
CHAPTER 171

POST OFFICE

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POST OFFICE

*Ordinances Nos. 10 of 1936, 2 of 1945, 11 of 1946,
6 of 1947, 13 of 1949, 59 of 1961, 3 of 1963,
36 of 1965, 7 of 1966, 33 of 1966, 37 of 1966, Act No.
53 of 1971.*

AN ACT TO CONSOLIDATE AND AMEND THE LAW RELATING TO
THE POST OFFICE

[9th November, 1936.]

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Post Office Act.

Interpretation

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

“department” means the Department of Posts and Telecommunications of Fiji; (*Amended by 53 of 1971, s. 2.*)

“mail” includes every conveyance by which postal packets are carried whether it be an aircraft, vessel, car, coach, cart, horse or any other conveyance and also a person employed in conveying postal packets and also any vessel employed by or under the post office for the transmission of postal packets by contract or otherwise in respect of postal packets transmitted by the vessel;

“mail bag” includes a bag, box, parcel or any other envelope or covering in which postal packets in course of transmission by post are conveyed whether it does or does not contain any such packet;

“master of any vessel” includes every person except a pilot having command or charge of a vessel;

“money order” means a money order issued under this Act or by any postal authority for payment under this Act;

“officer” includes the Permanent Secretary and any person employed in any business of the department whether appointed by the Public Service Commission or employed by the Permanent Secretary or by any person under him or on behalf of the department;

“Permanent Secretary” means the Permanent Secretary for Posts and Telecommunications;

“port” includes any harbour, river, lake, roadstead and any other navigable water;

“postage” means the duty chargeable for the transmission of postal packets by post;

“postage stamp” includes a stamp impressed by a stamping machine as well as an adhesive stamp;

“postal authority” includes the Postmaster-General of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or the Permanent Secretary or any other duly constituted postal authority of any other part of the Commonwealth or of any foreign country or place;

(Amended by 37 of 1966, s. 83.)

“postal order” means a postal order issued under this Act or by any postal authority for payment under this Act, and shall include a Fiji postal note; (*Amended by 59 of 1961, s. 2.*)

“postal packet” means a letter, post-card, reply post-card, letter-card, newspaper, book, packet, printed paper, pattern or sample packet, small packet or parcel and every other packet or article when in course of transmission by post and shall include a telegram when conveyed by post;

“postmaster” means the officer in charge of a post office;

“post office” includes any house, building, room, carriage, place or structure where postal packets are received, sorted, delivered, made up or despatched or used for any other post office purpose or for the purpose of working a telegraph or for the receipt, transmission or delivery of telegrams and any pillar box or other receptacle provided by or with the approval of the department for the reception of postal packets for transmission;

“prescribed” means prescribed by this Act or the regulations made thereunder;

“regulations” means regulations made and in force under this Act;

“sender” means the person from whom any postal packet or telegram purports to have come unless that person prove that he is not the sender thereof.

Meaning of “in course of transmission by post” and “delivery to or from a post office”

3. For the purpose of this Act—

- (a) a postal packet shall be deemed to be in course of transmission by post from the time of its being delivered to a post office to the time of its being delivered to the person to whom it is addressed; and
- (b) the delivery of a postal packet of any description to a letter carrier or other person authorised to receive postal packets of that description for the post shall be a delivery to a post office; and
- (c) the delivery of a postal packet at the house or office of the person to whom the packet is addressed or to him or to his servant or agent or other person considered to be authorised to receive the packet according to the usual manner of delivering the postal packets of that person or at the address specified on such packet shall be deemed to be delivery to the person addressed; and
- (d) delivery into a private letter box or private mail bag shall be in all respects equivalent to personal delivery to the addressee.

Administration and control of the department

4. The administration and control of the department shall subject to the authority of the Minister be vested in an officer styled the “Permanent Secretary for Posts and Telecommunications”.

Appointment of officers

5.—(1) The Public Service Commission shall appoint a Permanent Secretary and such other officers as may be necessary for the purpose of this Act.

Officers to make declaration

(2) The Permanent Secretary and every other officer appointed under this Act may before entering upon his duties be required to make and subscribe a declaration before a magistrate or a justice of the peace (which declaration every

such magistrate or justice of the peace is hereby authorised and required to administer) in the form contained in the First Schedule.

Establishment of post offices

6. The Permanent Secretary may establish post offices at such places as he thinks fit and may discontinue any such post office.

(Amended by 33 of 1966, s. 2.)

Regulations

7. The Minister may from time to time make regulations for the carrying out of the provisions of this Act and particularly for—

- (a) the receipt, despatch, carriage and delivery of postal packets;
- (b) the dimensions and weight of postal packets;
- (c) the fees to be charged for the conveyance of postal packets or for any other service rendered by the department;
- (d) the prepayment of postage on postal packets or any class of postal packet;
- (e) the general or particular conditions with which postal packets must comply;
- (f) the franking of official postal packets;
- (g) late fees;
- (h) fines to be charged on postal packets when the postage is not prepaid or is insufficiently prepaid;
- (i) re-direction of postal packets and the transmission by post of packets so re-directed either free of charge or subject to such further charge as may be prescribed;
- (j) the transmission of newspapers by post;
- (k) the conditions under which private boxes and private mail bags may be hired;
- (l) the supply, sale and use of postage stamps;
- (m) the registration of postal packets;
- (n) the insurance of postal packets;
- (o) parcels post;
- (p) the treatment of undeliverable postal packets;
- (q) the conditions under which it shall be lawful for a person to make, utter, deal in, sell or have in his possession a fictitious stamp, or make or have in his possession a die, plate, instrument or materials for making such a stamp.

Permanent Secretary may issue instructions

8. The Permanent Secretary may issue such instructions as he may deem necessary for the management of post offices and for the conduct and guidance of officers carrying out the provisions of this Act.

Permanent Secretary may enter into mail contracts

9. The Permanent Secretary may from time to time enter into such contracts for the conveyance of postal packets by land, coastwise by sea or by air within Fiji as may be deemed necessary or expedient, or for any other public service performed for or by the department. (Amended by 33 of 1966, s. 3.)

Ocean mail contracts

10. The Permanent Secretary may enter into contracts in writing with any persons for the conveyance by sea or air of postal packets to and from Fiji.
(Amended by 33 of 1966, s. 4.)

Exclusive privileges of Permanent Secretary

11.—(1) Wheresoever postal communications are established by the Government the Permanent Secretary by himself or by the officers of the post office shall have the exclusive privilege of conveying from one place to another, whether by land, by sea or by air, all letters except in the following cases, and shall also have the exclusive privilege of performing all the incidental services of receiving, collection, sending, despatching and delivering all letters except in the following cases:—

- (a) letters taken by private friend on his way, journey or travel to be delivered by him to the person to whom they are directed without hire, reward or other profit or advantage for receiving, carrying or delivering them;
- (b) letters solely concerning the affairs of the sender or receiver thereof sent by a messenger on purpose;
- (c) letters solely concerning goods or property sent either by sea, by land or by air to be delivered with the goods or property which the letters concern without hire, reward or profit or advantage for receiving, carrying or delivering them:

Provided that such letters are open to inspection and have superscribed thereon the words "Consignee's Letter" or other words to the same effect;

- (d) letters carried by a servant of the sender or by a special messenger employed by him.

(2) Nothing herein contained shall authorise any person to make a collection of those excepted letters for the purpose of sending them in the manner hereby authorised.

(3) Subject as aforesaid the following persons are expressly forbidden to carry a letter or to receive, collect or deliver a letter although they do not receive hire or reward for it, that is to say:—

- (a) known common carriers, their servants or agents, except a letter concerning goods in their aircraft or trains, vehicles or other conveyances;
- (b) owners, masters or commanders of vessels sailing or passing coastwise or otherwise between ports or places within Fiji or to or from any ports out of Fiji or their servants or agents, except in respect of letters of merchants, owners of ships or goods on board;
- (c) passengers or other persons on any aircraft or train, vehicle, vessel or other conveyance;
- (d) the owners of or sailors or others on board a vessel passing or re-passing on a river within Fiji;
- (e) officers of the post office except in respect of postal packets.

No letters to be conveyed except by post

12. No letters unless exempt by law shall be conveyed into or out of Fiji from or to any place between which and Fiji postal communications are established or be

delivered or be distributed in Fiji otherwise than by or through the post. For the purposes of section 11 "letters" shall include post-cards.

Exemption from liability for loss, misdelivery, delay or damage

13.—(1) The Government shall not incur any liability by reason of the loss, misdelivery, delay or damage to any postal packet in course of transmission by post.

(2) No officer of the post office shall incur any liability by reason of any such loss, misdelivery, delay or damage unless such officer has knowingly caused the same fraudulently or maliciously or by his wilful act or default.

Postage stamps

14. The Minister may cause to be provided postage stamps of such kinds and denoting such values as he may consider necessary for the purpose of this Act.

Stamping machines

15.—(1) Notwithstanding anything in this Act, postage may be prepaid by impressions made by stamping machines used under the direction or by the permission of the Permanent Secretary.

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

(a) containing or bearing any counterfeit impression purporting to be made by a stamping machine used under the direction or by the permission of the Permanent Secretary; or

(b) purporting to be prepaid with any stamping machine impression which has been previously used to prepay any other postal packet.

(3) No stamping machine impression which is imperfect or mutilated or defaced in any way shall be used in payment of or to denote payment of postage.

(4) The Permanent Secretary may license the use of such stamping machines as he may approve for impressing upon postal packets the sign of postage or stamp values subject to such terms and conditions as he may deem necessary.

(5) Packets bearing impressions made by stamping machines and packets intended to be impressed by stamping machines shall be accepted only at such post offices and within such hours as the Permanent Secretary by notice published in the Gazette may prescribe.

Stamp duties laws to apply

16. All duties of postage and other sums in respect of postal packets payable in pursuance of this Act or any regulations made under this Act shall be chargeable as stamp duties and all Acts relating to stamp duties shall apply accordingly.

Post-cards

17. The Minister may cause stamped post-cards and stamped envelopes to be made and issued subject to such regulations as he may think fit to make as to the transmission by post, the size and weight of and manner of impressing or printing such cards and envelopes, and any other conditions that he may deem necessary. The provisions of this Act relating to letters sent by post shall apply in like manner to post-cards sent by post unless the context be repugnant to such a construction.

Rates of postage

18. Subject to the provisions of this Act there shall be paid on every postal packet for transmission by post such postage and other sums as may be prescribed, and the postage and all fees, if any, in respect of any postal packet posted within Fiji shall be prepaid by means of postage stamps issued by the Permanent Secretary with the sanction of the Minister, not previously used, obliterated or defaced, and in default thereof there shall be payable in money at the time of delivery upon every such postal packet double the deficiency due thereon and the sum so paid shall be indicated on every such packet in a duly authorised manner:

Provided that—

- (a) any newspaper upon which the postage is wholly unpaid at the time of posting may be forthwith destroyed or otherwise disposed of as the Permanent Secretary may direct;
- (b) the postage upon business reply cards and upon large quantities of postal packets, may, with the approval of the Permanent Secretary, be either paid in cash at the time of posting, or an agreed sum may be deposited with the Permanent Secretary on account of, and in advance of, posting, or be paid or secured in such other manner as the Permanent Secretary may determine;
(*Substituted by 3 of 1963, s. 2.*)
- (c) the use of postage stamps perforated with initials may be permitted;
- (d) a single copy of any issue of any registered newspaper printed and published in Fiji may be accepted for transmission from the editor of any such newspaper to the editor of any other such newspaper without payment of postage.

Exemptions from postage

19.—(1) All petitions and addresses to Her Majesty or to the Governor-General and all petitions to the Cabinet and Parliament shall be exempt from postage.

(2) All postal packets containing only returns of births, baptisms, marriages and deaths transmitted in compliance with the provisions of the law in that behalf by persons whose duty it is to transmit such returns to any officer appointed to receive the same and any other matters which the Minister may from time to time direct shall be exempt from postage.*

Liability for payment of postage

20.—(1) The person to whom any postal packet is tendered for delivery on which postage or any other sum is due shall be bound to pay the postage or other sum due on his accepting delivery of the postal packet unless he forthwith returns it unopened.

(2) If any postal packet appears to the satisfaction of the Permanent Secretary to have been maliciously sent for the purpose of annoying the addressee, he may remit the postage or other sum due.

(3) If any postal packet on which postage or any other sum chargeable is due is refused or returned as aforesaid or if the addressee is dead or cannot be found then the sender shall be bound to pay the postage or sum due thereon.

* Postal packets containing Library books being returned to the Government Library Service exempted by notice 4th June, 1969.

Power to withhold unstamped postal packet

21. If any person refuses to pay any postage or other sum which he is legally bound to pay in respect of any postal packet the Permanent Secretary or any officer in charge of a post office may withhold from the person so refusing any such postal packet addressed to that person not being on Her Majesty's service until such postage has been paid.

Post office mark evidence of refusal

22. In every proceeding for the recovery of any postage or other sum alleged to be due under this Act in respect of a postal packet the production of a postal packet having thereon the official mark of the post office denoting that the packet has been refused or that the addressee is dead or cannot be found shall be prima facie evidence of the fact so denoted.

Official mark to be evidence of postage

23. The official mark on a postal packet denoting that any postage or other sum is due in respect thereof to the post office of Fiji or to the post office of the United Kingdom or of any other part of the Commonwealth or foreign country shall be prima facie evidence that the sum denoted as aforesaid is due.

(Amended by 37 of 1966, s. 83.)

Return to sender

24. No postal packet shall be returned to the writer or sender thereof without either the consent in writing of the person to whom the same is addressed or by order in writing of the Permanent Secretary and in neither case unless the prescribed fee has been paid. (Amended by 33 of 1966, s. 5.)

Transmission of certain articles prohibited

25.—(1) Except as otherwise prescribed and subject to such conditions as are prescribed, no person shall send by post any explosive, inflammable, dangerous, filthy, noxious or deleterious substance, any sharp instrument not properly protected or any living creature which is either noxious or likely to injure the postal packets in course of transmission by post or any officer of the post office.

(2) No person shall send by post any packet or thing which is likely to injure postal packets in course of transmission by post or any officer of the post office.

(3) Except as otherwise, prescribed and subject to such conditions, as are prescribed, no person shall send by post opium, morphine, cocaine or any other narcotic.

Transmission by post of anything indecent, etc., or packets bearing fictitious stamps prohibited

26. No person shall send by post—

- (a) any indecent, obscene or seditious printing, painting, photograph, lithograph, engraving, book or card, or any other indecent, obscene or seditious article;
- (b) any postal packet having thereon or on the cover thereof any words, marks or designs of an indecent, obscene, seditious, scurrilous, threatening or grossly offensive character;
- (c) postal packets bearing any fictitious postage stamps or purporting to be prepaid with any postage stamp which has been previously used to prepay any other postal packet or which has been previously used in payments of stamp duty;

- (d) correspondence dealing with a fraudulent or immoral business or undertaking or which purports to foretell future events;
- (e) any printing, painting, photograph, lithograph, engraving, book or card which may be prejudicial to the public safety or to the peace and good order of any part of Fiji.

Permanent Secretary may detain and open prohibited packets

27. When the Permanent Secretary has reason to suspect that any postal packet contains anything in contravention of the provisions of sections 25 or 26, he may cause such postal packet to be detained and opened, and, if it is found to contain such matter, he shall cause it to be destroyed:

Provided that no such postal packet being a closed letter shall be so opened without the consent in writing of the Governor-General.

Power to open postal packets suspected to contain dutiable goods

28. It shall be lawful for the Permanent Secretary to detain any postal packet reasonably suspected to contain any goods in contravention of the Customs Act and to open the same in the presence of the person to whom such postal packet may be addressed or his duly appointed agent, and should such person or his agent after being duly notified fail or neglect to attend, it shall be lawful for the Permanent Secretary to open and examine the same, and, if any goods in contravention of the Customs Act shall be discovered in such postal packet, the Permanent Secretary shall deliver the aforesaid goods to a Collector of Customs for the purposes of proceeding in regard thereto according to law, and if no such goods shall be discovered in the aforesaid postal packet the same shall be delivered to the person to whom it is addressed or his agent if present and, if absent, shall be forwarded to the addressee through the post office subject in either case to the payment of any postage or other dues chargeable thereon.

Registration of postal packets

29.—(1) The sender of any postal packet excepting a parcel addressed to any place beyond Fiji may, upon payment of the prescribed fee in addition to the ordinary postage, have that packet registered and obtain a receipt for the same from the Permanent Secretary, but no such registration or receipt shall confer on any person any right to compensation or otherwise or impose upon any officer any liability for the loss of any such packet or of the contents thereof:

(Amended by 33 of 1966 s. 6.)

Provided that the Permanent Secretary may in his discretion and subject to requirements and limitations prescribed by regulation pay compensation for the loss of any registered postal packet or of the contents thereof.

Compulsory registration of certain postal packets

(2) Every postal packet containing coin, bank notes, currency notes, negotiable instruments payable to bearer, platinum, gold or silver manufactured or not, precious stones, jewels and other valuable articles shall, if posted unregistered, be liable to compulsory registration and to a consequent charge on delivery equal to double the amount of any deficiency in prepayment as a registered packet which may be shown thereon but upon no postal packet compulsory registered as aforesaid shall compensation be paid in case of loss.

Insurance of postal packets

30. The Permanent Secretary may provide for the insurance of postal packets subject to such terms and conditions as may be prescribed and may enter into an agreement with any postal authority for the reciprocal exchange of insured postal packets.

Parcels post

31. The Minister may whenever it shall be deemed expedient establish a parcel post and may for that purpose make regulations prescribing the conditions, prohibitions and restrictions under which parcels are to be received, transmitted, delivered, returned to the senders or otherwise disposed of, and prescribing forms of statutory declarations to be made by any person or his agent desiring to transmit or receive any such parcel, and fixing the rates or fees to be charged for the transmission, delivery, return or insurance of such parcels, and prescribing the mode and manner in which such rates or fees are to be paid and the arrangements as to the collection of any duties of customs or any duties or fees other than the rates or fees payable for transmission, delivery or insurance which may lawfully be payable in respect of any such parcel and prescribing the payments to be made in respect of the carriage or conveyance of any such parcel.

Money orders and money order regulations

32.—(1) The Minister may provide for the remitting of small sums of money through the post office by means of money orders and may make regulations as to such money orders.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power such regulations may prescribe—

- (a) the limit of amount for which money orders may be issued;
- (b) the period during which money orders shall remain current; and
- (c) the rates of commission or the fees to be charged on money orders or in respect thereof.

(3) Money orders shall be issued and paid at such times and in such manner as the Permanent Secretary may direct.

Power for remitter to alter name or to recall money order

33.—(1) Subject to such conditions as the Minister may by regulations made under the provisions of section 32 prescribe in respect of the levy of additional rates of commission or fees or any other matter, a person remitting money through the post office by means of a money order may require that the amount of the order if not paid to the payee be repaid to him or be paid to such person other than the original payee as he may direct.

(2) If neither the payee nor the remitter of a money order can be found and if within the period of twelve months after the last day of the month in which it shall have been issued no claim is made by such payee or remitter, the amount of such order shall not be recoverable from the Government.

Power to provide for issue of postal orders

34. The Minister may authorise the issue in such form as may be suitable of money orders to be called postal orders or by such other designation as may be deemed appropriate and make regulations as to the rates of commission to be charged thereon and the manner in which and conditions subject to which they may be issued, paid and cancelled.

Money order offices

35. The Permanent Secretary may from time to time determine at what post offices money orders or postal orders may be issued and paid.
(Amended by 33 of 1966, s. 7.)

Recovery of money paid to wrong persons

36. If any person without reasonable excuse, the burden of proving which shall lie on him, neglects or refuses to refund—

- (a) any amount paid to him in respect of a money order or postal order by an officer of the post office in excess of what ought to have been paid to him in respect thereof; or
- (b) the amount of a money order or postal order paid by an officer of the post office to him instead of to some other person to whom it ought to have been paid,

such amount shall be recoverable before a magistrate by an officer of the post office authorised by the Permanent Secretary in that behalf from the person so neglecting or refusing.

Exemption from liability in respect of money orders and postal orders

37. The Government shall not incur any liability for any loss caused by—

- (a) any thing done under any regulation made by the Minister under section 32;
 - (b) the wrong payment of a money order or postal order;
 - (c) delay in the payment of a money order or postal order;
 - (d) any other irregularity in connexion with a money order or postal order,
- and no officer of the post office shall incur any such liability unless he has caused the same fraudulently or by his wilful act, default or negligence.

