

N° 3165.

**GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET IRLANDE DU NORD
ET CHINE**

Accord relatif à l'échange des colis postaux entre la Chine et Ceylan, avec règlement d'exécution. Signés à Colombo, le 21 décembre 1931, et à Nankin, le 28 avril 1932.

**GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND
AND CHINA**

Parcel Post Agreement between China and Ceylon, with Detailed Regulations. Signed at Colombo, December 21, 1931, and at Nanking, April 28, 1932.

No. 3165. — PARCEL POST AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN CHINA AND CEYLON. SIGNED AT COLOMBO, DECEMBER 21, 1931 AND AT NANKING, APRIL 28, 1932.

Textes officiels anglais et chinois communiqués par le secrétaire d'Etat aux Affaires étrangères de Sa Majesté en Grande-Bretagne. L'enregistrement de cet accord a eu lieu le 20 mars 1933.

English and Chinese official texts communicated by His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in Great Britain. The registration of this Agreement took place March 20, 1933.

The Post Offices of China and Ceylon agree to effect a regular direct exchange of Postal Parcels between the exchange offices of Shanghai and Colombo or through such other offices as may be hereafter designated, under such regulations relative to the details of the exchange as may be mutually determined.

AGREEMENT.

Article 1.

LIMITS OF WEIGHT AND SIZE.

A parcel for China posted in Ceylon shall not exceed 10 Kg. or 22 lbs. in weight, 3 feet 6 inches in length or 6 feet in length and girth combined and a parcel for Ceylon posted in China shall not exceed 10 Kg. or 22 lbs. in weight, 1.05 metres in length and 1.80 metres in length and girth combined.

2. As regards the exact calculation of the weight and dimensions of a parcel, the view of the despatching office shall be accepted except in a case of obvious error.

Article 2.

TRANSIT OF PARCELS.

The two Postal Administrations guarantee the right of transit for parcels over their territory to or from any country with which they respectively have parcel post communications.

Transit parcels shall be subject to the provisions of this Agreement and to the Detailed Regulations so far as these are applicable.

Article 3.

PREPAYMENT OF POSTAGE RATES.

The prepayment of the postage on parcels shall be compulsory except in the case of redirected or returned parcels.

¹ Entré en vigueur le 1^{er} juillet 1932.

¹ Came into force July 1, 1932.

2. The postage shall be made up of the sums accruing to each Postal Administration taking part in the conveyance by land or sea. It shall include also any surcharge levied in accordance with Article 5 hereafter.

Article 4.

TERRITORIAL RATE.

For parcels despatched from one of the two countries for delivery in the other, the territorial rates of China shall be 1 franc 5 centimes for a parcel not exceeding 1 Kg., 1 franc 25 centimes for a parcel not exceeding 5 Kg., 1 franc 75 centimes for a parcel not exceeding 10 Kg, and the Ceylon territorial rates shall be 1 franc 25 centimes for a parcel not exceeding 5 Kg., 2 francs 5 centimes for a parcel not exceeding 10 Kg. in weight.

2. The Chinese Administration reserves the right to vary its charges in accordance with any modifications which may be introduced in the matter of charges by international Conventions subsequent to the London Agreement of 1929. The Ceylon Postal Administration reserves the right to vary its territorial rates in accordance with any alteration of these charges which may be decided upon in connexion with its parcel post relations with other countries generally.

Article 5.

ADDITIONAL RATE.

The Postal Administrations of China and Ceylon shall have the right to impose on parcels originating in or addressed to their offices an additional rate of 25 centimes per parcel.

Article 6.

SEA RATE.

Each of the two Postal Administrations shall be entitled to fix the rate for any sea service which it provides.

Article 7.

FEE FOR DELIVERY AND FOR CLEARANCE THROUGH THE CUSTOMS.

The Postal Administration of China may collect, in respect of delivery to the Customs and clearance through the Customs, or in respect of delivery to the Customs only, a fee not exceeding 50 centimes per parcel, or such other charge as international Conventions subsequent to the London Agreement of 1929 shall fix. The Postal Administration of Ceylon may collect such fee as it may from time to time fix for similar services in its parcel post relations with other countries generally.

