many organizations of the society from commerce and education to the Dutch language, the structure of opinion and belief in religious groups and political parties, the background in history from the origins of the nation to the most recent past. The last few chapters deal with literature, cultural cooperation with Flemish-Belgium and international relations, and finally, what it means to be a member of Dutch society and the question of national cultural identity. Each chapter focuses on a single theme. The chapters are arranged in a sequence in which they build on each other and are in turn woven into a single perspective.

Special attention throughout is paid to the unique stamp the Dutch put on questions such as the restructuring of political differences, the handling of dissent, the ways of reaching a national consensus on such difficult issues as drugs, euthanasia and abortion, and the roles assigned to the individual.

The book is written for anyone with an interest in the Netherlands beyond the often stereotyped face 'Holland' presents to the world. Its intention is to be useful to those living in the Netherlands and wanting a better grasp of what

they see around them. It will be no less useful to those abroad studying the culture of the Netherlands. *The Netherlands in Perspective* (pp. 224; ISBN 90 5517 079 8) is available for DFL 44,50 (does not include shipping and handling) from:

Nederlands Centrum
Buitenlanders
Afdeling Verkoop
Postbus 638
3500 AP Utrecht
fax: (0)30 236 45 46
Order number: 971.0798

De wegen van Marga Minco

In his latest book, Professor Johan Snapper presents an in-depth study of one of the foremost post-war Dutch authors, Marga Minco. Based on both personal conversations with Minco and others and on many written sources, the book deals with the life and work of Minco and offers a synthesis of her entire oeuvre: her novels, novellas, short stories, and paintings.

De Wegen van Marga Minco (ca. pp. 384; original title *The Ways of Marga Minco*; translated by Arjen Mulder and Maaike Post; ISBN 90-351-1948-7; ± DFL 49,95/BFR 995) will be published by Uitgeverij Bert Bakker in the Fall of 1997.

The Crippled Heart

In *The Crippled Heart. An Introduction to the Life, Times and Works of Willem Godschalk van Focquenbroch*, professor E.M. Beekman introduces the remarkable seventeenth-century author Willem van Focquenbroch to a general audience. Focquenbroch was born in Amsterdam in 1640, obtained his medical degree at the University of Utrecht in 1662, and died in Elmina, on the coast of West Africa, in 1670. In his brief and poignant life, Focquenbroch produced a modest body of work which is more relevant to our age than that of most of his contemporaries. His lyrical poetry is erotic, witty, and moving; his satiric verse mock the classical tradition, while his comedies present a vivid portrait of contemporary society.

Focquenbroch also wrote four long 'letters' from the West-African Gold Coast. Since there are very few European texts from this early period about this region, these prose texts have historical as well as literary value. They are translated and annotated here for the first time, representing the final section of this study.

The Crippled Heart (pp. 174; ISBN 90-75179-09-x; Paddemoesreeks 2) is available for DFL 39,95 from:

Uitgeverij Astraea
Zoeterwoudsesingel 69
2313 EL Leiden
phone: (071) 512 83 61

The Low Countries Yearbook 1997-98

The Low Countries. Arts and Society in Flanders and the Netherlands is the fifth in a series of yearbooks published by the Flemish-Netherlands Foundation 'Stichting Ons Erfdeel,' (pp. 320; ISBN 90-75862-10-5. The articles in this yearbook survey the living, contemporary culture of the Low Countries as well as their cultural heritage. In its words and pictures, *The Low Countries* provides information about literature and the arts, but also about broad historical developments in Flanders and the Netherlands. The current volume contains thirty-one in-depth essays and an equal number of shorter articles on a variety of topics, including architecture, history, language, literature, society, and visual arts.