Unissued postal orders

38. An unissued postal order shall be deemed public money.

Notice of departure of vessels

39.—(1) The master or person in charge of any vessel which is about to depart from any port within Fiji shall give to the postmaster at the port from which that vessel is about to depart notice in writing of the intended time of departure and the ports of call and destination of that vessel. Such notice in case the destination of the vessel be any port outside Fiji shall be given not less than twenty-four hours and in case the destination be any port within Fiji not less than six hours before the intended time of departure. Every such notice shall expire between the hours of nine o'clock in the forenoon and five o'clock in the afternoon:

Provided that shorter notice may be allowed by the Permanent Secretary or the postmaster at the port of departure in any case or special class of cases.

(2) The postmaster who receives any such notice shall thereupon grant to the master of the vessel a certificate stating that the notice has been given and that the provisions of this Act have been complied with, and until such certificate has been given the vessel shall not be cleared.

(3) If any vessel to which this section applies departs from a port of Fiji without the master or person in charge having given notice of the intended time of departure or if such notice having been given the vessel departs from a port of Fiji after the expiration of six hours after the time stated to be the intended time of

departure in the notice given under subsection (1), the master or person in charge of such vessel, whether he has obtained a clearance or not, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months:

Provided that should the period of six hours after the time stated to be the intended time of departure of such vessel expire between the hours of five o'clock in the afternoon and nine o'clock in the forenoon it shall be lawful for such vessel to depart before nine o'clock in the forenoon immediately following the expiration of such notice. (*Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.*)

(4) A prosecution shall not be instituted in pursuance of this section except by the direction or with the consent in writing of the Permanent Secretary.

(5) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section it shall be lawful for the Permanent Secretary to exempt from all or any of the provisions of this section the master or person in charge of any vessel trading between ports within Fiji. Such exemption shall be made by written notice to the owners or to the master or person in charge of the vessel and a copy of every such notice shall be forwarded by the Permanent Secretary to the Comptroller of Customs. (*Inserted by 6 of 1947, s. 2.*)

Penalty for refusing to receive mail bag on board

40. If any master or person in charge of any vessel about to depart from any port in Fiji to any port or place beyond Fiji shall (after being thereto required by any officer of the post office or by any port officer or by any person duly authorised in that behalf) refuse or neglect to receive on board such vessel any mail bag or to give a receipt for the same being thereto required by the person tendering or delivering such mail bag or shall refuse or neglect carefully to deposit such mail bag in some secure and dry place on board of such vessel or to convey the same upon her then intended voyage, such master or person shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding two hundred dollars and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months.

(*Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.*)

Payment for conveyance of mail bags by non-contract vessels

41.—(1) Every master or person in charge of any vessel about to depart from any port or place in Fiji to or for any other place beyond Fiji who receives on board thereof any mail bag for the purpose of conveying the same according to the direction thereof shall be entitled to demand and receive for the carriage thereof payment at rates to be from time to time prescribed by regulation.

(2) Nothing herein contained shall entitle the master or person in charge of any vessel under contract for the carriage of mail bags to receive payment for the same as aforesaid.

No payment for conveyance of mail bags already paid for at port of departure

42. No payment shall be made to the master or person in charge of any vessel arriving from any port or place beyond Fiji for the conveyance of any mail bag on which payments have already been made at the port of departure.

All mail bags and postal packets arriving by vessel to be delivered to post office by master

43. All mail bags and every loose postal packet which at the time of the arrival of any vessel within any port or place in Fiji from any port or place beyond the same shall be on board thereof directed to any person in Fiji shall be delivered to the

postmaster or port officer of such port or to any person duly authorised in that behalf. And any person who shall knowingly or negligently detain or keep in his possession or shall neglect or refuse to deliver any mail bag or any postal packet shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding two hundred dollars and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months:

Provided that nothing in this section shall apply to letters concerning goods on board such vessel and to be delivered with such goods or containing any commission, writ or affidavit or suit by way of introduction only or concerning the bearer's private affairs. (*Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.*)

Declaration to be made by masters of vessels on arrival of vessels

44. The master or person in charge of any vessel arriving at any port or place in Fiji from any port or place beyond Fiji shall as soon as practicable after such arrival sign in the presence of the postmaster or other officer appointed to receive the same at such port of the town or place nearest thereto a declaration in the form contained in the Second Schedule and thereupon such postmaster or other officer shall grant a certificate under his hand of the making thereof, and until such certificate shall have been delivered to the proper officer of customs at such port he shall not permit such vessel to report. And any master or person in charge as aforesaid who shall fail or refuse to make such declaration or shall make a false declaration shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding two hundred dollars and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months. (*Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.*)

Conveyance of mail bags by coasting vessels

45. Every master or person in charge of any coasting vessel shall receive and give a receipt for and shall deliver mail bags according to the direction thereof at the post offices of the several ports or places at which they may touch upon payment at such rates and in such manner as may be prescribed. And every master or person in charge of a coasting vessel who shall refuse or neglect to receive or to give a receipt for or deliver such mail bags or shall refuse or neglect carefully to deposit and retain securely until delivery, such mail bags in some safe and dry place on board such vessel shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding fifty dollars: (*Amended by 36 of 1965, s. 2.*)

Provided that such master or person in charge shall not be compelled to receive or deliver such mail bags at any post office distant more than one mile by road from the port or place at which his vessel may touch.

(*Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.*)

Lockers to be provided by vessels and vehicles under contract

46. In all vessels or vehicles by which mail bags shall be conveyed under a contract made under section 9 there shall be provided a suitable locker or other secure place in which such mail bags and all postal packets shall be locked up and carried apart from all other articles and things. And if such locker or place shall not so be provided or if such mail bags or any postal packets shall be carried in any such vessel or vehicle during the whole or any part of the voyage or journey otherwise than in such locker or place the master or person in charge of such vessel or vehicle shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months. (*Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.*)

Penalty for contravention of section 11

47. Any person who, except with the authority of the Permanent Secretary—
- (a) conveys otherwise than by post a letter within the exclusive privilege conferred on the Permanent Secretary by the provisions of subsection (1) of section 11; or
 - (b) performs any service incidental to conveying otherwise than by post any letter within the exclusive privilege aforesaid; or
 - (c) sends or tenders or delivers in order to be sent otherwise than by post a letter within the exclusive privilege aforesaid; or
 - (d) makes a collection of letters excepted from the exclusive privilege aforesaid for the purpose of sending them otherwise than by post; or
 - (e) carries, receives, tenders, delivers or collects letters in contravention of the provisions of subsection (3) of section 11,

shall, in respect of each letter, be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ten dollars and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one month. (*Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.*)

Penalty for contravention of sections 25 and 26

48.—(1) Any person who, in contravention of sections 25 or 26, sends or tenders or makes over in order to be sent by post any postal packet or thing shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars or to both such imprisonment and fine.

(*Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.*)

(2) The detention in the post office of any postal packet on the ground of its having been sent in contravention of sections 25 or 26 shall not exempt the sender from any proceedings which might have been taken if the postal packet had been delivered in due course by post.

Fraudulently issuing money orders or postal orders

49.—(1) If any officer of the post office grants or issues any money order or postal order with a fraudulent intent he shall be guilty of felony and be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven years.

(*Amended by 37 of 1966, s. 83.*)

(2) If any officer of the post office re-issues a money order or postal order previously paid he shall be deemed to have issued the order with a fraudulent intent under this section.

Money order or postal order to be deemed a valuable security

50.—(1) A money order or postal order shall be deemed to be an order for the payment of money and a valuable security within the meaning of this Act and of the Penal Code and of any other law relating to forgery or stealing which is for the time being in force in Fiji.

(*Cap. 17.*)

(2) If any person with intent to defraud obliterates, adds to or alters any such lines or words on a money order or postal order as would in the case of a cheque be a crossing of that cheque or knowingly offers or utters or disposes of any money order or postal order with such fraudulent obliteration, addition or alteration, he shall be guilty of felony and be liable to the like punishment as if the order was a cheque.

Unlawfully taking away or opening mail bag sent by vessels or vehicles employed under post office

51. If any person unlawfully takes away or opens a mail bag sent by any vessel or vehicle employed by or under the post office for the transmission of postal packets under contract or unlawfully takes a postal packet in course of transmission by post out of a mail bag so sent, he shall be guilty of felony and shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding fourteen years.

(Amended by 37 of 1966, s. 83.)

Receiver of stolen mail bag or postal packet

52. If any person receives any mail bag or any postal packet or any chattel or money or valuable security the stealing or taking or embezzling or secreting whereof amounts to a felony under this Act knowing the same to have been so feloniously stolen, taken, embezzled or secreted and to have been sent or to have been intended to be sent by post, he shall be guilty of felony and shall be liable to the same punishment as if he had stolen, taken, embezzled or secreted the same, and may be charged and convicted whether the principal offender has or has not been previously convicted or is or is not amenable to justice.

Fraudulent detention of mail bag or postal packet

53. If any person fraudulently retains or wilfully secretes or keeps or detains or when required by an officer of the post office neglects or refuses to deliver up—

(a) any postal packet which is in course of transmission by post and which ought to have been delivered to any other person; or

(b) any postal packet in course of transmission by post or any mail bag which shall have been found by him or by any other person, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanour and be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months.

(Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106, and 37 of 1966, s. 83.)

Criminal diversion of letters from addressee

54.—(1) If any person not in the employment of the Permanent Secretary wilfully and maliciously with intent to injure any other person either opens or causes to be opened any letter which ought to have been delivered to that other person or does any act or thing whereby the due delivery of the letter to that other person is prevented or impeded he shall be guilty of a misdemeanour and be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months. (Amended by 37 of 1966, s. 83.)

(2) Nothing in this section shall apply to a person who does any act to which this section applies where he is a parent or in the position of parent or guardian of the person to whom the letter is addressed.

(3) A prosecution shall not be instituted in pursuant of this section except by the direction or with the consent of the Permanent Secretary.

(4) A letter in this section means a postal packet in course of transmission by post and any other letter which has been delivered by post.

Opening or delaying postal packets

55.—(1) If any officer of the post office contrary to his duty opens or procures or suffers to be opened any postal packet in course of transmission by post or wilfully detains or delays or procures or suffers to be detained or delayed any such postal packet he shall be guilty of a misdemeanour and shall be liable to

imprisonment for a term not exceeding twelve months or to a fine not exceeding two hundred dollars or to both such imprisonment and fine.

(Amended by 37 of 1966, s. 83.)

(2) Provided that nothing in this section shall extend to the opening, detaining or delaying of a postal packet returned for want of a true direction or returned by reason that the person to whom the same is directed is dead or cannot be found or shall have refused the same or shall have refused or neglected to pay the postage thereof or to the opening or detaining or delaying of a postal packet under the authority of this Act.

Delaying mails, etc.

56. Any officer, postmaster, port-officer, master of a vessel or person duly authorised to receive or despatch any mail bag or any postal packet who shall neglect or fail to despatch or shall retard the despatch thereof by post shall be guilty of a misdemeanour and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding two hundred dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding twelve months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Prohibition of placing injurious substances in or against post office letter boxes

57.—(1) A person shall not place or attempt to place in or against any post office letter box any fire, match, light, explosive substance, dangerous substance, filth, noxious or deleterious substance or any fluid, and shall not commit a nuisance in or against any post office letter box and shall not do or attempt to do anything likely to injure the box, appurtenances, or contents.

(2) If any person acts in contravention of this section he shall be guilty of a misdemeanour and be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty dollars and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one month and on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for a period not exceeding twelve months.

(Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106, and 37 of 1966, s. 83.)

Prohibition of affixing placards, notices, etc., on post office letter boxes, etc.

58.—(1) A person shall not without due authority affix or attempt to affix any placard, advertisement, notice, list, document, board or thing in or on, or paint or tar, any post office, post office letter box, telegraph post or other property belonging to or used by or on behalf of the Permanent Secretary, and shall not in any way disfigure any such office, box, post or property.

(2) If any person acts in contravention of this section he shall be liable to a fine not exceeding four dollars and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one month. *(Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.)*

Prohibition of imitation of post office stamps, envelopes, forms and marks

59.—(1) A person shall not without due authority—

- (a) make, issue or send by post or otherwise any envelope, wrapper, card, form or paper in imitation of one issued by or under the authority of the postal authority of any part of the Commonwealth or of any foreign country or having thereon any words, letters or marks which signify or imply or may reasonably lead the recipient to believe that a postal packet bearing them is sent on Her Majesty's service; or
- (b) make on any envelope, wrapper, card, form or paper for the purpose of being issued or sent by post or otherwise, or otherwise used, any

mark in imitation of or similar to or purporting to be any stamp or mark of any post office under the postal authority of any part of the Commonwealth or of any foreign country or any words, letters or marks which signify or imply or may reasonably lead the recipient thereof to believe that a postal packet bearing them is sent on Her Majesty's service; or

- (c) issue or send by post or otherwise any envelope, wrapper, card, form or paper so marked. (*Subsection amended by 37 of 1966, s. 83.*)
- (2) If any person acts in contravention of this section he shall be liable to a fine not exceeding four dollars.

(*Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.*)

Prohibition of fictitious stamps

60.—(1) A person shall not knowingly use for the purpose of the post office any fictitious stamp.

(2) Subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by regulations made under this Act it shall be lawful for a person to make, utter, deal in, sell or have in his possession a fictitious stamp or make or have in his possession a die, plate, instrument or materials for making such a stamp but not otherwise.

(3) If any person acts in contravention of this section he shall be liable on conviction on a prosecution by order of the Director of Public Prosecutions to a fine not exceeding forty dollars. (*Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.*)

(4) Any stamp, die, plate, instrument or materials found in possession of any person in contravention of this section may be seized and shall on conviction of such person be forfeited. (*Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.*)

(5) For the purposes of this section "fictitious stamp" shall mean any facsimile, imitation or representation, whether on paper or otherwise, of any stamp for the time being authorised or required to be used for the purpose of the post office or of any stamp for denoting a current rate of postage of any country outside Fiji.

Prohibition of false notice as to reception of letters

61.—(1) A person shall not without authority from the Permanent Secretary place or maintain in or on any house, wall, door, window, box, post, pillar or other place belonging to him or under his control any of the words, letters or marks following that is to say:—

- (a) the words "post office" or "postal telegraph office"; or
- (b) the words "letter box" accompanied with words, letters or marks which signify or imply or may reasonably lead the public to believe that it is a post office letter box; or
- (c) any words, letters or marks which signify or imply or may reasonably lead the public to believe that any house or place is a post office or that any box is a post office letter box,

and every person when required by a notice given by the Permanent Secretary to remove or efface any such words, letters or marks as aforesaid or to remove or effectually close up any letter box belonging to him or under his control which has been a post office letter box shall comply with the request.

(2) If any person acts in contravention of this section he shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding four dollars and if the offence is

continued after a previous conviction to a fine not exceeding fifty cents for every day during which the offence so continues.

(Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.)

Obstruction of officers of post office

62.—(1) If any person wilfully obstructs or incites any one to obstruct an officer of the post office in the execution of his duty or whilst in any post office or within any premises belonging to any post office or used therewith obstructs the course of business of the post office he shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding four dollars.

(Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.)

(2) Any officer of the post office may require any person guilty of any offence under this section to leave a post office or any such premises as aforesaid and if the person so required refuses or fails to comply with the requirement he shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a further fine not exceeding ten dollars and may be removed by any officer of the post office, and all police officers are required on demand to remove or assist in removing every such person.

(Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.)

(3) Any person creating a disturbance on post office premises shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ten dollars.

(Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.)

Obstructing mail

63. If any person shall wilfully obstruct or retard the conveyance or delivery of any mail he shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding forty dollars. (Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.)

Endeavouring to procure the commission of any offence

64. If any person solicits or endeavours to procure any other person to commit an offence punishable under this Act he shall be guilty of a misdemeanour and shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years.

(Amended by 37 of 1966, s. 83.)

Falsely inducing delivery of letters

65. If any person shall, by means of any false pretence or mis-statement, induce any postmaster or other officer of the post office to deliver to such person any postal packet sent by post and not addressed to such person he shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months.

(Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.)

Evidence of thing being postal packet

66.—(1) On the prosecution of any offence under this Act whether on summary conviction or indictment evidence that any article is in the course of transmission by post or has been accepted on behalf of the Permanent Secretary for transmission by post shall be sufficient evidence that the article is a postal packet.

(2) Every mail bag or postal packet in charge of or being carried by any postmaster, postman, mail-man, officer of the post office or other person employed by or under the post office shall in every proceeding whatsoever be deemed and taken to be sent by post unless the contrary be proved.

Provision as to form of proceedings

67. In any complaint, information or legal proceeding for any offence committed or attempted to be committed or any malicious, injurious or fraudulent act or thing done in, upon or with respect to the post office or the post office revenue or any mail bag, postal packet, money order or any chattel, money or valuable security sent by post or in anywise concerning any property under the management or control of the Permanent Secretary it shall be sufficient to allege the property to belong to the Permanent Secretary and to allege any such act or thing to have been done with intent to injure or defraud the Permanent Secretary without in either case naming the person who is Permanent Secretary and it shall not be necessary to allege or to prove upon the trial or otherwise that the mail bag, postal packet, money order, chattel, money, security or property was of any value.

Description of officer of the post office in indictment or legal proceedings

68. In any complaint, information or legal proceeding against any officer of the post office for any offence committed against this Act it shall be sufficient to allege that the alleged offender was an officer of the post office at the time of the committing of the offence without stating further the nature or particulars of his employment.

Penalty for being in unauthorised possession of mail bags, etc.

69. Any person who without due authority is in possession of any mail bag or any other article or thing which is the property of the Permanent Secretary or of any other Postal Administration shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ten dollars. (Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.)

Article bearing a fraudulent stamp may be withheld

70.—(1) Whenever it is notified by the Postal Administration of the United Kingdom or of any other part of the Commonwealth or of any foreign country to the Permanent Secretary that any postal packet contains or bears any fictitious postage stamp, that is to say any facsimile or imitation or representation of any stamp for denoting any rate of duty or postage or purports to be prepaid with any postage stamp also which has been previously used to prepay any other postage packet, or whenever any postal packet containing or bearing any such fictitious postage stamp is found in the post offices of Fiji, it shall be the duty of the Permanent Secretary to withhold the delivery of such postal packet from the person to whom the same may be addressed unless such addressee or his representative consents to make known the name and address of the sender and to place at the disposal of the post office, after having taken cognizance of the contents, the entire packet if it is inseparable from the offence itself or else the part of the packet, envelope, wrapper or other portion of such postal packet which contains the address, if any, and the stamp so stated to be fictitious or used, and provided also that such addressee or his representative shall sign or fill up any document that may be required of him by the Permanent Secretary embodying the above information.

(Amended by 37 of 1966, s. 83.)

(2) In the event of the refusal of the addressee or his representative to comply with the above requirements, such postal packet may either be sent back to the country of origin or may be dealt with or disposed of in such manner as may be authorised by the Permanent Secretary.

Removing stamp from postal packet

71. Any person who shall with a fraudulent intent remove from any postal packet sent by post any stamp which shall have been affixed thereon or wilfully remove from any stamp which shall have been previously used any mark which shall have been made thereon at any post office or shall knowingly offer, utter or put off or use any such stamp shall be guilty of a misdemeanour and shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years.

(Amended by 37 of 1966, s. 83.)

Penalty for unlawfully disclosing contents of postal packet

72. Any person who reveals, discloses or in any way makes known the contents of any postal packet opened under the authority of this Act except so far as may be necessary for the purpose of returning the same or so far as may be authorised by the Permanent Secretary in writing shall be guilty of a misdemeanour and shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding twelve months or to a fine not exceeding two hundred dollars or to both such imprisonment and fine.

Breach of regulations

73. Any person or officer employed in the post office or any master of a vessel or other person employed or authorised by or under any postmaster to receive, sort, carry or deliver any mail bag or postal packet sent by post or otherwise employed in the business of the post office who shall offend against or wilfully neglect or omit to comply with any of the provisions of this Act or with the provisions of any regulations which may be made under this Act and for which no penalty is provided shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months. (Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.)

Limitation of action against officer

74. If any action or suit shall be commenced against any officer of the post office for damages on account of anything done or omitted to be done in pursuance of this Act the same shall be commenced within twelve months after the act committed or omitted, and no such action shall be commenced until one month after notice thereof and of the cause thereof shall have been delivered to the defendant or left for him at his usual place of abode by the party intending to commence such action, and upon the back of such notice shall be endorsed the name and place of abode or business of the plaintiff and his attorney or agent. And the defendant in such action may plead the general issue and give the special matter in evidence, and if it shall appear that the action was commenced after the time before limited for bringing the same the court shall give judgment for the defendant.

Penalty for unlawfully franking postal packets

75. Any person now or hereafter authorised by the Minister to frank postal packets who unlawfully franks or superscribes packets which do not relate to the business of his office, department or the Government with intent to defraud the post office of the postage payable thereon shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding forty dollars and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term of three months.

(Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.)