Article 8.

PAYMENT OF CUSTOMS AND OTHER CHARGES.

The Customs charges or other non-postal charges shall be paid by the addressees of parcels.

Article 9.

WAREHOUSING CHARGE.

Each of the two Postal Administrations may collect any warehousing charge fixed by its legislation for a parcel which is addressed "Poste Restante" or which is not claimed within the prescribed period. This charge shall in no case exceed 5 francs.

Article 10.

PROHIBITIONS.

It is forbidden to enclose in a postal parcel :

- (a) Explosive, inflammable or dangerous substances (including loaded metal caps, live cartridges and matches).
- (b) Opium, morphine, cocaine and other narcotics except for medical purposes and on the condition that a permit issued by the Health Authorities is attached to the relative Despatch Note.
- (c) Articles of an obscene or immoral nature.
- (d) Articles the admission of which is not permitted by law or by the Customs or other regulations.
- (e) Letters or communications which constitute an actual or personal correspondence as well as correspondence of packets of any kind bearing an address other than that of the addressee of the parcel or of persons dwelling with him. (It is however, permissible to enclose in a parcel an open invoice confined to the particulars which constitute an invoice, and a simple copy of the address of the parcel with the address of the sender also.)
- (f) Publications which violate the copyright laws of the country of destination ; poisons, lottery tickets, lottery advertisements, or lottery circulars.
- (g) Live animals (except bees which must be enclosed in boxes so as to avoid all danger to postal officers and to allow the contents to be ascertained).

2. It is forbidden to send coins, gold or silver, whether manufactured or unmanufactured, or other precious articles in uninsured parcels addressed to countries which admit assurance.

3. A parcel which has been wrongly admitted to the post shall be returned to the office of origin, unless the Administration of the country of destination is authorised by its legislation to dispose of it otherwise. In the latter case the office of despatch shall be informed in a precise manner of the treatment accorded to the parcel.

Nevertheless, the fact that the parcel contains a letter or communication which constitute an actual or personal correspondence shall not, in any case, entail its return to the office of origin.

4. Explosive, inflammable or dangerous substances and articles of an obscene or immoral nature shall not be returned to the office of origin ; they shall be disposed of by the Administration which has found them in the mails in accordance with its own internal regulations.

5. No parcel may contain packages intended for delivery at an address other than that borne by the parcel itself. If such enclosed package be detected they must be sent forward singly charged with new and distinct parcel post rates.

Article 11.

ADVICE OF DELIVERY.

The sender may obtain an advice of delivery for an insured parcel under the conditions prescribed for postal packets by the Convention of the Postal Union. An advice of delivery cannot be obtained for an uninsured parcel.

Article 12.

REDIRECTION.

1. A parcel may be redirected in consequence of the addressee's change of address in the country of destination. The Administration of the country of destination may collect the redirection charge prescribed by its internal regulations. Similarly a parcel may be redirected from one of the two countries which are parties to this Agreement to another country provided that the parcel complies with the conditions required for its further conveyance and provided as a rule that the extra postage is prepaid at the time of redirection or documentary evidence is produced that the addressee will pay it.

2. Additional charges, levied in respect of redirection and not paid by the addressee or his representative shall not be cancelled in case of further redirection or of return to origin, but shall be collected from the addressee or from the sender, as the case may be, without prejudice to the payment of any special charges incurred which the country of destination does not agree to cancel.

Article 13.

MIS-SENT PARCELS.

Parcels received out of course, or wrongly allowed to be despatched shall be transmitted in accordance with the provisions of Article 16, Sections 1 and 2, of the Detailed Regulations.

Article 14.

NON-DELIVERY.

In the absence of a request by the sender to the contrary, a parcel which cannot be delivered shall be returned to the sender without previous notification and at his expense after retention for the period prescribed by the regulations of the country of destination.

2. The sender 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. No other alternative is admissible. If the sender avails himself of this facility his request must appear on the Despatch Note and must be in conformity with or analogous to one of the following forms :

“ If not deliverable as addressed, abandon ”.

“ If not deliverable as addressed, deliver to ”.

The same request must also be written on the cover of the parcel.

