

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

HIGH COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE  
No. 133 of 1943.

TELEPHONE REGULATIONS.

It is hereby notified for general information that, under and by virtue of the powers vested in him by sub-section (4) of section *three* and section *four* of Act No. 10 of 1911 (the Post Office Administration and Shipping Combinations Discouragement Act, 1911) of the Union of South Africa, as in force in the Bechuanaland Protectorate by virtue of Proclamation No. 28 of 1916 and of Proclamation No. 23 of 1928, His Excellency the High Commissioner has been pleased to approve, with effect from the first day of April, 1943, of the subjoined amendments of the Telephone Regulations of the Bechuanaland Protectorate published in Schedule B to the aforesaid Proclamation No. 23 of 1928 as amended by High Commissioner's Notice No. 55 of 1933.

By Command of His Excellency  
the High Commissioner.

H. E. PRIESTMAN,  
Administrative Secretary.

High Commissioner's Office,  
Pretoria, 18th June, 1943.

TELEPHONE REGULATIONS.

1. Regulations 57 to 73 inclusive of Part III of the said Schedule are hereby deleted and the following regulations are substituted therefor:—

57. *Farm Telephone Lines and Rural Exchange Lines.*—Farm telephone lines shall be provided only in rural areas and the rates and conditions applicable shall be those set forth in these regulations. The decision as to what constitutes a rural area and the exchange to which a line is to be connected shall, for the purpose of these regulations, rest exclusively with the Postmaster-General.

58. The annual rental per subscriber for farm telephone line service shall be:—

- (a) For lines connected to an exchange operated by a railway official or other agent ... .. £5 0 0
- (b) For lines connected to a departmental exchange ... .. £7 0 0

59. The foregoing charges shall include unlimited local calls to the exchange to which the line is connected, and, in message rate areas, to other exchanges within the same zone. All other calls shall be charged for as trunk calls.

60.

<i>Rural Exchange Lines.</i>	<i>Rental.</i>
(a) Where persons other than farmers residing in areas where farm telephone line development may be expected desire service and agree to the later connection of farmers to their lines as the Postmaster-General may direct	The exchange line tariff for the exchange concerned, plus 15s. per annum per quarter mile of line or portion thereof beyond the minimum rental area. The minimum annual rental per subscriber shall be £7 at departmental exchanges and £5 at agencies.
(b) Upon the actual connection to the line of one of more farmers	Farm telephone line rates.

61. *Re-arrangement of Farm Telephone Lines.*—The Postmaster-General reserves the right to re-arrange any farm telephone line where such re-arrangement would result in immediate or eventual economy in construction costs.

62. *Limitations of Connections.*—The connection of more than ten parties to any farm telephone line shall not ordinarily be permitted. The provision of a second connection on the same line for an individual subscriber and the connection of persons other than *bona fide* farmers shall be entirely at the discretion of the Postmaster-General.

63. *Completion of Contracts.*—Before the construction of any farm telephone line is authorised each applicant for connection thereto shall enter into a written agreement to hire the service from the Postmaster-General for a minimum period of three years calculated as from the date upon which the service is established and shall, at the date of signing the agreement, pay the sum required as rental for the first year. When, however, service is required at a point adjacent to an existing line and no outdoor construction work is involved, the contract shall be for one year or the unexpired balance of the contract of the previous subscriber, whichever may be the longer period.

64. *Maximum Length and Selection of Route.*—The Postmaster-General's decision regarding the maximum length of any farm telephone line and the selection of the route to be followed shall be final.

65. *Exchanges Operated by Agents.*—Where connection of a farm telephone line or rural exchange line is required to an exchange which is not operated by a departmental officer, the Postmaster-General will pay a reasonable contribution towards the amount required by the Agent as remuneration for switching duties. Where, however, the Agent

demands more than the Postmaster-General is prepared to pay, the subscribers shall make their own arrangements for the payment of the difference direct to the Agent.

66. *Transfer or Closing of Agencies.*—If, for any reason, it is necessary to close a post office agency to which farm telephone lines and/or rural exchange lines are connected, the Postmaster-General will endeavour to arrange for the continuance of service, but in the event of his efforts being unsuccessful, the agreements shall determine. Notwithstanding the currency of an agreement the Postmaster-General reserves the right to alter the rental charges as he may deem necessary should any post office agency to which farm telephone lines and/or rural exchange lines are connected be transferred to another site or the lines be connected to another agency.

67. *Extended Hours of Service.*—Provided no technical difficulties exist, the Postmaster-General may, on receipt of written application, extend a farm telephone line or rural exchange line to another exchange for service after the exchange to which the line is normally connected is closed. The applicant shall be required to pay any additional rental or other charge which the provision of the facility necessitates. Such service may be summarily withdrawn without notice should departmental exigencies so require.

68. *Transfers of Installations.*—(1) The charges for the transfer of a farm telephone installation to another position on the same line or another line connected to the same exchange shall be:—

- (a) If a complete installation exists at the new point ... .. No charge.
- (b) For a transfer within the same building ... .. £1 0 0
- (c) For a transfer to another building provided no outdoor construction is necessary to give service at the new point ... .. £1 0 0
- (d) For a transfer to another building where outdoor construction is necessary to give service at the new point ... .. £3 0 0

(2) Where a transfer is required to a line served by a different exchange, the subscriber shall enter into a fresh contract for service at the new point for a period to be determined by the Postmaster-General and his liability in respect of any unexpired portion of his old contract shall not be affected.

69. *General Telephone Regulations*.—In all other respects farm telephone lines and rural exchange lines are subject to the general provisions of the Telephone Regulations.

2. The regulations published under High Commissioner's Notice No. 39 of 1943 are hereby amended by deleting the figures " 11 ", " 12 ", " 14 " and " 19 " wherever they appear and substituting therefor respectively the figures " 9 ", " 10 ", " 12 " and " 17 ".