

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

No. 10.—1918.

I ASSENT,

[L.S.]

S. W. KNAGGS,

*Governor's Deputy.*

5th June, 1918.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and consolidate the  
Post Office Ordinances.

[By Proclamation.]

**B**E it enacted by the Governor of Trinidad and Tobago with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof as follows:—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Post Office Ordinance, 1918.

Short Title.

2. In this Ordinance, unless the context otherwise requires:—

Interpretation  
of terms.

“Postage” means the duty chargeable for the transmission of postal packets:

“Inland,” when used in relation to any postal packet or any description thereof, means posted within the Colony and addressed to some place in the Colony, and where used in relation to postage means the postage charged on the packet:

“Master of a vessel” includes every person (except a pilot) having command or charge of a vessel, whether the vessel is a ship of war or other vessel :

“Mail” includes every conveyance by which postal packets are carried, whether it be a carriage, coach, cart, horse or any other conveyance, and also a person employed in conveying or delivering postal packets, and also any vessel employed by or under the Post Office for the transmission of postal packets by contract or otherwise in respect of postal packets transmitted by the vessel :

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

“Postal packet” means a letter, post card, reply post card, newspaper, book packet, pattern or sample packet, or parcel, and every packet parcel or article transmissible by post :

“Officer of the Post Office” includes the Postmaster-General, and any person employed in any business of the Post Office, whether employed by the Postmaster-General, or by any person under him or on behalf of the Post Office :

“Post Office” includes any house, building, room, carriage or place used for the purpose of the Post Office :

“Post Office letter box” includes any pillar box, wall box, or other box or receptacle provided by the permission or under the authority of the Postmaster-General of this Colony, for the purpose of receiving postal packets, or any of them, for transmission by or under the authority of the Postmaster-General of this Colony :

“The purpose of the Post Office” means any purpose of this Ordinance, and includes any purpose relating to or in connection with the execution of the duties for the time being undertaken by the Postmaster-General or any of his officers :

“Indictment” includes an information :

“Valuable security” has the same meaning as in the Larceny Ordinance, No. 15, and includes anything which

is a valuable security within the meaning of that Ordinance, and any part of such thing :

“Foreign Parcels” means parcels either posted in the Colony and sent to a place out of the Colony or posted in a place out of the Colony and sent to a place in the Colony or in transit through the Colony to a place out of the Colony :

“Inland Parcels” means parcels posted within the Colony and addressed to some person within the Colony :

“Postmaster-General” where not otherwise limited by the context, includes the Postmaster-General of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland :

“Constable” means any member of the Constabulary Force.

### 3. For the purposes of this Ordinance—

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

(a.) A postal packet shall be deemed to be in course of transmission by post from the time of its being delivered to a post office to the time of its being delivered to the person to whom it is addressed ; and

(b.) The delivery of a postal packet of any description to a letter carrier or other person authorised to receive postal packets of that description for the post shall be a delivery to a post office ; and

(c.) The delivery of a postal packet at the house or office of the person to whom the packet is addressed, or to him or to his servant or agent or other person considered to be authorised to receive the packet, according to the usual manner of delivering that person’s postal packets, shall be a delivery to the person addressed.

Construction  
of references  
to Post Office  
Ordinances.

4.—(1.) Any reference contained in any enactment, warrant, deed or document referring to the Post Office Ordinances, or any of them, or to the Post Office laws, shall be construed, so far as the context permits, as a reference to this Ordinance, and any fines, penalties and other sums directed to be recovered under the Post Office

Ordinances, or any of them, or the Post Office laws may be recovered in like manner as fines and forfeitures under this Ordinance may be recovered; and any reference in any enactment to an indictable offence under the Post Office laws shall be construed, so far as the context permits, as a reference to any offence punishable on indictment under this Ordinance, whether it is or is not also punishable on summary conviction.

(2.) Where by reason of any Ordinance being declared a Post Office Ordinance or its provisions to be Post Office laws any enactment repealed by this Ordinance is applied for any purpose, the corresponding provisions of this Ordinance shall apply in like manner.

(3.) A reference in any enactment other than this Ordinance to a post letter shall be construed to refer to a postal packet within the meaning of this Ordinance.

#### *Duties of Postage.*

5. Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance, there shall be charged by the Postmaster-General for the use of the Public Funds of this Colony on all Postal Packets which are conveyed or delivered for conveyance by post under the authority of the Postmaster-General such postage and other sums as may be fixed in manner provided by this Ordinance.

Postal  
packets sub-  
ject to charge.

6.—(1.) The Governor in Executive Council may, by regulation, fix the rate of postage or other sums to be charged by or under the Postmaster-General in respect of postal packets conveyed or delivered for conveyance by post within the Colony, and regulate the scale of weights and the circumstances according to which such rates and sums are to be charged, and the power of the Postmaster-General, with or without the consent of the Governor, to remit any such rates or sums.

Governor may  
fix rate of  
inland  
postage.

(2.) A regulation under this section may fix special rates for Postal packets consisting of books and papers impressed for the use of the blind, and may specify any special conditions and regulations in respect of the transmission by post of such packets.

(3.) Where an inland letter or packet is not prepaid, or is insufficiently prepaid, the postage charged on the

letter or packet shall, subject to any regulation of the Governor in Executive Council under this section, be double the amount, if the letter or packet is not prepaid, of the postage otherwise chargeable thereon, and, if it is insufficiently prepaid, of the deficiency.

(4.) Regulations under this section may also determine—

(a.) What circulars or what commercial, legal, and other similar documents; and

(b.) What marks or indications referring to the contents of a newspaper, when written or printed on the newspaper or on the cover thereof,

shall not be charged with postage as letters.

(5.) Regulations under this section may also make provisions respecting the re-direction of postal packets, and the transmission of postal packets so re-directed, either free of charge or subject to such postage as may be specified in the regulations.

Foreign  
postage.

7. Subject to the provisions of any Treaty or Convention with any State or States binding on this Colony, the Governor in Executive Council with the sanction and approval of His Majesty's Postmaster-General may by regulation :—

(a.) Fix the rate of postage or other sums to be charged by or under the Postmaster-General in respect of postal packets or any description thereof conveyed or delivered for conveyance by post outside the Colony.

(b.) Regulate the scale of weights and the circumstances according to which such rates and sums are to be charged :

Payment of  
postage by  
addressee or  
sender.

8.—(1.) Where the postage or any other sum chargeable on any postal packet is not prepaid by the sender or is insufficiently prepaid, the postage or sum, or the deficiency, as the case may be, shall be paid by the person to whom the postal packet is addressed (in this Ordinance styled the addressee) on the delivery thereof to him; or if the postal packet is refused, or the addressee is dead or cannot be found, by the sender.