3. The charges due on returned undelivered parcels shall be recovered in accordance with the provisions of Article 29.

Article 15.

CANCELLATION OF CUSTOMS CHARGES.

Both parties to this Agreement undertake to urge their respective Customs Administrations to cancel Customs Charges on parcels which are returned to the country of origin, abandoned by the senders, destroyed or redirected to a third country.

Article 16.

SALE. DESTRUCTION.

Articles in danger of deterioration or corruption, and these only may be sold immediately, even when in transit on the outward or return journey, without previous notice or judicial formality. If for any reason a sale is impossible, the spoilt or putrid articles shall be destroyed.

Article 17.

ABANDONED PARCELS.

Parcels which cannot be delivered to the addressees, and which the senders have abandoned shall not be returned by the office of destination, but shall be treated in accordance with its legislation. No claim shall be made by the Administration of the Country of destination against the Administration of the Country of origin in respect of such parcels.

Article 18.

ENQUIRIES.

A fee not exceeding 1 franc may be charged for every enquiry concerning a parcel. No fee shall be charged if the sender has already paid a special fee for an advice of delivery.

2. Enquiries shall be admitted only within the period of one year from the day following the date of posting.

3. When an enquiry is the outcome of an irregularity in the Postal Service the enquiry fee shall be refunded.

Article 19.

INSURED PARCELS, RATES AND CONDITIONS.

1. Parcels may be insured up to a limit of 1000 francs.

2. An insurance fee to be fixed by the office of origin, shall be charged for each 300 francs or part thereof of the insured value.

3. The Administration of the country of origin shall be entitled also to collect from the sender of an insured parcel a despatch fee not exceeding 50 centimes.

4. The sender of an insured parcel shall receive without charge, at the time of posting, a receipt for his parcel.

Article 20.

FRAUDULENT INSURANCE.

The insured value may not exceed the actual value of the contents of the parcel and the packing, but it is permitted to insure only part of this value.

The fraudulent insurance of a parcel for a sum exceeding the actual value shall be subject to any legal proceedings which may be admitted by the laws of the country of origin.

A parcel of which the contents have no pecuniary value may, however, be insured for a nominal sum in order to obtain the safeguards of the Insurance System.

Article 21.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOSS, DAMAGE OR ABSTRACTION.

1. Except in the cases mentioned in the following Article, the two Administrations shall be responsible for the loss of parcels and for the loss, abstraction or damage of their contents or of a part thereof. The sender is entitled under this head to compensation corresponding to the actual amount of the loss, abstraction or damage. For uninsured parcels the amount of compensation shall not exceed 10 francs for a parcel not exceeding 1 Kg. (or 2 lbs.), 25 francs for a parcel exceeding 1 Kilo but not exceeding 5 Kg. (11 lbs.), and 40 francs for a parcel exceeding 5 Kg. but not exceeding 10 Kilos (22 lbs.) in weight. For an insured parcel the amount of compensation shall not exceed the amount for which it was insured.

2. In calculating the amount of compensation, indirect loss or loss of profits shall not be taken into consideration.

3. Compensation shall be calculated on the current price of goods of the same nature at the place and time at which the goods were accepted for transmission.

4. Where compensation is due for the loss, destruction or complete damage of a parcel or for the abstraction of the whole of the contents, the sender is entitled to a refund of the postage also.

5. In all cases the insurance fee shall be retained by the Postal Administrations concerned.

Article 22.

EXCEPTIONS TO THE PRINCIPLE OF RESPONSIBILITY.

The two Administrations shall be relieved of all responsibility :

- (a) In cases beyond control (force majeure) ;
- (b) When they are unable to account for parcels in consequence of the destruction of official documents through a cause beyond control (force majeure) ;
- (c) When the damage has been caused by the fault or negligence of the sender, or when it arises from the nature of the articles ;
- (d) For parcels of which the contents fall under the ban of one of the prohibitions mentioned in Article 10 ;
- (e) For parcels which have been fraudulently insured for a sum exceeding the actual value of the contents and packing ;
- (f) In respect of parcels regarding which inquiry has not been made within the period prescribed by Article 18 ;
- (g) In respect of any parcels containing precious stones, jewellery or any article of gold or silver exceeding £100 or (2500 francs) in value not packed in a box of the size prescribed in Article 6, Section 3 of the Detailed Regulations.