Penalty for offences not specially provided for

76. Any person who wilfully contravenes, neglects or fails to comply with any provision of this Act or any regulation made thereunder except where otherwise provided by this Act shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding forty dollars and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term of three months. (Amended by 2 of 1945, s. 106.)

Disposal of fines and fees

77. All moneys levied and received and all penalties imposed under the provisions of this Act shall be paid to the Consolidated Fund.

FIRST SCHEDULE

(Section 5)

I, _____, do solemnly and sincerely declare that I will in my position as an officer of the post office be honest and trustworthy and fair without respect of persons according to the law and to the best of my knowledge; that I will not contrary to the law or to my duty communicate or divulge the contents of any letter, telegram or official paper of any description, nor open or detain or cause or suffer to be opened or detained any letter or other postal packet or any telegram, nor on any account whatsoever destroy or make away with any letter, telegram or official paper entrusted to my care; that I will be obedient to my official superiors and that I will give account of any responsibility entrusted to me whenever and wherever such may be required of me.

Declared at _____ on the _____ day of _____, 19 _____
Before me _____

*Signature**Justice of the Peace.*

SECOND SCHEDULE

(Section 44)

I, A.B., do solemnly declare that I have to the best of my knowledge delivered to C.D., every mail-bag, mail-box, mail-parcel and postal packet that was on board the [name of vessel] at the time of her arrival at _____ except such letters as are exempted by law from such delivery.

Signed in my presence the _____ day of _____, 19 _____

Controlled by Ministry of Works and Communications

CHAPTER 171

POST OFFICE

SECTION 7—POST OFFICE REGULATIONS

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PART I—GENERAL

Short title

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Post Office Regulations.

Hours of attendance

2. The hours during which post offices shall be open for the conduct of various classes of public business shall be as determined and notified in the *Gazette* by the Permanent Secretary.

Fees

3. The rates of postage payable for the transmission of packets through the post, and the supplementary fees in connection therewith, shall be as set out in the Second Schedule.

Dimensions and weights

- *4. The dimensions and weights of packets transmitted through the post shall be as set out in the Second Schedule and no postal packet shall exceed such limits of weight or dimensions except with the express authority of the Permanent Secretary obtained prior to transmission.

Stamps on face only

5. Stamps in repayment of postage or other charges upon any postal packet shall be affixed upon the face of such packet near the addressed written thereon, and it shall not be obligatory upon the department to take notice of any stamps which are affixed elsewhere.

* Amended by Legal Notice 82 of 1971.

Stamps perforated

6.—(1) Subject to the approval in writing of the Permanent Secretary, postage stamps may be perforated with initials, and such perforated stamps shall be available for any purpose of the Act.

(2) Perforated postage stamps shall not be repurchased or exchanged for other stamps by any officer.

Stamps soiled

7. Postage stamps mutilated or soiled so as to make it a matter of doubt whether such stamps have been previously used for any purpose whatsoever shall not be available for the payment of any postal charge.

Stamps exchanged

*8. Any denomination of postage stamps, envelopes, cards, wrappers, or other articles embossed or impressed with postage values of Fiji may be exchanged for any other denomination of such postage stamps, envelopes, cards, wrappers or other articles, or for cash for unused mint stamps in no smaller amounts than \$2 at the discretion of the Permanent Secretary, provided they have been purchased for postal purposes within the past 2 years and upon payment of the charge set out in the Second Schedule.

Late fees

†9.—(1) The time up to which postal packets may be posted for despatch by any particular mail shall be determined and notified by the Permanent Secretary.

(2) Postal packets posted in the ordinary posting boxes after the advertised time of closing of mails shall not be forwarded until the next succeeding despatch.

Suitable packing

10. The contents of every postal packet shall be packed and secured by the sender in such a manner as may afford adequate protection to the contents thereof or to other postal packets. Any packet which, in the opinion of the Permanent Secretary does not comply with this regulation may be refused acceptance, or may be intercepted and detained in the course of transmission.

Irregular enclosure

11. No postal packet directed to one address may contain any other packet addressed to a different address. Any postal packet found to contain any enclosure contrary to this regulation shall be surcharged on delivery with an amount equal to double the postage which would have been payable upon such enclosure if it had been transmitted separately.

Open for inspection

12.—(1) Postal packets for transmission at the rate of postage prescribed for printed papers or newspapers shall be made up in such manner as to be capable of a ready inspection of the contents.

* Amended by Legal Notice 82 of 1971.

† Amended by Legal Notice 82 of 1971; 229 of 1974.

(2) Officers of the post office may examine the contents of any packet printed papers for the purpose of ascertaining whether they are in accordance with these Regulations, but such officers must securely refasten any packet so opened.
(Regulation amended by Regulations 8th June, 1971.)

Certificate of posting

13. The sender of any packet, other than parcels, may, upon application at the time of posting, obtain a certificate of posting thereof on payment of the fee set out in the Second Schedule. No liability shall be incurred on the part of the Permanent Secretary by the issue of such certificate for any loss, injury or delay which may occur subsequent to the posting of such packet.

(Inserted by Regulations 1st June, 1962, and 8th June, 1971.)

Contravention of Regulations

14. Any postal packet purporting to be a printed paper or a newspaper within the meaning of these Regulations which may be found to contravene any of the provisions thereof shall, without prejudice to any penalty which may be imposed upon the sender under the Act, be liable to be treated as a letter or admissible at the parcel rate as a parcel, and surcharged upon delivery with an amount equal to double the deficient postage at the letter or parcel rate as the case may be.

(Amended by Regulations 8th June, 1971.)

Plant matter

15. The transmission through the post of plants or parts of plants, such as cuttings, roots, tubers, bulbs, fruit, or other vegetable matter, and the delivery of similar articles shall be subject to the approval of the Permanent Secretary for Agriculture and Fisheries. The cost of any steps which may be taken in connexion with the examination or fumigation of any such articles by the direction of the Permanent Secretary for Agriculture and Fisheries shall be borne by the sender in the case of postal packets handed in at a post office within Fiji, or by the addressee in the case of articles received from beyond Fiji for delivery within Fiji.

Packets addressed to poste restante

16. The treatment of postal packets addressed to a poste restante or to be called for at any post office shall be subject to such directions as may be given by the Permanent Secretary, and he may at his discretion deliver any such packet at the addressee's place of business or private residence, or if the addressee is a renter of a private post office box at such post office into such box.

Inquiries

17. For every inquiry instituted by the Permanent Secretary at the request of either the sender or the addressee in regard to any ordinary or registered postal packet or parcel said to have been posted, the Permanent Secretary may require the applicant to make a declaration in support of the information furnished by him in such form as may be decided by the Permanent Secretary, and except where an acknowledgment of delivery has been paid for may further require the applicant to pay the fee set out in the Second Schedule.

(Amended by Regulations 1st June, 1962 and 8th June, 1971.)

Overseas mail subject to conventions

18. Postal packets addressed to or received from any country outside Fiji shall be subject to the provisions of any convention or agreement in regard to the transmission of such packets through the post in force for the time being between the Government and the postal authority of such country (hereinafter referred to as postal arrangements) and to the provisions of any contract for the conveyance of mails by sea or by air in force for the time being between the Government and any company or person or body of persons.

(Amended by Regulations 20th September, 1967.)

Postage paid in cash

19.—(1) The Permanent Secretary may license the use of approved postage meters or stamping machines for impressing upon postal packets the sign of postage or stamp values, subject to such conditions as he may deem necessary.

(2) Prepayment of postage may be made at such offices as may be determined and notified by the Permanent Secretary in money instead of postage stamps, whenever the number of postal packets handed in for transmission at one and the same time by any one person amounts to sixty and the total postage amounts to fifty cents, provided the packets are made up in bundles with the addresses arranged in the same direction. In every such case the amount prepaid in respect of each such packet shall be indicated thereon by the officer receiving the same in such manner as the Permanent Secretary may direct.

(3) Mail matter prepaid in money must be handed in at the post office between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. on weekdays and between 9 a.m. and 12 noon on Saturdays. Postings of packets prepaid in money shall not be accepted on Sundays or public holidays.

Enclosures in letters

20. Letters shall not contain any letter, note, or document which has the character of actual and personal correspondence, addressed to persons other than the addressee or persons living with him.

PART II—POSTCARDS

Postcards

21. Postcards shall be made of cardboard or of paper stout enough to be easily handled.

Heading on postcards

22. Postcards shall bear on the address side the heading "Carte postale" in French or the equivalent of this heading in another language. This heading shall not be obligatory for single postcards of private manufacture.

Prohibited postcards

23. Postcards of which the whole or a part of the address side has been marked off into several divisions intended to receive successive addresses are prohibited.

Stamping of postcards

24. The postage stamps shall be affixed to the upper right hand corner of the address side of a postcard. The address of the recipient as well as any indications relating to the postal service shall appear on the address side of which the right-hand half is reserved for these indications. The sender may make use of the back and of the left-hand half of the address side subject to the provisions of the following regulations.

Nothing to be attached to postcard

25. There shall not be joined or attached to postcards samples of merchandise or similar articles:

Provided that illustrations, photographs, stamps of any kind, address labels or slips to fold back for address purposes, labels and cuttings of any kind may be affixed to them, if these articles are not of such a nature as to alter the character of the postcards, and if they consist of paper or other very thin substance and if they adhere completely to the card. With the exception of address labels or slips these articles may only be affixed to the back or to the left-hand half of the address side of postcards. Stamps of all kinds liable to be mistaken for postage stamps may be affixed only to the back.

Postcard may be treated as letter

26. Postcards which do not comply with the conditions laid down by these Regulations shall be treated as letters.

PART IV.—PRINTED PAPERS

Printed papers

27. The following shall be considered as printed papers and shall be allowed to pass as such—Newspapers and periodicals, books sewn or bound, pamphlets, sheets of music excluding perforated sheets intended to be used with automatic musical instruments, visiting cards, address cards, proofs of printing, engravings, photographs, and albums containing photographs, pictures, drawings, plans, maps, paper patterns, catalogues, prospectuses, advertisements and notices of various kinds, printed, engraved, lithographed or mimeographed, and, in general, all impressions or copies obtained upon paper or similar material, parchment or cardboard, by means of printing, engraving, lithography, mimeography, or any other mechanical process easy to recognize except the copying press, hand-stamps, with or without movable type and the typewriter.

Reproductions, etc., treated as printed paper

28.—(1) Reproductions of a manuscript or typewritten original shall be treated like printed papers when they are obtained by a manifolding process such as hectography:

Provided that to pass at the reduced postage, these reproductions shall be handed over the counter of a post office to the number of at least 20 packets containing precisely identical copies. The manuscript additions authorised for printed papers may also be made in these reproductions.

(2) Printed papers which bear any marks whatsoever capable of constituting a conventional language, or, save the exceptions specifically authorised by these Regulations, those of which the text has been modified after printing shall not be sent at the rates provided for printed papers.

(3) Articles of stationery, properly so called when it is clearly evident that the printed portion is not the essential part of the article, shall not be sent at the printed paper rate.

(4) Cards bearing the heading "postcard" or the equivalent of this heading in any language shall be allowed to pass at the rate for printed papers, provided that they conform to the general conditions laid down therein for this class of article. Those which do not fulfil these conditions shall be regarded as postcards or letters as the case may be and shall be treated accordingly.

Contents of printed papers

- 29.—(1) It shall be permissible outside or inside a packet of printed papers—
- (a) to indicate the name, position, profession, style and address of the sender and of the addressee, as well as the date of despatch, the signature, telephone number, telegraphic address and code and the postal cheque or banking account of the sender as well as a serial or identity number referring solely to the article;
 - (b) to correct errors in printing;
 - (c) to strike out, to underline, or to enclose by marks, certain words or certain parts of a printed text, unless this is done with the object of constituting correspondence.
- (2) It shall be permissible to indicate or to add—
- (a) in advices of the departures and arrivals of ships: the dates and times of departures and arrivals as well as the names of the ships and the ports of departure, call and arrival;
 - (b) in travellers' advices: the name of the traveller, the date, the time and place of his intended visit, and the address at which he is staying;
 - (c) in forms of order or subscription for publications, books, newspapers, engravings, pieces of music: the works and the number of copies required or offered, the method of payment, also notes representing essential elements of price, the edition and the names of the authors and publishers, the number of the catalogue and words "Paper Covers", "Stiff Covers" or "Bound";
 - (d) on pictorial cards and printed visiting cards and also on Christmas and New Year cards: good wishes, congratulations, thanks, condolences, or other formulas of courtesy, expressed in five words or by means of five conventional initials at most;
 - (e) in proofs of printing: alterations and additions concerned with corrections, form and printing, and also notes such as "Passed for Press", "Read—Passed for Press", or any similar note concerned with the execution of the work. In case of want of space these additions may be made on separate sheets;
 - (f) in fashion plates, maps, and the like: colours;
 - (g) in price lists, tenders for advertisements, stock and share lists, market quotations, trade circulars and prospectuses: figures, and any other notes representing essential elements of the price;
 - (h) 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 simply of an expression of regard, and on photographs, a very concise

- description, as well as a short note referring to the photograph;
- (i) on cuttings from newspapers and periodicals: the title, date, number, and address of the publication from which the article is extracted.
- (3) It is moreover allowed to enclose—
- (a) with proofs of printing, whether corrected or not: the relative "copy";
 - (b) with articles of the categories mentioned in sub-paragraph (h) of paragraph (2), the relative open invoice;
 - (c) a card, envelope or a wrapper bearing the address of the sender of the packet, stamped for the purpose of its return, by means of postage stamps of the country of destination of the packet.

How to be made up

30.—(1) Printed papers must be made up in such a way that they can be easily examined. They shall be either placed in wrappers, or upon rollers, or between boards, or in cases open at both ends or open at both sides, or in unclosed envelopes, or they shall be secured with a string easy to untie.

(2) Printed papers of the form and substance of a card may be sent unenclosed without band, envelope or fastening. The same method of despatch shall be allowed for printed papers folded in such a way that they cannot become unfolded during transmission and so that there shall be no risk of their entrapping other articles.

(3) Packets containing bank pass-books for delivery within Fiji only shall be allowed to pass at the rate for printed papers if the covers are sufficiently open at the ends to enable the passbooks to be identified as such.

PART V.—PACKING

Fragile materials, etc.

31. The following articles shall be packed in the following manner:—
- (a) articles of glass or other fragile materials shall be securely packed in boxes of metal, wood or strong corrugated cardboard, so as to prevent all danger to postal officers and to correspondence;
 - (b) liquids, oils and substances which easily liquefy shall be enclosed in receptacles hermetically sealed. Each receptacle shall be placed in a special box of metal, strong wood, or strong corrugated cardboard containing sawdust, cotton or spongy material in sufficient quantity to absorb the liquid in the event of the breakage of the receptacle. The lid of the box shall be fixed in such a manner that it cannot easily become detached;
 - (c) fatty substances which do not easily liquefy such as ointments, soft soap, resin, etc., as well as silkworm eggs, the transmission of which presents fewer difficulties, shall be enclosed in an inner cover, box, bag of linen or parchment, etc., which shall itself be placed in a second box of wood, metal or stout thick leather;
 - (d) dry colouring powders, such as aniline blue, shall not be admitted unless enclosed in stout tin boxes placed inside wooden boxes with sawdust between the two covers. Dry non-colouring powders shall be placed in boxes of metal, wood, or cardboard; these boxes shall themselves be enclosed in a bag of linen or parchment;

(e) live bees and leeches shall be enclosed in boxes so constructed as to avoid all danger.

(Amended by Regulations 8th June, 1971.)

Sealed packages

32. Articles which would be spoilt if packed according to the general rules shall be admitted in a cover hermetically sealed. In that case the sender or the addressee may be required to assist in the check of the contents either by opening certain packets indicated by a postmaster or in some other satisfactory manner.

Packing not obligatory

33. Packing shall not be obligatory for articles consisting of one piece such as pieces of metal or wood which it is not the custom of the trade to pack.

Address

34. The address of the addressee shall be indicated, as far as possible, on the packing or on the article itself. If the packing or the article is not suitable for the inscription of the address and service indications or for affixing the postage stamps, a tie-on label shall be securely attached. The same applies when the date-stamping is likely to injure the article.

PART VI.—PACKETS GROUPED TOGETHER

Commercial and printed papers in same packet

35. It shall be permissible to enclose in one and the same packet printed papers, other than printed papers intended for the blind, subject to the following conditions:—

(a) that each packet taken singly does not exceed the limits which are applicable to it as regards weight and size;

(b) that the total weight does not exceed 4 lb. per packet.

(Regulation amended by Regulations 1st June, 1962 and 8th June, 1971.)

PART VII.—SMALL PACKETS

Small packets

36.—(1) The name and address of the sender shall be indicated on small packets at the bottom left-hand corner of the address side.

(2) Small packets may contain all articles admissible for transmission by letter post including dutiable articles but shall not contain letters, notes or documents having the character of actual and personal correspondence (other than an open invoice reduced to its simplest form, the address of the article and the sender's address); coin, bank-notes; currency notes; negotiable instruments payable to bearer; platinum, gold or silver, manufactured or not; precious stones; jewels and other valuable articles, postage stamps whether obliterated or not.

(3) Small packets addressed to places beyond Fiji shall bear a special green customs label obtainable at all post offices.

(4) Small packets may be addressed to any place within Fiji, Great Britain, the United States of America and such other countries as accept them.

PART VIII.—LITERATURE FOR THE BLIND

Limit of weight, etc.

37. Packets containing printed papers intended for the special use of the blind may weigh up to 15 lb. but shall not exceed the dimensions prescribed for other classes of printed papers. (*Amended by Regulations 1st June, 1962.*)

PART IX.—UNPAID AND INSUFFICIENTLY PREPAID
CORRESPONDENCE

Treatment of unpaid and underpaid correspondence

38. Correspondence on which postage is prepayable but on which postage is wholly unpaid, or insufficiently prepaid, shall be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of this Part.

Items not to be forwarded

39. Unpaid or underpaid items other than letters (including aerogrammes) and postcards shall not be forwarded and shall be treated as undeliverable.

Items to be forwarded

40. Unpaid or underpaid letters (including aerogrammes) and postcards shall be forwarded, but shall be liable to a special charge payable by the addressee, or in the case of undeliverable items, by the sender.

Method of forwarding

41. Unpaid or underpaid air mail letters (including aerogrammes) and air mail postcards, which it is not possible to have regularized by the senders, shall be forwarded as follows:—

- (a) if the charge paid is at least fifty per cent of the correct charge, by air transport;
- (b) in other cases, by surface transport.

Special charge

42. When the special charge payable in terms of regulation 40 is payable in Fiji, it shall be the amount of deficient postage and, in addition, a handling charge as prescribed in the Second Schedule.

(*Part substituted by Regulations 15th December, 1975.*)

PART X.—REGISTRATION

Address to be in ink

43. The address of every postal packet for registration shall be written in ink or copying-ink pencil and in Roman characters.

Hours for registration

44.—(1) Postal packets for registration shall be handed to an officer appointed for that purpose during such hours as may be notified and shall not be posted in any posting-box.

(2) Postal packets for registration received at a post office in a private bag rented from the Permanent Secretary, and conveyed by an officer of the post office or by a mail carrier shall be regarded and treated as if handed in in accordance with the provisions of this regulation.

To be prepaid

45. Postal packets for registration shall be fully prepaid at the time of handing in for transmission to the place of destination.

Cover to be in sound condition

46. No packet shall be accepted for registration unless the cover is in sound condition. Under no circumstances shall packets be accepted for registration if selvaged stamp paper or other gummed paper is attached to the covers thereof, or if the packets have the appearance of having been opened and resealed:

Provided that adhesive tape or paper bearing the printed name, signature, distinctive mark or stamp of the sender may be used for sealing the seams of an envelope. (*Inserted by Regulations 21st January, 1977.*)

Number and receipt

47. Every postal packet duly handed in for registration shall be given a distinctive number. A receipt bearing such number, and an impression of the date stamp of the office at which the packet is handed in for registration shall be given to the sender by the receiving officer, and such receipt shall be prima facie evidence of the registration of such packet. (*Amended by Regulations 1st June, 1962.*)

Acknowledgment of receipt

*48. The sender of any registered postal packet may upon application either at the time of registration thereof or at any time within one year thereafter and upon payment of the fees set out in the Second Schedule in addition to the fee for registration, require to be furnished with an acknowledgment by the addressee of the receipt of such packet, and any registered packet for delivery within Fiji the acknowledgment of the receipt of which has been applied for at the time of registration, shall not be delivered until such acknowledgment shall have been obtained by the department.

Compulsory registration in certain cases

*49.—(1) Any postal packet which may be posted otherwise than as laid down in regulation 44 and which may bear any inscription or mark which may reasonably be assumed to indicate that it was the intention of the sender that such packet should be registered, may upon detection be registered and subjected to the fee set out in the Second Schedule for compulsory registration in addition to the ordinary postage due upon such letter or packet, and any unregistered postal packet which there is reasonable cause to believe contains money or other valuable enclosure (including postage stamps exceeding ten cents in value) shall be similarly treated.