(2.) Where the postage or any other sum chargeable on a postal packet has not been prepaid or has been insufficiently prepaid by the sender, and the addressee on receiving the packet and paying the postage or other sum, or the deficiency, as the case may be, desires to reject it, and to compel the sender thereof to pay the postage or other sum, or the deficiency, as the case may be, the Postmaster-General on the application of the addressee, and subject to regulations made by the Governor in Executive Council, may charge the postage or other sum, or the deficiency, as the case may be, to the sender, with the additional postage of returning the packet to him, and in every such case the sender of the postal packet shall pay the postage or other sum chargeable on sending the packet, or the deficiency, as the case may be, and also the postage of returning the packet, and on the payment thereof by the sender the amount paid in respect of postage by the addressee shall be repaid to him by the Postmaster-General.

(3.) Provided that nothing in this section shall release the addressee from his liability to pay the postage or other sum chargeable on a packet or any deficiency thereon on the delivery thereof to him.

9. Where an arrangement binding on the Government of the Colony has been or hereafter shall be made with any foreign State with respect to the conveyance by post of any postal packet, the Governor in Executive Council may from time to time with the sanction and approval of His Majesty's Postmaster-General make such regulations as may be deemed necessary for carrying the arrangement into effect, and may make provision as to the charges for the transit of postal packets, single or in bulk, and the scale of weights to be adopted and the accounting for and paying over to any foreign State of any money received by the Postmaster-General.

Governor may carry into effect postal arrangements with foreign countries.

10.—(1.) Petitions and addresses forwarded to the Governor by post shall be exempt from postage.

Postage on petitions and addresses to the Governor.

(2.) All letters transmitted by post either to or from any public office or department shall subject to the conditions hereinafter mentioned be exempt from postage: Provided always, that every letter shall be on the public business of

Letters to or from public offices or departments on public business.

the office or department from which the same shall be forwarded or to which the same shall be addressed and shall be superscribed with the words "On His Majesty's Service" and bearing legibly inscribed in the bottom left hand corner of the envelope the designation of office or the official title or name of the sender or the name of the person transmitting such letter to such office or department.

Exemption of  
letters of  
Seamen and  
Soldiers.

11.—(1.) Any of the privileged persons hereinafter mentioned may send and receive letters, not exceeding one ounce in weight, by post, or by private ships between the Colony and places outside the Colony, on their own private concerns, at a postage of one penny for each letter when prepaid, subject in the case of letters sent by private ship to the payment of the gratuities payable to the master of the ship.

(2.) The enjoyment of the privilege shall be subject to the following provisions:—

- (a.) The postage of any such letters sent by a privileged person (unless sent from places outside the Colony) must be duly prepaid on the letter being posted:
- (b.) In the case of letters sent by a privileged person the name of the writer and his class or description in the vessel, regiment, corps or detachment to which he belongs must appear with the direction on the letter, and the name of the vessel, regiment, corps or detachment, to which the privileged person belongs, and the signature of the officer commanding it, must be written on the letter by the said officer in his own handwriting:
- (c.) The postage on any such letter to be received by a privileged person (unless sent from parts beyond the sea) must have been duly prepaid on the letter being posted:
- (d.) Any such letter to be received by a privileged person must be directed to that person, and the vessel, regiment, corps or detachment to which he belongs must be specified in the direction:

(e.) Any such letter to be received by a privileged person must not be delivered to any person except the privileged person to whom it is addressed, or to some person authorised in writing to receive the letter by the officer in command:

(f.) Where any such letters are sent or received by privileged persons from places outside the Colony, and the postage of one penny is not prepaid, every such letter shall be charged to the party receiving the letter with the postage of two pence.

(3.) Regulations made by the Governor in Executive Council under this Ordinance with respect to rates of postage shall if necessary provide for the delivery of letters of privileged persons on their own private affairs (not exceeding in the case of privileged persons other than such commissioned and warrant officers and midshipmen and master's mates as are hereinafter mentioned, half an ounce in weight) free from any postage in respect of re-direction.

(4.) The privileged persons for the purpose of this section shall be the following persons, whilst actually employed in His Majesty's service whether at home or abroad namely—

For all purposes every non-commissioned officer (not being a warrant officer) every Band-master, schoolmaster and soldier in any of His Majesty's regular forces within the meaning of the Army Act, any special reservists within the meaning of Part III of the Territorial and Reserve Forces Act 1907, every seaman in His Majesty's navy or Indian marine service, and as regards re-direction every officer commissioned or not in the said regular forces, every commissioned officer in the special reserve of officers, and every non-commissioned officer in any body of special reservists, and every officer, commissioned or not, in the said navy or marine service, and every midshipman and master's mate in His Majesty's navy.

(5.) If any commanding officer authorised to write his name and the name of the vessel, regiment, corps, or detachment commanded by him on the letter of a privileged person under this section wilfully writes his name upon a letter that is not from and on the private concerns only of a privileged person, he shall for each offence be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £5.

(6.) If any person—

- (a.) not having at the time the command of any regiment, corps, detachment or ship to which a privileged person belongs, writes his name upon a letter in order that it may be sent at a lower rate of postage than by law established; or
- (b.) procures a privileged person to obtain the signature of his commanding officer upon a letter which is not from that privileged person and upon his private concerns only, in order to avoid the payment of the postage by law established; or
- (c.) wilfully addresses a letter to a privileged person which is intended for another person or concerns the affairs of another person with intent to evade the payment of the postage by law established;

he shall for each offence be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £5.

(7.) If any privileged person obtains the signature of his commanding officer upon a letter which is not from that person and upon his private concerns only in order to avoid the payment of the postage by law established, he shall for each offence be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £5.

Recovery of  
postage.

12. All postage and other sums payable under this Ordinance in respect of postal packets may be recovered by action in the name of the Attorney-General in the manner provided in the Crown Suits Ordinance, 1913; provided that where the amount payable does not exceed £20 the amount may be recovered by suit in a Petty Civil Court.

13. In any proceeding for the recovery of postage or other sums in respect of postal packets— Post Office mark evidence of refusal, etc.

- (1.) the production of any postal packet in respect of which any such postage or sum is sought to be recovered, having thereupon a Post Office stamp denoting that the packet has been refused or rejected, or that the addressee was dead or could not be found, shall be *prima facie* evidence of the fact denoted; and
- (2.) the person from whom any postal packet in respect of which any such postage or sum is sought to be recovered purports to have come shall, until the contrary is proved, be deemed to be the sender of the packet.

14. The official mark of any sum on any postal packet as due to the Post Office, British, Colonial, or foreign, in respect of that packet, shall be received in the Courts of the Colony as evidence of the liability of the packet to the sum so marked, and the sum shall be recoverable in any such Court as postage due to His Majesty. Official mark to be evidence of amount of postage.

