

POST AND COMMUNICATION.

THE POST OFFICE LAW.

(CAP. 281.)

21 *Gaz.* 50
22 *Gaz.* 430
25 *Gaz.* 453

POST OFFICE (COLLECTION OF TRADE CHARGES ON POSTAL PACKETS) (PARCELS) REGULATIONS.

1. These regulations may be cited as the Post Office (Collection of Trade Charges on Postal Packets) (Parcels) Regulations.
2. These regulations shall apply to the collection of Trade Charges on parcels (insured or otherwise) carried by post between the Colony and all parts of the British Commonwealth, all Territories under British trusteeship, the British Post Office at Tangier, and such Foreign Countries as have adopted the "Remboursement" system, and to parcels posted at any Money Order Office within the Colony for delivery at any Money Order Office within the Colony.
3. The "Remboursement" system is designed to meet the requirements of persons who wish to pay for articles sent to them at the time of receipt of the articles and also to meet the requirements of traders and others who wish to recover through the agency of the Post Office the value of articles supplied by them.
4. Throughout these regulations the amount to be collected under "Remboursement" system is called the "Trade Charge".
5. The amount of Trade Charge shall not exceed the limits accepted by the country of destination and the maximum shall in no case exceed £40 including the fees payable at the Office of Origin and Postage.
6. Every "Remboursement Parcel" posted or delivered in Cyprus shall be chargeable with such special fees as may be prescribed for that purpose.
7. The fees payable at the office of origin will be collected at the time of posting; and should be included by the sender in the amount required to be collected from the addressee. The full amount so collected is remitted to the sender of the parcel by means of Trade Charge Money Orders.
8. Remboursement parcels are to be accepted at any Money Order Office in Cyprus on the following conditions:—

The sender shall—

 - (a) furnish on the cover of the parcel, or on a label affixed to the cover, and on the Despatch Note if one is used, his name and full address and the word "Remboursement" written or boldly printed beside the address and after it the amount of Trade Charge must be shown in Latin characters, in British Currency without erasure or correction, even if certified. These particulars may be written on the back of the packet if there is not room for them to be written clearly on the front. No erasure or alteration of the entry of the amount is allowed. An incorrect entry must be completely obliterated and a fresh entry made;
 - (b) fill up a Trade Charge Card with all the particulars required by the Card, except those in the space headed "Service Instructions." No erasure or alteration of the entry of the amount is allowed. If the sender desires to correct the entry he must make a fresh card. (This card will eventually be returned to him as the Money Order in payment of the Trade Charge);

(c) prepay the Cash on Delivery fee by affixing to the parcel postage stamps representing the Cash on Delivery fees in accordance with Order in Council No. 898 dated the 1st day of August, 1922. The ordinary postage and other charges must be also prepaid;

(d) the sender of a parcel posted under this arrangement may request at the time of posting, that, if the parcel cannot be delivered as addressed, it may either, (a) be treated as abandoned or, (b) tendered for delivery at a second address in the country of destination. If the sender avails himself of this facility his request must be written and signed on the parcel and the relative Despatch Note and must be in the following terms:—

“ If this parcel is undeliverable to the addressee, it should be—

(a) considered as abandoned ;

(b) tendered for delivery to.....

(The alternative not required should be struck out).”

In the absence of a definite request for abandonment, a parcel which is undeliverable at the original address or at the alternative address (if one is furnished) within a period of 15 days shall be returned to the sender without previous notification, at his expense. No request for delivery at a second address without payment of the Trade Charge can be entertained.

The sender shall then hand in the parcel at the counter, where he will receive a Certificate of Posting whether the parcel is insured or not, which he will give up when he presents the Trade Charge Money Order to be cashed.

9. The sender of a parcel posted under the Remboursement system may not have the amount of the Trade Charge cancelled or reduced after posting.

10. Where a Remboursement parcel has been insured, the amount of insurance shall not exceed the amount of Trade Charge of the parcel, and in the event of loss the amount of indemnity, shall be governed, without regard to the amount of Trade Charge, by the ordinary rules relating to parcels.

11. The amount of the Trade Charge shall not exceed the amount of the Declared value together with the postage and the fees payable on the parcel in connection with the Remboursement system.

12. Where a Remboursement parcel (1) has been irregularly accepted for a country to which the system of Remboursement does not extend, or (2) bears a Trade Charge which exceeds the maximum prescribed in the country of destination, or (3) lacks some essential particulars, it may be returned to the sender.

13. Any conversion of money that may be necessary will be effected at the office of destination.

14. If a Remboursement parcel which bears one address only is not claimed by the addressee within a period of 15 days the parcel will be treated as undeliverable. If a Remboursement parcel bearing two addresses is not claimed by the first addressee within a period of 8 days the parcel will be held at the disposal of the second addressee for a further period of 7 days and if then unclaimed will be treated as undeliverable.

THE POST OFFICE LAW.

(CAP. 281.)

