

# POSTAL REGULATIONS, 1923. <sup>(1)</sup>

## Statutory Rules.

### Short Title.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the *Postal Regulations, 1923.* <sup>(1)</sup>

### Repeal.

2. The undermentioned Regulations are repealed namely:—

- (a) The whole of the Regulations made under *The Post and Telegraph Act, 1891* (Queensland Adopted) on the 2nd day of July, 1892, and published in the *Gazette* on the 9th July, 1892.
- (b) Paragraphs 1 to 6 inclusive of the Regulations made under the *Post and Telegraph Act, 1901* (Commonwealth adopted) on the 19th day of September, 1911, and published in the *Gazette* on 4th October, 1911.
- (c) The whole of the Regulation made under the *Post and Telegraph Ordinance, 1912*, on the 27th December, 1915, and gazetted on the 5th January, 1916.

### FIRST CLASS MAIL MATTER.

3. First Class Mail Matter consists of Letters, Letter Cards, and Post Cards.

(1) The *Postal Regulations, 1923* (made under the *Post and Telegraph Ordinance, 1912-1941*), comprise the original *Postal Regulations, 1923*, as amended by the other Regulations referred to in the following Table:—

#### REGULATIONS MADE BY THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

Description and number and year.	Date on which made by Lieut.-Gov. in Council.	Date on which published in Papua Govt. Gaz.	Date on which took effect.
<i>Postal Regulations, 1923</i> (S.R. 1923, No. 22)	27.12.1923	31.12.1923	31.12.1923 (Papua Govt. Gaz. of 31.12.1923)
<i>Amending Regulations</i> (S.R. 1924, No. 2)	8.1.1924	6.2.1924	6.2.1924 (Papua Govt. Gaz. of 6.2.1924)
<i>Amending Regulations</i> (S.R. 1927, No. 6)	7.3.1927	6.4.1927	6.4.1927 (Papua Govt. Gaz. of 6.4.1927)

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4. Any article of other classification which contains anything of the nature of actual or personal correspondence or is closed against inspection (excepting those articles which under the conditions governing the transmission of Second Class Mail Matter may be closed against inspection) shall be accepted for transmission only at the rate of postage prescribed for letters.

### *Letters.*

5.—(1.) Any article which is eligible for transmission through the post and posted in the Territory for delivery within the Territory may be accepted for transmission as a letter provided that it be not of inconvenient form or dimensions and does not contain any article likely to injure any person or the contents of the mail.

(2.) A letter posted in the Territory for delivery beyond the Territory must not exceed  $4\frac{1}{2}$  lb. in weight nor measure more than 18 inches in any direction, or, if in the form of a roll, 2 feet 6 inches in length and 4 inches in diameter.

6. The provisions relating to packing made in the conditions governing the transmission of Second and Fourth Class Mail Matter shall apply to articles of those classes when sent as letters:

Provided that an article on which letter rate of postage is paid may be closed against inspection.

### *Letter Cards.*

7. A letter card or a reply letter card provided by a private individual and bearing an impressed or adhesive stamp shall be allowed to pass through the post at letter rate of postage.

### *Post Cards.*

8. A post card provided by a private individual shall be accepted for transmission provided it does not exceed  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches in breadth, and is not less than 4 inches in length and  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches in breadth. It must be made of cardboard or paper of such thickness as not to hinder manipulation. It is not compulsory for the words "Post Card" to appear on a private post card.

9. A post card may only be sent at post card rate if posted unenclosed, that is to say, without wrapper or envelope.

10. Postage-stamps must be affixed in the right top corner of the front side of a post card. The name and address of the addressee and service indications (Registered, Acknowledgment of Receipt, or as the case may be) must also appear on the front, of which the right

half at least is reserved exclusively for that purpose. The sender may use the back and the left half of the front for correspondence.

11.—(1.) In addition to the stamps for prepayment of postage, illustrations, photographs, stamps of any kind, address labels or slips, to fold back for address purposes, labels and cuttings of any kind may be attached to a post card, provided that those articles—

- (a) are not of such a nature as to alter the character of the post card;
- (b) consist of paper or other very thin substance; and
- (c) adhere completely to the card.

(2.) With the exception of address labels or slips, the articles mentioned in the last preceding sub-regulation may only be affixed to the back or to the left half of the address side of a post card.

(3.) Samples of merchandise or similar articles shall not be joined or affixed to a post card.

(4.) Cards of the varieties known as “tinselled” and “beaded,” and cards with “pearling” decorations, shall not be allowed to pass through the post unless enclosed in envelopes.

12. The sender of a reply post card may indicate his name and address on the face of the “Reply” half, either in writing or by attaching a label as provided in Regulation 11 (1.). A reply post card must not be closed up in any manner whatsoever.

13. A post card not fulfilling the prescribed conditions of transmission shall be treated as a letter.

#### SECOND CLASS MAIL MATTER.

14. Second Class Mail Matter consists of Commercial Papers, Printed Papers, Patterns, Samples and Merchandise, Books and Catalogues.

#### *General Conditions Relating to Second Class Mail Matter.*

15.—(1.) Second Class Mail Matter must not have the character of actual or personal correspondence, and shall not be closed against inspection except in the case of those articles which, under the conditions governing the transmission of Second Class Mail Matter, may be closed against inspection.

(2.) If any writing in the nature of actual or personal correspondence appears on any such mail matter it shall be surcharged as an insufficiently prepaid letter.

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Sub. by S.R.  
1927, No. 6,  
r. 2.

16. The maximum weight of postal articles for transmission at the rates prescribed for commercial papers, printed papers, books or catalogues shall be  $4\frac{1}{2}$  lb. or  $6\frac{1}{2}$  lb. in the case of printed volumes sent singly; and for patterns, samples and merchandise, 1 lb., except in the case of articles containing *bona fide* samples of wine, which may weigh, exclusive of packing, up to 20 oz. No article may exceed 1 foot 6 inches in length, 8 inches in width, 4 inches in depth or, when in the form of a roll, 1 foot 6 inches in length and  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches in diameter, or be of inconvenient form.

17. An article containing enclosures liable to different rates of postage shall be treated as if the whole contents were in the same category, and shall be charged at the highest rate applicable to any portion of its contents.

18. Second Class Mail Matter may be sent through the post either without a cover (when it must not be fastened with anything adhesive in such a way as to prevent the whole of the contents being easily inspected), or in a cover entirely open at one end or side, or with the flap left unsealed, or fastened with a binder, or tied with string, so as to permit of easy withdrawal of the contents, except in the case of articles which under the conditions governing Second Class Mail Matter, may be accepted for transmission when entirely or partially closed against inspection.

19. A postal official may open any article posted as Second Class Mail Matter, and examine the contents, in which case he shall securely refasten the article; but, if possible, the official shall satisfy himself as to the contents without withdrawing them:

Provided that no such examination shall be made in the case of Australian (Commonwealth Government) Notes, War Savings Certificates, or Treasury Bonds sent from or to the Commonwealth Treasury, or from one bank to another, within the Territory or to the Commonwealth, in sealed packets bearing upon the covering wrappers the words "Australian Notes only," "War Savings Certificates only," or "Treasury Bonds only," as the case may be.

20. In any case where a postal official discovers an infringement of the provisions of these Regulations relating to the transmission of Second Class Mail Matter (except as referred to in Regulation 17) he shall, if the irregularity does not appear to have been an attempt to defraud, treat the article as an insufficiently prepaid letter, and surcharge it accordingly. Should there be an evident attempt to defraud, or should the contents be such as are not allowed to pass through the post, he shall forward the article with a report of the circumstance to the Chief Postmaster.