*Conditions of Transit of Postal Packets.*

15. All postal packets shall be posted, forwarded, conveyed and delivered subject to such provisions, conditions, prohibitions, and restrictions respecting the time and mode of posting and delivery, and of the payment of postage and other sums in respect thereof chargeable under this Ordinance or any regulations made under this Ordinance, and respecting the registration of, and giving receipts for, and giving and obtaining certificates of posting and delivery of, any postal packet, and the sums to be paid in addition to any other postage for that registration, receipt, or certificate, and respecting stamps, covers, form, dimensions, maximum weight, inclosures, the use of packets (other than letters) for making communications, and otherwise, as may be directed by regulations made by the Governor in Executive Council. Regulations as to postal packets.

16.—(1.) The registration of or giving a receipt for a postal packet, or the giving or obtaining of a certificate of posting Liability for loss of postal packets.

or delivery of a postal packet, shall not render the Postmaster-General or the Post Office in any manner liable for the loss of the packet or the contents thereof.

Indemnity for  
loss of certain  
registered  
articles.

(2.) Where according to the detailed regulations for the execution of any Postal Union Convention an indemnity in respect of loss is payable in this Colony to any sender or addressee of a registered article, the Governor shall cause the amount thereof to be paid to such sender or addressee out of the public revenues of this Colony on account, nevertheless, of the country liable to pay such amount or any part thereof in all cases where under the rules of the said detailed regulations any other country is liable. Provided always that the indemnity shall in no case exceed fifty francs.

Indemnity in  
respect of  
postal packets

17. No action or other legal proceeding shall be brought or instituted against the Postmaster-General or against any officer of the Post Office for any loss or inconvenience which may arise from the loss, damage, delay, non-delivery or misdelivery of any postal packet, without fraud or wilful misbehaviour on the part of any such officer.

Regulations  
for preventing  
sending by  
post indecent  
articles, &c.

18. The Governor in Executive Council may make regulations for preventing the sending or delivering by post of indecent or obscene prints, paintings, photographs, lithographs, engravings, books or cards, or other indecent or obscene articles, or of letters, newspapers, supplements, publications, packets or post cards, having therein or on the covers thereof, any words, marks or designs of an indecent, obscene, libelous, or grossly offensive character.

Dealing with  
postal packets  
not sent in  
conformity  
with  
Ordinance.

19. If any postal packet is posted or sent by post in contravention of this Ordinance, or of any regulations made thereunder, the transmission may be refused, and the packets may, if necessary, be detained and opened in the post office, and shall be either returned to the sender thereof, or forwarded to its destination, in either case charged with such additional postage at a rate not exceeding the letter rate of postage, or without any additional charge, as the regulations may direct.

20. The Postmaster-General or any of his officers may detain any postal packet suspected to contain any goods liable to duty and forward the same to the Collector of Customs, who, in the presence of the person to whom the same may be addressed, or in his absence in case of non-attendance after notice in writing from the said Collector of Customs requiring his attendance left at or forwarded according to the address on the letter, may open and examine the same; and in case on any such examination any goods liable to duty shall be recovered, the said Collector of Customs may detain the letter and its contents for the purpose of prosecution; and if no goods liable to duty shall be discovered in such letter, the same shall if the party to whom the same is addressed be present be handed over to him on his paying the postage (if any) charged thereon, or if he shall not be present, the same shall be returned to the Post Office and be forwarded to him by post.

Detention and opening of letters suspected to contain dutiable goods.

21. If any question arises whether any postal packet is a letter or any other description of postal packet within the meaning of this Ordinance or any regulation made under this Ordinance, the decision thereon of the Postmaster-General shall be final, save that the Governor may, if he thinks fit, on the application of any person interested, review or modify the decision and order accordingly.

Decision as to nature of postal packets.

*Money Orders and Postal Orders.*

22.—(1.) The Governor in Executive Council may make such regulations for facilitating the transmitting of money through the Post Office by means of Money Orders from and to such parts of the Colony and from and to places outside the Colony as the Governor in Executive Council may see fit, and for the regulating of money orders to be granted or issued and the payment thereof, and the persons by or to whom the same shall be paid, and the time at which and the mode in which the same shall be paid.

Money orders.

(2.) The Postmaster-General is hereby authorised to demand and receive for the use of His Majesty in respect of such money or money orders such rates of poundage as may be fixed by regulation.

Power to  
refund amount  
of Money  
Orders.

(3.) Subject to the said regulations the Governor may order the repayment from the Colonial Treasury of the amount of any money order to the person to whom the order is issued or to his executors or administrators, whether such money order remains in the possession of that person or not; and upon that repayment all liability on the part of the Postmaster-General or of any officer of the Post Office or the Colonial Revenue in respect of such money order, shall as against the payers of such money order and the holder thereof and every other person whomsoever absolutely cease.

Postal Orders.

**23.**—(1.) Subject to the regulations to be made under this section, the Postmaster-General with the consent of the Governor may for the purpose of the transmission of small sums through the Post Office, authorize his officers or any of them to issue Postal Orders payable within this Colony only.

Regulations.

(2.) The Governor in Executive Council may make regulations with regard to Postal Orders—

- (a.) Fixing the amounts for which such orders may be issued and the poundage payable in respect thereof;
- (b.) Specifying the places at which such orders may be issued and paid;
- (c.) Providing for the making up of amounts for which orders are not issued by the affixing of postage stamps to such orders;
- (d.) Prescribing the form of such orders;
- (e.) Generally for regulating and controlling the issue and payment of such orders.

Agreement  
with Imperial  
Post Office as  
to Postal  
Orders.

**24.**—(1.) It shall be lawful for the Postmaster-General of this Colony to enter into an agreement with His Majesty's Postmaster-General, under which, subject to the conditions set forth in such agreement, British Postal Orders (that is to say Orders of the same pattern as those used in the Inland service of the United Kingdom) may be issued and paid in the Post Offices of this Colony.

Regulations.

(2.) The Governor in Executive Council may make regulations as to the issue and payment of Postal Orders in

this section mentioned, and as to the persons by or to whom the same shall be paid, and the time at which and the mode in which the same shall be paid, and the rates of poundage to be demanded and received.

25. No action or other legal proceeding shall be instituted against the Postmaster-General of this Colony or against any officer of the Post Office or any other person whomsoever in respect of any compliance with the provisions of this Ordinance or of any regulation made thereunder with respect to money orders or postal orders or for or by reason or in consequence of the payment of any of the said money orders or postal orders being refused or delayed, or by or on account of any accidental neglect omission or mistake by or on the part of any officer of the Post Office or for any other cause whatsoever without fraud or wilful misbehaviour on the part of any such officer of the Post Office.

Protection of  
Postmaster-  
General and  
officers.