The book may be ordered from the address below for \$76 (DFL

85; BF 1,500), including shipping and bank costs:

'Stichting Ons Erfdeel'
Murissonstraat 260
8931 Rekkem
Belgium
phone: +32 56 41 12 01
fax: +32 56 41 47 07
e-mail:
erfdeel@pophost.eunet.

be

URL:
<http://www.onserfdeel.be/>

e/

This Happened Everywhere

Although two of Remco Campert's novels and a volume of poetry were translated into English and published in England, his work has thus far not appeared in the United States. This situation is remedied by AANS member Manfred Wolf with his translation of a collection of Campert's poems, *This Happened Everywhere. Selected Poems of Remco Campert* (pp. 84; ISBN 1-879594-20-X; \$12). The book may be ordered from:

Androgyne Books
930 Shields Street
San Francisco, CA
94132

***Netherlandic Secular Plays
from the Middle Ages***

The four plays and six farces of the Hulthem Manuscript are not only the earliest preserved plays in the literature of the Netherlands, they are the earliest secular plays to survive from the European Middle Ages. In her new book, *Netherlandic Secular Plays from the Middle Ages* (pp.246; ISBN 1-895537-41-X (bound) or 1-895537-35-5 (pbk.); Carleton Renaissance Plays in Translation 29), Theresia de Vroom provides an introduction to and translation of the "Abele Spelen" and the Farces of the Hulthem Manuscript. The six farces, called "sotternieën," are the earliest known examples of the genre written in the vernacular, while the four "abele spelen," plays of extraordinary breadth, quality, and scope, take their place among the finest examples of secular drama in the Middle Ages.

For information and orders write to:

Dovehouse Editions
1890 Fairmeadow Cres.
Ottawa, Canada K1H
7B9

For information on the series:

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Plays in Translation

c/o Department of
English
Carleton University
1125 Colonel By Drive
Ottawa, Canada K1S
5B6

***They Farmed Well
The Dutch-Canadian
Agricultural Community
in Nova Scotia, 1945-1995***

In this book, Gerry Gerrits describes the considerable contribution made by the Dutch immigrant farmers to the agricultural sector in Nova Scotia since World War II. The study consists of three parts: the first traces the settlement history of the Dutch immigrant farmers in Nova Scotia between the late 1940's and the early 1960's; the second provides a detailed profile of these farmers; and the third discusses the results of an questionnaire distributed in the Dutch-Canadian farming community in Nova Scotia around 1990.

They Farmed Well (pp. 183 + vii; ISBN 0-9680723-0-5) is available from:

Vinland Press
P.O. Box 452
Kentville, N.S.
Canada B4N 3X3

Voorwaarts/Forward

On the occasion of its 25th anniversary, the Canadian Association for the Advancement of Netherlandic Studies (CAANS) has issued an interdisciplinary volume of articles, edited by Augustinus Dierick and Basil Kingstone and subtitled *An Anthology of Writing from the Canadian Journal of Netherlandic Studies*. This special issue contains twenty-five articles, divided over five major sections: (1) History, (2) Philosophy, (3) The Arts, (4) Literature, and (5) Language.

Copies of the 239-page Anniversary Journal are available for the members' price of \$10. For additional information or membership inquiries, please contact:

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***Journal of Comparative
Germanic Linguistics***

This new journal provides a platform for discussion of theoretical linguistic research into the modern and older languages and dialects of the Germanic language family. The empirical range of the work may either involve cross-linguistic comparisons within the Germanic language family or elucidate issues in Germanic linguistics through the exemplary analysis of one Germanic language. Areas of linguistics covered include: Morphology, Phonology, Pragmatics, Semantics and Syntax.

The journal will be published three times per year in the English language and is available at the individual subscription rate of \$45.00 (Institutional rate \$139.50). To order or to obtain a sample copy, please write to:

Kluwer Academic
Publishers
P.O. Box 358
Accord Station
Hingham, MA 02018-
0358
phone: 617-871-6600
fax: 617-871-6528
e-mail:
kluwer@world.std.com

***The Copy Turns Original.
Vincent van Gogh and a new
approach to traditional art
practice***

At St.-Rémy, in 1889-90, without his usual contacts and confined to a hospital, van Gogh produced a series of painted copies of work by other artists. We usually attribute these to therapy for his isolation and pass over them in considering his oeuvre. Cornelia Homburg's study, however, concentrates on this category of paintings in which the artist intentionally imitates an existing composition and reproduces it using his personal form of pictorial language, claiming that such work has true significance for both the artist and his audience. Homburg also places van Gogh's work in the context of copies by his contemporaries. His activity in this area was no isolated incident, but was an influential factor in a development that began at the end of the 19th century and continued well into the present one.

