ELECTORAL REGULATIONS

Registration

REGULATIONS, DATED 23RD AUGUST, 1954, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS UNDER SECTIONS SIXTEEN AND FIFTY-FOUR OF THE ELECTIONS AND FRANCHISE ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1946.

1954. No. 132

REGISTER OF ELECTORS

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The Ministry of Home Affairs, in exercise of the powers vested in it by Sections Sixteen and Fifty-Four of the Elections and Franchise Act (Northern Ireland), 1946 (a), and of every other power it thereunto enabling, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Electoral (Registration) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1954.

(2) These Regulations shall come into force on 1st September, 1954.

(3) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them;

"Act of 1946" means the Elections and Franchise Act (Northern Ireland), 1946, as amended by any subsequent enactment.

"Qualifying Address" in relation to a person means, according to the context, either—

(*a*) the address of the place in a Constituency at which that person was residing on the qualifying date; or

(*b*) the address of the dwelling house in a Local Government Electoral Area at which that person was residing as resident occupier or as the spouse of such occupier on the qualifying date; or

(*c*) the address of the premises in a Constituency or in a Local Government Electoral Area by virtue of the occupation of which the person has, or claims to have, a Business Premises or General Occupier's qualification as a Parliamentary or Local Government elector respectively; or

(*d*) the address given in the declaration of residence made by any person claiming to have a Service qualification.

"Service Voter" means a person qualified to be registered by virtue of a Service qualification under the provisions of the Act of 1946.

"The Ministry" means the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland.

(a) 9 & 10 Geo. 6, c. 8.

(4) References in these Regulations to an election shall be construed as referring only to an election for which a Register prepared under the Act of 1946 or these regulations is in force.

(5) The Interpretation Act, 1889, (a), shall apply to the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of the Parliament of Northern Ireland.

2.—(1) Not less than 15 days before the qualifying date for any Register the Electoral Officer shall give public notice in the form set out in the Second Schedule hereto that a Register is about to be prepared.

(2) On or before the qualifying date every Assistant Electoral Officer shall initiate such enquiries as may be necessary to enable him to furnish, within the period prescribed therefor in the First Schedule hereto

(*a*) in the case of an area situate within a Borough or Urban District to the Deputy Electoral Officer; or

(*b*) in the case of an area situate in a rural district to the Electoral Officer for the County

a list, in the form set out in the Second Schedule hereto, of the names of those persons within his area who appear to be qualified to be registered as Parliamentary or Local Government Electors.

(3) In the execution of the duties imposed on him by paragraph (2) of this Regulation an Assistant Electoral Officer may, as he deems it necessary, and subject to any special instruction given to him by the Electoral or Deputy Electoral Officer or by the Ministry conduct his enquiries by securing the due completion of the appropriate form prescribed by these Regulations, or in such other manner as seems to him adequate and appropriate, and, subject to the provisions of the Act of 1946, and of these Regulations in relation to Claims and Objections, it shall be the responsibility of the Assistant Electoral Officer to ensure that the information furnished by him under this Regulation is complete and accurate.

(4) During the period intervening between the publication of one Register and the qualifying date for the next succeeding Register, an Assistant Electoral Officer, if required to do so by the Electoral or Deputy Electoral Officer, shall keep and maintain such records as shall facilitate the determination of the qualification of persons within his area to be entered in the Electors Lists for the next Register and the preparation of such lists as quickly as possible after the qualifying date for such Register, and the maintenance of such records shall be part of the duties of the Assistant Electoral Officer.

(5) It shall be the duty of the Assistant Electoral Officer to indicate on the list the nature of the qualification and where the name of any person is included by reason of a qualification other than a Residence qualification or a Resident Occupier's qualification, to enter on the list, opposite the name of the person, the address, if any, in respect of which the person possesses a Residence or Resident Occupier's qualification.

(a) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

3.—(1) On receiving the lists of persons qualified to be Electors within his District from the Assistant Electoral Officers, the Deputy Electoral Officer for a Borough or Urban District shall prepare from them a list of Electors for the Borough or Urban District in the form set out in the Second Schedule hereto, and shall transmit the said list, within the time set out in the First Schedule hereto, to the Electoral Officer for the County in which the Borough or Urban District is situate.