26. Any Banker or corporation or company acting as bankers in the Colony who, in collecting in that capacity for any principal, shall have received payment or been allowed by the Postmaster-General in account in respect of any Postal Order, or of any document purporting to be a postal order, shall not incur liability to anyone except that principal by reason of having received the payment or allowance, or having held or presented the order or document for payment; but this section shall not relieve any principal for whom any such order or document has been so held or presented of any liability in respect of his possession of the order or document or of the proceeds thereof.

Liability of  
bankers in  
respect of  
Postal Orders.

*Parcel Post (Foreign.)*

27.--(1.) Subject to any exceptions and modifications made by regulations under this section, the provisions of the Ordinances for the time being in force in the Colony relating to Customs, in this section referred to as Customs enactments, shall apply to goods contained in foreign parcels in like manner so far as is consistent with the tenor thereof as they apply to any other goods.

Application of  
Customs  
enactments to  
parcels sent by  
post.

(2.) Persons may be punished for offences against the said enactments, and goods may be examined, seized and

forfeited, and the officers seizing and examining them shall be protected, and legal proceedings in relation to the matters aforesaid may be taken accordingly under the said enactments.

Regulations.

(3.) The Governor in Executive Council may with the sanction and approval of His Majesty's Postmaster-General make and when made with such sanction and approval revoke and vary regulations for the purpose of modifying or excepting the application of any of the Customs enactments to foreign parcels, for the purpose of securing in the case of such foreign parcels the observance of the Customs enactments, and for enabling the officers of the Post Office to perform for the purposes of those enactments or otherwise all or any of the duties of the importer and exporter or of officers of His Majesty's Customs in the matter of foreign parcels, and for carrying into effect any arrangement with the Imperial Treasury or the Government of any British Possession or the Government of any Foreign Country or Colony with reference to foreign parcels, and for punishing any contravention of the Customs enactments or of the regulations made under this section.

Sums paid under regulations recoverable as rate of postage.

(4.) The Postmaster-General shall have the same right of recovering any sums paid in pursuance of the Customs enactments or otherwise under the said regulations in respect of parcels brought to the Colony as the Postmaster-General would have if the sums so paid were a rate of postage.

Customs declaration.

(5.) The Customs declaration made by the sender of the parcel shall be considered as the entry of the goods at the port of arrival, and if the contents are found not to agree with the declaration, the same shall be liable to the forfeitures provided by the Customs enactments for goods incorrectly entered.

Penalty for breach of regulations.

(6.) A contravention of the regulations in force under this section shall be deemed to be a contravention of the Customs enactments and shall involve accordingly the like punishment of persons guilty thereof and the like forfeiture of goods.

28. The insurance of foreign parcels shall be deemed to be an insurance against loss, and not against damage due to faulty, insecure or insufficient packing. Insurance of foreign parcels.

29. Nothing contained in or done under or in pursuance of this Ordinance or any Regulations made thereunder shall render the Postmaster-General or any of his officers or servants liable either personally or in their official capacity to any action or other legal proceeding in respect of or in consequence of any loss or damage to or delay in delivery or the mis-sending of any uninsured parcel, without fraud or wilful misbehaviour on the part of any such Officer or servant. Indemnity in respect of uninsured parcels.

*Parcel Post (Inland.)*

30. Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance, it shall be lawful for the Governor in Executive Council to make regulations for the establishment and maintenance in the Colony of an Inland Parcel Post, and for this purpose to enter into contracts for the carriage of postal parcels within the limits of this Colony. Rules for the establishment of an Inland Parcel Post.

31. The cost of the Inland Parcel Post System authorised by this Ordinance shall be defrayed out of public funds, and the rates authorised to be taken in respect of the transmission of postal parcels shall be paid into public funds. Cost of Parcel Post and appropriation of rates, etc.

32.—(1.) On all inland parcels there shall be charged and paid such rates of postage as may be prescribed by regulations made by the Governor in Executive Council. Rates of postage on parcels.

(2.) The postage payable on inland parcels shall be payable in advance by the sender thereof by means of postage stamps.

33. Nothing contained in or done under or in pursuance of this Ordinance shall render the Postmaster-General or any officer of the General Post Office or of any sub-office liable either personally or in his official capacity to any action or other legal proceedings in respect of or in consequence of any loss or damage to any inland parcel or the mis-sending of any such parcel without fraud or wilful misbehaviour on the part of any such officer of the Post Office. Loss or damage to parcels.

Conditions of postage and delivery of parcels.

34. Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance, all inland parcels shall be posted, forwarded, conveyed and delivered subject to such regulations, conditions, prohibitions and restrictions respecting the time and place and mode of posting and delivery and the payments of rates of postage and other sums chargeable, and respecting stamps, covers, forms, dimensions, maximum weights, enclosures and otherwise as may be prescribed by regulations to be made by the Governor in Executive Council.

*Ship Letters.*

Duties of masters of inward bound vessels as respects postal packets.

35.—(1) Every master of a vessel inward bound shall collect all postal packets on board his vessel being within the exclusive privilege of the Postmaster-General and not being letters by this Ordinance defined as shipowners' letters, and enclose them in some bag or other covering, sealed with his seal, and addressed to the Postmaster-General, and without delay deliver those packets to the proper officer of the Post Office or other officer authorised by the Postmaster-General demanding them, or, if no demand is made by that officer, then at the Post Office with which he can first communicate.

(2.) The master of every such vessel shall, at the port where the vessel reports, sign, in the presence of the proper officer of the Post Office or other person authorised by the Postmaster-General, a declaration of compliance with this Ordinance (in the form in this Section set forth), and shall not break bulk nor make entry of any part of her cargo in any port until he has complied with this Section. The declaration shall also be signed by the person in whose presence it is made.

*Declaration of Master of Vessel.*

I, A.B., master of the (*state the name of the ship or vessel*), arriving from (*state the place*), do, as required by law, solemnly declare that I have, to the best of my knowledge and belief, delivered or caused to be delivered to the Post Office every mail bag, package, postal packet, or parcel of postal packets that was on board the (*state the name of the ship*), except such packets as are exempted by law.

(3.) If the master of a vessel does not duly deliver any Postal packet in accordance with this Section, he shall forfeit £200.

(4.) If the master of a vessel refuses or wilfully neglects to make the declaration required by this section, he shall forfeit £50.

(5.) If the master of a vessel breaks bulk or makes entry before the postal packets on board his vessel have been delivered in accordance with this section, he is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £20.

**36.**—(1.) If a master of a vessel—

(a.) Opens a sealed mail bag with which he is entrusted for conveyance; or

(b.) Takes out of a mail bag with which he is entrusted for conveyance any postal packet or thing;

he shall forfeit £200.

(2.) If any person to whom postal packets have been entrusted by the master of a vessel to bring on shore breaks the seal, or in any manner wilfully opens them, he is on summary conviction liable to a fine not exceeding £20.