21. Except in the case of articles which, under the conditions governing the transmission of Second Class Mail Matter, may be sent closed or partially closed against inspection, articles which are sealed against inspection, or are fastened in such a way that the whole of the contents may not be easily examined without cutting or tearing the cover or envelope, shall be treated as letters and shall be surcharged double the deficient postage at letter rate, irrespective of the nature of the contents, but if, on receiving an article so surcharged, the addressee opens it in the presence of the Postmaster and it is found to contain only Second Class Mail Matter, the surcharge shall be remitted.

22. Articles containing jewellery or other valuable enclosures, as defined in the provisions of these Regulations governing registration, must be registered.

23. In order to secure the return of Second Class Mail Matter which cannot be delivered, the name and address of the sender must be shown on the wrapper.

*Articles Not Transmissible as Second Class Mail Matter.*

24. The following articles shall not be accepted for transmission as Second Class Mail Matter, viz., cheques, money orders and postal notes (except in bankers' packets), unobliterated adhesive postage-stamps, coin, bank-notes (other than cancelled notes, bank-note forms, and such notes as are specifically allowed to be sent as commercial papers), bullion, gold, and perishable substances, such as game, fish, flesh, fruit, vegetables, and any substance or article likely to injure any person or the contents of the mail-bags; notices or information relating to lotteries, schemes of chance (not including art unions), unlawful games, fraudulent, obscene, indecent or immoral businesses or undertakings, and other matters coming within the provisions of Section 55 of the *Post and Telegraph Ordinance, 1912-1920*,<sup>(2)</sup> and articles not made up in accordance with the conditions governing Second Class Mail Matter, or bearing or containing anything not allowed under those conditions or prohibited by proclamation<sup>(3)</sup>: Nothing in this Regulation shall prevent the transmission as Second Class Mail Matter of art union tickets, or printed prospectuses, and information relating to art unions.

*Commercial Papers.*

25. Articles eligible for transmission at the rate of postage for Commercial Papers consist of papers and documents which have not the character of actual or personal correspondence, wholly or partly printed or wholly or partly prepared by hand or typewriting, except in the case of those articles which under the conditions governing the

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(2) Now the *Post and Telegraph Ordinance, 1912-1941*.

(3) No proclamation has been published in *Papua Govt. Gaz.*

transmission of Commercial Papers must be partly printed or partly prepared by a mechanical process other than typewriting.

26. In respect of Commercial Papers it shall be allowable—

- (a) to indicate on the article and on the wrapper the name, business or occupation, and address of the sender and of the addressee;
- (b) to make alterations, corrections or additions by hand or by a mechanical process, or to insert Christmas and New Year greetings and other formulas of courtesy consisting of not more than five words;
- (c) to strike out or erase certain parts of the text, or to make prominent certain parts of the text, by means of marks or underlining; or
- (d) to colour by hand or by mechanical process fashion plates, maps or other matters.

27. Any writing of the nature of a personal communication, other than the remarks, trade notices, and formulas of courtesy specifically allowed under these Regulations is not permissible, and any article bearing any such writing shall be surcharged as an insufficiently pre-paid letter.

*Printed Papers.*

28. An article to be eligible for transmission at the rate of postage for Printed Papers must not have the character of actual or personal correspondence, and (with the exception of certain articles not printed which are specified in the conditions governing the transmission of Printed Papers) must be wholly printed by recognized printing process of type or stereotype although not necessarily at the one time:

Provided that *bona fide* corrections of printers' errors shall be allowed in any printed matter.

29.—(1.) A circular must not have the nature of actual or personal correspondence. That is to say, it must not be so worded as to convey the impression that it is an individual communication intended for the addressee only, but it may contain a prefix such as "Dear Sir" or "Dear Madam," and may commence with the words such as "I beg to inform you" or "We have pleasure in informing you," and may be concluded with words such as "Yours faithfully" or "Yours fraternally." The word "Circular" in conspicuous characters must appear at the top of the first page.

(2.) Printed circulars and post cards conveying acknowledgments of the receipt of orders or notifications of the despatch of goods in response to individual orders shall not be eligible for transmission at the rate of postage for Printed Papers.

30.—(1.) Circulars which are printed or lithographed in characters resembling those of a typewriter, or are produced by means of any mechanical process from written or typewritten originals, may be transmitted at the rate of postage for Printed Papers provided they bear the word "Circular" in conspicuous characters at the top of the first page, and are handed in at the counter of a post office, tied in bundles of ten, or any multiple thereof up to 100, and properly arranged with the addresses facing upwards, and at least twenty copies precisely identical are posted at the same time. Each cover must be marked by the sender "20 posted," except when quantities are posted, prepaid in cash, under Regulation 61.

(2.) This Regulation shall not apply to circulars or post cards conveying, in identical terms, acknowledgments of the receipt of orders or notifications of the despatch of goods in response to individual orders, even although twenty copies be posted at the one time.

31. Cards bearing the inscription "Post Card" may be transmitted at the rate of postage for Printed Papers, provided they conform with the conditions governing the transmission of Printed Papers.

32. Printed matter, with additions, corrections, or alterations in writing by rubber-stamp, or any mechanical process (other than *bona fide* corrections of printers' errors in printed matter, and the additions and enclosures allowed in the case of proofs of printing), is not eligible for transmission at the rate of postage for Printed Papers, but must be charged at the rate of postage for Commercial Papers:

Provided that if the additions, corrections, or alterations have the nature of actual or personal correspondence, letter rate of postage shall be charged.

33. Printed matter (other than notices of meetings and reports), bearing a facsimile signature, and circular communications, conveying instructions from banks, insurance companies and other trading concerns to officers in branch offices, are not eligible for transmission at the rate of postage for Printed Papers. Those articles shall be transmitted at the rate of postage for Letters.

*Patterns, Samples and Merchandise.*

34. Articles to be eligible for transmission as Patterns, Samples and Merchandise must comply with the conditions governing the transmission of those articles, and must be prepared for posting in the manner stipulated in those conditions.

35. Patterns, Samples and Merchandise may bear the name, business or occupation, and address of the sender, the manufacturer's or trade mark numbers, prices, and indications relative to weight, meas-

urement or dimensions, or to quantity to be disposed of, or such as are necessary to determine the origin and the nature of the goods, also the name and address of the person for whom they are intended. It is permissible also for the sender to enclose a card bearing in manuscript or typewriting, Christmas and New Year greetings, and other formulas of courtesy, consisting of not more than five words.

36. Any person who sends by post bacteriological or pathological specimens, otherwise than in accordance with the conditions governing the transmission of those articles, shall be guilty of an offence against these Regulations and shall be liable, on conviction, to a penalty not exceeding Fifty pounds.

*Books.*

37. A publication which is not in book form nor of the character specified in the conditions governing the transmission of books, or is published for the purpose of advertisement shall not be eligible for transmission as a book.

38. In order to be in book form a publication must consist of printed or printed and illustrated pages, fastened together by stitching or stapling, and bound in covers of paper, cardboard, cloth, leather, or other material.

39. A book may bear complimentary and similar remarks, together with the name and address of the sender and of the person for whom the book is intended, and the date of sending; passages to which it is desired to call attention may be marked with a single stroke. Anything in the nature of actual or personal correspondence will render the article liable to charge as an insufficiently prepaid letter.

40. A dedication, consisting of any single expression of respect, or formula of courtesy, by the author or sender, containing not more than five words, may be written in a book. A card, bearing the printed or written name and address of the sender, may be enclosed in a book.

41. In the case of a library book, the date of each sending may be shown on any portion of the book, or on a sheet inserted in the book for the purpose.

