AccessionIndex: TCD-SCSS-V.20121208.625
Accession Date: 8-Dec-2012
Accession By: Prof.J.G.Byrne
Object name: 'Unicode' - The Universal telegraphic phrase-book ...
Vintage: c.1899
Synopsis: Cassell: London.

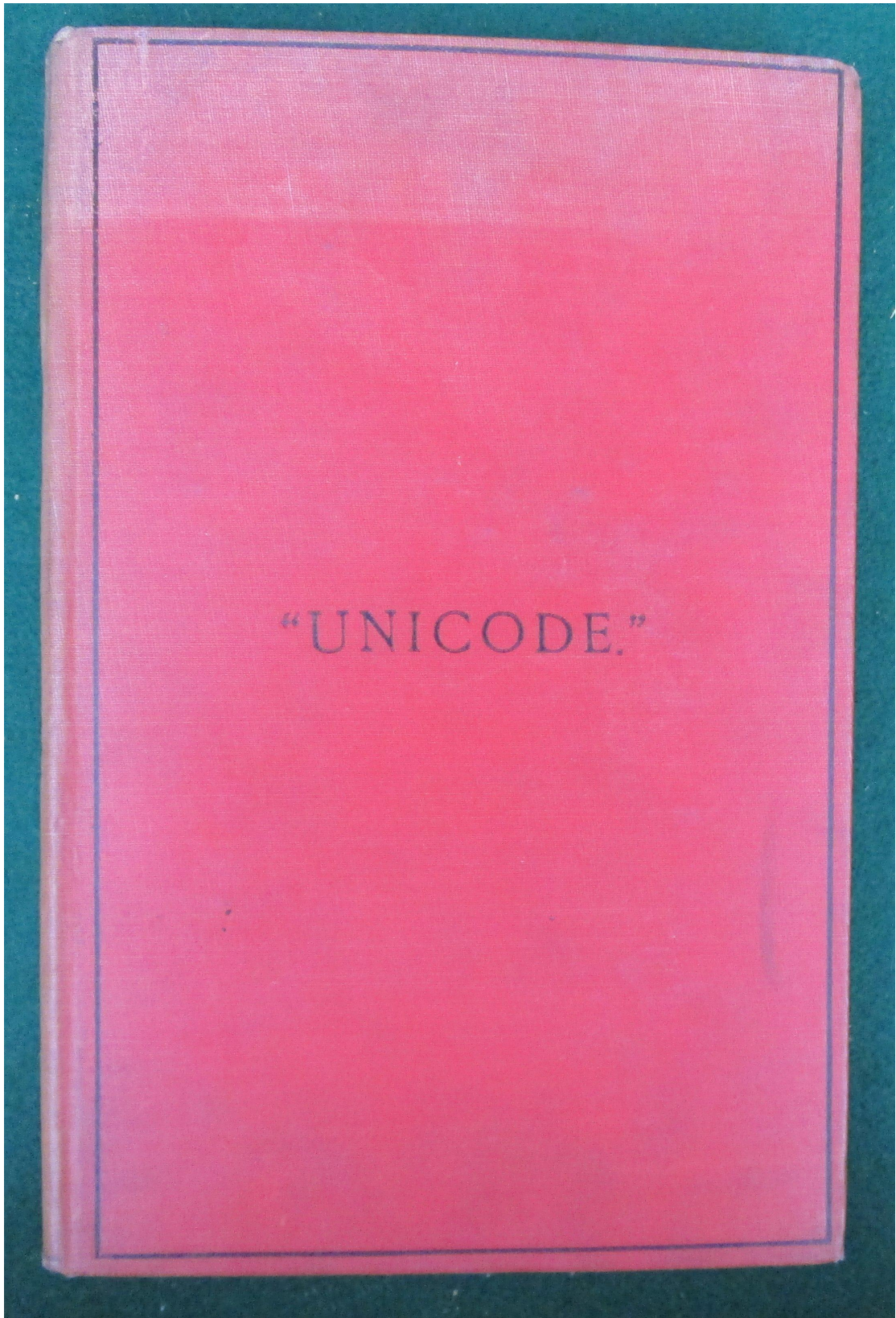**Description:**
Short descriptive text …

For the front and rear covers, title pages, table of contents, selected content, etc, see
Figure 1 onwards below.

