(2) If any question arises as to the interpretation of these Regulations, or as to whether any of the requirements thereof are fulfilled, or as to the amount of any grant payable thereunder, the decision of the Ministry shall be final.

13. The foregoing Regulations shall take and have effect as from the first day of April, 1951.

14. The Training College Teachers' (Salaries and Allowances) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1948 as amended by subsequent Regulations are hereby revoked.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Education for Northern Ireland this 18th day of July, 1951, in the presence of

(L.S.) *R. S. Brownell,*
Secretary.

ELECTIONS AND FRANCHISE

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ELECTORAL REGULATIONS

Register of Electors

REGULATIONS, DATED 24TH SEPTEMBER, 1951, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS UNDER SUB-SECTION (4) OF SECTION SIXTEEN OF THE ELECTIONS AND FRANCHISE ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1946, (REPRINT TO 1948).

1951. No. 173

WHEREAS by the Elections and Franchise Act (Northern Ireland), 1946 (Reprint to 1948), (hereinafter referred to as " the Act of 1946 ") it is, in effect, provided that a Register of Parliamentary and Local Government electors shall be published every third year and that Electoral Regulations shall be made by the Ministry of Home Affairs governing the preparation of such Registers :

AND WHEREAS it is provided by the Representation of the People Act, 1949, as amended by the Electoral Registers Act, 1949, (hereinafter jointly referred to as " the Act of 1949 ") that for the purposes of elections of members to the Parliament of the United Kingdom from constituencies in Northern Ireland a Register of Parliamentary electors shall be published each year :

AND WHEREAS regulations have been made by the Secretary of State under the Act of 1949 providing that in every year in which a Register is prepared under the provisions of the Act of 1946 the annual register for that year shall be combined with the first-mentioned Register :

AND WHEREAS the year 1952 is such a year :

AND WHEREAS in exercise of its powers under the Act of 1946 the Ministry of Home Affairs on the 17th day of April, 1946, made Regulations entitled the Electoral (Register of Electors) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1946, (hereinafter referred to as " the Principal Regulations ") governing the preparation of Registers for the purposes of the Act of 1946 :

AND WHEREAS to facilitate the preparation of the combined register in the year 1952, to distinguish so much of the said Register as relates to the purposes of the Act of 1946 from any part thereof or entry therein that relates only to the purposes of the Act of 1949, and to make other provision for the better preparation of the Register, it is expedient to amend the Principal Regulations in their application to the Register to be published in the year 1952 :

NOW, THEREFORE, the Ministry of Home Affairs, by virtue and in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by sub-section (4) of section sixteen of the Act of 1946 and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations :—

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Electoral (Register of Electors) (Amending) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1951.

(2) These Regulations shall be construed as one with the Principal Regulations.

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

(4) These Regulations shall come into force on the 1st October, 1951.

2. For paragraph (1) of Regulation 1 of the Principal Regulations there shall be substituted the following paragraphs —

" (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.

(1A) 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. Regulation 4 of the Principal Regulations shall have effect as if after Paragraph (2) thereof there were added the following paragraphs—

" (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 8 hereof.

(4) If a company fails to make a claim to the Electoral Officer, as provided in Paragraph (1) hereof, it shall not be entitled to make any claim for registration under Regulation 8 hereof."

4. For Regulation 5 of the Principal Regulations there shall be substituted the following Regulation —

" 5.—(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 8 hereof.

(4) If any person to which this Regulation applies omits to make application in the manner and within the time set out in Paragraph (1) hereof, he shall not be entitled to make any claim for registration under Regulation 8 hereof.

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

5. The following Regulation shall be substituted for Regulation 7 of the Principal Regulations —

" 7.—(1) The Electoral Officer shall effect formal publication of the electors lists by the exhibition in his office not later than 1st January, 1952, of a copy thereof, which copy may be in manuscript, typescript, in the form of printer's proofs, or partly in one of such forms and partly in another, and after such publication no addition to, deletion from, or amendment of, the contents of the lists shall be made.

(2) The Electoral Officer shall effect supplementary publication of the electors lists by exhibiting in his office not later than 25th January, 1952, a printed copy of the electors lists for the County or County Borough and by exhibiting within three days thereafter relevant sections of the printed lists in suitable places to which the public have access in or near each registration unit within the County or County Borough.

