

Matthias de Vries Genootschap



In 1851, Matthias de Vries presented his Plan for a Dutch dictionary. This was the beginning of a project that was to last 147 years. De Vries belonged to the first team of editors of the *Woordenboek der Nederlandsche taal* (WNT), the first instalment of which appeared in 1864. The first volume saw the light of day in 1882. In 1998 the publication of the final volume was celebrated. Nine years later, in 2007, the largest dictionary in the world went online, on <http://gtb.inl.nl/>. None of this would have been possible without the efforts and perseverance of Matthias de Vries. The society of lexicographers that was established in the Dutch-speaking area in the late twentieth century could therefore only be named after this founding father of Dutch lexicography: the Matthias de Vries Genootschap (MdV, Matthias de Vries Society). The society began to publish a journal called *Trefwoord* [keyword, entry word], which is now an e-magazine available at <http://www.fryske-akademy.nl/trefwoord/>. The e-magazine is open to new articles, but it also contains all articles previously published in the paper journal. On top of that, it re-publishes

Instituut voor Nederlandse Lexicologie [Institute of Dutch Lexicology]. During one and a half centuries, five generations of editors worked on the dictionary, which contains more than 300 000 entries to be found in sources dating from 1500 until 1976. In 2001, the last three volumes appeared and the dictionary was completed. In the meantime, the dictionary had been made available on CD-ROM and since 2007 it can also be found on the internet (<http://wnt.inl.nl>). The internet version has certain advantages over its predecessors. It contains for instance keywords in modern spelling and links to sources, pictures and etymological and dialectal information.

WARTEL (IV), znw., gesl. onduidelijk en mv. niet aangetroffen. Herkomst duister. Veroud. — Lendendoek. || Voor kleine misgrepen zet men hun (*t.w. de schepelingen*) een wartel om het lijf, en laetze zoo tot spot van anderen, het schip schoon vegen, WITSEN, *Scheepsb.* 392 a [1671]. *Zy* (*t.w. de bewoners van het dorp Savacca*) zyn van aart even eens, als de Manadosche berg-boeren, gaande de mans mede naakt, maar met een wartel om den middel, VALENTIJN, *O.-I.* 1, 2, 77 a [1724]. De Ternataanen, die als de Wilden nog maar met een Tsjidako, dat is, een Gordel, of Wartel van oude lappen, om 't lyf liepen, I, 2, 140 b [1724].

M. De Vries (e.a.): *Woordenboek der Nederlandsche Taal* (1864-2001)
Instituut voor Nederlandse Lexicologie, Leiden

The *Woordenboek der Nederlandsche Taal* was succeeded by the *Algemeen Nederlands Woordenboek* [ANW; Dictionary of Contemporary Dutch], also a project of the Instituut voor Nederlandse Lexicologie. In this online dictionary (<http://anw.inl.nl>), which is still under preparation, the vocabulary of contemporary Dutch from 1970 onwards is described. The lexicographical work is no longer done

alphabetically, but thematically. In 2009, the first entries were published online and since then new entries are added regularly, providing the users access to the most recent lexicographical information. At the moment, many words concerning occupations, animals, drinks, vessels and diseases can be found in the dictionary, alongside many neologisms.

The information in the entries of the ANW takes into account the new search possibilities computers offer. With the help of definitions and so-called semagrams, it is not only possible to find meanings to words but also to find words on the basis of their characteristics. A user who is, for instance, looking for words that indicate a crossing for wildlife, does not only find the entry *wildviaduct* but also a lot of synonyms such as *cerviduct*, *dierenpassage*, *ecoduct*, *ecoviaduct*, *natuurbrug* and *wildwissel*.

Summary

In the course of time, Dutch lexicography has developed into a mature branch of science, sometimes following then anticipating trends in other countries. Out of the earliest glosses and glossaries, vocabularies and dictionaries arose which offered more information than the meaning of a single word only. From the Renaissance onwards, etymological information was added and derivations and compounds based on the keyword were included and explained. The focus shifted from Latin to Dutch entries and information on parts of speech and inflections were added.

Kiliaan brought about a great leap forward by systematically comparing Dutch words with their equivalents in other languages. He gave the dictionary a scientific status through the critical

The screenshot shows the ANW website interface. The main heading is 'lexicologie'. Below it, the entry is defined as 'wetenschap die de woordschat bestudeert'. The 'Uitspraak' section indicates 'Aantal lettergrepen: 5' and 'Plaats hoofdklemtoon: 5de lettergreep'. The 'Semagram' section lists characteristics: 'is een wetenschap', 'wordt beoefend om bv. een woordenboek te kunnen maken', 'wordt meestal door taalkundigen beoefend', and 'betreft de woordschat'. The 'Combinatiemogelijkheden met adjectief ervoor' section lists 'cognitieve lexicologie; historische lexicologie; Nederlandse lexicologie'. The 'Historische lexicologie' section provides a detailed description of the field. On the right, a sidebar contains metadata: 'Woordsoort: type: substantief', 'Naamtype: soortnaam', 'Geslacht: vrouwelijk', 'Lidwoords de: Geet: geen meevoud', 'Betekenisclassen: abstractum', 'Spelling en flexie: Enkelvoud: lexicologie (lexi.co.3o.ge)', 'Woordrelaties: Hyperoniemen: wetenschap', 'Woordvorming: Type: samenstelling', 'Linkwoord: lecco-', 'Rechtslid: -logie', 'Samenstellingtype: confix + confix', 'Verbindingsklank: geen', and 'Zoekwoord in Etimologisch woordenboek'. The bottom of the page shows navigation links for 'Reageren', 'Afdrukken', and 'Opslaan als: HTML, XML, English versie (beta)'. The date '17.4.2013' is visible in the bottom right corner.

Algemeen Nederlands Woordenboek (2009 -)
Instituut voor Nederlandse Lexicologie, Leiden

and deliberate use of lots of new source material. In the 17th and 18th centuries, renewals of the description of all meanings of a word, the bright and clear separation of these meanings and the addition of example sentences and quotes contributed to the evolution of the dictionary. In the course of the 19th century, the demands of a scientific historical dictionary of Dutch were formed on the basis of all these elements, which resulted in the *Woordenboek der Nederlandsche Taal*. For the *Algemeen Nederlands Woordenboek*, these demands have been modified and adapted to the requirements of modern times and contemporary users where good use is made of the new possibilities of the digital age.

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articles on lexicography in the Netherlands that have been published elsewhere. Thus *Trefwoord* is developing into a repository of lexicographical articles.

Every year the MdV organizes a meeting at the premises of the Institute of Dutch Lexicology (INL, Instituut voor Nederlandse Lexicologie) in Leiden, where members can meet and enjoy two papers on lexicography in its widest sense. Shortly before last year's meeting Macmillan decided to stop publishing printed dictionaries. Ilan Kernerman, already invited to read a paper at the 2012 meeting, has been interested in electronic dictionaries for a long time and his paper happened to discuss these trends and show how his company, K Dictionaries, copes with them. Since Ilan's paper perfectly fitted into the Macmillan discussion, the organizers of the MdV meeting, Tanneke Schoonheim and Anne Dykstra, invited two Dutch dictionary publishers, namely Sander Bekkers (Uitgeverij Prisma) and Ton den Boon (Van Dale), to present their viewpoints on the matter and to take part in a forum discussion on the printed/online controversy. The forum led to an animated and focused debate with conflicting viewpoints. We are happy that Sander Bekkers submitted his paper for publication in KDN, along with the contribution by Jaap Parqui of Van Dale. I hope that it will give you an idea of what was being discussed at the MdV meeting last November 28.

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