*Amended by Regulations 8th June, 1971.

(2) Any postal packet which has been compulsorily registered under this regulation on the ground of its being supposed to contain a valuable enclosure and which may be opened in the presence of the officer delivering the same and found not to contain any such enclosure, shall be delivered free of charge in respect of registration.

Receipt for delivery

50. Any person to whom any registered postal packet is delivered shall give to the officer delivering it a receipt for the same on a form to be provided by the Permanent Secretary, which receipt shall be a good discharge for the delivery of such registered packet.

Delivery through private box

51. In effecting delivery of a registered postal packet through a private post office box rented from the Permanent Secretary a printed receipt form bearing the registered number and the address of such registered packet shall be placed in such box, and the presentation at the proper post office of the said receipt signed either by the addressee or the person presenting the same purporting to sign for the addressee shall be a sufficient warrant for the delivery of such registered packet to the applicant.

Undeliverable packets

*52. Every registered postal packet which may from any cause be undelivered to the person to whom it is addressed shall be returned to the sender, if known, by registered post without further charge for postage or registration. And any unregistered postal packet which may likewise be undeliverable and the contents of which may be found to be of intrinsic value may be returned by the Permanent Secretary to the sender, if known, through the registered post, and such sender shall be liable in respect of such packet for the fee set out in the Second Schedule for compulsory registration.

PART XI—COMPENSATION FOR LOSS OF REGISTERED PACKET

Compensation may be paid

*53. The Postmaster-General may in his discretion and as an act of grace, subject to the conditions hereinafter mentioned, give compensation as set out in the Second Schedule for the loss while in the custody of the post office of any postal packet, or the whole or any portion of the contents thereof, which has been admitted for transmission by registered post within Fiji.

When no compensation payable

54. No compensation for loss shall be given in respect of—

- (a) any postal packet containing anything which may not be lawfully sent by post;
- (b) money whether coin or paper, unless sent by letter post, and then only if—
 - (i) any coins enclosed in the letter have been packed in such a way as to move about as little as possible;

* Amended by Legal Notice 82 of 1971.

- (ii) the number, amount and date of issue of any currency note and also the bank of issue in the case of a bank note enclosed be supplied to the Permanent Secretary when required;
- (iii) the amount, number, and date of issue of any money order or postal order enclosed be supplied to the Permanent Secretary when required;
- (iv) particulars sufficient to identify the document be supplied to the Permanent Secretary in the case of any bill of exchange, bond, coupon, or other order or authority for the payment of money or security for money enclosed in the letter.

No compensation where loss due to act of sender

55. In no case shall compensation be given where it appears that the loss has arisen from any neglect or omission on the part of the sender.

Compensation not to exceed value of packet, etc.

56.—(1) Compensation shall in no case exceed the value of the postal packet or any portion of the contents thereof which may be lost, and in respect of the loss of coin shall not in the case of any one letter exceed the sum of \$4. No compensation shall be given for injury or damage consequent upon the loss of any registered packet.

(2) The Permanent Secretary may in any case reinstate or make good in kind the contents of any lost packet instead of giving pecuniary compensation for loss.

(3) Where compensation has been given in respect of any postal packet and such packet subsequently comes in to the hands of the Permanent Secretary he may retain or dispose of the same as he may deem fit.

Receipt to be produced

57. The receipt given to the sender at the time of registration of any postal packet in connection with the loss of which application is made for compensation shall be produced by the applicant whenever required by the Permanent Secretary.

Application for compensation

58. Every application for compensation in respect of a postal packet the contents of which are alleged to have been lost during transmission through the post shall be accompanied by the envelope or cover of such article in as nearly as possible the condition in which it was delivered by the department.

Time for application

59. Under no circumstances shall an application for compensation be entertained if made after the expiration of 1 year from the date of posting the relative postal packet.

Packets lost abroad

60. In cases where registered packets are lost abroad, the final decision upon the question of payment of compensation rests with the Postal Administration of the country in which the loss takes place.

PART XII.—DELIVERY OF POSTAL PACKETS

Delivery to member of family, etc.

61. When no direction in writing to the contrary has been received, correspondence for a husband may be delivered to his wife, and correspondence for a wife may be delivered to her husband, and correspondence addressed to members of the same family living in the same house may be delivered to any responsible member of the family living in the house or to any messenger authorised to receive it.

To whom delivery to be made

62. Except as set forth in regulation 61, no postal packet shall be delivered to any person other than—

- (a) the addressee in person; or
- (b) a person authorised by written order from the addressee to receive delivery of postal packets on his behalf; such order shall bear the date on which it is made, the addressee's address, and shall be witnessed by some person other than the person in whose favour it is made and it shall be delivered to the postmaster or other proper officer; or
- (c) in the case of business establishments, public institutions, hotels and lodging houses, the proprietor or manager, or some person authorised in writing by the proprietor or manager to receive delivery of the correspondence at such places; or
- (d) a person to whose care the postal packet is addressed.

Delivery of bulky articles to be at post office

63. The department cannot undertake to deliver by letter-carrier bulky articles that may impede the general distribution of correspondence. The addressees of postal packets, except letters, weighing over one pound shall take delivery thereof at the post office.

Delivery to executor or administrator, etc.

64. Postal packets addressed to deceased persons may be delivered to the executors or administrators of deceased persons on production of the original will or of the probate or letters of administration; but until such production the Permanent Secretary may cause such postal packets to be delivered to some near relative of the deceased person:

Provided that when the original will is produced the executor shall undertake to produce probate when obtained.

PART XIII.—PROHIBITED POSTAL PACKETS

Prohibited postal packets

65. There shall not be posted or conveyed by post any postal packet—
- (a) consisting of or containing any indecent or obscene print, painting, photograph, lithograph, engraving, book or card, or any indecent or obscene article, whether similar to the above or not;
 - (b) having thereon or on the cover thereof any words, marks, or designs of an indecent, obscene, grossly offensive or of a libellous character;

- (c) containing any article or thing prohibited by the customs or other laws of Fiji, or of the country to which the postal packet is addressed;
- (d) consisting of or containing—
 - (i) any explosive, inflammable, radio-active or dangerous substance or liquid;
(*Amended by Regulations 1st June, 1962.*)
 - (ii) any filth;
 - (iii) any noxious or deleterious substance;
 - (iv) any sharp instrument not properly protected;
 - (v) except with the special permission of the Permanent Secretary, any living creature;
 - (vi) any liquid unless securely packed in proper cases;
 - (vii) any article or thing whatsoever which is likely to injure other postal packets in course of conveyance, or any receptacle in which the same are conveyed, or an officer of the post office or other person who may deal with such postal packet;
- (e) containing or bearing any fictitious postage stamp;
- (f) purporting to be prepaid with any stamp which has been previously used to prepay any other postal packet or any other revenue duty or tax;
- (g) having marks 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;
- (h) having thereon or on the cover thereof any words, marks or designs of a character likely, in the opinion of the Permanent Secretary, to embarrass the officers of the post office in dealing with the packet in the post;
- (i) of such a form or so made up for transmission by post as to be likely, in the opinion of the Permanent Secretary, to embarrass the officers of the post office in dealing with the packet in the post;
- (j) containing opium, morphine, cocaine or other narcotics.

Transmission of coin, etc.

66. There shall not be conveyed by unregistered post, or enclosed in small packets even if registered, coin, bank-notes, currency notes, negotiable instruments payable to bearer, platinum, gold or silver, manufactured or not, precious stones, jewels and other valuable articles. The transmission of postage stamps, whether obliterated or not, in open packets is prohibited.

Prohibited packets—how dealt with

67. Prohibited packets if tendered for transmission shall be refused, or if detected in transit, detained and dealt with in such a manner as the Permanent Secretary may direct.

PART XIV.—TRANSPARENT OR PANEL ENVELOPES

Transparent envelopes, etc.

68. Packets enclosed in envelopes entirely transparent or in envelopes with an open panel shall not be admitted.

Envelopes with transparent panel

69. The following conditions apply to packets in envelopes with a transparent panel—

- (a) the transparent panel shall be parallel to the length of the envelope so that the address of the addressee appears in the same direction and the application of the date stamp is not interfered with;
- (b) the panel shall be sufficiently transparent for the address to be perfectly legible, even in artificial light, and shall take writing;
- (c) only the name and address of the addressee shall show through the panel, and the contents of the envelope shall be folded so that the address cannot be obscured, wholly or partly, through slipping;
- (d) the address shall be legibly indicated in ink or typewriting. Articles addressed in copying-ink pencil or lead pencil shall not be admitted. Panel envelopes of which the transparent portion reflects artificial light are excluded from transmission.

PART XV.—INSURANCE

Operation of insurance system

70.—(1) The insurance system shall be applicable to letters, boxes and parcels.

(2) The insured letter and box service shall be in operation between the several countries adhering to the "Agreement concerning Insured Letters and Boxes" and Fiji. The service in Fiji shall be limited to money order offices only. Special conditions applicable to insured parcels are set out in regulations 112 to 117.

Regulations subject to alteration

71. The regulations under which letters and boxes shall be accepted for insurance by the post office shall be subject to such alterations and amendments as may be adopted from time to time by the Agreement of the Universal Postal Union.

Fees

72. The fees payable for insurance including registration shall be as set out in the Second Schedule. The maximum amount for which an article may be insured is Eight hundred dollars:

Provided that articles shall not be insured for an amount higher than the maximum fixed by the regulations of the country of destination.

(Amended by Regulations 8th June, 1971.)

General conditions

73. The following general conditions shall be observed by the senders of insured articles:—

- (a) articles intended for insurance shall be presented at the post office counter, and shall not be posted in any posting box;
- (b) no labels shall be affixed except those of the postal service;
- (c) seals shall be placed over each flap or seam of the cover of a packet, and if the packet is tied round with string or tape a seal shall be placed on the ends where they are tied;

- (d) all the seals on an insured article shall be of the same kind of wax, adhesive tape or paper (or lead in the case of parcels) and shall bear distinct impressions of the same private device. Coins must not be used for sealing and the device shall not consist merely of straight, crossed or curved lines which could be readily imitated;
(Amended by Regulations 21st January, 1977.)
- (e) as few stamps as possible should be used to prepay the postage and insurance fees. They shall not be folded over the edge of the cover and when more stamps than one are used they shall be affixed with spaces between them;
- (f) insured articles shall not be addressed to initials or in pencil;
- (g) a certificate of posting shall be obtained by the sender;
- (h) the amount for which an article is insured shall be written by the sender both in words and in figures, at the top of the address side of the cover, thus: "Insured for thirty dollars (\$30)". No alterations or erasures of the inscription shall be allowed. If a mistake is made, the entry shall be completely obliterated and an entirely new one made by the sender;
- (i) no article shall be insured for more than its actual value;
- (j) the fee shall be prepaid in addition to the full postage by means of postage stamps, which the sender shall affix to the cover.

Letters to which insurance system applies

74. Letters to which the insurance system shall be applicable shall be those which contain bank notes, currency notes, bonds, coupons, securities, and other documents of the kind. Documents of value such as deeds, plans, contracts, autographs, rare manuscripts, may be also sent by insured post, provided that where documents have a value by reason of the cost of their preparation, the insured value shall not exceed the cost of replacing them in case of loss.

Postcards etc., not to be insured

75. Postcards, packets of printed papers or letters which contain articles other than documents, shall not be insured.

(Amended by Regulations 8th June, 1971.)

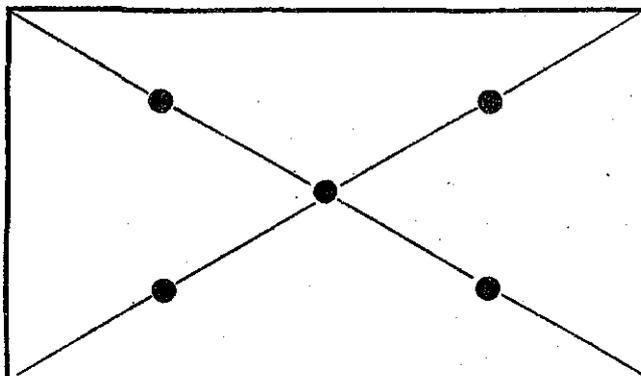
Cover and seals

76.—(1) Every letter tendered for insurance shall be enclosed in a strong cover made up in one piece which shall be securely fastened by means of identical seals in fine wax, with spaces between, reproducing a private mark, in such a way that it cannot be opened without either breaking the seals or leaving obvious traces of violation. Adhesive tape or paper bearing the printed name, signature, distinctive mark or stamp of the sender may also be used for sealing the seams of an envelope.

(2) Envelopes with black or coloured borders or with transparent panels shall not be used.

(3) Spaces shall be left between the stamps used for prepayment, and also between the postal labels, so that they cannot serve to hide injuries to the envelope. The stamps or labels shall not be folded over the two sides of the envelope so as to cover the edge.

(4) The seals on an ordinary envelope shall be placed as shown below—



(5) In the case of long envelopes with a seam down the centre, the seam shall be secured with seals placed not more than three inches apart. Where adhesive tape or paper bearing the printed name, signature, distinctive mark or stamp of the sender is used, it must cover all seams of the envelope.

(6) Letters which, although addressed to a country or place to which the insurance system does not extend, have been irregularly insured, shall be returned to the senders. (*Regulation amended by Regulations 21st January, 1977.*)

Prohibitions as to insured letters

77. The following prohibitions additional to those detailed in Regulation 65, shall apply to insured letters:—

- (a) articles liable to customs duty, except when addressed to countries which admit dutiable articles forwarded in letters;
- (b) living animals;
- (c) coin, platinum, gold or silver, manufactured or not, precious stones, jewellery and other valuables.

Gold, etc., how to be sent

78. Articles of gold and silver, precious stones, jewellery, and articles of a like nature may be sent in the letter mails as insured boxes.

Dimensions of insured box

79. An insured box may not exceed 2 lb. in weight and shall not measure more than 12 inches in length, 8 inches in breadth, and 4 inches in height. The box employed for packing shall be strongly made of metal or wood, and when a wooden box is used the wood shall be at least one-third of an inch thick.

Securing, etc., of insured box

80. An insured box shall be tied crosswise with a single strong string (not two or more pieces joined) the two ends of the string being held together under a seal of fine wax bearing a private mark. The box shall also be sealed on the four sides with seals identical with that used for the ends of the string. The box shall not be

wrapped in paper, but the surfaces of the top and bottom shall be covered with white paper to receive the address of the addressee, the declaration of the insured value and the impression of the official stamps.

Customs declaration

81. An insured box being subject to the customs regulations and laws of the country of destination, it shall be accompanied by the requisite number of customs declaration forms prepared by the sender.

Form of customs declaration

82. The customs declaration forms used for parcels may be adapted so as to apply to insured boxes, by altering the heading to "Insured Boxes" or "Boites avec valeur déclaré". Such forms shall specify precisely the style of packing and include a description of the box, its gross weight, and the total value of the contents.

Weight and value to be shown

83. The net weight and value of each of the different kinds of articles contained in an insured box shall be shown separately.

Prohibitions as to insured boxes

84. The following prohibitions, additional to those detailed in regulation 65 shall apply to insured boxes—

- (a) letters or notes having the character of actual and personal correspondence. It shall be permissible to enclose in the box an open invoice, confined to the particulars which constitute an invoice, and also a simple copy of the address of the box, and of the sender;
- (b) bank notes, currency notes or securities payable to bearer;
- (c) bonds and articles included in the category of commercial papers;
- (d) opium, morphine, cocaine and other narcotics. This prohibition shall not apply to such articles sent for medical or scientific purposes to countries which admit them under this condition.

Redirection not permitted

85. Redirection of insured postal packets to countries which do not accept insured postal packets of the class concerned shall not be effected.

Advice of delivery

86. The sender of an insured article may have sent to him an advice of the delivery of the packet to the addressee, or may subsequent to the posting of the article apply for information as to its disposal on payment of the fee set out in the Second Schedule. (*Amended by Regulations 8th June, 1971.*)

Compensation

87. Compensation for the loss or damage of an insured article or its contents in the post shall not exceed the amount of the actual loss or damage, and shall not be paid on prohibited articles, or articles which have been taken delivery of without remark, or for damage or loss caused by the fault or negligence of the sender, or arising from the nature of the article, or from tempest, ship-wreck, earthquake,

war, the acts of the Queen's enemies, or other causes beyond control. Compensation shall not be paid for the loss or damage of any article in respect of which the relative official documents have been destroyed through a cause beyond control.

Time for claim for compensation

88. No claim for compensation shall be admitted if made more than a year after the article was posted.

No legal liability

89. No legal liability to give compensation in respect of any article for which an insurance fee has been paid shall attach to the Permanent Secretary either personally or in his official capacity. The final decision upon all questions of compensation shall rest with the Postal Administration of the country in which the loss or damage has taken place.

Invalid insurance

90. Any insurance effected contrary to the foregoing Regulations shall be invalid.

PART XVI.—PARCELS POST

Interpretation

91. In this Part, the expression "parcel" means a postal packet which is posted as a parcel in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.

Name and address and declaration of contents

92. Every parcel shall bear on the outside of the cover thereof the name and address of the sender, and unless inscribed with the words "Parcel Post" and secured in such a manner as to allow of the contents being readily withdrawn and examined, shall have attached to the cover a form similar to that set out in the Second Schedule. (*Amended by Regulations 6th June, 1971.*)

Parcel to be handed in at post office

93. Every parcel for transmission shall be handed in over a post office counter during such hours as may be notified by the Permanent Secretary. Any parcel posted in a posting box shall be subject on delivery to a fee as set out in the Second Schedule in addition to any other charges which may be due thereon. Parcels received at a post office in a private post bag approved by the Permanent Secretary shall be regarded and treated as if handed in in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.

Certificate of posting

94. The sender of any parcel may, upon application at the time of handing in such parcel, obtain a certificate of the posting thereof. Such certificate shall not, however, imply any liability on the part of the Permanent Secretary for any loss, injury, or delay which may subsequently take place in respect of such parcel.

Charges on redirected parcel

95. Every parcel redirected at the request of either the sender or the addressee thereof from one post office to another shall be subject upon delivery, in addition to any other charges which may be leviable thereon, to a charge equal to the postage which would have been payable upon such parcel if it were being transmitted for the first time from the one office to the other.

Stoppage and stoppage fee

96.—(1) Upon every parcel the transmission of which is stopped at the request of either the sender or the addressee thereof and delivered from the office at which stoppage is effected there shall be levied a stoppage fee of ten cents, and such fee shall be payable on delivery in addition to any other charges which may be due upon such parcel. (*Amended by Regulations 1st June, 1962.*)

(2) In the case of any parcel returned to the sender at his request before the same has been despatched from the office at which it was handed in, the sender shall have no claim in respect of the postage stamps affixed to such parcel if such stamps have already been cancelled.

(3) Any parcel stopped in transit for return to the sender or delivery to the addressee at any post office other than the office at which stoppage is effected, and any undeliverable parcel returned to the sender direct from the office to which the same has been forwarded for delivery shall be regarded as redirected from such office to another office and shall be subject to the usual charges in respect of such redirection.

Parcels for member of forces, etc.

97. The Permanent Secretary may, upon application, divert free of charge subject to such conditions as he may deem expedient, any parcel addressed to any member of Her Majesty's Regular Forces, or of the Police Force or Military Forces of Fiji who may be moved in the course of duty from one place to another within Fiji.

Return of unclaimed parcel

98.—(1) The Permanent Secretary may return to the sender at the expense of the latter, any parcel which has not been claimed within a period of twenty-eight days from the date on which it was originally received at the office of destination.

(2) In the case of parcels coming from outside Fiji, the addressee may arrange for the retention of a parcel by the Post Office beyond the said period of twenty-eight days for a further fifty-six days upon an advanced payment of demurrage fees as set out in the Second Schedule.

(*Regulation substituted by Regulations 1st June, 1962 and 6th June, 1971.*)

Delivery of parcel

99.—(1) The delivery of parcels otherwise than from money order offices shall not be obligatory, and any parcel addressed to any office other than a money order office may be detained by the Permanent Secretary at the money order office to which such office is subordinate:

Provided that whenever any parcel is so detained the Permanent Secretary shall cause the addressee thereof to be advised of the fact.

(2) The street delivery of parcels shall not be obligatory, but where such delivery is not undertaken, the Permanent Secretary shall cause the addressee of every parcel to be advised by post of the receipt thereof at the local post office and of its detention there.

