GRANDE-BRETAGNE ET IRLANDE DU NORD ET FRANCE

Arrangement pour l'échange des colis postaux entre l'Office postal du Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord et l'Office postal des Pays du Levant sous mandat français, et règlement d'exécution y annexé. Signés à Paris, le 26 octobre 1938.

Textes officiels anglais et français communiqués par le secrétaire d'Etat aux Affaires étrangères de Sa Majesté en Grande-Bretagne. L'enregistrement de cet arrangement a eu lieu le 8 mars 1939.

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND FRANCE

Agreement for the Exchange of Parcels by Parcel Post between the Post Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Post Office of the Countries of the Levant under French Mandate, and Detailed Regulations annexed thereto. Signed at Paris, October 26th, 1938.

English and French official texts communicated by His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in Great Britain. The registration of this Agreement took place March 8th, 1939.

No. 4530. — AGREEMENT ¹ FOR THE EXCHANGE OF PARCELS BY PARCEL POST BETWEEN THE POST OFFICE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE POST OFFICE OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE LEVANT UNDER FRENCH MANDATE. SIGNED AT PARIS, OCTOBER 26TH, 1938.

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the French Republic acting in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by the international instruments concerning Syria and Lebanon being desirous of effecting a regular direct exchange of parcels between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Countries of the Levant under French Mandate and of concluding an Agreement for that purpose;

The undersigned, duly authorised by their respective Governments, have agreed upon the

following Articles:

Article 1. — DEFINITIONS.

In this Agreement and the Detailed Regulations appended the expression "the United Kingdom" means Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man and the expression "Countries of the Levant under French Mandate" means the Republics of Lebanon and Syria.

Article 2. — EXCHANGE OF POSTAL PARCELS.

Between the United Kingdom on the one hand and the Countries of the Levant under French Mandate on the other there shall be regular exchange of parcels.

Article 3. - LIMITS OF WEIGHT AND SIZE.

A parcel for the Countries of the Levant under French Mandate posted in the United Kingdom shall not exceed 22 pounds in weight, 3 feet 6 inches in length, and 6 feet in length and girth combined; and a parcel for the United Kingdom posted in the Countries of the Levant under French Mandate shall not exceed 10 kilogrammes in weight, 1.05 metre in length and 1.80 metre in length and girth combined.

Article 4. — Transit of Parcels.

The two contracting Governments guarantee the right of transit for parcels over their territory to or from any country with which they respectively have parcel post communication. Transit parcels shall be subject to the provisions of this Agreement and to the Detailed Regulations so far as these are applicable.

Article 5. — PREPAYMENT OF POSTAGE. RATES.

- r. The prepayment of the postage on parcels shall be compulsory, except in the case of redirected or returned parcels.
- 2. The postage shall be made up of the sums accruing to each Postal Administration taking part in the conveyance by land or sea.

Article 6. — TERRITORIAL RATE.

For parcels despatched from one of the two countries for delivery in the other, the territorial rates of the United Kingdom shall be fr. 1.00, 1.50, 2.00 and 3.15 for parcels not exceeding 1 kg.

¹ Came into force January 1st, 1939.

(2 lb.), 3 kgs (7 lb.), 5 kgs (11 lb.), 10 kgs (22 lb.) in weight respectively; and the territorial rates of the Countries of the Levant under French Mandate shall be fr. 0.85, 1.25 and 2.25 for parcels not exceeding 1 kg., 5 kgs and 10 kgs in weight respectively.

The Postal Administration of the Countries of the Levant under French Mandate shall have 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 Cairo Agreement of 1934.

The Postal Administration of the United Kingdom shall have the right to vary its territorial rates in accordance with any alterations of these charges which may be decided upon in connection with its parcel post relations with other countries generally.

Article 7. — SEA RATE.

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

Article 8. — FEE FOR CLEARANCE THROUGH THE CUSTOMS.

The Postal Administration of the Countries of the Levant under French Mandate 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 Cairo Agreement of 1934 shall fix. The Postal Administration of the United Kingdom 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 9. — Customs and Other Non-Postal Charges.

Customs charges and all other non-postal charges shall be paid by the addressees of parcels, except as provided otherwise in this Agreement.

Article 10. — PARCELS FOR DELIVERY FREE OF CHARGE.

r. By making a declaration beforehand at the Office of posting, the senders may undertake

the payment of all charges due on the parcels on delivery.