**37.** An officer of customs shall not allow any inward bound vessel to report until the declaration required by Section 37 of this Ordinance with respect to postal packets has been made and produced to him, and may refuse to permit bulk to be broken on board such a vessel or entry to be made of any part of her cargo until the postal packets on board the vessel have been delivered as required by this Ordinance, and may search every such vessel for postal packets which may be on board contrary to this Ordinance, and may seize the same and forward them to the nearest post office.

**38.**—(1.) The following letters (in this Ordinance referred to as shipowners' letters), that is to say, letters of the owners, charterers, or consignees of vessels inward-bound, and of the owners, consignees, or shippers of goods on board those vessels, when not exceeding the weights and when complying with the conditions hereinafter mentioned, shall—

(a.) if required to be delivered at the port of the vessel's arrival, be delivered to the owners,

Penalty for  
master of  
vessel open-  
ing mail bag.

Duties of  
Officers of  
Customs as  
to delivery of  
letters by  
masters of  
vessels.

Shipowners  
letters.

charterers, consignees, or shippers by the master free of inland postage, and the persons to whom they are to be delivered shall be entitled to the delivery thereof before the delivery of the other letters to the Post Office; and

(b.) if delivered elsewhere in the Colony, be delivered by post on payment of inland postage only, but subject in either case to the previous payment to the Post Office of the gratuities payable under this Ordinance to masters of vessels bringing the letters.

(2.) Provided that—

(a.) The letters brought by any one vessel to any one such person shall not collectively exceed six ounces in weight; and

(b.) The owner, charterer, or consignee shall be described as such on the address and superscription; and

(c.) In the case of owners, shippers, or consignees of goods, it shall also appear by the ship's manifest that they have goods on board the vessel.

(3.) If any shipowners' letters are found by an officer of Customs to be in excess of the weights hereinbefore limited by this section, that officer shall seize so many of the letters as will reduce the remainder within the said weights, and shall take them to the nearest Post Office.

(4.) If any person with intent to evade any postage falsely superscribes a letter as being the owner or charterer or consignee of the vessel conveying the letter, or as the owner or shipper or the consignee of goods shipped on the vessel, he is for each offence liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £10.

Gratuities to  
masters of  
vessels.

**39.**—Regulations by the Governor in Executive Council may provide for the allowance to masters of vessels in respect of postal packets, or any description thereof, conveyed by them on behalf of the Post Office, and also to pilots, seamen, and others in respect of postal packets, or any description thereof, brought by them to any post office

from any vessels, of such gratuities under such conditions and restrictions as the Postmaster-General may, from time to time, think fit.

40.—(1.) Any person, being either the master of a vessel Penalty for not delivering letters. inward-bound or one of the officers or one of the crew or a passenger thereof, who knowingly has any postal packet in his possession not exempted from the privilege of the Postmaster-General, after the master shall have sent any part of the postal packets on board his vessel to the Post Office, is for every such packet liable on summary conviction to any fine not exceeding £5; and whether the letter be in the baggage or on the person of the offender, or otherwise in his custody, it shall be held to be in his possession;

(2.) Any such person who detains any such packet after demand made, either by an officer of the Customs or by a person authorized by the Postmaster-General to demand the postal packets on board the vessel, is for every postal packet liable on conviction before a Magistrate to a fine not exceeding £10.

*Postmaster-General and Officers.*

41.—(1.) It shall be lawful for the Governor to appoint a Appointment of officers. Postmaster-General and so many other Postmasters and subordinate officers as shall be necessary for the purposes of this Ordinance.

(2.) Upon and by virtue of the appointment of any person to be Postmaster-General of the Colony of Trinidad and Tobago, the benefit of all contracts, bonds, securities, and things in action, vested in his predecessor at the time of the predecessor ceasing to hold office, shall be transferred to, and vested in, and enure for the benefit of, the person so appointed, in the same manner as if he had been contracted with instead of his predecessor, and as if his name had been inserted in all such contracts, bonds, and securities instead of the name of his predecessor.

42. Any instrument purporting to be executed by any of Execution of instruments. the Secretaries of the Imperial Post Office in the name of the Postmaster-General for Great Britain and Ireland

shall, until the contrary is proved, be deemed to have been so executed without proof of the official character of the person appearing to have executed the same.

Governor may establish Post Offices. **43.** It shall be lawful for the Governor from time to time to establish posts and post offices as he thinks expedient.

Postmaster-General may make contracts. **44.** The Postmaster-General in his own name with the approval of the Governor

- (a.) May enter into any contract in writing for the conveyance of mails within the Colony, and he may also employ mail carriers for the conveyance of mails, or forward mails by any other mode of conveyance that he may deem best, and may appoint letter carriers for the delivery of postal packets at private houses in any town or village of the Colony;

And with the sanction of His Majesty's Postmaster-General:—

- (b.) May enter into any contract in writing for the conveyance of mails from the Colony to other places.

Exclusive privilege of Postmaster-General.

**45.—(1.)** The Postmaster-General shall have the exclusive privilege of conveying from one place to another in this Colony all letters, except in the following cases, and shall also within this Colony have the exclusive privilege of performing all the incidental services of receiving, collecting, sending, despatching, and delivering all letters except in the following cases, (that is to say):—

- (a.) Letters sent by a private friend in his way, journey or travel, so as those letters be delivered by that friend to the person to whom they are directed;
- (b.) Letters sent by a messenger on purpose, concerning the private affairs of the sender or receiver thereof;
- (c.) Commissions or returns thereof and affidavits and writs, process or proceedings or returns thereof issuing out of a Court of Justice;

- (d.) Letters of merchants, owners of vessels of merchandize, or the cargo or loading therein, sent by those vessels of merchandize or by any person employed by those owners for the carriage of those letters, according to their respective directions, and delivered to the respective persons to whom they are directed, without paying or receiving hire or reward, advantage or profit for the same in anywise.
- (e.) Letters concerning goods or merchandize sent by common known carriers to be delivered with the goods which such letters concern, without hire or reward or other profit or advantage for receiving or delivering those letters ;

(2.) Nothing herein contained shall authorize any person to make a collection of those excepted letters for the purpose of sending them in the manner hereby authorized. <sup>Special prohibitions.</sup>

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

- (a.) Common known carriers, their servants or agents, except a letter concerning goods in their carts or waggons or on their pack horses, mules or asses, and owners, drivers, or guards of public conveyances ;
- (b.) Owners, masters or commanders of ships, vessels or steam-boats, sailing or passing coastwise or otherwise between ports or places within the Colony, or their servants or agents, except in respect of letters of merchants, owners of ships, or goods on board ;
- (c.) Passengers or other persons on board any such ship, vessel or steam-boat.