Article 23.

TERMINATION OF RESPONSIBILITY.

The two Postal Administrations shall cease to be responsible for parcels which have been delivered in accordance with their internal regulations and of which the owners or their Agents have accepted delivery without reservation.

Article 24.

PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION.

The payment of compensation shall be undertaken by the Postal Administration of the country of origin. The paying Administration retains the right to make a claim against the Administration responsible.

Article 25.

PERIOD FOR PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION.

1. Compensation shall be paid as soon as possible, and at the latest, within one year from the day following the date of enquiry.
2. The Postal Administration of the country of origin is authorised to settle with the sender on behalf of the other Administration if the latter, after being duly informed of the application, has let 9 months pass without giving a decision in the matter.
3. The Administration of the Country of origin may exceptionally postpone the settlement of compensation beyond the period of one year when the question of responsibility cannot be settled owing to circumstances over which the Administrations concerned have no control.

Article 26.

INCIDENCE OF COST OF COMPENSATION.

1. Until the contrary is proved responsibility shall rest with the Postal Administration which, having received the parcel from the other Administration without making any reservation, having been furnished with all the particulars for investigation prescribed by the regulations, cannot establish either proper delivery to the addressee or regular transfer to the following Postal Administration, as the case may be.
 2. If in the case of a parcel despatched from one of the two countries for delivery in the other, the loss, abstraction or damage has occurred in course of conveyance without its being possible to prove in the service of which country the irregularity took place the two Administrations shall bear in equal shares the amount of compensation.
 3. The same principle shall, as far as possible, be applied when other Administrations are concerned in the conveyance of a parcel. Nevertheless in the case of parcels sent in transit from one of the two countries through the other, neither of the two Administrations shall be held responsible when the loss, abstraction or damage has taken place in the service in which responsibility is not accepted.
 4. Customs and other charges which it has not been possible to cancel shall be borne by the Administration responsible for the loss, damage or abstraction.
 5. By paying compensation the Administration concerned takes over, to the extent of the amount paid, the rights of the person who has received compensation in any action which may be taken against the addressee, the sender or a third party.
- If a parcel which has been regarded as lost is subsequently found, in whole or in part, the person to whom compensation has been paid shall be informed that he is at liberty to take possession of the parcel against repayment of the amount paid as compensation.

Article 27.

REPAYMENT OF THE COMPENSATION TO DESPATCHING OFFICE.

The Administration responsible or on whose account the payment is made in accordance with Article 24 is bound to repay the amount of the compensation within a period of three months after notification of payment. The amount shall be recovered from the Administration responsible through the accounts provided for in Article 22, Section 2, of the Detailed Regulations.

The Administration of which the responsibility is duly proved and which has originally declined to pay compensation is bound to bear all the additional charges resulting from the unwarranted delay in payment.

Article 28.

CREDITS FOR CONVEYANCE.

For each parcel despatched from one of the two countries for delivery in the other, the despatching office shall allow to the office of destination the rates which accrue to it by virtue of the provisions of Articles 4 to 6.

For each parcel despatched from one of the two countries in transit through the other, the despatching office shall allow to the other office the rates due for the conveyance and insurance of the parcel.

Article 29.

CLAIMS IN CASE OF REDIRECTION OR RETURN.

In case of the redirection or of the return of a parcel from one country to the other, the retransmitting office shall claim from the other the charges due to it and to any other Administration taking part in the redirection or return.

Article 30.

CHARGE FOR REDIRECTION IN THE COUNTRY OF DESTINATION.

In case of further redirection or of the return to origin, the redirection charge prescribed by Article 12, Section 2, shall accrue to the country which redirected the parcel within its own territory.

Article 31.

MISCELLANEOUS FEES.

1. The following fees shall be retained in full by the Postal Administration which collected them :

- (a) The fee for advice of delivery referred to in Article 11 ;
- (b) The enquiry fee referred to in Article 18, Section 1 ;
- (c) The supplementary fee for an insured parcel referred to in Article 19, Section 3.

