POST OFFICE

1953 No. 1732

The British Commonwealth and Foreign Post Warrant, 1953

Made - - - - - 27*th November*, 1953
Laid before Parliament - - 1*st December*, 1953
Coming into Operation - - 1*st January*, 1954

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We, the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, in exercise of all powers given to us by sections 5, 8, 11, 15 and 81 of the Post Office Act 1953(a) and of all other powers enabling us in this behalf, do, by this Warrant, made on the representation of Her Majesty's Postmaster-General (testified by his signing the same), and under the hands of two of us the said Commissioners, order, direct, and declare as follows:—

Part I.—Interpretation and Application

Interpretation

1.—(1) In this Warrant, except so far as the contrary is provided or the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them:

"the Act" means the Post Office Act 1953;

"air letter" means a letter (not being a Forces letter) written on a special form and transmitted to the country or place of destination through the whole or part of its course in the post by an air mail service;

"air mail packet" means an outgoing postal packet conveyed or intended to be conveyed at the request of the sender through any part of its course in the post by an air mail service;

"air mail service" means a service established by or under the direction of the Postmaster-General for the conveyance of mails by air;

"coin" means coin whether or not current in the British postal area or elsewhere, except such as is used or designed for purposes of ornament;

"commercial packet" has the meaning assigned to it by regulation twenty-four;

"Commonwealth country" includes any of the territories referred to in Part 1 of the Second Schedule hereto;

"Forces letter" means a letter written on a special form and addressed to, or sent to the British postal area by, a member of the armed forces of the United Kingdom serving abroad or on board a ship of the Royal Navy on the high seas or in any port or place outside the British postal area, and transmitted, through the whole or part of its course in the post, by an air mail service;

"gold bullion" means uncoined and unmanufactured gold;

"incoming" applied to a postal packet of any description means received at a post office in the British postal area through the post;

"insured letter" and "insured box" mean respectively any insured letter and insured box which is for the time being transmissible under the provisions of the Universal Postal Union Agreement for the exchange of insured letters and boxes for the time being in force, and the detailed Regulations made thereunder;

"letter" includes any communication in the nature of current and personal correspondence, and also includes a packet transmitted at the letter rate of postage and containing goods or articles of merchandise;

"literature for the blind" means—

(i) books or papers (including letters to or from blind persons) impressed or otherwise prepared for the use of the blind;

(ii) plates bearing the characters of writing used for the blind;

(iii) voice records and special paper intended solely for the use of the blind provided that they are sent by or addressed to an officially recognised institute for the blind;

(a) 1 & 2 Eliz. 2. c. 36.

" magazine for Canada " means a postal packet consisting of a newspaper, magazine, or trade journal registered as provided by this Warrant for transmission to Canada, or consisting of more than one such article, being a packet posted in the British postal area for transmission to Canada by a ship plying directly between the British postal area and Canada ;

" member of the armed forces of the United Kingdom or of any other Commonwealth country " and " member of the armed forces of any State allied with the United Kingdom " include a member of any auxiliary service of such respective forces ;

" outgoing " applied to a postal packet of any description means posted in the British postal area ;

" parcel " means a postal packet which is posted in the British postal area as a parcel in accordance with the provisions of the British Commonwealth and Foreign Parcel Post Warrant 1950(a) or any Warrant amending or replacing the same, or is received at a post office in the British postal area from abroad by parcel post ;

" Phonopost packet " means an incoming postal packet containing a recorded spoken message, being a packet recognised as a Phonopost packet in accordance with the terms of the Universal Postal Convention for the time being in force ;

" postal form " means a form issued by or under the authority of the Postmaster-General ;

" postal packet " means and includes (except where otherwise expressed) a letter, postcard, printed packet, commercial packet, sample packet, small packet, magazine for Canada, packet consisting of literature for the blind, insured box, Phonopost packet, and a packet to which paragraph (1) of regulation nine applies, but does not include a telegram or (except in the foregoing definition of " parcel ") a parcel;

" postcard " means a card recognised as a postcard in accordance with the terms of the Universal Postal Convention for the time being in force, and includes (except where otherwise expressed) a reply postcard ;

" prescribed " means prescribed by the Postmaster-General ;

" printed packet " has the meaning assigned to it by regulation twenty-two ;

" reply postcard " means a postcard in two parts, one part (or where regulation twenty-one of this Warrant so allows, both parts) of which may without further payment be again transmitted through the post ;

" sample packet " has the meaning assigned to it by regulation twenty-five ;

" small packet " has the meaning assigned to it by regulation twenty-six ;

and other expressions have the same meanings as they have in the Act.

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1889(b), applies to the interpretation of this Warrant as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

Application

2. The provisions of this Warrant shall, except where otherwise expressed, apply exclusively to :—

(*a*) postal packets transmitted by post in either direction between the British postal area and a country or place (other than the Republic of Ireland) outside the British postal area ; and

(a) S.I. 1950/1200; 1950 II, p. 367. (b) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

(*b*) postal packets so transmitted between the British postal area and a ship of the Royal Navy outside the territorial waters of the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man, whether or not such postal packets are addressed "c/o G.P.O.".

PART II.—RATES OF POSTAGE

Letters and Postcards

3.—(1) The rates of postage specified in Part 1 of the First Schedule hereto shall be charged and paid on letters and postcards:

(i) posted in the British postal area for transmission to a person in any of the countries or places specified in Part 1 or Part 2 of the Second Schedule hereto, or the United States of America;

(ii) posted on board a ship registered in any part of the British postal area while the ship is on the high seas, for transmission to a person in any of the countries or places specified in Part 1, Part 2 or Part 3 of the Second Schedule hereto;

(iii) posted in the British postal area, or posted on board a ship registered in any part of the British postal area while the ship is on the high seas:—

(*a*) for transmission in closed mails to a person on board a ship of the Royal Navy (whether on the high seas or in any port or place outside the British postal area), or

(*b*) for transmission to a member of the armed forces of the United Kingdom or of any other Commonwealth country serving outside the British postal area, or a member of the armed forces of any State allied with the United Kingdom serving outside the British postal area with the armed forces of the United Kingdom or of any other Commonwealth country, being transmission through a British Forces' Post Office or a civilian Postal Administration in any foreign country which has agreed to deliver without surcharge letters and postcards at the said rates;

(iv) posted on board a ship of the Royal Navy (whether on the high seas or in any port or place outside the British postal area) for transmission in closed mails to a person in the United States of America; or

(v) posted by a member of the armed forces of the United Kingdom or of any other Commonwealth country serving outside the British postal area, or a member of the armed forces of any State allied with the United Kingdom serving outside the British postal area with the armed forces of the United Kingdom or of any other Commonwealth country, for transmission to a person in the United States of America through a British Forces' Post Office at which British postage stamps are issued.

(2) The rates of postage specified in Part 2 of the First Schedule hereto shall be charged and paid on letters and postcards:—

(i) posted on board a ship of the Royal Navy (whether on the high seas or in any port or place outside the British postal area) for transmission in closed mails to a person at any of the destinations referred to in sub-paragraphs (ii) and (iii) of paragraph (1); or

(ii) posted by a member of the forces referred to in sub-paragraph (v) of paragraph (1) serving as therein mentioned for transmission through a British Forces' Post Office at which British postage stamps are issued, to a person at any of the destinations referred to in sub-paragraphs (ii) and (iii) of paragraph (1).

(3) The rates of postage specified in Part 3 of the First Schedule hereto shall be charged and paid on all other outgoing letters and postcards.

Reduced Rate Printed Packets

4.—(1) The rates of postage specified in item 1 of Part 1 of the Third Schedule hereto shall be charged and paid on outgoing printed packets to which this regulation applies.

(2) Subject as hereinafter mentioned this regulation applies to:—

(*a*) Any registered newspaper;

(*b*) Any other newspaper, or other periodical publication, which complies with the following conditions:—

(i) It is printed and published in the British postal area;

(ii) It is issued in consecutive numbers at intervals of not more than one year;

(iii) It consists only of paper or of some substance ordinarily used for printing;

(iv) It consists only of works of a literary character or any other printed matter and is not in the nature of current and personal correspondence;

(v) The full title, and the date, month or year of issue, or an indication of the frequency of issue, are conspicuously printed on the cover (or, in the absence of a cover, at the top of the first page) and on every detached sheet, page or piece of paper which is issued as part of such newspaper or publication;

(*c*) Any book sewn or bound;

(*d*) Any pamphlets, which expression for this purpose means short printed publications or works of a literary character in book form whether or not enclosed within covers or (if comprising more than one sheet) sewn or bound;

(*e*) Any sheets of music (except perforated sheets intended to be used with automatic musical instruments);

(*f*) Any maps:

Provided that:—

(i) This regulation shall not apply to:

printed packets of a commercial character (such as catalogues, prospectuses or price lists),

newspapers or other periodical publications with advertisement slips annexed,

books, pamphlets, sheets of music or maps which contain publicity matter or advertisements otherwise than on the cover or fly leaves,

nor shall this regulation apply to any printed packet unless the cover thereof is clearly marked "Printed Papers. Reduced Rate" on the left hand side of the space above the address.

