1. The Returning Officer shall deliver to each member present a ballot paper which shall contain a list of the candidates as described in their respective nomination papers and arranged alphabetically in the order of their surnames and, if there are two or more candidates with the same surname, of their other names.

2. Each member on receiving the ballot paper shall be entitled to record his vote by placing a mark in the form of an X opposite the name of one candidate and no more, and no other mark shall be placed on the ballot paper.

3. Each member shall then fold the ballot paper and deliver it so folded to the Returning Officer.

4. The Returning Officer shall first satisfy himself that the number of ballot papers returned to him does not exceed the number issued by him to the members present. He shall thereupon examine each ballot paper and shall reject any papers on which no mark has been placed or on which marks have been placed opposite the names of more than one candidate, or on which any mark other than that permitted by Regulation 2 hereof has been made. The number of papers not so rejected shall be the number of votes validly cast.

5. The Returning Officer shall thereupon count the number of votes validly cast for each candidate.

6. The Interpretation Act, 1921, shall apply to the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of the Parliament of Northern Ireland.

7. These Regulations may be cited as the Electoral (Local Government, Casual Vacancies — Poll) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1946.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland, this twenty-first day of November, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-six, in the presence of

(L.S.) *J. B. O'Neill,*
Assistant Secretary.

Parliamentary Elections

REGULATIONS DATED 4TH SEPTEMBER, 1946, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND UNDER SECTIONS TWENTY, TWENTY-SIX AND FIFTY-FOUR OF THE ELECTIONS AND FRANCHISE ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1946.

1946. No. 136

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

PART I — QUESTIONS AND OATHS

1. Questions to be asked and Oaths to be administered by Presiding Officers — General.

2. Appropriate questions.
3. Oaths and Affirmations. Manner of Administration, etc.
4. Oath or Affirmation in relation to Questions I and II.
5. Oath or Affirmation in relation to Questions III and IV.
6. Oath or Affirmation in relation to Questions V. VI, VII, and VIII.

PART II — VOTING BY POST

Preliminary

7. Postal Voting Area.
8. Postal Voting List.
9. Application of Ballot Act.
10. Form of ballot paper and declaration of identity.
11. Presence of Agents.
12. Number of Postal Voter.

Proceedings on issue of Ballot Papers

13. Issue of ballot papers.
14. Provision of Postal Voters' Ballot Boxes.

Proceedings on receipt of Ballot Papers

15. Envelopes to be placed in Postal Voters' Ballot Boxes.
16. Opening of Postal Voters' Ballot Boxes.
17. Rejected declarations of Identity.
18. Ballot papers to be placed in Postal Voters' Ballot Boxes.

Documents to be sent to the Clerk of the Crown in Northern Ireland

19. Action to be taken after issue of ballot papers.
20. Action to be taken after examination of voting documents.
21. Covering envelopes received after close of ballot or returned undelivered.
22. Documents to be furnished to Clerk of the Crown in Northern Ireland.
23. Disposal of envelopes subsequently received.

PART III — MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

24. Notice of proposed appointment of Polling Places.
25. Marking of Register.
26. Issue of ballot papers in respect of marked entries.
27. Document of Identity.
28. Certificate under Section 23 (7) of the Act of 1946.
29. Returns to be made by Electoral Officers to Ministry after Parliamentary Elections.
30. Interpretation.
31. Citation and Commencement.

Schedule :—Forms

In pursuance of the powers conferred upon it by Sections Twenty, Twenty-six and Fifty-four of the Elections and Franchise Act (Northern Ireland), 1946, and of all other powers on that behalf it thereunto enabling the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland hereby makes the following regulations :—

PART I — QUESTIONS AND OATHS

Questions to be asked and oaths to be administered by Presiding Officers—General.

1. At any Parliamentary Election the Presiding Officer, may, and if required by any candidate, or by the agent of any candidate, (including an agent appointed under Section Two of the Parliamentary and Local Government Elections Act (Northern Ireland), 1930) shall, put to any voter at the time of applying for a ballot paper, and not afterwards, such one or more of the questions hereinafter prescribed as shall be appropriate, and may, and if required by or on behalf of a candidate as aforesaid, shall, administer to the said voter the oath or affirmation prescribed in relation to any such question ; and unless the voter shall give a satisfactory answer to every question so asked and take the oath or affirmation so administered, a ballot paper shall not be issued to him.

Appropriate questions.

2. For the purposes of the preceding regulation

(*a*) the following questions shall be appropriate to be asked of an elector claiming to vote in person at any Parliamentary Elections :—

Question I. " Are you the same person whose name appears as A.B. on the register of electors for the Parliamentary Constituency of (*here add the name of the Constituency to which the election relates*) ? "

Question II. " Have you already voted, either here or elsewhere, at this election for the Parliamentary Constituency of (*here add the name of the Constituency to which the election relates*) ? "

(*b*) the following questions shall be appropriate to be asked of a person claiming to vote as proxy for an elector at any Parliamentary Election.