The exchange of parcels for delivery free of charge may be effected after the signature of the present Agreement, commencing from a date to be fixed by common accord between the Administrations concerned.

- . 2. In such cases the senders must undertake to pay the sums which may be claimed by the Administration of the country of destination, and, if necessary, to make adequate deposits.
- 3. The Administration which advances charges on behalf of the sender may collect for this service a commission not exceeding 50 centimes per parcel. This fee is distinct from that prescribed for Customs clearance in Article 8 above.
- 4. On a parcel sent under this arrangement and originating in the United Kingdom the Postal Administration of the United Kingdom shall be authorised to collect from the sender a special fee, not exceeding one shilling.

Article 11. — 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 12. — PROHIBITIONS.

I. Postal parcels must not contain any letter, note or document having the character of an actual and personal correspondence nor 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.

2. It is also forbidden to enclose in a parcel:

(a) Articles which from their nature or packing may be a source of danger to the officers of the Post Office or soil or damage other parcels:

(b) Explosive, inflammable, or dangerous substances (including loaded metal caps,

live cartridges and matches);

- (c) Live animals (except bees, which must be enclosed in boxes so constructed as to avoid all danger to postal officers and to allow the contents to be ascertained);
- (d) Articles the admission of which is forbidden by law or by the Customs or other regulations;

(e) Articles of an obscene or immoral nature:

- (f) Opium, morphine, cocaine and other narcotics; this prohibition does not, however, apply in the case of parcels forwarded for medical or scientific purposes;
- (g) Coin, platinum, gold or silver whether manufactured or unmanufactured, precious stones, jewellery or other precious articles in uninsured parcels.

 This prohibition applies also to parcels sent in transit to countries which admit insurance.
- 3. A parcel which has been wrongly admitted to the post shall be returned to the country of origin, unless the Postal Administration of the country of destination is authorised by its legislation to dispose of it otherwise.

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

It shall be treated in the manner prescribed for unpaid letters.

- 4. Explosive, inflammable or dangerous substances, articles of an obscene or immoral nature and opium, morphine, cocaine and other narcotics shall not be returned to the country 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. If a parcel wrongly admitted to the post is neither returned to origin nor delivered to the addressee, the Administration of the country of origin shall be informed in a precise manner of the treatment accorded to the parcel in order that it may take such steps as are necessary.

Article 13. - 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 14. — REDIRECTION.

I. A parcel may be redirected in consequence of the addressee's change of address in the country of destination. The Postal 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 Customs or other special charges incurred which the Administration of the country of destination does not agree to cancel.

Article 15. - MISSENT PARCELS.

Parcels received out of course, or wrongly allowed to be despatched, shall be retransmitted or returned in accordance with the provisions of Article 28, sections 1 and 2, of the Detailed Regulations.

Article 16. - Non-Delivery.

r. 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 Postal Administration of the country of destination.

Nevertheless, a parcel which is definitely refused by the addressee shall be returned immediately.

- 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 undeliverable parcels shall be recovered in accordance with the provisions of Article 37.

Article 17. — CANCELLATION OF CUSTOMS CHARGES.

The contracting Governments 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 18. - 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 19. — ABANDONED PARCELS.

Parcels which cannot be delivered to the addressees and which the senders have abandoned shall not be returned by the Postal Administration of the country 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 20. — ENQUIRIES.

I. A fee not exceeding I franc may be charged for every enquiry concerning a parcel or a Trade Charge Money Order.

No fee shall be charged if the sender has already paid the 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 of the parcel.
- 3. When an enquiry is the outcome of an irregularity in the postal service, the enquiry fee shall be refunded.

Article 21. — Trade Charge Parcels. Charges and Conditions. Settlement.

I. Parcels subject to the collection of Trade Charges may be exchanged between the United Kingdom and the Countries of the Levant under French Mandate at a date to be agreed upon subsequent to the signing of this Agreement.

The amount of the Trade Charge shall be expressed in the currency of the country in which the parcel originates.

The maximum amount of a Trade Charge shall be the same as that fixed for Money Orders

exchanged in accordance with the special Money Order Agreement.

In calculating the amount of a Trade Charge a fraction of a penny shall be counted as a penny, and a fraction of a Libano-Syrian demi-piastre as a demi-piastre.