(ii) The decision of the Postmaster-General as to whether a particular packet comes within this regulation shall be final.

Other Printed Packets, Commercial Packets, Sample Packets and Small Packets

5.—(1) The rates of postage specified in Part 1 of the Third Schedule hereto shall be charged and paid on printed packets, commercial packets, sample packets and small packets:—

(*a*) posted in the British postal area, or posted on board a ship registered in any part of the British postal area while the ship is on the high seas, for transmission as mentioned in sub-paragraph (iii) of paragraph (1) of regulation three;

(*b*) posted on board a ship of the Royal Navy (whether on the high seas or in any port or place outside the British postal area) for transmission in closed mails to a person at any of the destinations mentioned in sub-paragraphs (ii) and (iii) of paragraph 1 of regulation three;

(*c*) posted by a member of the forces referred to in sub-paragraph (v) of paragraph (1) of regulation three serving as therein mentioned, for transmission through a British Forces' Post Office at which British postage stamps are issued, to a person at any of the destinations referred to in sub-paragraphs (ii) and (iii) of paragraph (1) of regulation three.

(2) Except as otherwise provided by regulation four or by paragraph (1) of this regulation, the rates of postage specified in Part 2 of the Third Schedule hereto shall be charged and paid on outgoing printed packets, commercial packets, and sample packets, and on outgoing small packets addressed to any country or place with which the Postmaster-General may for the time being have an arrangement for the transmission of small packets.

Magazines for Canada

6. There shall be charged and paid on every magazine for Canada the following rates of postage, that is to say:—

On every packet not exceeding six ounces in weight, one penny.

On every packet exceeding six ounces but not exceeding one pound and a half in weight, three halfpence.

On every packet exceeding one pound and a half in weight, for every half pound or fractional part of a half pound, one halfpenny.

Literature for the Blind

7. No postage shall be payable on an outgoing packet (other than an air mail packet) consisting of literature for the blind.

Insured Boxes

8. There shall be charged and paid on every insured box addressed to any country or place with which the Postmaster-General may for the time being have an arrangement for the exchange of insured boxes, the following rates of postage:—

On every insured box not exceeding ten ounces in weight, one shilling and threepence;

On every insured box exceeding ten ounces in weight, for the first ten ounces, one shilling and threepence, and for every additional two ounces or fractional part of two ounces, threepence.

Articles grouped together in one packet

9.—(1) If articles in the following classes, that is to say:

Class (*a*)—articles transmissible in printed packets;

Class (*b*)—articles transmissible in commercial packets other than articles in class (*a*);

Class (*c*)—articles transmissible in sample packets other than articles in class (*a*) or class (*b*);

are enclosed in one and the same postal packet, there shall be charged and paid on every such packet the following rates of postage:

On every packet which contains any articles in class (*b*), the rate which would be applicable thereto if the packet were a commercial packet;

On every other packet, the rate which would be applicable thereto if the packet were a printed packet.

(2) If articles transmissible in a printed packet of a class to which regulation four of this Warrant applies and articles transmissible in a printed packet

of a class to which regulation five applies (not being a printed packet coming within paragraph (1) of the said regulation five) are enclosed in one and the same postal packet, there shall be charged and paid on every such packet the rates of postage specified in item 1 of Part 2 of the Third Schedule hereto.

Air Mail Packets

10.—(1) There shall be charged and paid:—

(*a*) on every Forces letter a rate of postage of two and a half pence;

(*b*) on every air letter a rate of postage of sixpence;

(*c*) on every air mail packet (other than a Forces letter or an air letter) a rate of postage of two shillings and sixpence for each half ounce or fractional part of a half ounce in weight:

Provided that without prejudice to his general power of remission under regulation forty-eight the Postmaster-General may from time to time remit any part of the said rate of postage on any class or classes of air mail packet (other than a Forces letter or an air letter) addressed to any specified country or place, and may at any time terminate any such remission.

(2) When the Postmaster-General remits a part of the said rate of postage or terminates any such remission under this regulation, he shall publish in the London, Edinburgh and Belfast Gazettes the amount of postage payable on air mail packets to which such remission or termination of a remission relates, and in any proceeding relating to the postage payable in respect of any such air mail packet the production of a copy of the Gazette stating the amount in question shall be conclusive evidence that such amount is the postage for the time being payable as aforesaid.

Bulk Postage

11.—(1) There shall be charged and paid on every mail bag containing magazines for Canada or printed packets for transmission as provided by regulation thirty-four the following rates of postage:—

For every pound weight of the mail bag and its contents:

(*a*) Mail bag containing magazines for Canada ... ... 1d.

(*b*) Mail bag containing printed packets ... ... 4½d.

(2) For the purpose of paragraph (1) of this regulation the weight of the mail bag and its contents shall be calculated to the nearest pound.

(3) Where postage is charged and paid under this regulation, postage shall not be charged on the individual postal packets contained in the mail bag.

PART III.—GENERAL CONDITIONS

Prohibitions

12.—(1) Save as the Postmaster-General may either generally or in any particular case allow, there shall not be conveyed or delivered by post any postal packet whereof the sending is prohibited by subsection (1) of section eleven of the Act.

(2) There shall not be posted or conveyed or delivered by post any postal packet:—

(*a*) containing:

(i) opium, morphine, cocaine, or other narcotic:

Provided that such narcotics may be sent for medical or scientific purposes in insured boxes to countries which admit them when so sent;

(ii) any living animals, except:

bees, leeches, silkworms, or parasites or destroyers of noxious insects used for the purpose of controlling those insects and exchanged between officially recognised institutions;

(iii) samples of which the number forwarded by the same sender to the same addressee shows an obvious intention of avoiding the payment of customs charges due to the country of destination;

(iv) anything which by the law of the country or place in which the packet is posted or to which the packet is addressed it is unlawful to send by post;

(v) gold bullion and coin exceeding £5 in value;

(vi) any imitation of a bank note within the meaning of section thirty-eight of the Criminal Justice Act, 1925(**a**);

(*b*) containing or bearing any fictitious stamp, or any counterfeit impression of a stamping machine used under the direction or by the permission of the Postmaster-General, or any counterfeit of any other impression authorised by or under this Warrant to be used for the prepayment of postage or fees;

(*c*) having thereon, or on the cover thereof, any words, letters or marks (used without due authority) which signify or imply, or may reasonably lead the recipient thereof to believe, that the postal packet is sent on Her Majesty's service;

(*d*) of such a form or so made up for transmission by post as to be likely in the opinion of the Postmaster-General to embarrass the officers of the Post Office in dealing with the packet;

(*e*) having anything written, printed or otherwise impressed upon or attached to any part of the postal packet which, either by tending to prevent the easy and quick reading of the address of the packet or by inconvenient proximity to the stamp or stamps used in the payment of postage or fees, or in any other way, is in itself, or in the manner in which it is written, printed, impressed or attached, likely in the opinion of the Postmaster-General to embarrass the officers of the Post Office in dealing with the packet;

(*f*) having anything written, printed or otherwise impressed across the postage stamp thereon;

(*g*) the cover whereof or the part thereof reserved for the address is divided into separate sections for the insertion of successive addresses;

(*h*) (except as permitted by paragraph (3) of regulation twenty-five) the cover whereof is entirely transparent or has therein an open panel: Provided that there may be a transparent panel in the cover for the purpose of showing the address of the addressee, subject to such rules as may be prescribed;

(*i*) purporting to be prepaid with any stamp or impression of a stamping machine, or with any other impression authorised by or under this Warrant to be used for the prepayment of postage or fees, which has been previously used to prepay any other postal packet or any other Revenue duty or tax;

(*j*) posted in any place outside the British postal area and addressed to a person resident or carrying on business in the British postal area by or on behalf of any person also so resident or carrying on business, if the equivalent amount in sterling of the postage paid or payable is less than

(**a**) 15 & 16 Geo. 5. c. 86.

the amount of postage which would have been payable had the packet been sent as an inland postal packet and if in the opinion of the Postmaster-General the packet was so posted with the object of evading payment of inland postage;

(*k*) consisting of or containing two or more postal packets (of the same or of different descriptions) addressed to different persons who are at different addresses.

