1973. No. 115 **[C]**

ROAD TRAFFIC

Motor Cycles (Wearing of Helmets) Regulations 1973

REGULATIONS, DATED 9TH APRIL, 1973, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS UNDER SECTION 114 OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1970.

The Ministry of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Secretary of State and in exercise of the powers vested in it by section 114 of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970(a) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Motor Cycles (Wearing of Helmets) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1973 and shall come into operation on 1st June 1973.

Interpretation

2. In these Regulations the expression—

"motor bicycle" means a two wheeled motor cycle, whether having a side car attached thereto or not, and for the purposes of this definition any wheels of a motor cycle shall, if the distance between the centres of the areas of contact between such wheels and the road surface is less than 460 millimetres, be counted as one wheel;

"protective headgear" means headgear which—

(*a*) is either—

(i) a helmet bearing a marking applied by the manufacturer indicating compliance with the specification contained in British Standard 2001 published on 25th October 1956, or British Standard 1869 published on 20th April 1960 or British Standard 2495 published on 20th April 1960; or

(ii) a helmet which by virtue of its shape, material and construction could reasonably be expected to afford to persons on motor bicycles a degree of protection from injury in the event of an accident similar to or greater than that provided by a helmet of a type complying with one of the specifications referred to in the preceding sub-paragraph; and

(*b*) is securely fastened to the head of the wearer by means of the straps or other fastening provided on the headgear for that purpose.

Wearing of protective headgear

3.—(1) Save as provided in paragraph (2), every person driving or riding (otherwise than in a side-car) on a motor bicycle when on a road shall wear protective headgear.

(a) 1970. c. 2 (N.I.).