The homepage for this catalog is at: https://www.scss.tcd.ie/SCSSTreasuresCatalog/
Click *'Accession Index'* (1st column listed) for related folder, or *'About'* for further
guidance. Some of the items below may be more properly part of other categories of
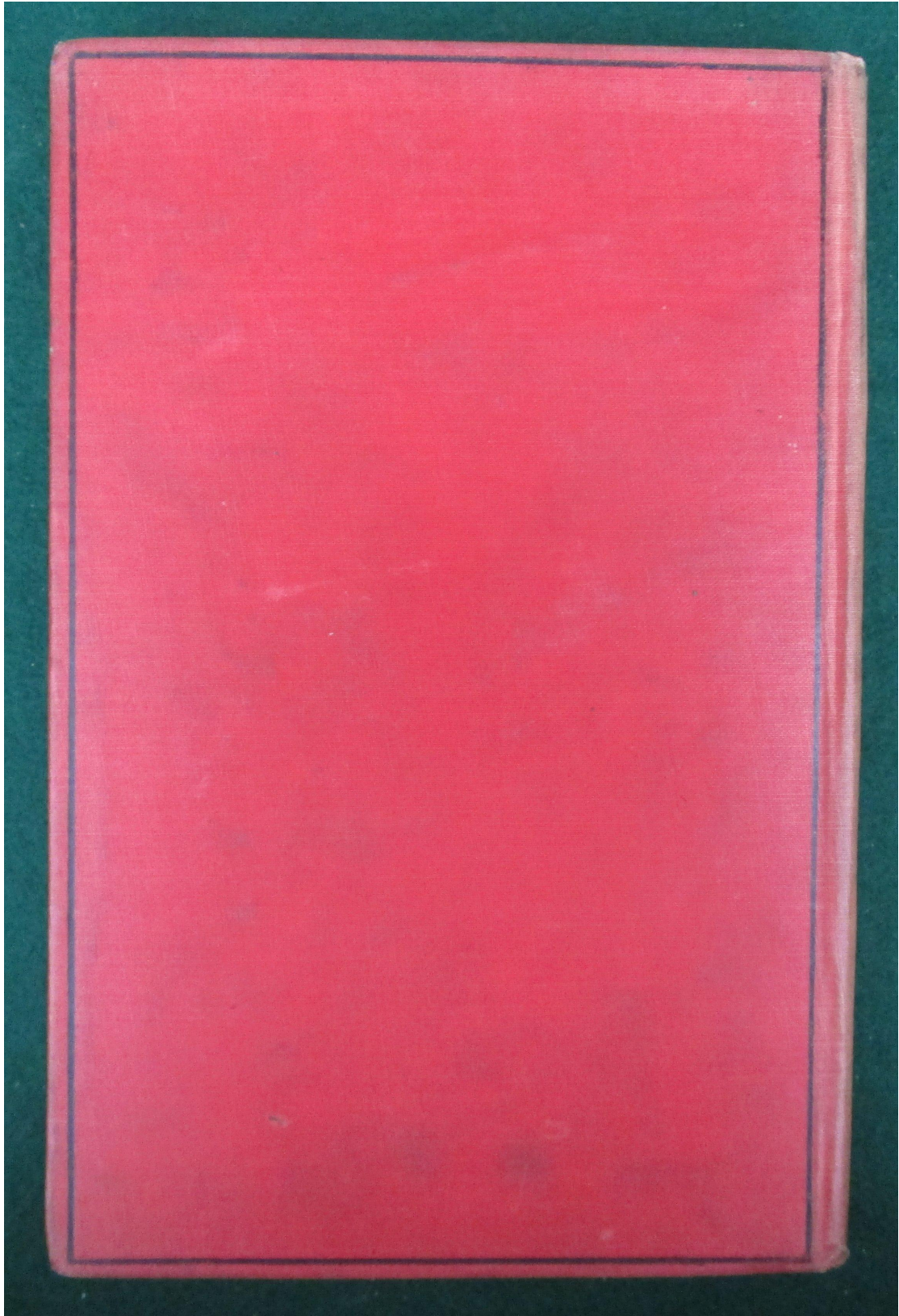this catalog, but are listed here for convenience.

Accession Index	Object with Identification
TCD-SCSS-V.20121208.625.01	'Unicode' - The Universal telegraphic phrase-book ..., c.1899, Cassell: London.