(4.) Any person not authorised by or in pursuance of this Ordinance who does any of the following things, namely, sends or causes to be sent, or tenders or delivers in order to be sent, or conveys or performs any service incidental to conveying, otherwise than by post, any letter not

excepted from the exclusive privilege of the Postmaster-General, or makes a collection of those excepted letters for the purpose of conveying or sending them either by post or otherwise, is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £5 for every letter.

(5.) Any person who is in the practice of doing any of the said things shall forfeit £100 for every week during which the practice is continued.

(6.) The expression "post" shall in this section include all post communications by land or by water (except by outward bound vessels not being employed by or under the Post Office or the Admiralty to carry postal packets); and the above fines and forfeitures shall be incurred whether the letter is sent singly or with anything else, or the incidental service is performed in respect to a letter either sent or to be sent singly or together with some other letter or thing; and in any proceeding for the recovery of any such fine or forfeiture it shall lie upon the person proceeded against to prove that the act in respect of which the fine or forfeiture is alleged to have been incurred was done in conformity with this Ordinance.

(7.) For the purposes of this section the expression "letter" shall include packet.

Exemption  
from stamp  
duty.

46. Every deed, instrument, money order, bill, cheque, receipt or other document, made or executed for the purpose of the Post Office by, to or with His Majesty or any Officer of the Post Office, shall be exempt from any stamp duty imposed by any Ordinance, past or future, except where that duty is declared by the document, or by some memorandum endorsed thereon, to be payable by some person other than the Postmaster-General, and except so far as any future Ordinance specifically charges the duty.

Jury.

47. The Postmaster-General and all Officers and servants of the Post Office in this Colony shall be exempt from service as jurors under the Jury Ordinance No. 33.

Surrender of  
clothing by  
officer of Post  
Office on  
ceasing to be  
officer.

48.—(1.) Where an officer of the Post Office vacates his office (whether by reason of dismissal, resignation, death or otherwise) he, or if he is dead, his personal representative, or the person acting as his personal representative, shall

deliver to such superior officer of the Post Office as may for the time being be directed by or in pursuance of any regulations made under this Ordinance, all articles (whether uniform, accoutrements, appointments, or other necessaries) which have been issued to the said officer vacating his office for the execution of his duty, and are not, under such regulations, the property of such officer, and shall deliver the same up at the time and place fixed by the superior officer to whom they are to be delivered, and shall deliver the same in good order and condition, fair wear and tear only excepted.

(2.) Any person who fails to comply with the provisions of this section is liable on summary conviction to pay a fine not exceeding forty shillings, and also such further sum not exceeding forty shillings as the Court may determine to be the value of the articles not delivered, or, if the same have been delivered, but not in good order and condition, of the damage done to such articles.

(3.) Any Magistrate or Justice of the Peace may issue a warrant by virtue of which a constable may search for and seize any articles not delivered as required by this section, in like manner in all respects as if they were stolen goods and the warrant were a warrant to search for stolen goods.

*Post Office Offences.*

~~49~~ Any person who :—

- ~~(a.) steals a mail bag; or~~
- ~~(b.) steals from a mail bag, or from a post office, or from an officer of the Post Office, or from a mail, any postal packet in course of transmission by post; or~~
- ~~(c.) steals any chattel or money or valuable security out of a postal packet in course of transmission by post;~~
- ~~(d.) stops a mail with intent to rob or search the mail;~~

~~is guilty of a felony, and is liable to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding five years.~~

Stealing mail  
bag or postal  
packet.

*W. P. M. M.  
10/7/1919*

Unlawfully taking away or opening mail bag sent by vessel employed under Post Office.

**50.** Any person who, within territorial waters, unlawfully takes away or opens a mail bag sent by any vessel employed by or under the Post Office for the transmission of postal packets under contract, or unlawfully takes a postal packet in course of transmission by post out of a mail bag so sent, is guilty of felony, and is liable to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding four years.

Receiver of stolen mail bag or postal packet.

*repealed by 10/11/1914*

~~**51.** Any person who receives any mail bag, or any postal packet or any chattel or money or valuable security, the stealing or taking, embezzling, or secreting whereof amounts to a felony under this Ordinance, knowing the same to have been so feloniously stolen, taken, embezzled, or secreted, and to have been sent, or to have been intended to be sent by post, is guilty of felony, and is liable to the same punishment as if he had taken, stolen, embezzled, or secreted the same, and may be indicted and convicted, whether the principal offender has or has not been previously convicted, or is or is not amenable to justice.~~

Fraudulent retention of mail bag or postal packet.

**52.** Any person who fraudulently retains, or wilfully secretes or keeps, or detains, or, when required by an officer of the Post Office, neglects or refuses to deliver—

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

(b.) any postal packet in course of transmission by post or any mail bag which shall have been found by him or by any other person,

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to a fine not exceeding £100 and to imprisonment with or without hard labour for any term not exceeding two years.

Criminal diversion of letters from addressee.

**53.—(1.)** Any person not in the employment of the Postmaster-General who wilfully and maliciously, with intent to injure any other person, either opens or causes to be opened any letter which ought to have been delivered to that other person, or does any act or thing whereby the due delivery of the letter to that other person is prevented or impeded, is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £50, or to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding six months.

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

(3.) A prosecution shall not be instituted in pursuance of this section except by the direction or with the consent of the Postmaster-General.

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

54. Any officer of the Post Office who ~~steals~~, or for any purposes whatever, ~~embezzles~~, secretes or destroys a postal packet in course of transmission by post, is liable to imprisonment for any term not exceeding three years, with or without hard labour, or if the postal packet contains any chattel or money or valuable security, to imprisonment for any term not exceeding five years with or without hard labour.

Stealing,  
embezzlement,  
destruction,  
etc., by officers  
of Post Office  
of postal  
packet.

*rule 10 of  
1914*

55.—(1.) Any officer of the Post Office who, contrary to his duty, opens or procures or suffers to be opened any postal packet in course of transmission by post, or wilfully detains or delays or procures or suffers to be detained or delayed, any such postal packet, is guilty of a misdemeanour and is liable to imprisonment with or without hard labour for any term not exceeding two years, or to a fine not exceeding £100, or to both such imprisonment and fine.

Opening or  
delaying postal  
packets.

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

Carelessness, negligence, or misconduct of persons employed in carrying or delivering mail bags, postal packets, etc.