2. The fee for delivery and for Customs Clearance referred to in Article 7 shall be retained by the Administration of the country of destination.

Article 32.

INSURANCE FEES.

In respect of insured parcels the Postal Administration of the Country of origin shall allow to the Postal Administration of the country of destination for territorial service a rate of 5 centimes for each 300 francs of insured value or fraction thereof. If the Administration of the country of destination provides the Sea Service, the Administration of the country of origin shall allow an additional rate of 10 centimes for each 300 francs of insured value or fraction thereof.

Article 33.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

1. The francs and centimes mentioned in this Agreement are gold francs and centimes as defined in the Postal Union Convention.

2. Parcels shall not be subjected to any postal charge other than those contemplated in this Agreement except by mutual consent of the two Administrations.

3. In extraordinary circumstances, either Administration may temporarily suspend the Parcel Post, either entirely or partially, on condition of giving immediate notice, if necessary by telegraph, to the other Administration.

4. The two Administrations have drawn up the following Detailed Regulations for ensuring the Execution of the present Agreement. Further matters of detail, not inconsistent with the general provisions of this Agreement and not provided for in the Detailed Regulations may be arranged from time to time by mutual consent.

5. The internal legislation of China and Ceylon shall remain applicable as regards everything not provided for by the stipulations contained in the present Agreement, and in the Detailed Regulations for its execution.

Article 34.

ENTRY INTO FORCE AND DURATION OF THE AGREEMENT.

This Agreement shall come into force on a date to be fixed by mutual agreement between the two Administrations, and shall remain in force until the expiration of one year from the date on which it may be denounced by either of the two Administrations.

In witness whereof the undersigned, duly authorised for that purpose, have signed the present Agreement, and have affixed their seals thereto.

Done in triplicate at Colombo the 21st (Twenty-first) day of December, 1931, and at Nanking the 28th (Twenty-eighth) day of April, 1932.

(Sgd)
*Director General of
 Posts, China.*

(Sgd) H. A. BURDEN,
*Postmaster-General,
 Ceylon.*

DETAILED REGULATIONS

FOR CARRYING OUT THE PARCEL POST AGREEMENT BETWEEN CHINA AND CEYLON
DATED 21ST DECEMBER, 1931, AND APRIL 28, 1932.

Article 1.

CIRCULATION.

1. Each Postal Administration shall forward by the routes and means which it uses for its own parcels, parcels delivered to it by the other Administration for conveyance in transit through its territory.

2. Misset parcels shall be retransmitted to their proper destination by the most direct routes at the disposal of the Office retransmitting them.

Article 2.

METHOD OF TRANSMISSION. PROVISION OF BAGS.

1. The exchange of parcels between the two Countries shall be effected by the offices appointed by Agreement between the two Administrations.

2. Parcels shall be exchanged between the two Countries in bags duly fastened and sealed.

3. A label shewing the Office of Exchange of origin and the Office of Exchange of destination shall be attached to the neck of each bag, the number of parcels contained in the bag being indicated on the back of the label.

4. The bag containing the parcel bills and other documents shall be distinctively labelled.

5. Insured parcels shall be forwarded in separate bags ; and the labels of these bags shall be marked with any distinctive symbol that may from time to time be agreed upon by the two Administrations.

6. The weight of any bag of parcels shall not exceed 36 kg. (80 lbs).

7. Each bag shall be stencilled on all sides " Parcel Post between China and Ceylon ".

The bags shall be used exclusively for the exchange of parcels between China and Ceylon and not for any other service. Responsibility for the loss of empty bags shall be determined on the principle prescribed for the loss of parcels in Article 26 of the Agreement.

8. The bags not required by either of the Administrations for the despatch of parcels shall be returned empty addressed to such Office of Exchange as will require them. The number of bags so forwarded shall be entered advised on a parcel bill accompanying the mails.

Article 3.

INFORMATION TO BE FURNISHED.