References:

1. References if required ...

Figure 1: Unicode Phrase-Book, Front Cover

Figure 2: Unicode Phrase-Book, Rear Cover
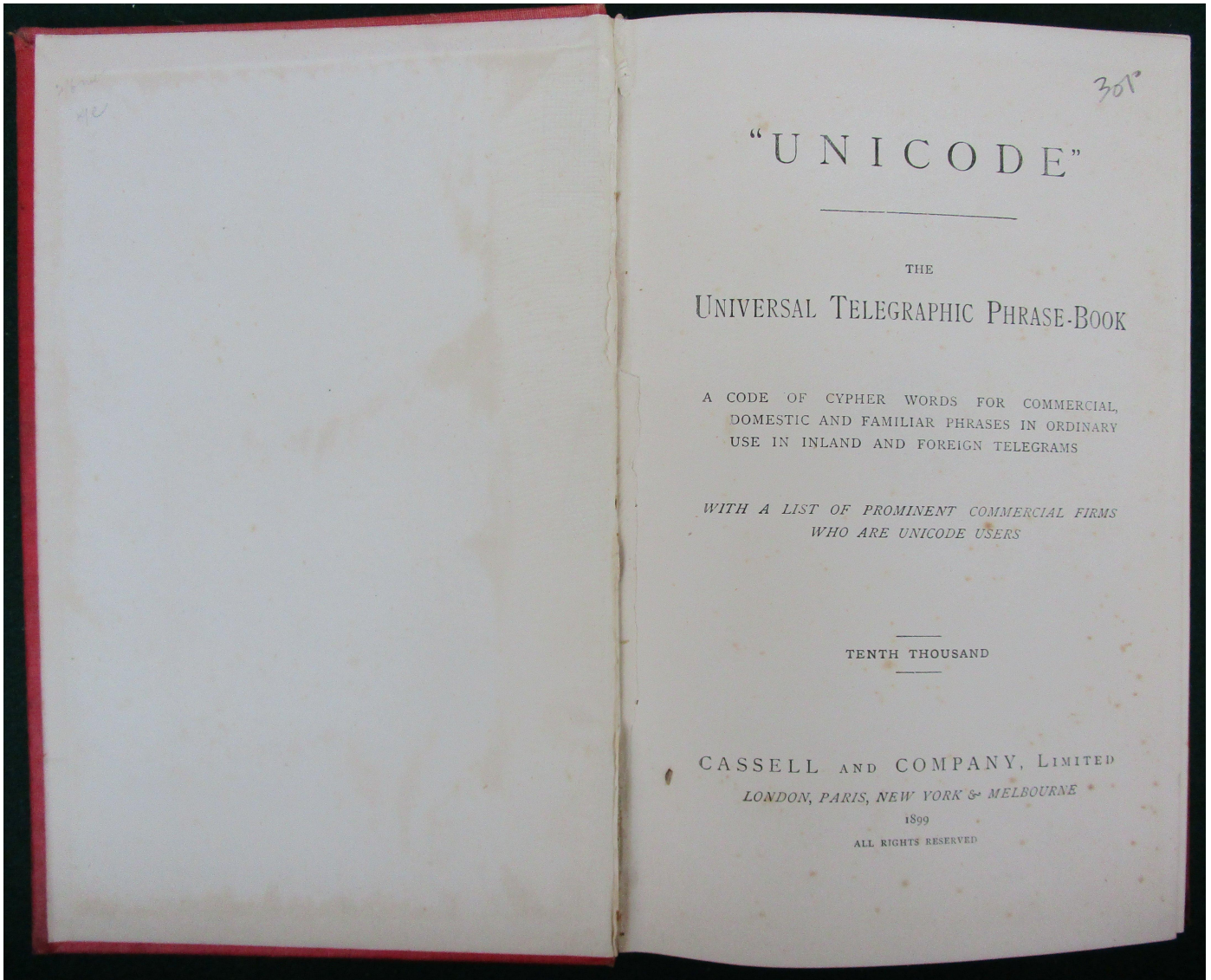
Figure 3: Unicode Phrase-Book, Binding

Figure 4: Unicode Phrase-Book, Title Page page i

First Edition *January* 1886.
Reprinted October 1886, 1887, 1888,
January 1889, *October* 1889, 1891, 1892,
1894, 1896, 1897, 1899.

PREFACE.

IN first introducing to the public the "Unicode," by means of "The Universal Telegraphic Phrase-Book," * it is well to give a few preliminary explanations and directions.

All the great submarine Telegraph Companies, and almost all foreign countries and colonies, have adopted the word-tariff, or system of charging a certain sum for each word, and Great Britain has practically done so by the changes effected during the last Parliament. Every person who has heretofore sent telegraphic messages abroad has learned by experience the economy of condensation, and the advantage of the use of a Code known to both sender and receiver. By this means the substance of a message embracing a dozen ordinary words may be conveyed in a single code-word, with a fulness and clearness not to be otherwise attained unless at a prohibitive cost. The same effect is discovered in inland telegraphic communication under the new arrangements. The sixpenny telegram is found, except under special circumstances, to be a misnomer, the unavoidable length of the addresses (where the expense of registering a cypher has not been incurred by the Receiver), and the name of the Sender and Receiver absorbing so many of the twelve words as frequently to leave only two or three available for the text of the telegram. Attention is therefore naturally turned to condensation, and, as a necessary consequence, to coding.

