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CUSTOMS RULINGS AND REGULATIONS.

The Acting Commissioner of Customs has recently sent out notices to Collectors of Customs as follows:

Under date of November 2 it is stated that the attention of the Department had been called by the authorities of the Post Office Department, to the fact that frequently dutiable postal parcels forwarded by mail under manifest, arrive at their destination without the manifest attached thereto, in consequence of the manifest being attached to such parcels insecurely at the sending port, sometimes only with elastic bands. Complaint has also been made that such parcels are frequently not addressed plainly to the Customs officer for whom they are intended, thus interfering with the prompt delivery of the same. Collectors are instructed to see that all postal parcels forwarded from their Port or under their survey, by mail under manifest, have the manifest firmly attached thereto, and that such parcels are plainly addressed to the officer at point of destination.

Under date of November 6, the attention of the Department having been called to the practice which exists at many offices, of delaying the return of manifests to the sending port for the full period of 30 days mentioned in the Manifesting Regulations of 19th March, 1883, collectors are reminded that so soon as manifests are completed by entry or re-manifest, the one copy is, without fail, to be transmitted to the sending port; and in no case is the manifest to be held until the expiration of 30 days, unless the goods are not entered and have to be carried to the unclaimed list. Inspectors are instructed to report to the Department any neglect to carefully observe these instructions. Paragraph 11 of the regulations referred to is as follows: Manifests are to be recorded at the receiving ports, with consecutive numbers in the order of their arrival with ship or other Reports Inwards, and the sending port numbers are recorded. When the packages are all checked out of the cars the manifests are to be receipted and one copy returned to the sending port, the receiving port number and the entry or re-manifest number and stamp of the port being first placed thereon, with over and shorts, if any, marked on both copies. All manifests received are to be returned to the sending port within thirty days from date of reception as above, but if any goods received have not been entered the item must be marked with the number of the unclaimed list or the page of the book in which account of the unclaimed goods is kept.

Under date of November 8 the attention of Collectors is called to the necessity, when the statement of "Warehoused Goods," which is forwarded quarterly to the Department, is being prepared, of shewing the totals of articles appearing therein which are specially divided under a number of headings. This has not been done in the past, thus necessitating the addition being made in the Department, consequently imposing additional and unnecessary labor upon the statistical clerks there. Collectors are instructed that the return in question, when being prepared at their port, must show a total addition of the value only of the various articles which are entered under each of the generic headings, as follows: Breadstuffs, Collars, Drugs, Fancy Goods, Fish, Flax and manufacture of, Fruits and Nuts, all kinds, Glass and manufacture of, Iron and Steel, Leather and manufacture of, Oils, Paper, Silk, Woolens, gallons and value of Wines, not sparkling, and dozens and value of Wines, sparkling, Linseed Oil to be converted into gallons at rate of 9 lbs. to the gallon.

Under date of November 6 the attention of Collectors is called to the Act 55 56 Victoria, Chapter 4, intitled "An Act respecting aid by United States Wreckers in Canadian Waters," and the Act is recited. The proclamation by the Governor in Council referred to in the Act, was issued on the 17th May, 1893, bringing the above Act into force from and after the 1st day of June, 1893; and a proclamation was issued by the President of the United States on the 17th day of July, 1893, declaring the United States Act (similar) and amendments thereto, in full force and effect. The text of the proclamation of the President, referred to, is printed for the information of Collectors and forms the subject of Circular No. 14208 issued by the Treasury Department, Bureau of Navigation, Washington, on the 28th July, 1893, and forwarded to all Collectors of United States Customs.