

TROUBLED TEAM OWNERS-PAINTINGS IN FOUNDATION UNITED

Gossip and fake around Altink

by Joost de Haas and CHARLES SANDERS

GRONINGEN, Saturday

Million scandal Altink fake paintings will become more intense. After the publication of last Saturday and Wednesday in this newspaper works in Amsterdam and Beilense policemen closely in the hunt for the counterfeiters and distributors. Chief Sergeant J. Broekhuizen of the National Police secured in the Drenthe Beilen since Wednesday on Corrie and Corrie couple of L. The two Beilen resident amateur artists - the man is a former art teacher - are suspected to have flooded the country with at least 150 false cloths Groninger Ploeg Altink painter (1885-1971). The couple runs a guest house in the neighborhood Holte, near Beilen, where they absorb ex-psychiatric patients. According to auctioneers and art dealers, there is no doubt that Van L's that have circulated the false Altink. Sergeant Broekhuizen: "Following the publication of the fake paintings, was the phone ringing us from duped art buyers. We have not had time to interrogate the Van L's, because this week our new police station - the pride of the National Police in Drenthe - . Opened "Meanwhile in Groningen a foundation established where hundreds of Dutch nationals in possession of a whether or not authentic Altink can turn to their cloth examined for authenticity. One of the founders, Chris Ongering, is one of the last "old" collectors of work der Ploeg painters. Long before these canvases earlier this year immensely in popularity and price soared,

rounded

Groningen art collector: "Our foundation has now completed the first investigation. We received yesterday Sotheby expert Rob Candy visit. He had two Altink that were shown last Saturday in this newspaper - and thus were withdrawn at the last minute of an auction - with him. Mr Snape was white as a sheet and was frantically calling his office, when I told him after just eight minutes could tell that the two works were false and that anyone with a little knowledge of matters which should have seen ... "

The foundation has been approached by dozens of worried Altink owners. In the coming weeks the towels will be examined for authenticity.

In the Groningen art world the establishment of the foundation led to gossip and slander. So says Cees Hofsteenge, a leading art dealer in the north of the country: "I am still one of the leading experts in the field Plow-painters, but I have not been approached. In the foundation does have a lawyer sitting, a man with a very bad reputation. He has an art known for its many forgeries. "

(Photo)

- After eight minutes had already established that the paintings were fake.

(Photo)

- One stated meanwhile false Altink.

Photo: Jan Steps Called