(3) Subject to the provisions of this Warrant there shall not be posted or conveyed or delivered by post any postal packet (other than a registered letter) containing coin, bank notes, currency notes, securities or instruments payable to bearer, platinum gold or silver whether manufactured or not, precious stones, jewels, or other valuable articles.

Contents of certain packets

13. Every printed packet, commercial packet, sample packet, small packet, magazine for Canada, and packet to which paragraph (1) of regulation nine applies, shall be subject to examination in the post, and, subject to the provisions of this Warrant, shall not contain anything sealed or otherwise closed against inspection, or contain or bear anything in the nature of current and personal correspondence, or contain any postage stamp or form indicating prepayment (whether cancelled or not) or any paper representing monetary value.

Packing

14. Every postal packet shall be made up and secured in such manner as in the opinion of the Postmaster-General is calculated to prevent injury to any other postal packet in course of conveyance, or to any receptacle in which the same is conveyed, or to an officer of the Post Office or other person who may deal with such packet, and where the Postmaster-General shall have made any special rules in relation to the packing of any particular packet or article, such rules shall be observed.

Limits of Weight and Size

15.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Warrant, no outgoing postal packet shall be posted or conveyed by post under this Warrant unless its weight and size are within the respective limits specified in the Fourth Schedule hereto:

Provided that:—

(i) The limits of size specified in the said Fourth Schedule shall not apply to a letter, printed packet, commercial packet, sample packet, small packet, magazine for Canada, packet consisting of literature for the blind, or packet to which paragraph (1) of regulation nine applies, which is made up in the form of a roll, but the length and twice the diameter of such a postal packet shall not exceed three feet three inches and neither its length nor its diameter shall exceed two feet eight inches;

(ii) The maximum size for a letter addressed to any place in Egypt or Gaza (territory under Egyptian occupation and control) shall be two feet in length and eighteen inches in breadth or depth;

(iii) The maximum weight for a sample packet containing samples of cotton and cotton materials addressed to any place in Egypt or Gaza (territory under Egyptian occupation and control) shall be five pounds;

(iv) The maximum weight for a single printed volume sent as a printed packet shall be eleven pounds;

(v) An insured box of which the weight or size exceeds the limits specified in the said Fourth Schedule may be forwarded and delivered by post with the permission of the Postmaster-General.

(2) Subject as aforesaid, no incoming postal packet shall be conveyed or delivered by post under this Warrant unless its weight and size are within the respective limits prescribed by the law or regulations of the country or place of its origin.

Articles Liable to Duty

16.—(1) There shall not be posted or conveyed or delivered by post any commercial packet, packet consisting of literature for the blind, or Phonopost packet containing any article liable to customs duty in the country or place of destination.

(2) There shall not be posted or conveyed or delivered by post any postal packet of any other description containing any article liable to customs duty, unless:

(*a*) the importation of such articles by means of postal packets of that description is permitted by the law or regulations of the country or place of destination;

(*b*) the packet is registered if the law or regulations of the country or place of destination so require; and

(*c*) for customs purposes the packet bears such label and has attached or contains such declaration as may be required by or under any Treasury Warrant or Regulations made in that behalf.

(3) Where an incoming postal packet contains any article liable to customs duty, and the Postmaster-General so directs, there shall be charged and paid by the addressee if the packet shall be delivered to him a fee of sixpence.

Payment of Postage and Fees

17.—(1) Except as the Postmaster-General may otherwise direct, and subject to the provisions of this Warrant, the postage and fees payable on every postal packet shall be prepaid.

(2) The provisions of this Warrant with reference to prepayment of postage and fees shall not apply to postage and fees payable on postal packets with respect to which the Postmaster-General has entered into an arrangement with the senders thereof for the grant of credit facilities.

(3) Postage may be prepaid:—

(*a*) by adhesive postage stamps; or

(*b*) by impressions of stamping machines working under the direction or by the permission of the Postmaster-General; or

(*c*) by the use of a stamped envelope, cover, postcard, or other postal form; or

(*d*) by the use of an embossed or impressed stamp cut out of or otherwise detached from an envelope, cover, postcard, or other postal form; or

(*e*) on a printed packet, by a printed impression, or by any impression made by any other process authorised by the Postmaster-General; or

(*f*) in such other manner as may be prescribed.

(4) Fees payable under paragraph (2) of regulation thirty-two in respect of registered postal packets, or under paragraph (1) of regulation thirty-three, regulation thirty-six or regulation thirty-nine, shall be prepaid by adhesive postage stamps; and any other fees payable under this Warrant may be prepaid in any manner mentioned in sub-paragraphs (*a*), (*b*), (*c*), (*d*) or (*f*) of paragraph (3) of this regulation.

(5) No stamp or impression of a stamping machine which is imperfect or mutilated or defaced in any way shall be used in payment or to denote payment of postage or fees, but a stamp shall not be deemed to be imperfect or mutilated or defaced within the meaning of this provision by reason only that it is distinctively perforated with initials by means of a punch if the perforating holes are not larger than those dividing one stamp from another in a sheet of stamps.

(6) No stamp indicating on the face thereof payment of a registration fee as well as postage shall be used in payment of postage or fees on any unregistered postal packet.

(7) Packets bearing the impression of stamping machines or intended for impression by stamping machines, and packets on which the postage is prepaid by a printed impression, or by an impression made by any other process authorised by the Postmaster-General, shall be accepted only at such Post Offices, within such hours, and under and subject to such conditions and restrictions as the Postmaster-General may consider appropriate.

(8) Subject to the provisions of this Warrant, the stamp or impression in payment of postage or fees shall be placed in such position on the envelope, cover, postcard or other form as the Postmaster-General may consider appropriate.

Unpaid or Underpaid Postage

18.—(1) This paragraph shall apply to outgoing postal packets upon which no part, or a part only, of the postage payable thereon has been prepaid, other than insured letters or insured boxes or other registered postal packets or such postal packets as are referred to in paragraph (2) of regulation seventeen.

(*a*) A letter or a postcard shall be forwarded charged with double the amount of the deficient postage:

Provided that a reply postcard upon the two halves of which no part or a part only of the postage has been prepaid shall be returned or given up to the sender.

(*b*) Any other postal packet may be detained and returned or given up to the sender, or may be forwarded charged with double the amount of the deficient postage, at the discretion of the Postmaster-General.

(2) This paragraph shall apply to incoming postal packets upon which no part, or a part only, of the postage payable thereon has been prepaid.

(*a*) A postal packet other than a registered postal packet may be detained and returned to the country of origin, or may be forwarded charged with double the amount of the deficient postage, at the discretion of the Postmaster-General.

(*b*) A registered postal packet (other than an insured letter or an insured box) shall be forwarded charged with the amount of the deficient postage.

(*c*) An insured letter or insured box shall be forwarded without any charge in respect of the deficient postage.

(*d*) Where the amount chargeable under sub-paragraphs (*a*) or (*b*) of this paragraph would otherwise be less than one halfpenny, the amount charged shall be one halfpenny.

(3) Any sum charged on an incoming postal packet under paragraph (2), and any other charges payable in respect of the packet under the law or regulations of any part of the British postal area or any country or place from or through which the packet has been transmitted, shall be payable on the delivery of the packet.

Treatment of Irregular Packets

19.—(1) Except as otherwise provided in this Warrant, any postal packet which is found when in the post not to comply with the provisions of the Act, or of this Warrant, or of the Foreign Postal Packets (Customs) Warrant, 1948(**a**), or of any Warrant or Regulations for the time being in force amending or superseding the same, may be either detained or returned or given up to the sender, or dealt with or disposed of in such other manner as the Postmaster-General may think fit.

(2) Any postal packet which is found when in the post not to comply with the provisions of paragraph (2) (*k*) of regulation twelve of this Warrant may if the Postmaster-General thinks fit be delivered to the addressee subject to such charge as the Postmaster-General may fix in the particular case, not exceeding the total charges which would have been payable in respect of the separate postal packets contained therein if they had been posted singly without prepayment of postage.

(3) Any postal packet (other than a letter), which is found when in the post not to comply with the provisions of this Warrant which are applicable to postal packets of its particular description, may if the Postmaster-General thinks fit be treated as if it had been posted as a letter or as a postal packet of such other description as the Postmaster-General considers appropriate, and the provisions of this Warrant shall apply thereto accordingly.

Undeliverable Packets

20. Where for any reason an incoming postal packet cannot be delivered, it may at the discretion of the Postmaster-General either be returned to the sender, or be destroyed or otherwise disposed of as the Postmaster-General may think fit.

PART IV.—CONDITIONS RELATING TO PARTICULAR CLASSES OF PACKETS

Postcards

21.—(1) The following rules shall apply to postcards (not being reply postcards):—

(i) No writing except the address and any postal directions recognised by the Universal Postal Convention for the time being in force, and no printing except that of any of the matters aforesaid, shall appear on the right-hand half of the face of a postcard.