- 2. Trade Charge parcels shall be subject to the formalities and to the charges prescribed for ordinary, or for insured parcels, as the case may be. In addition, the sender shall pay a special fee, which shall be fixed by the Administration of the country of origin and shall not exceed:
 - (a) 2½ d. for each £1 or fraction of £1 of the Trade Charge in the case of a parcel

- posted in the United Kingdom;
 (b) One piastre for each Libano-Syrian £1 or fraction of a Libano-Syrian £1 of the amount of the Trade Charge in the case of a parcel posted in the Countries of the Levant under French Mandate.
- 3. The amount of a Trade Charge collected shall be remitted by means of a Trade Charge Money Order, issued free of all charges.
- 4. In addition to the special fee fixed by virtue of paragraph 2, the Postal Administration of the United Kingdom shall be entitled to collect from the sender of a Trade Charge parcel posted in the United Kingdom a supplementary fee not exceeding z d. for each parcel and from the addressee of a Trade Charge parcel delivered in the United Kingdom a supplementary fee not exceeding 4 d. for each parcel.

Similarly, the Postal Administration of the Countries of the Levant under French Mandate shall be entitled to collect from the sender of a Trade Charge parcel posted in those Countries and from the addressee of a Trade Charge parcel delivered in those Countries a supplementary fee not

exceeding 20 centimes for each parcel.

5. The two Postal Administrations undertake to admit Trade Charge parcels in transit through their services. Nevertheless, the accounts relative to the Trade Charges collected shall be drawn up and settled directly between the Administrations of the countries of origin and of destination of the Trade Charge parcels.

Article 22. — CANCELLATION OR ALTERATION OF AMOUNT OF TRADE CHARGE.

The sender of a Trade Charge parcel may not have the amount of the Trade Charge cancelled or altered after posting.

Article 23. — Trade Charge Parcels. Responsibility for Loss, Abstraction or Damage.

The two Postal Administrations shall be responsible under the conditions fixed by Articles 29 to 35 hereafter for the loss of a Trade Charge parcel and for the abstraction of or damage to its contents.

Article 24. — COMPENSATION IN CASE OF FAILURE TO COLLECT, OR OF INSUFFICIENT OR FRAUDULENT COLLECTION OF TRADE CHARGE.

If the parcel has been delivered to the addressee without the collection of the Trade Charge, the sender shall be entitled to compensation provided that an enquiry has been made within the period prescribed by Article 20 and that the failure to collect the charge is not due to fault or negligence on his part. The same rule shall apply if the amount collected from the addressee is less than the amount of the Trade Charge or if the collection of the amount has been made fraudulently.

The compensation shall not, in any case, exceed the amount of the Trade Charge.

By paying compensation the Postal Administration concerned takes over the rights of the sender to the extent of the amount paid in any action which may be taken against the addressee or against a third party.

Article 25. — FIXING OF RESPONSIBILITY IN RESPECT OF TRADE CHARGES.

The payment by the Postal Administration of the country of origin of the amounts duly collected shall be made on behalf of the Administration of the country of destination. Similarly, payment of compensation shall be made on behalf of the Postal Administration of the country of destination if the latter is responsible.

After the delivery of a parcel the Administration of the country of destination is responsible for the amount of the Trade Charge unless it can prove that the fault is due to a breach of the regulations by the Administration of the country of origin or can establish that, when handed over to its service, the parcel or the relative Despatch Note did not bear the particulars prescribed by the Detailed Regulations for Trade Charge parcels and that the parcel was not specifically advised on the Parcel Bill in conformity with Article 32 of the Detailed Regulations.

The Administration of the country of destination shall be bound to repay under the conditions prescribed by Article 35 the sum which has been advanced by the Administration of the country of origin.

Article 26. - TRADE CHARGE MONEY ORDERS.

The amount of a Trade Charge Money Order which for any reason whatever cannot be paid to the payee shall not be repaid to the Postal Administration to which the office issuing the Money Order is subordinate. It shall be held at the disposal of the payee by the Administration of the country of origin of the Trade Charge parcel and shall accrue definitely to that Administration at the end of the legal period of validity.

In all other respects and subject to the reservations specified in the Detailed Regulations, Trade Charge Money Orders shall be subject to the rules of the Money Order Agreement between

the two Administrations.

Article 27. — Insured Parcels. Rates and Conditions.

- 1. Parcels may be insured up to a limit of 2,000 francs.
- 2. An insurance fee, to be fixed by the Postal Administration of the country 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 28. — 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.

Article 29. — RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOSS, DAMAGE OR ABSTRACTION.

