

DOMESTIC PARCEL POST—FOURTH-CLASS MATTER

Fourth-class Matter Embraces that known as domestic parcel-post mail, and includes merchandise, farm and factory products, seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots, scions, and plants, books (including catalogs), also miscellaneous printed matter weighing more than four pounds, and all other mailable matter not embraced in the first, second and third classes.

The limit of weight for parcels for local delivery and for delivery at other post offices within the *first, second and third zones* is *seventy pounds*. The limit of weight for parcels intended for delivery in *other than the first, second and third zones* is *fifty pounds*, except that parcels for the American Expeditionary Forces must not weigh over seven pounds.

The limit of size is 84 inches in length and girth combined.

WAR-STAMP TAX

Effective December 1, 1917, parcels on which the postage amounts to 25 cents or more are subject to a tax of one cent for each 25 cents or fractional part thereof. This tax must be paid by the sender by *special internal revenue stamps* affixed to the parcels; postage stamps are not valid for this purpose. The internal revenue stamps must be canceled by the sender by placing or causing to be placed thereon, *with ink*, his written or stamped initials, together with the date upon which the stamps are attached or used. In no case, however, should the sender cancel *postage* stamps affixed to parcels, such stamps must be canceled only by postal employees.

The tax is not applicable to parcels on which the postage amounts to less than 25 cents. On a parcel subject to 25 cents postage the tax is one cent; on parcels on which the postage amounts to from 26 to 50 cents the tax is two cents each, and so on.

The War-Stamp Tax does not apply to parcels for foreign countries, nor to parcels for Porto Rico, the Philippines, Canal Zone, Virgin Islands of the United States, Guam, Tutuila and Manua, and other Islands of the Samoan group belonging to the United States, United States Naval Vessels and the United States Expeditionary Forces.

In determining the amount of postage on which the tax shall be based, the fees paid for special-delivery and insurance or C. O. D. services shall not be counted.

Internal Revenue Stamps for use in paying the war tax are sold at the General Post Office and all stations.

Parcels will not be accepted for mailing unless both the required postage and tax are fully prepaid.

Rates of Postage on Fourth-class or Parcel-Post Matter—To Be Fully Prepaid—Unsealed—are as follows:

(a) Parcels weighing four ounces or less, except books, seeds, plants, etc., one cent for each ounce or fraction thereof, any distance.

(b) Parcels weighing eight ounces or less containing books, seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots, scions and plants, one cent for each two ounces or fraction thereof, regardless of distance.

(c) Parcels weighing more than eight ounces containing books, seeds, plants, etc., parcels of miscellaneous printed matter weighing more than four pounds, and all other parcels of fourth-class matter weighing more than four ounces are chargeable, according to distance or zone, at the pound rates shown in the following table, a fraction of a pound being considered a full pound:

Local from any Post Office	ZONES						
	1st and 2d (Up to 150 miles)	3d (150 to 300 miles)	4th (300 to 600 miles)	5th (600 to 1,000 miles)	6th (1,000 to 1,400 miles)	7th (1,400 to 1,800 miles)	8th (Over 1,800 miles)
Five cents for the first pound and One cent for each additional Two Pounds or fraction thereof.	Five cents for the first pound and One cent for each additional pound or fraction thereof.	Six cents for the first pound and Two cents for each additional pound or fraction thereof.	Seven cents for the first pound and Four cents for each additional pound or fraction thereof.	Eight cents for the first pound and Six cents for each additional pound or fraction thereof.	Nine cents for the first pound and Eight cents for each additional pound or fraction thereof.	Eleven cents for the first pound and Ten cents for each additional pound or fraction thereof.	Twelve cents for each pound or fraction thereof.
Limit of weight up to third zone 70 pounds.			Limit of weight for fourth to eighth zones 50 pounds.				

Parcels for U. S. Naval Vessels.—Parcels for United States naval vessels, addressed care of Postmaster, New York, N. Y., or care of Postmaster, San Francisco, California, which are subject to the zone rates, are mailable at the rates of postage applicable between the post office of mailing and New York or San Francisco, as the case may be, and will be transmitted to the vessels without additional charge for postage.

Parcels mailed at New York, N. Y., care of Postmaster, New York, N. Y., will be accepted when prepaid at the local rate.

Parcels for American Expeditionary Forces.—Limit of weight, seven pounds. Postage, twelve cents a pound, except parcels weighing four ounces or less and except books, seeds, plants, etc., weighing eight ounces or less.

Parcels may not be registered, insured or sent C. O. D.

For further information regarding manner of addressing, wrapping, prohibited matter, see circular "MAIL FOR OR FROM AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES IN EUROPE."

Seeds, Cuttings, Bulbs, Etc.—The rate of postage on parcels of seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots, scions and plants, weighing eight ounces or less, is one cent for each two ounces or fraction thereof, regardless of distance; on parcels weighing more than eight ounces the pound rates shown in the table on page 1 apply.

See Section 469, P. L. & R., as to preparation of seeds, etc., for mailing.