1976 No. 276

PENSIONS

Pensions Increase (Annual Review) Order (Northern Ireland) 1976

Made . . . . . *17th September* 1976

Coming into operation . . . *1st December* 1976

The Department(a) of Finance, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by sections 2 and 9(4) of the Pensions (Increase) Act (Northern Ireland) 1971(b), as amended by Article 20 of the Superannuation (Northern Ireland) Order 1972(c) and Articles 3 and 5 of the Pensions (Increase) (Northern Ireland) Order 1974(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) 1976, and shall come into operation on 1st December 1976.

2.—(1) In this order—

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

"the existing 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), and the Pensions Increase (Annual Review) Order (Northern Ireland) 1975(h).

(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 a 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 1976, as follows:

(*a*) a pension beginning on or before 1st July 1975 may be increased by 13.8 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 1975 may be increased by 19.2 per cent. of the basic rate;

(*c*) a pension beginning in the six months following 1st January 1976 may be increased by 8.8 per cent. of the basic rate.

(a) Formerly Ministry: *see* 1973 c. 36 Sch. 5 para. 8(1)
(b) 1971 c. 35 (N.I.)
(c) S.I. 1972/1073 (N.I. 10)
(d) S.I. 1974/1267 (N.I. 2)
(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)

(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(i), 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 1976, but for which the beginning date fell before 2nd January 1976, there may be paid an increase of 7.3 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 Finance for Northern Ireland on 17th September 1976.

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

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