

POST OFFICE AMENDMENT BILL

EXPLANATORY NOTE

THIS Bill contains miscellaneous amendments to the Post Office Act 1959.

Clause 2: Section 43 of the principal Act provides for the payment of a Customs clearance fee in respect of goods arriving by post and subject to Customs duty. Goods sometimes are liable for sales tax only and the amendment provides for the payment of a Customs clearance fee in any such case.

Clause 3: This clause, by repealing the relevant sections, provides that a special licence will no longer be necessary to sell or deal in postage stamps.

Clause 4: This clause empowers the making of regulations permitting the cancellation or correction of telegrams by the sender before delivery to the addressee.

Clause 5: This clause applies certain provisions of the Banking Act 1908 and the Bills of Exchange Act 1908 to the Post Office Savings Bank. A similar amendment was made recently in respect of trustee savings banks.

Clause 6 removes the term “poundage” from a section of the principal Act relating to postal notes and postal orders. The term will not be correct when the decimal currency legislation becomes operative and the amendment is proposed in anticipation of that event. In future the term “commission”, instead of “poundage”, will apply in respect of postal orders and postal notes.

Clause 7: No provision exists in the legislation authorising the retirement of an officer on the grounds of ill health if he is not a contributor to the superannuation fund. This clause authorises the making of regulations to meet any such case.

Clause 8: The principal Act prohibits the unauthorised use of the term “Royal Mail” on vehicles and vessels. This amendment extends the prohibition to aircraft.

Hon. Mr Scott

POST OFFICE AMENDMENT

ANALYSIS

Title	4. Cancellation of telegrams
1. Short Title	5. Application of other Acts
2. Customs clearance fee	6. Alteration of term
3. Licences to sell stamps	7. Staff regulations
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A BILL INTITULED

An Act to amend the Post Office Act 1959

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same,
5 as follows:

1. **Short Title**—This Act may be cited as the Post Office Amendment Act 1965, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Post Office Act 1959* (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).
- 10 2. **Customs clearance fee**—Subsection (1) of section 43 of the principal Act is hereby amended by inserting, after the words "Customs duty", the words "or sales tax".
3. **Licences to sell stamps**—(1) Sections 72 and 73 of the principal Act are hereby repealed.
- 15 (2) Section 70 of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting the words "or to licensees or other persons authorised to sell stamps".

*1959, No. 30
Amendments 1962, No. 27; 1963, No. 107; 1964, No. 105

4. Cancellation of telegrams—Subsection (2) of section 105 of the principal Act (as amended by subsection (2) of section 4 of the Post Office Amendment Act 1962) is hereby further amended by adding the following paragraph:

“(j) Providing for the cancellation or correction of telegrams by the sender before delivery to the addressee and prescribing conditions subject to which any such cancellation or correction may take place.” 5

5. Application of other Acts—The principal Act is hereby further amended by inserting, after section 118, the following section: 10

“118A. (1) The provisions of sections 19 to 22 of the Banking Act 1908 shall apply with respect to the Post Office Savings Bank.

“(2) Subject to the provisions of this Act and of regulations under this Act, the provisions of the Bills of Exchange Act 1908 shall apply to the Post Office Savings Bank in all respects as if that bank were a banker within the meaning of that Act.” 15

6. Alteration of term—Subsection (1) of section 136 of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting the words “and travellers’ cheques and poundage on postal notes”, and substituting the words “travellers’ cheques, postal notes,”. 20

7. Staff regulations—Subsection (2) of section 223 of the principal Act (as amended by section 3 of the Post Office Amendment Act 1963) is hereby further amended by adding the following paragraph: 25

“(n) Prescribing conditions of retirement and providing for the retirement of officers who are medically unfit.”

8. Use of term “Royal Mail”—Paragraph (b) of section 235 of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting, in each case where they appear, the words “vehicle or vessel”, and substituting in each case the words “vehicle, vessel, or aircraft”. 30