POST AND TELEGRAPH RATES.

**No. 23 of 1949.**

An Act to amend the *Post and Telegraph Rates Act* 1902–1941.

[Assented to 30th June, 1949.]

BE it enacted by the King’s Most Excellent Majesty, the Senate, and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, as follows:—

**Short title and citation.**

**1.**—(1.) This Act may be cited as the *Post and Telegraph Rates Act* 1949.

(2.) The *Post and Telegraph Rates Act* 1902–1941 is in this Act referred to as the Principal Act.

(3.) The Principal Act, as amended by this Act, may be cited as the *Post and Telegraph Rates Act* 1902–1949.

**Commencement.**

**2.** This Act shall come into operation on the first day of July, One thousand nine hundred and forty-nine.

**War postage.**

**3.** Section six a of the Principal Act is repealed.

**4.** Section eight of the Principal Act is repealed and the following section inserted in its stead:—

**Braille and Moon postal articles free.**

“8. All Braille and Moon postal articles, and such other postal articles for the use of the blind as are prescribed, shall, if posted as prescribed, be conveyed without charge.”

**First Schedule.**

**5.** The First Schedule to the Principal Act is repealed and the following Schedule inserted in its stead:—

“FIRST SCHEDULE.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Part I.** | |
| Newspapers and periodicals registered at a General Post Office Posted by— | Twopence half-penny per sixteen ounces or part of sixteen ounces on the aggregate weight of newspapers or periodicals posted by any one person at any one time |
| (*a*) the proprietors thereof to *bona fide* subscribers, and to newsvendors and agents for the purpose of sale; and |
| *(b)* newsvendors and agents to *bona fide* subscribers, and to other newsvendors and agents for the purpose of sale,  without condition as to the number contained in each addressed wrapper |
| Part II. | |
| Letters and Letter Cards | Twopence half-penny for the first ounce or part of an ounce, and twopence for each additional ounce or part of an ounce |
| Post Cards | Twopence each |
| Second Class Mail Matter— |  |
| (*a*) Commercial papers, patterns, samples and merchandise, as prescribed | One penny half-penny per two ounces or part of two ounces |
| (*b*) Printed matter (including printed papers, circulars and catalogues, and books, periodicals and newspapers not registered at a General Post Office), as prescribed | One penny half-penny per four ounces or part of four ounces |
| Third Class Mail Matter (comprising books registered at a General Post Office and periodicals and newspapers registered at a General Post Office posted otherwise than as specified in Part I. of this Schedule), as prescribed | One penny half-penny per six ounces or part of six ounces |
| *Hansard*,that is, reports of Parliamentary debates printed and published by the authority of the Commonwealth or of a State | One penny half-penny per twelve ounces or part of twelve ounces”. |

**Second Schedule.**

**6.**—(1.) The Second Schedule to the Principal Act is amended by omitting Part I. and inserting in its stead the following Part:—

“Part I.—Ordinary Telegrams.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **—** | Between offices which are not more than fifteen miles apart. | Between offices which are more than fifteen miles apart. |
| Including address and signature— |  |  |
| Not exceeding fourteen words | One shilling and threepence | One shilling and sixpence |
| Each additional word | One penny | One penny |

Double the foregoing rates shall be charged for the transmission of—

(*a*) urgent telegrams; and

(*b*) telegrams on the public service when required, under section ninety-five of the *Post and Telegraph Act* 1901–1946, to be transmitted before other telegrams.

The rates specified in this Part are exclusive of porterage charge.”

(2.) The Second Schedule to the Principal Act is amended by omitting paragraph (*b*) of Part II. and inserting in its stead the following paragraph:—

“(*b*) Other telegrams, accepted for transmission subject to the prescribed conditions—

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| — | Between offices which are in the same State. | Between offices which are not in the same State. |
| Including address and signature— |  |  |
| Not exceeding twenty-five words | One shilling | Two shillings |
| Exceeding twenty-five but not exceeding fifty words | One shilling and fivepence | Two shillings and ninepence |
| Exceeding fifty but not exceeding one hundred words | Two shillings and eightpence | Five shillings and threepence |
| Every additional fifty words or portion of fifty words | One shilling | Two shillings”. |

(3.) The Second Schedule to the Principal Act is amended by omitting Part IV. and inserting in its stead the following Part:—

“Part IV.—Letter Telegrams, as Prescribed.

Telegrams, accepted for transmission subject to the prescribed conditions— including address and signature, One shilling and sixpence for the first thirty words and one half-penny for each additional word.”.