

ARTICLE 59

Return of Empty Bags

1. In the absence of other arrangements between the corresponding Offices, bags must be returned empty by the next mail in a direct despatch to the country of origin. The number of bags returned in each mail must be entered under the heading "*Indications de service*" on the letter bill.

The return of empty bags is effected between offices of exchange appointed for this purpose.

The empty bags must be rolled up and tied together in suitable bundles, the label blocks, if any, being placed inside the bags. The bundles must bear a label showing the name of the office of exchange whence the bags have been received whenever they are returned through another office of exchange.

If the bags to be returned are not too numerous, they may be placed in the sealed bags containing correspondence. Otherwise, they must be placed separately in sealed bags, labelled with the names of the respective offices of exchange. The labels must be marked "*Sacs vides*" (Empty bags).

2. With the aid of the particulars entered under the heading "*Indications de service*" on the letter bill, each Administration is able to exercise in its service a check upon the return of bags belonging to it. When this check shows that 10 per cent of the total number of the bags used in one year for the making up of mails have not been returned before the end of that year, the Office which is unable to prove the return of the empty bags is required to reimburse to the Office of despatch the value of the missing bags. Payment must also be made if the number of missing bags does not amount to 10 per cent but exceeds 50 bags.

Each Administration fixes periodically, and uniformly for all kinds of bags used by its offices of exchange, an average value in francs and notifies it to the Administrations concerned through the medium of the International Bureau.

PART VII

Provisions Concerning Transit and Warehousing Charges

CHAPTER I

Statistical Operations

ARTICLE 60

Transit Statistics

1. The transit charges payable in execution of Articles 73 *et seq.*, of the Convention are based on statistics prepared once in every three years during the first 14 or 28 days of the month of May or during the 14 or 28 days which follow the 14th of October, alternately.

Mails made up on board ships are included in the statistics if they are landed during the statistical period.

The statistics will be taken during the second year of each triennial period.

The statistics of May, 1929, and the relative accounts prepared according to the provisions of the Convention of Stockholm will apply to the liquidation of transit charges up to the end of the year 1931.

The statistics of October-November, 1933, will apply to the years 1932, 1933, 1934 and so on.