(ii) A postcard shall be made of cardboard or paper stout enough not to hinder its manipulation.

(iii) Folded sheets of paper of which the two inside faces contain no writing and are completely gummed together so that they cannot entrap other articles are admissible as postcards.

(**a**) S.I. 1948/562; Rev. XVIII, p. 374; 1948 I, p. 3589.

(iv) Nothing whatever shall be in any manner attached to a postcard except :—

(*a*) Postage stamps in payment of postage or fees ;

(*b*) Illustrations, photographs, stamps of any kind, and labels and cuttings of any kind, being made of paper or other very thin substance, and address slips and fold-back sheets: Provided that:

(1) Every such article shall be of such a nature as not to alter the character of the postcard, and shall adhere completely to the postcard ;

(2) Every such article except an address slip shall be affixed only to the back or to the left-hand half of the address side of the postcard ;

(3) No stamp likely to be mistaken for a stamp used for the payment of postage or fees shall be fixed to the address side of the postcard.

(v) Stamps or impressions of stamping machines in payment of postage or fees shall be placed on the address side of the postcard, as far as possible on the right hand half.

(2) The following rules shall apply to reply postcards:

(i) The first half of a reply postcard shall bear on its front the heading: " Carte postale avec réponse payée ", and the reply half shall bear on its front the heading: " Carte postale réponse ".

(ii) The two halves of a reply postcard when sent on the outward transmission shall be folded one on the other so that the fold forms the upper edge and so that the address of the reply half is on the inside, and shall not be closed in any way.

(iii) The first half of a reply postcard shall be detached before the reply half is returned by post: Provided that the reply half may be returned by post with the first half attached, if the address on the first half is struck through and the card is so folded that that address is turned to the inside.

(iv) The prepayment of the postage on the return of the reply half of a reply postcard from the country where it has been received may be made by means of postage stamps or impressions of stamping machines of the country of origin of the reply postcard, provided that the two halves of the reply postcard are attached to each other when received from the said country of origin, and that the reply half is addressed to the said country of origin.

(v) subject to the foregoing rules in this paragraph, the rules set out in paragraph (1) shall apply to each of the halves of a reply postcard.

(3) If any postcard is found when in the post not to comply with any of the rules numbered (i) to (iv) in paragraph (1) (including those rules as applied by rule (v) of paragraph (2)), it shall be dealt with and charged as a letter.

(4) If any postcard is found when in the post not to comply with rule (v) in paragraph (1) (including that rule as applied by rule (v) of paragraph (2)), it shall be dealt with as if the postage or fees denoted by the stamps or impressions placed otherwise than in conformity with rule (v) in paragraph (1) had not been prepaid.

Printed Packets

22.—(1) The expression "printed packet" in this Warrant means a packet consisting of or containing:—

(i) One or more of the following articles or documents whether printed, engraved, lithographed, mimeographed or photographed, that is to say:—

(*a*) Newspapers and periodicals, books and pamphlets;

(*b*) Sheets of music (except perforated sheets intended to be used with automatic musical instruments), visiting cards, address cards, and proofs of printing, with or without the relative manuscript;

(*c*) Engravings, photographs and albums containing photographs;

(*d*) Pictures and drawings, plans, maps and patterns intended for cutting out;

(*e*) Prospectuses, advertisements, catalogues and notices; and

(ii) In general all impressions or copies obtained upon paper or other similar material by means of printing, engraving, lithography, mimeography, photography or any other mechanical process easy to recognise, except copies obtained by means of tracing, a stamp with or without moveable type, or the typewriter;

but does not include a magazine for Canada or a packet consisting of literature for the blind.

(2) No printed packet shall contain films, gramophone records, stationery or printed papers of which the text has been modified after printing or which bear any marks whatever of such a kind as to constitute a conventional language:

Provided that by way of exception to this regulation it is allowed—

(i) Outside or inside a printed packet:

(*a*) To indicate by hand or by mechanical process the name or business name, status, profession, and address of the sender and of the addressee, the date of despatch, the signature, telephone exchange and number, telegraphic address and code, and current postal or banking account of the sender, and a serial or registration number referring solely to the packet.

(*b*) To correct errors in printing.

(*c*) To strike out, to underline or to ring round certain words or certain parts of a printed text, unless this is done with the object of constituting personal correspondence.

(ii) To indicate or add by hand or by a mechanical process:

(*a*) On advices of the departures and arrivals of ships or aircraft:—the dates and times of departures and arrivals, and the names of the ships or aircraft and the ports or places of departure, call and arrival.

(*b*) On travellers' advices:—the name of the traveller, the date, time and place of his intended visit, and the address at which he is staying.

(*c*) On order forms, subscription forms or offers in respect of published works, books, newspapers, engravings or pieces of music:—the works and the number of copies asked for or offered, the price of the works, and notes giving essential elements of the price, the method of payment, the edition, the names of the authors and publishers, the catalogue number, and the words "paper covered", "stiff covered" or "bound".

(*d*) On forms used by lending services of libraries:—the titles of the works, the number of copies asked for or sent, the names of the authors and of the publishers, the catalogue numbers, the number of days allowed for reading, the name of the person wishing to consult the work, and other short notes referring to the works in question.

(*e*) On illustrated cards, printed visiting cards, and Christmas and New Year cards:—good wishes, greetings, congratulations, thanks, condolences, or other formulas of courtesy, expressed in five words, or by means of five conventional initials at most.

(*f*) On proofs of printing:—alterations and additions concerned with the correction, layout and printing, and also notes such as "Passed for press", "Read—Passed for press", or any similar note concerned with the production of the work. In case of want of space these additions may be made on separate sheets.

(*g*) On fashion plates, maps, etc.:—colours.

(*h*) On price lists, tenders for advertisements, stock and share lists, market quotations, trade circulars and prospectuses:—figures; notes giving essential elements of the price.

(*i*) On books, pamphlets, newspapers, photographs, engravings, sheets of music, and in general on all literary or artistic productions, printed, engraved, lithographed or mimeographed:—a dedication consisting of a simple expression of regard, and (on photographs or engravings) a very brief explanatory caption and other short notes referring to the photograph or engraving itself. The relative open invoice, reduced to its essential elements, may also be enclosed.

(*j*) On cuttings from newspapers and periodicals:—the title, date, number, and address of the publication from which the article is taken.

(*k*) On notices of change of address:—the old and the new address and the date of the change.

(iii) To enclose a card envelope or wrapper bearing the name and address of the sender of the packet and either prepaid for return by means of postage stamps of the country to which the packets is addressed, or in a form capable of being so prepaid.

(3) Reproductions of a manuscript or typewritten original may be transmitted as printed packets when they are obtained by a mechanical manifolding process, provided that these reproductions be posted under such conditions as the Postmaster-General may from time to time direct. The manuscript additions authorised for printed packets may also be made to these reproductions.

(4) Every printed packet shall be made up in such a way that it can be easily examined. It shall either be placed in a wrapper, upon a roller, between cardboard, in an open container, in an unclosed envelope, or in an envelope secured with a clip which can be easily unfastened and refastened; or be secured with string which can be easily untied; or simply be folded, but in such manner that it cannot become unfolded during conveyance and that other articles cannot slip into its folds.

(5) Every printed packet shall be clearly marked "Printed Papers" on the left hand side of the space above the address.

Despatch of Certain Printed Packets

23. Where the rate of postage of one penny or one and a half pence only has been paid on any printed packet and the packet is posted after such hour as the Postmaster-General may from time to time fix, the packet may be detained at the office at which it was posted until the following day, or, if the following day is Sunday, Christmas Day, Good Friday or a Bank Holiday, until the next following day.

Commercial Packets

24.—(1) The expression "commercial packet" in this Warrant means a packet of papers or documents wholly or partly written or drawn, not having the character of current and personal correspondence, such as unclosed letters and postcards which are out of date and have already fulfilled their original purpose or copies thereof, papers of legal proceedings, documents of all kinds drawn up by public officials, way-bills or bills of lading, invoices, proposals and policies of insurance and formal papers necessarily incident to insurance, copies of or extracts from deeds under private seal written on stamped or unstamped paper, musical scores or sheets of music in manuscript, the manuscript of works or for newspapers sent unaccompanied, and pupils' exercises in original or with corrections, but without any note which does not relate directly to the performance of the work: Provided that packets containing correspondence exchanged between school pupils, even when it is current, are admitted as commercial packets if the packets are forwarded through the intermediary of the principals of the schools concerned.

