

New Zealand; but if you argue in the same way, it would cost more to send a cypher message from Brisbane to Melbourne than from Brisbane to Sydney. I cannot see that the difference in cost between one colony and another is a reason why you should increase the rate to New Zealand.

Mr. C. TODD (S.A.): I think the special agreement was overlooked when the recommendation was made.

Amendment put and agreed to; and question put and passed.

The following were formally agreed to:—

36. URGENT TELEGRAMS.

We advise that the system of "Urgent" Telegrams now in force in Queensland, Victoria, Tasmania, New Zealand, and South Australia be adopted generally.

37. UNIFORM SUNDAY TELEGRAPH RATES.

We advise that all messages despatched on Sunday be charged double the ordinary rates, excepting cable and Press messages. (New Zealand assenting, except as regards Press rates; Tasmania dissenting.)

38. *Re* CHARGING INTERCOLONIAL RATES TO PORT DARWIN FOR CORRECTIONS.

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43. INTERCOLONIAL REPEATS (FOR CORRECTIONS).

We recommend that all intercolonial corrections and repeats should be dealt with in the same manner as provided for under the International Regulations, as follows:—

Rectifying Telegrams.

The receiver of a message may have the whole or part of it repeated on payment of the cost of the telegram demanding the repetition and of the reply to the same.

The sender can also have the whole or any portion of his message repeated on payment of the cost of the telegram he forwards and of the reply.

The demand for the repetition must be made within seventy-two hours after receipt or despatch of the telegram, and should be written in the following manner:—

"Sydney from Brisbane" (*these words are not charged for*).

"RP. 4" (*representing reply paid four words*).

"Twenty-sixth," (*date of message to be repeated*), "Brown" (*receiver's name*), "Repeat first, fourth, ninth," (*meaning words of the text of the telegram to be repeated*); or,

"Twenty-sixth," "Brown" "Repeat word" (*or words*) "after———."

The reply will be worded as follows:—

"Brisbane to Sydney" (*these words are not charged for*).

"Brown".....(*words repeated*).

39. REGISTRATION OF TELEGRAPH CODE ADDRESSES (FEE).

We recommend that each colony should charge a registration fee of 10s. per annum for all cable code addresses. (Victoria dissenting, as that colony already has a charge of 21s.)

The HON. J. G. WARD (N.Z.): I should like to express the hope that in cases where the code address has not been registered the heads of Departments will exercise every care to find the addressee. A great deal of inconvenience has arisen in consequence of the messages in one colony not being delivered. We may adopt the system, which I thoroughly approve of, but there will be hundreds of people who know nothing about code addresses. They will send telegrams in the ordinary way, and the subordinate staff, who know it is necessary to have a code address registered, may be a little reckless in seeking the addressee. I hope the question I have raised will be noted.

The HON. A. WYNNE (V.): It seems to me that 10s. is too low a fee for the registration of a code address. It entails a lot of trouble in the way of reference to books and registers, and would cost the Department a great deal more than 10s. to find the address. I would suggest that the fee be £1 1s., which is little enough for twelve months. I move that as an amendment.

Mr. C. TODD (S.A.): It only applies to cable messages, and I think a registration fee of 10s. per annum for cable code addresses is sufficient. It is not at all improbable that in the near future an alteration will be made in the system of counting, so that instead of saying that names and addresses are free, it will be stated that the charge will be so much, including names and addresses.

The HON. J. G. WARD (N.Z.): My opinion is that a fee of 10s. is ample. There are plenty of firms who may register ten, twenty, thirty, or forty addresses; I know one firm who registered 170; but if the fee is £1 1s. the chances are that many of these addresses will not be registered. It is not a fair thing to charge the same fee for an intercolonial code registration as for an international one, and I would suggest that the amendment be withdrawn.

The HON. A. WYNNE (V.): I will withdraw the amendment.

Amendment withdrawn accordingly, and paragraph passed as printed.

The following recommendations were agreed to without discussion:—

40. MULTIPLE PRESS MESSAGES.

We advise that each administration continue under the existing arrangements, as the Press rates are so widely different that it is inadvisable to make any change at present.

41. TELEGRAPHIC