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No. 5897

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
and
CANADA**

**Postal Convention. Signed at Ottawa, on 12 January 1961,
and at Washington, on 13 January 1961**

Official text: English.

Registered by the United States of America on 29 September 1961.

**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE
et
CANADA**

**Convention postale. Signée à Ottawa, le 12 janvier 1961,
et à Washington, le 13 janvier 1961**

Texte officiel anglais.

Enregistrée par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 29 septembre 1961.

No. 5897. POSTAL CONVENTION¹ BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND CANADA. SIGNED AT OTTAWA, ON 12 JANUARY 1961, AND AT WASHINGTON, ON 13 JANUARY 1961

For the purpose of making better postal arrangements between the United States of America and Canada, the undersigned, The Honourable Arthur E. Summerfield, Postmaster General of the United States of America, and The Honourable William Hamilton, Postmaster General of Canada, by virtue of authority vested in them by law, have agreed upon the following articles :

Article 1

ADMISSIBLE ARTICLES

(a) Unless they are specifically prohibited by the country of destination, articles of every kind or nature which are admitted to the domestic mails of either country, and except as herein prohibited, shall be admitted to the mails exchanged under this Convention subject, however, to such regulations as the Postal Administration of the country of destination may deem necessary to give effect to customs and other Government regulations.

(b) The following articles are prohibited admission to the mails exchanged under this Convention :

Publications which violate the copyright laws of the country of destination ; any article or matter that is inadmissible in the domestic mails of either country ; packages sent at parcel post rates the weight of which exceeds twenty-five pounds ; printed books sewn or bound sent at printed matter rate the weight of which exceeds eleven pounds.

Article 2

POSTAGE RATES AND GENERAL CONDITIONS

Where the classifications are comparable in both countries, the rates of postage and special service fees to be collected on mail matter originating in either country and addressed to the other, shall be those applicable in the country of origin for its domestic mails according to its postal laws and regulations provided that—

¹ Came into force on 1 July 1961, the date mutually agreed upon by the two Contracting Parties, in accordance with article 19.

- (a) The rates of postage and the registration and special delivery fees so levied shall not exceed in either country the rates of postage and fees prescribed for articles of a like nature by the Acts of the Universal Postal Union¹ in force at the time.
- (b) Second class matter in each country addressed for delivery in the other shall be chargeable at a rate not less than the lowest international postage rate in effect for such printed matter.
- (c) When separately addressed copies of newspapers and periodicals intended for delivery at one office are enclosed under one label, bearing the address of such office, the individual copies shall be delivered without further charge to the respective addressees. Postage may be paid on the cover either by means of postage stamps affixed, postage meter impressions or other authorized imprints,
- (d) Parcel post matter in each country, addressed to the other shall be chargeable at a rate not less than the rate applicable to a parcel of similar weight in the country of origin for the maximum distance or zone.

Article 3

FREEDOM FROM DETENTION OR EXAMINATION

Except as required by the regulations of the country of destination for the collection of its customs duties, or as required by other Government regulations covering examination of such items as plant material, drugs and medicine, or for security reasons, all admissible matter mailed in one country to the other, or received in one country from the other, shall be free from any detention or examination whatever, and shall be forwarded to its destination by the most expeditious means available for the class of mail involved, and shall be promptly delivered to the addressees, being subject in its transmission to the laws and regulations of each country.

¹ Universal Postal Convention, signed at Ottawa on 3 October 1957 : United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 364, p. 3 ; Vol. 391, p. 322, and Vol. 404 ; Agreement concerning insured letters and boxes, signed at Ottawa on 3 October 1957 : United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 364, p. 331 ; Vol. 391, p. 326, and Vol. 404 ; Agreement concerning postal parcels, signed at Ottawa, on 3 October 1957 : United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 365, p. 3 ; Vol. 391, p. 327, and Vol. 404 ; Agreement concerning postal money orders and postal travellers' cheques, signed at Ottawa on 3 October 1957 : United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 365, p. 207, and Vol. 391, p. 328 ; Agreement concerning transfers to and from postal cheque accounts, signed at Ottawa, on 3 October 1957 : United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 366, p. 3, and Vol. 391, p. 329 ; Agreement concerning cash-on delivery items, signed at Ottawa on 3 October 1957 : United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 366, p. 87, and Vol. 391, p. 330 ; Agreement concerning the collection of bills, drafts, etc., signed at Ottawa on 3 October 1957 : United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 366, p. 141, and Vol. 391, p. 331 ; Agreement concerning the international savings bank service, signed at Ottawa on 3 October 1957 : United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 366, p. 193, and Vol. 391, p. 332, and Agreement concerning subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals, signed at Ottawa on 3 October 1957 : United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 366, p. 255, and Vol. 391, p. 333.

Article 4

RETENTION OF POSTAGE AND FEES

Each Administration shall retain the whole of the postage and special fees, collected.

Article 5

UNPAID OR INSUFFICIENTLY PAID POSTAGE

(a) Letters and post cards on which postage is unpaid or insufficiently paid, originating in either country and addressed to the other, shall be forwarded rated double the deficient postage collectible in the country of destination.

(b) Other articles (including parcel post) on which postage is unpaid or insufficiently paid, originating in either country and addressed to the other, shall be dealt with in accordance with the domestic laws and regulations of the country of origin.

Article 6

INDEMNITIES

(a) The sender is entitled to indemnity for the loss of a registered article. The amount paid shall be based on actual value and shall not exceed \$100.00. The country of origin shall undertake the payment of indemnity according to its postal laws and regulations, subject to its right to make a claim on the country responsible. However, either country may refuse to undertake the risks of force majeure (causes beyond control).

(b) The country of origin shall be responsible for and undertake the payment of indemnity for loss, rifling and damage of insured parcels in accordance with its postal laws and regulations. However, either country may refuse to undertake the risks of force majeure (causes beyond control).

Article 7

PARCEL POST. TERMINAL AND TRANSIT CHARGES

(a) On parcel post packages weighing in excess of eight ounces the country of origin shall allow to the country of destination the following terminal charges :

<i>On parcels from</i>	<i>Terminal charges per parcel payable to</i>
Canada	United States : 50 cents
United States	Canada : 45 cents