

**Part A, catalogue pages 2-18, version 30 March 2009**

The first instalment of this English summary and vocabulary was published on the internet in April 2009. Gradually these texts will be added to and when necessary rectified.



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A fully bilingual eighth edition of Geuzendam's Postal Stationery Catalogue would have been ideal. This was however not practicable, mainly because of the costs and bulk of a volume of at least 500 pages.

In this English summary and vocabulary we only give the information that is essential for general collectors. The vastly increased number of illustrations will be of great help. The introductions to some sections and a number of notes with historical and background information have either been condensed or omitted. It is perhaps not unreasonable to assume that advanced collectors will be sufficiently proficient in the Dutch language that they can read the full text without too much difficulty.

If this summary and vocabulary should in any way be incomplete or unclear, the editors would welcome users' comments.

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**THROUGHOUT THIS ENGLISH TEXT THE WORD 'CARD' HAS BEEN USED BOTH AS A SHORT TERM FOR POSTCARD, CHANGE OF ADDRESS CARD ETC. AND TO INDICATE THE MATERIAL OF WHICH POSTCARDS AND OLDER LETTER CARDS ARE MADE.**

## **INHOUD/CONTENTS**

Verantwoording	lit. 'Justification'
Inleiding	Introduction
Enveloppen	Envelopes
Postbladen	Letter cards and letter sheets
Luchtpostbladen	Air mail letter sheets
Briefkaarten	Postcards
V-kaarten	V-postcards
Briefkaarten met perfin	Postcards with perfin
Verhuiskaarten	Change of address cards
Wijziging postadres	Change of address card from P.O. Box to home address
Kennisgeving telefoonnummer	Notification of telephone number
Telecomkaarten	Change of telephone number cards
Arbeidslijsten	Working hour forms
Postbewijzen	Postal order forms
Postwisselformulieren	Money order forms
Postcheque- en girodienst	Paying-in forms for the Post Office giro service
Busrechtformulieren	P.O. Box fee-forms
Aangetekend binnenland	Inland registered mail envelopes
Aangetekend met waardeangifte binnenland	Inland insured value seal bags
Expresse-enveloppen buitenland	International express mail envelopes

Expresse-enveloppen binnenland	Inland prepaid express mail envelopes
Expressezegels binnenland	Inland prepaid express mail labels
Cassettepost	Cassettepost
PTT Post Kadoservice	Gift service
Roode Kruis Pakket-etiket	Red Cross parcel label
Europakketzegels	Labels European parcel post
Pakketzegels	Labels inland parcel post
Particuliere en beperkt verkrijgbare postwaardestukken	Printed to order postal stationery and postal stationery that was not generally available
Spoorwegbriefkaarten	Railway postcards
Banderolles en verpakkingen	Postal stationery bands and packs
<b>Special sections overseas territories:</b>	
Telegramontvangbewijzen	Telegram receipt forms
Veldpost	Fieldpost
Japane bezetting	Japanese occupation of the Netherlands East Indies
Voorlopige Republiek Indonesië 1945-1949	Interim Republic of Indonesia
Internationale Antwoordcoupons	International Reply Coupons
Regelgeving Nederland negentiende eeuw	Postal regulations in the Netherlands in the 19th century concerning postal stationery
Achtergronden en Bijzonderheden	Background and particulars
Tarieven	Postal rates
Afkortingen en verwijzingen	Abbreviations and references
Conversietabel oude nummers – nieuwe nummers	Conversion table old numbers – new numbers



## VERANTWOORDING/JUSTIFICATION

- #The editors were faced with a choice: either a somewhat extended version of the seventh edition, a glorified price-list, which could be prepared in a relatively short time, or a step towards a truly specialized catalogue, which would take years of preparation. It is clear that we chose for the second option.
- #The wish to supply much background information led to the creation of the chapters 'Background and particulars' (of which the texts however are not fully translated or summarized). In this way the main text would not be swamped with information that was not absolutely necessary for identifying items of postal stationery. The user is referred to these chapters by signs with two asterisks, e.g. \*pbl G3-G7\*.
- #The aim of the editors was to base this catalogue as much as possible on chronology. This has caused sometimes major changes in the numbering.
- #Quite a few new chapters have been added and several old chapters have been revised.
- #After some hesitation the editors decided to include some subjects that strictly speaking are not 'postal stationery' (FIP definition!). These groups are felt by many collectors to be 'related', and, as in the case of the 'labels for the inland parcel post', might even not be catalogued at all if they were not included in this catalogue.
- #Some chapters do not give full listings as sufficient information is not (yet) available.
- #For the same reason in some chapters only price ranges are given.