**56.** Any person employed to convey or deliver a mail bag or postal packet in course of transmission by post, who

- (a.) whilst so employed, or, whilst the mail bag or postal packet is in his custody or possession, leaves it, or suffers any person, not being the guard or person employed for that purpose, to ride in the place appointed for the guard in or upon any carriage used for the conveyance of it, or to ride in or upon a carriage so used and not licensed to carry passengers, or upon a horse used for the conveyance on horse-back of it; or
- (b.) is guilty of any act of drunkenness whilst so employed; or
- (c.) is guilty of carelessness, negligence or other misconduct, whereby the safety of the mail bag or postal packet is endangered; or
- (d.) without lawful authority collects or receives or delivers a postal packet otherwise than in the ordinary course of post; or
- (e.) Gives any false information of an assault or attempt at robbery upon him; or
- (f.) Loiters on the road or passage, or wilfully mis-spends his time so as to retard the progress or delay the arrival of a mail bag or postal packet in the course of transmission by post, or does not use due care and diligence safely to convey a mail bag or postal packet at the due rate of speed,

is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £20.

Issuing money or postal orders with fraudulent intent.

**57.—**(1) Any officer of the Post Office who grants or issues any money order or any postal order with a fraudulent intent, is guilty of felony, and is liable to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding three years.

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

58.—(1) A money order or a postal order shall be deemed to be an order for the payment of money and a valuable security within the meaning of this Ordinance and of the Forgery Ordinance, and of the Larceny Ordinance, and of any other law relating to forgery or stealing which is for the time being in force in the Colony.

Forgery and stealing of money or postal order.

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

59. The provisions of law respecting the punishment of offences connected with stamp duties (including the provisions relating to paper and implements used in the manufacture of that paper, and to the punishing of fraud) shall apply in like manner as if any poundage or commission chargeable for a money or postal order were stamp duty, and as if the paper used for money orders or postal orders were paper provided by the Receiver-General for receiving the impression of a die.

Punishment of offences in relation to postal orders, and the poundage thereon.

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

Placing injurious substances in or against letter boxes.

(2.) Any person who acts in contravention of this section is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £10, and on conviction on indictment to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a period not exceeding twelve months.

61.—(1.) A person shall not without due authority affix or attempt to affix any placard, advertisement, notice, list, document, board or thing on, or paint or tar any Post Office, Post Office letter box or other property belonging to

Prohibition of affixing placards, notices, etc., on Post Office or letter box, etc.

or used by or on behalf of the Postmaster-General, or in any way disfigure any such office, box, or other property.

(2.) Any person who acts in contravention of this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding forty shillings.

Prohibition—  
Sending by  
post explosive  
inflammable,  
or deleterious  
substances,  
or indecent  
prints, words,  
etc.

62.—(1.) A person shall not send or attempt to send a postal packet which either—

- (a.) Encloses any explosive substance, any dangerous substance, any filth, any noxious or deleterious substance, any sharp instrument not properly protected, any living creature which is either noxious or likely to injure other postal packets in course of conveyance or an officer of the Post Office, or any article or thing whatsoever which is likely to injure either other postal packets in course of conveyance or an officer of the Post Office; or
- (b.) Encloses any indecent or obscene print, painting, photograph, lithograph, engraving, book, or card, or any indecent or obscene article, whether similar to the above or not; or
- (c.) Has on such packet, or on the cover thereof, any words, marks or designs of an indecent, obscene, or grossly offensive character.

(2.) Any person who acts in contravention of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £10, and on conviction on indictment to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a period not exceeding twelve months.

(3.) The detention in the Post Office of any postal packet on the ground of its being in contravention of this section shall not exempt the sender thereof from any proceedings which might have been taken if the same had been delivered in due course of post.

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

Imitation of  
stamps  
envelopes,  
forms, and  
marks.

- (a.) Make, issue, or send by post or otherwise any envelope, wrapper, card, form, or paper in imitation of one issued by or under the authority of the Governor or the Postmaster-General or of any Foreign or Colonial Postal Authority, or having thereon any words, letters, or marks which signify or imply or may reasonably lead the recipient to believe that a post letter bearing the same is sent on His Majesty's Service ; or
- (b.) Make on any envelope, wrapper, card, form, or paper for the purpose of being issued or sent by post or otherwise, or otherwise used, any mark in imitation of or similar to or purporting to be any stamp or mark of any Post Office under the Postmaster-General or under any Foreign or Colonial Postal Authority, or any words, letters or marks which signify or imply or may reasonably lead the recipient thereof to believe that a post letter bearing the same is sent on His Majesty's Service ; or
- (c.) Issue or send by post or otherwise any envelope, wrapper, card, form or paper so marked.

(2.) Every person who acts in contravention of this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding forty shillings.

**64.**—(1.) A person shall not—

Fictitious  
stamps.

- (a.) Make, knowingly utter, deal in or sell any fictitious stamp, or knowingly use for any postal purpose any fictitious stamp ; or
- (b.) Have in his possession, unless he shows a lawful excuse, any fictitious stamp ; or
- (c.) Make, or, unless he shows a lawful excuse, have in his possession, any die, plate, instrument, or materials for making any fictitious stamp.

(2.) Any person who acts in contravention of this section is liable on summary conviction on a prosecution by order of the Receiver-General to a fine not exceeding £20.

(3.) Any stamp, die, plate, instrument or materials found in possession of any person in contravention of this section, may be seized and shall be forfeited.

(4.) For the purpose of this section "fictitious stamp" means any facsimile or imitation or representation, whether on paper or otherwise, of any stamp for denoting any rate of postage, including any stamp for denoting a rate of postage of Great Britain or of Ireland or of any of His Majesty's Colonies or Possessions, or of any foreign country.

65. Every person who fraudulently—

Fraudulently removing or using old stamps.

(a.) gets off or removes or causes to be gotten off or removed from any letter, cover, paper or other substance or material any postage stamp already used ; or

(b.) uses, joins, fixes, or places with or upon any letter or cover or any paper or other substance any postage stamp which has been already used,

is liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding £10.

66.—(1.) Every person who—

Penalty on persons enclosing letters, &c., in newspapers.

(a.) knowingly encloses or causes or procures to be enclosed in any newspaper to be sent by the post or under cover thereof any letter or paper or thing ; or

(b.) puts or causes to be put any printed or written mark, words or communication either upon the newspaper or upon the cover thereof other than the name and address of the person to whom it shall be sent and such other printed or written matter as shall be allowed to be put on such newspaper or cover by regulations under this Ordinance ; or

(c.) knowingly either sends or causes to be sent by the post a newspaper in which any letter or paper or thing (except as aforesaid) shall be enclosed, is liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding £10.

(3.) Such newspaper together with such of its enclosures as are not prohibited to be forwarded by the post shall be forwarded as an ordinary unpaid letter, and all prohibited enclosures shall be forfeited.

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

Prohibition of false notice as to reception of letters.

