enabling it hereby makes the following Regulations, further amending the Public Service Vehicles (Construction) Regulations, 1932 (a) (hereinafter referred to as " the Principal Regulations "), that is to say :—

1. The Principal Regulations shall have effect as though in paragraph 3 in Part I of the Schedule thereto, as amended by the Public Service Vehicles (Construction) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1950 (b), the following sub-paragraph were substituted for sub-paragraph (*b*) thereof :—

" (*b*) four wheels and is a single-decked vehicle shall not exceed 30 feet."

2.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as " The Public Service Vehicles (Construction) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1951.

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1889 (c), shall apply for the purposes of interpretation of these Regulations in like manner as it applied, by virtue of the Interpretation Act, 1921 (d), for the purposes of the interpretation of an Act of Parliament of Northern Ireland.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Commerce for Northern Ireland this 14th day of November, 1951, in the presence of :—

Arthur Acheson Farrell,

(L.S.) Assistant Secretary.

Public Service Vehicles

REGULATIONS, DATED 30TH DAY OF MARCH, 1951, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE UNDER THE MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD TRAFFIC ACTS (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1926-45.

1951. No. 54

The Ministry of Commerce in exercise of the powers vested in it by the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Acts (Northern Ireland), 1926-45, and of all other powers in that behalf thereunto enabling it, with the approval of the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland in regard to the provisions contained in Regulations 10, 23, and 34 hereof, hereby makes the following Regulations with respect to the Licensing and Regulation of Public Service Vehicles and matters incidental thereto, that is to say :—

Citation.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Public Service Vehicles Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1951, and shall come into operation on the 1st day of April, 1951.

(a) S. R. & O. (N.I.) 1932 No. 68. (b) S. R. & O. (N.I.) 1950 No. 198.
(c) 52 & 53 Vict. c.63. (d) 12 Geo. 5 ch. 4 (N.I.).

2.—(1) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the expression — Interpretation.

(*a*) " the Ministry " means the Ministry of Commerce for Northern Ireland ;

(*b*) " the Acts " means the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Acts (Northern Ireland) 1926-45 ;

(*c*) " public service vehicle " has the meaning attached thereto by Section 10 of the Motor Vehicles (Traffic and Regulation) Act (Northern Ireland), 1926, as amended by Section 43 of the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland), 1934 ;

(*d*) " motor hackney carriage " means a public service vehicle seating not more than six persons in addition to the driver ;

(*e*) " omnibus " means a public service vehicle seating more than six persons in addition to the driver ;

(*f*) " Inspector of Vehicles " means an Inspector of Vehicles in the Ministry of Commerce ;

(*g*) " type " means in the case of omnibuses any one of the following :—

(*a*) a double-decked vehicle ;

(*b*) a single-decked vehicle having a seating capacity for more than twenty persons ;

(*c*) a single-decked vehicle having a seating capacity for twenty persons or less ;

(*h*) " Identification Mark " means the " Index Mark and Registration Number " assigned to the public service vehicle on registration in accordance with the provisions of the Roads Act, 1920, and Regulations made thereunder ;

(*i*) " public place " shall include the premises of a railway or omnibus station ;

(*j*) " police officer or constable " means a police officer or constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1889, (**a**) as applied to Northern Ireland by the Interpretation Act, 1921, (**b**) shall apply for the purpose of the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies for the purpose of the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

3. These Regulations shall not apply to any vehicle in respect of which a certificate of exemption in form No. 1 in the First Schedule hereto has been granted by the Ministry in accordance with Section 43 of the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland), 1934. Exemption.

4.—(1) The Regulations specified in the Second Schedule to these Regulations are hereby revoked. Revocation.

(a) 52 & 53 Vic. Ch. 63. (b) 12 Geo. 5, Ch. 4.

(2) Nothing in these Regulations shall :—

(*a*) affect the operation prior to the date hereof of the Regulations hereby revoked or anything done or suffered under those Regulations ; or

(*b*) affect any right, privilege, obligation or liability acquired, accrued or incurred under those Regulations ; or

(*c*) affect any fine or punishment incurred in respect of a breach of those Regulations ; or

(*d*) affect any legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, privilege, obligation, liability, fine or punishment, and any legal proceedings or remedy may be instituted, continued or enforced and any such fine or punishment may be imposed as if these Regulations had not been made.

PART I

Licensing of Public Service Vehicles

Application for Licence.

5. A person making application for a licence for a public service vehicle shall do so in Form* No. 2, 3 or 4 in the First Schedule hereto as the case may require. The application shall be made to the Ministry by the owner of the vehicle or by some person duly authorised in writing by the owner in that behalf.

Applicant residing outside Northern Ireland.