## INLEIDING/INTRODUCTION

In the Introduction a number of aspects and considerations concerning postal stationery are treated. The sections will be commented on summarily. The subjects are treated in the same order as in the Dutch introduction.

**#Definition Postal Stationery:** See FIP-regulations.

**#Addenda & corrigenda:** To be found on this internet site.

**#Sizes:** Lettercodes of previous editions have been replaced by millimeter-indications, with the exception of 'Labels inland parcel post'. Older items may show more variation than indicated. Letter sheet and Air mail letter sheet sizes are for unfolded items, not including the gummed folding flaps of modern Letter sheets and Air mail letter sheets. In 295x150||3 the number 3 indicates the number of folding flaps.

**#Anomalies:** The number of variations (miscuts, shifted printing, double printing, missing colour, one side of reply card without printing, all manners of anomalies in overprints) is far greater than indicated.

- #Preservation:** A useful internet site is <http://www.stamps.org/care/pcpm.htm>
- #Reply paid postcards:** Normally a reply card should have been used after it had been separated from the outward card. It should be mentioned that in international postal relations double use – the used outward card still attached to the reply card – was officially forbidden after 1907. On the return journey such 'doubly used' cards should have been franked at letter rate. It is as yet unclear if the same regulation existed for inland double cards. There are many doubly used inland cards of which the return card is not franked at letter rate.
- #Additional franking:** See also Prices. Sometimes a postcard etc. for a new rate was not yet available when a new rate was introduced, sometimes post offices were instructed to sell old stock with an additional stamp before breaking into the stock of new items. Sometimes additional franking adds to the interest of stationery: Registered mail, Express service, Airmail etc. From 1936 onwards postcards are found with apparent additional franking: no special handling was required and the value of the additional stamps far exceeds a normal rate increase. The value of the additional stamps on such postcards, often bearing a solution to a puzzle, was for charity.
- #Printing process:** A printing process is only mentioned and illustrated when confusion is possible between similar items which were however differently produced.
- #Envelopes, envelope models, inside printing:** These are schematically illustrated on the inside of the back cover.
- #Phosphor bands:** The position of the phosphor band is indicated as follows: FL to the left of the stamp, FM on the stamp, FR to the right of the stamp. With the exception of postcard G389 all phosphor marks are vertical bands. Variation in the sizes of phosphor bands is in a number of cases reflected by subnumbers but it seems that in the printing process the phosphor band was sometimes applied with less care than the stamp imprint etc., causing uneven or run out bands. Further research may lead to the conclusion that some phosphor bands, especially for the change of address cards, which are at present considered to be characteristic, are in fact no more than unintentional variations.
- #Photo postcards:** The horizontal photo cards in the series G240 and G284 exist with the photo oriented as the address side (rechtstaand) or inverted (kopstaand). To differentiate between these versions: view address side of postcard in normal position, that is the texts are legible. Then rotate the postcard on its short, vertical axis. If the photo is in the upright position it is 'rechtstaand'; if the photo is inverted it is 'kopstaand'.
- #Used/genuinely used:** See Prices.
- #Colours:** As long as there is no practical international standard for colour-names, we have to muddle along with approximations. Moreover, even for stationery items that were printed in one run, there may be differences in colour, both of paper or card and stamp imprint. Then, also age and conditions under which the items were preserved may have influenced the colours: temperature, humidity, light, oxydization.
- #Quality:** It is unreasonable to demand the same quality for 19th century issues and recent issues, especially for issues of the overseas territories. Broadly speaking, very slight defects in postcards before 1900 and envelopes and letter cards before 1914 may be acceptable, especially for used items. Items that are torn, discoloured or from which additional stamps have been removed, are usually unacceptable. Non-postal annotations in ink, aniline pencil etc. reduce the value, sometimes dramatically. Owners' stamps and labels, frequently found in older collections, at the very least detract from the visual quality. If one insists on putting a catalogue number on an item, this should be done on the back with a very soft pencil.
- #Mail - Seapost:** These terms are important in the context of the postal rates, especially in the 19th century.  
Mail (sometimes called Indirect Mail): letters etc. were shipped through intermediate ports such as Southampton, Liverpool, New York, Naples, Marseille, St. Nazaire, Brindisi.  
Seapost (sometimes called Direct Mail): letters etc. were shipped straight between the overseas territories and the Netherlands. The word 'direct' does not imply quicker transport, it only implies that no other Postal Organisations were involved.
- #New numbers:** Many items were assigned new numbers, esp. in the chapter Postcards of the Netherlands. Old numbers (of the seventh edition) are given between square brackets.  
For composition variants the suffix z has been introduced.  
The so-called 'V-kaarten' have all been assigned new numbers. They are dealt with in a separate chapter.  
The numbers of 'Printed to order Postal Stationery and Postal Stationery that was not generally available' are preceded by P when they are based on a regular postal stationery item, by PP + the last two digits of the year of issue + a serial number when no regular item with the same stamp design was issued.  
The numbers of the railway postcards are preceded by an S. They are preceded by PS when they also fall into the category 'Printed to order'.
- #Numbering system:** The editors advise the use of hyphens in composite numbers.
- #Designers:** Names of designers of stamps and lay-out are given whenever possible.
- #Quantities printed:** The Dutch word 'oplage' suggests a number of items printed in one run, all showing the same characteristics. This need not be true, however: for envelopes especially as now and then basic envelopes were used that were similar in size and paper colour but differed in inside printing. In the catalogue the word 'oplage' is however used for the total number printed. In most cases the source for this number are the 'geschiedeniskaarten' (lit. 'history charts'), the administration kept bij PTT from 1924 to 1988. Data from the preceding period were later incorporated in the 'geschiedeniskaarten'.