42. A book is liable to examination in the post. Each book tendered for transmission by post must, therefore, be so wrapped that the book can be easily removed for the purpose of examination without it being necessary to break or cut any seal, tear any paper, or separate any adhering surfaces.

*Catalogues.*

43. A catalogue is a publication consisting of a printed or printed and illustrated list of articles for sale, with or without prices. A catalogue may contain, as an integral part thereof, a printed communication to the addressee relating to the issue of the catalogue and letterpress concerning the articles enumerated in the list and the use of such articles, the business of the firm issuing the catalogue and information relating to matters such as shopping by post and the sending of remittances.

44. The cover or wrapper in which a catalogue is posted shall contain one catalogue only.

THIRD CLASS MAIL MATTER.

45. Third Class Mail Matter consists of Newspapers registered for transmission as such, and Magazines.

46. Third Class Mail Matter must not be closed against inspection, and must not contain any writing of the character of actual or personal correspondence.

*Newspapers.*

47. Persons who post registered newspapers at the rate of postage provided for aggregate weight may be called upon to satisfy the Department that the conditions prescribed in the *Post and Telegraph Ordinance, 1912-1920*,<sup>(2)</sup> to secure that rate are complied with. For this purpose they may be required to produce without notice any documentary evidence which the postmaster or other departmental officer considers necessary.

48. A supplement shall not contain more pages than the newspaper with which it is issued.

*Registration of Newspapers.*

49.—(1.) The proprietor, printer, or publisher of any newspaper, as defined by Section 26 of the *Post and Telegraph Ordinance, 1912-1920*,<sup>(2)</sup> may have it registered at the Head Office subject to the conditions set out in this Regulation.

(2.) The application for registration must be made in writing, and must contain a description of the newspaper to be registered, and show at what intervals the newspaper is published.

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(2) Now the *Post and Telegraph Ordinance, 1912-1941*.

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(3.) Three copies of the latest issue of the newspaper and one copy of each of the two last preceding issues must be forwarded with the application, together with a fee of 5s.

(4.) The following statutory declarations must also be forwarded with the application:—

(a) a statutory declaration by the applicant, declaring—

- (i) that the publication is printed and published within the Territory for sale, and not for free distribution to any great extent;
- (ii) that at least 75 per centum of the copies issued are sold to *bona fide* purchasers or to *bona fide* subscribers who have ordered the paper; and
- (iii) whether or not any previous application has been made for registration of the publication under the same or any other title; and

(b) two statutory declarations by independent persons in the trade (such as publishers and newsagents), who are not in any way interested in the proprietorship or printing of, and are not subscribers to, the publication, declaring—

- (i) that the declarant personally knows and recognizes the publication as a newspaper in the generally accepted sense;
- (ii) that to the best of his knowledge and belief the publication is known and recognized by purchasers thereof as a newspaper in the generally accepted sense;
- (iii) that the publication is not, to the best of his knowledge and belief, recognized as a magazine, review, or other similar publication; and
- (iv) that he is neither the proprietor nor the printer of, nor a subscriber to, the said publication, and is not in any way interested in the proprietorship or printing thereof.

50. The Chief Postmaster may, when revising the register, as provided by Section 27 of the *Post and Telegraph Ordinance, 1912-1920*<sup>(2)</sup>, call upon the proprietor, printer, or publisher of any newspaper appearing therein to furnish evidence by statutory declaration as to the total percentage of copies issued which are sold to *bona fide* purchasers or to *bona fide* subscribers who have ordered the paper, and any other particulars which are, in his opinion, necessary to enable him to determine whether the newspaper should be removed from the register or not.

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(2) Now the *Post and Telegraph Ordinance, 1912-1941*.

51. The publisher of a registered newspaper shall print on the first page of each copy issued the words "Registered at the Head Post Office, Port Moresby, for transmission by post as a newspaper."

52. The publisher of a registered newspaper shall submit to the Chief Postmaster any proposed change in the form of the newspaper.

*General Conditions Relating to Newspapers.*

53. A newspaper may be sent either with or without a cover, but must be open at both ends. Envelopes closed at one end, and folded in at the other end, shall not be used for transmitting newspapers through the post.

54. There shall not be in or upon any newspaper or the cover thereof any communication, character, figure, letter, or number other than the following:—

The words "Newspaper only."

A line drawn through any report, article, or paragraph therein.

A mark to call attention to a paragraph, or any other matter.

Rates of postage.

The printed title of the newspaper.

The printed names, occupations and places of business of the printer, publisher and vendor.

The name, occupation, and address of the addressee.

The name of the sender.

and, in the case only of newspapers posted by the registered proprietors thereof or issued from the publishing office, the following:—

The words "If not delivered, please return to Head Office, ..... (name of town)."

Figures indicating the date on which the subscription will expire, such as "10/12/23."

Figures indicating the number of papers in the package to be transmitted.

55. If any matter other than supplements be enclosed in or with, or accompany any newspaper or the cover thereof, the newspaper shall be treated as Second Class Mail Matter unless the matter has the character of actual or personal correspondence, or is of an illegal nature, when the newspaper shall be forwarded to the Chief Postmaster with a report of the circumstances.

*Magazines.*

56. Printed order forms, and a printed and addressed envelope, may be treated as part of a magazine if bound or fastened therein.

## POST AND TELEGRAPH—

### PREPAYMENT OF POSTAGE.

57. The stamps impressed on stamped envelopes, letter cards, post cards, or newspaper wrappers shall not be used for prepayment of postage on other articles. Duty-stamps, mutilated postage-stamps, postage-due-stamps, or the postage-stamps of any other country are not available in the Territory for prepayment of postage.

58. Postage-stamps must, except in the case of parcels and articles with tie-on labels, be placed on the front or address side of postal articles and upon the right hand upper corner of that side.

59. No postal official is permitted to take money in prepayment of postage, (except as specified in these Regulations) when postage-stamps are available, or to affix postage-stamps to articles posted at any post office; but if a postmaster has not sufficient stamps on hand he may receive the amount of postage and fees in coin, in which case he shall acknowledge its receipt on the face or cover of the article.

60. Correspondence posted on the high seas in the letter-box on board a packet, or placed in the hands of postal agents on board, or of the commander of a ship, may be prepaid by means of the postage-stamps, and according to the postage rates, of the country to which the vessel belongs, or by which it is maintained. If, however, the posting takes place during the stay at one of the two extreme points of the voyage, or at any intermediate port of call, prepayment can only be effected by means of the postage-stamps, and according to the rates, of the country in the waters of which the vessel happens to be.

### PREPAYMENT IN CASH IN ONE SUM, OF POSTAGE ON LARGE QUANTITIES OF MAIL MATTER.

61.—(1.) The postage on large quantities of registered or unregistered articles other than parcels for transmission within the Territory may be prepaid in cash.

(2.) The amount of postage and registration fee (if any) on such mail matter, posted at one time, shall not be less than £2.

(3.) The articles shall be posted at the Head Office or at any office duly appointed for the acceptance of correspondence under this Regulation.

(4.) No postmaster, other than those at the offices referred to in the last preceding sub-regulation shall receive cash in prepayment of postage under this Regulation without first obtaining authority from the Chief Postmaster.

(5.) The mail matter must be handed in at the post office between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., but if handed in after 3 p.m. it will be subject to detention if its despatch interferes with the despatch of other postal matter.

(6.) Articles of the same weight must be tied in bundles of ten or any multiple thereof up to 100, with the addresses in the same direction.

(7.) This Regulation does not apply to newspapers posted by registered newspaper proprietors or newsvendors, who may post such newspapers at other hours than those prescribed, and may post at one time a quantity of newspapers on which the amount of postage payable is less than £2.

