STATUTORY RULES AND ORDERS OF A GENERAL CHARACTER ISSUED IN 1950

ADOPTION OF CHILDREN

Adoption Societies

REGULATIONS, DATED 27TH MARCH, 1950, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS UNDER SECTION EIGHTEEN OF THE ADOPTION OF CHILDREN ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1950.

1950. No. 44

The Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland (hereinafter referred to as " the Ministry "), in pursuance of the powers conferred upon it by Section eighteen of the Adoption of Children Act (Northern Ireland), 1950, hereby makes the following Regulations :—

1. Every application for the registration of an adoption society under the Adoption of Children Act (Northern Ireland), 1950, shall be made in the form, and shall give the particulars, set out in the First Schedule to these Regulations.

2. The fee to be paid by an adoption society to the Ministry in respect of registration shall be £1.

3. Where the parent or guardian of a child proposes to place a child at the disposition of a registered adoption society with a view to the child being adopted, the society —

(*a*) shall furnish the parent or guardian with a memorandum in the form set out in the Second Schedule to these Regulations ; and

(*b*) shall not accept the child unless the parent or guardian has signed and delivered to the society a certificate (which the society shall retain) in the form set out in the Second Schedule to these Regulations that he has read and understood the said memorandum.

4. In the case of every child proposed to be delivered by or on behalf of a registered adoption society into the care and possession of an adopter —

(*a*) the society shall make inquiries and obtain reports on the points set out in the Third Schedule to these Regulations, and the report obtained on the health of the child shall be signed by a registered medical practitioner ; and

(*b*) the case shall be considered by a committee (to be called a " case committee ") appointed by the society for the purpose and consisting of not less than three persons.

5. No child shall be delivered into the care and possession of an adopter by or on behalf of a registered adoption society until —

(*a*) the adopter has been interviewed by the case committee or by some person on their behalf;

(*b*) a representative of the case committee has inspected any premises in Northern Ireland in which the adopter intends that the child should reside permanently; and

(*c*) the case committee have considered the reports required by Regulation 4.

6.—(1) Every registered adoption society shall, within twelve months of the date of registration and thereafter at least once in every period of twelve months, furnish to the Ministry if required so to do.—

(*a*) duly audited accounts and balance sheet; and

(*b*) a report in the form set out in the Fourth Schedule to these Regulations.

(2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (*a*) of paragraph (1) of this Regulation, the auditor shall be an independent person who is a chartered accountant or a member of an association or society of accountants incorporated at the date on which these Regulations come into force or is on other grounds accepted by the Ministry as competent for the purpose; and no person shall be deemed to be independent if he is related to or associated in business with any member of a committee or any officer of the society.

7.—(1) Every registered adoption society shall make adequate arrangements for the care and supervision of children who have been placed by their parents or guardians in the care of the society.

(2) Every such child who is not living under the direct control of the society shall, unless and until the child has been adopted in pursuance of an adoption order, be visited in the first month and thereafter at least once in every three months by a representative of the society who shall report upon the case to the case committee; and, if the case committee so recommend, the society shall immediately remove the child.

8. 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.

9. These Regulations may be cited as the Adoption Societies Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1950, and shall come into operation on the 1st April, 1950.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland this 27th day of March, one thousand nine hundred and fifty in the presence of

(L.S.) *H. C. Montgomery,*
Assistant Secretary.

FIRST SCHEDULE

Form of Application for Registration

ADOPTION OF CHILDREN ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1950.

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION

(I) (We) the undersigned being (a person) (persons) duly authorised on behalf of the adoption society called
hereby apply to the Ministry of Home Affairs to have the said society registered under the above mentioned Act.

The following are particulars of the society :—

1. Date of establishment.
2. Full postal address of the society's administrative centre.
3.—(*a*) For what object(s) does the society exist ?
   (*b*) Does it exist only for the above object(s) ?
   (*c*) Does it apply the whole of its profits, if any, and other income in promoting the above objects ?

   A copy of the instrument governing the society's activities should be attached.

*4. Full names, addresses and occupations or descriptions of all members of the committee controlling the activities of the society.

*5. Full names, addresses, occupations or descriptions and qualifications of members of the case committee.

6. Has any person taking part in the management or control of the society or any member of the society been convicted of an offence in connection with the adoption of children ? (If so, give particulars.)

*7. Full names, addresses and qualifications of all persons employed by the society, whether voluntary or paid, for the purpose of making any arrangement for the adoption of children.

8. Cases dealt with by the society during the year ended †.
   (*a*) Number of applications from persons wishing to adopt a child.
   (*b*) Number of children offered to the society with a view to adoption.
   (*c*) Number of children taken into hostels under the direct control of the society pending adoption.
   (*d*) Number of children placed by the society pending adoption in foster homes or hostels not under the direct control of the society.
   (*e*) Number of children placed with a view to adoption.
   (*f*) Number of adoption orders made in respect of children placed by the Society.

9.—(*a*) Number of children placed for adoption by the society and awaiting adoption orders at the end of the year.
   (*b*) Number of children in hostels under the direct control of the society at the end of the year.
   (*c*) Number of children at the end of the year in foster homes or in hostels in which they had been placed by the society but which are not under the society's direct control.

10. Copies should be attached of the society's latest annual report and audited statement of accounts.

I/We hereby declare that the above particulars are correct in every respect.

Signature .....
Office held under the society.....
Address .....
.....

Signature .....
Office held under the society.....
Address .....
.....

Date.....

* Attach separate list if necessary.
† Insert date on which last financial year ended.