

PART V

Despatch and Receipt

CHAPTER I

ARTICLE 141

Date-Stamp Impressions

1.—Correspondence is impressed on the front by the office of origin with a stamp indicating, as far as possible in Roman characters, the place of origin and the date of posting.

In localities with several post offices, the obliterating stamp must indicate the office of posting.

The application of the stamp prescribed in the preceding paragraphs is not obligatory for correspondence prepaid by means of impressions made by franking machines if such impressions indicate the place of origin and the date of posting. Moreover the application of the stamp in question is not required for unregistered articles sent at a reduced rate, provided that the place of origin is indicated on the articles.

2. All valid postage stamps must be obliterated.

Postage stamps not cancelled through error or oversight on the part of the office of origin must be struck through with a thick line or cancelled in some other way by the office which detects the irregularity, but they are not stamped with the date-stamp.

3.—Mis-sent correspondence must be date-stamped by the office which it has reached by mistake. This obligation is imposed not only on stationary offices, but also on travelling post offices as far as possible.

4.—The stamping of correspondence posted on board ships rests with the postal official or the officer on board charged with this duty, or, in their absence, the post office at the port to which the correspondence is handed over *à découvert*. In the latter case this office impresses the correspondence with its date-stamp, and adds the words "*Navire*," "*Paquebot*," or some similar note.

ARTICLE 142

Express Articles

Articles to be delivered by express are provided, as far as possible, beside the indication of the place of destination with a printed label, dark red in colour, bearing in large letters the word "Express."

ARTICLE 143

Articles Unpaid or Insufficiently Prepaid

1.—Correspondence on which any charge whatever has to be collected after posting, either from the addressee, or in the case of undelivered correspondence, from the sender, is impressed with the stamp T (tax to be paid) in the upper right-hand corner of the address side; the indication in francs and centimes of the amount to be collected is entered in very legible figures beside this stamp.