#### PAYMENT OF POSTAGE BY THE RECEIVER.

62.—(1.) The Chief Postmaster may, in such cases and upon compliance with such conditions as he thinks fit, allow payment of the postage payable on postal articles by the addressee instead of by the sender.

(2.) A charge equal to 12½ per cent. of the amount of postage shall be paid by the addressee to cover the extra services of accounting and collection.

#### BRAILLE AND MOON ARTICLES.

63. Braille and Moon postal articles posted in the Territory for delivery therein may be sent by post free of charge if—

- (a) they contain only Braille and Moon articles, or either of them, and are posted in envelopes or wrappers open at one end or side or otherwise made up so as to admit of the contents being easily withdrawn for examination; and
- (b) the words “Braille (or Moon, or Braille and Moon) articles only,” together with the signature and address of the sender, are printed or written on the outside of the envelope or wrapper.

#### LATE FEES.

64.—(1.) The late fee on all unregistered postal articles, except newspapers and parcels, posted in the Territory, for delivery therein or for transmission to places beyond the Territory shall be a single rate of postage.

(2.) The late fee on all registered articles, registered between one hour and half an hour prior to the time of closing ordinary mails, which close after 9 a.m. and before 6 p.m., shall be—for each article, an additional single letter rate of postage.

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UNPAID OR INSUFFICIENTLY PREPAID POSTAL ARTICLES.

*Posted in the Territory.*

65.—(1.) Subject to the next succeeding sub-regulation all wholly unpaid postal articles and all insufficiently prepaid articles posted in the Territory shall be surcharged double the deficiency. The amount of the surcharge, except in the case of articles addressed to places within the Territory and the Commonwealth shall be indicated in francs and centimes, calculated as follows:—

- (a) In the case of articles addressed to places in the British Empire, New Hebrides, Banks and Torres Islands, one penny = 10 centimes.
- (b) In the case of articles addressed to other places beyond the Territory by application of the formula approved by the Chief Postmaster.

(2.) Wholly unpaid postal articles (other than letters, letter cards, post cards and newspapers) shall be transmitted only when addressed to places within Papua, the Commonwealth, New Zealand and Fiji. Such articles, when addressed to other places beyond the Territory, and wholly unpaid newspapers however addressed, shall be forwarded to the Dead Letter Office.

(3.) If the Chief Postmaster has reason to believe that any person posts wholly unpaid or insufficiently prepaid postal articles addressed to places beyond the Territory he may give notice in writing, calling upon that person to desist, and advising him of the consequence of non-compliance with the notice.

(4.) If a person who has received a notice in pursuance of the last preceding sub-regulation knowingly and without reasonable excuse posts any wholly unpaid or insufficiently prepaid postal article, addressed to any place beyond the Territory, he shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a penalty not exceeding Five pounds.

(5.) For the purposes of this Regulation:—

- (a) wholly unpaid or insufficiently prepaid postal article means a postal article in respect of which no postage or insufficient postage has been paid; and
- (b) the person who posts a postal article shall be deemed to be the sender of the article.

*Received from Places beyond the Territory.*

(6.) The amount to be collected on surcharged postal articles received from places beyond the Territory (except the Commonwealth) for delivery therein shall be calculated as follows:—

- (a) In the case of articles from places within the British Empire, New Hebrides, Banks and Torres Islands, 10 centimes = one penny; provided, however, that the minimum amount to be collected shall be one penny half-penny; and
- (b) In the case of articles from other places beyond the Territory—by application of the formula approved by the Chief Postmaster; provided, however, that the minimum amount to be collected shall be threepence.

66. Postage-stamps placed on the back of any postal article shall not be recognized or cancelled, and the article to which they are so affixed shall be surcharged as insufficiently prepaid.

#### DELIVERY OF POSTAL ARTICLES.

67.—(1.) A postal article shall be delivered to the addressee, or, in the absence of instructions in writing to the contrary, to the wife or husband of the addressee, or to any responsible member of the same family or household. Delivery to persons other than those named shall be given only on presentation of a power of attorney, or an order in writing signed by the addressee.

(2.) A postal article addressed to a person at an inn, hotel, lodging-house, or any house at which lodgers are received, shall be delivered to the manager or occupier thereof.

(3.) A postal article addressed to one person in care of another shall, in the absence of written instructions to the contrary, from the addressee, be delivered to either of the persons named who may call for it, or at the address of the person in whose care it is directed.

68.—(1.) Where directions in writing have been given to a postmaster by the parent or guardian of a minor having the custody of the minor, the postmaster may deliver or cause to be delivered all postal articles addressed to the minor in accordance with the directions so given.

(2.) In the absence of any such directions postal articles addressed to minors shall be delivered in the same manner as other postal articles.

(3.) Notwithstanding any directions having been received under this Regulation, the Chief Postmaster may direct that postal articles addressed to a minor shall be delivered to such minor.

(4.) In this Regulation “minor” means a person under the age of eighteen years.

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69. The privilege of having correspondence addressed “Poste Restante,” or to a post office to be called for, shall not be allowed for a longer period than six months at any office from which there is a delivery by postman and in cases where the addressee resides within the limits of delivery.

70.—(1.) Correspondence must be not posted addressed “Poste Restante” or to a post office to be called for, to a person to whom correspondence has been so addressed for a period of six months, or, in cases where an application for re-direction has been granted in accordance with Sub-regulation (2.) of this Regulation, for a period of twelve months, and shall, if received at a post office after the prescribed period has elapsed, be deemed to have been posted in contravention of these Regulations.

(2.) Where an addressee has had correspondence addressed “Poste Restante” or to a post office to be called for for a period of six months he may, upon making application to that effect, have correspondence so addressed re-directed to one address for a further period of six months, but upon the expiration of the further period of six months no further application for re-direction of the correspondence shall be granted.

(3.) Notwithstanding anything contained in Sub-regulations (1.) and (2.) of this Regulation, in cases where any traveller or tourist satisfies the Chief Postmaster as to his *bona fides*, the Chief Postmaster may make such arrangements as will meet the necessities of the particular case.

71.—(1.) Postal articles addressed “Poste Restante” must bear the name of the addressee.

(2.) The use of initials, figures, Christian names without surnames, fictitious names, or conventional marks of any kind will not be allowed for such postal articles.

72. Postal articles addressed to deceased persons may be delivered to the executors or administrators of the deceased persons on production of the probate or letters of administration; but until such production the Chief Postmaster may cause those postal articles to be delivered to some near relative of the deceased person:

Provided that registered postal articles addressed to a deceased person, and in connection with which the sender has paid the fee for an acknowledgment of receipt, shall be returned to the sender.

73.—(1.) When a firm is dissolved and any member of the late firm gives notice to the postmaster not to deliver to any person other than himself any postal article addressed to the firm, the postmaster (unless he is satisfied as to who is entitled to delivery) may refuse to

deliver all such postal articles until an agreement is arrived at between the persons interested as to their delivery.

(2.) In default of any such agreement, the postmaster may mark those postal articles "In Dispute," and send them to the Dead Letter Office, unless they bear requests for their return if not delivered within a certain time in which case they shall at the expiration of the time named on the postal article be returned to the sender.

(3.) No postal article shall be sent to the Dead Letter Office under this Regulation until the expiration of thirty days from the date of the receipt of the abovementioned notice.

74. In cases where sufficient reason is shown, and where the concession can be granted without undue interference with the public business, postal articles in transit, when lying at a post office awaiting despatch, may be delivered at that office to the persons to whom they are addressed, upon personal or written application, if the delivering officer is satisfied as to the identity of the applicant.