Delivery free of charge

100.—(1) Where the relevant postal arrangements so provide, the sender of a parcel for delivery outside Fiji, other than a cash on delivery parcel, may, at the time of presenting such parcel for despatch, request that such parcel shall be delivered free of customs duty and of all other charges payable thereon at the time of delivery in the country of destination, and in such case the following conditions shall apply:—

- (a) every such parcel shall be clearly and boldly marked with the words “Free of charges and fees” or the words “Franc de taxes et de droits” and shall also have affixed to it a yellow label bearing the words “Free of charges and fees” or the words “Franc de taxes et de droits” clearly and boldly printed thereon;
- (b) every such parcel shall be accompanied by or have attached to it a customs declaration in the form set forth in the Second Schedule with all of the relevant portions of such declaration duly completed by the sender;
- (c) the sender shall pay, at the time of presenting such parcel for despatch, such amount as the Permanent Secretary may require as a deposit in respect of the customs duty and other charges payable thereon at the time of delivery in the country of destination;
- (d) the sender shall sign an undertaking, in such form as may be required by the Permanent Secretary, to pay on demand the amount of customs duty and the said other charges, less the amount of the deposit paid;
- (e) the Permanent Secretary shall furnish to the sender a certificate of posting bearing an acknowledgement that the said deposit has been paid; and
- (f) if the amount of the deposit paid by the sender exceeds the total amount of customs duty and other charges payable on such parcel at the time of delivery in the country of destination, the Permanent Secretary shall, upon receipt of notification from the office of destination of the full amount of such customs duty and other charges, repay the balance to the sender.

(2) Where the relevant postal arrangements so provide, the sender of a cash on delivery parcel for delivery outside Fiji may, at the time of presenting such parcel for despatch request that such parcel shall be delivered free of customs duty and all other charges payable thereon at the time of delivery in the country of destination, except the trade charge, and in such case the conditions set out in paragraph (1) shall apply:

Provided that instead of the words required to be marked on the parcel and printed on the yellow label affixed to such parcel under the provisions of paragraph (a) of that paragraph there shall be marked on such parcel and printed on such label respectively the words “Free of charges and fees except the trade charge”.

(Regulation inserted by Regulations 20th September, 1967.)

Two or more parcels not to be sent as one

101. No parcel shall consist of or contain two or more parcels addressed to different persons at different addresses. If such parcel be discovered each of its contents shall be treated as a separate parcel and be charged for accordingly.

Packing of parcels

102. Parcels shall be so securely and substantially packed as not only to preserve their contents from loss or damage in the post, but also so as not to injure other parcels in the mail or any officer of the post office—

- (a) hats, millinery and similar articles shall be packed in rigid boxes of wood or other material or in stout "leather-board" boxes with lids extending about two thirds of the depth of the box, or in strong cardboard boxes, protected externally by cross bars of wood consisting of two frames placed at right angles to one another and fastened together where they cross at the top and bottom;
- (b) weighty articles, such as iron castings, shall be packed in some soft material such as straw-roping or hay-roping;
- (c) musical instruments shall be enclosed in stout cases, with sufficient soft internal packing to prevent movement and to prevent damage through jolting;
- (d) pictures in frames shall be protected on the front and back by stout wooden boards each larger than the frame. Soft packing shall be placed firmly between the corners of the frame and the boards, but not so as to press on the glass;
- (e) sharp instruments may be transmitted as parcels, but only if the edges and points are carefully covered;
- (f) umbrellas, walking-sticks, fishing-rods, and other similar articles shall be enclosed in stout cases made of wood at least three-eighths of an inch thick, but the two small ends of such cases may be of lighter wood such as three-ply. Soft interior packing must be used in all cases where the handles are made of brittle or fragile substances;
- (g) thoroughly seasoned raw celluloid (including scrap celluloid), i.e. celluloid which has been freed from all volatile solvents, or articles (other than cinematograph and photographic films) manufactured of celluloid which has been similarly seasoned shall be packed in cardboard boxes, corrugated cardboard cartons, or wooden boxes, or completely enclosed in corrugated cardboard. Raw celluloid, containing volatile solvent (i.e. unseasoned), sometimes called xylonite cake, also liquid celluloid (celluloid solutions), shall not be accepted for transmission. Calendars, and similar articles in which only a small quantity of celluloid is used, may be accepted under the ordinary conditions;
- (h) cinematograph and photographic films (inflammable films with a nitro-cellulose base) shall be packed in a tin case enclosed in a strong wooden box. If any part of the box is composed of more than one piece of wood, the pieces must be jointed together by means of tongues and grooves. A lining of suitable material shall be placed between the upper edges of the box and the lid; and the lid shall be

- firmly screwed down. A white label bearing the words "Films Inflammable" in plain black letters shall be affixed to the parcel;
- (i) suit, attache, dressing and other similar cases shall be protected by wooden boards covering the sides;
 - (j) for liquids and substances which easily liquefy two receptacles shall be used. The outer receptacle shall be of strong wood or metal. Between this and the inner receptacle containing the liquid space shall be left all round, and this space shall be filled with bran, sawdust, or other absorbent material in sufficient quantity to absorb all the liquid contents in the event of breakage;
 - (k) powders shall have an inner covering securely closed, and a strong outer covering of metal, wood, or leather;
 - (l) china, crockery and glass shall be firmly packed in rigid metal or wooden boxes with ample soft packing between the article and the top, bottom, and side of the box;
 - (m) food and other articles attractive to rats shall be packed in receptacles which are rat proof.

Delay of despatch, etc., for safety reasons

103. In any case where an officer of the post office may find it necessary or expedient for the safety or protection of parcels that any parcel should be forwarded or delivered by some later despatch or delivery than that for which the same was posted or despatched, or intended to be posted or despatched respectively, he may delay the despatch or delivery of such parcel, or make other and special arrangements as to the despatch or delivery thereof as may be deemed by such officer necessary or expedient in the circumstances of the case.

Request for treatment of undeliverable parcel

104. The sender of a parcel may request at the time of posting that if the parcel cannot be delivered as addressed it may be either—

(a) treated as abandoned; or

(b) tendered for delivery at a second address in the country of destination; and no other alternative shall be admissible. If the sender avails himself of this facility his request shall be written on the parcel and shall be in one of the following forms:—

"If not deliverable as addressed, abandon"; or

"If not deliverable as addressed, deliver to _____".

Return of parcel in absence of request

105. In the absence of a definite request for abandonment a parcel which is undeliverable at the original address or at the alternative address if one is furnished shall be returned to the sender without previous notification and at his expense.

Delivery, etc., may be deferred to avoid delay in delivery of letters

106. Where the despatch or delivery from a post office in Fiji of letters would be delayed by the despatch or delivery therefrom at the same time of parcels, such parcels, or any of them, may be detained in the office until the despatch or delivery next following that by which they would ordinarily be despatched or delivered.

Disposal of undeliverable parcels

107. The contents of unclaimed or undelivered parcels which have been returned to Fiji, and cannot be delivered to the sender shall be sold or destroyed as directed by the Permanent Secretary.

Compensation for uninsured and unregistered parcels

108. Uninsured and unregistered parcels shall be received and forwarded at the risk of the owners but as an act of grace compensation up to the maximum of \$2 may be allowed for total loss of, or damage to, a parcel securely packed and forwarded in accordance with these Regulations:

Provided that no compensation shall be paid for damage to any article inadequately or insecurely packed, or to any of the articles enumerated in Regulation 115. (*Regulation amended by Regulations 1st June, 1962.*)

When compensation not payable

109. In no circumstances will compensation be paid in respect of an uninsured or unregistered parcel which has been lost or has sustained damage or loss of contents through any cause beyond control. Each claim for compensation must be supported by the production of the relative certificate of posting.

(*Amended by Regulations 1st June, 1962.*)

PART XVII.—INLAND POST PARCELS

Charges on inland post parcels

110. Parcels may be accepted for registration upon payment of the fees set out in the Second Schedule in addition to ordinary postage.

(*Inserted by Regulations 1st June, 1962 and 8th June, 1971.*)

General regulations

111. The general regulations regarding registration shall apply to registered parcels. (*Inserted by Regulations 1st June, 1962.*)

PART XVIII.—INSURED PARCELS

Where parcels may be insured, etc.

112. Parcels tendered for insurance shall be accepted at such post offices as the Permanent Secretary may from time to time direct for transmission to and delivery at, any money order office within Fiji and to Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Australia and New Zealand. (*Amended by Regulations 1st June, 1962.*)

Packing of insured parcel, etc.

113. Every insured parcel shall be packed carefully and substantially with due regard to the nature of the contents and the length of the journey, and shall be sealed with wax, lead or steel, adhesive tape or paper bearing a private mark in such a way that it cannot be opened without breaking the seals or leaving obvious traces of violation; for instance, seals must be placed over each joint or loose flap of the coverings of a parcel and, if string be used in packing, a seal must be placed at the ends of the string where they are tied.

(*Amended by Regulations 21st January, 1977.*)

Parcels containing coin etc.

114. Parcels containing coin or bullion, watches, precious stones, jewellery or any articles of gold or silver shall be insured for at least part of their value and they shall be enclosed in a strong box or case or two seamless bags forming a double wrapping. If a box or case is used, it shall be sewn up or otherwise fastened in a wrapper of linen, canvas, strong paper, or other substantial material. In such cases the seals shall be placed along the edges of each join or loose flap at distances not more than three inches apart. The address of every such parcel shall be written on its actual covering. (*Substituted by Regulations 21st January, 1977.*)

Parcels containing perishable articles

115. Parcels containing any of the following articles shall not be insured against damage, but they may be insured against loss only, on payment of fees on the same scale as those for insurance of other articles against loss or damage:—liquids and substances which easily liquefy, perishable articles such as eggs, butter, flowers, fruit, and confectionery, and fragile articles such as china, glassware, millinery, and gramophone records.

Parcel containing jewellery exceeding \$200 in value

116. Every parcel posted within Fiji containing jewellery exceeding two hundred dollars in value shall be packed in a box measuring not less than three feet six inches in length and girth combined.

General regulations

117. The general regulations regarding insurance shall apply to insured parcels.

PART XIX.—CASH ON DELIVERY SERVICE

Description of service

118. The Cash on Delivery service shall be one under which the post office, upon payment of the ordinary parcel post charges, plus the Cash on Delivery service fees as set out in the Second Schedule, undertakes to accept parcels and to collect from the addressee on delivery an amount specified by the sender, called the "Trade Charge"; and to pay that sum to the sender of the article.

(*Amended by Regulations 8th June, 1971.*)

Destinations for which C.O.D. parcels may be accepted, etc.

119.—(1) Parcels posted under the Cash on Delivery Service shall be accepted for transmission within Fiji, to Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Australia and to such other countries as the Permanent Secretary may from time to time direct.

(2) Parcels posted on the Cash on Delivery Service shall be accepted for transmission and shall be delivered at all money order offices.

(*Regulation amended by Regulations 18th December, 1968.*)

Maximum trade charge

120.—(1) The maximum trade charge which may be collected on any single overseas parcel shall be fifty pounds sterling and on any single inland post parcel, one hundred dollars in Fiji currency.

(Substituted by Regulations 1st June, 1962 and 8th June, 1971.)

(2) In calculating the amount of a trade charge, fractions of a cent shall be ignored.

Particulars on parcel on which trade charge to be collected

121. The sender of a parcel on which a trade charge is to be collected shall—

(a) write clearly on the cover of the parcel his name and address, the word "Re-emboursement", the amount of the trade charge in Fiji currency in figures and in words, and the name of the post office on which the money order in payment of the trade charge is to be drawn, for example—

"Sender—
James Smith,
Victoria Parade,
Suva (re-emboursement),
\$10 (ten dollars),
Suva".

These particulars shall be written on the back of the parcel if there is not sufficient space for them to be written clearly on the front. No erasure or alteration of the entry of the money shall be allowed. An incorrect entry shall be completely obliterated and a fresh entry made;

- (b) fill up a form provided by the post office which includes a formal request for the collection of the trade charge, a declaration that the parcel is sent in fulfilment of a bona fide order, and an agreement to pay the return postage on the parcel in the event of non-delivery;
- (c) hand in the parcel at the post office and receive a receipt which must be surrendered when presenting the trade charge money order for payment.

Request for treatment of undeliverable parcel

122.—(1) The sender may give instructions at the time of posting that the parcel is to be treated as abandoned, or tendered at a second address if it proves to be undeliverable to the first addressee.

(2) Should the sender desire to avail himself of this facility he must write his request on the parcel and in one of the following forms:—

"If undeliverable as addressed, abandon"; or

"If undeliverable as addressed, deliver to _____".

(3) A request for delivery of a parcel at either the first or the second address without payment of the trade charge shall not be admitted.

Return of parcel to sender if undeliverable

123. In the absence of instructions to the contrary, after a cash on delivery parcel has lain for twenty-eight days at the post office to which it is addressed, it shall be treated as undeliverable and returned to the sender at his expense.

(Amended by Regulations 1st June, 1962.)

Cheques not accepted

124. Cheques shall not be accepted in payment of trade charges.

Trade charge not to be refunded

125. A trade charge once paid shall not be refunded to the addressee.

PART XX.—CUSTOMS DUES ON PARCELS

Assessment of duty, etc.

126. When a parcel or a packet sent by post contains anything liable to duty under the laws relating to customs, which are now or may hereafter be in force in Fiji, the collector of customs at the port or place at which such parcel or packet is landed shall assess the duty payable thereon. The parcel or packet shall then be sent to the office of destination where the postmaster shall retain possession of it until the addressee or his authorised agent shall have signed the parcel entry and receipt form and have paid all charges payable. The clearance and accounting fee set out in the Second Schedule shall be levied on each dutiable parcel or packet delivered in Fiji. (*Amended by Regulations 8th June, 1971.*)

Inspection of parcel

127. Every parcel shall be subject to inspection in the presence of the owner thereof or his authorised agent, and to valuation by the collector of customs at the port of entry, or an officer authorised by him in that behalf.

Delivery to addressee only

128. No parcel shall be delivered by the postmaster except to the addressee thereof or his authorised agent. Every addressee of a parcel wishing it to be delivered to another person on his behalf must sign and deliver to the postmaster an authority in such form as the Permanent Secretary may direct.

Production of invoice

129. The addressee of every parcel or his agent shall, when required to do so by the Permanent Secretary, produce the invoice, if any, of the contents of the parcel.

Importation of tobacco, etc., by post

130. Subject to the regulations now in force or that may hereafter be in force, relating to the collection of customs dues on parcels, tobacco (including cigars and cigarettes), and snuff in parcels weighing not more than twenty-two pounds, and not packed with other goods, and spirits not exceeding one pint in quantity being samples and not packed with other goods, may be imported into Fiji by post, notwithstanding the provisions of any Act relating to the collection and payment of customs duties to the contrary effect.

(*Amended by Regulations 29th October, 1959.*)

PART XXI.—RE-DIRECTION

Form and signature of notices, etc.

131.—(1) All notices of removal and applications for the redirection of postal packets shall be signed by the persons to whom such packets are addressed.

(2) The printed form of notice, which may be obtained on application at any post office shall be used whenever practicable.

(3) Re-direction orders by telegraph shall be accepted provided that signatures are in full and can be verified.

Changes of address

132.—(1) Changes of address shall be recorded for a period not exceeding six months and if not renewed before the expiration of that time, shall be deemed to have lapsed.

(2) This service may be continued for a further period of six months on payment of a fee of fifty cents for every address recorded, and after that period, for every year thereafter, an annual fee of one dollar.

(Inserted by Regulations 1st June, 1962.)

Letters addressed to care of private box holders, etc.

133. It shall not be obligatory upon the department to intercept and re-address before delivery, letters addressed to the care of private box holders, hotels, lodging-houses and warehouses.

Where interception to be made

134.—(1) It shall not be obligatory upon the department to intercept postal packets at any office other than that to which they are addressed.

(2) Applications for the re-direction of postal packets should be made directly to the postmaster of the office to which such packets are addressed.

No charge for re-direction by surface mail except in case of parcels

135.—(1) No charge shall be made for re-direction of postal packets by surface mail, except in the case of parcels, provided that the packet is re-posted not later than seven days after delivery, but postal packets which are properly prepaid for their first transmission, and on which the complementary postage appropriate to the further transmission has not been paid before their re-direction, shall be charged with a rate equal to the difference between the amount of postage already paid, and that which would have been charged if the postal packets had been despatched in the first instance to the new destination. Postal packets requiring re-direction by airmail, shall be fully prepaid, or airmail charges covered by written agreement to pay on delivery.

(2) Postal packets re-posted for re-direction later than seven days after delivery shall be charged at the prepaid rate and any packet which shall appear to the Permanent Secretary to have been opened or tampered with shall be charged as freshly posted and unpaid.

(Regulation substituted by Regulations 1st June, 1962.)

Unpaid or insufficiently paid packets

136.—(1) Postal packets unpaid and insufficiently prepaid for transmission to the place of first address, if re-directed to another address shall, in addition to any charges already due thereon, be subject to a charge equal to the difference between the rate postage from the original office of posting to the first address and the new address, provided that the rate of postage to the new address from the original place of posting is in excess of that to the first address.

(2) Postal packets which have originally circulated free of postage within Fiji, shall be charged upon re-direction beyond Fiji at the rate applicable to prepaid postal packets of the same nature addressed directly from the place of origin to that of the new destination.

PART XXII.—CORRECTED ADDRESS OF POSTAL PACKET

Fresh postage payable in correction of address and re-posting

137. Every postal packet, ordinary or registered, which being wrongly or insufficiently addressed, which is returned to the sender in order that the address may be corrected or completed shall when posted with the address completed or corrected be considered as a freshly posted postal packet on which new and distinct rates of postage shall be paid.

PART XXIII.—FRANKING OF POSTAL PACKETS

Persons authorised to frank postal packets

138.—(1) No person shall frank postal packets for free transmission by post unless he has been duly authorised thereto by the Minister, and his authorisation has been published in the Gazette. (*Amended by Regulations 1st June, 1962.*)

(2) Applications for permission to frank postal packets shall be made in the first instance to the Permanent Secretary through the head of the department concerned.

(3) Postal packets on the public service shall be franked for transmission by post either by means of a franking stamp approved by the Permanent Secretary and bearing the designation of the department or office from which it is posted and the words "Official Paid"; or shall bear the signature of the sender, followed by his official designation, at the bottom left-hand corner of the envelope or cover.

(4) Every officer authorised to use a franking stamp shall be responsible for its proper use and custody according to these Regulations.

(5) Officers authorised to frank postal packets on the public service shall also be entitled to receive without prepayment of postage letters and other documents addressed to them in their official capacity and superscribed "On Her Majesty's Service" provided such articles are on the public service, and not on the private business or in the personal interest of the sender.

(6) Any public officer who may receive any postal packet franked as being "On Her Majesty's Service", but which is not entitled to pass through the post without prepayment, shall forward the cover thereof, a certified copy of the contents, and a statement of its weight together with a report of the facts of the case, to the Permanent Secretary, by whom the postage due thereon shall be collected from the sender, or other action taken as the Permanent Secretary may deem fit.

(7) The privilege of franking shall not apply to postal packets which are intended for transmission beyond Fiji.

PART XXIV.—UNDELIVERED POSTAL PACKETS

Undeliverable packets

139. The following may *inter alia* be regarded and treated as undeliverable:—

(a) postal packets with an incomplete, incorrect, or obscure address;

- (b) postal packets addressed to initials or fictitious names, except when directed to the care of a person or a private post office box duly rented;
- (c) unpaid or insufficiently paid postal packets addressed to a place to which the prepayment of postage is compulsory;
- (d) postal packets supposed to contain enclosures the registration of which is compulsory, or the transmission of which to the place of address is prohibited;
- (e) postal packets addressed to a deceased person which cannot be delivered to a lawful representative;
- (f) postal packets the address of which applies equally to two or more persons or firms leaving it doubtful for whom they are intended;
- (g) postal packets posted in contravention of the Act or these Regulations;
- (h) postal packets addressed to a person who cannot be found at the address given and whose whereabouts is unknown;
- (i) postal packets addressed to a poste restante or "to be called for" remaining undeliverable after the expiration of two months from the date of their receipt at the post office to which they are addressed;
- (j) postal packets directed to a ship which it is known will not be at the port to which such articles are addressed within a period of three months from the date of their receipt at the post office at such port.

How undelivered packets to be dealt with

140.—(1) Every postal packet which remains undelivered at any post office to which it has been transmitted for delivery shall be kept at such office for delivery for a period of one month; and so soon as possible after the expiration of such period, if still undelivered, shall be forwarded to the Chief Office to be there dealt with as provided by regulation 141:

Provided that postal packets originally posted outside Fiji shall be kept for a period of two months before being dealt with in the manner indicated herein.

(2) Anything to the contrary notwithstanding in paragraph (1), any undelivered postal packet (other than a parcel or a newspaper) bearing on the outside of the cover the name and address of the writer or sender thereof may, after retention for the usual period at the office to which the same has been forwarded for delivery, be returned unopened to such writer or sender direct from such office; and any postal packet other than a parcel or a newspaper bearing on the address side of the cover thereof a request that it be returned to the sender if undelivered after the expiration of a specified period shorter than the time prescribed for the retention of undelivered postal packets generally shall be returned in like manner immediately after the expiration of the period specified in such request.