I. Except in the cases mentioned in the following Article, the two Postal 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 one kilogramme (2 lb.), 25 francs for a parcel exceeding one kilogramme but not exceeding five kilogrammes (II lb.) and 40 francs for a parcel exceeding five kilogrammes in weight. For an insured parcel the amount of compensation shall not exceed the amount for which it was insured.

In cases where the loss, abstraction or damage occurs in the service of the country of destination, the Administration of the country of destination may pay compensation to the addressee at its own expense and without consulting the Administration of the country of origin, provided that the addressee can prove that the sender has waived his rights in the addressee's favour.

- 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. In the absence of the current price compensation is calculated on the ordinary value of the goods estimated on the same basis.

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 the return of the postage also.

Where the loss, destruction or complete damage of a parcel or the abstraction of the whole of the contents results from a cause beyond control (force majeure) not giving rise to the payment of compensation the sender is entitled to the return of the portions of the charges for conveyance which have not been used or which relate to a service which has not been rendered.

5. In all cases insurance fees and, if the case arises, the despatch fee prescribed in Article 27, section 3, shall be retained by the Postal Administrations concerned.

Article 30. — Exceptions to the Principle of Responsibility.

The two Postal 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 article;

(d) For parcels of which the contents fall under the ban of one of the prohibitions mentioned in Article 12;

(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 the sender has not made enquiry within

the period prescribed by Article 20;

(g) In respect of any parcels containing precious stones, jewellery or any article of gold, silver or platinum exceeding £100 sterling in value not packed in a box of the size prescribed by Article 7, section 3, of the Detailed Regulations.

Article 31. — 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 32. — PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION.

The payment of compensation shall be undertaken by the Postal Administration of the country of origin except in the cases indicated in Article 29, section 1, where payment is made by the Postal Administration of the country of destination. The Administration of the country of origin may, however, after obtaining the sender's consent, authorise the Administration of the country of destination to settle with the addressee. The paying Administration retains the right to make a claim against the Administration responsible.

Article 33. — 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 the application.
- 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 nine 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 34. — Incidence of Cost of Compensation.

- I. 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 and having been furnished with all the particulars for investigation prescribed by the regulations, cannot establish either proper delivery to the addressee or his agent, 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 it 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 a 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 35. — Repayment of the Compensation to the Postal Administration of the Country of Origin.

The Administration responsible or on whose account the payment is made in accordance with Article 32 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 34, section 2, of the Detailed Regulations. After the lapse of three months the sum due to the paying Administration bears interest at the rate of 5% per annum, counting from the day of expiry of the said period.

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 36. — 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 6 and 7.

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 37. — 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 Administration shall claim from the other Administration the charges due to it and to any other Administration taking part in the redirection or return. The claim shall be made on the Parcel Bill relating to the Mail in which the parcel is forwarded.

Article 38. — Charge for Redirection in the Country of Destination.

In case of further redirection or of return to the country of origin, the redirection charge prescribed by Article 14, section 2, shall accrue to the country which redirected the parcel within its own territory.

Article 39. — MISCELLANEOUS FEES.

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

 - (a) The special fee referred to in Article 10, section 4;
 (b) The fee for Advice of Delivery referred to in Article 13;
 (c) The enquiry fee referred to in Article 20, section 1;

 - (d) The supplementary fee for a Trade Charge parcel referred to in Article 21, section 4;
 (e) The despatch fee for an insured parcel referred to in Article 27, section 3.
- 2. The fee for Customs clearance referred to in Article 8 shall be retained by the Administration of the country of destination. The commission referred to in Article 10, section 3, may be claimed by the same Administration.

Article 40. — TRADE CHARGE FEE.

The fee mentioned in Article 21, section 2, shall be shared between the Postal Administration of the country of origin and that of the country of destination, as provided for in Article 36, section 2, of the Detailed Regulations.

Article 41. — INSURANCE FEE.

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 42. — MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

- r. 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 charges other than those contemplated in this Agreement except by mutual consent of the two Postal 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 the United Kingdom and of the Countries of the Levant under French Mandate shall remain applicable to everything not provided for by the stipulations contained in the present Agreement and in the Detailed Regulations for its execution.

Article 43. — Entry into Force and Duration of the Agreement.

This Agreement shall come into force at a date agreed upon by the Post Office of the United Kingdom and the Postal Administration of the Countries of the Levant under French Mandate represented by the Inspection General of Posts and Telegraphs at Beirut after it has been promulgated in accordance with the laws of the countries concerned and shall remain in force from year to year until one of the signatories has notified the other, a year in advance, of its intention to denounce it.