(2) Out-of-date letters or postcards contained in a commercial packet may bear cancelled stamps or impressions of stamping machines which served to prepay the original postage or fees.

(3) Paragraph (4) of regulation twenty-two shall apply to commercial packets.

(4) Every commercial packet shall be clearly marked "Commercial Papers" on the left-hand side of the space above the address.

Sample Packets

25.—(1) The expression "sample packet" in this Warrant means any packet consisting of trade patterns, samples of merchandise, printers' plates, cut-out patterns sent unaccompanied, keys sent unaccompanied, cut fresh flowers, natural history specimens (such as dried or preserved animals and plants, and geological specimens), tubes of serum or vaccine, medicine which is urgently required and difficult to obtain, or pathological objects rendered harmless by their mode of preparation and packing: Provided that the said articles (except (*a*) trade patterns or samples of merchandise, and (*b*) tubes of serum and vaccine or such medicine as aforesaid which are sent in the public interest by laboratories or institutions officially recognised) shall not be sent for a commercial purpose.

(2) No sample packet shall contain any trade pattern or sample of merchandise having a saleable value.

(3) Articles in a sample packet shall be placed in a bag, box or envelope which is unclosed or can be readily opened: Provided that articles that would be spoilt if packed in that manner, or samples that are placed in a transparent packing which enables the contents to be checked, or samples of industrial and vegetable products placed in a packing sealed by the manufacturers or by an examining authority in the country of origin, may be transmitted

in a hermetically sealed packing. In any case coming within the foregoing proviso the Postmaster-General may require the sender or addressee to assist in the check of the contents either by opening certain packets or in some other manner satisfactory to the Postmaster-General.

(4) Articles in one piece, such as pieces of wood or metal, which it is not the custom of the trade to pack, need not be packed, provided that, if the address and the postage stamps are on a label, the address is also on the article itself.

(5) Articles of glass or other fragile materials, and packets containing liquids, oils, fatty substances, dry powders, live bees, leeches, silkworms' eggs, parasites or destroyers of noxious insects, shall be packed in accordance with such rules as may be prescribed.

(6) Every sample packet shall be clearly marked "Sample Packet" on the left hand side of the space above the address.

(7) There shall be no other writing in or upon any sample packet, or in or upon the cover thereof, except an indication, by hand or by a mechanical process outside or inside the packet (and, in the latter case, on the sample itself or on a special sheet of paper referring to it), of the name or business name, status, profession, and address of the sender and of the addressee, the date of despatch, the signature, telephone exchange and number, telegraphic address and code, and current postal or banking account of the sender, a manufacturer's or trade mark, a short note referring to the manufacturer and to the person supplying the goods or concerning the person for whom the sample is intended, and serial or registration numbers of the goods, their prices, and any other notes giving essential elements of their prices, particulars relating to their weight, volume and size, and the quantity available, and such particulars as are necessary to determine their source and character.

Small Packets

26.—(1) The expression "small packet" in this Warrant means a packet which consists of or contains goods or articles of merchandise and contains or bears nothing else except an open invoice reduced to its essential elements, any customs declaration required and the names and addresses of the sender and addressee.

(2) Every small packet shall bear on the outside the name and address of the sender and the addressee, and shall be clearly marked "Small Packet" on the left hand side of the space above the address.

(3) The provisions in relation to the packing of sample packets contained in regulation twenty-five shall (so far as applicable) apply to small packets.

Magazines for Canada

27.—(1) Any registered newspaper shall be deemed also to be registered for transmission as a magazine for Canada.

(2) Any other newspaper or a magazine or trade journal may be registered by the proprietor thereof at the General Post Office for transmission as a magazine for Canada on payment of an annual fee of five shillings. The following conditions shall apply to the registration of any such newspaper, magazine or trade journal:—

(*a*) It shall be printed in the British postal area or in the Republic of Ireland and shall not be distributed gratuitously.

(*b*) It shall be issued in consecutive numbers at intervals of not more than thirty-one days.

(*c*) It shall consist only of paper.

(*d*) Not more than five-sixths of its contents including any supplements shall consist of advertisements.

(*e*) The full title and the date or month of issue shall be conspicuously printed on the cover (or, in the absence of a cover, at the top of the first page) and on every detached sheet, page or piece of paper which is issued as part of such newspaper, magazine or trade journal.

(3) The registration of a newspaper, magazine or trade journal for transmission as a magazine for Canada may be renewed from year to year on payment to the Postmaster-General of a fee of five shillings, which shall be sent to him with a copy of the magazine on the 1st day of May in each year.

(4) The decision of the Postmaster-General on the admission to or removal from the register of a newspaper, magazine or trade journal shall be final.

28. The following provisions shall apply to postal packets posted for transmission as magazines for Canada:—

(*a*) Every newspaper, magazine or trade journal forming part of any such postal packet shall be posted either without a cover or in a cover open at both ends, and so that the same can be easily removed for the purpose of examination.

(*b*) No article not forming part of such newspaper, magazine or journal shall be posted in or in the same cover therewith.

(*c*) Every such postal packet shall be clearly marked "Canadian Magazine Post" on the left hand side of the space above the address.

(*d*) There shall be no other writing in or upon any such packet or in or upon the cover thereof except:—

(i) The names, addresses and descriptions of the sender and addressee with index or reference numbers and letters.

(ii) The words "with compliments", "specimen copy" or "voucher copy".

(iii) The title of the newspaper, magazine or trade journal and a reference to its registration for transmission by post under this Warrant.

(iv) A reference to any page of or place in the newspaper, magazine or trade journal to which the attention of the addressee is directed.

(v) A request for return in case of non-delivery.

29. With regard to any magazine for Canada which is returned to the British postal area by the Canadian Post Office as being from whatever cause undeliverable, the following provisions shall apply:—

(1) Where a request for the return of the packet to the sender thereof, or some person designated by him, appears on the outside of the packet, the packet shall be charged with an additional rate of postage equal in amount to the prepaid rate of postage originally chargeable thereon, and such rate of postage shall be payable by the sender of the packet; and the packet shall, upon payment of such rate of postage, and any other charges to which it has become liable, be returned to the sender thereof or to the person so designated by him as aforesaid.

(2) Where no such request as aforesaid appears upon the packet, but where from any cause the Postmaster-General deems it expedient so to do, he may tender the packet to the sender thereof charged with an additional rate of postage equal in amount to the prepaid rate of postage originally chargeable thereon; and the packet shall, upon payment of such rate of postage and any other charges to which it has become liable, be returned to the sender thereof.

(3) Where no such request as aforesaid appears upon the packet, or where upon the tender of the packet to the sender thereof he refuses or fails to pay the charges thereon, the packet may be destroyed or otherwise disposed of as the Postmaster-General may think fit.

Literature for the blind

30.—(1) Paragraph (4) of regulation twenty-two shall apply to packets consisting of literature for the blind.

(2) No packet consisting of literature for the blind shall contain any other article: Provided that such a packet may contain outside or inside the packet an indication, by hand or by mechanical process, of the name or business name, position, profession, and address of the sender and of the addressee, the date of despatch, the signature, telephone exchange and number, telegraphic address and code, and current postal or banking account of the sender, and a serial or registration number referring solely to the packet.

(3) Every packet consisting of literature for the blind shall be clearly marked "Blind Literature" on the left hand side of the space above the address.

Air Mail Packets

31.—(1) An air mail packet (except a Forces letter) shall bear an "Air Mail" label, or be marked conspicuously with the words "Air Mail" or with such other words as may indicate the desire of the sender that the packet shall be conveyed by an air mail service.

(2) An air mail packet shall be conveyed in accordance with such rules as may be prescribed.

(3) Every air letter and Forces letter shall comply with the requirements of the Postmaster-General as to the paper used, its dimensions and the form and manner in which it is made up, the position of the stamp and the particulars appearing on the outside; and nothing shall be enclosed with the letter.

(4) A letter shall only be transmissible as a Forces letter if it is addressed to any such country or destination as may from time to time be prescribed.

PART V.—POSTAL FACILITIES

Late fee packets

32.—(1) In this regulation the expression "late fee packet" means a postal packet of such description as may be prescribed, which is posted after the ordinary hours of collection for a particular despatch from the office of collection on a particular day in order that it may if possible be forwarded by that despatch, and (in the case of a registered postal packet) which is posted within such further time (if any) as the Postmaster-General may from time to time appoint in relation to that office.

(2) There shall be charged and paid in respect of a late fee packet such sum, not exceeding one shilling and sixpence in addition to the postage and to the registration fee (if any), as the Postmaster-General may fix either

generally or in relation to the description of postal packet concerned or to the class of office of collection or to the manner of posting. Such sum is referred to in the following paragraph of this regulation as the "late fee".