Disposal of undelivered packets

141.—(1) All postal packets other than parcels or newspapers remaining undelivered shall be disposed of in the following manner:—

- (a) postal packets from places beyond Fiji shall be returned, unopened, to the country of origin;
- (b) postal packets originally posted within Fiji shall be returned to the writer or sender thereof. When necessary all such postal packets may be opened by the Permanent Secretary or a duly authorised officer of the department:

- Provided that every such officer shall before he enters upon his duties in this respect make and subscribe before the Permanent Secretary, a declaration in Form 1 in the First Schedule;
- (c) postal packets remaining undelivered either to the addressee, or to the writer or sender thereof, may, unless they contain coin, or valuable or saleable articles be forthwith destroyed by the Permanent Secretary or other duly authorised officer of the department;
 - (d) postal packets found to contain coin or any valuable or saleable article shall be safely kept, and a list thereof, together with a memorandum of such contents shall be made and preserved for three months at the end of which time the coin shall be paid to the Consolidated Fund, and the valuable or saleable article may be destroyed or converted into money as the Permanent Secretary may direct, and the proceeds thereof shall be paid into the Consolidated Fund.
- (2) (a) Before an undeliverable postal packet on which postal charges may have become due is returned to the sender, such postal charges shall be paid by the sender.
- (b) Printed papers of no value shall not be returned to the country of origin, or to the sender, unless their return has been asked for by means of a note on the cover.

PART XXV.—POSTMASTERS AND THE PUBLIC

Information

142. No information shall be given respecting postal packets passing through a post office except to the persons to whom they are addressed; and in no other way shall information of a private character be made public.

Return of postal packet, etc.

143.—(1) Except as provided in these Regulations, offices of the post office shall not return any postal packet to the writer or sender, or to any one else, or delay forwarding it to its destination according to the address.

(2) Any person desiring the return of a postal packet posted by him must either obtain the consent in writing of the person to whom the same is addressed or an order from the Permanent Secretary.

(Amended by Regulations 1st June, 1962.)

(3) Applications for the return of correspondence shall be accompanied by a fee of five cents in unused postage stamps.

(Amended by Regulations 1st June, 1962.)

Weighing of postal packets

144.—(1) Officers of the post office are not bound to weigh postal packets for the public, but they may do so if their duty is not thereby impeded.

(2) This regulation does not apply to parcels which shall be tested both as to weight and size before being accepted.

Giving of change

145. Officers of the post office are not bound to give change, and when money is paid at a post office, whether as change or otherwise, no question as to its right amount, goodness or weight shall be entertained after it has been removed from the counter.

PART XXVI.—LICENCES TO SELL POSTAGE STAMPS

Application for licence

146. A person desiring a licence to sell postage stamps shall make written application to the Permanent Secretary stating where his premises are situated and the nature of the business carried on by the applicant. As a general rule licences will be issued only to persons whose business premises are situated outside a radius of half a mile from a post office, unless such premises are kept open beyond the normal postal hours of business.

Licence to sell stamps

147. For the convenience of the public and when deemed expedient, the Permanent Secretary may grant a licence in the approved form, to any person to sell such postage stamps as may be specified in the licence and the name and address of the licensee shall be published in the Gazette.

(Inserted by Regulations 27th January, 1961.)

No charge for licence, etc.

148. A licence shall be granted without charge, may be revoked at pleasure, and shall authorise the sale of postage stamps only at the premises named in the licence.

Notice to be exhibited

149. A notice shall be exhibited in some conspicuous place in front of the premises licensed, with the words "Licensed to sell Postage Stamps" painted in letters at least one inch in height and of proportionate breadth.

Purchase of stamps and commission

150.—(1) Supplies of stamps shall be purchased by licensed vendors for cash and vendors may at the discretion of the Permanent Secretary, be allowed a commission of two and one-half per cent on purchases of stamps.

(Amended by Regulations 1st June, 1962 and 20th September, 1967.)

(2) Such commission shall not be allowed on purchases which total less than \$2 in value at any one time. *(Amended by Regulations 1st June, 1962.)*

(3) The amount of commission allowed to any licensed vendor on the stamps purchased under any licence held by him shall not exceed, in the case of each licence, the sum of one dollar in any week, and the commission shall be paid in postage stamps only.

Dividing commission with public prohibited

151. Any licensed vendor found dividing with the public the commission allowed under these Regulations on postage stamps purchased by him, or offering consideration with a view of inducing any person to purchase postage stamps at his place of business, shall be liable to have his licence cancelled.

Employment of agent

152.—(1) A licensed vendor shall not, in relation to the sale of postage stamps, appoint or employ any other licensed vendor as his agent or act as the agent of any other licensed vendor.

(2) If the Permanent Secretary is satisfied that any licensed vendor is guilty of any contravention of this regulation he shall forthwith cancel his licence.
(Amended by Regulations 27th January, 1961.)

PART XXVII.—COMMISSION TO POSTMASTERS

Commission to country postmasters

153. Country postmasters who are not public officers and are not in receipt of a salary or other allowance for the performance of postal duties may be allowed a commission on the value of all postage stamps sold at their offices which shall be at the rate of five per cent on the first \$10 derived from such sales in any month and at the rate of two and one-half per cent on the value of all such sales in excess of \$10 in any month. (Substituted by Regulations 30th September, 1967.)

PART XXVIII.—PRIVATE LETTER BOXES

Private letter box may be let

154. The Permanent Secretary may in his discretion and subject to such conditions as he may deem necessary, let to any person a private post office box at any post office for the delivery of postal packets addressed to the lessee thereof, and the rental of such box shall be in accordance with the scale set forth in the Second Schedule. (Amended by Regulations 8th June, 1971.)

Joint box not permitted

155.—(1) No two or more persons, unless in business partnership, shall jointly rent one private box, and persons or firms trading under two or more designations may be required to rent a box for each designation.

(2) Under this regulation any group of companies having a joint management may be required to rent a separate box for each company.

Discretion to refuse to let box

156. The Permanent Secretary may refuse to let a private post office box to any person without assigning any reason for such refusal, and may cancel the lease of any such box at any time without notice if it appear to him that any conditions of the lease have been infringed or if in his opinion the box is intended to be or is being used for objectionable purposes.

Use of private box

157. Private post office boxes shall be used exclusively for the reception of postal packets.

Entry to box

158. Each private box shall be opened and closed from without the office by the renter thereof by means of a door, a lock, and a key, which shall be kept in repair at the renter's expense, fair wear and tear alone excepted.

Rental fees

159. The rental fees shall be payable in advance and shall be calculated to 31st December in each year, any portion of a month being considered as a full month.

Temporary residents

160. Notwithstanding the provisions of these Regulations for payment of annual fees, persons who declare that they are temporary residents, and desire to rent a private box for a limited time, may be allowed to use such box for a period of not less than three months and not more than six months and in any such case a proportionate fee shall be charged calculated from the first day of the month in which the box is taken to the last day of the month in which the box is surrendered.

Deposit in respect of keys

161.—(1) The renter of a private box shall in addition to any other fee payable under these Regulations made a deposit of two dollars. Such deposit shall be refunded if both the keys issued to the depositor for the private box are returned to the Permanent Secretary within fourteen days from the date on which the tenancy expires.

(2) If a key of a private box be lost information in writing shall at once be given to the officer in charge of the post office in which such box is situated.

(Amended by Regulations 1st June, 1962.)

(3) When the loss of a key of a private box is reported as required by paragraph (2), a new lock shall be fitted to the box on the renter paying the sum of five dollars. On each occasion on which a lock is renewed two keys of the new lock shall be issued to him.

(Amended by Regulations 1st June, 1962 and 8th May, 1978.)

(4) Notwithstanding anything in these Regulations, the keys of a private box shall be and remain the property of the Permanent Secretary who may require the renter of a private box to return the keys to him on such person ceasing to be the renter of the box.

(Regulation amended by Regulations 21st December, 1948.)

Transfer of box

162. A private letter box may be transferred to the successor in business of the original renter, upon application being made by both parties, and an undertaking being furnished by the transferee to accept all liabilities and obligations devolving upon the original renter at the time of transfer.

Right to deposit on transfer of box

163. When a private box is transferred, the right to refund of the deposit, as provided in Regulation 161, shall pass to the transferee.

PART XXIX.—PRIVATE MAIL BAGS

Private mail bags

164. The Permanent Secretary may enter into arrangements with any person for the use of a private mail bag for the transmission of postal packets from the residence of such person to the nearest post office and vice versa, subject to such conditions as the Permanent Secretary may deem expedient and to payment by the said person of the fee set out in the Second Schedule.

(Amended by Regulations 8th June, 1971.)

One family or firm only to use bag

165. Not more than one family or firm shall use the same private mail bag, but correspondence addressed to and sent by guests of the renter of a private mail bag, his employees and the families of his employees, may be enclosed therein.

Rental fees

166. The rental fees shall be payable in advance and shall be calculated to 31st December in each year, any portion of a month being considered as a full month.

Use of private bag for registered packets, etc.

167.—(1) By signing a form indemnifying the post office against any claim for loss, renters of private mail bags may have registered postal packets enclosed in their bags without the preliminary formality of giving receipts for these articles, otherwise such registered postal packets shall be forwarded to the nearest post office.

(2) No insured postal packets shall be delivered however until a signed receipt has been obtained.

Deposit in respect of duty, etc.

168. Postal packets whereon postage, customs dues or other charges are payable may be enclosed in private mail bags without prior payment of charges if the renters have made a deposit with the postmaster to meet such charges.

Delivery of large parcels, etc.

169. In cases in which large packets or parcels for a private mail bag renter are too numerous or too large to go into the private mail bag or bags paid for, the renter shall either take delivery of them at the nearest post office, or shall make his own arrangements for their delivery.

Dimensions of bag

170.—(1) The bag or bags, if more than one be necessary, shall measure twenty inches by thirty-six inches, and shall be fitted with a lock and two keys.

(2) One key to be held by the post office and the other by the renter.

(3) Such bags and locks shall be provided and kept in repair by the renter at his own expense. Suitable bags may be purchased from the department.

Cost of carriage of private bag

171. The prescribed fee shall not be deemed to include the cost of the carriage of private mail bags but shall be deemed to include the carriage by mail carrier if available or by contract vessels.

Discretion to refuse private bag, etc.

172. The Permanent Secretary in his absolute discretion may refuse any application for a private mail bag service, or may terminate any such service on the expiration of three months' notice of his intention to do so, and he shall thereupon refund a proportionate amount of the fee already paid in respect of such service.

PART XXX.—FREIGHT ON MAILS WITHIN FIJI—RATE OF PAYMENT

Freight on mails in Fiji

173. There shall be paid to every master or person in charge of any coasting vessel who shall receive and give a receipt for and deliver the country mails according to the direction thereof at the post offices of the several ports or places at which they may touch the rates as set out in the Second Schedule in respect of each mail packet, mail bag, or mail hamper so delivered by him.

(Amended by Regulations 29th March, 1950, 1st June, 1962 and 8th June, 1971.)

Voucher in respect of mails carried

174. The master or person in charge of any such coasting vessel as aforesaid shall, on receiving a mail, be furnished by an officer of the post office with a voucher addressed to the postmaster at any money order office or to a sub-accountant in Form 2 in the First Schedule showing the date of despatch, the number of mail packets and mail bags in the mail, and the amount payable on delivery of the mail, and on delivery of the mail at its destination by the master or person in charge of any such coasting vessel as aforesaid the officer of the post office receiving such mail shall give a receipt and record the date thereof as provided for in the voucher, and such master or person in charge shall then take such voucher either to the postmaster at the nearest money order office or to a sub-accountant, either of whom shall on delivery of such voucher duly received as aforesaid, pay to such master or person in charge the amount specified in such voucher and take his receipt therefor.

PART XXXI.—FREIGHT ON MAILS BEYOND FIJI—RATE OF PAYMENT

Freight on mails beyond mails Fiji

175. The rates as set out in the Second Schedule shall be paid to every master or person in charge of any vessel (not being a vessel under contract to carry mails) about to depart from Fiji to or for any place beyond Fiji, who receives on board thereof any mail packet, mail bag, or mail hamper for the purpose of conveying the same beyond Fiji.

(Substituted by Regulations 1st June, 1962, and 8th June, 1971.)

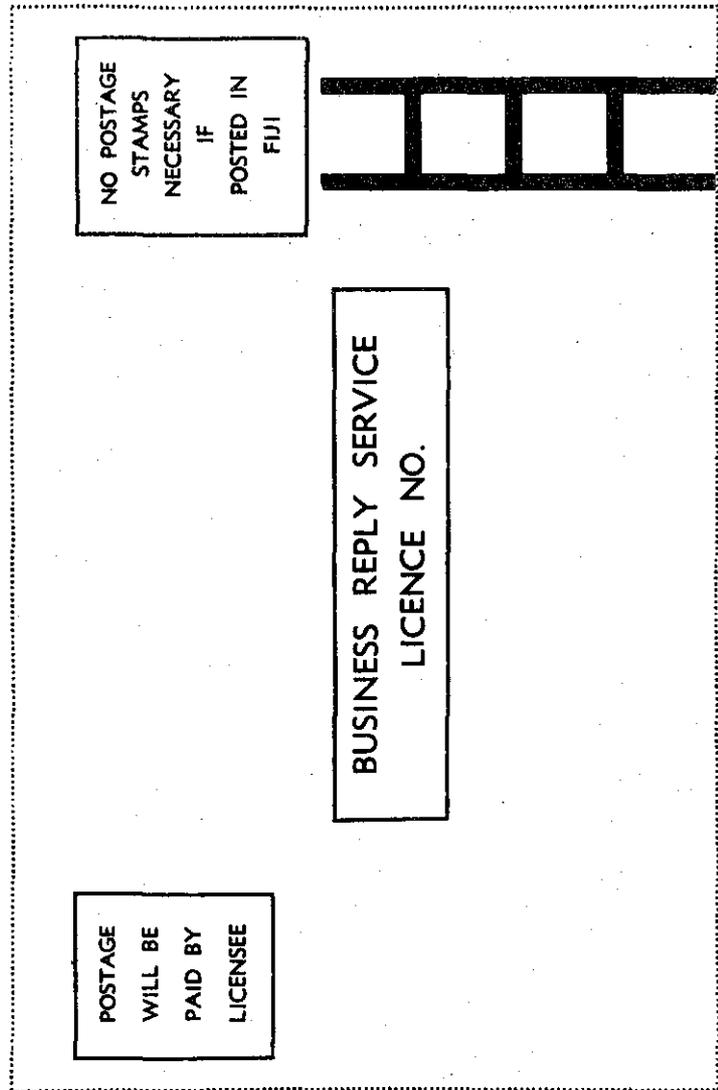
PART XXXII.—BUSINESS REPLY SERVICE

Business reply service

176.—(1) Any person desiring a licence to use business reply cards shall make written application to the Permanent Secretary.

(2) A licence shall be granted upon payment in advance of a sum as prescribed in the Second Schedule to cover the charges likely to accrue during one month.

(3) Business reply cards envelopes or wrappers shall be printed on the address side as shown below—



(4) A fee as prescribed in the Second Schedule in addition to normal postage shall be charged on each business reply card, envelope or wrapper returned through the post to the licensee.

(Inserted by Regulations 1 June 1962; paras. (1) and (2) amended by Legal Notice 149 of 1975.)

PART XXXIV—REGISTRATION OF NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES

[177. * * * * * (Revoked by Legal Notice 22 of 1979.)]

PART XXXV—HOUSEHOLD CIRCULARS

Household circulars

178.—(1) The following shall be considered as household circulars—

All circulars or other printed papers on letter, leaflet or pamphlet form, addressed with a class designation such as "The Householder" or "The Owner" with or without a place of delivery and inscribed "Postage Paid".

(2) Household circulars may be in covers or unenclosed, provided that circulars made of flimsy material or paper shall be posted in covers.

(Regulation inserted by Regulations 1 June 1962.)

Postage rates

179. Postage for household circulars shall be paid in cash at the rates shown in the Second Schedule.

(Regulation inserted by Regulations 1 June 1962; amended by Legal Notice 82 of 1971.)

Conditions

180. The following general conditions shall be observed by the senders of household circulars:—

- (a) no household circular shall be accepted for delivery unless a specimen copy shall have been submitted to the Permanent Secretary and his approval obtained;
- (b) the household circulars shall be presented at the post office counter in bundles of 100, tied securely with string or rope;
- (c) the household circulars shall be folded or be of a convenient size so that they may be placed without difficulty into letter boxes;
- (d) the household circulars will be placed into private letter boxes and will be delivered by postmen to every householder where postman's delivery exists. Household circulars addressed to areas where there are no postman's delivery will be delivered over the post office counter;
- (e) household circulars will not be accepted for delivery by the post office during the month of December. During the remaining months of the year household circulars will be delivered only at such times as may appear convenient to the post office.

(Inserted by Regulations 1 June 1962.)

Registration of libraries, book clubs and schools etc.

181. Any library or book club, or any school or other educational organization, approved by the Permanent Secretary may, subject in the case of a library or book club to payment of the fee prescribed in the Second Schedule, be registered by the Permanent Secretary so as to obtain for all books addressed to or posted by

such library or book club, or such school or other educational organization, the preferential postage rates accorded to library and educational books set out in the Second Schedule.

(Inserted by Legal Notice 81 of 1967; amended by Legal Notice 229 of 1974.)

Special delivery

182. Subject to prepayment by the sender of the fee prescribed in the Second Schedule in addition to all other postage charges payable thereon a postal packet may be accepted for delivery by special messenger, if—

(a) clearly and boldly marked with the words "Express special delivery" or words to the like effect; and

(b) addressed for delivery to any place within 2 miles from either Lautoka or Suva Post Office or within 1 mile from any of such other post offices as the Permanent Secretary may from time to time direct.

(Inserted by Legal Notice 81 of 1967; amended by Legal Notice 229 of 1974.)

FIRST SCHEDULE

FORM 1
(Regulation 141)

DECLARATION

I, *A.B.*, do declare that I will be true and faithful in the execution of the trust committed to my charge and that I will not intentionally read the contents of any postal packet which I may open under the provisions of any Act now or hereafter to be in force relating to the post office except so far as it may be necessary for the purpose of ascertaining the name and address of the writer or sender thereof and I will not divulge to any person whatsoever except the Permanent Secretary or other officer in immediate charge of the post office any of the contents of any such postal packet.

Declared before me at Suva this _____ day of _____, 19 _____

Permanent Secretary

FORM 2
(Regulation 174)

MAIL VOUCHER

Post Office, _____, Fiji.

To the Postmaster:

or

The Sub-Accountant:

On delivery of this Order by him to you duly receipted please pay to the master (or person in charge) of the _____ the sum of _____ dollars and _____ cents for the conveyance of _____ mail bags _____ mail packets from _____ to _____ as detailed on the back hereof which were despatched this _____ day of _____, 19 _____

Postmaster

The above described mails have been received by me to-day.

Postmaster

Date: , 19
Received the above amount at:
Date: , 19

Signature

<i>Details of Mails</i>		<i>Bags</i>	<i>Packets</i>
From:	To:		
"	"		
"	"		
"	"		
"	"		
Total			

SECOND SCHEDULE
(Substituted by Legal Notice 135 of 1982.)

PART 1
(Regulations 3, 4, 48, 110, 118 and 179)

POSTAL SERVICES TO DESTINATIONS WITHIN FIJI

RATES AND CONDITIONS

NOTE ON AIR MAIL

Where there is an air mail service over all or part of a route and where air conveyance will give quicker delivery than surface conveyance, letters weighing not more than 30 grams, and postcards, will be conveyed by air without payment of additional or higher charges, but other items will be conveyed by air only on payment of the prescribed air mail rates and provided the indication "AIR MAIL" appears prominently above and to the left of the address, preferably by using a blue Air Mail label, supplies of which are available free of charge at main post offices.