(2) The list so transmitted shall show the names of all persons who appear to be qualified, by any qualification, to be Parliamentary Electors or Electors at Elections to the Borough or Urban District Council.

4. It shall be the duty of every Electoral Officer, Deputy Electoral Officer, and Assistant Electoral Officer, to give all possible assistance to any other Electoral Officer, Deputy Electoral Officer or Assistant Electoral Officer, and, in particular, to furnish any information properly required by him in the performance of his electoral duties.

5.—(1) A Company may claim to be entitled to have a person (or persons) registered as a Local Government Elector (or Electors) in respect of land or premises occupied by it by sending to the Electoral Officer within the time specified in the First Schedule hereto a claim in the form set out in the Second Schedule hereto.

The first claim made under this Regulation shall be accompanied by a Delegation of Authority to claim in the form set out in the Second Schedule hereto and duly executed in accordance with the provisions of the Act of 1946. Such authority shall be retained by the Electoral Officer and shall remain in force until the revocation of such authority under the seal of the Company is lodged with the Electoral Officer.

(2) If a Company in a claim made under this Regulation specifies more persons than it is entitled to specify in respect of the Company qualification claimed by the Company, the Electoral Officer shall delete the names of so many persons commencing with the last name on the list as may be necessary in order that the number of names specified may be that which the Company is entitled to specify, and shall enter the names of those persons who are qualified to be Electors in the appropriate position in the Electors Lists.

(3) If the Electoral Officer is not satisfied that a Company is entitled to specify any persons in respect of the Company qualification claimed by the Company, or if he deletes the names of any persons specified by the Company, as provided in Paragraph (2) hereof, he shall notify the Company in writing that he is omitting from the electors lists all or some, as the case may be, of the names specified by the Company, and he shall also inform the Company of its right to make a claim under Regulation 9 hereof.

6.—(1) Any person claiming to be entitled to be registered as a Local Government elector under sub-section (6), sub-section (8) or sub-section (9) of section two of the Act of 1946 shall make application to the Electoral Officer on or before the date specified in that behalf in the First Schedule and in the form set out in the Second Schedule hereto.

(2) If the Electoral Officer is satisfied that the claimant possesses the requisite qualifications, he shall enter his name in the appropriate place in the electors lists.

(3) If the Electoral Officer is not satisfied that the claimant possesses the requisite qualifications, he shall notify the claimant in writing to that effect and shall also inform him of his right to make a claim under Regulation 9 hereof.

(4) If any person to whom this Regulation applies omits to make application in the manner and within the time prescribed in Paragraph (1) hereof, he shall not be entitled to make any claim for registration under Regulation 9 hereof.

(5) An application under this Regulation may be made either by the claimant or by some other person on his behalf.

7.—(1) When the Electoral Officer receives from the Assistant and Deputy Electoral Officers the lists of persons who appear to be qualified to be registered as Electors, he shall examine the lists and, having taken account of the information thereon furnished, together, where necessary, with additional information available to, or obtained by, himself, prepare therefrom the Electors Lists for the County or County Borough, and shall publish such lists as hereinafter provided. For the purposes of this Regulation the Electoral Officer may require any person whose name is included in the lists furnished by any Assistant or Deputy Electoral Officer to furnish to him in writing, over that person's signature, such particulars as may be necessary to enable the Electoral Officer to determine whether or not the person is entitled to be registered as a Parliamentary or Local Government Elector.

(2) The Electors Lists for each County or County Borough shall be published in the form set out in the Second Schedule hereto.

(3) The names in the lists need not be numbered.

(4) The names in the lists for each polling district shall be arranged wherever possible in street order and in all other cases in alphabetical order. The address shown opposite each name shall be the correct postal address to which communications can be sent by post but the list for any polling district may, at the discretion of the electoral officer, be subdivided to show the names of the persons registered in each townland in the polling district and in such case the names shall be arranged alphabetically in each townland and the townlands in each polling district shall be arranged in alphabetical order.

(5) Where the name of any person is included in the lists by virtue of a Business Premises qualification or a General