(3) Where no part, or part only, of the late fee is prepaid the packet may at the discretion of the Postmaster-General either:

(*a*) be forwarded as if it were not a late fee packet; or

(*b*) be forwarded by the despatch referred to in paragraph (1) of this regulation, charged with double the amount of the deficiency if the packet is unregistered or with the amount of the deficiency if the packet is registered.

Express delivery

33.—(1) Upon every outgoing postal packet marked with the words "Express" or with such other words as may indicate the desire of the sender that the postal packet may be delivered by special messenger (which words are hereinafter referred to as an "express marking"), there shall be charged and prepaid the fee of sixpence.

(2) Any incoming postal packet marked with an express marking shall be delivered by special messenger, subject to the regulations and conditions for the time being in force with respect to the express delivery of inland postal packets.

Transmission in bulk

34.—(1) The Postmaster-General may make arrangements with the senders of magazines for Canada and of such classes of printed packets as he may direct, whereby such postal packets may be enclosed by the senders in mail bags provided by the Postmaster-General for the purpose, and the rate of postage computed by reference to the weight of each mail bag and its contents, in accordance with regulation eleven.

(2) The senders shall comply with such conditions as to the make-up of the mail bags, the manner in which they are to be addressed and posted and returned, the manner in which the postage thereon is to be paid, the total weight of each mail bag, the limits of weight and size of the individual packets enclosed therein, and any incidental and supplementary matters, as the Postmaster-General may from time to time consider expedient.

(3) Except as otherwise provided by such conditions, the limits of weight and size of the individual packets shall be those applicable thereto by virtue of regulation fifteen.

(4) Magazines for Canada shall not be enclosed with printed packets in the same mail bag under this regulation.

Redirection

35.—(1) Any postal packet may be redirected from its original address, or any substituted address, to the same addressee at any other address, provided that:—

(i) the packet is eligible for transmission to the place of the new address and complies with the conditions applicable to such transmission; and

(ii) the sender has not forbidden redirection by means of a note to that effect on the address side of the packet in a language known in the country of destination.

(2) A postal packet which is redirected more than one day after the day of its delivery at the address from which it is redirected (Sundays, Christmas Day, Good Friday and public holidays being disregarded for this purpose),

or which before redirection has been opened, or altered otherwise than by the substitution of the new address, shall be treated for the purposes of this Warrant, or of the regulations for the time being applicable to inland postal packets, (as the case may be), as if on redirection it had been posted as a fresh postal packet, without prejudice however to the liability of any person for the payment of any sums which had previously become chargeable in respect thereof.

(3) There shall be charged on the delivery of a redirected postal packet the following sums:—

(*a*) where the packet (not being an insured letter or an insured box) was fully prepaid for its first transmission:—the difference (if any) between the postage prepaid on the first transmission and the postage chargeable if the packet had been originally addressed to the new destination;

(*b*) where the packet (not being an insured letter or an insured box) was unpaid or insufficiently prepaid for its first transmission:—the sum which would have been chargeable thereon under paragraph (2) of regulation eighteen if the packet had been originally addressed to the new destination;

(*c*) where the packet is an insured letter or an insured box:—the difference (if any) between the postage chargeable on the first transmission (whether or not the whole or any part of such postage was in fact prepaid) and the postage chargeable if the packet had been originally addressed to the new destination.

The expression "first transmission" shall be deemed to include transmission to an address within the country in which the packet was posted.

(4) A registered postal packet which is redirected under this regulation shall be re-posted in accordance with paragraph (1) of regulation thirty-eight, or with the regulations for the time being applicable to inland postal packets, as the case may be.

Certificate of posting

36. The Postmaster-General may if he thinks fit, at the request of the sender of an unregistered postal packet, give the sender a certificate of the posting of such postal packet. The fee payable for such certificate shall be at the rate of one halfpenny for each postal packet to which the certificate relates:

Provided that, where the certificate relates to postal packets on which the postage is paid in stamps and which are posted in bulk, the fee payable for the certificate shall be at the rate of one shilling for the first thousand packets or part thereof, and twopence for each additional thousand packets or part thereof.

PART VI.—REGISTRATION AND INSURANCE

Registration

37.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Warrant, any outgoing postal packet (except a magazine for Canada) may be registered.

(2) This regulation shall not apply to any packet addressed to an addressee indentified by initials only, or addressed in pencil; but such packet may be addressed in copying ink pencil unless it is sent in an envelope with a transparent panel.

38. The following rules shall apply to the registration of outgoing postal packets:—

(1) The packet shall be posted by—

(*a*) delivery for registration at a post office to an officer on duty at such office; or

(*b*) delivery for registration to some officer of the Post Office authorised to receive packets for registration though not on duty at a post office.

(2) There shall be charged and paid for registration a fee of sixpence.

(3) On delivery of the packet for registration a certificate of posting, bearing thereon an acknowledgment that the registration fee has been paid, shall be obtained. This certificate shall be filled up and signed by the officer of the Post Office receiving the packet.

Advice of delivery

39.—(1) The sender of any outgoing registered postal packet addressed to any country or place which is a party to the Universal Postal Union may obtain an advice of the delivery thereof to the addressee by payment of a fee of threepence, in addition to any postage or other sum chargeable or payable in respect thereof.

(2) The advice of delivery form may if the sender of the packet so requires be transmitted by air to, or from, or both to and from the country or place of address of the packet; and the sender shall if the Postmaster-General so directs pay a further fee of threepence for each transmission of the advice of delivery form by air.

Compensation for registered packets

40.—Subject to the provisions of this Warrant:—

(*a*) if any article of pecuniary value enclosed in or forming part of a registered postal packet (other than an insured letter or an insured box) be lost or damaged so as entirely to destroy its value whilst in the custody of the Postmaster-General, the Postmaster-General may pay to any person or persons who may in the opinion of the Postmaster-General establish a reasonable claim to compensation (having regard to the nature of the article, the care with which it was packed, and other circumstances) such sum not exceeding £2 18s. 0d. as he may think just;

(*b*) if any registered postal packet (other than an insured letter or an insured box) be lost whilst in the post, the Postmaster-General may pay to the sender of such packet a sum not exceeding £2 18s. 0d.:

Provided that compensation shall not be payable in respect of the same packet under both paragraphs of this regulation.

Compulsory registration

41.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Warrant, every outgoing postal packet marked with the word "registered", or otherwise obviously intended to be registered, but not posted in the manner provided by this Warrant:—

(*a*) if the registration fee thereon has been prepaid, shall be registered before the same is forwarded, and may be detained for that purpose until the ordinary despatch of packets next after that by which such packet would otherwise be forwarded, and

(*b*) if the registration fee has not been prepaid in full, shall be withheld from transmission and may be returned to the sender for registration.

(2) An outgoing postal packet containing coin, bank notes, currency notes, securities or instruments payable to bearer, platinum gold or silver manufactured or not, precious stones, jewels or other valuable articles, which is found in the post unregistered, shall not be forwarded until it has been registered, and may be returned to the sender for that purpose. An incoming

postal packet containing any such articles which is found in the post unregistered may be forwarded to the addressee as a registered postal packet and delivered to him on payment of the registration fee, or may be returned to the Postal Administration of the country of origin.

Insured letters

42. The following rules shall apply to insured letters :—

(1) Every insured letter shall be registered and insured under and in accordance with the provisions of this Warrant.

(2) The letter shall not be addressed to an addressee identified by initials only, or addressed in pencil, and no erasure or correction shall be made in the address.

(3) The sender shall state on the cover of the letter (otherwise than in pencil) the sum for which it or its contents are to be insured, which sum shall not exceed either (*a*) the real value of the letter or its contents, or (*b*) the sum of £400 or such lesser sum as may be from time to time fixed by agreement between the Postmaster-General and the Postal Administration of the country or place to which the letter is addressed.

(4) A compensation fee shall be paid of an amount specified in the columns of the Fifth Schedule hereto headed " Compensation fees ", being the amount appropriate to the sum for which the letter or its contents are to be insured.

(5) The letter shall not, without the permission of the Postmaster-General, contain coin, platinum gold or silver whether manufactured or not, precious stones, jewels or other valuable articles.

(6) The letter shall be posted by delivery at a post office to an officer on duty at such office.

Compensation for insured letters

43. If an insured letter, or any article of pecuniary value enclosed in or forming part of an insured letter, be lost or damaged whilst in the course of conveyance by post under the provisions of this Warrant, the Postmaster-General may pay such sum as he may think just to the sender, or to any Postal Administration, if in his opinion such person or Administration establishes a reasonable claim to compensation, having regard in the case of a lost or damaged article to the care with which it was packed and other circumstances:

Provided that :—

(*a*) In the case of an outgoing insured letter, where, in addition to the sums payable in respect of the postage and registration thereof, a compensation fee of an amount specified in the columns of the Fifth Schedule hereto headed " Compensation fees " (and no more) is paid in respect of such letter, the sum paid by way of compensation shall not exceed the sum specified in the columns of the said Schedule headed " Maximum compensation " opposite the compensation fee paid.