- 1. Letters—
 - (a) First 30 g or fraction thereof (by surface mail or air mail)..... \$.08
 - Each additional 30 g or fraction thereof
 - by surface mail..... .03
 - by air mail..... .05
 - (b) Limit of weight—2 kg

(c) Limits of size—		
Maximum: length, width and depth combined, 900 mm but greatest dimension may not exceed 600 mm; in roll form, length plus twice diameter 1,040 mm but greatest dimension may not exceed 900 mm.		
Minimum: 90 mm x 140 mm with tolerance of 2 mm; in roll form length plus twice diameter 170 mm but greatest dimension may not be less than 100 mm.		
2. Postcards—(by surface mail) .....		.03
(by air mail).....		.05
Limits of size—		
Maximum: 105 mm x 148 mm with tolerance of 2 mm.		
Maximum: 90 mm x 140 mm with tolerance of 2 mm.		
3. Printed Papers and Small Packets—		
(a) By surface mail—up to 100 g .....		.08
Each additional 50 g or fraction thereof.....		.03
(b) By air mail—up to 30 g .....		.08
Each additional 30 g or fraction thereof.....		.05
(c) Limit of weight Printed Papers: 2 kg		
(5 kg is allowed for books)—Small Packets: 1 kg		
(d) Limits of size—as for letters		
4. Parcels—		
(a) By surface mail up to 1 kg.....		.30
3 kg.....		.60
5 kg.....		.90
10 kg.....		1.40
13 kg.....		1.80
(b) By air mail—each 250 g or fraction thereof .....		.25
(c) Limit of weight—13 kg		
(d) Limits of size—		
Maximum: 1.05 metres for any one dimension and 2 metres for the sum of the length and greatest circumference measured in a direction other than the length.		
Minimum: as for letters		
5. Literature for the Blind—		
(a) By surface mail.....		Free
(b) By air mail—as for Printed Papers		
(c) Limit of weight—7 kg		
(d) Limits of size—as for letters		
6. Registration—		
	<i>Limit of</i>	
	<i>Compensation</i>	<i>Fee</i>
	\$	\$
	20	.50
Acknowledgement of delivery fees .....		.35

7. Insurance of Letters and Parcels For each \$2 of insured value .....	.02
	in addition to the minimum registration charge
Limit of insurance—\$800	
8. Household Circulars—	\$
Each article .....	.03
Limit of weight—50 g	
9. Cash on delivery service	
For first \$2 or part thereof .....	.25
For each additional \$2 or part thereof .....	.05
10. Delivery by special messenger (where service available) in addition to all other charges payable .....	.60

PART 2

(Regulations 3, 4, 48, 53, 72, 110 and 118)

POSTAL SERVICES TO DESTINATIONS OUTSIDE FIJI

RATES AND CONDITIONS

NOTE ON AIR MAIL

Postal articles to be conveyed by air mail must have "AIR MAIL" indicated prominently above and to the left of the address, preferably by using a blue Air Mail label, supplies of which are available free of charge at main post offices.

Aerogrammes (air letter forms) may be purchased at main post offices for the cost of the postage stamped thereon. Privately produced unstamped aerogrammes require the approval of the Permanent Secretary for Posts and Telecommunications and must be stamped with the appropriate value before being posted. Aerogrammes may not contain any enclosure, and if any enclosure is observed, the aerogramme will be sent by surface mail.

1. Letters, Small Packets, Printed Papers, by surface mail to all countries.

Weight	Letters	Small Packets	Books and Pamphlets	Other Printed Papers
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Up to 20g.....	.15	....	.08	.08
Up to 50 g .....	.30	....	.15	.15
Up to 100 g.....	.35	.15	.18	.18
Up to 250 g.....	.75	.30	.30	.30
Up to 500 g.....	1.35	.60	.60	.60
Up to 1 kg	2.35	1.00	1.00	1.00
Up to 2 kg	3.95	No service	1.40	1.40
Up to 3 kg	No service	No service	2.10	No service
Up to 4 kg	No service	No service	2.80	No service
Up to 5 kg	No service	No service	3.50	No service

Limits of weight—as indicated in table of charges.

Limits of size—as in Part 1 for corresponding articles to destinations within Fiji.

2. Postcards, by surface mail to all countries \$0.12
Limits of size as in Part 1 for postcards to destinations within Fiji.

3. Letters, Aerogrammes, Postcards, Small Packets, Printed Papers, Newspapers and Magazines, by air mail.

For air mail charging purposes, countries are grouped into Zones which are defined approximately as follows and more precisely by reference to List B in Part 6—

- Zone A New Zealand, Samoa (American), Samoa (Western) and Tonga.
- Zone B Australia, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Nauru, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Niue, Norfolk Island, Papua New Guinea, Pitcairn Island, and Solomon Islands.
- Zone C North America (including Hawaii), Central America, South-East Asia (including Philippines).
- Zone D Asia, east and south of Pakistan and USSR, except south-east Asia; Caribbean, north of South America and British Isles.
- Zone E Remainder of Asia and Middle East; South America except the North; Europe, except the British Isles; Mediterranean area and North Africa.
- Zone F Africa, except the north.

To countries in	Small Packets, Printed Papers, Newspapers and Magazines per 15 g			
	Letters per 15 g	Aerogrammes	Postcards	
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Zone A.....	.20	.18	.15	.10
Zone B.....	.25	.18	.15	.12
Zone C.....	.40	.18	.20	.18
Zone D.....	.50	.18	.25	.20
Zone E.....	.55	.18	.30	.25
Zone F.....	.65	.18	.35	.30

Limits of weight—as in Part 1 for corresponding articles to destinations within Fiji.

Limits of size—aerogrammes, as approved by the Permanent Secretary for Posts and Telecommunications; other articles, as in Part 1 for corresponding articles to destinations within Fiji.

4. Parcels—Such charges as shall from time to time be determined by the Permanent Secretary for Posts and Telecommunications in accordance with any agreement entered into by or on behalf of the Government.

5. Literature for the Blind—

- (a) By air mail—as for “Printed Papers” (see item 3)
- (b) By surface mail—free
- (c) Limit of weight—7 kg
- (d) Limits of size—as in Part 1 for letters to destinations within Fiji

6. Registration—		\$
To all countries .....		.70
Acknowledgement of delivery fee .....		.35
Limit of compensation		13.00
7. Insurance of Letters and Parcels—		
For each \$2 of insured value .....		.02
		in addition to the registration charge
Service available to—		\$
Letters—Great Britain & Northern Ireland, and New Zealand.		
Parcels—Most Commonwealth countries, United States of America. Information regarding other countries will be supplied upon application at any main post office.		
Limit of insurance—Letters—\$800.		
Parcels—Varries; will be supplied upon application at any main post office.		
8. Cash on delivery (COD) service, available only to—		
Australia		
Great Britain and Northern Ireland (except Channel Island and Isle of Man)		
For first \$2 or part thereof of COD amount .....		.35
For each additional \$2 or part thereof .....		.04
Limit of COD amount		80.00
9. Delivery of parcel free of charges to consignee—per parcel .....		.35
10. Express delivery—per item		1.20
Service available to Australia, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, other European countries and United States of America		
11. International Reply Coupons .....		.50

PART 3
(Regulations 154 and 164)

RENTAL FOR PRIVATE LETTER BOXES AND PRIVATE MAIL BAGS

Annual rental for:—

	\$
Small box	10.00
Medium box	15.00
Large box	25.00
Private bag service	30.00

PART 4
(Regulations 8, 13, 17, 42, 49, 52, 93, 94, 98, 126 and 176)

MISCELLANEOUS POSTAL CHARGES

	\$
1. For the compulsory registration of any packet (Regulations 49 and 52).....	1.00
2. For the handling of an unpaid or underpaid letter (including aerogramme) or postcard (Regulation 42).....	.07
3. For a parcel posted in a letter box (Regulation 93).....	.10
4. Clearance and accounting fee on a dutiable parcel or packet delivered within Fiji (Regulation 126).....	.30
5. Exchange of postage stamps (Regulation 8).....	10 per cent of face value of stamps.
6. Licence to use business reply service (Regulation 176)	No charge but a sum not less than \$10 is payable in advance to cover charged likely to accrue during one month
	\$
7. For each business reply card, envelope or wrapper returned through the post to the licensee (Regulation 176).....	.03
	in addition to normal postage
	\$
8. Demurrage fees for overseas parcels—per day (including Sundays and holidays) after first 28 days (Regulation 98).....	.40
9. For inquiry into delivery of ordinary postal packet (Regulation 17). If the postal service is found to be at fault, the charge will be refunded.....	.50
10. Certificate of posting of an unregistered postal packet other than a parcel (Regulation 13 and 94).....	.10
11. Delivery fee on a cash on delivery parcel received from Australia or Great Britain and Northern Ireland.....	.20

PART 5
(Regulations 173 and 175)

RATES OF PAYMENT FOR CONVEYANCE OF MAILED BY
NON-CONTRACT VESSELS

1. For each mail packet or mail bag carried by a costing vessel—	
Up to 5 kg.....	.40
Over 5 kg.....	.60

2. For mails destined for places beyond Fiji	
(a) for each kilogram of letters and postcards.....	.60
(b) for each 50 kg of other articles, including parcels—	
(i) up to 3000 km .....	.70
(ii) over 3000 km	1.80

PART 6

LIST A

INDEX OF PLACES APPEARING UNDER DIFFERENT NAMES IN LIST B

<i>Place</i>	<i>Same as for</i>
Abu Dhabi	Trucial States
Abyssinia	Ethiopia
Aden	Yemen, People's Democratic Republic of
Admiralty Islands	Papua New Guinea
Aegean Islands	Greece
Afars	French Territory of Afars and Issas
Ajman	Trucial States
Alaska	United States of America
Aldabra	British Indian Ocean Territory
American Samoa	Samoa (American)
Andaman Islands	India
Andorra	France
Anguilla	St. Christopher, Nevis and Anguilla
Antarctic Territory (Australian)	Australia
Antilles	Netherlands Antilles
Aruba	Netherlands Antilles
Azores	Portugal
Balearic Islands	Spain
Bali Island	Indonesia
Banka Island	Indonesia
Banks Islands	Vanuatu
Barbuda Antigua	Antigua
Basutoland	Lesotho
Bechuanaland Protectorate	Botswana
Berlin—Eastern Sector	German Democratic Republic
Berlin—West	German Federal Republic
Billiton	Indonesia
Bismarck Archipelago	Papua New Guinea
Bonaire	Netherlands Antilles
Bonin Islands	Japan
Borneo	1 Indonesia
	2 Brunei
	3 Malaysia

<i>Place</i>	<i>Same as for</i>
Bougainville	Papua New Guinea
Britain	Great Britain and Northern Ireland
British Antarctica	Falkland Islands
British Guiana	Guyana
British Honduras	Belize
British Solomon Islands Protectorate	Solomon Islands
Buka	Papua New Guinea
Caicos Islands	Turks and Caicos Islands
Cambodia	Khmer Republic
Campbell Island	New Zealand
Canary Islands	Spain
Canton Islands	Kiribati
Celebs	Indonesia
Ceylon	Sri Lanka
Chagos Islands	British Indian Ocean Territory
Channel Islands	Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Chatham Island	New Zealand
Christmas Island (Indian Ocean) ...	Australia
Christmas Island (Pacific Ocean) ...	Kiribati
Cocos Island	Australia
Comoro Islands	Madagascar
Congo, Democratic Republic (Kinshasa)	Zaire
Corfu	Greece
Corsica	France
Crete	Greece
Curacao	Netherlands Antilles
Cyrenaica	Libya
Desroches	British Indian Ocean Territory
Dodecanese Island	Greece
Dubai	Trucial States
Eire	Ireland
Ellice Islands	Tuvalu
England	Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Eritrea	Ethiopia
Estonia	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Fanning Island	Kiribati
Faroe Island	Greenland
Farquhar	British Indian Ocean Territory
Fernando Po	Equatorial Guinea
Formosa (Taiwan)	China, Peoples' Republic of
French Somaliland	French Territory of Afars and Issas
Friendly Islands	Tonga
Fujairah	Trucial States
Futuna Island	New Caledonia

<i>Place</i>	<i>Same as for</i>
Gambier Islands	French Polynesia
Guam	Mariana Island
Guernsey	Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Guiana, French	French Guiana
Holland	Netherlands
Ifni	Morocco
Isle of Man	Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Issas	French Territory of Afars and Isaas
Java	Indonesia
Jersey	Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Kalba	Trucial States
Kamaran Island	Yemen, People's Democratic Republic of
Kermadec Islands	New Zealand
Labuan	Malaysia
Latvia	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Line Islands	Kiribati
Lithuania	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Lord Howe Island	Australia
Loyalty Islands	New Caledonia
Madeira	Portugal
Madura Island	Indonesia
Malagasy Republic	Madagascar
Manchuria	China, People's Republic of
Manua Islands	Samoa (American)
Manus Island	Papua New Guinea
Marquesas Islands	French Polynesia
Marshall Islands	Caroline Islands and Marshall Islands
Matsu Islands	China, People's Republic of
Miquelon	St. Pierre and Miquelon
Moluccas	Indonesia
Monaco	France
Mongolia—	
1 inner	1 China, People's Republic of
2 Outer	2 Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Mukalla	Yemen, People's Democratic Republic of
Muscat	Oman
Namibia	South Africa
Netherlands Guiana	Surinam
Nevis	St. Christopher, Nevis and Anguilla
New Britain	Papua New Guinea
Newfoundland	Canada
New Guinea	1 Papua New Guinea
	2 Indonesia

<i>Place</i>	<i>Same as for</i>
New Ireland	Papua New Guinea
New South Wales	Australia
Nicobar Islands	India
North Borneo	Sabah
Northern Ireland	Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Ocean Island	Kiribati
Okinawa	Japan
Pemba	Tanzania
Perim	Yemen, People's Democratic Republic of
Pescadores Islands	China, People's Republic of
Phoenix Islands	Kiribati
Portuguese East Africa	Mozambique
Portuguese Guinea	Guinea—Bissau
Portuguese West Africa	Angola
Queensland	Australia
Quemoy	China, People's Republic of
Ras Al Khaimah	Trucial States
Rhio	Indonesia
Rio Muni	Equatorial Guinea
Ross Dependency	New Zealand
Russia	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Ryukyu Islands	Japan
Saba	Netherlands Antilles
Sabah	Malaysia
St. Eustatius	Netherlands Antilles
St. Helena	Ascension and St. Helena
St. Kitts	St. Christopher, Nevis and Anguilla
St. Martin	Netherlands Antilles
Salvador	El Salvador
San Marino	Italy
Santa Cruz Islands	Vanuatu
Sarawak	Malaysia
Sardina	Italy
Savai'i Island	Samoa (Western)
Scotland	Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Sharjah	Trucial States
Siam	Thailand
Sicily	Italy
Society Islands	French Polynesia
South Arabia	Yemen, People's Democratic Republic of
South Australia	Australia
South Georgia	Falkland Islands
South Orkney Islands	Falkland Islands
South Sandwich Islands	Falklands Islands

<i>Place</i>	<i>Same as for</i>
South Shetland Islands	Falkland Islands
South West Africa.....	South Africa
Southern Rhodesia	Rhodesia
Southern Yemen.....	Yemen, People's Democratic Republic of
Spanish Sahara.....	Spanish West Africa
Sumatra.....	Indonesia
Tahiti	French Polynesia
Taiwan	China, People's Republic of
Tanganyika	Tanzania
Tasmania.....	Australia
Tibet	China, People's Republic of
Timor	1 Indonesia
	2 Portuguese Timor
Tobago.....	Trinidad and Tobago
Tokelau Islands.....	New Zealand
Torres Islands	Vanuatu
Tortola	Virgin Islands (British)
Tuamotu Islands	French Polynesia
Tubuai Islands.....	French Polynesia
Tutuila Islands	Samoa (American)
Ukarine	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Umm Al Qaiwain.....	Trucial States
United Arab Republic.....	Egypt
United Kingdom.....	Great Britain and Northern Island
Upolu Island	Samoa (Western)
Victoria (State).....	Australia
Virgin Islands (American).....	Puerto Rico
Wales.....	Great Britain and Northern Island
Wallis Island	New Caledonia
Washington Island	Kiribati
Western Australia.....	Australia
Western Samoa.....	Samoa (Western)
West Irian	Indonesia
Zanzibar.....	Tanzania

LIST B

KEY TO AIR MAIL ZONES

<i>Country of destination</i>	<i>Air Mail zone</i>	<i>Country of destination</i>	<i>Air Mail zone</i>
Afghanistan	E	Belgium	E
Albania	E	Belize	C
Algeria	E	Benin	F
Angola	F	Bermuda	C
Antigua	D	Bhutan	D
Argentina	E	Bolivia	E
Ascension	E	Botswana	F
Australia	B	Brazil	E
Austria	E	Brunei	C
Bahamas	C	Bulgaria	E
Bahrain	E	Burma	D
Bangladesh	D	Burundi	F
Barbados	D	Cameroon	F
Canada	C	Hong Kong	D
Cape Verde Islands	E	Hungary	E
Caroline Islands & Marshall Islands		Iceland	E
Hawaii	D	India	D
Cayman Islands	C	Indonesia	C
Central African Republic	F	Iran	E
Chad	F	Iraq	E
Chile	E	Ireland	D
China, People's Republic of	D	Israel	E
China, Republic of (Taiwan)	D	Italy	E
Colombia	D	Ivory Coast	F
Congo, People's Republic of	F	Jamaica	D
Cook Islands	B	Japan	D
Costa Rica	C	Jordan	E
Cuba	C	Kenya	F
Cyprus	E	Khmer Republic	C
Czechoslovakia	E	Kiribati	B
Denmark	E	Korea (North)	D
Dominica	D	Korea (South)	D
Dominican Republic	C	Kuwait	E

<i>Country of destination</i>	<i>Air Mail zone</i>	<i>Country of destination</i>	<i>Air Mail zone</i>
Ecuador	D	Laos	C
Egypt	E	Lebanon	E
El Salvador	C	Lesotho	F
Equatorial Guinea	F	Liberia	F
Ethiopia	F	Libya	E
Falkland Islands	E	Liechtenstein	E
Finland	E	Luxemburg	E
France	E	Macao	D
French Guiana	D	Madagascar (Malagasy Republic)	F
French Polynesia	B	Malawi	F
French Territory of Afars & Issas	F	Malaysia	C
Gabon	F	Maldives	D
Gambia	F	Mali	F
German Democratic Republic (East Germany)	E	Malta	E
German Federal Republic (West Germany)	E	Mariana Islands	D
Ghana	F	Martinique	D
Gibraltar	E	Mauritania	F
Great Britain & Northern Ireland	D	Mauritius	F
Greece	E	Mexico	C
Greenland	E	Monserrat	D
Grenada	D	Morocco	E
Guadeloupe	D	Mozambique	F
Guatemala	C	Nauru	B
Guinea	F	Nepal	D
Guinea-Bissau	F	Netherlands	E
Guyana	D	Netherlands Antilles	D
Haiti	C	New Caledonia	B
Hawaii (USA)	C	New Zealand	A
Honduras Republic	C	Nicaragua	C
Nigeria	F	Niger	F
Niue	B	South Africa	F
Norfolk Island	B	Spain	E
Norway	E	Spanish West Africa	E
		Sri Lanka	D

<i>Country of destination</i>	<i>Air Mail zone</i>	<i>Country of destination</i>	<i>Air Mail zone</i>
Oman	E	Sudan	F
Pakistan	E	Surinam	D
Panama	C	Swaziland	F
Panama Canal Zone	C	Sweden	E
Papua New Guinea	B	Switzerland	E
Paraguay	E	Syria	E
Peru	D	Tanzania	F
Philippines	C	Thailand	C
Pitcairn Island	B	Togo	F
Poland	E	Tonga	A
Portugal	E	Trinidad and Tobago	D
Portugese Timor	C	Trinstan Da Cunha	E
Puerto Rico	C	Trucial States	E
Qatar	E	Tunisia	E
Reunion	F	Turkey	E
Rhodesia	F	Turks & Caicos Islands	C
Rumania	E	Tuvalu	B
Rwanda	F	Uganda	F
St. Christopher, Nevis & Anguilla	D	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	E
St. Lucia	D	United States of America	C
St. Pierre and Mequelon	D	Upper Volta	F
St. Vincent	D	Uruguay	E
Samoa (American)	A	Vanuatu	B
Samoa (Western)	A	Vatican City State	E
Saudi Arabia	E	Venezuela	D
Senegal	F	Vietnam—Socialist Republic of	C
Seychelles	F	Virgin Islands (British)	D
Sierra Leone	F	Yemen (Arab Republic)	D
Singapore	C	Yemen (People's Democratic Rep)	E
Soloman Islands	B	Yugoslavia	E
Somalia	F	Zaire	F
		Zambia	F

SECTIONS 32 AND 34—MONEY ORDER AND POSTAL
ORDER REGULATIONS

Regulations 25 November 1936, 28 June 1940, 26 August 1948, 25 February 1949, 13 August 1952, 1 October 1957, 29 December 1961, 10 October 1962, 11 May 1966, 15 August 1966, Legal Notices Nos. 2 of 1968, 164 of 1968, 112 of 1970, 30 of 1971, 75 of 1971, 127 of 1971, 139 of 1972, 90 of 1973, 120 of 1973, 51 of 1975, 214 of 1979, 20 of 1981, 136 of 1982

Short title

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Money Order and Postal Order Regulations.

MONEY ORDERS

Hours of business

2. Money orders shall be issued and paid at such offices and during such hours as the Permanent Secretary may direct, and the Permanent Secretary may direct such of his officers as he may think fit to issue and pay money orders.