#### EXPRESS DELIVERY.

74A.—(1.) First and Second Class Mail Matter not exceeding 8 oz. in weight may be specially delivered at Samarai and within three miles of the Post Office at Port Moresby as follows, namely:—

R. 74A ad.  
by S.R. 1927,  
No. 3, r. 3.

*By special messenger after transmission by post.* For this service the articles may be posted at any post or receiving office, or in any letter box or posting receptacle, and be "expressed" on reaching the delivery office.

(2.) Express delivery shall be made only during the hours the office of delivery is open to the public for transaction of business, and messengers are on duty. There shall be no express delivery on Sundays or on holidays.

(3.) Articles marked and prepaid as prescribed shall be delivered by special messenger immediately after receipt of the mail in which they are enclosed.

(4.) Delivery of express articles may be effected by foot messengers, or by messengers travelling by other means, at the discretion of the Department. If the sender desires a car or other special conveyance to be used the actual fare must be paid in addition to the express fee and postage.

(5.) Express delivery articles addressed to a private box number, or in the address of which a private box number is stated, shall be delivered at the premises of the box-holder if the location of such premises is known.

## POST AND TELEGRAPH—

(6.) In addition to the proper postage the fee for express delivery shall be 6d. at Samarai, and 6d. for the first mile or part of a mile and 3d. for each additional half-mile or part of half a mile at Port Moresby.

(7.) The express delivery fee must be prepaid by means of postage-stamps affixed to the article.

(8.) Postal Articles intended for express delivery must be clearly marked "Express Delivery," or words indicating that express delivery is desired, on the address side of the cover, and in order to facilitate handling in the post senders should mark them with a broad perpendicular line on each side of the address.

(9.) When a reply is required to an express delivery article, the words "Wait reply" must be legibly written by the sender immediately under the words "Express Delivery," and the postage and fee required for the reply must be affixed in postage-stamps on the articles immediately under the words "Wait reply." The messenger may be allowed to wait fifteen minutes for the reply.

(10.) Articles in reply shall be delivered after the messenger has delivered all the express delivery articles originally intrusted to him.

### RE-DIRECTION.

75.—(1.) No charge shall be made for the re-direction of prepaid postal articles (other than parcels) when re-directed by a postal official, or by any agent of the addressee after delivery, if the postage originally paid would have been sufficient if the postal article had originally been addressed to its new destination, provided that in the case of articles re-directed by an agent of the addressee, the articles are reposted not later than the day (Sunday and public holidays not being counted) after being left at the original address, and do not appear to have been opened or tampered with.

(2.) If the postage originally prepaid on the re-directed article be not sufficient for its transmission from the place of origin to the new destination, the deficient postage shall be collected on delivery at the new destination.

(3.) If articles re-directed by agents of addressees be not reposted within the period prescribed in Sub-regulation (1.), or if it appear that such articles have been opened or tampered with, they shall be chargeable as freshly posted unpaid articles.

76.—(1.) Registered articles on being re-directed, must not be dropped into a letter-box, but must be taken to a post office to be dealt with as registered.

(2.) No additional postage or registration fee shall be charged upon those articles if they are presented for re-registration not later than the day (Sundays and public holidays not being counted) after being left at the original address; but if they are presented after that time they shall be treated as freshly posted, and fresh postage and registration fees shall be payable in respect of them.

(3.) If any registered article when re-directed, instead of being given back to the post office to be dealt with as registered, is dropped into a letter-box as an ordinary article (the word "registered" not having been erased, or having been erased in pencil only), it becomes liable on delivery to a surcharge of a single rate of postage and single registration fee.

77. Applications for re-direction must in all cases be signed by the person to whom the correspondence is addressed, and must show whence it is expected. They will be acted on for a term of six months only, unless renewed. A printed form of application may be obtained at any post office in the Territory.

78. The Chief Postmaster will not undertake to intercept and re-direct a postal article at any office other than that to which it is addressed, or to intercept and re-direct a postal article addressed to the care of a private-box holder, or of a private mail-bag holder, or to an hotel, lodging-house, or such like place.

#### INQUIRY RESPECTING DELIVERY OF POSTAL ARTICLES.

79.—(1.) If the sender or the addressee of a registered postal article, or of a parcel, desire inquiry made respecting its disposal, he shall enter, in a form provided for the purpose, the names and addresses of the sender and of the addressee of the registered article or parcel; and he must also affix to the form a postage-stamp in payment of the fee of Threepence, which postage-stamp the postmaster, or other officer, must cancel in the ordinary way.

(2.) Where the inquiry relates to a registered article, the person making the inquiry must produce the receipt which was handed to the sender at the time of posting the article.

(3.) Should any delay in delivery be attributable to the post office, the fee shall be refunded.

(4.) If a fee has already been paid for acknowledgment of delivery, which has not been received, no charge for the inquiry shall be made.

80. Any person making a complaint that an unregistered postal article containing coin, jewellery, gems, watches, or any other valuable

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enclosure has not been duly delivered to the person to whom it was addressed may be required by the postmaster of the post office at which the complaint is made to make a declaration in the form provided.

### UNDELIVERED MAIL MATTER.

81. First and Second Class Mail Matter with endorsement on the cover, "If not delivered within (seven or more) days, return to ——" (here the name and address of the person to whom the article is to be returned should be stated), shall, if undelivered at the expiration of the time specified, be returned by the postmaster at the office of destination to the sender.

82.—(1.) Postal articles posted without addresses or bearing illegible addresses, and those which the addressees refuse to receive owing to postage being payable or other cause, must be transmitted without delay to the Dead Letter Office for disposal, except in the cases provided for in the last preceding Regulation.

(2.) Postal articles posted in the Territory for delivery therein, other than those coming within the provisions of the last preceding Regulation and the last preceding sub-regulation shall, if undelivered, be retained at the office of destination for the following periods:—

- (a) First and second class mail matter and magazines—
  - (i) addressed to a fixed address other than a post office—eight days.
  - (ii) addressed to a post office to be called for—one month.
  - (iii) addressed to a passenger on board a ship—one month.
  - (iv) addressed to a person on board a ship, not described as a passenger—four months.
- (b) Newspapers, however addressed—one month.

(3.) Postal articles other than parcels received from a place beyond the Territory shall be retained at the office of destination for the following periods:—

- (a) if addressed to a fixed address or to a post office to be called for, or to a passenger on board a ship—two months.
- (b) if addressed to a person on board a ship, not described as a passenger—four months.

(4.) As soon as possible after the expiration of the prescribed period undelivered postal articles other than newspapers shall be returned through the Dead Letter Office, to the senders.

(5.) Undelivered newspapers, wherever posted, shall not be returned to the senders, but shall be disposed of as provided by the *Post and Telegraph Ordinance*, 1912-1920,<sup>(2)</sup> except in the case of those which bear on the covers or wrappers in print the name of the publisher or vendor, which if so required shall be returned to the publisher or vendor on payment of postage at the prescribed rate.

83. Undelivered correspondence addressed to the care of consuls and returned by them to the local post office must be treated in the manner prescribed for returned correspondence, and sent to the Dead Letter Office. Any charges which have been paid by consuls on such correspondence shall be refunded.

