

N° 130.

**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE
ET NORVÈGE**

Convention relative à l'échange de
colis postaux, signée à Christiania
le 11 janvier 1921, et à Washing-
ton le 11 février 1921.

**UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA AND NORWAY**

Parcel Post Convention signed at
Christiania January 11, 1921 and
at Washington February 11, 1921.

No. 130. — PARCEL POST CONVENTION¹ BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND NORWAY. SIGNED AT CHRISTIANIA, JANUARY 11, 1921, AND AT WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 11, 1921.

Textes officiels anglais et norvégien, communiqués par le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Norvège. L'enregistrement de cette Convention a eu lieu le 18 juin 1921.

The undersigned, Albert Sidney Burleson, Postmaster General of the United States of America, and the General Post Office of Norway, by virtue of authority vested in them, for the purpose of making better arrangements for a parcel post system of exchange between the above-mentioned countries, have agreed upon the following articles :

Article 1.

The provisions of this convention shall relate only to parcels of mail matter to be exchanged by the system herein provided for, and shall in no way effect the arrangements now existing under the Universal Postal Convention, which will continue in force as heretofore ; and all the agreements hereinafter contained shall apply exclusively to mails exchanged under these articles.

Article 2.

There shall be admitted to the mails exchanged under this convention articles of merchandise and mail matter (except letters, post cards and written matter) of all kinds that are admitted under any conditions to the domestic mails of the country of origin, except that no packet may exceed twenty-two pounds (ten kilograms) in weight, nor the following dimensions : Greatest length in any direction, three feet six inches (one hundred and five centimeters) ; greatest length and girth combined, six feet (one hundred eighty five centimeters) ; and must be so wrapped, or enclosed as to permit their contents to be easily examined by postmasters and customs officers, excepting only those articles whose admission in this manner is forbidden by the laws of the country of destination, due notice of which shall be mutually given by the postal authorities of the United States and Norway, respectively.

The following articles are prohibited : Publications which violate the copyright of the laws of the country of destination ; poisons and explosive or inflammable substances ; live or dead animals, except dead insects and reptiles when thoroughly dried ; fruits and vegetables which easily decompose ; and substances which exhale a bad odour ; lottery tickets, lottery advertisements and lottery circulars ; all obscene or immoral articles, articles which may in any way damage or destroy the mails, or injure the persons handling them.

¹ D'après une lettre en date du 26 juillet 1921, émanant du Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Norvège, cette convention « a été ratifiée par le Président des Etats-Unis d'Amérique, le 14 février dernier. En Norvège la convention est considérée comme valable sans ratification ».

All admissible articles of merchandise mailed in one country for the other, or received in one country from the other shall be free from detention or inspection of any nature whatsoever, except such as is required for collection of customs duties ; and shall be forwarded by the most speedy means to their destination, being subject, however, in their transmission, to the laws and regulations of each country, respectively.

Article 3.

(1) No letter or communication of the nature of personal correspondence shall accompany any parcel, or be attached thereto.

(2) If such communications be found, they will be placed in the ordinary mail, if separable, and if the communications be inseparably attached the whole package containing them will be rejected. If, however, any such should be inadvertently forwarded, the country of destination may collect on the letter or letters double rates of postage, according to the Universal Postal Convention.

(3) No parcel shall contain packages intended for delivery at an address other than the one borne by the parcel itself. If such enclosed packages be detected, they shall be sent forward singly charged with new and distinct parcel post rates.

Article 4.

The following rates of postage shall be required to be fully prepaid with postage stamps of the country of origin, viz :

In the United States ; for a parcel not exceeding one pound (455 grams) in weight, 12 cents ; and for each additional pound (455 grams) or fraction of a pound, 12 cents.

In Norway :

If the weight of the parcel does not exceed 1 kilogram	120 øre
If the weight exceeds 1 kilogram but not 3 kilograms	220 »
If the weight exceeds 3 kilograms but not 5 kilograms	320 »
If the weight exceeds 5 kilograms	320 »

for the first 5 kilograms and 100 øre thereafter for each additional kilogram or fraction thereof.