The 'geschiedeniskaarten' give the number ordered and the number delivered by the printer's, not necessarily exactly the same. Numbers returned and/or destroyed are not given, nor are the numbers that were sold through the Philatelic Service. This is especially important for the Overseas Territories because the rarity of some used items of the 1920s and 1930s can thus be explained: quite a few were sold in the Netherlands through the Service and these usually remained in the Netherlands and were never used.

**#Overprinted postcards 1916-1921:** See chapter on V-postcards

**#Paper and Card:**

Colour: The most frequently found colours are white and buff, the latter in many shades.

Thickness: Formerly many variations in thickness were given that could not be found when a paper gauge was used. These differences had been established by feeling the material with the fingers: stiff card was judged to be thicker than limp card. In this catalogue differences are only given when established with a paper gauge. In most cases we have not been able to relate differences in thickness to certain printings.

Several older postcard issues exist on smooth and on ribbed card. Usually ribbed card is slightly thicker than smooth card.

Differences in paper and card caused by the addition of optical whitener or the presence of coloured fibres can be detected with UV-light.

**#Printed to order Postal stationery and Postal Stationery that was not generally available:** Some items that in previous editions figured among the regular issues have been relegated to this chapter.

**#Privately added print:** In recent years the fad has grown to assign a (sometimes considerably) greater value to items with privately added print such as sender's address, printed reminder for outstanding debts, order form text etc. In the editors' opinion there are no grounds at all for such an increase.

However, a distinction should be made between on the one hand postcards etc. with privately added texts which were exclusively used by the persons or firms who had them printed or their customers, and on the other hand the 'particulier bedrukte postwaardestukken' as described in the 1981 Geuzendam catalogue.

In this catalogue A.W. ten Geuzendam mentions three groups of postal stationery with privately added print that deserve philatelic recognition:

1. Items with added illustrations and/or texts involving tourism or concerning manifestations of limited duration such as exhibitions, the investiture of Queen Wilhelmina.
2. Items with added illustrations and/or texts concerning philatelic manifestations.
3. Items with added illustrations and/or texts connected with publicity (often sold at a lower price than face value) or with charity (often sold at a higher price than face value).

The decisive factor is that the items in these three categories could be bought and used by the general public.

None of these three groups is dealt with in this catalogue.

