POSTAL UNION OF THE AMERICAS AND SPAIN

Convention and final protocol signed at Panama December 22, 1936 [1]
Ratified and approved by the Postmaster General of the United States August 12, 1937
Approved by the President of the United States August 20, 1937
Ratification of the United States deposited at Panama September 17, 1937
Entered into force October 1, 1937
Terminated by convention of September 25, 1946 [2]

50 Stat. 1657; Post Office Department print

[TRANSLATION]

CONVENTION

concluded between Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Spain, the United States of America, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

The undersigned, Plenipotentiaries of the Governments of the countries above enumerated, assembled in Congress in the city of Panama, Republic of Panama, making use of the right granted them by Article 5 of the Convention of the Universal Postal Union in force, and inspired by the desire to extend and perfect their postal relations and establish a solidarity of action capable of representing effectively in Universal Postal Congresses their common interests in regard to communications by mail, have determined to conclude, subject to ratification, the following Convention:

ARTICLE 1

Postal Union of the Americas and Spain

The contracting countries, in accordance with the foregoing declaration, constitute, under the name of *Postal Union of the Americas and Spain,* a single postal territory.

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[1] For text of regulations for execution of the convention, see 50 Stat. 1681; for text of 11 resolutions of the Fourth Pan American Postal Congress, see 50 Stat. 1691.
[2] *Post,* vol. 4.

ARTICLE 2

Restricted Unions

1. The contracting countries, whether on account of their adjacent location or on account of the intensity of their postal relations, may establish closer unions among themselves, with a view to the reduction of rates or the introduction of other improvements in any of the services referred to in the present Convention or in the special Agreements concluded by this Congress.

2. Likewise, concerning matters not provided for in the present Convention, or in that of the Universal Postal Union, the signatory countries may adopt among themselves such resolutions as they deem necessary, through correspondence, or, if necessary, by establishing a special Agreement, in accordance with the authorization conferred upon them by the present Article or their domestic legislation.

ARTICLE 3

Free and gratuitous transit

1. The gratuity of territorial, fluvial and maritime transit is absolute in the territory of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain; consequently, the countries which form it obligate themselves to transport across their territories, and to convey by the ships of their registry or flag which they utilize for the transportation of their own correspondence, without any charge whatsoever to the contracting countries, all that which the latter send to any destination.

2. In cases of reforwarding, the contracting countries are bound to reforward the correspondence by the ways and means which they utilize for their own dispatches.

ARTICLE 4

Articles of correspondence

1. The provisions of this Convention will apply to letters, single and reply post cards, prints of all kinds, commercial papers, samples without value, small packets, insured articles and small insured articles.

2. The services of small packets, insured articles and small insured articles are limited to countries which agree to execute them, either in their reciprocal relations or in one direction only.

ARTICLE 5

Postage rates

1. The postage rates of the domestic service of each country will govern in the relations of the countries which constitute the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain, except when said domestic rates are higher than those applicable to correspondence destined for countries of the Universal Postal Union, in which case the latter will govern.

2. The international rates will also govern when it is a question of services which do not exist in the domestic régime.

3. For small packets and small insured articles, respectively, the rates will govern which are mentioned in Articles 6 and 7 of this Convention.

Article 6

Small packets

1. In the optional service of small packets mentioned in Article 4 of this Convention, no article may weigh more than one kilogram, or contain objects whose mercantile value at the place where they are mailed exceeds the value of 10 gold francs or the equivalent thereof in money of the country of origin.

2. Administrations which execute the service of small packets created by the Universal Convention will not be obliged to observe, in their reciprocal relations, any provision in conflict with the stipulations of the Universal Convention relating to small packets.

3. Small packets of any kind exchanged between countries of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain, in view of the fact that they are not liable to payment of transit charges, will be prepaid at the rates adopted in each country for parcels in its domestic service, or the Administrations may apply to such small packets the rates prescribed by the Universal Postal Convention.

4. The Administrations of destination may submit small packets to customs handling in accordance with the provisions of their domestic legislation.

