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DENMARK (Great Northern Telegraph Company) AND CHINA.

Telegraph convention.*—May 13, 1897.

The Imperial Chinese Telegraph Administration, hereinafter called the Administration, on the one part, and the Great Northern Telegraph Company of Copenhagen, hereinafter called the Company, on the other part, being desirous of facilitating international telegraphic communication, have decided to conclude a Convention with a view to equalize the total charges by their respective routes in Asia between China and Russia.

Consequently the following stipulations have been agreed on and under date below given signed by the Administration represented by its Director-General Sheng-hsuen-huai and by the Company represented by its General-Manager in China Mr. J. Henningsen both duly furnished with full and special powers for this purpose.

Article I.—1. For telegrams exchanged terminally between the Empire of China, on the one side, and the Empire of Russia, on the other side, the charge over the present and future cables in Asia connecting China with Russia in Asia and belonging to or connected with the Company, shall be the same as the Administration's terminal charge by their land junctions with Russia in Asia as fixed in the Telegraph Convention dated 13 (25) August 1892.

2. The stipulation under section 1 of this Article shall apply equally to charges for telegrams exchanged terminally between the British Colony of Hongkong on the one side and the Empire of Russia on the other side.

3. For the same telegrams as described under sections 1 and 2 of this Article via other routes across the land frontiers of China the Administration undertakes, when concluding, renewing or revising telegraph Conventions, to fix their proportion of the total charges in such manner that the total charges collected for the said telegrams via such routes at the time of the concluding, renewing or revising of such Convention shall in no case be lower than the total charges collected for the same telegrams when exchanged by the normal routes above described under sections 1 and 2 of this Article.

The Company on their side undertakes a corresponding obligation for the same telegrams by future cables connecting China or Hongkong with Russia in Asia.

4. With regard to telegrams specified under sections 1, 2 and 3 of this Article transmitted by other routes present and future than those specified under sections 1, 2 and 3 of this Article the Administration and the Company reciprocally undertake to do all in their power to protect the joint interests established by the present Convention.

Article II.—1. The revenue of the Administration and of the Company of all telegrams and by all routes coming under Article I of the present Conven-

* Text as printed in Recueil, p. 252. See Note to this document, post, p. 103.
tation shall be carried to a Joint Purse in the proportions fixed in the Table stipulated in Article VII of the present Convention and this Joint Purse shall be divided between the Contracting Parties in the following manner: One half to the Administration; One half to the Company.

Each of the Contracting Parties shall bear its own working expenses.

2. Considering the division of revenue the Administration will only levy terminal charge on telegrams by the Company’s cable route specified in section 1 of Article I of the present Convention if and to the extent necessary to equalize the total rates by the routes of the Administration and of the Company.

Such additional terminal charge shall belong to the Joint Purse and be divided equally between the Administration and the Company.

Article III.—The Administration as well as the Company shall maintain their sections of the routes mentioned in sections 1 and 2 of Article I of the present Convention in good working order.

Article IV.—1. The collection of the charges mentioned in sections I and 2 of Article I of the present Convention shall take place at the same rate of exchange of the coin in which the charges are collected by the Administration and by the Company at their stations in China and at Hongkong.

2. To this end the Administration and the Company shall annually at the end of the European calendar year determine the average value of that coin in francs, and this value shall serve as the rate of exchange for the collection of charges and for settlement of accounts during the year following.

3. Should the Administration and the Company be unable to agree on the average value of that coin in francs, the question shall be referred for settlement to the manager of one of the foreign banks at Shanghai.

Article V.—1. The Administration and the Company shall at all their controlling stations keep correct abstracts of all telegrams specified in Article I of the present Convention and furnish each other with official copies of the same.

2. A controller of the Administration at the Company’s stations at Shanghai, Foo-chou, Amoy and Hongkong and a controller of the Company at the Administration’s controlling stations present and future shall have free admittance to the offices in order to check and control the correctness of the journals abstracts and accounts as far as necessary for the purposes of the present Convention.

3. The appointment of controllers is in each case subject to the approval respectively of the Administration or of the Company to which they are accredited which shall also have the right to demand their recall if considered necessary.

4. All the said controllers of the Company at the Administration’s controlling stations if living on Chinese territory shall have their names placed on the register of their respective nationalities. Each of them shall respect the laws of China and conform with the Treaties made by the respective countries with the Government of China. But the Administration cannot undertake any responsibility for their personal safety.

5. They shall respect the authority of the local Manager. Their salaries as well as all other expenses are to be paid by their Employers.