(3) If any Electoral Officer, not later than fourteen days before the 1st day of January or 25th January, as the case may be, reports to the Ministry that in his opinion it will not be possible to effect the formal or supplementary publication or both formal and supplementary publication of the lists or any part thereof on the dates specified in Paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Regulation, the Ministry may, if it is satisfied that adequate grounds exist and without prejudice to any question of the default of the Electoral Officer, make an Order under the provisions of section fourteen of the Act of 1946 postponing the publication thereof to a later date.

(4) The Electoral Officer shall permit any interested person, during ordinary office hours, to examine and make copies of any entries in the lists exhibited by him in his office.

(5) On the day on which supplementary publication of the electors lists is effected the Electoral Officer shall give public notice by advertisement in newspapers circulating in the County or County Borough, or by the exhibition of notices in Post Offices, police barracks or public places, and in such other manner as he considers necessary, of the publication of the lists.

(6) A notice in accordance with Paragraph (5) hereof shall be in the form set out in the Second Schedule hereto and shall state the places at which the electors lists will be available for inspection, the places at which and the period within which claims and objections in respect of the lists may be lodged, the places at which and the date on which lists of claimants will be exhibited. The notice shall also state that Revision Courts will be held throughout the County or County Borough at which any person possessing information relevant to any case will be entitled to appear and be heard and that particulars of the times and places at which the Courts will be held may be obtained by interested persons on application to the Electoral Officer."

6. Sub-paragraph (*d*) of Paragraph (3) of Regulation 8 of the Principal Regulations is hereby revoked.

7. Paragraph (3) of Regulation 10 of the Principal Regulations is hereby revoked.

8. The following Paragraph shall be substituted for Paragraph (4) of Regulation 10 of the Principal Regulations —

" (4) All claims for registration and notices of objection shall be sent by the Electoral Officer to the Revising Officer for determination."

9. The following Regulation shall be substituted for Regulation 11 of the Principal Regulations —

"11.—(1) The Revising Officer shall, when fixing the time and place at which he will consider any case, have regard to the convenience of the parties to the case and shall arrange his sittings for the purpose of considering cases at such sufficient number of places and at such hours as will provide full and sufficient opportunity for the appearance of the parties.

(2) The Revising Officer shall, on receiving particulars of any claim or objection from the Electoral Officer, send a notice, in the case of a claim to the claimant or to the person making a claim on his behalf or, if the Revising Officer considers it expedient, to both such persons, and in the case of an objection to the person objected to and to the person making the objection, stating the time and place at which he proposes to consider the case, and the notice sent to the person objected to shall indicate the grounds upon which the objection has been made.

(3) A notice under the preceding paragraph to a claimant or to a person making a claim on behalf of another person may, if the Revising Officer thinks fit, include a requirement that the recipient shall appear at the hearing of the case for the purpose of substantiating the claim and if that person fails to appear at the hearing the Revising Officer may disallow the claim without further enquiry.

(4) If a person who has given notice of objection to the inclusion of any name on the electors lists fails to appear at the hearing to give evidence in support of his objection, the Revising Officer may decline to take the objection into consideration.

(5) The Revising Officer shall consider each case at the place specified in the notice and at the time appointed for the hearing or as soon thereafter as is practicable, so however that he informs the Electoral Officer of his decision in each such case within such time as will permit the due and proper publication of the Register.

(6) Before admitting any claim the Revising Officer shall take into account all information available to or obtainable by him from any dependable source and, notwithstanding that no formal objection may have been made to the claim by any person at the hearing, the Revising Officer shall disallow the claim if he is not satisfied of the qualifications of the claiment to be registered.

(7) On the consideration of a case any person who appears to the Revising Officer to be interested shall be entitled to appear and be heard either in person or by any other person, other than Counsel, on his behalf, and in particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing the Electoral Officer, or the Deputy or Assistant Electoral Officer for the area to which any claim or objection relates, may, and if required by the Revising Officer shall, appear at the hearing of the claim or objection and shall be entitled to be heard as an interested party.

(8) If any person registered as an elector within the County objects to the registration of any person by, or on whose behalf, a claim for registration has been made, notice of objection to the claimant shall not be sent to the Electoral Officer, but the objector shall be entitled, without prior notice, to appear and be heard in opposition to the claim at the hearing of the case by the Revising Officer, and any such objector shall be deemed to be an objector for the purposes of sub-section (1) of section thirty-two of the Act of 1946."