5. The Administrations of the countries of destination may collect from the addressees of small packets:

(a) A fee of 50 centimes of a gold franc at most for the operations, formalities and handling involved in customs clearance;

(b) A fee which may not exceed 15 centimes of a gold franc for the delivery of each packet; that fee may be increased to 30 centimes of a gold franc at most in case of delivery at the addressee's residence.

6. When small packets are considered by the customs of the country of destination as exempt from payment of customs duties, the delivery fees provided for in paragraph (b) of Section 5 of this Article will not be applicable.

Article 7

Small insured articles

1. As an optional measure, and under the denomination of *small insured articles,* letters may be exchanged between the contracting countries which contain paper money or valuable papers, the contents being insured up to the amount of the declared value, which will be 50 gold francs at most for each letter.

The other articles mentioned in Article 4 of this Convention may also be accepted in this service, with the exception of small packets.

2. Postage on the small insured articles mentioned in the preceding Section shall be fully prepaid by the sender, and will be composed, for each article:

(a) Of the postage and the fixed fee applicable to a registered article in the domestic service of each country;

(b) Of an insurance fee of 10 gold centimes for each 10 gold francs or fraction of declared value.

3. The declared value must be equal to the actual value of the article. The amount of the declaration for documents which represent a value by reason of the cost of their preparation may not exceed the actual expense of replacing said documents in case of loss.

4. Administrations which execute the service of small insured articles will be responsible for loss or damage of such articles, up to the amount of the actual value of the damage done, but not exceeding 50 gold francs.

5. Administrations of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain which do not execute the service of small insured articles will nevertheless assume, for the transit of such articles in closed mails, the responsibility provided for in the said Union for registered correspondence.

6. The contracting countries which desire to execute the service of small insured articles, and which are already signatories of the Insurance Agreement of the Universal Postal Union, will apply the Universal rate for insured letters in their reciprocal relations only when the value is in excess of 50 gold francs.

7. Administrations which agree to execute the service of small insured articles will make the necessary arrangements for extending that service as far as possible to all offices of their respective countries.

8. In the absence of agreement to the contrary for the exchange of the small insured articles mentioned in this Article, offices of the contracting Administrations may employ the covers and other forms used in their domestic service, it being permissible to word bulletins of verification, reports, waybills, as well as all notations made on these and other documents relative to small insured articles, in the language of each country.

Article 8

Reply coupons

1. The selling-price to the public of each reply coupon under the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain is 20 centimes of a gold franc or the equivalent thereof in money of the country which issues them.

2. Each coupon is exchangeable, in any of the countries which form this Union, for postage stamps equal to 15 centimes of a gold franc in money of the country which exchanges it.

3. The balance of 5 centimes remains in favor of the issuing Administration.

4. A special model of reply coupon is established in the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain, to be printed and sold to the countries composing that Union by the International Office of Montevideo.

Article 9

Registered correspondence—Responsibility

1. The articles designated in Article 4 may be sent under registration upon payment of a fee equal to that established in the domestic service of the country of origin, except when the domestic fee is higher than that applicable under the Universal Postal Convention, in which case the latter will govern.

2. Save in cases of *force majeure,* the contracting Administrations will be responsible for the loss of every registered article. The sender will be entitled to an indemnity which may in no case exceed ten gold francs or the equivalent thereof in money of the country which must pay it.

3. Nevertheless, Administrations will be relieved of responsibility for loss of registered articles whose contents fall under the prohibitions mentioned in Article 15 of the present Convention, or which are prohibited by the laws and regulations of the country of origin or of destination, provided that said country has given due notice by the usual means.

4. There is established, as optional, a special category of registers without right to indemnity, applicable to books, periodicals and other prints, commercial papers, and samples without value, subject to payment, in addition to the ordinary postage, of a reduced fee whose amount will be fixed by the Administrations concerned. The service of this new type of registered articles is limited to the exchange with the Administrations which have agreed to execute it. In order to indicate their special character, the articles shall be designated by the initials *S. I.* (*Sin idemnización*—without indemnity), the same notation being made in the *Observations* column of the descriptive lists, as well as on tracers sent in order to investigate their disposal.

5. Nevertheless, Administrations which adopt, in a general manner, a reduced registration fee for all articles other than letters and post cards, will not be obliged to observe the formalities prescribed by the last part of the preceding Section.