The parcels shall be promptly delivered to addressees at the post office of address in the country of destination, free of charge for postage ; but the country of destination may, at its option, levy and collect from the addressee for interior service and delivery a charge not exceeding 5 cents in the United States and 20 øre in Norway, on each single parcel of whatever weight.

Article 5.

(1) The sender shall at the time of mailing the parcel receive from the Post Office where the parcel is mailed a certificate of mailing prepared in accordance with the postal regulations of the country of origin.

(2) The sender of a parcel may have the same registered by paying in addition to the postage the registration fee regularly charged in the country of origin.

(3) An acknowledgment of the delivery of a registered parcel shall be returned to the sender whenever requested ; but either country may require of the sender prepayment of a fee therefore not exceeding five cents (twenty øre).

(4) The addressee of a registered parcel shall be advised of the arrival of the parcel by a notice from the Post Office of destination.

Article 6.

(1) The sender of each parcel shall make a customs declaration which shall be either pasted upon or attached to the parcel, upon a special form provided for the purpose (Form 1 annexed hereto), giving a general description of the parcel, and a detailed statement of the contents, and value, date of mailing and signature and place of residence of the sender.

(2) The parcels in question shall be subject in the country of destination to all customs duties and all customs regulations in force in that country and the customs duties properly chargeable thereon shall be collectible from the addressee on the delivery of the parcel, in accordance with the laws and regulations of the country of destination.

Article 7.

The Post Office Department of the United States shall pay to the Post Office Department of Norway 50 centimes (10 cents) for each parcel forwarded from its offices to Norway and the Post Office Department of Norway shall pay a similar amount to the Post Office Department of the United States for each parcel forwarded from its offices to the United States. The accounts shall be balanced every quarter and a general balance of such quarterly settlements struck yearly, which amount shall be paid by the Post Office Department of the debtor country.

Article 8.

(1) The parcels shall be considered as a component part of the mails exchanged directly between the United States of America and Norway, to be despatched to destination by the country of origin at its cost and by such means as it may have at its disposal ; but they shall be forwarded at the option of the despatching office, either in boxes prepared expressly for the purpose, or in ordinary mail sacks marked " parcel post " and securely sealed with wax or otherwise as may be mutually provided.

(2) Each country shall return empty to the despatching office, by next mail, all such boxes or sacks.

(3) Although parcels admitted under this convention will be transmitted as aforesaid between the exchange offices of the two countries, they should be so carefully packed as to be safely transmitted both to the exchange office of the country of origin and to the receiving office of the country of destination.

(4) Each despatch of a parcel post mail shall be accompanied by a descriptive list in duplicate of all packages sent ; this list shall contain the list number of each parcel, the name of the sender, the name of the addressee and the address of destination, or, in the case of ordinary parcels, they may be advised simply by the total number of such parcels sent in the dispatch. This list shall be enclosed in one of the boxes or sacks of such dispatch (form 2 annexed hereto).

Article 9.

Exchanges of mails under this convention from any place in either of the participating countries to any place in the other, shall be effected through the post offices of both countries, previously designated as exchange offices, or through such other offices as may subsequently be designated for this purpose, under such regulations relative to details of exchange as may be mutually determined to be essential to the security and expedition of the mails and the protection of the customs revenue.

Article 10.

(1) As soon as the mails shall have reached the exchange office of destination that office shall check the contents of the mail.

(2) In the event of the parcel bill not having been received a substitute shall at once be prepared.

(3) Any errors in the entries on the parcel bill which may be detected shall, after verification by a second officer, be corrected and noted for report to the dispatching office on the form known as "verification certificate" and forwarded in a special envelope.

(4) If a parcel noted on the bill be not received, after the nonreceipt thereof shall have been verified by a second officer, the entry on the bill shall be cancelled and the fact reported at once, as above provided. If a parcel be received in a damaged or imperfect condition, full particulars thereof shall be reported in the same manner.

(5) If no "verification certificate" or note of error be received by the dispatching office, a parcel mail shall be considered as duly delivered and correct in every particular.

Article 11.

