



No. 110.

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3rd Session, 8th Parliament, 61 Victoria, 1898

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BILL.

An Act to amend The Post Office Act.

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First reading, April 1st, 1898.

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Mr. MULOCK.

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1898

## An Act further to amend the Post Office Act.

HER Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:—

1. On all letters transmitted by post for any distance within Canada, except in cases herein otherwise specially provided for, there shall be charged and paid one uniform rate of two cents per ounce weight, any fraction of an ounce being chargeable as an ounce, and such postage rate of two cents shall be prepaid by postage stamp or stamps at the time of posting the letter.

Rate of postage on letters within Canada.

2. Letters wholly unpaid shall not be forwarded by post; but letters which are addressed to any place in Canada and on which any postage has been prepaid by stamp shall be forwarded to their destination charged with double the amount of the postage thereon not so prepaid, which amount shall be collected on delivery.

Prepayment obligatory.

Exception.

3. This section shall not have force or effect until a day to be named to the Governor General by his proclamation, and upon such day the section substituted for section 20 of *The Post Office Act* by section 4 of chapter 20 of the statutes of 1889 shall be deemed to be repealed.

Commencement of this section upon proclamation.

2. Section 26 of *The Post Office Act*, as amended by section 7 of chapter 20 of the statutes of 1889, and except as herein-after otherwise provided, is hereby repealed and the following is substituted therefor:—

R.S.C., c. 85, new s. 26.

“26. On and after the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine, newspapers and periodicals, printed and published in Canada, mailed by the publisher in the post office at the place where they are published and addressed to regular subscribers or newsdealers in Canada, resident elsewhere than in the place of publication, shall be transmitted by mail to their respective addresses as follows:— If they do not require to be transmitted by mail a distance greater than ten miles from the place of publication, they shall be so transmitted free of postage; if they require to be transmitted a greater distance, then after the said day, and until and inclusive of the thirtieth day of June next following, at the rate of one-quarter of one cent, and thereafter at the rate of one-half of one cent, for each pound weight or any fraction of a pound weight, which shall be prepaid by postage stamps or otherwise, as the Postmaster General from time to time directs, provided that—

Rates of postage on newspapers and periodicals after 1st January, 1899.

“(a.) Such newspaper or periodical is known and recognized as a newspaper or periodical in the generally received sense of

Intervals of publication.

the word, and published regularly at intervals of not more than one month;

Title, date and place of publication.

“(b.) The full title, place and date of publication, and the distinguishing number of the issue are printed at the top of the first page, and also on any paper purporting to be a supplement to it and sent with it; 5

To whom to be addressed.

“(c.) It is addressed to a *bonâ fide* subscriber, or to a known newsdealer in Canada; and—

Delivery into post office.

“(d.) It is delivered into the post office under such regulations as the Postmaster General, from time to time, makes for 10 that purpose.

Weight, how determined.

“2. For the purpose of determining the weights of such newspapers or periodicals, each newspaper or periodical transmitted separately through the mails shall be held to weigh not less than one-half of one ounce. 15

Powers of Postmaster General.

“3. The Postmaster General may decide whether any publication, for which transmission at the rates herein mentioned is claimed, is or is not a newspaper or periodical within the meaning and intent of this section, and whether the requirements thereof have or have not been complied with in regard 20 to it, and from time to time may make any regulations he deems necessary to give full effect to the provisions of this section, or to prevent fraudulent evasions thereof.”

Section 42 amended.

“3. Section 42 of *The Post Office Act* is hereby amended by adding thereto the following subsection:— 25

Books for the blind, free of postage.

“8. Books for the use of the blind shall be free of Canada postage under such regulations as are from time to time made in that respect by the Postmaster General.”

New section 44.

“4. The subsection substituted for subsection 1 of section 44 of the said Act by section 10 of chapter 20 of the statutes 30 of 1889, is hereby repealed and the following is substituted therefor:—

Dead letters, how dealt with.

“4. Except as in this Act otherwise provided, letters or other articles which, from any cause, remain undelivered in any post office, or which, having been posted, cannot be forwarded by post, shall, under such regulations as the Postmaster General makes, be transmitted by postmasters to the Post Office Department, or to such other places as the Postmaster General directs, as dead letters, there to be opened and returned to the writers or senders on payment of any postage due 40 thereon with three cents additional on each dead letter to defray the cost of returning it, less, in the case of insufficiently prepaid letters or other mailable matter posted in Canada, such amount of postage as has been prepaid thereon; or such dead letters may, in any case or class of cases, be otherwise disposed 45 of as the Postmaster General directs.”

Examination of post office clerks.

“5. Hereafter clerks employed in post offices shall not be required to pass the promotion examination provided for by section 39 of *The Civil Service Act*, but shall be examined on the work of the post office, at such times and by such persons 50 as are from time to time designated by the Postmaster General.