staff of the said primary school and had been so serving for a period of not less than six months and who is transferred to the said intermediate school on or before 1st January, 1951,

may be regarded as eligible for appointment subject to such conditions as the Ministry may determine."

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Education for Northern Ireland this 22nd day of September, 1949, in the presence of

(L.S.) *J. A. Glen,*
Assistant Secretary.

The Ministry of Finance hereby approves of the foregoing Regulations in witness whereof the Seal of the Ministry has been fixed thereto this 22nd day of September, 1949, in the presence of

(L.S.) *John I. Cook,*
Second Secretary.

Primary Schools (General)

REGULATIONS, DATED 16TH JUNE, 1949, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION UNDER THE EDUCATION ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1947, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE.

1949. No. 100

The Ministry of Education (hereinafter referred to as "the Ministry") in pursuance of the powers vested in it by Sections 19, 83, 84, 104 and 112 of the Education Act (Northern Ireland), 1947, and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, with the approval of the Ministry of Finance in so far as Sections 83 and 104 are concerned, hereby makes the following Regulations :—

Introductory

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Primary Schools (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1949.

(2) These Regulations shall come into operation on the date hereof.

2. These Regulations shall not apply to a primary school which is managed and conducted as a nursery school.

3. In these Regulations, unless the contrary intention appears, the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them, that is to say :—

(*a*) " The Act " means the Education Act (Northern Ireland), 1947 ;

" approved " means approved by the Ministry ;

" nursery class " means a class specially approved for the purpose of providing education mainly for children who have attained the age of 3 years but have not attained the age of 5 years ;

" quarter " means a period of three months ending 31st March, 30th June, 30th September or 31st December ;

" recognised " means recognised by the Ministry for the purposes of these Regulations ;

" school " means a recognised primary school other than a nursery school ;

" infants' school " means a school at which education is provided mainly for children who have not reached the age of eight years ;

" mixed school " means a school for boys and girls ;

" school authorities " means, in the case of a county school, the local education authority and, in the case of a voluntary school, the managers of that school ;

" school year " means the year beginning on 1st August and ending on 31st July.

(*b*) Other expressions which have meanings assigned to them by the Act shall have the same respective meanings for the purposes of these Regulations.

Recognition and Management of Schools

4. Recognition of a school shall be dependent upon the maintenance of an average daily enrolment of at least 20 pupils : Provided that, in exceptional circumstances, the Ministry may recognise a school in which an average daily enrolment of 20 pupils is not maintained.

5. Where the Ministry considers that the amalgamation of two or more schools would result in the more efficient instruction of the majority of the children attending them, the Ministry may require that they be amalgamated or may require that any further appointment of a teacher in any of the schools shall be approved only as a temporary appointment.

6.—(1) Where a school for boys and a school for girls are conducted in the same neighbourhood and the Ministry considers that such schools could be conducted more efficiently or more economically as one school, it may direct that they be amalgamated and should such direction not be carried out, the Ministry may withdraw recognition of either or both of the schools.

(2) Where the average daily enrolment at either of the schools for the preceding calendar year has been less than 50, the schools shall be amalgamated on the occurrence of a vacancy in either of the schools unless for special reasons, the Ministry directs otherwise.

7. A school shall not be used for political meetings, the transaction of any political business or for any purpose connected directly or indirectly with Parliamentary or Local Government elections except as polling booths on the requisition of the officer responsible in accordance with the statutes governing such elections.

8. For a voluntary school other than a voluntary school for which a committee is appointed under the provisions of Sub-section (2) of Section 81 of the Act, the Ministry may recognise a suitable person or persons as manager or may recognise a committee of management.

9. As a condition for recognition, a manager of a voluntary school shall give an undertaking, in the approved form, to comply with the Regulations of the Ministry, and in the event of his failure to observe such undertaking the Ministry may refuse or withdraw such recognition.

10. No financial responsibility in connection with the maintenance of a school shall rest with a teacher.

Organisation

11.—(1) The instruction to be given in a school shall be determined with due regard to the ages, abilities and aptitudes of the pupils, and the curriculum, syllabus and time-table shall be subject to the approval of the Ministry.

