1965. No. 129 [C]

CINEMATOGRAPHS AND CINEMATOGRAPH FILMS

REGULATIONS, DATED 16TH JUNE, 1965, MADE BY THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS UNDER SECTIONS 1, 2 AND 7 OF THE CINEMATOGRAPH ACT 1909 AND SECTIONS 1, 2(1), 2(2)(*a*) AND 5(2) OF THE CINEMATOGRAPH ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1959.

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The Minister of Home Affairs in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by sections 1, 2 and 7 of the Cinematograph Act 1909(**a**) and sections 1, 2(1), 2(2)(*a*) and 5(2) of the Cinematograph Act (Northern Ireland) 1959(**b**) and all other powers enabling him in that behalf hereby makes the following Regulations:—

PART I

GENERAL

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Cinematograph (Safety) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1965 and shall come into operation on the 1st day of January, 1966.

(**a**) 9 Edw. 7. c. 30. (**b**) 1959. c. 20.

Exhibition of Regulations

2. Copies of these Regulations shall be exhibited in premises used in connection with the giving of cinematograph exhibitions to which any Part of these Regulations applies so that they can easily be seen by members of the staff.

Revocations

3. The Cinematograph (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1931(**a**) and the Cinematograph Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1953(**b**) are hereby revoked.

Interpretation

4.—(1) In these Regulations—

"building" includes a building or structure of a moveable character;

"fire resisting" means, in relation to a wall, floor, ceiling, door, hatch or shutter of a room, so capable of enduring fire as to be capable of preventing, for a period of thirty minutes from the occurrence, the passage of any fire which might occur in that room;

"gas fire" includes a gas-burning heating appliance in which the source of the gas is in liquid form or the gas is contained in a portable container;

"general lighting" has the meaning ascribed to it by Regulation 20;

"heating appliance" means a gas or electric fire other than one which is so constructed that when the appliance is burning, or, in the case of an electric fire, consuming electric energy, at the maximum rate for which it is designed, the heating element and, in the case of a gas fire, any flame, is so enclosed within the body of the appliance that there is no likelihood of injury to the person from burning, or of ignition of clothing or other fabrics by reason of, in either case, contact with or proximity to, the heating element or any flame;

"heating element" means, in the case of a gas fire, that part thereof which is designed to be directly heated by the impingement thereon of the burning fuel, and, in the case of an electric fire, that part thereof which is designed to be directly heated by the passage of the electric current;

"inflammable film" means film which is more inflammable than safety film;

"licence" means a licence granted under section 2 of the Cinematograph Act 1909;

"licensee" means the person or persons to whom a current licence shall have been granted, or, if there shall be no such person, then the occupier of the premises;

"projection room" means a substantially-constructed room, separate from the auditorium, and used for the purpose of projecting moving pictures on to a screen by means of a film projector;

"rewinding room" means a substantially-constructed room, separate from the auditorium, and used for the purpose of rewinding, examining, cleaning or otherwise manipulating film except in the ordinary course of projection;

"safety lighting" has the meaning ascribed to it by Regulation 21.

(2) These Regulations shall not be construed as derogating from the power of a licensing authority in granting a licence under the Cinematograph Act 1909 to impose conditions or restrictions.

(**a**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1931, No. 24. (**b**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1953, No. 125.

PART II

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITIONS

Application of Part II

5. Subject to the provisions of section 7(4) of the Cinematograph Act 1909 and of section 5 of the Cinematograph Act (Northern Ireland) 1959 (which relate to exemptions in favour of certain exhibitions to which the public are not admitted or are admitted without payment), the provisions of this Part of these Regulations shall apply in connection with the giving of all cinematograph exhibitions other than those to which Part IV applies, and to the premises used in connection with the giving of such exhibitions and to the parts thereof and the fittings, furniture, furnishings and equipment therein in this Part of these Regulations mentioned.

Exits

6.—(1) The premises shall be provided with an adequate number of exits, so placed and maintained as to afford the public ready and ample means of safe egress.

(2) In the case of premises built or substantially altered in structure after the date on which these Regulations come into operation the number of exits from each floor and tier in the auditorium shall be determined in relation to the number of persons who may be accommodated on that floor or tier and shall not be less than the appropriate number set out in Column 2 of the subjoined Table.

Column 1 *Number of persons*	*Column 2* *Number of exits*
1 - 60 . . .	1
61 - 600 . . .	2
601 - 1,000 . . .	3
1,001 - 1,400 . . .	4
1,401 - 1,700 . . .	5
1,701 - 2,000 . . .	6
2,001 - 2,250 . . .	7
2,251 - 2,500 . . .	8
2,501 - 2,700 . . .	9

(3) All exits for use by the public in leaving the auditorium shall be clearly indicated with the words "Exit" or "Way Out".

(4) All passages, courts, ramps and stairways to which the public have access, and which lead from the auditorium to outside the premises shall at all times when the public are on the premises be kept free from obstructions.

(5) Every door in the building for use by members of the public going from the auditorium to outside the building shall be so constructed and maintained as—

(*a*) to open outwards, unless the licensing authority shall have been satisfied that this is impracticable in the circumstances of the particular case, and

(*b*) to open easily and fully in such manner that the door when open does not restrict the egress of the public.

Seats

7.—(1) The seats in the auditorium shall be so arranged as to allow free access to the exits of the auditorium.

(2) All such seats shall be securely fixed to the floor except in boxes accommodating not more than eight persons.

(3) No sitting shall be allowed in the auditorium during a cinematograph exhibition except in the seats provided.

(4) (*a*) No standing shall be allowed in the auditorium during a cinematograph exhibition except in such places and within such numbers as may be specified by the licensing authority.

(*b*) Where persons are permitted to stand in any gangway, sufficient room shall be left in the gangway to allow other persons easily to pass along the gangway.

(5) Subject to the last preceding paragraph, all gangways in the auditorium shall, while the public are on the premises, be kept free from obstructions.

(6) Notwithstanding paragraphs (2), (3) and (5), invalids may be permitted, with the consent of and subject to any conditions of such consent imposed by the licensing authority, to sit in the auditorium in invalid chairs, other than petrol-driven invalid chairs.

Staff

8.—(1) The licensee or some responsible person nominated by him in writing, not being a person under twenty-one years of age, shall be in charge of, and present in, the premises at all times when the public are on the premises.

(2) If the licensee or the person so nominated is the operator, some other responsible person, nominated in writing by the licensee and not being a person under twenty-one years of age, shall be on duty to pay special attention, during the period that the operator is in charge, to those matters affecting the safety of the public which the operator by reason of his duties in the projection room is unable to superintend.

(3) The number of attendants on duty to assist persons entering or leaving the auditorium shall, in any case, not be less than one for every two hundred and fifty, or part of two hundred and fifty, persons present in the auditorium; and

(*a*) if the number of persons present on any floor or tier does not exceed one hundred, there shall be at least one attendant on duty on that floor or tier;

(*b*) if the number of persons present on any floor or tier exceeds one hundred, there shall be at least two attendants on duty on that floor or tier.

(4) Every member of the staff shall be instructed by the licensee or by some person nominated by the licensee in the safety precautions to be observed in the premises so far as those precautions relate to his duties, and in the action to be taken by him in the event of fire or other emergency.

Fire precautions

9.—(1) The premises shall be provided with fire appliances suitable to the fire risks in the premises.

(2) The fire appliances shall be maintained in proper working order and be available for instant use.

(3) The licensee, persons nominated under paragraph (1) or paragraph (2) of Regulation 8 and at least one other member of the staff shall be properly