

13 March 1884

MR. H. H. FOWLER asked the Postmaster General, Whether the clerks in the telegraph offices are prohibited from giving any information as to the persons sending telegrams, the persons to whom they are sent, and the contents of such telegrams; and, whether any official disclosing any such information would be dismissed from the public service?

MR. FAWCETT Sir, I can assure my hon. Friend that any persons in the employment of the Post Office giving any information as to the persons sending telegrams, the persons to whom they are sent, or the contents of such telegrams, would not only be dismissed from the public service, but would, by Section 20 of the Telegraph Act of 1867, render themselves liable to prosecution

28 January 2009

BARONESS MILLER OF CHILTHORNE DOMER
To ask Her Majesty's Government whether persons working for internet service providers are prohibited from giving information as to the persons sending datagrams, recipients of them, and the contents of such datagrams; and whether any person disclosing any such information would be liable to dismissal or prosecution.

THE PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS, TECHNOLOGY AND BROADCASTING (LORD CARTER OF BARNES):
This department would expect internet service providers and any other company to ensure that their operations conform to the relevant laws on data and access to data. Disciplinary measures are a matter for the organisations concerned. We do not monitor the terms of employment in the internet service sector.