

CYPRUS

POST OFFICE

CHAPTER 303 OF THE LAWS

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CHAPTER 303.

POST OFFICE.

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FOR THE BETTER REGULATION OF THE DUTIES ON POSTAGE
AND FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION OF THE
POST OFFICE.

[27th June, 1881.]

1949 Cap.
251.
44 of 53.

1. This Law may be cited as the Post Office Law.

Short title.

2. In this Law—

Interpreta-
tion.

“ fictitious stamp ” means any facsimile or imitation or representation, whether on paper or otherwise, of any stamp for denoting any rate of postage in Cyprus or the United Kingdom or of any of Her Majesty’s possessions or of any foreign country;

“ inland ” when used in relation to any postal packet or any description thereof means posted within the Colony and addressed to some place in the Colony;

“ mail ” means and includes any one of the bags, boxes, or packages whereof any mail consists;

“ post office ” means any house, building, room, or place where postal packets as defined by this Law or any of them, are under the authority of the Postmaster-General, received, delivered, sorted, or made up, or from which such packets or any of them are by the authority of the Postmaster-General despatched, and includes any post office letter-box;

“ post office letter-box ” includes any pillar-box, wall-box, or other box or receptacle provided under the authority of the Postmaster-General for the purpose of receiving postal packets, or any of them, for transmission by or under the authority of the Postmaster-General;

“ postal packet ” means a letter, post-card, newspaper, book-packet, pattern or sample packet, circular, legal and commercial document, packet of photographs, and every packet or article which is not for the time being prohibited from being sent by post.

3. The Governor may appoint a Postmaster-General and so many other postmasters and inferior officers as shall be necessary for the purposes of this Law.

Appoint-
ment of
officers.

4. The Governor may from time to time appoint one General Post Office and so many branch post offices throughout the Colony as he may deem expedient, and may from

Governor
may
establish
post offices.

time to time abolish any of such offices and appoint others in lieu thereof, as he may deem necessary.

Exclusive
privilege.

5. (1) The Postmaster-General shall by himself or by his deputies and their servants and agents have the exclusive privilege of conveying from one place to another in the Colony, wheresoever posts now are or hereafter may be established, all letters, except as hereinafter provided; and shall also within the Colony have the exclusive privilege of performing all the incidental services of receiving, collecting and delivering all letters, except as hereinafter provided.

Exceptions.

(2) There shall be excepted from the exclusive privilege of the Postmaster-General all letters of the following descriptions, that is to say—

- (a) letters sent by a private friend on his way, journey or travel, so as they are delivered by him to the person to whom they are directed;
- (b) letters sent by a messenger on purpose concerning the private affairs of the sender or receiver thereof;
- (c) commissions or returns thereof and affidavits or writs, process or proceedings or returns thereof, issuing out of a court of justice;
- (d) letters of merchants, owners of vessels of merchandise or the cargo or loading therein, sent by such vessels and delivered to the persons to whom they are directed, so that no hire or reward is given or received for the same in anywise;
- (e) letters concerning goods sent by common known carriers or muleteers to be delivered with the goods which the letters concern without hire or reward or other profit or advantage for receiving or delivering the letters.

Special pro-
hibitions.

(3) But nothing herein contained shall authorise any person to make a collection of such excepted letters for the purpose of sending them in the manner hereby authorised; and the following persons are expressly forbidden to carry a letter, or to receive or collect or deliver a letter, although they shall not receive hire or reward for the same—

- (a) common known carriers and muleteers and their servants or agents, except a letter concerning goods in their carts or wagons, or on their pack-

- horses, camels, mules, or asses; and owners, drivers, or guards of public conveyances;
- (b) owners, masters or commanders of ships, vessels or steamboats, sailing or passing coastwise or otherwise between ports or places within the Colony, their servants or agents, except in respect of letters of merchants, owners of ships or goods on board;
 - (c) passengers or other persons on board any such ships, vessels or steamboats.

6. The Postmaster-General in his own name with the approval of the Governor may enter into any contract in writing for the conveyance of mails within or from the Colony, and may also employ mail carriers for the conveyance of mails, or forward mails by any other mode of conveyance that he may deem best, and may appoint letter carriers for the delivery of letters at private houses in any town or village of the Colony.

Power to Postmaster to make contracts, etc.

7. Subject to the provisions of any treaty or convention with any State binding on the Government of the Colony the Governor may by Order in Council from time to time fix the rates of postage or other sums to be charged by or under the Postmaster-General in respect of postal packets or any description thereof conveyed or delivered for conveyance by post, whether in the Colony or elsewhere, and regulate the scale of weights and the circumstances according to which such rates or sums are to be charged:

Power to Governor to fix rates of postage.

Provided that for every letter not weighing more than half an ounce sent by any non-commissioned officer or private soldier, seaman or marine in Her Majesty's Service to any place beyond the seas there shall be chargeable for its conveyance and delivery a postage of five mils and no more; but on every letter so sent there must be written in the handwriting of and signed by the Commanding Officer of the regiment, detachment or ship to which such non-commissioned officer, soldier, seaman or marine belongs, the words "soldier's letter," "seaman's letter," or "marine's letter," as the case may be, or words to that effect, and every such letter must be prepaid.

8. Where any treaty or convention binding on the Government of the Colony has been or hereafter shall be made with any State with respect to the conveyance by post of any

As to postal arrangements with foreign countries.