Arrangements with other countries

3. Money orders may be issued for payment in any country with which arrangements have been made by convention for the direct exchange of money orders, or in any other country through the intermediary of a country with which a money order convention exists, and similarly money orders issued in such countries for payment in Fiji may be paid at the money order offices specified in such orders.

Rates of commission

4. The rates of commission which shall be charged for the issue of money orders and any other charges leviable under these Regulations shall be as prescribed in the First Schedule.

(Amended by Legal Notice 30 of 1971.)

Limit of amount

5.—(1) No single overseas money order shall be issued for a sum exceeding \$80:

Provided that a money order payable in Great Britain and Northern Ireland may be issued for a sum not exceeding 50 pounds sterling or the equivalent thereof. *(Substituted by Legal Notice 30 of 1971; amended by Legal Notice 75 of 1971.)*

(2) No single money order payable in Fiji shall be issued for a sum exceeding \$100. *(Inserted by Legal Notice 75 of 1971.)*

(3) The Permanent Secretary in his discretion may refuse to issue a money order to any person who fails to satisfy the Permanent Secretary that he *bona fide* requires the money for domestic purposes or in the ordinary course of business in the country in which the money order is payable.

(4) Any person feeling aggrieved by the decision of the Permanent Secretary in pursuance of paragraph (3) may appeal to the Minister whose decision shall be final. *(Amended by Legal Notice 112 of 1970.)*

Payments—how made

6. All payments for money orders, whether by or to the public, shall be made in Fiji currency notes or other legal tender.

Forms

7. Money orders shall only be issued on such forms as the Permanent Secretary may direct.

Remitter to furnish information

8. Before any money order shall be issued the remitter shall furnish all information that may be required by the issuing officer on such form as the Permanent Secretary may direct.

Crossing

9. Except in cases in which the regulations of the country of payment do not admit of the crossing for payment through a bank of money orders issued in Fiji, the remitter or payee of any money order may direct by crossing the order that it be so paid, in which case the name of the payee may be given or withheld at the remitter's option.

Repayment and transfer of orders

10.—(1) Any money order once issued shall not be cancelled.

(2) A money order may, however, be repaid to the remitter, or payment thereof may be transferred from one office to another in Fiji, in which case application for repayment or transfer shall be made by the remitter through the postmaster of the office of issue of the order, or by the payee direct to the postmaster of the office at which the order is payable, and such postmaster shall issue a new order payable at the money order office at which payment is requested for the amount of the original order, less the amount of a further commission equal to that which would be payable were the money being remitted for the first time.

(3) In the case of money orders issued in Fiji and payable in another country, the repayment of which is desired, application for repayment shall be made by the remitter to the Accountant, General Post Office, who shall seek the authority of the country in which the order was made payable for repayment to be made to the applicant. In all cases the application shall specify the date of issue, the amount of the order, the offices at which it was issued and payable, and the names of the payee and remitter as stated in the postmaster's advice.

Alteration of name of payee or remitter

11. The remitter of a money order may have the name of the payee or remitter as specified in the original application altered, or in the case of a crossed order have the endorsement directing payment to be made through a bank cancelled, upon payment of the fee prescribed in the First Schedule, and such alteration may, in the case of a money order issued for payment within Fiji, be made by telegraph upon payment of such further charge as may be prescribed in the said Schedule.

Payment may be stopped

12. The remitter of a money order shall have full control over the money represented thereby until the order shall have actually been paid, and shall have the

power to stop payment of the amount thereof upon payment of the fee prescribed in the First Schedule and upon application to the postmaster of the office at which the money order is payable in Fiji, or in the case of an order payable outside Fiji to the Accountant, General Post Office. No liability shall attach to the Permanent Secretary if the order is paid in spite of such application.

Duplicate orders

13.—(1) In the event of miscarriage or loss of a money order payable in Fiji, or for any other sufficient reason, either the remitter or the payee of the order may obtain a duplicate thereof upon written application to the Accountant, General Post Office, and upon payment of the fee prescribed in the First Schedule. In every case full particulars of the order referred to shall be furnished by the applicant.

(2) The issue of duplicates of money orders payable outside Fiji shall be subject to the authority of the country of payment.

Advices

14. The postmaster at the office at which a money order shall be issued shall by the first post after the issue of such order advise the postmaster of the office of payment to pay the amount thereof to the payee on presentation of the relative order; but no money order, other than a telegraphic money order, shall be paid on the day on which it shall have been issued.

Payment not to be made unless advice received

15. No money order shall be paid unless the corresponding advice has been previously received and in the case of an order issued outside Fiji unless it bears the stamp of the exchange office of the country of issue.

Payment subject to funds being available

16. Payment of a money order shall be the subject to possession by the postmaster of the paying office of sufficient funds, and delay may occur, especially in the case of orders for large amounts drawn on small offices.

Orders void after twelve months

17. Except in cases in which the regulations of the country of payment stipulate a lesser period, any money order issued in Fiji shall remain valid for 12 months after the last day of the month in which it shall have been issued, when it shall become void. Nevertheless, the Permanent Secretary shall have the power to renew the currency of any money order issued in Fiji which shall have become void if he shall so think fit, upon the application of either the remitter or the payee and upon payment of the commission prescribed in the First Schedule.

Signature of payee

18.—(1) Before any money order shall be paid the payee, except in cases where the money order is passed through a bank, shall sign his name in ink in the space provided for the purpose on the money order, or in the case of a telegraphic money order on the special form provided, and shall furnish such means of identification or proof of his authority to receive payment of the order as may be required by the postmaster of the office of payment.

Payee unable to write

(2) If the payee cannot write, his mark shall be attested by a witness in the presence of the paying officer.

(3) The signature of the payee shall correspond in every particular with the name of the payee as stated in the advice received by the paying postmaster from the postmaster of the office at which the order was issued.

Remitter's name to be furnished by payee

(4) The payee shall also correctly state the name of the remitter of the money order. Nevertheless, the Permanent Secretary may at his discretion authorise the payment of a money order purporting to be signed by the payee, but in a form differing from the name of the payee as given in the advice, and such signature shall in all cases be a sufficient authority to the postmaster for the payment of the amount of the order, and it shall not be necessary to prove that the receipt was signed by or under the authority of the payee. If the order shall have been signed otherwise than in the presence of the postmaster he may require the person presenting the order to sign his name again upon the order in his presence.

Payment through a bank

19. When a money order is paid through a bank in Fiji, it shall be sufficient as regards the receipt that it be crossed (by stamp or in writing) with the name of the bank, and be presented by some officer known to be in the employment of that bank.

Mutilated or defaced orders

20. Should any money order be presented for payment in a mutilated or defaced condition, or bear signs of any erasure or alteration having been made therein, payment may be refused.

Payment of order

21. Any money order in connection with which the requirements of these Regulations shall have been properly complied with shall be paid upon receipt of the official advice by the postmaster and presentation of the order unless the officer to whom it is presented has good reason for believing that the applicant is not properly entitled to receive the money.

Payment of orders abroad

22. Any money orders issued in Fiji for payment in any other country, shall be subject, as regards payment, to the rules which govern the payment of money orders in the country in which they are payable.

Telegraphic money orders

23. Money may be remitted by telegraphic money order between such money order offices in Fiji connected by telegraph as may from time to time be notified by the Permanent Secretary or to or from any other country with which arrangements shall have been made for an exchange of telegraphic money orders.

Commission

24. The commission for a telegraphic money order shall be the same as for an ordinary money order plus a supplementary fee of 10 cents, and in addition there shall be collected from the remitter such telegraphic charges as may be payable.

Repayment or transfer of telegraphic money orders

25.—(1) Application for repayment to the remitter of a telegraphic money order issued and payable within Fiji or for transfer of payment thereof from one office to another may be made by telegraph through the postmaster of any telegraphic money order office upon payment of the fee prescribed in the First Schedule.

(2) Should it be desired that repayment or transfer of payment be effected by telegraphic money order, a further commission, equal to the original commission in addition to the telegraphic fee, shall be deducted by the transferring office from the amount of such order.

(3) If it be desired that repayment or transfer of payment be made by post, a fresh commission at the rate for an ordinary money order only shall be deducted.

Telegram of advice may include short communication from remitter

26.—(1) The remitter of a telegraphic money order, on paying for the additional words required, may add to the official telegram of advice any short communication in English which he may wish to send to the payee.

(2) In the case of telegraphic orders issued for payment within Fiji, or in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, or in the Republic of Ireland, he may also if he so desires, prepay the cost of a telegraphic reply to such communication. The full rate per word shall be charged for the prepaid reply.

General regulations to apply to telegraphic orders

27. Except where otherwise provided in these Regulations, telegraphic money orders shall be subject to the regulations governing ordinary money orders.

Advice of payment

28. The remitter of any money order issued in Fiji for payment within the same or in any country which may from time to time be notified by the Permanent Secretary may, either at the time of the issue of such order or subsequent thereto, and upon payment of the fee prescribed in the First Schedule, be advised of the date of payment of such order, provided that application for such advice be made within 12 calendar months from the date of the issue of the order.

Remitter to furnish particulars

29. The remitter of any money order, advice of the payment of which is desired, shall furnish all such particulars in regard thereto as may be required by the postmaster at the office at which application for such advice of payment is made, together with the remitter's name and full address.

Advice of payment to be sent

30. When any such money order shall have been paid the postmaster at the office of payment shall forward to the remitter by first post, free of postage, an advice of payment stating the date upon which the order was paid.

Retention of advice form until payment

31. If any such money order shall not have been paid at the time of the arrival of the advice of payment form at the office of payment, the advice of payment form shall be retained by the postmaster at such office until the order shall have been paid.

No responsibility for delay, etc.

32. The Permanent Secretary shall not be responsible for any failure or delay in advising the remitter of the payment of any money order.

Advice of payment of telegraphic order

33. The remitter of any telegraphic money order issued in Fiji for payment within the same or in any country which may from time to time be notified for the purposes of these Regulations by the Permanent Secretary may upon application either at the time of application for the money order or at any time within 12 calendar months from the date of the issue of the order, and upon payment of the fee prescribed in the First Schedule be advised by telegraph of the payment of such order.

Telegram advising payment

34. Upon payment of a money order in connection with which a telegraphic advice of payment shall have been paid for, the postmaster at the office of payment shall, so soon as may be, despatch to the remitter a telegram stating the date upon which the order was paid.

General regulations to apply to advices in respect of telegraphic orders

35. In all other respects the regulations applying to advices of payment in connection with ordinary money orders shall be held to apply to advices of payment in connection with telegraphic money orders.

Search fee

36. In the event of the remitter or payee or the authorised representative of either desiring information in regard to the issue or payment of any money order and being unable to specify the date of issue, the fee prescribed in the First Schedule shall be charged in respect of each month's accounts searched.

Records to be retained for two years

37. A record shall be kept by the Permanent Secretary for a period of not less than 2 years of every money order issued or paid under these Regulations.

Non-liability of Permanent Secretary

38. After once paying a money order, by whomsoever presented, the Permanent Secretary shall not be liable to any further claim nor shall he be liable to pay compensation for loss or injury arising out of delay in payment of a money order, or out of any other irregularities in connection with a money order.

POSTAL ORDERS

Payment restricted to British postal orders

39. The payment of postal orders under these Regulations shall be restricted to Fiji postal notes and to British postal orders issued in the United Kingdom or any other country or territory of the Commonwealth and to postal orders issued by such countries as may from time to time be notified by the Permanent Secretary.
(Amended by Regulations 29 December 1961; 11 May 1966.)

Hours of business

40. Postal orders shall be issued and paid at such offices and during such hours as may from time to time be notified by the Permanent Secretary who may direct such of his officers as he may think fit to issue and pay postal orders and to superintend the execution of these Regulations.

Where postal orders are payable

41. Postal orders may be issued for payment in any country which may from time to time be notified by the Permanent Secretary, and postal orders issued in such countries for payment in Fiji may be paid at the postal order offices specified in such orders.

Poundage

42. The rates of poundage which shall be charged for the issue of postal orders and any other charges leviable under these Regulations shall be as prescribed in the Second Schedule.

Stamps attached to postal orders in extension of value

43.—(1) Postage stamps not exceeding 9 cents in value and 2 in number may be affixed in the space provided on the face of any postal order to supplement its value and such order shall be cashed on presentation for the full value of the order and the stamps combined:

Provided that stamps shall be accepted for this purpose only if they are affixed in the space provided and if they are stamps of Fiji or of the country in which the order was issued and that such country has agreed to the encashment of its stamps when affixed to postal orders. (*Substituted by Legal Notice 30 of 1971.*)

(2) Postage stamps perforated with initials or marks, and embossed or impressed stamps cut out of envelopes, postcard wrappers, letter-cards, or other articles shall not be available for attachment to postal orders.

Issue of orders

44. Before any postal order shall be issued, the remitter shall pay to the postmaster the amount of the order and the poundage due thereon, and shall furnish all such information as may be required by the postmaster. The postmaster shall then sign the order and stamp it with the date-stamp of his office, indicating the date upon which the order is issued.

Name of payee and office of payment to be inserted

45. Before parting with an order, the remitter should insert therein the name of the payee and the name of the post office at which it is desired the order shall be paid.

Crossing

46. Except in cases in which the regulations of the country of payment do not admit of the crossing for payment through a bank of postal orders issued in Fiji, the remitter or payee of any postal order may direct by crossing the order that it be so paid.

Repayment, or transfer of payment

47. A postal order in which the name of the payee or the office of payment has been inserted may, at the discretion of the Permanent Secretary, be repaid to the remitter or payment thereof transferred from one person or office to another upon application and payment of the fee prescribed in the Second Schedule. In all such cases the postal order shall accompany the application.

Postal orders not negotiable

48. A postal order shall not be negotiable, and the possession of an order shall not entitle any person other than the rightful owner thereof to the amount represented thereby.

Validity of orders

49. No postal order, other than a Fiji postal note, shall be paid after the expiration of 6 months and no Fiji postal note shall be paid after the expiration of 12 months from the last day of the month in which it shall have been issued, except under the express authority of the Permanent Secretary and upon payment of the fee prescribed in the Second Schedule.

(Amended by Regulations 29 December 1961; Legal Notice 164 of 1968.)

Payment of orders

50.—(1) Before any postal order shall be paid, the payee, unless it be presented through a bank, shall fill in the name of the office at which the order is to be paid (if this has not already been done), and sign his name in ink in the space provided for the purpose on the order, and shall furnish such means of identification or proof of his authority to receive payment of the order as may be required by the postmaster of the office of payment.

(2) If the payee cannot write, his mark shall be attested by a witness in the presence of the paying officer.

(3) The signature of the payee shall correspond in every particular with the name of the payee as stated in the postal order. Nevertheless, the Permanent Secretary may at his discretion authorise the payment of a postal order purporting to be signed by the payee but in a form different from the name of the payee as stated in the order.

(4) Such signature shall in all cases be a sufficient authority to the postmaster for the payment of the amount of the order, and it shall not be necessary to prove that the receipt was signed by or under the authority of the payee.

Signature in presence of postmaster

51. If an order shall have been signed otherwise than in the presence of the postmaster, he may require the person presenting such order to sign his name again upon the order in his presence.

Inquiry re payment

52. The remitter or payee of any postal order shall, upon application at any time within 12 months of the issue thereof, and upon payment of the fee prescribed in the Second Schedule, be furnished with information as to the payment of such order and full particulars of the order and all other information as may be required by the Permanent Secretary shall be furnished by the applicant.

Duplicate order

53.—(1) Upon satisfactory proof of the loss or destruction of a postal order, and upon payment of the fee prescribed in the Second Schedule, a duplicate of the original order may be issued at the discretion of the Permanent Secretary and in the case of a British postal order reference to London will first be necessary.

(2) In every application for a duplicate order the applicant shall give an undertaking in writing to refund to the Permanent Secretary the amount of the duplicate order should the original order subsequently be paid or prove to have already been paid.

Mutilated or defaced orders

54. Any postal order presented for payment in a mutilated or defaced condition, or bearing signs of any erasure or alteration having been made therein, may be refused payment.

Payment of postal order

55. Any postal order in connection with which the requirements of these Regulations shall have been complied with shall be paid upon presentation of the order unless the officer to whom it is presented has good reason for believing that the applicant is not entitled to receive the money.

Payment of orders in intestate estates

56. Should the payee of any postal order die intestate before payment of such order is effected, and letters of administration be not produced to the Permanent Secretary, the Permanent Secretary may at his discretion pay the amount of such order either to the next-of-kin of the deceased payee or to such other person as may to the Permanent Secretary appear to be entitled thereto, and every such payment shall be a valid and effectual discharge against any demand or claim made upon the Permanent Secretary by any other person as being the lawful representative of such payee, and any such person claiming as aforesaid shall have his remedy by recourse against the person who shall have received such payment and not otherwise.

Non-liability of the Permanent Secretary

57. After once paying a postal order, by whomsoever presented, the Permanent Secretary shall not be liable to any further claim nor shall he be liable to pay compensation for loss or injury arising out of delay in payment of a postal order, or out of any other irregularities in connection with a postal order.

FIRST SCHEDULE

(Regulations 4, 11, 12, 13, 17, 25, 29, 33, 36)
(Substituted by Legal Notice 136 of 1982.)

MONEY ORDER TARIFF

1. Commission on money orders payable in Fiji—	\$
Not exceeding \$10 .....	.20
Exceeding \$10 but not exceeding \$20 .....	.30
Exceeding \$20 but not exceeding \$40 .....	.40
Exceeding \$40 but not exceeding \$60 .....	.50
Exceeding \$60 but not exceeding \$80 .....	.60
Exceeding \$80 but not exceeding \$100 .....	.70
2. Commission on money orders payable overseas—	
Not exceeding \$30 .....	.50
Exceeding \$30 but not exceeding \$40 .....	.60
Exceeding \$40 but not exceeding \$50 .....	.70
Exceeding \$50 but not exceeding \$60 .....	.80
Exceeding \$60 but not exceeding \$70 .....	.90
Exceeding \$70 but not exceeding \$80	1.00
Services available to the following countries: Australia, Bangladesh, Solomon Islands, Cook Islands, Kiribati, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, Tonga, Tuvalu and Western Samoa.	
3. For repayment to the remitter in Fiji (Reg. 10)—	
A commission at the ordinary rates for orders payable in Fiji.	
4. For transfer of payment to another office (Reg. 10)—	
A commission at the ordinary rates for orders from the original to the new office of payment.	
5. For a correcting advice (altering name of payee or remitter, or cancelling endorsement on cross- ed order) (Reg. 11)	10c per order
6. For stoppage of payment (Reg. 12)	10c per order
7. For the issue of a duplicate order (Reg. 13)	50c per order
8. For the renewal of void orders (Reg. 17)	50c per order plus fresh commission
9. For telegraphic advice of telegraphic Money Order (Reg. 24)—	
The charge at the rate for a plain language telegram to the office of payment in respect of each order in addition to the commission for an ordinary Money Order and plus 30c per order.	
10. For repayment by telegraph (Reg. 25)	*
11. For transfer of payment by telegraph (Reg. 25)	*
12. For correction of advice by telegraph	*
13. For stoppage of payment by telegraph	*
* The charge at the rate for a plain language telegram for any telegram exchanged, in addi- tion to the ordinary charges specified above.	

14. For advice by post or telegraph of the payment of an ordinary or telegraphic money order whether applied for at the time of issue of the order or subsequently (Reg. 28)—
A fee of 20c in respect of each order, plus the charge at the rate for a plain language telegram for any telegram exchanged.
15. For any other telegram forwarded officially in connection with a money order on behalf of a remitter or payee—
The charge at the rate for the plain language telegram.

SECOND SCHEDULE

(Regulations 42, 47, 49, 52, 53)
(Substituted by Legal Notice 136 of 1982.)

POSTAL ORDER TARIFF

1. Fees payable on Fiji postal notes—

Value	Fee	Value	Fee
5c	5c	75c	5c
10c	5c	\$1	5c
20c	5c	\$1.50	5c
25c	5c	\$2	10c
30c	5c	\$4	10c
50c	5c		

2. Fees payable on British postal orders—

Face value (sterling)	Fee	Face value (sterling)	Fee
5p	40c	50p	50c
10p	50c	75p	50c
15p	50c	£1	50c
20p	50c	£2	60c
25p	50c	£3	60c
30p	50c	£4	60c
35p	50c	£5	60c

3. For repayment to the remitter (Reg. 47) 10c per order
4. For transfer of payment from one person or office to another (Reg. 47) 10c per order
5. For extension of period of validity (Reg. 49) 10c per order
6. For inquiry in regard to payment of a particular order (Reg. 52) 20c per order
7. For issue of a duplicate order (Reg. 53) A fee equal to poundage applicable if duplicate order were a new order

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