(*b*) In the case of an incoming insured letter the sum paid by way of compensation shall not exceed the sum of £400 or such lesser sum as, having regard to the amount of the compensation fee in addition to the postage paid in respect of such letter, may be from time to time fixed by agreement between the Postmaster-General and the Postal Administration of the country or place from which the letter is transmitted.

Insured boxes

44.—(1) The provisions of this Warrant which apply to insured letters shall, so far as they are applicable, apply to insured boxes:

Provided that subject to paragraph (2) of this regulation insured boxes may contain coin, platinum gold or silver whether manufactured or not, precious stones, jewels and other valuable articles.

(2) Without the permission of the Postmaster-General, insured boxes shall not contain anything in the nature of current and personal correspondence, bank notes, currency notes, or securities or instruments payable to bearer.

Compensation—general

45. The Postmaster-General may give effect to the provisions of this Warrant as to the loss of or damage to insured letters, insured boxes and other registered postal packets, and of or to articles enclosed in or forming part of an insured letter, insured box or other registered postal packet, out of such aids or supplies as may be from time to time provided and appropriated by Parliament for that purpose, but nothing contained in or done under or in pursuance of this Warrant shall render him or the Crown liable to any action or other legal proceeding in respect of or in consequence of any such loss or damage. The decision of the Postmaster-General on all questions arising between him and any person claiming payment in respect of the loss of or damage to an insured letter, insured box or other registered postal packet, or of or to any article enclosed in or forming part thereof, shall be final and conclusive.

PART VII.—GENERAL

Postal packets posted on ships or by Forces abroad

46.—(1) Unregistered postal packets may be posted on board a ship registered in any part of the British postal area by being deposited in a letter box on board the ship, or in the hands of the Commander of the ship or of a postal agent on board the ship:

Provided that this paragraph shall not apply to any air mail packet except an air letter.

(2) Any postal packet:—

(*a*) posted in accordance with paragraph (1) of this regulation when the ship is on the high seas;

(*b*) posted on board a ship of the Royal Navy (whether on the high seas or in any port or place outside the British postal area) and transmitted in a closed mail; or

(*c*) posted by a member of the armed forces of the United Kingdom or of any other Commonwealth country serving outside the British postal area, or a member of the armed forces of any State allied with the United Kingdom serving outside the British postal area with the armed forces of the United Kingdom or of any other Commonwealth country, for transmission through a British Forces' Post Office at which British postage stamps are issued;

whether it is addressed to a person outside or within the British postal area, shall comply with the provisions of this Warrant which apply to outgoing postal packets, so far as such provisions are applicable to the postal packet, and any such packet which is received at a post office in the British postal area shall in addition comply with the provisions of this Warrant which apply to incoming postal packets.

Priority of letter post

47. Where the despatch or delivery from a post office of letters would be delayed by the despatch or delivery therefrom at the same time of postal packets of any other description, such packets or any of them may be detained in the post office until any subsequent despatch or delivery.

Remission of postage and fees

48. The Postmaster-General may remit in whole or in part any postage or other sums chargeable under this Warrant in such cases or classes of cases as he may determine.

Application of Inland Post Warrants

49. Subject to the express provisions of this Warrant, the regulations for the time being applicable to inland postal packets shall (so far as the same are applicable) apply to postal packets transmissible by post under the provisions of this Warrant.

Saving for Foreign Postal Packets (Customs) Warrants

50. Nothing in this Warrant shall prejudice, or affect the operation of, the provisions of the Foreign Postal Packets (Customs) Warrant, 1948(a), or any Warrant or Regulations for the time being in force amending or superseding that Warrant, or any Regulations made by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise under the Customs Acts.

Revocation

51. The Warrants mentioned in the Sixth Schedule hereto are hereby revoked.

Short title and commencement

52. This Warrant may be cited as " The British Commonwealth and Foreign Post Warrant, 1953 ", and shall come into operation on the 1st day of January, 1954.

Dated this 27th day of November, 1953.

Edward Heath,
T. G. D. Galbraith,
Two of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

De La Warr,
Her Majesty's Postmaster-General.

27th November, 1953.

(a) S.I. 1948/562; Rev. XVIII, p. 374; 1948 I, p. 3589.

Regulation 3. THE FIRST SCHEDULE

PART 1

Rates of postage payable under paragraph (1) *of Regulation* 3

		d.
1.	Letter not exceeding one ounce in weight	2½
2.	Letter exceeding one ounce in weight:	
	for the first ounce	2½
	for each additional ounce or fractional part thereof	1
3.	Postcard (not being a reply postcard)	2
4.	Reply postcard	4

PART 2

Rates of postage payable under paragraph (2) *of Regulation* 3

		d.
1.	Letter not exceeding one ounce in weight	1½
2.	Letter exceeding one ounce in weight:	
	for the first ounce	1½
	for each additional ounce or fractional part thereof	1
3.	Postcard (not being a reply postcard)	1
4.	Reply postcard	2

PART 3

Rates of postage payable under paragraph (3) *of Regulation* 3

		d.
1.	Letter not exceeding one ounce in weight	4
2.	Letter exceeding one ounce in weight:	
	for the first ounce	4
	for each additional ounce or fractional part thereof	2½
3.	Postcard (not being a reply postcard)	2½
4.	Reply postcard	5

Regulation 3. THE SECOND SCHEDULE

PART 1

Aden Colony and Protectorate.

Australia and overseas and Trust Territories, viz:—

Lord Howe Island, Norfolk Island, Papua and the Trust Territories of New Guinea and Nauru.

Bahamas.

Barbados.

Bermuda.

British Guiana.

British Honduras.

Brunei Protected State.

Canada.

Ceylon.

Cyprus.

Falkland Islands Colony and Dependencies.

Fiji (including Pitcairn Island).

Tonga (Protected State).

Gambia Colony and Protectorate.

Gibraltar.

Gold Coast (*a*) Colony,
(*b*) Ashanti,
(*c*) Northern Territories,
(*d*) Togoland (under United Kingdom Trusteeship).

Hong Kong.

India.

India (Indian Post Offices in Tibet and Indian and French Post Offices in the French Settlements).

Jamaica (including Turks and Caicos Islands and Cayman Islands).

Kenya (Colony and Protectorate).

Leeward Islands, viz:—

Antigua.
St. Christopher, Nevis and Anguilla.
Montserrat.
British Virgin Islands.

Malaya, Federation of, viz:—

British Settlements of Malacca and Penang and the Protected States of Johore, Kedah, Kelantan, Negri Sembilan, Pahang, Perak, Perlis, Selangor and Trengganu.

Maldive Islands.

Malta.

Mauritius and Dependencies.

New Zealand and its Island Territories and Trust Territory, viz:—

The Cook Islands.
The Tokelau Islands.
The Ross Dependency.
Western Samoa.

Nigeria (*a*) Colony,
(*b*) Protectorate,
(*c*) Cameroons (under United Kingdom Trusteeship).

North Borneo (including Labuan).

Pakistan.

Rhodesia and Nyasaland (Federation of).

St. Helena (including Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha).

Sarawak.

Seychelles.

Sierra Leone Colony and Protectorate.

Singapore (including Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands).

Somaliland Protectorate.

Union of South Africa and South West Africa.

South Africa High Commission Territories, viz:—

Basutoland.
Bechuanaland Protectorate.
Swaziland.

Sudan (Anglo-Egyptian).
Tanganyika (under United Kingdom Trusteeship).
Trinidad and Tobago.
Uganda (Protectorate).
Western Pacific High Commission Territories, viz:—
British Solomon Islands.
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony (including the Phoenix and Northern Line Islands Groups).
New Hebrides (Condominium).
Southern Line Islands.
Windward Islands, viz:—
Dominica.
Grenada.
St. Lucia.
St. Vincent.
Zanzibar (Protectorate).

PART 2

British Postal Agencies in Morocco (Tangier and Spanish Zone).
British Postal Agencies in the Persian Gulf (Bahrain, Doha, Dubai including Sharja, Kuwait and Muscat).
Burma.
Egypt.
Gaza (territory under Egyptian occupation and control).
Israel.
Jordan.
Nepal.

PART 3

The United Kingdom.
The Channel Islands.
The Isle of Man.
The Republic of Ireland.