If a parcel cannot be delivered as addressed, or is refused, it shall be returned without charge, from either country directly to the dispatching office of exchange, at the expiration of thirty days from its receipt at the office of destination; and the country of origin may collect from the sender for the return of the parcel a sum equal to the postage when first mailed.

Provided, however, that parcels prohibited by Article 2 and those which do not conform to the conditions as to size and weight, prescribed by said Article, shall not be returned to the country of origin, but may be disposed of, without recourse, in accordance with the customs laws and regulations of the country of destination.

When the contents of a parcel which cannot be delivered are liable to deterioration or corruption, they may be destroyed at once, if necessary, or if expedient, sold, without previous notice or judicial formality, for the benefit of the right person, the particulars of each sale being noticed by post office to the other.

Article 12.

Whenever any loss, damage, or rifling shall occur to any shipment of registered parcels, except in the case of force majeure, the Post Office Department of the country in whose service the loss occurs shall, on proof of loss, damage, or rifling be liable to the sender of the parcel for an amount by way of indemnity corresponding to the actual amount of the loss, damage, or rifling, but such indemnity shall not exceed fifty francs for any one registered parcel. The method of fixing responsibility for the loss, damage or rifling and of paying and adjusting the claims for indemnity shall be that prescribed by Article 8 of the Universal Postal Convention of Rome and Article 13 of the regulations for its execution, regarding indemnity for registered articles in Postal Union Mails.

It is understood that claims for indemnity shall not be valid unless made within one year from the date of the mailing of the registered parcel concerned.

Article 13.

The Postmaster General of the United States and the General Post Office of Norway shall have authority jointly to make such further regulations of order and detail as may be deemed necessary to carry out the convention from time to time; and may, further, by agreement, prescribe conditions for the admission to the mails of any of the articles prohibited by Article 2 of this Convention.

Article 14.

This Convention, which substitutes and abrogates the Convention entered into in Washington on the 27th day of August, 1904, and in Christiania on the 14th day of September in the same year, shall become effective as of February 1, 1921, and shall continue in force until terminated by mutual agreement ; but it may be annulled at the desire of either Department upon six months' previous notice given to the other Department.

Done in duplicate and signed in Christiania the 11th day of January 1921 (one thousand nine hundred and twenty-one) and at Washington the 11th day of February one thousand nine hundred and twenty-one.

ALBERT SIDNEY BURLESON.

*Postmaster of the United States
of America.*

SOMMERSCHILD.

HELSING.

General Post Office of Norway.

FORM No. 1.

A.

PARCELS-POST BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND NORWAY.

Date Stamp.

Place to which the parcel is addressed.

Form of Customs Declaration.

Description of parcel. (State whether box, bag, basket etc.)	Contents.	Value.	Percent.	Total customs charges.
	TOTAL....			

Date of posting..... 19...: signature and adress of sender.....

For use of Post Office only, and to be filled up at the office of exchange :

Parcel Bill No ; No. of rates prepaid..... ; Entry No. :.....

B.

Date stamp.

Parcels-Post from (country of origin).....

The import duty assessed by an officer of customs on contents of this parcel amounts to.... which must be paid before the parcel is delivered.

.....
Customs Officer.

C.

Date stamp.

Parcels-Post from (country of origin).....

This parcel has been passed by an officer of customs and must be delivered FREE OF CHARGE.

.....

FORM No. 2.

Date stamp of dis-
patching exchange
Post Office.

Parcels from (country
of origin).....

for (country of des-
tination)

Date stamp of re-
ceiving exchange
Post Office.

Parcel Bill No. dated 19 ; per S. S.

* Sheet No.

Entry No.	Origin of Parcel	Name of Sender.	Address of Parcel.	Declared Contents.	Declared Value.	Number of rates prepaid.	Observations.
			TOTALS....				

* When more than one sheet is required for the entry of the parcels sent by the mail, it will be sufficient if the undermentioned particulars are entered on the last sheet of the Parcel Bill.

Total number of parcels sent by the mail
to (Country of destination)

Total weight of mail

Number of boxes or other receptacles for-
ming the mail

Deduct weight of receptacles.....

Net weight of parcels.....

Signature of postal official at the dispatching
exchange post office.....

Signature of postal official at the receiving
exchange post office.....