Article 10

Obligatory prepayment

1. With the exception of letters in their usual and ordinary form, complete prepayment of all classes of correspondence, including sealed packages, is declared obligatory.

2. Sealed packages, as well as other articles not prepaid or insufficiently

prepaid, will be held at the office of origin, which will dispose of them in the manner prescribed by its domestic legislation.

3. Insufficiently prepaid letters will give rise to the collection from the addressee of a charge equivalent to twice the amount of the missing postage.

4. Newspapers, magazines and periodical publications accepted in the country of origin under the *postage paid* service will be delivered in the country of destination without collecting any charge.

ARTICLE 11

Weight and dimensions

The limits of weight and dimensions of the various articles of correspondence will conform to those fixed therefor by the Universal Postal Convention in force, with the exception of prints, whose weight will be fixed at 5 kilograms, or even as much as 10 kilograms when it is a question of works in a single volume. However, in regard to the acceptance of articles with a weight greater than 5 but not exceeding 10 kilograms, when it is not a question of works in a single volume, a previous agreement will be made between the Administrations concerned.

ARTICLE 12

Undelivered articles

Ordinary post cards, prints, and samples without value, which have not been delivered for any reason will be destroyed or treated in accordance with the domestic legislation of the country of destination, unless they bear a request for return and also the name and address of the sender, in which case they will be returned to the country of origin.

ARTICLE 13

Franking privilege

1. The contracting parties agree to grant the franking privilege, both in their domestic service and in the Americo-Spanish service:

(a) To correspondence relative to the postal service exchanged between Administrations of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain; between those Administrations and the International Office of Montevideo; between the same Administrations and the Transfer Office of Panama; between the latter and the aforesaid International Office; between post offices of Americo-Spanish countries and between those offices and the Postal Administrations of the countries mentioned;

(b) To correspondence of members of the Diplomatic Corps of the signatory countries;

(c) To official correspondence which Consuls send to their respective countries; to that which they exchange among themselves; to that which

they address to the Government of the country in which they are accredited, and to that which they exchange with their respective Embassies and Legations, whenever reciprocity exists;

(d) The franking privilege will be enjoyed by newspapers, periodical publications, books, pamphlets and other prints sent by publishers or authors to Information Offices established by Postal Administrations of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain, as well as those sent free of charge to libraries and other national cultural centers officially recognized by the Governments of the countries forming this Union;

(e) To official correspondence sent and received by the Pan American Union in Washington.

2. Official correspondence of the Central Governments of the countries of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain which circulates free in their domestic service under their domestic legislation is admitted to the same franking privilege in the country of destination without the collection of any charge thereby, whenever strict reciprocity is observed.

3. The franking privilege will also be enjoyed by correspondence of National Commissions of Intellectual Cooperation set up under the auspices of the Governments in accordance with Pan American and Universal Conventions in force.

4. The franking privilege granted to Consuls by Section 1, letter (c), will be extended to Vice-Consuls when the latter are discharging the functions of Consuls.

5. The correspondence referred to by paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of Section 1 may also be sent free of postage under registration, but without right to indemnity in case of loss, rifling or damage.

6. The exchange of correspondence of the Diplomatic Corps, between the Secretaries of State of the respective countries and their Embassies or Legations, will have a reciprocal character among the contracting countries, and will be effected in open mail or by means of diplomatic pouches, in accordance with the provisions of Article 106 of the Regulations of Execution.[3] These pouches will enjoy the franking privilege and all safeguards of official dispatches.

7. The franking privilege dealt with in the present Article will not be applicable in the air service or in other special services existing in the Americo-Spanish régime or in the domestic services of the contracting countries.

Article 14

Reduction of rates

Articles exchanged by Directors of National Primary Schools and similar institutions of countries of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain will

[3] See footnote 1, p. 302.

enjoy a special rate equivalent to 50% of the ordinary rate, whenever their net weight does not exceed one kilogram and they comply with the conditions fixed for their postal classification.

Correspondence of an epistolary nature is excepted.

