1977 No. 277

PENSIONS

Pensions Increase (Annual Review) Order (Northern Ireland) 1977

Made . . . . . 12*th September* 1977

Coming into operation . . . 1*st December* 1977

The Department of the Civil Service, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by sections 2 and 9(4) of the Pensions (Increase) Act (Northern Ireland) 1971(**a**), as amended by Article 20 of the Superannuation (Northern Ireland) Order 1972(**b**) and Articles 3 and 5 of the Pensions (Increase) (Northern Ireland) Order 1974(**c**), and now vested in it(**d**) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Order:

1. This Order may be cited as the Pensions Increase (Annual Review) Order (Northern Ireland) 1977, and shall come into operation on 1st December 1977.

2.—(1) In this Order—

"the Act of 1971" means the Pensions (Increase) Act (Northern Ireland) 1971;

"the exising Orders" means the Pensions Increase (Annual Review) Order (Northern Ireland) 1972(**e**), the Pensions Increase (Annual Review) Order (Northern Ireland) 1973(**f**), the Pensions Increase (Annual Review) Order (Northern Ireland) 1974(**g**), the Pensions Increase (Annual Review) Order (Northern Ireland) 1975(**h**), and the Pensions Increase (Annual Review) Order (Northern Ireland) 1976(**i**).

(2) For the purposes of this Order the time when a pension begins is that stated in section 8(2) of the Act of 1971, and "beginning date" shall be construed accordingly.

3.—(1) The annual rate of an official pension may, if any qualifying condition is satisfied or the pension is a widow's pension, be increased by the pension authority in respect of any period beginning on or after 1st December 1977, as follows:

(*a*) a pension beginning on or before 1st July 1976 may be increased by 17.7 per cent. of the basic rate as increased by the amount of any increase under section 1 of the Act of 1971 or under the existing Orders;

(*b*) a pension beginning in the six months following 1st July 1976 may be increased by 19.5 per cent. of the basic rate;

(**a**) 1971 c. 35 (N.I.)
(**b**) S.I. 1972/1073 (N.I. 10)
(**c**) S.I. 1974/1267 (N.I. 2)
(**d**) by S.R. 1976 No. 281 Art. 3 and Sch. I (II, p. 1339)
(**e**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1972 No. 263 (p. 1400)
(**f**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1973 No. 364 (II, p. 2063)
(**g**) S.R. 1974 No. 296 (II, p. 1396)
(**h**) S.R. 1975 No. 269 (II, p. 1272)
(**i**) S.R. 1976 No. 276 (II, p. 1332)

(*c*) a pension beginning in the six months following 1st January 1977 may be increased by 11.4 per cent. of the basic rate.

(2) For the purpose of showing the cumulative effect of the increases payable under section 1 of the Act of 1971, under the existing Orders and under paragraph (1), the provisions of that section, other than the provisions relating to pensions payable under the Belfast Corporation Act (Northern Ireland) 1943(j), with the effect of the existing Orders and paragraph (1) incorporated in them, are set out in the Schedule.

4. In respect of any lump sum or instalment of a lump sum which became payable in the six months ending with 1st July 1977, but for which the beginning date fell before 2nd January 1977, there may be paid an increase of 9.8 per cent. of the amount of the lump sum or instalment as increased by any increase under section 1 of the Act of 1971 or under the existing Orders.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of the Civil Service for Northern Ireland on 12th September 1977.

(L.S.) *J. Armstrong*
Assistant Secretary

(j) 1943 c. i (N.I.)