

December 20, 1922.
December 22, 1922.

Postal Convention between the United States and Canada. Signed at Ottawa, December 20, 1922, at Washington, December 22, 1922; approved by the President, December 22, 1922.

POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA AND THE DOMINION OF CANADA

Postal convention
with Canada.
Preamble.

For the purpose of making better postal arrangements between the United States of America and the Dominion of Canada, the undersigned, Hubert Work, Postmaster General of the United States of America, and Charles Murphy, Postmaster General of the Dominion of Canada, by virtue of authority vested in them by law, have agreed upon the following articles:

ARTICLE 1.

Articles admitted to
the mails.

(a) Articles of every kind or nature which are admitted to the domestic mails of either country except as herein prohibited shall be admitted to the mails exchanged under this Convention; subject, however, to such regulations as the postal administration of the country of destination may deem necessary to protect its customs revenues.

Prohibited articles.

(b) The following articles are prohibited admission to the mails exchanged under this Convention:

Publications which violate the copyright laws of the country of destination; any article or matter that is inadmissible to the domestic mails of either country; packages sent at parcel post rates and single volumes of printed books sent at printed matter rate, the weight of which exceeds five kilograms (eleven pounds).

Domestic classifica-
tion and rates to govern.

(c) The classification of and the rates of postage and the registration or insurance fee to be levied and collected upon mail matter originating in either country and addressed to the other shall be in accordance with the domestic laws and regulations of the country of origin; provided that the rates of postage and registration fee so levied shall not exceed in either country the rates of postage and registration fee prescribed for articles of a like nature by the Universal Postal Convention in force for the time being, and that the parcel post rates shall not be less than the maximum domestic parcel post rates of the country of origin: provided further that the postage applicable to second class matter in each country addressed for delivery in the other shall be one cent for each four ounces or fraction of four ounces, calculated on the weight of each package and prepaid by means of stamps affixed; provided further that when separately addressed copies intended for delivery at one post office

Second class matter.

Bulk packages.

are enclosed under one wrapper bearing the address of such office, the individual copies shall be delivered without further charge to the respective addressees, the amount of postage thereon at the above rate being affixed to the bulk package; provided further that exception shall be made as regards legitimate daily newspapers of either country issued as frequently as six times a week, the rates of postage on which packages originating in either country and addressed to bona fide subscribers in the other shall be at the rate of not less than one cent per pound or fraction thereof.

Daily newspapers.

(d) Except as required by the regulations of the country of destination for the collection of its customs duties, all admissible matter mailed in one country for the other, or received in one country from the other, whether by land or sea conveyance, shall be free from any detention or inspection whatever, and shall be forwarded by the most speedy means to its destination and be promptly delivered to the respective persons to whom it is addressed, being subject in its transmission to the laws and regulations of such country respectively.

Freedom from detention, etc.

ARTICLE 2.

(a) Each administration shall retain to its own use the whole of the postage and registration, insurance or special delivery fees it collects on postal articles exchanged with the other, including deficient postage, but it is agreed that on packages sent at parcel post rates, the country of origin shall allow to the country of destination thirty cents a parcel on the total excess number of such parcel post packages despatched over the number of such parcel post packages received; settlement to be made in the General Postal Account between the two countries on the basis of statistics taken during the first seven days of April and October of each year.

Retention of collections.

Excess parcel post packages.

(b) In case of the loss of a registered article originating in either country and addressed to the other, the maximum indemnity shall be twenty-five dollars, or the actual value of the lost registered article when the same is less than twenty-five dollars.

Indemnity for lost registered articles.

(c) In case of loss, rifling or damage of insured parcels originating in either country and addressed to the other, the country of origin shall be responsible for and undertake the payment of indemnity in accordance with its domestic laws and regulations.

Insured parcels.

(d) The special delivery fee to be levied and collected upon first class mail matter originating in either country and addressed to the other shall be twenty cents.

Special delivery fee.

(e) Articles of every kind not prepaid or insufficiently prepaid, originating in either country and addressed to the other, shall be dealt with in accordance with the domestic laws and regulations of the country of origin.

Insufficient postage.

ARTICLE 3.

No postage charges shall be levied in either country on fully prepaid correspondence originating in the other, nor shall any charge be made in the country of destination upon official correspondence which under the postal regulations of the country of origin is entitled to freedom from postage; but the country of destination will receive, forward and deliver the same free of charge; provided that in case a parcel post package is redirected from one address to another in the country of destination, it shall be subject to an additional charge for postage, and, in case of insured packages, postage and insurance fee; and provided further that the country of destination may, at its option, levy and collect from the addressee for interior service and delivery, a charge, the amount of which is to be fixed according to its own regulations, but which shall in no case exceed five cents for each package regardless of weight.

Delivery of prepaid and official correspondence.

Redirected parcel post packages.

Interior delivery charge.

ARTICLE 4.

Evading postage.

In case any correspondence is tendered for mailing in either country obviously with the intention to evade the higher postage rates applicable to it in the other country, it shall be refused, unless payment be made of such higher rates.

ARTICLE 5.

Exchanges.

(a) Exchanges of mails under this Convention, whether by sea or over land, shall be effected through the post offices of both countries already designated as exchange post offices, or through such others as may be hereafter agreed upon, under such regulations relative to the details of the exchanges as may be mutually determined to be essential to the security and expedition of the mails and the protection of the customs revenues.

