

3A. *Alternative System, which, whilst it would not interfere with the public interest, would place all newspapers on an equal footing.*—This portion of the question can only be met by having one tariff in operation from 8 a.m. till close of office, hour of closing at certain points to be extended till midnight. The rate I would recommend would be one halfpenny per word to all papers irrespective of morning or evening publication, with this exception: In the case of evening papers I would allow a telegram not exceeding 100 words to be put in at any point between 1 and 2 p.m., such telegram to take precedence of all other matter, excepting urgent telegrams, up till 2.30 p.m., the matter in telegram to be outcome of events happening between those hours, such telegrams to be specially addressed by the sender, "Take precedence." As regards extension of hours after midnight, at the request of any paper; such request to be complied with up till 2 a.m. on payment of an advance of 25 per cent. upon the rate mentioned. During the session of Parliament the hours to be extended till 2 a.m. at the ordinary Press rate above indicated. At all the stations which are opened till midnight the public to be allowed to present telegrams for transmission at double the ordinary rates now in force.

Attached hereto is a tabular statement showing the tariff rates in force in the adjacent colonies, as also in America and England, and those in force in New Zealand.

New Zealand Telegraphs, Head Office,  
Wellington, 5th August, 1879.

C. LEMON,  
General Manager.

TABLE showing the Press Tariff Rates in force in the Australian Colonies, Great Britain, America, and New Zealand, &c.

Country.	Hours	Rates in Force.	Remarks.
Adelaide ...	9 a.m. till 8 p.m....	6d. for first ten words, and $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per word after.	Offices kept open at night when requested to do so.
Queensland ...	After 8 p.m. ... 9 a.m. till 6 p.m....	Double the above rate. 6d. for first ten words, and $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per word after.	Telegrams transmitted at any hour of the night where night clerks are in attendance.
New South Wales	After 6 p.m. ... Day-time and night-time. 1 p.m. till 2 p.m....	Same rate. 6d for first ten words, and $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per word after. 1s. 6d. for 100 words to evening papers, but quantity of matter limited. If matter not all through in the hour, remainder sent on when lines not engaged with public messages.	Do not keep offices open for Press unless specially requested to do so. The Sydney office always available.
Victoria ...	8.30 a.m. till 7.30 p.m.  7.30 p.m. till 11 p.m.  After 11 p.m. ...	6d. for first ten words, and $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per word up to thirty-four. Over thirty-four words and under 100 words, 1s. 6d. Each additional fifty or under, 6d. 100 words and under, 2s. Each additional fifty words, 9d. 100 words, 4s. Each additional fifty words, 9d.	Stations where papers take reports nightly are in attendance at 10.30 p.m.; and stations are kept open upon notice being given that reports will be sent. If none sent, minimum rate still charged.
Great Britain ...	9 a.m. till 6 p.m....  6 p.m. till 9 a.m....	1s. for every seventy-five words or portion of seventy-five words. 1s. for every 100 words or portion of 100 words.	An additional charge of 2d. for seventy-five, or 2d. per 100, as the case may be, for every additional copy to same town.
America ...	...	One cent per word for every 500 miles. Additional copy to same town, half rate.	
New Zealand ...	8 a.m. till 5 p.m....  5 p.m. till 10 p.m....	6d. for first twenty-five words, and $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per word after. 6d. for first twenty-five words, and 3d. every twenty-five words after.	Evening papers allowed 1,500 words at evening rates during day-time. Offices kept open after 10 p.m. at evening rates, if specially requested for particular purposes.

5th August, 1879.

C. LEMON,  
General Manager.

The CHAIRMAN, Press Telegram Committee, to Mr. C. E. BRIGGS.

(Telegram.)

Wellington, 6th August, 1879.

PLEASE state for information of Telegraph Committee the names of newspapers, and amounts paid by each, subscribing to the Press Agency special wire.

Mr. C. E. Briggs.

FRED. WHITAKER,  
Chairman.

Mr. C. E. BRIGGS to CHAIRMAN, Press Telegram Committee.

Christchurch, 9th August, 1879.

UNTIL quite recently whole cost borne by *Press*, Christchurch, and *Morning Herald*, Dunedin. Now *Press* pays £1,276; *Morning Herald*, £500; *New Zealander*, £87; *New Zealand Times*, £87; *Thames Advertiser* and *Ashburton Mail*, £10 each; *Southland News*, £30. Press Association having large number of subscribers, each gets his telegram for less than ordinary Press rates would amount to.

C. E. BRIGGS.

F. Whitaker, Esq., Chairman, Press Telegram Committee.