ARTICLE 15

Prohibitions

1. Without prejudice to the provisions of the Universal Postal Convention in force and of the domestic legislation of any country regarding restrictions on the circulation of correspondence, the following will not be forwarded:

(a) Publications endangering public safety and order.

(b) Any publication containing ideas or imputations injurious to the legally constituted régime.[4]

(c) Pornographic publications, and any other writings or publications whose text is considered offensive to morals and good customs.

(d) Correspondence of any nature having for its object the commission of frauds, swindles or any kind of crimes against property or persons. To that end, the provisions of the domestic legislation of each country will be followed.

(e) That which has for its fundamental object the diffusion among the people of communistic doctrines.[4]

(f) Correspondence containing money in cash, bank notes, or values payable to the bearer, whether it is a question of ordinary or registered correspondence, in the absence of agreement to the contrary between the Administrations concerned.

2. If, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (f), dispatch is given, through error or otherwise, to the articles referred to therein, the Administrations of the countries of destination are authorized to deliver them to their respective addressees if their domestic legislation permits, subject to the requirements provided for thereby; otherwise, the articles will be returned to the Administration of origin.

ARTICLE 16

Special services

The high contracting parties may, on the basis of special agreements or by correspondence, extend to the other countries of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain such postal services as they carry on or may in the future establish within their respective countries.

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[4] For text of a reservation made in the final protocol by the United States and several other countries, see p. 317.

ARTICLE 17

Postage paid service

The contracting countries will have the option of adopting the *Postage paid* service for the transmission of newspapers or periodical publications, open or in bundles, including those for propaganda or purely commercial advertising, provided that a reduced rate is not applied to the latter.

ARTICLE 18

Service forms sent by air mail

The forms provided for in the Regulations of Execution of the Universal Postal Convention for requests for return or change of address, as well as those relative to inquiries about any article of correspondence, may be sent by air mail.

Such forms will be forwarded by air mail only when they are inclosed in an envelope duly prepaid as airmail correspondence, the Administrations being authorized to collect, for that purpose, the postage and surcharges necessary for such prepayment.

The forms so transmitted will bear a note relative to the fact at the top of the front. They will be considered as urgent in character, and will therefore be given preferential treatment by the Administrations concerned.

ARTICLE 19

Official language

Spanish is adopted as the official language for matters relative to the postal service. Nevertheless, countries whose language is not this may use their own.

ARTICLE 20

Protection and exchange of postal functionaries

1. The Administrations of the contracting countries will be obliged to lend mutually, upon request, the cooperation required by their employees charged with the transportation of correspondence in transit through such countries, and likewise will furnish all manner of facilities to such functionaries as one Administration may agree to send to any other to carry on studies regarding the development and perfection of postal services.

2. The Administrations, through the intermediary of the International Office of Montevideo, will come to agreements to effect an annual exchange of functionaries of similar grades, for a period of stay not exceeding two months.

3. Once that the exchange is agreed upon between two Administrations, the latter will decide upon the manner in which the relative expenses are to be shared, at the initiative and through the intermediary of the International Office of Montevideo.

ARTICLE 21

International Transfer Office

1. There shall continue to exist in the Republic of Panama an International Transfer Office, which is charged with receiving and forwarding all mail dispatches originating in Administrations of the Union which do not have their own service in the Isthmus which, upon passing in transit through the same, give rise to transfer operations.

2. Said Office will function in accordance with the Regulations agreed upon between the International Office of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain and the Postal Administration of Panama.

3. Amendments which at any time may have to be made in the aforesaid Regulations will be submitted by the Administrations concerned to the International Office at Montevideo for consideration in order that they may be proposed to the Postal Administration of Panama through its mediation.

4. The organization and operation of the International Transfer Office are subject to supervision and control by the Administration of Posts and Telegraphs of Panama and the International Office of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain with headquarters in Montevideo, upon which latter it is incumbent to act as mediator and arbitrator in any dispute arising between the Postal Administration of Panama and countries which utilize the services of said Office.

5. The personnel attached to the service of the aforesaid Office will be designated by the Administration of Posts and Telegraphs of Panama, and will be considered permanent, in accordance with the provisions established by the Regulations of the Office concerning it.