Each Administration shall communicate to the other by means of a Table :

- (a) The names of the countries to which it can forward parcels handed over to it ;
- (b) The routes available for the transmission of the said parcels from the point of entry into its territory or into its service ;

(c) The total amount to be credited to it by the other Administration for each destination ;

(d) The number of Customs Declarations which must accompany each parcel, and any other necessary information.

2. Each Administration shall make known to the other the names of the countries to which it intends to send parcels in transit through the other, unless in any particular case the number of parcels concerned is insignificant.

Article 4.

FIXING OF EQUIVALENTS.

In fixing the charges for parcels either Administration shall be at liberty to adopt such approximate equivalents as may be convenient in its own currency.

Article 5.

MAKE-UP OF PARCELS.

Every parcel shall :

(a) Bear the exact address of the addressee in Roman characters. Addresses in pencil shall not be allowed provided the parcel bearing addresses written with copying ink pencil on a surface damped shall be accepted. The address shall be written on the parcel itself or on a label so firmly attached to it that it cannot become detached.

The sender of a parcel shall be advised to enclose in the parcel a copy of the address together with a note of his own address ;

(b) Be packed in a manner adequate for the length of the journey and for the protection of the contents. Articles liable to injure officers of the post office or to damage other parcels shall be so packed as to prevent any risk.

Article 6.

SPECIAL PACKING.

1. Liquids and substances which easily liquify shall be packed in a double receptacle. Between the first receptacle (bottle, flask, pot, box, etc.) and the second (box of metal or of stout wood) shall be left a space which shall be filled with saw dust, bran or some other absorbent material in sufficient quantity to absorb all the liquid contents in the case of breakage.

2. Colouring substances such as aniline etc. shall be admitted only if enclosed in stout metal boxes placed inside wooden boxes with saw dust between the two receptacles. Dry non-colouring powders shall be placed in boxes of metal, wood, or card-board, these boxes shall themselves be enclosed in a cover of linen or parchment.

3. Every parcel containing precious stones, jewellery, or any other article of gold or silver exceeding £100 (2500 francs) in value shall be packed in a box measuring not less than 3 feet 6 inches (1.05 metres) in length and girth combined.

Article 7.

DESPATCH NOTES AND CUSTOMS DECLARATION.

1. Each parcel shall be accompanied by a Despatch Note and by Customs Declarations according to the regulations of the country of destination, and the Customs Declaration shall be firmly attached to the Despatch Note.

2. Nevertheless a single Despatch Note and a single set of Customs Declarations may suffice for two or three (but not more) ordinary parcels posted at the same time by one sender to one addressee. This provision shall not apply to insured parcels.

3. The two Administrations accept no responsibility in respect of the accuracy of Customs Declarations.

Article 8.

ADVICE OF DELIVERY.

1. Insured parcels of which the senders ask for an Advice of Delivery shall be very prominently marked " Advice of Delivery " or " A. R. ". The Despatch Notes shall be marked in the same way.

2. Such parcels shall be accompanied by a form similar to that annexed to the Detailed Regulations of the Postal Union Convention. This advice of delivery form shall be prepared by the Office of Origin or by the other Office appointed by the Despatching Administration ; it shall be attached to the Despatch Note of the parcel to which it relates. If it does not reach the office of destination, that office shall make out officially a new advice of delivery.

3. The office of destination, after having duly filled up the form, shall return it unenclosed and free of postage to the address of the sender of the parcel.

4. When the sender makes enquiry concerning an Advice of Delivery which has not been returned to him after a reasonable interval, action shall be taken in accordance with the rules laid down in Article 9 following. In that case a second fee shall not be charged, and the office of origin shall enter at the top of the form the words " Duplicata de l'avis de réception, etc. "

Article 9.

ADVICE OF DELIVERY APPLIED FOR AFTER POSTING.

When the sender applies for an Advice of Delivery after a parcel has been posted, the office of origin shall fill up an Advice of Delivery form and shall attach it to a form of enquiry to which postage stamps representing the fee prescribed by the Postal Union Convention have been affixed.

The form of enquiry accompanied by the Advice of Delivery form shall be treated according to the provisions of Article 19 below, with the single exception that, in case of the due delivery of the parcel, the office of destination shall withdraw the form of enquiry and shall return the Advice of Delivery form to origin, in the manner prescribed in paragraph 3 of the preceding Article.