During the last year the provisions of the Agreement shall be faithfully and wholly observed without prejudice to the settlement and payment of the Accounts after the expiration of that period.

periou.

In witness whereof the undersigned have signed the present Agreement, and have affixed their seals thereto.

Done in duplicate at Paris, the 26th day of October 1938, in English and French, both texts being equally authentic.

(L. S.) (Signed) Eric PHIPPS.

Copie certifiée conforme:

Chef du Service du Protocole,

M. Lozé.

DETAILED REGULATIONS.

Article I. — 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. Missent parcels shall be retransmitted to their proper destination, by the most direct route at the disposal of the Office retransmitting them.

Article 2. — METHOD OF TRANSMISSION. PROVISION OF BAGS.

- r. The exchange of parcels between the two countries shall be effected by the offices appointed by agreement between the two Postal Administrations.
- 2. Parcels shall be exchanged between the two countries in bags duly fastened and sealed. In the absence of any arrangement to the contrary, the transmission of parcels despatched by one of the two Postal Administrations in transit through the other shall be effected "a découvert".

- 3. A label showing 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 Bill and other documents shall be distinctively labelled.
- 5. The Trade Charge parcels forwarded in a Mail shall be placed together, and, as far as possible, in the bag which contains the Parcel Bill and other documents. When they cannot all be placed in the bag which contains the Parcel Bill, the bag or bags in which they are forwarded shall be indicated by a distinctive label.
- 6. Similarly, 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.
 - 7. The weight of any bag of parcels shall not exceed 36 kilogrammes (80 pounds avoirdupois).
 - 8. Each of the Administrations concerned shall provide its own bags.

Each bag shall bear on one of its sides an indication of the Administration to which it belongs. The bags shall be used exclusively by the latter for the transmission of its own parcels.

Except in the case of force majeure when the Administration of destination of the parcels fails to return the bags it shall be held responsible for the value of them to the Administration to which they belong.

9. The bags shall be returned empty to the Administration to which they belong, made up in bundles of ten (nine bags enclosed in one) and despatched as a separate Mail addressed to such Office of Exchange as the Postal Administration of the country of origin shall appoint. The number of bags so forwarded shall be advised on a Parcel Bill, which shall be separate from that used for advising the parcels themselves and shall be numbered in a separate annual series.

Article 3. — Information to be furnished.

- I. Each Postal 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;

(a) The number of Customs Declarations which must accompany each parcel;

(e) 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 Postal Administration shall be at liberty to adopt such approximate equivalents as may be convenient in its own currency.

Article 5. — CHECK OF PARCELS.

The view of the despatching office as regards the exact measurment of the volume, weight, or size of parcels, must be accepted except in cases of obvious error.

Article 6. — 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 that parcels bearing addresses written with

copying-ink pencil on a surface previously 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 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 7. - SPECIAL PACKING.

- r. Liquids and substances which easily liquefy shall be packed in two receptacles. Between the first receptable (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 sawdust, bran or some other absorbent material in sufficient quantity to absorb all the liquid contents in the case of breakage.
- 2. Dry colouring powders such as aniline, etc., shall be admitted only if enclosed in stout metal boxes placed inside wooden boxes with sawdust between the two receptacles.
- 3. Every parcel containing precious stones, jewellery or any article of gold, silver or platinum exceeding £100 sterling in value shall be packed in a box measuring not less than 3 feet 6 inches (1.05 mètre) in length and girth combined.

Article 8. — DESPATCH NOTES AND CUSTOMS DECLARATIONS.

- I. Each parcel shall be accompanied by a Despatch Note and by a set of Customs Declarations according to the regulations of the country of destination.
- 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 Trade Charge parcels, insured parcels, or parcels intended for delivery to the addressees free of charge.
- 3. The two Postal Administrations accept no responsibility in respect of the accuracy of Customs Declarations.

Article 9. — PARCELS FOR DELIVERY FREE OF CHARGE.

- I. A parcel to be delivered to the addressee free of charge shall bear on the address side and on the Despatch Note a yellow label bearing in bold type the words "Franc de droits".
- 2. Every parcel forwarded "free of charge" shall be accompanied by a separate Franking Note, which shall be firmly attached to the Despatch Note.

Article 10. — ADVICE OF DELIVERY.

- I. 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 Convention of the Postal Union. This Advice of Delivery form shall be prepared by the office of origin or by any other office appointed by the Administration of the country of origin and 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 form.
- 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 II 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".