6. The expenses to which the maintenance of this Office gives rise will be borne by the countries which utilize its services, divided proportionally to the number of sacks which they exchange through its intermediary.

The Administration of Panama will advance the necessary funds for the maintenance of prompt services by the Office.

Said amounts will be repaid quarterly by each Administration concerned, but repayments which are not made within a period of six months after the expiration of each quarter will bear interest at the rate of 5% a year, for the purpose of increasing the maintenance funds of the Transfer Office.

ARTICLE 22

Arbitration

Every conflict or disagreement arising in the postal relations of the contracting countries will be settled by arbitration, which will be effected in the manner prescribed by the Convention of the Universal Postal Union in force. The designation of arbitrators shall be incumbent upon the signatory countries, with the intervention of the International Office of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain, if necessary.

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Article 23

International Office of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain

1. With the name of *International Office of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain,* there functions in Montevideo, under the general supervision of the Administration of Posts of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, a Central Office which serves as an organ of liaison, information and consultation for countries of the Union.

2. This Office will be charged with:

(a) Assembling, co-ordinating, publishing and distributing information of all kinds which specially concerns the Americo-Spanish postal service.

(b) Giving, at the express request of the parties concerned, its opinion on disputed questions.

(c) Giving, on its own initiative or at the request of any of the Administrations of the signatory countries, its opinion on all matters of a postal character which affect or relate to the general interests of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain.

(d) Making known requests for modification of Acts of the Congress which are formulated, and giving notice of changes which are adopted.

(e) Making known the results obtained from the regulatory provisions and measures of importance which the Administrations adopt in their domestic service, which are communicated to it by the same Administrations as information.

(f) Distributing postal maps and guides which the respective Administrations send it, as well as collecting the necessary data to prepare and distribute a map indicating the airmail lines of the Americas and Spain.

(g) Making a summary of Americo-Spanish postal statistics, on the basis of data which each Administration communicates to it annually.

(h) Publishing a report relative to the most rapid routes for transmission of correspondence from one of the contracting countries to another.

(i) Preparing a table giving in detail all maritime services dependent upon countries of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain which may be utilized gratuitously for the transportation of their correspondence, under the conditions laid down by Article 3 preceding.

(j) Publishing the tariff of postage rates of the domestic service of each of the countries concerned, and the table of equivalents.

(k) Publishing and distributing among the countries of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain, annually, a report of the work which it performs.

(l) Carrying out studies and works requested of it in the interests of the contracting countries, relative to work of social, economic and artistic co-operation, for which purpose the International Office will always be at the disposal of said countries, to furnish them any special information which they require on matters relative to the Americo-Spanish postal service.

(m) Taking part and collaborating in the organization and convening of Congresses and Conferences of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain.

(n) Distributing among the Administrations of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain the postal laws and regulations of each; said Administrations accordingly being obligated to furnish the Office mentioned twenty-five copies of the laws and regulations in question.

3. The special expenses arising from the preparation of the Annual Report and the Table of Postal Communications of the contracting countries, and those arising on account of meetings of Congresses or Conferences, will be shared by the Administrations of said countries in accordance with the classes established in Article 111 of the Regulations of Execution.

The expenses in connection with the holding of such Congresses and Conferences will be fixed on each occasion by the Administration of Posts of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, by agreement with the International Office of Montevideo.

4. The Administration of Posts of Uruguay will supervise the expenses of the International Office of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain, and will make to it the advances which it requires.

5. The amounts advanced by the Administration of Uruguay in accordance with the foregoing Section will be repaid by the debtor Administrations as soon as possible, and, at the latest, before six months from the date on which the country concerned receives the account formulated by the Administration of Posts of Uruguay. After that date, the amounts due will bear interest at the rate of 5% a year, counting from the date of expiration of the said period.

6. The contracting countries are bound to include in their budgets an annual amount destined to take care promptly of the payment of their contributive quotas.

ARTICLE 24

Congresses

1. Congresses will meet at least every five years, counting from the date on which the Convention concluded by the last one becomes effective.

