

Penalty for refusing to be sworn or to give evidence.

6. If any person appearing as a witness before the Commission refuses to be sworn or to make an affirmation or to answer any question put to him by any of the Commissioners touching the subject matter of the inquiry he shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding Fifty pounds.

Protection to Commissioners.

7.—(1.) Every such Commissioner shall in the exercise of his duty as Commissioner have the same protection and immunity as a Justice of the High Court.

Protection to and liability of witnesses.

(2.) Every witness summoned to attend or appearing before the Commission shall have the same protection, and shall in addition to the penalties provided by this Act be subject to the same liabilities in any civil or criminal proceeding, as a witness in any case tried in the High Court.

(3.) Until the High Court is established, this section shall be read as if the words "Supreme Court of the State in which the Commission sits" were substituted for the words "High Court."

Allowances to witnesses.

8.—(1.) The Governor-General may make regulations prescribing a scale of allowances to be paid to any witness summoned under this Act for his travelling expenses and maintenance while absent from his usual place of abode.

(2.) The claim to allowance of any such witness, certified by the President or Chairman of the Commission or by the sole Commissioner as the case may be, shall be paid by the Treasurer out of moneys to be provided by the Parliament for the purposes of the Commission.

## POST AND TELEGRAPH RATES.

### No. 13 of 1902.

An Act relating to Postal and Telegraphic Rates.

[Assented to 9th September, 1902.]

BE it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, the Senate, and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, as follows :—

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the *Post and Telegraph Rates Act 1902*.

Commencement.

2. This Act shall commence on a day to be fixed by proclamation.\*

Incorporation.

3. This Act shall be incorporated and read as one with the *Post and Telegraph Act 1901*.

\* Proclaimed to commence 1st November, 1902. See *Gazette*, 26th September, 1902.

4. In this Act unless the contrary intention appears—

Definition.

“Rate” means the fee or charge for the performance of any postal or telegraphic service.

5. Telegrams, letters, and postal articles transmitted or posted on behalf of the King, the Commonwealth Government, or any State Government shall, unless exempted by some Act, be subject to the postal and telegraphic rates for the time being in force. Subject to such regulations as the Governor-General may prescribe telegrams may be transmitted without charge on behalf of the Meteorological Department of or subsidized by a State until the establishment of a Commonwealth Meteorological Department.

Rates to be paid on Government correspondence.

6. The rates for the conveyance of newspapers posted within the Commonwealth shall be as set out in the First Schedule to this Act.

Newspaper rates.

7. The rates for the transmission of telegrams within the Commonwealth shall be as set out in the Second Schedule to this Act.

Telegraphic rates.

8. All Braille and Moon postal articles shall be conveyed without charge under Departmental regulations.

Braille and Moon postal articles free.

9. The power of the Governor-General under section ninety-seven of the *Post and Telegraph Act* 1901 to make regulations shall include the power to make regulations for prescribing the limits within which the rates for town and suburban telegrams and letters shall have effect, and for prescribing charges for the portage of telegrams.

Limits of town and suburban telegraph rates.

## SCHEDULES.

### FIRST SCHEDULE.

#### NEWSPAPERS.

On all newspapers posted for delivery within the Commonwealth (without condition as to the number contained in each addressed wrapper), by registered newspaper proprietors, or by newsvendors, or returned by an agent or newsvendor to the publishing office

One penny per twenty ounces on the aggregate weight of newspapers so posted by any one person at any one time.

On all other newspapers posted within the Commonwealth for delivery therein

For each newspaper. — One halfpenny per ten ounces, or fraction of ten ounces, avoirdupois weight.

## SECOND SCHEDULE.

## PART I.—ORDINARY TELEGRAMS.

	Town and Suburban, within prescribed limits, or within fifteen miles from the sending station.	Other places within the State, except Town and Suburban.	Inter-State, <i>i.e.</i> , from any one State to any other State.
Including address and signature—			
Not exceeding sixteen words	Sixpence ...	Ninepence ...	One shilling
Each additional word ...	One penny ...	One penny ...	One penny

On telegrams from and to Tasmania the charges to be those mentioned above with cable charges added.

Double the foregoing rates to be charged for the transmission of telegrams on Sunday, Christmas Day, and Good Friday, and for "urgent" telegrams.

The foregoing rates are exclusive of portorage charges.

## PART II.—PRESS TELEGRAMS.

	Within any State.	Inter-State, <i>i.e.</i> , from any one State to any other State.	Relating to Parlia- mentary, Executive, Departmental, and other Commonwealth Proceedings as may be prescribed.
Not exceeding 25 words ...	Sixpence ...	One shilling	
Exceeding 25, but not ex- ceeding 50 words	Ninepence ...	One shilling and sixpence	
Exceeding 50, but not ex- ceeding 100 words	One shilling and sixpence	Three shillings	
Every additional 50 words or portion of 50 words	Sixpence ...	One shilling	
<i>Within the Commonwealth.</i>			
Not exceeding 25 words ...	...	...	One shilling
Exceeding 25, but not exceeding 100 words ...	...	...	One shilling and sixpence
Every additional 50 words or portion of 50 words	...	...	Sixpence

The foregoing rates are exclusive of portorage charges.

On telegrams from and to Tasmania the charges to be those mentioned above with cable charges added.