Article 11. — 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 or any other office appointed by the Administration of the country 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 Convention of the Postal Union have been affixed.

The form of enquiry accompanied by the Advice of Delivery form shall be treated according to the provisions of Article 31 below, with the single exception that, in the 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 in the manner prescribed in section 3 of the preceding Article.

Article 12. — INDICATION OF TRADE CHARGE.

- I. Trade Charge parcels and the relative Despatch Notes shall bear on the address side the indication "C.O.D." ("Contre remboursement") written or printed boldly and, after it, the amount of the Trade Charge without erasure or correction, even if certified.
- 2. The sender shall in addition enter on the parcel and on the front of the Despatch Note his name and address in Roman letters.

Article 13. - TRADE CHARGE LABEL.

Trade Charge parcels and the Despatch Notes also shall be furnished on the address side with an orange coloured label in the form of the specimen annexed to the Detailed Regulations of the Convention of the Postal Union.

Article 14. — TRADE CHARGE MONEY ORDER.

- r. Every Trade Charge parcel shall be accompanied by a Trade Charge Money Order form. This form shall be attached to the Despatch Note and shall bear a statement of the amount of the Trade Charge in Roman letters, written in full, and in figures in the currency of the country of origin of the parcel and should show, as a general rule, the sender of the parcel as the payee of the Money Order. Each Postal Administration is free to have the Money Orders relating to parcels originating in its service addressed to the office of origin of the parcels or to other offices. The counterfoil of the Order shall show the name and address of the addressee of the parcel as well as the place and date of posting.
 - 2. Entries in pencil shall not be allowed on Trade Charge Money Order forms.

Article 15. — Conversion of the Amount of the Trade Charge.

The amounts of the Trade Charges shall be converted into the currency of the country of destination of the parcels by the Post Office of that country, which shall use for this purpose the rate of conversion which it uses for the conversion of Money Orders drawn on the country of origin of the parcels.

Article 16. — PERIOD FOR PAYMENT OF TRADE CHARGE.

The amount of the Trade Charge shall be paid by the addressee within the period prescribed by the regulations of the country of destination.

After the expiration of this period, the parcel shall be treated as undeliverable in accordance with the provisions of Article 16 of the Agreement.

Article 17. — REDIRECTION OF TRADE CHARGE PARCELS.

- 1. Trade Charge parcels may be redirected if the new country of destination maintains with the country of origin an exchange of Trade Charge parcels. In this case, the parcels shall be accompanied by the Trade Charge Money Order forms prepared by the office of origin. The new office of destination shall act in the settlement of the Trade Charge as if the parcel had been directly consigned to it in the first instance.
- 2. In the case of an application for redirection to a country which does not maintain an exchange of Trade Charge parcels with the country of origin, the parcels shall be treated as undeliverable.

Article 18. — ISSUE OF TRADE CHARGE MONEY ORDER.

Immediately after collecting the amount of the Trade Charge, the office of destination, or any other office appointed by the Postal Administration of the country of destination, shall fill in the portion of the Trade Charge Money Order form headed "Service Instructions" ("Indications de service") and, after date-stamping it, shall return it without charge to the office at which the parcel was posted or to the office specially named by the Administration of the country of origin on the form itself.

Trade Charge Money Orders shall be paid to the senders under the conditions fixed by the Administration of the country of payment.

Article 19. — CANCELLATION OR REPLACEMENT OF TRADE CHARGE MONEY ORDER FORMS.

- I. A Trade Charge Money Order form relating to a parcel which, for any reason whatsoever, is returned to the sender shall be cancelled by the office which returns the parcel and shall be returned annexed to the Despatch Note.
- 2. When a Trade Charge Money Order form is mislaid, lost or destroyed before the collection of the Trade Charge, the office of destination or any other office appointed by the Postal Administration of the country of destination shall prepare a duplicate.

Article 20. - TRADE CHARGE MONEY ORDERS LOST, UNDELIVERED OR NOT CASHED.