Question III. " Are you the same person whose name appears as A.B. [on this proxy paper] (*or where the proxy is permitted to vote without producing the proxy paper*) [on the list of proxies for this election] as entitled to vote as proxy on behalf of C.D. ? "

Question IV. " Have you already voted as proxy on behalf of C.D., either here or elsewhere, at this election for the Parliamentary Constituency of (*here add the name of the Constituency to which the election relates*) ? "

(*c*) the following additional questions shall be appropriate to be asked at a Parliamentary General Election :—

Question V. (*In the case of a person voting in respect of a residence qualification*). " Have you already voted at this general election in respect of a residence qualification ? "

Question VI. (*In the case of a person voting in respect of a qualification other than a residence qualification*). " Have you already voted at this general election in respect of a qualification other than a residence qualification ? "

Question VII. (*In the case of a person claiming to vote as proxy on behalf of a person registered in respect of a residence qualification*). " Have you already voted at this general election on behalf of C.D. in respect of a residence qualification ? "

Question VIII. (*In the case of a person voting as proxy on behalf of a person registered in respect of a qualification other than a residence qualification*). " Have you already voted at this general election on behalf of C.D. in respect of a qualification other than a residence qualification ? "

Oaths and Affirmations. Manner of Administration, etc.

3. The Oaths or Affirmations to be administered in relation to the several questions shall be in the form set out in the next three succeeding regulations, and shall be administered in the following manner :—

(*a*) The person taking the Oath shall hold the New Testament, or, in the case of a Jew, the Old Testament, in his uplifted hand, and shall say or repeat after the Officer administering the Oath, the Oath prescribed as appropriate.

(*b*) Unless the person about to take the Oath voluntarily objects thereto, or is physically incapable of so taking the Oath, the Oath shall be administered in the manner aforesaid and in the form prescribed, without question, but in the case of a person who is neither a Christian nor a Jew, the Oath shall be administered in any manner which is held lawful.

(*c*) The person making the Affirmation shall say or repeat after the Officer administering the Affirmation the words of the Affirmation prescribed as appropriate.

Oath or Affirmation in relation to Questions I and II.

4. The Oath or Affirmation to be administered in relation to Questions I and II in paragraph (*a*) of Regulation 2 shall be :—

" I swear by Almighty God [*or* " I do solemnly, sincerely and truly, declare and affirm "] (*as the case may be*) that I am the same person whose name appears as A.B. on the register of electors now in force for the Parliamentary Constituency of (*here add the name of the Constituency to which the election relates*), and that I have not before voted, either here or

elsewhere, at the present election for the Parliamentary Constituency of (*here add the name of the Constituency to which the election relates*)".

Oath or Affirmation in relation to Questions III and IV.

5. The Oath or Affirmation to be administered in relation to Questions III and IV in paragraph (*b*) of Regulation 2 shall be :—

" I swear by Almighty God [*or* " I do solemnly, sincerely and truly, declare and affirm "] (*as the case may be*) that I am the same person whose name appears as A.B. [on the proxy paper issued in respect of C.D.] (*or where the proxy is permitted to vote without producing a proxy paper*) [on the list of proxies for this election] as entitled to vote as proxy on behalf of C.D., and that I have not already voted as proxy on behalf of C.D., either here or elsewhere, at this election for the Parliamentary Constituency of (*here add the name of the Constituency to which the election relates*) ".

Oath or Affirmation in relation to Questions V, VI, VII, and VIII.

6. The Oath or Affirmation to be administered in relation to Questions V, VI, VII and VIII in paragraph (*c*) of Regulation 2 shall be :—

" I swear by Almighty God [*or* " I do solemnly, sincerely and truly, declare and affirm "] (*as the case may be*) that [(*in the case of Question V*) I have not already voted at this general election in respect of a residence qualification] *or* [(*in the case of Question VI*) I have not already voted at this general election in respect of a qualification other than a residence qualification] *or* [(*in the case of a proxy voting on behalf of a person in respect of a residence qualification*) I have not already voted at this general election on behalf of C.D. in respect of a residence qualification] *or* [(*in the case of a proxy voting on behalf of a person in respect of a qualification other than a residence qualification*) I have not already voted at this general election on behalf of C.D. in respect of a qualification other than a residence qualification] (*as the case may be*) ".

Part II — Voting by Post

Preliminary

Postal Voting Area.

7. For the purposes of paragraph (*b*) of sub-section 2 of Section Forty-two of the Elections and Franchise Act (Northern Ireland), 1946, the postal voting area shall be—

(*a*) Great Britain.
(*b*) Isle of Man.
(*c*) Channel Islands.
(*d*) Eire.