6. Where an application is made for the licensing of a public service vehicle by the owner thereof being a company or a body corporate whose registered or principal office is situated outside Northern Ireland or by an individual or individuals whose residence or residences is or are outside Northern Ireland it shall be a condition of the issue of the licence that the owner shall have and shall retain during the currency of the licence an office or place of business within Northern Ireland and shall undertake to accept service thereat of any summons or other document relating to any matter or offence arising in Northern Ireland in connection with such public service vehicle and to appear at any Court as required by such summons or other document and admit and submit to the jurisdiction of the Court relative to the subject matter of such summons or other document. Any non-performance of such undertaking shall operate as an immediate revocation of the licence.

Refusal of Licence.

7. A licence for a public service vehicle shall not be granted to any person under the age of 21 years, and if granted to any such person shall be void.

8. The Ministry may in its discretion refuse to grant a licence :—

(*a*) if the applicant has previously obtained a licence for a public

* A Form on which to make application for a licence may be obtained at any Post Office transacting Inland Revenue business on payment of the prescribed fee.

service vehicle and such licence has been revoked or suspended ;

(*b*) if the applicant —

(i) has failed to observe any of the conditions of any licence previously granted ; or

(ii) has been convicted of any offence under any provision of the Acts relating to the licensing and regulation of public service vehicles, or any Regulation made thereunder.

9. The Ministry shall not grant a licence if the applicant fails to satisfy it :—

(*a*) that the public service vehicle conforms to the conditions of fitness from time to time laid down by the Ministry ;

(*b*) that he is of good character and business repute, and that his financial position is such that he is a fit and proper person to hold a licence.

10. The prescribed fees shall be as follows :— Licensing Fees.

(*a*) For a motor hackney carriage or omnibus for which a licence is applied for within one month of being registered for the first time under the Roads Act, 1920, or under the corresponding statutory provisions obtaining elsewhere, and which before being so registered has not been used for demonstration purposes for a longer period than one month..... 1*s*.

(*b*) For a motor hackney carriage not coming within the provisions of sub-paragraph (*a*) hereof..... £1.

(*c*) For an omnibus not coming within the provisions of sub-paragraph (*a*) hereof..... £2.

11. If the Ministry approves of the application, the applicant shall cause the public service vehicle to which he desires the licence shall attach to be brought to such place as the Ministry may direct for examination. Examination of Vehicle.

12.—(1) If the public service vehicle is found fit for public use, the Inspector of Vehicles shall cause a plate bearing the number which is to distinguish such vehicle (hereinafter called the number plate) to be affixed thereto in his presence, together with such mark or marks as the Ministry may from time to time direct, and shall at the same time determine the seating capacity of the vehicle in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 19 hereof. The number plate shall be fixed in a conspicuous position on the lower left portion of the back of each vehicle, but not in close proximity to the Identification Mark of the vehicle, and the licensee shall provide the means of attachment for the number plate : Number Plate.

Provided that in the case of a motor hackney carriage which is not used to stand or ply for hire in any street, road or public place, the Inspector of Vehicles shall cause the plate and mark or marks to be placed in such position on the vehicle, not being a conspicuous position, as he deems suitable.

(2) If the licence is refused the Ministry shall transmit to the applicant notice of the refusal in Form No. 5 in the First Schedule hereto, or in a form to the like effect.

The licence shall be in the Form No. 6 or 7 in the First Schedule hereto as the case may require, or in a form to the like effect.

Licensee's Responsibility.

13. The licensee shall be responsible for the observance of all conditions under which the licence is granted.

Conditions of Licence.

14.—(*a*) The licensee —

(1) shall not permit his public service vehicle to be used for an illegal purpose ;

(2) shall not deface or mutilate his licence ;

(3) shall at all times when required produce his licence to any police officer, constable or Inspector of Vehicles ;

(4) shall at all reasonable times for the purpose of inspection, examination or testing of the vehicle to which the licence relates :—

(i) produce the vehicle at a time and place to be notified ;

(ii) afford to any Inspector of Vehicles full facilities for such inspection, examination or testing, including access to his premises for that purpose ;

(5) Shall within three days after a notice shall have been delivered to him personally or sent by registered post to the address last notified to the Ministry, deliver up his licence at the Ministry or at such other place as may be specified in the notice, together with the number plate affixed to the vehicle pursuant to Regulation 12 hereof.

(*b*) The licensee of any public service vehicle shall not, except as provided by these Regulations, conceal, remove, alter or obliterate, or permit or suffer any unauthorised person to conceal, remove, alter or obliterate any plate, number or mark affixed to or placed upon the vehicle in pursuance of these Regulations or by the authority of the Ministry.

(*c*) The licensee shall cause the public service vehicle and all its fittings and furniture to be maintained and kept in good order and repair and shall take all practical means to secure that