Article 10.

INDICATION OF INSURED VALUE.

Every insured parcel and the relative Despatch Note shall bear an indication of the insured value in the currency of the country of origin. This indication shall be made without erasure or correction even if certified. The amount of the insurance shall in addition be converted into gold francs by the office of origin. The result of the conversion shall be indicated distinctly by new figures placed beside or below those representing the amount of the insurance in the currency of the country of origin.

Article 11.

INSURANCE LABELS, ETC.

Every insured parcel and its Despatch Note as well shall bear a red label with the indication " Insured " or " Valeur déclarée " in Roman characters.

When a parcel contains coin, bullion or other precious objects, the wax or other seals, the labels of whatever kind and any postage stamps affixed to it shall be so spaced that they cannot conceal injuries to the cover. Moreover the labels and postage stamps, if any, shall not be folded over two sides of the cover so as to hide the edge.

Article 12.

SEALING OF INSURED PARCELS.

Every insured parcel shall be sealed by means of wax or by lead or other seals, with some special uniform design or mark of the sender, the seals being sufficient in number to render it impossible to tamper with the contents without leaving an obvious trace of violation.

The senders of such parcels shall be strongly recommended to furnish the relative Despatch Note, whenever possible, with an exact reproduction of the seal or special mark referred to above.

Article 13.

INDICATION OF WEIGHT OF INSURED PARCELS.

The exact weight in grammes of each insured parcel shall be entered by the office of origin :

- (a) On the address side of the parcel ;
- (b) On the Despatch Note, in the place reserved for this purpose.

Article 14.

SERIAL NUMBER AND PLACE OF POSTING.

Each parcel and the relative Despatch Note as well shall bear a label indicating the serial number and the name of the office of posting. An office of posting shall not use two or more series of labels at the same time, unless each series is provided with a distinctive mark.

Article 15.

DATE-STAMP IMPRESSION.

The Despatch Note shall be impressed by the office of posting on the address side, with a stamp showing the place and date of posting.

Article 16.

RE-TRANSMISSION.

1. The Postal Administration retransmitting missent parcels shall not levy any non-postal charges upon it.

When an Administration returns such a parcel to the office from which it has been directly received, it shall refund the credits received and report the error by means of a Verification Note.

In other cases, and if the amount credited to it is insufficient to cover the expenses of re-transmission which it has to defray, the re-transmitting Administration shall allow to the Administration to which it forwards the parcel the credits due for onward conveyance ; it shall

then recover the amount of the deficiency by claiming it from the office of exchange from which the missent parcel was directly received. The reason for this claim shall be notified to the latter by means of a Verification Note.

2. When a parcel has been wrongly allowed to be despatched in consequence of an error attributable to the Postal Service and has, for this reason, to be returned to the country of origin, the office which sends the parcel back shall allow to the office from which it was received the sums credited in respect of it.

3. The charges on a parcel redirected, in consequence of the removal of the addressee or of an error on the part of the sender, to a country with which China or Ceylon has parcel post communication shall be claimed from the Administration to which the parcel is forwarded, unless the charge for conveyance is paid at the time of redirection, in which case the parcel shall be dealt with as if it had been addressed directly from the re-transmitting country to the new country of destination.

4. A parcel shall be re-transmitted in its original packing and shall be accompanied by the Despatch Note prepared by the office of origin. If the parcel, for any reason whatsoever, has to be repacked, or if the original Despatch Note has to be replaced by a substitute note, the name of the office of origin of the parcel and the original serial number shall be entered both on the parcel and on the Despatch Note.

Article 17.

RETURN OF UNDELIVERED PARCELS.

1. If the sender of an undeliverable parcel has made a request not provided for by Article 14, Section 2, of the Agreement, the Postal Administration of the country of destination need not comply with it but may return the parcel to the office of origin, after retention for the period prescribed by the regulations of the country of destination.

2. The Administration which returns a parcel to the sender shall indicate clearly and concisely thereon the cause of non-delivery. This information may be furnished in manuscript or by means of a stamped impression or a label.

