STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

# 1961 No. 900

# CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS

## The Adoption Agencies Regulations, 1961

| | |
|---|---|
| *Made* - - - - | *8th May*, 1961 |
| *Coming into Operation* | *1st June*, 1961 |

In pursuance of the powers conferred on me by section thirty-two of the Adoption Act, 1958(a), I hereby make the following Regulations:—

1.—(1) At the end of Regulation 6 of the Adoption Agencies Regulations, 1959(b), there shall be added the following paragraph:—

"(3) Where an infant has been placed by or on behalf of a registered adoption society in the care and possession of a person proposing to adopt him and—

(*a*) a serological test of the infant's blood for syphilis made after he had attained the age of six weeks has not been previously made, the society shall make arrangements for such a test of his blood to be carried out by, and a report thereon obtained from, a fully registered medical practitioner as soon as practicable after the said placing and the infant has attained the age of six weeks; or

(*b*) the infant has not attained the age of two years and an examination of his urine for phenylpyruvic acid made after he had attained the age of six weeks has not been previously made, the society shall make arrangements for an examination of the infant's urine for the said acid to be carried out by, and a report thereon obtained from, a fully registered medical practitioner as soon as practicable after the said placing and the infant has attained the age of six weeks,

and the society shall furnish a copy of any report obtained under this paragraph to the person proposing to adopt the infant to which it relates.".

(2) In the Fifth Schedule to the said Regulations (which sets out a form of medical report required as to the health of an infant in the care and possession of a registered adoption society or local authority before he is placed for adoption)—

(*a*) in paragraph A of the form of medical report (in which paragraph of the form has to be entered the result of certain examinations of the child) for the words "sugar and phenylpyruvic acid" there shall be substituted the words "and sugar";

(*b*) for paragraph E of the form of medical report (in which paragraph of the form has to be entered the result of a serological test of the child's blood for syphilis), there shall be substituted the following paragraph:—

"E (i) (*To be completed only in the case of a child at least six weeks old at the time of the test*)

Result of suitable serological test of the child's blood for syphilis (please specify test) .....

(a) 7 & 8 Eliz. 2. c. 5. (b) S.I. 1959/639 (1959 I, p. 594).

(ii) (*To be completed only in the case of a child at least six weeks and under two years old at the time of the examination*)

Result of examination of the child's urine for phenylpyruvic acid.....
.....".

2. These Regulations may be cited as the Adoption Agencies Regulations, 1961, and shall come into operation on the first day of June, 1961.

*R. A. Butler,*
One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Home Office,
Whitehall.
8th May, 1961.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

(*This Note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.*)

Under the Adoption Agencies Regulations, 1959, a child may not be placed by or on behalf of a registered adoption society or local authority with a prospective adopter until a medical report in the form set out in the Fifth Schedule has been obtained. That report requires, amongst other things, the entry of the result of a test of the child's blood for syphilis made six weeks or later after birth, and of the result of an examination of his urine for phenylpyruvic acid. These Regulations provide for amendment of the form of medical report so that the examination for phenylpyruvic acid shall only be made in the case of a child over six weeks and under two years old, and also make provision for the case where the child is placed with a prospective adopter before the test for syphilis or examination for phenylpyruvic acid has been made, and requires that in that case the test for syphilis, or, in the case of a child under two years old, examination for phenylpyruvic acid, shall be made as soon as practicable after the child has been placed and attains the age of six weeks.