2. Each Congress will fix the place and year in which the next one shall convene.

ARTICLE 25

Propositions in the interval between meetings

The present Convention may be modified in the interval between Congresses, following the procedure established in the Universal Postal Convention in force. In order to become effective, modifications must obtain unanimity of votes for the p nt Article and Articles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 28, 29, 30 and 31; two-thirds of the votes for Articles 10, 14 and 15; and a simple majority for the rest.

ARTICLE 26

Modifications and amendments

Modifications or resolutions adopted by the contracting parties, even those of a domestic order which affect the international service, will become effective four months after the date of the relative notice from the International Office of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain.

ARTICLE 27

Application of Universal Postal Convention and domestic legislation

1. All matters in connection with the exchange of correspondence among the contracting countries which are not provided for in this Convention will be subject to the stipulations of the Universal Postal Convention in force and its Regulations; and, in turn, that which is not covered by these last two will form the subject of special agreements between the Administrations concerned.

2. Likewise, the domestic legislation of the said countries will apply to everything which has not been provided for in either Convention.

ARTICLE 28

Propositions for Universal Congresses

All the countries forming the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain will advise one another, through the intermediary of the International Office at Montevideo, of the propositions which they formulate for Universal Postal Congresses, six months in advance of the date on which they are to be held.

ARTICLE 29 [5]

Unity of action in Universal Postal Congresses

The countries signatory to the Americo-Spanish Postal Convention which have ratified the same or put it into force administratively obligate themselves to instruct their delegates to Universal Postal Congresses to sustain unanimously and firmly all principles established in the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain, and also to vote in accordance with those postulates, except only in cases where the propositions to be debated affect only the countries proposing them.

ARTICLE 30

Preliminary Conferences

1. In connection with Article 28, the Delegates of the countries composing the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain, prior to Universal Postal Congresses, shall assemble in the city designated as the seat of the Congress fifteen

[5] For text of a U.S. reservation contained in the final protocol, see p. 317.

days before the date of inauguration thereof, in order to hold a preliminary conference, at which the procedure of joint action to be followed will be determined.

2. At the proper time before the meeting of Universal Congresses, the International Office of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain will invite all the Administrations composing that Union to hold the preliminary conferences mentioned in the preceding Section; and the Director of the International Office of Montevideo is charged with organizing those conferences and attending them.

ARTICLE 31

New adherences

In case of a new adherence, the Government of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, by common consent with the Government of the country concerned, will determine the class in which said country is to be included, for purposes of sharing the expenses of the International Office.

ARTICLE 32

Effective date and duration of Convention and deposit of ratifications

1. The present Convention will become effective October 1, 1937, and will remain in force without time-limit, each of the contracting parties reserving the right to withdraw from this Union by means of notice given by its Government to that of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay one year in advance.

2. The deposit of ratifications will be effected in the city of Panama, Republic of Panama, as soon as possible, preferably before the effective date of the Convention and Agreements in question, and the relative certificate will be made up for each of them, a copy of which will be sent by the Government of the Republic of Panama, through diplomatic channels, to the Governments of the other signatory countries.

3. The stipulations of the Postal Convention of the Americas and Spain sanctioned at Madrid on November 10, 1931,[6] are abrogated, beginning with the date on which the present Convention enters into force.

4. In case that the Convention is not ratified by one or more of the contracting countries, it will nevertheless be valid for those which have ratified it.

5. The contracting countries may ratify the Convention and Agreements provisionally, by correspondence, giving notice thereof to the respective Administrations through the medium of the International Office, without prejudice to the fact that, according to the legislation of each country, and after approval by the National Congresses, it may be confirmed through diplomatic channels.

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[6] *Ante*, p. 34.

In faith of which, the Plenipotentiaries of the Governments of the countries above named sign the present Convention in the city of Panama, Republic of Panama, on the 22d day of the month of December, 1936.