42 Vol.II 132 POST OFFICE (INSURANCE OF LETTERS, BOXES AND PARCELS)
REGULATIONS.

1. These regulations may be cited as the Post Office (Insurance of Letters, Boxes and Parcels) Regulations.

2.—(1) The insurance service is available for the United Kingdom, certain British Colonies and Possessions, and foreign countries.

(2) The service does not apply to letters and boxes addressed to Her Majesty's ships of war, but it applies to parcels addressed to such ships up to a limit of value of £50.

3. Three kinds of packets are recognized in the insurance service :—

- (a) insured letters ;
- (b) insured boxes ; and
- (c) insured parcels ;

which may be insured for such sum as the country of destination permits but in no case exceeding £120.

4. Insured letters and boxes cannot be sent by all the routes open to ordinary letters and may therefore take longer in transit.

5. A letter, box or parcel intended for insurance must be presented at the counter of a Post Office. The Post Offices at which insured articles are posted or delivered are those of Famagusta, Kyrenia, Larnaca, Lefka, Lefkara, Lefkoniko, Limassol, Morphou, Nicosia, Nicosia Branch Office North, Nicosia Branch Office South, Paphos, Pedhoulas, Platres, Polis, Prodromos, Rizokarpaso, Troodos or Yialousa.

6. Insured letters, boxes and parcels must not be addressed to initials or in pencil, and must not bear erasures or corrections in the address at the time of posting.

7. A certificate of posting must always be obtained by the sender who should see that the amount of insurance is correctly stated therein.

8. The sender of an insured letter, box or parcel may obtain an advice of its delivery on application at the office of posting, either at the time of posting or subsequently, on prepayment of the prescribed fee for an Advice of Delivery for a registered article.

9. All seals on an insured letter, box or parcel must be of the same kind of wax (or lead or steel in the case of parcels), and must bear distinct impressions of the same private device. Coins must not be used for sealing ; and the device must not consist merely of straight, crossed or curved lines which could readily be imitated.

10. If a letter, box or parcel tendered for insurance does not, in the opinion of the officer of the Post Office to whom it is tendered, fulfil the prescribed conditions as to packing and sealing, it is his duty to refuse to insure it. Nevertheless, the onus of properly enclosing, packing, and sealing the packet lies upon the sender ; and the Post Office assumes no liability for loss arising from defects which may not be observed at the time of posting.

11. The amount for which an article is insured must be written in ink by the sender both in words and in figures, at the top of the address side of the cover, thus :—“ Insured for fifteen pounds (£15).” In the case of a parcel, the amount must also be entered in the appropriate space on the despatch note if one is used. Further, in the case of insured letters, boxes or parcels addressed to Egypt or forwarded through the intermediary of the Egyptian

Postal Administration this amount of insured value must also be converted into gold francs. No alteration or erasure of the inscription on the letter, box or parcel or on the despatch note is allowed.

12. No letter, box or parcel can be insured for more than its actual value or for more than the maximum sum admitted by the country of destination and in no case exceeding £120.

A letter, box or parcel of which the contents have no pecuniary value, may, however, be insured for a nominal sum in order to obtain the safeguards of the insurance system. Over insurance is an obstacle to compensation.

13. The sums payable for insurance, including the registration fee, must be prepaid, in addition to the full postage, in as few postage stamps as possible, which the sender must affix to the cover.

14. Compensation for the loss or damage in the post of an insured letter, box or parcel, or its contents, will not exceed the value at the time of posting of the article lost or the amount of the damage sustained. Indirect loss or loss of profits is not taken into consideration.

15.—(1) No compensation will be paid in respect of—

- (a) any packet containing a prohibited article ;
- (b) any packet which has been duly delivered and accepted without reserve ;
- (c) any damage or loss caused by the fault or negligence of the sender, such as failure to provide adequate packing, having regard to the nature of the contents ;
- (d) any damage to an exceptionally fragile article which from its nature cannot reasonably be expected to travel safely by post ;
- (e) any damage or loss resulting from the acts of the Queen's enemies.

(2) The Post Office reserves the right to refuse compensation where the damage or loss is due to a cause beyond control, or where a packet cannot be accounted for in consequence of the loss of official documents from any such cause.

16. No claim for compensation will be admitted if made more than a year after the packet was posted.

17. The sender of a parcel may waive his claim in favour of the addressee.

18. The final decision upon all questions of compensation rests with the Postal Administration of the country in which the loss or damage has taken place.

19. Any insurance effected contrary to the foregoing regulations is invalid.

20. The Post Office is under no legal liability to pay compensation in respect of any packet for which an insurance fee has been paid.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO LETTERS.

21. The insurance system applies to letters which, in addition to ordinary correspondence, contain—

- (a) paper valuables such as bank-notes, currency notes, bonds, coupons and securities ;
- (b) valuable documents of any kind such as plans and estimates.

Letters containing articles other than those mentioned above, postcards, small packets, printed papers, commercial papers and samples cannot be insured.

22. Every letter tendered for insurance must be enclosed in a strong cover made up in one piece, which must be securely fastened by means of identical seals in fine wax, with spaces between reproducing a private mark, and affixed in sufficient number to hold down all the folds of the envelope.

Envelopes with black or coloured borders or transparent panels must not be used.