(a.) The words "Post Office": or

(b.) The words "Letter Box," accompanied with words, letters or marks which signify or imply or may reasonably lead the public to believe that it is a Post Office letter box; or

(c.) Any words, letters or marks which signify or imply or may reasonably lead the public to believe that any house or place is a Post Office, or that any box is a Post Office letter box;

and every person when required by a notice given by the Postmaster-General of this Colony to remove or efface any such words, letters or marks as aforesaid, or to remove or effectually close up any letter box belonging to him or under his control which has been a Post Office letter box, shall comply with such request.

(2.) Any person who acts in contravention of this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding forty shillings, and if the offence is continued after a previous conviction, to a fine not exceeding five shillings for every day during which the offence so continues.

68.—(1.) Any person who wilfully obstructs, or incites any one to obstruct, an officer of the Post Office in the execution of his duty, or who whilst in any Post Office, or within any premises belonging to any Post Office, or used therewith, obstructs the course of business of the Post Office, is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding forty shillings.

Offences in Post Office, and obstruction of officers.

(2.) Any officer of the Post Office may require any person guilty of an offence under this section to leave a Post Office or any such premises as aforesaid, and if such person refuses or fails to comply with such request, such person shall be liable to a further fine not exceeding £5 and may be removed by any officer of the Post Office, and all constables are required on demand to remove or assist in removing every such person.

Unlawfully  
entering Post  
Office.

69. Any person who without being duly authorized so to do, enters any part of the Post Office reserved for the use of the officers and servants thereof and not intended to be open to the public, is liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding £5.

Endeavouring  
to procure  
commission of  
offence.

70. Any person who solicits or endeavours to procure any other person to commit an offence punishable on indictment under this Ordinance is guilty of a misdemeanour and is liable to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding two years.

#### *Legal Proceedings.*

Recovery of  
forfeitures.

71.—(1.) All forfeitures imposed by this Ordinance may be recovered by the Attorney-General in the manner provided in the Crown Suits Ordinance, 1913.

(2.) A proceeding in the Supreme Court for the recovery of any forfeiture incurred by any person under this Ordinance shall be commenced within one year after it was incurred.

Summary  
Procedure.

72.—(1.) All offences under this Ordinance which are punishable on summary conviction may be prosecuted, and fines under this Ordinance which are recoverable on summary conviction may be recovered before a Magistrate in the manner provided by the Summary Conviction Offences (Procedure) Ordinance (No. 1.)

(2.) In default of payment of any fine which may be imposed in respect of any such offence, the Magistrate shall have the power to commit the person to prison with or without hard labour for any period not exceeding three months.

73.—(1.) In any indictment or legal proceeding for any offence committed or attempted to be committed, or any malicious, injurious or fraudulent act or thing done in, upon or with respect to the Post Office or the Post Office revenue, or any mail bag, postal packet, money order, postal order, or any chattel, money or valuable security, sent by post, or in anywise concerning any property under the management or control of the Postmaster-General, it shall be sufficient to allege the property to belong to the Postmaster-General, and to allege any such act or thing to have been done with intent to injure or defraud the Postmaster-General, without in either case naming the person who is Postmaster-General; and it shall not be necessary to allege or to prove upon the trial or otherwise that the mail bag, postal packet, money order, chattel, money, security or property was of any legal value.

Form of proceedings.

(2.) In any indictment or legal proceeding against any officer of the Post Office for any offence committed against this Ordinance, it shall be sufficient to allege that the alleged offender was an officer of the Post Office at the time of the committing of the offence, without stating further the nature or particulars of his employment.

74. On the prosecution of any offence under this Ordinance, whether on summary conviction or on indictment, evidence that any article is in the course of transmission by post, or has been accepted on behalf of the Postmaster-General for transmission by post, shall be sufficient evidence that the article is a postal packet.

Evidence of thing being postal packet.

75. All pecuniary penalties, forfeitures, fines, and other sums recovered in respect of offences under this Ordinance shall be paid into public funds.

Application of fines.

76. The Postmaster-General may compromise and compound any legal proceeding which is commenced by his authority or under his control against any person for recovering any fine or forfeiture incurred under this Ordinance, on such terms and conditions as the Postmaster-General shall in his absolute discretion think proper, with full power for him to accept any fine or forfeiture so incurred or alleged to be incurred, or any part thereof, without any legal proceeding for recovery thereof.

Postmaster-General may compound actions.

Saving clause  
as to liability.

77. When proceedings are taken before any Court against a person in respect of an offence under this Ordinance, which is also an offence punishable at common law or under some Ordinance other than this Ordinance, the Court may direct that instead of such proceedings being continued, proceedings shall be taken for punishing such person at common law, or under some Ordinance other than this Ordinance.

General power  
of Governor to  
make rules.

78.—(1.) It shall be lawful for the Governor in Executive Council to make such rules and regulations as he may deem proper for carrying into effect all and every the provisions of this Ordinance for postal service within the Colony.

(2.) Subject to the provisions of any Treaty or Convention with any State or States binding on the Government of the Colony, it shall be lawful for the Governor with the sanction and approval of His Majesty's Postmaster-General to make such rules and regulations as he may deem proper for carrying into effect the provisions of this Ordinance for postal service outside the Colony.

(3.) All such rules and regulations shall be published in the *Royal Gazette*.

(4.) All rules and regulations made under this Ordinance for postal service within this Colony shall be laid before the Governor and the Legislative Council for approval and when so approved shall have the same force and effect as if they were contained in this Ordinance.

Repeal.

79. The enactments specified in the Schedule to this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent specified in the third column of that schedule :

Provided that—

- (a.) Any instrument issued, or post established in pursuance of any enactment hereby repealed shall continue in force as if it had been issued or established in pursuance of this Ordinance ;
- (b.) Any officer appointed under any enactment hereby repealed shall continue and be deemed to have been appointed under this Ordinance ;

(c.) Regulations under this Ordinance may, subject to the limitations in this Ordinance contained, revoke and alter any existing rate of postage or other sums and any existing regulation made under any of the Ordinances repealed by this Ordinance, but, so far as not so revoked or altered, any existing rate of postage or sum may continue to be charged, and any such existing regulation shall continue in force in like manner as if it had been made in pursuance of this Ordinance.

80. This Ordinance shall commence on a day to be fixed by the Governor by proclamation in the *Royal Gazette*. Commencement.

1-8-18  
 TTD - 66/18

Passed in Council this Twenty-third day of May, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighteen.

HARRY L. KNAGGS,  
*Clerk of the Council.*

SCHEDULE.

ORDINANCES REPEALED.

Number and year.	Short Title.	Extent of Repeal.
No. 197	... The Post Office Ordinance ...	... The whole.
No. 301	... The Post Office (Amending) Ordinance ...	... The whole.
No. 32 of 1909	... The Post Office Ordinance, 1909 ...	... The whole.
No. 48 of 1914	... The Post Office (Amendment) Ordinance, 1914 ...	... The whole.