(2) The Ministry may prohibit the use in a school of any book of which it does not approve.

12. A school shall be open during the school year for at least 210 days (exclusive of Sundays), of which not more than five days may be counted in any one calendar week from Sunday to Saturday, inclusive :

Provided that in exceptional circumstances, the Ministry may sanction a reduction in the minimum of 210 days.

13.—(1) The Ministry may require that such of the Regulations relating to the registration and attendance of pupils as it may from time to time direct shall be complied with in the case of pupils who are over or under compulsory school age.

(2) In respect of all pupils the school authorities shall keep such records and furnish such returns as the Ministry may consider necessary.

14.—(1) A child under three years of age shall not be registered as a pupil in a school.

(2) A child who has reached the age of three years but has not reached the age of four years shall not be so registered unless the child is enrolled in a nursery class.

(3) A child who is under the lower limit of compulsory school age shall not be registered for the first time as a pupil in a school on any date other than one of the dates prescribed by the appropriate education authority under the authority's bye-laws relating to school attendance. This part of this Regulation does not apply to the registration of a child for enrolment in a nursery class.

15. A child who is not a registered pupil of a school shall not be permitted to be in a classroom during the hours when the school is open, except in accordance with arrangements approved by the Ministry.

16.—(1) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (2) of this Regulation :—

(*a*) a boy who is under the age of seven shall not be registered in a school in which the teaching staff does not include at least one woman teacher ;

(*b*) a boy who is registered as a pupil in a girls' school shall cease to be so registered before the 1st August next following the date on which he reaches the age of eight years ;

(*c*) a child shall not be registered as a pupil in an infants' school on or after the 1st August next following the date on which he reaches the age of eight years ;

(*d*) a child attending a school which provides instruction only for junior pupils shall be transferred to a school which provides instruction for senior pupils not later than 1st August next following the date on which he reaches the age of eleven years.

(2) The Ministry may sanction the modification of the provisions of this Regulation where it is satisfied that such modification is necessary.

Staffing of Schools

17. The appointment of a teacher shall be subject to the approval of the Ministry and no person whose appointment has not been so approved shall be employed as a teacher.

18. Subject to the provisions of Regulations 19 to 26 of these Regulations, the maximum number of teachers in a school, in addition to a principal, in respect of whose salaries grant may be paid by the Ministry, shall be as follows :—

Average daily enrolment of pupils for year ending 31st December	*Maximum number of assistants (in addition to a principal) for the year commencing 1st August following*
At least 25 but not exceeding 64 pupils	1
Exceeding 64 ,, ,, 104 ,,	2

and so on, an extra teacher being allowed for each additional 40 pupils on the roll.

19. When teachers employed in a school give instruction to the pupils of that school in domestic science, handwork, horticulture, nature study, elementary science, art, physical education or such other subject as the Ministry may approve for the purpose of this Regulation, the Ministry may pay grant in respect of an assistant or assistants in excess of the appropriate maximum number calculated in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 18 of these Regulations: Provided that such an assistant shall be recognised and grant in respect of his salary paid only where the Ministry is satisfied that suitable accommodation and equipment for the instruction of the pupils in such a subject are available.

The maximum number of assistants who may be so recognised shall be determined as follows:—

Average daily enrolment of pupils in standard V and above for the year ending 31st December	*Maximum number of assistants who may be recognised under the provisions of this Regulation in the year commencing 1st August following*
Exceeding 120 but not exceeding 240	1
,, 240 ,, ,, 360	2

and so on, one assistant being allowed for each additional 120 pupils enrolled in standard V and above.

20. Notwithstanding the provisions of Regulations 18 and 19 of these Regulations, the Ministry may, for such period and subject to such conditions as it may determine, recognise and pay grant in respect of the salary of an assistant or assistants in a school in excess of the maximum number of assistants for which provision is made in those Regulations, if

(*a*) the number of pupils enrolled is substantially greater than the figure of average daily enrolment on which, in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 18, the maximum number of teachers to be employed in the school is based; or

(*b*) educational instruction of a special or experimental nature is being provided; or

(*c*) the school has been enlarged; or