

18. Except where otherwise specified, in computing rates and charges any fraction less than  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in the result will be omitted;  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. or more will be taken as 1d.

19. Where a rate is shown as plus or minus a certain percentage, that percentage is to be added to or deducted from the freight charges after the same have been computed at such rate.

20. In computing rates and charges odd fractions of a mile amounting to 5 chains and over will be taken as an additional mile; less than 5 chains will be omitted.

21. When notice of charges to be collected from a consignee of goods on behalf of the consignor of such goods is given to and accepted by the Department such acceptance shall in every case be expressly subject to the condition that though the Department will use reasonable care for the collection of such amounts before the goods are delivered up by the Department to the consignee, the Department gives no guarantee that such charges will be collected by it. In particular every person desiring the Department to collect charges on his behalf shall be deemed to have agreed to be bound by all the rules and practice of the Department in connection with the collection of moneys, either in respect of the granting of credit accounts or otherwise.

22. Except where a special arrangement is entered into, a commission of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. will be charged on all amounts collected by the Department on behalf of express companies and forwarding agents, coach and steamship companies, picnic parties, racing or sports clubs, or any other persons or bodies. Minimum, 3d.

23. A deduction of 10 per cent. (minimum 1s., maximum 5s.) will be made on all sums payable by the Department by way of refund not being sums coming within the provision of the last preceding paragraph of this regulation, unless it is shown that the Department is entirely responsible for the circumstances giving rise to the refund in each case.

24. Goods which have arrived at destination and are not taken delivery of by the consignees within four working-hours after arrival are thereafter held by the Department as warehousemen at the owners' sole risk, subject to the by-laws and regulations.

25. Except as otherwise provided working-hours shall be deemed to be between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sundays and days on which goods-sheds are closed for the whole day will be treated as *dies non*.

26. The Department may decline to accept for carriage, or may accept for carriage only under special agreement, articles which by reason of excessive length, bulk, weight, or other circumstance the Department considers unsuitable for carriage, or suitable for carriage only under special conditions.

27. Fruit, vegetables, fish, meat, and other goods which become, while still in the custody of the Department, offensive through putrefaction or other cause may be buried or otherwise disposed of by the Department without prejudice to the right of the Department to recover railage or other charges that may be payable thereon, and any such goods so dealt with shall be deemed to have been duly delivered to the consignee.

28. Notices for the supply of trucks given by persons intending to consign goods or live-stock will be accepted for fulfilment conditionally only upon its being found convenient to the Department to supply the trucks upon the due date. The Department will not be responsible for any loss or damage arising through failure from any cause to have trucks available by any particular date or train.

29. The Railway Department is not responsible for coach, steamer, or other services, and is not answerable for their fulfilment unless such services are managed and controlled by the Department.

30. The Department will not be responsible for the delivery of goods by any particular train or at any particular time.

#### 11. Ships' Goods on Port Lines.

1. Ships' goods will be charged according to ships' bill of lading, or by weight or measurement, at the option of the Department. The charges shall not be computed on more than twice the actual weight of any consignment: Provided that in no case shall the charges be less than when computed on half the measurement.

2. "Ships' goods," for the purposes of this regulation, means and includes goods received direct from ships on to the railway.

3. The following are port lines:—

Onehunga—Auckland.  
Breakwater—New Plymouth.

Lyttelton—Christchurch.  
Port Chalmers—Dunedin.  
Bluff—Invercargill.

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