Expense of conveyance.

(b) Each country shall provide for and bear the expense of the conveyance of its mails to the other; or if by agreement the conveyance in both directions in overland exchanges, other than by railway, is provided by one of them, the expense of transportation shall be shared between them in proportion to the distance travelled over the territory of each.

ARTICLE 6.

Free transit of closed mails.

The United States of America and the Dominion of Canada each grants to the other, free of any charges, detention or examination whatsoever, the transit across its territory, by all trains that it uses for its own mails, of the closed mails made up by any authorized exchange office of either country addressed to any other exchange office of the same country, or to any exchange office of the other country.

ARTICLE 7.

Registry.

(a) Any packet of mailable correspondence, with the exception of parcels prepaid at parcel post rates, may be registered upon payment of the rate of postage and the registration fee applicable thereto in the country of origin.

(b) An acknowledgment of the delivery of a registered article shall be returned to the sender when requested; but either country may require of the sender prepayment of a fee therefor not exceeding ten cents.

ARTICLE 8.

List of registered articles.

(a) Overland exchanges of ordinary international mail may be effected without the use of letter bills, but registered articles must be accompanied by a descriptive list thereof by means of which the registered articles may be identified for the purpose of acknowledgment by the receiving offices.

Missing articles.

(b) If a registered article advised shall not be found in the mails by the receiving office, its absence shall be immediately reported by the receiving to the sending office.

ARTICLE 9.

Mailsacks.

Ordinary and registered exchanges shall be effected in properly closed sacks, under such regulations relative to the details of the exchanges as may be mutually determined to be essential; except that articles which it is impracticable to enclose in mail sacks may be handled outside of mail sacks under such regulations as may be mutually agreed upon from time to time.

ARTICLE 10.

(a) All registered articles, ordinary letters, postal cards, and other manuscript matter, business or commercial papers, books (bound or stitched), proofs of printing, engravings, photographs, drawings, maps, and all other articles manifestly of value to the sender, (except as provided for in (b) and (c)), which are not delivered from any cause, shall be reciprocally returned without charge, through the appropriate exchange offices of the two countries, after the expiration of the period for their detention prescribed by the laws or regulations of the country of destination; except that returned packages sent at parcel post rates shall be liable on return to senders to a charge equal to the amount required to fully prepay the postage thereon when originally mailed, and that insufficiently prepaid articles shall be liable on return to senders to the charge for deficient postage that would have been collected from the addressees if said articles had been delivered.

Return of undelivered matter.

Parcel post articles, etc.

(b) Fully prepaid articles which bear requests by the senders for their return in case of non-delivery by a certain date or within a specified time, shall be reciprocally returned without charge, (except as provided for in (a)), directly to the despatching exchange office, at the expiration of the period for their retention indicated in the requests.

Return requests.

(c) Fully prepaid articles bearing on the covers the business cards, the names and addresses of the senders, or designation of places to which they may be returned, as Post Office Box, Street and Number, etc., without request for their return in case of non-delivery within a specified time, shall be reciprocally returned without charge (except as provided for in (a)), directly to the despatching exchange office, at the expiration of the period of detention prescribed by the country of destination.

With designation of sender.

ARTICLE 11.

All matters connected with the exchange of mails between the two countries, which are not herein provided for, shall be governed by the provisions of the Universal Postal Convention and Regulations then in force, so far as the provisions of such Universal Postal Convention and Regulations shall be obligatory upon both of the contracting parties, except as hereafter modified or changed.

Rules of Universal Postal Union to govern.

ARTICLE 12.

The Postmaster General of the United States of America and the Postmaster General of the Dominion of Canada shall have authority to jointly make such further regulations of order and detail and to provide for such changes and modifications as may be found necessary to carry out the present Convention from time to time; and may by agreement prescribe conditions for the admission to the mails of any of the articles prohibited by Article 1.

Further regulations.

Ante, p. 2226.

ARTICLE 13.

This Convention abrogates the special Postal Convention between the two countries signed at the City of Washington the twelfth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight, and at Ottawa the nineteenth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight, and all amendments thereto. It shall be ratified by the contracting countries in accordance with their respective laws, and its ratifications shall be exchanged as early as possible. It shall take effect on the first day of January, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three, and shall continue in force until termi-

Abrogation of farmers convention. Vol. 25, p. 1413.

Commencement and duration.

nated by mutual agreement, or annulled at the instance of the Post Office Department of either country, upon six months previous notice given to the other.

Signatures.

Done in duplicate and signed at Ottawa the Twentieth day of December, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-two, and at Washington the Twenty-second day of December, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-two.

[SEAL.]

HUBERT WORK,
Postmaster General of the United States of America.

CHAS. MURPHY,
Postmaster General of the Dominion of Canada.

Approval.

The foregoing Postal Convention between the United States of America and the Dominion of Canada has been negotiated and concluded with my advice and consent, and is hereby approved and ratified.

In testimony whereof I have caused the great seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed.

[SEAL.]

By the President.

CHARLES E. HUGHES,
Secretary of State.

WARREN G HARDING

WASHINGTON, December 22, 1922.