

three months, when, if unclaimed, they may be returned to the sender through the colony or country from which they were received, subject to surcharge specified in clause 16. Should any parcel be refused by the addressee it may be forthwith returned to the sender, subject, however, to fresh postage and any other charges to which it may become liable.

16. Parcels addressed to a post-office "To be called for," after they have remained in the office seven clear days (excluding Sundays and holidays), shall be charged demurrage at the rate of a 1d. a day. No demurrage, however, shall be charged on parcels addressed to persons on vessels to arrive.

17. If a parcel cannot be delivered from any cause the sender will, if possible, be consulted as to its disposal.

18. Parcels returned to another country at the request of the sender will be surcharged with the ordinary parcel-postage. Such surcharge, together with any other charges to which the parcel has become liable, will be collected on delivery, unless remitted by the sender or the addressee of the parcel.

19. At the written request of either the sender or addressee, or the authorised agent of either, a parcel can be redirected to another country with which arrangements have been made for the exchange of postal parcels, but will be subject to fresh postage, and any other charges to which it may have become liable, which must be either prepaid or collected on delivery.

20. Parcels which cannot be delivered, or redirected, or returned to the sender, will be sent back to the country from whence they came.

21. The contents of parcels returned to the colony being unclaimed or undeliverable, which cannot be returned to the sender, will be sold or destroyed by the order of the Postmaster-General.

22. The contents of parcels should be securely packed, and closed in such a manner as to preserve them from injury.

23. Parcels will only be received and forwarded at the risk of the owners. In no case will the Postmaster-General be responsible for the delay, non-delivery, injury, or loss of any parcel.

24. Parcels may be insured against loss at the following rates: 6d. for the first £5, and 6d. for every additional £5. The limit, intercolonially, to be £20, and the limit for Great Britain and foreign countries to be £50.

25. No current coin or bullion shall be allowed to be sent by parcel-post.

Article 21.—The commission chargeable on money-orders exchanged intercolonially to be as follows: Not exceeding £2, 6d.; not exceeding £5, 1s.; not exceeding £7, 1s. 6d.; not exceeding £10, 2s.; not exceeding £12, 2s. 6d.; not exceeding £16, 3s.; not exceeding £17, 3s. 6d.; not exceeding £20, 4s.

Article 22.—Where one person has occasion to send more than one telegraphic money-order to the same person he shall be charged for one message of advice.

APPENDIX B.

REPORT BY HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS ON UNIFORM TELEGRAPH REGULATIONS.

THE heads of departments submit the following revised telegraph regulations for adoption by each of the colonies:—

1. All telegrams should be written distinctly with ink on forms provided for that purpose, the signature of the sender in each case being required in authentication of his message; but all telegrams, whether written on the proper form or on plain paper, will be considered as presented for transmission under the conditions contained in the following regulations, and any infringement of this rule will be at the sender's risk.

2. In order to prevent errors in the transmission of telegrams all words should be written in full, and no abbreviations will be allowed that are not in general use, and in accordance with the usage of the language. All numbers and marks should be written in words in full. On messages bearing multiple addresses to the same city or town half-rates will be chargeable for the text of the messages, and full-word rates for the additional names and addresses after the first address.

3. As a general rule all messages must be prepaid, except in the case of replies to messages on which the words "Reply paid" have been written, or where special arrangements have been made for payment by receiver; but in all cases the sender will be held responsible for the cost of the message should payment be refused by addressee.

4. Names and addresses will be counted as forming part of the message.*

5. Messages will be delivered free within one mile of the office. For greater distances, portage or, where necessary, cab- or boat-hire will be charged, and must be prepaid or guaranteed. Where a special messenger has to be employed the department will make the best arrangements it can; but the telegram will only be so forwarded at the sender's risk and cost, and should no messenger be procurable the telegram will be posted, at the option of the sender.

6. Every message in secret language, or consisting of words in any admitted language (English, French, German, Italian, Dutch, Portuguese, Spanish, and Latin), having no connective meaning, groups of letters or figures, shall be regarded as a cipher message, and be subject to an additional charge of 50 per cent.; and in a message containing one or more words in cipher every such word shall be counted as two words, and the extra charge be added to the minimum rate for a message, provided that such extra charge shall not exceed 50 per cent. on the ordinary rate which would be payable on account of the said telegram. Groups of five letters or five figures shall count as one cipher word.

7. To facilitate delivery, care should be taken to give full name and address of person to whom telegram is addressed.

8. The sender of any telegram can have the telegram repeated back to him by the office to which the message is addressed on payment of an additional half-rate.

* This depends on the intercolonial telegraph rates being altered.