The Copy Turns Original is the sixth volume in the series *Oculi: Studies in the Arts of the Low Countries* (ca. 250 pp.; Hb: 9 color plates/89 bl/wh plates; ISBN 1-55619-271-1; price \$69.00) and can be ordered from:

John Benjamins
Publishing Company
P.O. Box 27519
Philadelphia, PA 19118-
0519
phone: 1-800-562-5666
fax: 215-836-1204

Letters Written in Good Faith

Professor Lagerwey announces the publication of his new book *Letters Written in Good Faith. The Early years of the Dutch Norbertines*. These letters, which were translated and edited by Dr. Lagerwey, cover the first ten years of the Dutch Norbertine Mission. The publisher is Alt Publishing of Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Middelnerlands Lexicon

The *Middelnerlands Lexicon* by W.J.J. Pijnenburg and T.H. Schoonheim is a revised and expanded version of the paperback edition of the *Woordenboek Middelnerlands*, published in 1984. The number of entries has been increased from 12,000 to 15,500 and the definitions are updated and expanded. A brief introduction situates Middle Dutch in its geographical and historical context. The *Middelnerlands Lexicon* (iv + 268 pp; 1997) is published by

Schiphouwer and Brinkman and is available for DFL 49,50.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

In Memoriam

Herman Wekker, Professor of English Language and Linguistics and Vice Dean of the Faculty of Liberal Arts of the University of Groningen passed away on January 20th, 1997, at the age of 53. Even though he had been battling cancer for the last two years of his life, he remained very active in his research, teaching and administrative tasks until about three weeks before his death. Until the very last days of his life, he remained actively involved in the lives of his colleagues. His death was a great loss to many of us.

Herman Wekker was one of the hardest working and warmhearted linguists I have known. After obtaining the equivalent of a Master's degree in English Language and Literature in Nijmegen, The Netherlands, and specializing in English linguistics at the Universities of Southampton and Reading, Herman Wekker received his PhD degree in 1976 from the University of Nijmegen, where he also taught from 1969 to 1987. From 1987 until his death, he was Professor

of English Language and Linguistics at the University of Groningen.

In his research, Herman had three main areas of interest: Creolization, Applied Linguistics and Lexicography. Among other things, he edited "Creole Languages and Language Acquisition", he wrote, together with F. Aarts, a contrastive English-Dutch Grammar for Dutch university students, and he edited the Wolters English-Dutch Dictionary. In addition he edited a book series *Topics in English Linguistics* published by Mouton de Gruyter and served as editor on journals such as *Linguistic Abstracts* and *English Studies*. He was also an active board member of ANéla and NSES (Netherlands Society for English Studies).

However, one of his favorite aspects of his work was his teaching and interaction with his students, who found in him an interested, warmhearted, and dedicated teacher. Many of them profited from the fact that he was so well-liked by so many people around the world. Through his help, students were able to get internships, among other places, in the Netherlands, England, Germany, Surinam and South Africa.

Also his colleagues in the English Department were able to benefit from his extra

scholarly activities. When he was appointed chair of the Central Exam Committee for English, he made the extra income available to a fund to enable especially younger colleagues in the English Department to attend conferences abroad.

Next to his academic work Herman Wekker was actively involved in improving the position of minorities in the Netherlands, especially through their music, art and literature. He also founded a workgroup Tamara to fight poverty in Surinam, which, among other things, was able to make a large contribution to Surinam schools.

The last two years of his life, knowing his time was soon to come he started to write down the tales his grandmother, Paulina, had told him in Surinam, his country of birth. They will appear this month. (*Paulina's Hemelvaart* by Herman Wekker ISBN 90 351 18871).

Marjolijn Verspoor
English Department
University of Groningen

***E-mail list for teachers of
Dutch***

The Less Commonly Taught Languages Project of the University of Minnesota has established an e-mail list for teachers of Dutch. Anyone who is involved in teaching courses related to Dutch language or culture is invited to subscribe to the list. It is intended as a forum for discussion, to exchange information, and to establish closer ties between professionals in the field.

