

the countries concerned, but the responsibility of these countries is limited to that prescribed for registered articles.

The transit of small packets through the territory of countries which do not accept those articles is optional.

ARTICLE 26

Prohibition of Unauthorized Charges

It is forbidden to impose any postal charge whatever except those prescribed by the Convention and the Agreements.

ARTICLE 27

Temporary Suspension of Service

When an Administration finds itself obliged, owing to exceptional circumstances, temporarily to suspend its services, either wholly or in part, it must at once notify the fact, if necessary by telegraph, to the Administration or Administrations concerned.

ARTICLE 28

Monetary Standard

The franc regarded as the monetary unit in the provisions of the Convention and the Agreements is the gold franc of 100 centimes of a weight of 10/31 of a gramme and of a fineness of 0.900.

ARTICLE 29

Equivalents

In each country of the Union, postage rates are fixed at the closest possible equivalent of the value of the franc in the actual currency of the country.

ARTICLE 30

Forms. Language

1. The forms used by the Administrations in their mutual relations must be drawn up in French, with or without an interlinear translation in another language, unless the Administrations concerned arrange otherwise by direct agreement.

2. The forms used by the public which are not printed in French must include an interlinear translation in that language.

3. So far as the forms referred to in §§1 and 2 are concerned, the wording, colours, and, as far as possible, the dimensions must be those prescribed by the Detailed Regulations of the Convention and of the Agreements.

4. Administrations may by common consent decide upon the language to be used in official correspondence in their reciprocal relations.

ARTICLE 31

Identity Cards

1. Each Administration may issue, to persons who apply for them, identity cards to serve as evidence of identity for all kinds of post office business in the countries which have not notified their refusal to admit them.

2. The Administration which issues an identity card is authorized to make, on this account, a charge which may not exceed 1 franc.

3. Administrations are relieved from all responsibility when it is established that a postal packet was delivered or a money order was paid on presentation of a valid identity card.