For Argentina:
LUIS S. LUTI

For Bolivia:
JORGE E. BOYD

For Brazil:
LEONIDAS DE SIQUEIRA MENESES
JAYME DÍAS FRANÇA
JULIO SÁNCHEZ PÉREZ

For Canada:
PETER T. COOLICAN
F. E. JOLLIFFE

For Colombia:
ALFONSO PALACIO RUDAS

For Costa Rica:
ENRIQUE FONSECA ZÚÑIGA

For Cuba:
CARLOS A. VASSEUR

For Chile:
SILVERIO BRAÑAS
MIGUEL A. PARRA

For the Dominican Republic:
MANUEL DE J. QUIJANO

For Ecuador:
VICTORIANO ENDARA A.
VICTOR M. NARANJO

For El Salvador:
JOSÉ E. ARJONA

For Spain:
JOSÉ V. CHÁVEZ
JOSÉ ROBERTO MONTERO

For the United States of America:
For Harllee Branch:
JOHN E. LAMIELL
JOHN E. LAMIELL
STEWART M. WEBER

For Guatemala:
TOMÁS ARIAS

For Haiti:
ANDRÉ FAUBERT

For Honduras:
ALBERTO ZÚÑIGA

For Mexico:
JOSÉ V. CHÁVEZ
JOSÉ ROBERTO MONTERO

For Nicaragua:
ADOLFO ALTAMIRANO BROWNE

For Panama:
JOSÉ E. ARJONA
JUAN B. CHEVALIER
JUAN BRIN
CARLOS ORTIZ R.
TOMÁS H. JÁCOME
MANUEL DE J. QUIJANO
ANGELO FERRARI

For Paraguay:
LUIS S. LUTI

For Peru:
AUGUSTO S. SALAZAR
ERNESTO CÁCERES B.

For Uruguay:
HUGO V. DE PENA

For Venezuela:
FRANCISCO VÉLEZ SALAS
CARLOS HARTMANN

FINAL PROTOCOL OF THE CONVENTION

At the moment of signing the Convention concluded by the Fourth Americo-Spanish Postal Congress, the undersigned Plenipotentiaries have agreed upon the following:

I

The United States of America reserves the right, as a transitory measure, to maintain its present rates for countries of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain which may be higher than those of its domestic service.

II

In connection with Article 29 of the Convention, the United States of America reserves complete liberty of action in Congresses of the Universal Postal Union.

III

Each of the contracting countries undertakes to maintain the privileges enjoyed at present by ships of other countries of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain which transport mails free of charge, as well as to grant them in the future all privileges which it grants to ships of any other country which perform such service.

IV

Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, the United States of America, Spain, Mexico and Panama declare that they make a positive reservation in the sense that they do not accept the provisions of paragraphs (b) and (e) of Article 15 of the Convention, since it is a question of matters extraneous to the nature of Postal Congresses, which pertain exclusively to the domestic legislation of each country.

V

With reference to Section 1 of Article 21, the Republic of Bolivia reserves complete freedom of action in regard to utilization of the services of the International Transfer Office.

VI

Canada makes a reservation to the effect that it can not accept the provisions of paragraphs (d) and (e) of Section 1 of Article 13, and of Sections 2, 3 and 6 of the same Article.

Done at Panama on the 22d day of December, 1936.

For Argentina:
LUIS S. LUTI

For Bolivia:
JORGE E. BOYD

For Brazil:
LEONIDAS DE SIQUEIRA MENESES
JAYME DÍAS FRANÇA
JULIO SÁNCHEZ PÉREZ

For Canada:
PETER T. COOLICAN
F. E. JOLLIFFE

For Colombia:
ALFONSO PALACIO RUDAS

For Costa Rica:
ENRIQUE FONSECA ZÚÑIGA

For Cuba:
CARLOS A. VASSEUR

For Chile:
SILVERIO BRAÑAS
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For the Dominican Republic:
MANUEL DE J. QUIJANO

For Ecuador:
VICTORIANO ENDARA A.
VICTOR M. NARANJO

For El Salvador:
JOSÉ E. ARJONA

For Spain:
JOSÉ V. CHÁVEZ
JOSÉ ROBERTO MONTERO

For the United States of America:
For Harllee Branch:
JOHN E. LAMIELL
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For Haiti:
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For Nicaragua:
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For Uruguay:
HUGO V. DE PENA

For Venezuela:
FRANCISCO VÉLEZ SALAS
CARLOS HARTMANN

[For text of regulations for execution of the convention, see 50 Stat. 1681; for text of 11 resolutions of the Fourth Pan American Postal Congress, see 50 Stat. 1691.]