Then there is the group of Railway postcards, sometimes incorrectly referred to as 'semi-official'. Out of the several hundred of these cards only 23 are genuinely 'printed to order', on all the other cards the text was privately added.

All the railway postcards however are dealt with on the pages 188-196.

**#Prices:** See also 'Additional franking', 'privately added print', 'postmarks, commemorative postmarks and special flights'.

Prices are in euros with one digit after the comma. Dutch uses commas where English uses decimal points.

The left-hand column is for mint items, the right hand column for used items. A few sections have three columns, for explanation see introductions to those sections.

Mentioning a price in a catalogue suggests that an item can be bought at that price. This need not be true, certainly not for rare and very rare items. The catalogue price is then an indication of the level of the price one may have to pay.

Prices 'used' are for genuinely used, non-philatelic items without additional franking and used in accordance with the postal rates. This does not mean that items with additional franking are without value and not worth collecting. In many cases the contrary is true, but each case will have to be judged on its own merits.

Some prices are in italics. This indicates that extremely limited information has led to estimates being given.

Whenever we have not been able to establish a price, the sign --,- is used. The reason may be the absence of market data or, especially for certain modern items, absence of supply and demand.

When an item cannot exist or is not known to exist mint or used, the relative column is left blank.

For some categories there are no individual prices at all or only a price range is indicated, e.g. 'tussen € 40 and € 80', again due to lack of information.

The used halves of *reply paid cards* are priced: the V-kaart is the Outward half, the A-kaart is the Reply half. Usually *reply paid cards* of which both parts have been used and are still attached, command a higher price. It is up to the individual collector to decide whether such unnatural items are worth collecting. See also paragraph on Reply Paid Postcards.

For *letter cards* there are three columns, the first column for mint items, the second column for used items complete with edges, the third column for used items without edges. It should be noted that used items with edges are in many cases of philatelic origin. It is up to the individual collector to decide whether such unnatural items are worth collecting. In a few instances the type of a used item without edges cannot be ascertained.

For *Working Hour Forms* there are also three columns, the first for the complete mint form including the postcard, the second for the mint postcard, the third for the used postcard.

Especially for the former colonies it is important to distinguish between 'used' and 'genuinely used', that is of non-philatelic origin. Some items of the 1920s and 1930s are almost exclusively known sent by / to philatelists. We should nevertheless recognize that we are indebted to the collectors of that period for the envelopes and postcards they sent, thus contributing to our knowledge. The prices are for 'genuinely used'.

**#Screen:** In recent years the aspect 'screen' of the printing process of stamps and postal stationery has been extensively dealt with in the Dutch monthly 'Filatelie'. So far there is only one instance in postal stationery where 'screen' is of importance for recognizing the variety, the sender's lines of postcards G387 (screen // // // // //) and G388 (screen xxxxxx).

**#Route markings:** These are summarily dealt with in the chapters 'Background and particulars' of NEI, Curaçao and Surinam.

**#Dividing line:** Until 1904 postcards had no dividing line. From 1904 till 1908 they had, with the exception of the experimental issue G73, a short dividing line. From late 1908 till early 1921 nearly all postcards were produced in two versions, short dividing and long dividing line. From then on only postcards with long dividing line were issued.

**#Postmarks, commemorative postmarks and special flights:** Already before WW II, but especially in the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s many postcards, change of address cards and air mail letter sheets were used by collectors to acquire such postmarks. Postal stationery was then not used for the purpose for which it had been issued: there was no correspondence and in the case of the change of address cards, no change of address. Quite regularly items were used that were difficult to obtain as normally used stationery, e.g. change of address cards G14 and G20, postcards G294, G301, G314. In the 1920s and 1930s many NEI change of address cards were similarly used.

As a rule the value of such items does not exceed the value of the postmark.

**#Rates (pages 326-347):** As envelopes were quite often used for the second weight step, the rate for that weight step is indicated between square brackets whenever the rate was not simply doubled.

Possibly not all information about the postal rates of Curaçao and Surinam has come to light.