- 1. A Trade Charge Money Order mislaid, lost or destroyed after the collection of the Trade Charge shall be replaced by a duplicate, or by an authority to pay, after proof by the two Postal Administrations that the order has not been paid.
- 2. Trade Charge Money Orders which it has not been possible to deliver to the payees within the period of validity fixed by the Money Order Agreement between the two Administrations shall, at the expiration of the period of validity, be receipted by the Administration of the country of payment and claimed from the Administration which issued them.
- 3. Trade Charge Money Orders which have been delivered to the payees, and of which the payees have not claimed payment within the period of validity fixed by the Money Order Agreement between the two Administrations, shall be replaced by authorities to pay. These authorities to pay shall be drawn up by the Administration which collected the Trade Charges, as soon as it has been able to ascertain that the original Orders have not been paid within the period of validity and shall be receipted by the other Administration which shall claim the amounts due in the first account rendered after their receipt.
- 4. The Administration issuing a Trade Charge Money Order shall notify the other Administration if the Order is not claimed within the period of validity.
- 5. A Trade Charge Money Order of which payment cannot be effected in consequence of any irregularity in completion by the office of destination of the parcel shall be returned as soon as possible to that office, officially registered, for correction.

Article 21. - 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 in Roman letters, written in full, and in figures without erasure or correction even if certified. The amount of the

insured value shall be converted into gold francs by the Postal Administration of the country of origin. The result of the conversion shall be indicated distinctly by new figures, placed beside or below those representing the amount of the insured value in the currency of the country of origin.

Article 22. — INSURANCE LABELS.

Every insured parcel and its Despatch Note as well shall bear a small 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 23. — 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. This formality is obligatory on senders residing in the Countries of the Levant under French Mandate.

Article 24. — INDICATION OF WEIGHT OF INSURED PARCELS.

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

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

Article 25. — SERIAL NUMBER AND PLACE OF POSTING.

Each parcel and the relative Despatch Note as well shall bear the name of the office of posting and a label indicating the serial number. 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 26. — 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 27. — RETURN OF FRANKING NOTES. RECOVERY OF THE CHARGES ADVANCED.

- I. The office which advances the Customs and other charges on behalf of the sender of a "free of charge" parcel shall fill up, so far as it is concerned, the back of the Franking Note and return the latter, accompanied by the relative vouchers, if any, in a sealed envelope without any indication of the contents, to the office specified on the front of the Frankling Note.
- 2. When a parcel which bears the label "franc de droits" and is advised accordingly reaches the service of the country of destination without a Franking Note, the office which undertakes the Customs clearance shall prepare a duplicate Franking Note, taking care to substitute the name of the country of origin of the parcel for that shown on the Franking Note and to indicate if possible the date of posting of the parcel. When the Franking Note is lost after the delivery of the parcel a duplicate shall be prepared under the same conditions.
- 3. Franking Notes relating to parcels which, for any reason whatsoever, are returned to the country of origin and of which Customs clearance has not been effected by the office of destination must be cancelled by the office which returns the parcels.

4. On receipt of a Franking Note showing the charges disbursed by the Administration of the country of destination, the Administration of the country of origin shall convert the amount of these charges into its own currency at a rate which it fixes itself, and which may not exceed the rate fixed for the issue of Money Orders for payment in the country in question. The result of the conversion shall be shown in the body of the form and shall be supported by the signature of the officer who made the conversion.

Article 28. —RETRANSMISSION.

1. The Postal Administration retransmitting a missent parcel shall not levy Customs or other non-postal charges upon it.

When an Administration returns such a parcel to the country 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 retransmission which it has to defray, the retransmitting 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 Administration which sends the parcel back shall allow to the Administration 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 the United Kingdom or the Countries of the Levant under French Mandate have 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 retransmitting country to the new country of destination.
- 4. A parcel which is redirected unpaid shall be retransmitted in its original packing and shall be accompanied by the original Despatch Note. 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 and, if possible, the date of posting at that office shall be entered both on the parcel and on the Despatch Note.

Article 29. — RETURN OF UNDELIVERABLE PARCELS.

- 1. If the sender of an undeliverable parcel has made a request not provided for by Article 16, 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 country 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 on the parcel and on the relative Despatch Note the cause of non-delivery. This information may be furnished in manuscript or by means of a stamped impression or a label. The original Despatch Note belonging to the returned parcel must be sent back to the country of origin with the parcel.
- 3. A parcel to be returned to the sender shall be entered on the Parcel Bill with the word "Rebut" in the "Observations" column. It shall be dealt with and charged like a parcel redirected in consequence of the removal of the addressee.

Article 30. — SALE. DESTRUCTION.

1. When a parcel has been sold or destroyed in accordance with the provisions of Article 18 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 postal or non-postal upon the parcel. Any balance which there may be shall be forwarded to the Postal Administration of the country of origin for payment to the sender on whom the cost of forwarding it shall fall.