3. A parcel to be returned to the sender shall be entered on the Parcel Bill with the word " Rebut " on the " Observations " column. It shall be dealt with and charged like a parcel redirected in consequence of the removal of the addressee.

Article 18.

SALE. DESTRUCTION.

1. When a parcel has been sold or destroyed in accordance with the provisions of Article 16 of the Agreement, a report of the sale or destruction shall be prepared.

2. The proceeds of the sale shall be used in the first place to defray the charges upon the parcel. Any balance that there may be shall be forwarded to the office of origin for payment to the sender, on whom the cost of forwarding it shall fall.

Article 19.

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING PARCELS.

For enquiries concerning parcels, a form shall be used similar to the specimen annexed to the Detailed Regulations of the Parcel Post Agreement of the Universal Postal Union.

These forms shall be forwarded to the offices appointed by the two Postal Administrations to deal with them and they shall be dealt with in the manner mutually arranged between the two Administrations.

Article 20.

PARCEL BILL.

1. Insured, returned and redirected parcels shall be entered individually by the despatching office of exchange on a separate sheet of the parcel bill similar to the specimen annexed to the Detailed Regulations of the Parcel Post Agreement of the Universal Postal Union.

Transit parcels shall be entered individually and the forward charges for each transit parcel should be given according to the rates appearing in the Table A of the office of destination. Other parcels shall be entered in the Parcel Bill in bulk with a summary statement of the amounts to be credited. The Despatch Notes, Customs Declarations, Advice of Delivery, etc., shall be forwarded with the parcel bill.

2. Each despatching office of exchange shall number the parcel bills in the top left-hand corner in an annual series for each office of exchange of destination, and as far as possible shall enter below the number, the name of the ship conveying the mail. A note of the last number of the year shall be made on the first parcel bill of the following year.

Article 21.

CHECK BY OFFICE OF EXCHANGE. NOTIFICATION OF IRREGULARITIES.

1. On the receipt of a mail, whether of parcels or of empty bags, the office of exchange shall check the parcels and various documents which accompany them or the empty bags as the case may be against the particulars entered on the relative bill, and, if necessary, shall report missing articles or other irregularities by means of a Verification Note.

2. Any discrepancies in the credits and accounting shall be notified to the despatching office of exchange by a Verification Note. The accepted Verification Notes shall be attached to the parcel bill to which they relate. Corrections made on parcel bills not supported by vouchers shall not be considered valid.

Article 22.

ACCOUNTING FOR CREDITS.

1. Each Postal Administration shall cause each of its offices of exchange to prepare quarterly for all the parcel mails received from the office of exchange of the other Administration a statement of the total amounts entered on the parcel bill, whether to its credit or to its debit.

2. These statements shall be afterwards summarised by the same Administration in an account, which accompanied by the quarterly statements, the parcel bills and the Verification Notes, if any, relating thereto, shall be forwarded to the corresponding Administration in the course of the quarter following that to which it relates.

3. The quarterly accounts, after having been checked and accepted on both sides, shall be summarised in a general yearly account prepared by the Administration to which the balance is due.

Article 23.

SETTLEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

1. Payment of the balance of the account shall be made by the debtor to the creditor Administration in the manner prescribed by the Convention of the Postal Union for the liquidation of the balance of transit account.

2. The preparation and transmission of a general account and a payment of the balance of that account shall be effected as early as possible, and, at the latest, within a period of six months from the end of that period to which the account relates.

Article 24.

COMMUNICATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS.

Each Postal Administration shall furnish the other all necessary information on points of detail in connection with the working of the service.

Article 25.

ENTRY INTO FORCE AND DURATION OF THE DETAILED REGULATIONS.

The present Detailed Regulations shall come into operation on the day on which the Parcel Post Agreement comes into force and shall have the same duration as the Agreement. The Administrations concerned shall, however, have the power by mutual consent to modify the details from time to time.

Done in triplicate at Colombo the 21st (Twenty-first) day of December, 1931.

(Sgd) H. A. BURDEN,
Postmaster-General, Ceylon.

and at Nanking the 28th (Twenty-eighth) day of April, 1932.

(Sgd)
Director General of Posts, China.