**#Dates of issue:** There is much uncertainty about dates of issue. Even when a first day of sale had been determined postal stationery was sometimes sold earlier. The dates in this catalogue are as much as possible based on official documents. From the 1960s for a number of years attentive collectors, dealers and the Philatelic Service produced first day postcards etc. Sometimes the dates do not concur, and the Philatelic Service has sometimes sold items with 'first day postmarks' which in our view are not in accord with the first date of availability at post offices.

The records of the Issuing Office give information on the dates when items were ordered and on the dates when they were delivered by the printer's. In theory this last date or the day after could be the first day of sale, but actually this is rarely, or perhaps never, the case. Many items were only put on sale months after they had been delivered by the printer's to the Issuing Office because the old stock or the old model had to be sold off first. Quite often however postal stationery for a new postal rate was on sale days or weeks before the introduction of the new rate.

The term vbd (vroegst bekende datum) has been introduced, in English Earliest Date Recorded Date (EDR). It should be noted that sometimes the EDR precedes the official first day.

A question mark (?) with a date, indicates that we had to fall back on a traditional unverified date.

An x in a date, especially instead of the month, indicates that that particular part of a date stamp was illegible.

It is even more difficult to find information about the dates of issue of the postal stationery of the Overseas Territories.

Before WW II the philatelic press in the Netherlands often announced new issues for those territories that had been bought through the Philatelic Service in the Netherlands. Quite often those items were not yet on sale overseas, sometimes, it seems, they had not even reached their overseas destination at that moment, a voyage that took at least three weeks. Moreover many issues were not put on sale immediately, old stocks had to be sold off first. Reply paid postcards sold slowly and sometimes new issues did not reach the post offices at all or very late in very limited numbers. We know that a number of earliest dates find their origin in postcards or envelopes that were bought in the Netherlands and sent to overseas philatelic contacts with the request to post them.

**#Cutouts:**

a. In the Netherlands, as in most European countries, Postal Stationery is collected as entires.

b. In the Netherlands there has not always been a clear policy concerning the acceptance of cut outs to frank other postal objects. In the 19th century such use was prohibited. Nevertheless examples of such use are found that have not been taxed. From late 1972 till the present day such use is permitted. It is unclear whether at any time in the first half of the 20th century the use of cut outs was permitted. In any case examples of such use are fairly frequently found, in many cases discovered and treated as unfranked.

**#Bands and Packs:** There are hardly any archival data concerning packaging. Usually postal stationery was supplied by the printer's in packets of 10, 25 or sometimes 100, held together by a paper band. Few of these bands have survived as they were of no importance at the time to the post office, customers and collectors. Some examples are shown on pages 197 and 198. In the period 1914-1919 a number of postcards were sold in strips of 10, separated by a perforation. These cards, especially meant for use in typewriters, of course drew the attention of collectors and a somewhat larger percentage of bands was preserved (see ill. on pages 197 and 299).

The small-sized envelopes of the 1940s were supplied in boxes of 100, most of which did not reach the public. It is quite likely that other envelopes and letter cards were also supplied in boxes.

Later packages of 100 postcards and change of address cards were introduced with a thin coloured sheet of paper after every tenth card. From 1995 onwards they were also sold in packs of 5 or 10, at first held together by transparent shrink wrapping, and with a stick-on label describing the contents (see left-hand column on page 199), later in cardboard packages, still later with a cardboard stiffener in clear shrink wrapping. Parcelstamps were sold singly and in stampbook form (page 201, left-hand column). From January 2001 postal stationery was exclusively sold in packages of 5 or 10.

**#Fakes and Expertise:** For some items, especially 19th century overprints from the Overseas Territories, experts' certificates are necessary.

**#Coats of Arms:** The types of coats of arms on letter cards and postcards that are necessary for identification are illustrated on the inside back cover.

**#Seapost:** See Mail - Seapost

**#zeerecht:** sea charge From 1 April 1879 member countries of the UPU could adopt a higher rate for overseas letters and postcards transported over a distance of more than 300 nautical miles. The Netherlands abolished the sea charge as of 1 July 1892. A number of overseas destinations were exempt even though the overseas mail route was longer than 300 nautical miles. See list at bottom of page 17 and top of page 18.

**#Composition variants:** Variants which are assumed to have occurred in the same sheet are indicated by the letter z: z-1, z-2 etc.

**#ZWI:** = NVI - Non Value Indicator