

No. 60.

The SECRETARY, General Post Office, Wellington, to the CHIEF ELECTRICIAN AND INSPECTING OFFICER, Pacific Cable Board, Sydney.

SIR,—

General Post Office, Wellington, 28th August, 1907.

I have the honour to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, enclosing copy of a letter from your General Manager on the subject of suggestions to be put forward by the associated telegraph companies for consideration at the Lisbon Conference of 1908.

Before offering an opinion on the proposals, this Department would prefer to learn what action the British Post Office intends to take. While the proposal to allow combined or coined words to be accepted on the same terms as code-words has much to commend it from an international point of view, many difficulties can be foreseen if the system is adopted, as the public would not rest content if they were allowed to use combined words in cable messages while debarred from doing so in inland telegrams.

I have, &c.,

D. ROBERTSON, Secretary.

J. Milward, Esq., Chief Electrician and Inspecting Officer, Pacific Cable Board,
Devon Chambers, 40 Hunter Street, Sydney.

[Tel. 07/1001.]

No. 61.

The Hon. the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Wellington, to the SECRETARY, General Post Office, London.

SIR,—

General Post Office, Wellington, 30th August, 1907.

I have the honour to attach hereto copy of letter from the General Manager, Pacific Cable Board, London, about suggestions to be submitted to the Lisbon Conference of 1908 by a number of telegraphic companies, which has been forwarded to this Department by Mr. Milward, the Board's Chief Electrician and Inspecting Officer at Sydney.

Mr. Milward has been informed that before an opinion is offered on the proposals this Department would prefer to learn what action your Administration intends to take. It has also been added that, while the proposal to allow combined or coined words to be accepted on the same terms as code-words has much to commend it from an international point of view, many difficulties can be foreseen if the system is adopted, as the public would not rest content if they were allowed to use combined words in cable messages whilst debarred from doing so in inland telegrams.

Perhaps you will be so good as to favour me with an expression of your views on the proposals.

I have, &c.,

D. ROBERTSON,

For the Postmaster-General.

The Secretary, General Post Office, London.

[Tel. 07/1001.]

No. 62.

The DIRECTOR, International Bureau of Telegraphic Administrations, Berne, to the SECRETARY, General Post Office, Wellington.

International Bureau of Telegraphic Administrations, Berne,

1st October, 1907.

SIR,—

I have the honour to forward you the following items of interest to the Telegraph Administrations of the Union, which have been brought under notice since the last notification:—

International Telegraph Conference: The Portuguese Administration informs me that the next International Telegraph Conference will meet in Lisbon on the 20th April, 1908, and that the invitations in connection therewith will be forwarded to the States of the Union through the usual diplomatic channel.

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I have, &c.,

E. FREY, Director.

[Tel. 08/822.]

No. 63.

The SECRETARY, General Post Office, London, to the Hon. the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Wellington.

SIR,—

General Post Office, London, 15th January, 1908.

With reference to your letter of the 30th August last, in regard to the proposals of the Eastern and other cable companies for the approaching International Telegraph Conference of Lisbon, I am directed by the Postmaster-General to forward, for your information, the accompanying reports of meetings with representatives of the companies on the subject, together with copies of proposals which will be submitted to the Conference on behalf of the British Administration.

The Postmaster-General has given full and careful consideration to the important proposal of the Eastern and other cable companies in favour of admitting as code-words, up to a limit of ten