

historian, I wanted such interpretation and narrative. I wanted more than passing mention of the figures decorating so many of these maps, and of the social relations between publishers, mapmakers, scholars, magistrates, and their wives (Claesz and Linschoten's wives are briefly mentioned as significant players). I wanted explanation about how and why these maps covered company walls (disclaimer: I have published my own interpretations of Cornelis Claesz's and Claes Jansz. Visscher's maps; neither publication is included in Schilder's bibliography).

It is difficult to review an almost-700-page book in 700 words. Although this review is spare, any researcher in Dutch cartography will be grateful to Schilder for the copious information he has compiled.

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*Dutch and Flemish Newspapers of the Seventeenth Century, 1618–1700.*

Arthur der Weduwen.

2 vols. Library of the Written Word 58; The Handpress World 43. Leiden: Brill, 2017. \$403.

Arthur der Weduwen's *Dutch and Flemish Newspapers of the Seventeenth Century, 1618–1700* is an astonishing achievement. It offers what the great Dutch bibliographer Folke Dahl declared (albeit in the technologically very different world of 1946) to be impossible: a complete bibliography of early Dutch newspapers. Der Weduwen's meticulous research is based on an unprecedentedly broad survey of holdings (from eighty-four libraries and other collections, public and private), and his data is presented in exhaustive detail. It will provide an invaluable reference work for anyone working on the history of newspapers in seventeenth-century Europe, or on the book trade in the early modern Netherlands.

The two volumes make up over 1,500 pages in a large-printed format, with text printed in two columns and bibliographical listings in three. The bibliography consists of forty-three newspapers (defined as a printed miscellaneous news publication with definite periodicity) printed in the Netherlands from 1618 to 1700, plus six news serials with irregular periodicity. Each of the forty-nine entries—which appear in the chronological sequence of the first publication of the newspaper concerned—introduces the newspaper with a brief bio-bibliographical essay looking at personnel, innovations, distinguishing characteristics, etc. This is followed by an illustration of a sample first page (providing a good deal of information about appearance, typography, and organization), and then a list of issues. This list includes now-lost issues the existence of which can be inferred on the basis of surviving copies before and after (allowing for gaps of no more than a year). Each item in the list of issues gives title (where this varies), date of publication (inferred where necessary), Universal Short Title Catalogue number (as

these are not yet public, it seems likely that Der Weduwen, a recent PhD graduate of the University of St Andrews, where the USTC is based, had a hand in generating them), and the location of the copy or copies. Remarkably, each entry for an extant copy includes the geographical sources of the news (or places of correspondence, to which I will return) in the issue indicated in the datelines heading each paragraph of news. There is thus an account of the content of each issue not in terms of subject matter but in terms of the geography of the sources. Each entry also indicates the numbers of public announcements and advertisements. Variant texts and pirate reprints appear as separate entries.

The obvious comparison is with the equivalent bibliography of seventeenth-century English newspapers, Carolyn Nelson and Matthew Seccombe's *British Newspapers and Periodicals, 1641–1700: A Short-Title Catalogue* (1987). The latter contains many more serials and many more issues, but offers less information on each, lacking not only the material in Der Weduwen's introduction and essays, but also the information on content. Nelson and Seccombe also had to disentangle some complex versions of piracy for the Civil War period. Their *STC* primarily offers a means of accessing issues of periodicals in libraries (an essential service, as libraries seldom catalogue their newspapers in a usable fashion), together with the data for quantifying the production of newspapers. Der Weduwen offers this as well, but supplemented, in the Dutch tradition, with a contextual and material approach to bibliography, and with a contemporary approach to relevant data. No other comparisons are appropriate, because other countries do not have equivalently comprehensive bibliographies of their newspaper production for this period.

Der Weduwen's 88-page introduction offers an overview of the development of the press in the Netherlands. Having mastered the detail that constitutes the main part of the work he is able to enrich, extend, and correct existing accounts. For example, he identifies a previously unknown Brussels newspaper from 1621, which shifts our understanding of the geography of news in that early period; his synoptic vision of the newspapers produced in some of the smaller cities, and particularly of the significance of Haarlem from 1645, inflects the traditional emphasis on Amsterdam and Antwerp with a picture of quasi-national and regional papers. This shift is enhanced with a detailed understanding of, and an emphasis on, advertising, which provides not only insight into the economics of newspaper publishing, but also information that can be used to identify the different audiences of various papers. Der Weduwen offers valuable accounts of the development of the newspaper form, courantiers' working practices, the economics of the trade, the role of newspapers in politics, and the nature of the readership. It's a rich introduction to the subject, essential reading for any scholar of early modern newspapers.

In addition, there are seven appendixes that digest some of the information in the daunting itemization of titles and issues. One appendix offers a chronologically organized register of the Dutch and Flemish newspapers, distinguishing between the Dutch Re-

public and the Southern Netherlands. A second tabulates, year by year, the days on which newspapers were published (again separating the Dutch Republic and the Southern Netherlands), while also indicating the number of towns where they were published. The third lists the titles of periodicals available annually (without separating north and south). The fourth is an index, together with outline information, of all the known printers, publishers, and sellers of newspapers, which importantly gives an account of the number and significance of widows involved in the trade. The sixth provides translations of the complete text of four sample newspapers from 1623, 1633, 1670, and 1692, to give a very general impression of the style and content of Dutch and Flemish newspapers from this period. The seventh appendix is a short essay on and list of fourteen satirical newspapers that appeared between 1661 and 1691.

The fifth appendix, "Places of Correspondence in Seventeenth-Century Dutch and Flemish Newspapers," is the most interesting. It digests the information concerning the content of newspapers in the bibliography, as mentioned above. These are not the places that the news was about, but the places where the news was reported from. There is inevitably a problem with survival here. Most newspapers survive in a single copy, and many do not survive but can only be inferred in the gaps between surviving copies. This means that the overall data is significantly skewed toward the later period when there are long runs of extant copies of papers (and in some cases those newspapers were more frequent). Nonetheless, *Der Weduwen* offers numerous tables indicating the frequency with which regions and cities appear in Dutch and Flemish newspapers for the period as a whole, together with scatter maps indicating the most frequent sources by geopolitical area. This gives a sense of geographical consciousness. It also provides a basis for comparing this geography with that of the *Fuggerzeitungen*, the manuscript newsletters collected by the Fuggers family between 1568 and 1605, mapped in even more impressive (and time-sensitive) detail on the superb website <http://fuggerzeitungen.univie.ac.at/>. It will also offer future comparison with similar work presently being undertaken in and for London. *Der Weduwen*'s analysis indicates an emphasis on northern Europe in the newspapers, contrasting with the *Fuggerzeitungen*. The analysis and especially the raw data provides very useful information for future reconstructions of pan-European news networks. It also demonstrates just how profoundly networked—in the technical sense—news distribution was at this time.

These two volumes are immensely welcome, both as an intervention in scholarship on news in early modern Europe, and as a contribution to bibliography that will be invaluable for decades to come.

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