#### PROHIBITED ARTICLES.

84. The following articles are prohibited from transmission by post in any form:—

R. 84 sub.  
by S.R. 1927,  
No. 6, r. 4.

- (a) Articles which, from their nature or by their packing, may expose postal officials to danger, or soil or damage the correspondence.
- (b) Explosives, inflammable or dangerous substances.
- (c) Living animals, except bees and silkworms.
- (d) Opium, morphine, cocaine and other narcotics.
- (e) Articles having thereon or therein or on the envelope or cover thereof any words, marks or designs of an indecent, obscene, blasphemous, libellous or grossly offensive character.
- (f) Publications and articles, the importation or transmission of which is prohibited under the "Customs and Quarantine Ordinance"<sup>(4)</sup> or by Proclamation.<sup>(5)</sup>
- (g) Mail matter addressed to certain persons the delivery of which has been prohibited by order of the Chief Postmaster under Section 55 of the *Post and Telegraph Ordinance*, 1912-1920.<sup>(2)</sup>
- (h) Articles posted in cut-out envelopes.
- (i) Articles posted in entirely transparent envelopes.
- (j) Articles posted in envelopes having transparent panels not complying with the conditions laid down.
- (k) Any articles whatever of which the importation or circulation is forbidden in the countries of origin or destination.

(2) Now the *Post and Telegraph Ordinance*, 1912-1941.

(4) See the *Customs Ordinance*, 1909-1939, and the *Quarantine Ordinance*, 1913-1937.

(5) No proclamation has been published in *Papua Govt. Gaz.*

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85.—(1.) Articles having thereon or therein or on the envelope or cover thereof any words, marks, or designs of an indecent, obscene, blasphemous, libellous or grossly offensive character, shall not be transmissible by post within the Territory and if posted for transmission by post may, by order of the Chief Postmaster, be destroyed.

(2.) No action shall be brought against the Chief Postmaster or any officer of the Department for anything done under the provisions of this Regulation, but any person aggrieved by anything done by the Chief Postmaster or an officer of the Department under this Regulation may appeal to a Judge of the Central Court<sup>(6)</sup> by motion or petition in a summary manner.

SALE OF LIGHTLY POSTMARKED POSTAGE-STAMPS.

86. Postage-stamps issued in the Territory, lightly postmarked, may be purchased at their full face value.

INTERFERING WITH POSTAGE-STAMPS.

87.—(1.) Any person who—

- (a) treats or deals with or applies any substance to any postage-stamp in any manner so as to facilitate the removal of any postmark which is or may be placed thereon in any post office; or
- (b) knowingly has in his possession any postage-stamp which has been treated or dealt with or to which any substance has been applied in any manner so as to facilitate the removal of any postmark which is or may be placed thereon in any post office; or
- (c) knowingly puts off or uses for postal or telegraphic purposes any postage-stamp which has been treated or dealt with or to which any substance has been applied in any manner so as to facilitate the removal of any postmark which is or may be placed thereon in any post office,

shall be guilty of an offence, and shall be liable on conviction, to a penalty of not more than Fifty pounds and not less than One pound.

(2.) Proof that a postage-stamp affixed to a postal article has been treated or dealt with or has had applied to it any substance, in contravention of this Regulation, and that the defendant is the writer of the postal article or of any communication therein or of the address thereon or of any part of such address, or is the sender thereof, shall be prima facie evidence that he is guilty of an offence against this Regulation:

Provided that nothing in this Regulation shall prejudice the proof of an offence against this Regulation by other evidence.

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(6) See Section 19(2) of the *Ordinance Interpretation Ordinance*, 1911-1940.

PRIVATE BOXES

88.—(1.) Locked private boxes may be rented at the Head Office, and, where provided, at other post offices (except those hereinafter provided for) on payment in advance of the following fees:—

For a large box	.. ..	£3 per annum.
For a medium-sized box	.. ..	£2 per annum.
For a small box	.. ..	£1 per annum.

A box-holder may, on payment of a fee of £2 per annum, in addition to the fee paid for renting a private box, have the contents of the private box placed in a locked bag and handed to his messenger. The bag, furnished with a lock and two keys—one for the postmaster and one for the owner—must be provided by the box-holder.

(2.) Every person who desires to rent a private box shall, in addition to any other fee payable under this Regulation, deposit the sum of Five shillings as a guarantee for the return, in good order, of the keys of the box, which deposit shall be refunded on the keys being so returned within fourteen days from the day on which the tenancy expires; otherwise the deposit shall be forfeited to provide for the cost of fitting a new lock to enable the box to be re-let.

89.—(1.) New subscribers shall pay in advance the rental for one year, calculated from the first day of the month in which they commence.

(2.) At the expiration of the first year the renewal fee to be paid shall be calculated from the first day of the month, after the close of the first year's service up to the end of December following. Thereafter the renewal fee shall fall due on 1st January in each year, and must be paid within fourteen days from that date.

90.—(1.) A private letter-box may be transferred to the successor in business of the original box-holder upon payment of a fee of One shilling, and upon application being made by both parties, and an undertaking being furnished by the transferee to accept all liabilities and obligations devolving upon the original box-holder at the time of transfer.

(2.) When a private letter-box is transferred to the successor in business of the original box-holder, the right to refund of the deposit, as hereinbefore provided and to refund of portion of the fee as hereinafter provided shall pass to the transferee.

(3.) The private letter-box service of any box-holder may, if a box is available at the post office to which the transfer is desired, be transferred from one post office to another within the Territory, on payment of a fee of Two shillings and sixpence.

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91. Two keys shall be supplied with each box, but a fee of One shilling and sixpence, shall be charged for the use of each additional key supplied, *and keys must not be obtained elsewhere than from the Department.* On a box-holder relinquishing the use of a box he shall be required to return at once all keys supplied to him, as they are the property of the Chief Postmaster, otherwise he shall be charged the rental fee for the box until they are returned.

92. If a box-holder who has rented a private box for more than one year continuously, relinquishes the use of such box before the expiration of any subsequent year for which the prescribed fee has been paid, he shall, on return by him to the Department of all the keys of the box, and payment of One shilling, be entitled to a refund of the proportion of the fee paid for the period beyond the end of the quarter during which the box is relinquished.

93. If a key be lost, information must at once be given to the officer in charge of the local post office and the remaining key or keys returned to such officer, when a new lock, for which a charge of Five shillings shall be made, will be fitted in the box, and two keys supplied.

94.—(1.) A private box shall not be let—

(a) to any person who fails, neglects, or refuses, when required by the Chief Postmaster, to furnish evidence to the satisfaction of the Chief Postmaster, that he is not a person, or the agent or representative of a person, who is engaged in receiving money or any valuable thing for any of the purposes or in connection with any of the matters mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (e) inclusive of Subsection (1.) of Section 55 of the *Post and Telegraph Ordinance, 1912-1920*,<sup>(2)</sup> and that he does not intend to use the box for any such purpose or in connection with any such matter; or

(b) except in cases where the Postmaster-General is satisfied as to the *bona fides* of the person, to any person using a fictitious or assumed name.

(2.) The Chief Postmaster may cancel the tenancy of a private box at any time if he has reason to believe that the box—

(a) is being used for any purpose, or in connection with any matter, mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (e) inclusive of Subsection (1.) of Section 55 of the *Post and Telegraph Ordinance, 1912-1920*;<sup>(2)</sup> or

(b) is being used for any illegal, fraudulent, indecent, or immoral purpose whatsoever.

(3.) Where the tenancy of a box is so cancelled no portion of the fee paid for renting the box shall be refunded.

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(2) Now the *Post and Telegraph Ordinance, 1912-1941.*

**95.** Private boxes shall be let only on the conditions prescribed in these Regulations, and upon any breach thereof the Chief Postmaster may at once withdraw permission for the use of the box.

PRIVATE MAIL-BAGS.

**96.** Subject to this Regulation, a private mail-bag for any person or for a number of persons residing on a mail route, may be made up at the post office most convenient to the Department.

**97.** The charge for a private mail-bag made up and despatched from a post office not more than thrice a week shall be £1 per annum payable in advance.