Article 31. — Enquiries concerning Parcels or Trade Charge Money Orders.

For enquiries concerning parcels, or Trade Charge Money Orders which have not been returned, 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 32. — PARCEL BILL.

r. Insured, Trade Charge, returned, and unpaid redirected parcels shall be entered individually by the despatching Office of Exchange on a Parcel Bill. Other parcels, except transit parcels, shall be entered on the Parcel Bills in bulk with a summary statement of the amounts to be credited, a note being made on the Bills of the number of parcels to be delivered free of charge. Transit parcels shall be entered individually provided that two or more transit parcels, addressed to the same country for which the same amount of credit has to be allowed, may be entered in bulk. The Despatch Notes, Customs Declarations, Franking Notes, Advices of Delivery, Trade Charge Money Order forms, etc., shall be forwarded with the Parcel Bill.

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 33. — CHECK BY OFFICES OF EXCHANGE. NOTIFICATION OF IRREGULARITIES.

- r. On the receipt of a Mail, whether of parcels or of empty bags, the Office of Exchange shall check the parcels and the various documents which accompany them, or the empty bags as the case may be, against the particulars entered in the relative Parcel Bill, and, if necessary, shall report missing articles or other irregularities by means of a Verification Note.
- 2. Errors in the credits allowed in respect of transit parcels shall be notified to the despatching Offices of Exchange by Verification Notes. The adjustment of other errors in credits and accounting shall be arranged in connexion with the preparation of the quarterly statements specified in Article 34 below.

Article 34. — Accounting for Credits.

- 1. Each Postal Administration shall prepare quarterly for all the Parcel Mails despatched during the quarter by each of the Offices of Exchange of the other Administration a statement of the total amounts due in respect of the Mails, whether to its credit or to its debit.
- 2. These statements shall be forwarded to the corresponding Administration in the course of the month following the quarter to which they relate.
- 3. The quarterly statements shall be checked and accepted by the corresponding Administration by reference to the originals of the Parcel Bills and returned to the Administration which prepared them within a maximum period of two months after the quarter to which they relate. They shall then be summarised in a half-yearly general account prepared by the Administration to which the balance is due.

Article 35. — Settlement of Accounts.

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

2. The preparation and transmission of a general account and the payment of the balance of that account shall be effected as early as possible and, at the latest, within a period of three months from the end of the period to which the account relates. After the expiration of this term the sums due from one Administration to the other shall bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent per annum to be reckoned from the date of expiration of the said term.

Article 36. — Accounting for Trade Charge Money Orders.

- 1. The accounting relating to Trade Charge Money Orders paid by each Postal Administration shall be effected by means of supplements to the special account of Money Order transactions between the two Administrations.
- 2. In this account, which shall be accompanied by the paid and receipted Trade Charge Money Orders, the Orders shall be entered in alphabetical sequence of the offices of issue and in numerical sequence of their entry in the registers of those offices. The Administration which has prepared the account shall deduct from the total sum of its credit one-half of one per cent (½ p. 100) of this total, representing the allowance to the other Administration specified in Article 40 of the Agreement.

The verification of this account shall be effected in accordance with the provisions of the Money

Order Agreement between the two Administrations.

3. The totals of the Trade Charge Account shall be included in and settled as part of the general account in respect of Money Orders for the same period.

Article 37. — Franking Notes. Accounting for Customs Charges, etc.

- r. The accounting relative to the Customs charges, etc., disbursed by each Postal Administration on behalf of the other shall be effected by means of special monthly accounts which shall be prepared by the debtor Administration in the currency of the creditor country. The Franking Notes shall be entered in the accounts in alphabetical order of the offices which have advanced the charges and follow the numerical order which these Offices have given to them.
- 2. The special account accompanied by the Franking Notes shall be forwarded to the creditor Administration not later than the end of the month following that to which it relates. A "Nil" account shall not be prepared.
- 3. These accounts shall be checked in accordance with the rules fixed by the special Money Order Agreement between the two Administrations.
- 4. These accounts shall be settled either by a Money Order or by a draft in the currency of the creditor country or in any other manner mutually agreed upon.

Article 38. — Communications and Notifications.

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

Article 39. — 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 duplicate at Paris, the 26th day of October 1938, in English and French, both texts being equally authentic.

(L. S) (Signed) Eric Phipps.

Copie certifiée conforme:

Chef du Service du Protocole,

M. Lozé.