Regulations 4 and 5. THE THIRD SCHEDULE

PART 1

Rates of postage payable under regulation 4 *and paragraph* (1) *of regulation* 5

	Packet	*Rate of postage* d.
1.	Printed packet:—	
	(*a*) not exceeding 2 ounces in weight	1
	(*b*) exceeding 2 ounces in weight—	
	for the first 2 ounces	1
	for each additional 2 ounces or fractional part thereof	½
2.	Commercial packet:—	
	(*a*) not exceeding 10 ounces in weight	3
	(*b*) exceeding 10 ounces in weight—	
	for the first 10 ounces	3
	for each additional 2 ounces or fractional part thereof	½

	Rate of postage d.
3. Sample packet:—	
(*a*) not exceeding 2 ounces in weight	1
(*b*) exceeding 2 ounces in weight—	
for the first 2 ounces	1
for each additional 2 ounces or fractional part thereof	½
4. Small packet:—	
(*a*) not exceeding 10 ounces in weight	5
(*b*) exceeding 10 ounces in weight—	
for the first 10 ounces	5
for each additional 2 ounces or fractional part thereof	1

PART 2

Rates of postage payable under paragraph (2) *of regulation* 5

Packet	*Rate of postage* d.
1. Printed packet:—	
(*a*) not exceeding 2 ounces in weight	1½
(*b*) exceeding 2 ounces in weight—	
for the first 2 ounces	1½
for each additional 2 ounces or fractional part thereof	½
2. Commercial packet:—	
(*a*) not exceeding 12 ounces in weight	4
(*b*) exceeding 12 ounces in weight—	
for the first 12 ounces	4
for each additional 2 ounces or fractional part thereof	½
3. Sample packet:—	
(*a*) not exceeding 2 ounces in weight	1½
(*b*) exceeding 2 ounces in weight—	
for the first 2 ounces	1½
for each additional 2 ounces or fractional part thereof	½
4. Small packet:—	
(*a*) not exceeding 10 ounces in weight	7½
(*b*) exceeding 10 ounces in weight—	
for the first 10 ounces	7½
for each additional 2 ounces or fractional part thereof	1½

Regulation 15. THE FOURTH SCHEDULE

1. The limits of weight and size specified in columns 2 and 3 of this Schedule apply to:—

(*a*) Postal packets addressed to:—

(i) Any country or place referred to in Part 1 of the Second Schedule hereto.

(ii) The British postal agencies at Tangier and in the Persian Gulf; Burma; Israel; Jordan; Nepal.

(iii) A ship of the Royal Navy.

(iv) Members of the armed forces of the United Kingdom or of any other Commonwealth country serving outside the British postal area, or members of the armed forces of any State allied with the United Kingdom serving outside the British postal area with the armed forces of the United Kingdom

or of any other Commonwealth country, provided that the postal packet is transmitted through a British Forces' Post Office or a civilian Postal Administration in any foreign country which has agreed to accept such limits of weight and size;

(*b*) Postal packets posted as mentioned in paragraph (2) of regulation forty-six and addressed to the British postal area or to the Republic of Ireland.

2. The limits of weight and size specified in columns 4 and 5 of this Schedule apply to other outgoing postal packets.

Col. 1	Col. 2	Col. 3	Col. 4	Col. 5
	Maximum weight	Limits of size	Maximum weight	Limits of size
1. Letter	4 lb.	Maximum:— Length — 2 ft. Breadth —18 ins. Depth —18 ins. Minimum:— Length — 4 ins. Breadth — 2¾ins.	4 lb.	Maximum:— Length, breadth and depth combined 3 ft. Length — 2 ft. Breadth— 2 ft. Depth — 2 ft. Minimum:— Length — 4 ins. Breadth— 2¾ins.
2. Postcard	—	Maximum:— Length — 5⅞ins. Breadth — 4⅛ins. Minimum:— Length — 4 ins. Breadth — 2¾ins.	—	As item 2 in Column 3
3. Printed packet	6½lb.	As item 1 in this column	6½lb.	As item 1 in this column
4. Commercial packet ...	5 lb.	As item 1 in this column	4 lb.	As item 1 in this column
5. Sample packet	5 lb.	Maximum:— Length — 2 ft. Breadth — 1 ft. Depth — 1 ft. Minimum:— Length — 4 ins. Breadth — 2¾ins.	1 lb.	As item 1 in this column
6. Small packet	2 lb.	As item 1 in column 5	2 lb.	As item 1 in this column
7. Magazine for Canada ...	5 lb.	Maximum:— Length — 2 ft. Breadth —18 ins. Depth —18 ins.	—	—
8. Packet consisting of literature for the blind	15 lb.	As item 1 in this column	15 lb.	As item 1 in this column
9. Insured box	2 lb.	Maximum:— Length — 1 ft. Breadth — 8 ins. Depth — 4 ins.	2 lb.	As item 9 in column 3

Col. 1	Col. 2	Col. 3	Col. 4	Col. 5
10. Packet to which paragraph (1) of regulation 9 applies:				
(1) Limits of weight and size of the whole packet:				
(i) if it contains any articles in the class (*a*) referred to in that paragraph	6½lb.	As item 1 in this column	6½lb.	As item 1 in this column
(ii) if it contains only articles in the classes (*b*) and (*c*) referred to in that paragraph	5 lb.	As item 1 in this column	4 lb.	As item 1 in this column
(2) Limits of weight of all enclosed articles in the said class (*b*)	5 lb.	—	4 lb.	—
(3) Limits of weight of all enclosed articles in the said class (*c*)	5 lb.	—	1 lb.	—
(4) Limits of combined weight of all enclosed articles in the said classes (*b*) and (*c*)	5 lb.	—	4 lb.	—

Regulations 42 and 43. THE FIFTH SCHEDULE

Compensation fees	Maximum compensation	Compensation fees	Maximum compensation
s. d.	£ s. d.	s. d.	£ s. d.
0 2	12 0 0	3 0	216 0 0
0 4	24 0 0	3 2	228 0 0
0 6	36 0 0	3 4	240 0 0
0 8	48 0 0	3 6	252 0 0
0 10	60 0 0	3 8	264 0 0
1 0	72 0 0	3 10	276 0 0
1 2	84 0 0	4 0	288 0 0
1 4	96 0 0	4 2	300 0 0
1 6	108 0 0	4 4	312 0 0
1 8	120 0 0	4 6	324 0 0
1 10	132 0 0	4 8	336 0 0
2 0	144 0 0	4 10	348 0 0
2 2	156 0 0	5 0	360 0 0
2 4	168 0 0	5 2	372 0 0
2 6	180 0 0	5 4	384 0 0
2 8	192 0 0	5 6	396 0 0
2 10	204 0 0	5 8	400 0 0

Regulation 51. THE SIXTH SCHEDULE

WARRANTS REVOKED

Short Title	*Date*
The British Commonwealth and Foreign Post Warrant 1948(a)	19th March 1948
The British Commonwealth and Foreign Post Amendment (No. 1) Warrant 1948(b)	17th June 1948
The British Commonwealth and Foreign Post Amendment (No. 2) Warrant 1949(c)	13th April 1949
The British Commonwealth and Foreign Post Amendment (No. 3) Warrant 1950(d)...	12th May 1950
The British Commonwealth and Foreign Post Amendment (No. 4) Warrant 1950(e)	24th July 1950
The British Commonwealth and Foreign Post Amendment (No. 5) Warrant 1951(f)	8th May 1951
The British Commonwealth and Foreign Post Amendment (No. 6) Warrant 1952(g)	17th April 1952

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Warrant, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

This Warrant consolidates with amendments the regulations relating to postal packets (other than parcels) sent to or received from British Commonwealth or Foreign Countries. The chief changes are those introduced by the Universal Postal Convention of Brussels, namely:—

(i) No postage is made payable on packets consisting of Literature for the Blind which are sent by surface mail.

(ii) Forms of advice of the delivery of registered packets may on the request of the sender be transmitted by air.

The provisions of the revoked Warrants fixing rates of postage for the British Postal Agencies in Morocco and the Persian Gulf, (which are now included in the British Postal Agencies (Commonwealth and Foreign Post) Warrant, 1953(h)), are omitted from this Warrant.

(a) S.I. 1948/590; Rev. XVIII, p. 316; 1948 I, p. 3556.
(b) S.I. 1948/1293; Rev. XVIII, p. 316; 1948 I, p. 3584.
(c) S.I. 1949/736; 1949 I, p. 3448.
(d) S.I. 1950/771; 1950 II, p. 383.
(e) S.I. 1950/1216; 1950 II, p. 385.
(f) S.I. 1951/823: 1951 II, p. 250.
(g) S.I. 1952/796; 1952 III, p. 2605.
(h) S.I. 1953/1733, p. 1632 below.