**98.** Payments must be arranged so that renewal fees fall due on the 1st January in each year; and such renewal fees must be paid within one month from that date; new subscribers shall pay the proportion of fee at the annual rate from the first day of the month in which they commence to the end of December following.

**99.** If the holder of a private mail-bag discontinues the use of such bag before the end of the term for which the prescribed fee has been paid, he shall, upon application, be entitled to a refund of the proportion of the fee paid for the unexpired portion of the term.

**100.** A private mail-bag service may be transferred to the successor in business of the original bag-holder, or to a person taking occupation of the premises of the original bag-holder, upon payment of a fee of One shilling, and upon application being made by both parties, and an undertaking being furnished by the transferee to accept all liabilities and obligations devolving upon the original bag-holder, in respect of such service at the time of transfer.

**101.** Private mail-bags, which must be of leather or strong canvas, must be provided at the cost of the persons requiring them, and be large enough to contain all articles sent and received by post; if a bag be furnished with a lock, two keys must be provided—one for the postmaster and the other for the owner.

**102.** The postmaster must lock or seal the bag for despatch, and it must be returned in like manner; if a seal is used, the impression must be made known to the postmaster.

**103.—(1.)** The bag may contain postal articles for all persons in the employ of the proprietor, or who, with the written consent of the proprietor of the bag, give written authority to the postmaster to enclose them in such bag.

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(2.) The person who pays for the bag shall be responsible for the unpaid postage on all postal articles contained in the bag, and must furnish receipts for all registered articles and parcels enclosed in the bag, and forward to the post office acknowledgments of delivery, duly signed by the addressees.

(3.) The proprietor of the bag must return all correspondence for persons who have left his station or place, and also any letters, etc., enclosed in error.

104. Every bag must have printed upon it, or upon a leather or metal label securely attached to the bag, the name of the owner, or the place where it is to be delivered, as well as the name of the post office with which it is exchanged.

105. When a bag is made up for a number of persons, the name of one of the number, to whom the bag may be addressed, must be specified.

106. Telegrams enclosed in a private bag may be transmitted free of postage; but other correspondence so enclosed and intended for delivery at the township where the bag is opened, or for onward despatch, must bear the correct amount of postage payable thereon. In case of non-payment of postage or detention of receipts or acknowledgments for registered articles and parcels, the postmaster may decline to forward any more articles of those classes.

107. A contractor is bound to convey and deliver, free of charge, all private bags given him by the postmaster or under his instruction, but he is not required to deviate from the usual mail route or road, unless instructed by the Chief Postmaster and must on no account be delayed. Should the return bag not be ready at the appointed time and place, the contractor must not wait for it.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

108. No information can be given respecting letters which pass through a post office except to the persons to whom they are addressed; and in no other way is official information of a private character allowed to be made public:

Provided that a postmaster may give an address if he has no reason to believe that the person whose address it is would disapprove of his doing so.

109. Postmasters and other officers are prohibited from supplying, other than under directions of the Chief Postmaster, information regarding the financial position of any person, company or firm.

**110.** Postmasters are not compelled to give change; and when money is paid at a post office, whether as change or otherwise, no question as to its right amount, goodness, or weight can be entertained after it has been removed from the counter.

**111.** Postmasters are not compelled to weigh postal articles for the public if their duties are impeded by so doing:

Provided that parcels shall be tested both as to weight and size before being accepted.

**112.** If a letter be forwarded under cover to any postmaster with a request that he will repost it at his office, the letter, on being reposted, must be endorsed with the words "Posted at——, under cover to the Postmaster of——."

**113.—(1.)** Mail contractors are required to receive (beyond a mile from a post office) correspondence intended for delivery along their line of route.

(2.) If fully prepaid and for delivery before a post office is reached, the mailman must cancel the stamps, by crossing them with ink, or in some other effective manner.

(3.) If the correspondence be unpaid or insufficiently prepaid, it must not be delivered, but posted at the next post office on the line of route, whence it must be despatched to destination charged with double the deficiency, to be collected on delivery.

(4.) All correspondence so received must bear an endorsement by the mailman indicating the particular point on the road at which it was received.

**114.** Mail contractors are prohibited from carrying or permitting their servants or passengers to carry, any letter or packet to the prejudice of the Post Office revenue.

**115.** All correspondence must be clearly and legibly addressed in the ordinary way, and nothing may be written or printed on the address side of correspondence which, by tending to prevent the easy and quick reading of the address, or in any other way, is likely to embarrass the postal officials in dealing with it. Contravention of this Regulation may result in correspondence being withheld from delivery. The Department will not undertake to deliver correspondence bearing "puzzle" addresses.

#### WITHDRAWAL OF CORRESPONDENCE.

**116.—(1.)** Except as otherwise provided in these Regulations, postmasters shall not return any postal article to the writer or sender

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thereof, or to any other person, or delay forwarding it to its destination according to the address without either the consent in writing of the addressee, or the direction in writing of the Chief Postmaster.

(2.) In cases where the sender applies for the withdrawal of a postal article before delivery to the addressee, the Chief Postmaster may give the necessary direction in writing if he considers the reasons for withdrawal are satisfactory.

(3.) The applicant for withdrawal of a postal article in accordance with this Regulation shall pay a fee of One shilling, and, in addition, the cost of any necessary telegrams.

Heading and  
R. 117 rep. by  
S.R. 1924, No.  
2, r. 1.

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RATES OF PAYMENT TO MASTERS OF VESSELS.

118. The rates of payment to masters of vessels for the carriage of mails in cases not provided for by contract shall be as follow:—

Letters and post cards	..	8d. per lb.
Other articles	.. ..	1s. 4d. per cwt.

NOTICE OF DEPARTURE OF NON-CONTRACT VESSELS, AND OF NON-DEPARTURE OF VESSELS WHICH HAVE RECEIVED MAILS ON BOARD.

119.—(1.) The notices required to be given by masters of vessels pursuant to Subsection (2.) of Section 69 and to Section 70 of the *Post and Telegraph Ordinance*, 1912-1920,<sup>(2)</sup> shall be in writing.

(2.) The notice in writing to be given under Section 69 (1.) of the said Ordinance by the master of any vessel which is under twenty tons measurement and not at that time, or ordinarily, used for the carriage of passengers or freight for hire, and which is about to depart from a port within the Territory to another port or place therein shall be one hour and shall commence and expire between the hours of nine o'clock in the morning and five o'clock in the afternoon.

POSTAL ARTICLES LIABLE TO CUSTOMS DUTY.

120.—(1.) Any letter—

- (a) received from a place beyond the Territory; or
- (b) posted at any post office within the Territory,

which is suspected to contain any article on which Customs duty is payable, or any article the importation of which is prohibited, shall

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(2) Now the *Post and Telegraph Ordinance*, 1912-1941.

before delivery be opened by the addressee or his representative for examination by an officer of Customs.

(2.) If it is found to contain any article on which Customs duty is payable, the duty thereon as assessed by the officer of Customs shall be paid before the letter is delivered to the addressee.

(3.) If it is found to contain an article the importation of which is prohibited, it shall be handed to the officer of Customs to be dealt with according to law.

**121. Any postal article not being a letter—**

(a) received from a place beyond the Territory; or

(b) posted at any post office within the Territory,

which is suspected to contain any article on which Customs duty is payable, may be opened for examination, and if it is found to contain any such article the duty thereon as assessed by an officer of Customs shall be paid before the postal article is delivered to the addressee.

**122.** Any postal article containing any article forwarded in contravention of any Customs Ordinance or Regulation thereunder shall be forwarded to the Collector of Customs to be dealt with according to law.

**123.** Nothing in these Regulations shall prejudice or prevent the taking of any proceedings or the seizure or forfeiture of any goods for any contravention of any Customs Ordinance or Regulation thereunder.

