EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

These regulations, which were rendered necessary by the passing of the Adoption of Children Act, 1949, substitute two new regulations for regulations 54 and 55 of the Registration (Births, Still-Births, Deaths and Marriages) Consolidated Regulations, 1927. The effect of the regulations is to add to the old regulations new provisions prescribing the duties of registration officers (*a*) in making marginal notes in birth entries where a child born in England or Wales is adopted in Scotland and (*b*) in cancelling marginal notes where adoptions have been quashed or set aside.

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2. BIRTH CERTIFICATE (SHORTENED FORM)

The Birth Certificate (Shortened Form) Regulations, 1949

1949 No. 2419

Made - - - - 22*nd December,* 1949
Coming into Operation 1*st January,* 1950

M.H. 109964.

The Registrar General, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 44 of the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1874(a), as extended by section 1 of the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1947(b), and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, with the consent of the Minister of Health, hereby makes the following regulations:—

1. These regulations may be cited as the Birth Certificate (Shortened Form) Regulations, 1949, and shall come into operation on the first day of January, 1950.

2.—(1) In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them, that is to say—

"short birth certificate" means a certificate of birth the form of which is prescribed by regulation 3 of these regulations;

"registered person" means a person in respect of whose birth an application for a short birth certificate is made and whose birth is registered or recorded in any register or record in the custody of the Registrar General;

"the entry" in relation to a registered person means the entry relating to him in any such register or record as aforesaid;

"adopted" means adopted under the Adoption of Children Acts, 1926 to 1949, and "adoption order" and "adopter" have the respective meanings assigned to them by those Acts.

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1889(c), applies to the interpretation of these regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

3. The form of certificate of birth to be issued under section 1 of the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1947(b), in a case to which these regulations apply, shall be the form set out in the schedule hereto.

(a) 37 & 38 Vict. c. 88. (b) 10 & 11 Geo. 6. c. 12.
(c) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

4. An applicant for a short birth certificate to which these regulations apply shall furnish to the Registrar General the following particulars relating to the registered person :—

(*a*) where the registered person has been adopted and the certificate is to be in respect of him as an adopted person—

(i) his name and surname ;

(ii) the date of his birth ;

(iii) the name and surname of his adopter, or, as the case may be, his adopters ; and

(iv) the date upon which, and the name of the Court by which, the adoption order was made ;

(*b*) in any other case—

(i) the name and surname of the registered person ;

(ii) the date of his birth ;

(iii) the name and surname of his father ;

(iv) the name, surname and maiden surname of his mother ; and

(v) the place at which his birth was registered :

Provided that the Registrar General may dispense with the furnishing of any of the said particulars which in his opinion it is not reasonably practicable for the applicant to furnish.

5.—(1) A short birth certificate to which these regulations apply shall be compiled in accordance with and shall contain the particulars required by paragraphs (2) to (4) of this regulation.

(2) Opposite the words " Name and Surname ",

(*a*) where the provisions of paragraph (*a*) of regulation 4 of these regulations apply to the application,—

(i) where the adoption order was made before 1st January, 1950, there shall be inserted the registered person's name as recorded in the entry, and immediately thereafter there shall be inserted the surname of his adopter or adopters as recorded in the entry, or if more than one such surname is so recorded, then such one of them as the applicant may request ;

(ii) where the adoption order is made after 31st December, 1949, there shall be inserted the registered person's name and surname as recorded in the entry ;

(*b*) where the provisions of paragraph (*b*) of regulation 4 of these regulations apply to the application, there shall be inserted the registered person's name as recorded in the entry.

(3) Opposite the words " Sex " and " Date of Birth " respectively there shall be inserted the particulars thereof in the entry.

(4) Opposite the words " Country of Birth ",

(*a*) where the provisions of paragraph (*a*) of regulation 4 of these regulations apply to the application,—

(i) where the entry in the Adopted Children Register discloses a country of birth, there shall be inserted the name of that country ;

(ii) where the said entry does not disclose a country of birth, but the adoption order from which that entry was compiled discloses a country of birth, there shall be inserted the name of that country ;

(iii) where neither the said entry nor the adoption order discloses a country of birth, but there is available other evidence of the country of birth which, in the opinion of the Registrar General, is satisfactory, there shall be inserted the name of that country ;

(iv) in any other case, no insertion shall be made ;

(*b*) where the provisions of paragraph (*b*) of regulation 4 of these regulations apply to the application, there shall be inserted the name of the country, if any, which appears to the Registrar General from any information in his possession to be appropriate.

6. These regulations apply to any case in which the entry to which the application relates does not contain particulars of the place of birth of the registered person.

7. The Birth Certificate (Shortened Form) (No. 2) Regulations, 1947(**a**), are hereby revoked.

SCHEDULE

FORM OF CERTIFICATE FOR ISSUE BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

Name and Surname ...	
Sex	
Date of Birth	
Country of Birth	

Certified to have been compiled from records in the custody of the Registrar General. Given at the General Register Office, Somerset House, London, under the Seal of the said Office, the day of , 19 .

Given under my hand this 22nd day of December in the year 1949.

George North,
Registrar General.

I consent.

Aneurin Bevan,
Minister of Health.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(*These Notes do not form part of the Regulations, but are intended to explain their general purport.*)

These Regulations, which replace those now in existence, prescribe the method of compiling short birth certificates for adopted children and foundlings. The Adoption of Children Act, 1949, provides that entries made in the Adopted Children Register after 1949 shall state the surname which the child is to bear after the adoption and, if ascertainable, its country of birth, and accordingly these Regulations provide for the insertion of this information in the short certificate.

(a) S.R. & O. 1947 (No. 2675) I, p. 1909.