

This prohibition does not, however, apply to printed papers liable to Customs duty;

- (e) opium, morphine, cocaine, and other narcotics;
- (f) obscene or immoral articles;
- (g) any articles whatever of which the importation or circulation is forbidden in the country of origin or of destination.

In addition, it is forbidden to send unregistered, or to enclose in small packets even if registered, coin, bank-notes, currency notes, negotiable instruments payable to bearer, platinum, gold or silver, manufactured or not, precious stones, jewels and other valuable articles.

The transmission of postage stamps, whether obliterated or not, in open packets is forbidden.

2. Packets falling within the prohibitions mentioned above which have been wrongly admitted to the post must be treated as follows:—

- (a) The articles enumerated in § 1 above, under *a*, *d*, *e* and *g* are treated as prescribed by the inland regulations of the Administration which discovers them. Nevertheless, articles containing opium, morphine, cocaine and other narcotics must in no case be delivered to the addressees or returned to origin;
- (b) The articles enumerated under *b* and *f* must be destroyed on the spot by the first Administration which discovers them;
- (c) The articles enumerated under *c*, and in the two last sections of § 1, must be returned to origin, unless the Administration of the country of destination is prepared to deliver them exceptionally to the addressees.

If packets wrongly admitted to the post are neither returned to origin nor delivered to the addressee, the despatching Office must be advised exactly how the packets have been treated in order that it may take such steps as are necessary.

3. The right is, moreover, reserved to every country to refuse to convey à découvert over its territory articles other than letters and post-cards in regard to which the laws, ordinances, or decrees which regulate the conditions of their publication or circulation in that country have not been complied with.

These articles must be returned to the Office of origin.

ARTICLE 46

Methods of Prepayment

1. Prepayment of postage is effected either by means of postage stamps valid in the country of origin for the correspondence of private individuals, or by means of impressions of stamping machines, officially adopted and working under the immediate control of the Administration, or, in the case of printed papers, by means of printed impressions or by any other process when such a system is authorized by the inland regulations of the Administration of origin.

2. The following are considered as duly prepaid: reply post-cards bearing postage stamps, impressed or affixed, of the country of issue, articles properly prepaid for their first transmission and on which complementary postage has been paid before their redirection, as well as newspapers or packets of newspapers and periodicals with the words "*Abonnement-poste*" which are sent in virtue of the Agreement for subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals.

3. Correspondence posted on the high seas in the letter box on board a ship or handed to postal officials on board or to the commanders of ships may, in the absence of different arrangements between the Administrations concerned, be prepaid by means of the postage stamps and according to the tariff of the country to which the said ship belongs or by which it is maintained. If the