**LOITERING IN POST OR TELEGRAPH OFFICES.**

**124.** Any person who loiters in a post office shall be guilty of an offence against these Regulations and shall be liable, on conviction, to a penalty not exceeding Five pounds and any person found so loitering may be ejected.

**REGISTRATION.**

**125.—(1.)** Any postal article (other than a parcel) complying with the Regulations relating thereto, shall, except as provided by Sub-regulations (2.), (3.) and (4.) of this Regulation, be accepted for registration, upon payment, by means of postage-stamps affixed to the article, of the registration fee of Threepence, in addition to the correct amount of postage.

(2.) No postal article addressed in pencil (except copying ink pencil), or to initials, shall be accepted for registration; provided that articles for delivery within the Territory addressed to initials

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or fictitious names, if addressed to the care of some person, shall be accepted for registration.

(3.) The reply halves of reply-paid post cards cannot be registered by the original senders of such cards.

(4.) No postal article shall be accepted for registration unless the cover is in a sound condition. Under no circumstances shall an article be accepted for registration if selvedge stamp paper or other gummed paper is attached to the cover for the purpose of sealing the article, or if the article bears the appearance of having been opened and resealed.

126. Unless the prescribed registration fee is paid thereon, no postal article which is marked on either side with red lines drawn lengthwise and across it shall be transmitted by post.

127.—(1.) Where a postal official has reasonable cause to believe that any unregistered postal article for delivery in the Territory, Commonwealth, Fiji or New Zealand contains any valuable enclosure other than money orders or bills of exchange, acceptances, or promissory notes, payable to order, cheques or postal notes, or postage-stamps, not exceeding Five shillings in value, he must officially register the article and surcharge it double the prescribed fee for registration, which must be paid by the addressee before delivery, unless the addressee, before delivery, opens the article in the presence of the postmaster and it is found not to contain any valuable enclosure in which case the surcharge shall be remitted.

(2.) If it is believed that an unregistered postal article, other than a parcel addressed to a place beyond the Territory other than the Commonwealth, Fiji or New Zealand contains a valuable enclosure, such article shall be forwarded to the Dead Letter Office.

128.—(1.) When no direction in writing to the contrary has been received, correspondence for a husband may be delivered to his wife, and correspondence for a wife may be delivered to her husband, and correspondence addressed to members of the same family living in the same house may be delivered to any responsible member of the family living in the house (except young children); or to any messenger authorized to receive it.

(2.) Except as set forth in the last preceding Sub-regulation, no registered postal article shall be delivered to any person other than—

- (a) the addressee in person; or
- (b) a person authorized by a written order from the addressee to receive delivery of registered postal articles on his behalf; or

(c) in the case of business establishments, public institutions, hotels, and lodging-houses, the proprietor, or manager, or some person authorized in writing by the proprietor or manager to receive delivery of the correspondence at such places; or

(d) a person to whose care the registered postal article is addressed.

(3.) An order under paragraph (b) of the last preceding Sub-regulation must bear the date on which it was made, and the addressee's address, and the name of the person in whose favour it is made. A specimen signature of the person in whose favour the order is made must also appear on the order, and the order must be delivered to the postmaster or other proper officer.

(4.) Notwithstanding anything contained in Sub-regulations (1.) and (2.) of this Regulation in all cases where the sender pays the prescribed fee to obtain an acknowledgment of receipt of the article, as provided by Section 38 (2.) of the *Post and Telegraph Ordinance, 1912-1920*,<sup>(2)</sup> delivery shall be made only to the addressee. In such cases the sender may endorse the cover of the article with the words "To be delivered to addressee only."

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DELIVERY OF REGISTERED ARTICLES.

129.—(1.) The sender of a registered article may obtain an acknowledgment of its due delivery to the addressee by paying in advance, at the time of registration, a fee of Threepence in addition to the postage and registration fee.

(2.) The sender must enter, in the form provided for the purpose, both his own name and address, and the name and address of the person to whom the article is sent, and he must also affix to the form in payment of the fee a postage-stamp of the value of Threepence, which the postmaster or other officer must cancel in the ordinary way. Should an application for this form be made at an office at which there are no forms on hand, the fee of Threepence should be paid by postage-stamps, and a memorandum furnished, giving the name and address of both the sender of the article and the addressee; the proper form will then subsequently be made out by a postal official and forwarded with the article to its destination. The same procedure should be observed when the sender applies for an acknowledgment of delivery of a registered article after the article has been transmitted.

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(2) Now the *Post and Telegraph Ordinance, 1912-1941.*

POST AND TELEGRAPH—

COMPENSATION FOR LOSS OF REGISTERED ARTICLES.

*Registered Articles posted in the Territory for Delivery Therein.*

130. Except in cases beyond control, e.g., tempest, shipwreck, earthquake, war, etc., compensation not exceeding £2 may be granted for the entire loss of registered postal articles, other than parcels, registered by the sender, posted in the Territory for delivery therein:

Provided that in every case it must appear that the loss did not arise wholly or in part through the fault of the sender, and that it occurred whilst the article was actually in the post.

131.—(1.) Evidence in support of a claim in respect of the loss of a registered article may be given by statutory declaration as follows:—

- (a) A statutory declaration made by or on behalf of the claimant setting forth—
  - (i) the date when and the place where the article was posted, so far as they can reasonably be ascertained;
  - (ii) a description of the article and its value, so far as they are known to the claimant, and the fact of the loss; and
  - (iii) any other particulars required by these Regulations or tending to establish the loss of the article or to verify the claim made.
- (b) A statutory declaration made by the addressee, or some person who is acquainted with the fact, that neither the registered article nor any enclosure therein has been received by the addressee.

(2.) The Chief Postmaster may, if he thinks fit, require additional evidence of the loss or value of the article.

132. In lieu of granting compensation, the missing article may be replaced by the Chief Postmaster, who, in either case, reserves the right to return, or dispose of the article, as he thinks fit, should it subsequently come into his hands.

133. No compensation shall be given in respect of—

- (a) any article which may not be lawfully sent by post;
- (b) money, unless it be enclosed in a letter, and then only on the following conditions being complied with:—
  - (i) That any coins enclosed in the letter be packed in such a way as to move about as little as possible.

- (ii) That the number, amount, bank of issue, and (where necessary) the date of any bank-note enclosed be supplied when required.
  - (iii) That the amount and number of any postal note enclosed be supplied when required.
  - (iv) That particulars sufficient to identify the document be supplied in the case of any bill of exchange, bond, coupon, or other order or authority for the payment of money or security for money.
- (c) injury or damage alleged to have been sustained in consequence of the loss, damage, or delay of an article.

**134.** No legal liability to give compensation in respect of the loss of any registered article shall attach to the Chief Postmaster either personally or in his official capacity, and the decision of the Chief Postmaster as to whether compensation shall or shall not be granted shall in all cases be final.

*Registered Articles Received from a Country within the Postal Union.*

**135.**—(1.) If it is proved to the satisfaction of the Chief Postmaster that a postal article received from beyond the Territory duly admitted to registration by the Administration of a country within the Postal Union which has uniform Regulations, has been entirely lost while in his custody, the Chief Postmaster will pay to the sender an indemnity of 50 francs (£2), except in the cases beyond control, e.g., tempest, shipwreck, earthquake, war, etc.

(2.) No compensation shall be paid under this Regulation except in the case of the loss of the entire postal article; and no claim will be admitted if made more than a year after the postal article was duly posted.

(3.) No compensation shall be paid for the loss of registered articles the contents of which are prohibited by the Universal Postal Convention for the time being in force from transmission by post.

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