The Code-Book hitherto has been distinguished by two features —a high price and an attempted exclusiveness. The "Unicode" aims at precisely opposite qualities, viz., a low price and a universality of employment, so that not only in all offices, but in clubs, hotels, and private residences copies shall be found and freely used.

* A Pocket Edition of this book, of convenient size, is also published, price 2s. 6d.

Figure 5: Unicode Phrase-Book, Preface Pages page ii and page iii

An example will best demonstrate the mode of using, and the economy effected. Say the following is the message in full:—

	Smith,			
TO		100, Prince Rupert Road,		
		Shepherd's Bush.		
Jones	dines	with	us	this
evening	and	remains	the	night
				Smith

Here the address and signature take eight words, and the body of the message ten, making eighteen words in all, or six extra to pay for; whereas by using the "Unicode" the message is reduced to ten words, and runs thus:—

	Smith,			
TO		100, Prince Rupert Road,		
		Shepherd's Bush.		
Jones	Coctivus			
		Smith		

But in foreign telegrams the difference is more striking. The rate, for instance, from South America is ten shillings per word, and the following message (without reckoning the address) would cost £3 :—"Order executed before your telegram arrived;" whereas the "Unicode" word "Ohumbro" would convey the same message at a cost of ten shillings, or a saving of £2 10s.

Many phrases which at first sight would appear too unnecessarily minute, notably in domestic affairs, are purposely inserted as being those which experience shows are in actual daily use, notwithstanding their heavy cost for transmission.

Users of existing codes have constantly experienced difficulty and misunderstanding from the fact that, English words being used for the cyphers, the messages have at times read intelligibly in the ordinary and not the code meaning of the words, and the Receiver has not known which to adopt. This has been entirely obviated in the "Unicode" by exclusively employing for the cyphers Latin words which strictly conform to the regulations of the International Telegraph Conferences held at Paris, London, and Berlin. An equally important point has also been carefully borne in mind. It is generally known that the telegraphic alphabet is composed of three elements: the dot, the dash, and the space. These symbols may with great facility be transposed in transmission, causing words however dissimilar in ordinary language (such as *fancy* and *pantry*) to be confounded one with another in the process of telegraphy. This compilation, however, has been made under the personal supervision of telegraphic experts of long experience, and it is claimed for it that the cypher words are from their telegraphic construction the least liable to erroneous transmission by the operators.

The cypher words have been arranged alphabetically, and the phrases are likewise so arranged, having regard to what is in each the principal or key-word.

Not the least valuable feature (and it is a novel one) in the present volume is the addition of a list of important firms and establishments in Great Britain, with their registered telegraphic addresses, who will receive telegrams in the "Unicode." This list will be hereafter increased, and for this purpose intimations are invited from those firms at home and abroad who desire their names to be added. These should be sent to the care of the Publishers, and addressed to the Editors of the "Unicode," who will be grateful for any suggestions for improvements and additions.

To allow for the composition of a small private code available only to the individual compilers, and not to be adopted hereafter in the "Unicode" for specific phrases for public use, a few pages with cypher words only have been added, to which phrases may be attached as desired.

Figure 6: Unicode Phrase-Book, Preface Pages page iv and page v

NOTE TO SECOND EDITION.

The compilers refer to the following communication which they have received :—

"I have examined from the point of view of a telegraph operator of long standing, several Codes which have been recently published, and I emphatically pronounce the UNICODE to be the only one I have seen where the hand of the expert can be discovered. In one of the other compilations it is claimed as a merit that none of the cypher words exceed five letters. This, however, is a serious blot, and condemns the book in my judgment. In two Codes I observe a free use of manufactured words, and yet, for extra-European correspondence, such words can be and are generally rejected by the Cable Companies. Naturally it is preferable that the operator should transmit messages where the meaning is clear and the words as usual, but as it seems evident that the use of Codes will grow day by day it is to be hoped that the public will continue to employ one so workman-like and systematic as the UNICODE."

October, 1886.

___

EDITOR'S NOTE.

Users will find it a great convenience to print on their letter paper and invoices the words "Code in use—Unicode."