To subscribe, send an e-mail message to:

listserv@tc.umn.edu

In the message area, send the following message:

SUB Dutch-T <your first name> <you last name>

***Association for Low Countries
Studies***

The current issue of the Association for Low Countries Studies (ALCS) *Newsletter* announces the second biennial 24-hour ALCS conference, to be held in London on December 18 and 19, 1997. The following papers will be presented:

*

Michael Wintle (Hull)

“On orgy of liberalism? The Dutch permissive society and its historical antecedent.”

*

Renée Gerson

“The pacification of 1917 (electoral reform, verzuiling)”

*

Reinier Salverda (UCL)

“Dutch-Indonesian language mix”

*

Charles Ford (UCL)

“Historians of Netherlandish art with and without Dutch”

*

Elsa Strietman (Cambridge)

“The Rhetoricians”

*

Les Price (Hull)

“Are Dutch constitutional and political developments ‘exceptional?’”

*

This issue also contains a preliminary announcement for the 1999 international ALCS Conference “The Bookshop of the World.”

The ALCS can be visited on the web via the following sites:

ALCS homepage:

<http://www.hull.ac.uk/php/abspjl/Dutch/ALCS/ALCSHome.html>

Dutch Crossing homepage:

<http://www.hull.ac.uk.php/abspjl/Dutch/ALCS/DutchCrossing.html>

ALCS *Newsletter* homepage:
<http://www.hull.ac.uk/php/abspjl/Dutch/ALCS/News.html>

Full membership in the ALCS is £12.50 per year; for further information, write to:

ALCS
c/o The University of
Hull
Dept. of Dutch Studies
Hull HU6 7RX

***Internationaal Forum voor
Afrikaanse en Nederlandse
Taal en Letteren***

Internationaal Forum maintains contacts with speakers of Dutch and Afrikaans around the world and focuses on Afrikaans, Flemish, and other foreign contributions to the study of Dutch in the larger sense, including Dutch language and literature, history, and translation. Publications from outside the Netherlands are announced in its *Newsletter*.

One of its main projects is the *Adoptieproject*, which donates Dutch books as well as the *Tijdschrift voor Nederlandse Taal en Letterkunde* to foreign institutions and individuals who submit a request. In order to continue its work, *International Forum* requests donations, books, gifts, and suggestions.

To receive the Newsletter, send a donation, or request information, please write to:

Internationaal Forum
voor Afrikaanse en
Nederlandse Taal en
Letteren
Leliestraat 37-a
2313 BE Leiden
phone/fax: 071-
5146703

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

Professor Beekman knighted

On April 27, 1997, Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands bestowed the order of *Ridder in de Orde van de Nederlandse Leeuw* ("Knight of the Order of the Dutch Lion") on Professor E.M. Beekman of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. This high honor was given in recognition of professor Beekman's many significant contributions to the study of the Dutch language and literature, to his oeuvre of twenty-four published volumes, as well as his untiring efforts to promote appreciation and understanding of the culture of the Netherlands in the English-speaking world.

De Lage Landen

Margriet Lacy reports that Raoul Bauer's book, *De Lage Landen*, which she reviewed in the April 1997 issue of the AANS Newsletter, has received two prizes in Belgium. In 1996, the book was selected for the *Arenbergprijs*, and more recently it was awarded the prestigious *Prijs van de Vlaamse Provincies*. An interesting detail about the latter is that it was given to *De Lage Landen* for its literary quality, which usually is not the most prominent feature of a historical study.

American Association for Netherlandic Studies

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This issue of the AANS Newsletter was edited by Nelleke Van Deusen-Scholl. Please send reviews, announcements, or any other pertinent information you may have for the next issue to the address below. If you can provide your text—especially longer ones such as reviews—either via electronic mail (cf. address below) or on a 3 1/2 inch computer diskette, preferably done on an IBM-compatible machine (e.g. with Microsoft Word), this would save us much time and would be greatly appreciated. If you wish to have your diskette returned, just enclose a SASE.

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