LETTER.	MORSE SIGNAL.	POSSIBLE SUBSTITUTION.
A	. —	ET
B	— . . .	TS NI DE
C	— . — .	NN TR TEN KE
D	— . .	TI NE
E	.	
F	. . — .	IN ER UE
G	— — .	ME TN
H	. . . .	SE ES II
I	. .	EE
J	. — — —	EO ATT AM WT
K	— . —	TA NT TT
L	. — . .	AI RE ED
M	— —	TT
N	— .	TE
O	— — —	TM MT
P	. — — .	WE AN EG EME
Q	— — . —	MA GT TK
R	. — .	AE EN
S	. . .	IE EI
T	—	
U	. . —	EA IT
V	. . . —	ST EU IA
W	. — —	EM AT
X	— . . —	NA TU DT
Y	— . — —	NM TW KT
Z	— — . .	MI GE TD

Figure 7: Unicode Phrase-Book, Editor's Notes Page and Telegraph Code Transformations Page

REGULATIONS AS TO TRANSMISSION OF TELEGRAMS.

THE rules and regulations which govern the telegraphic communication between various portions of the world are laid down by the International Telegraph Conferences which meet periodically in one or other of the capitals of Europe, and the following gives the effect of those which should be most widely known :—

All telegrams should be legibly written.

Telegrams may be composed of plain language, of code language, or of secret language.

Telegrams in plain language must present a clear meaning in any one of the languages admitted for telegraphic correspondence.

Telegrams in code language must consist of words not exceeding ten letters in length, each of them presenting a clear meaning, but not necessarily any consecutive sense, and belonging to any one or to all of the following languages, but to no other, viz. :—English, French, German, Italian, Dutch, Portuguese, Spanish, and Latin.

Code words containing more than ten letters are charged at cypher rate.

Proper names are not admitted in the text of code messages unless used in their natural sense.

The Company can demand the production of the codes and vocabularies, for the purpose of controlling the execution of the preceding regulations.

Private telegrams composed of secret letters such as a b x y z, are not admitted in extra-European correspondence.

Illegitimate combinations of words contrary to the usage of the language, and abbreviated and wrongly spelt words, are inadmissible.

The maximum length of a single word is fixed at 15 letters in European telegrams, and at 10 letters in extra-European telegrams, any additional letters being counted and charged for as extra words at the rate of 15 or 10 letters respectively to the word.

Any instruction the sender may have to give as to the delivery at destination, prepayment of reply, acknowledgment of receipt, to its being a collated telegram, &c., should be written immediately before the address. These indications may be given in the following abbreviated forms, when they will be counted as one word only :—

RP for Reply paid.
TC ,, Collation paid.
CR ,, Acknowledgment of receipt.
PP ,, Postage paid.
XP ,, Express paid.

FS for To follow.
RPD ,, Urgent reply paid.
PR ,, Post registered.
EP ,, Estaffette paid.

Any sender may request by writing the instruction : "Télégramme à faire suivre" (i.e. to follow) or "(FS)" (which is charged for), immediately before the address, that the terminal office shall cause his telegram to follow the receiver within the limits of Europe.

The charge to the first address only is prepaid, the cost of further transmission being collected on delivery.

INDEX.

Figure 8: Unicode Phrase-Book, Telegraph Regulations Page and Index Page

THE

UNIVERSAL TELEGRAPHIC PHRASE-BOOK.

Abandon the negotiations . . . . . Abactus

(Able)—Am *able* to . . . . . Abazea
Am not *able* to . . . . . . Abdite
Are you *able* to . . . . . Abdixi
Have you been *able* to . . . Abdo
Shall be *able* to . . . . Abdomen
Shall not be *able* to . . . . Abductus

Absence has prevented my earlier reply . Abequito
Can do nothing during *absence* of — . Abeuntis
Can do nothing in your *absence* . . Abfore

Accept. (Refer to DECLINE.)
Cannot *accept* less than — . . . Abhorreo
Do not *accept* . . . . . . Abitio

Acceptance paid away, too late to stop . . Abjecte
Acceptance paid into bank, cannot be with-
drawn . . . . . . Abjectio
Acceptance will be renewed . . . Abjicio
Cannot renew *acceptance* . . . Abjudico
Have withdrawn *acceptance* . . . Abjuro
Refuse to renew *acceptance* . . Ablaqueo
Will withdraw *acceptance* on receipt of bank
order for — . . . . . . Ablego

Accident has occurred to train on the — . . Abludo

Figure 9: Unicode Phrase-Book, Page 1 of telegraph phrase tables