1. Where in any undertaking within the meaning of the Act not more than ten persons were employed therein on the average during the year nineteen hundred and fifty, the person or persons carrying on such an undertaking shall be exempt from any requirement to furnish a return for the purpose of the Census of Production in respect of that year.

2. The number of persons employed in an undertaking for the purposes of this Order shall include all working proprietors, clerical and typing staff, and operatives, inside and outside the factory or workshop.

3. This Order may be cited as the Census of Production (Exemption) Order (Northern Ireland) 1950.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Commerce for Northern Ireland this 19th day of December 1950, in the presence of

(L.S.) *H. E. Jones,*
Assistant Secretary.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS

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Boarding Out

REGULATIONS, DATED 27TH MARCH, 1950, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS UNDER SECTION NINETY-ONE OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1950.

1950. No. 43

The Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland (hereinafter referred to as " the Ministry ") by virtue of the powers conferred upon it by Section ninety-one of the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland), 1950, and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations :—

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Children and Young Persons (Boarding out) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1950.

2. These Regulations shall come into operation on the 1st day of April, 1950.

3.—(1) In these Regulations the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them, that is to say :—

" boarding out " means the placing of a foster child with a foster parent ;

" child " means a person under the age of eighteen years ;

" foster child " means a child committed to the care of a Welfare Authority as a " fit person ", or received into the care of a Welfare Authority under the provisions of the Act ;

" foster parent " means a husband and wife, or a woman, with whom a foster child is boarded out ;

" the Act " means the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland), 1950 ;

" visitor " means an officer who is appointed or designated by the welfare authority for the purpose of assisting the authority in the performance of their functions under these Regulations and, in particular, of exercising supervision over foster children and arranging for boarding them out ;

" welfare authority " means, except where the context otherwise requires, the welfare authority into whose care a foster child has been committed or received in accordance with the Act.

(2) 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.

4. The welfare authority shall, except as hereinafter provided, make arrangements for every child committed or received into their care to be boarded out as soon as possible with a suitable foster parent and, where within three months of the committal or reception of any child into their care he has not been boarded out, the authority shall report forthwith to the Ministry the reasons therefor and apply for its consent to any alternative arrangements made, or proposed to be made.

5. A foster child shall not be boarded out unless the foster home has been approved by the welfare authority, or be allowed to remain boarded out :—

(*a*) with a person who has at any time been convicted of an offence which renders him unfit to be a foster parent, or

(*b*) in any environment which is likely to be detrimental to the child.

6. So far as is reasonably practicable, children of the same family shall be boarded-out in the same house.

7. Before a foster child is boarded out, the welfare authority shall arrange for him to be examined by a medical officer or by some other registered medical practitioner, and shall obtain from that officer or

practitioner a certificate as to the physical health and mental condition of the child and his suitability for boarding out.

8.—(1) A foster parent shall, on receiving a foster child to be boarded out with him, be required by the welfare authority to sign in duplicate an agreement in the form set out in the Schedule to these Regulations or in a form to the like effect.

(2) One copy of the agreement shall be retained by the foster parent and the other shall be kept by the welfare authority.

9. A foster child shall not be boarded out, or be allowed to remain boarded out, with a foster parent who is a party to any contract for the purpose of insuring the payment to him of a sum of money upon the illness or death of the child.

10. The welfare authority in selecting a person with whom a foster child is to be boarded out shall, where possible, select a person who is of the same religious persuasion as the foster child or who gives an undertaking that the foster child will be brought up in accordance with that religious persuasion. Where a foster child is placed with a foster parent of a different religion full particulars shall be furnished to the Ministry forthwith.

11. No foster child shall be boarded out unless the proposed foster parent and home have been visited by a visitor who, having been given full information about the child, has made due inquiry and furnished a report in writing to the welfare authority stating in particular whether—

(*a*) the proposed foster parent is of good reputation ;
(*b*) he is in a position to take proper care of the child ;
(*c*) the sleeping and living accommodation and other domestic conditions are satisfactory ; and
(*d*) the home is likely to suit the particular needs of the child.

12.—(1) The welfare authority shall arrange for a visitor to visit and see the foster child and the home where he is boarded out —

(*a*) within one month of his being placed in the home and thereafter as often as may be necessary, not being less often than once in each calendar month ; and
(*b*) if a foster parent changes his address, within two weeks of the receipt by the welfare authority of notice of the new address.

(2) The welfare authority shall require the visitor to make to them, after every visit to a foster child, a report in writing as to the health, welfare and conduct of the child, the condition of the home (including the sleeping and living accommodation), any complaint made by or concerning the child and whether the home appears suitable for the child.

13.—(1) The welfare authority shall remove a foster child from his foster home if that home is no longer suitable for him.

(2) Where conditions in the home are found to be seriously detrimental to the health or safety of a foster child, the vistor shall have the power immediately to withdraw the child from the home.

14. In the event of the death of the foster child the welfare authority shall arrange for the decent and proper burial of the child.

15.—(1) Where a foster child has attained the upper limit of compulsory school age, and has completed any further education or training which he may have been receiving, the welfare authority shall make arrangements in consultation with the foster parent and the child for placing him in suitable employment and where the child cannot conveniently continue to be boarded out with the foster parent, shall arrange for him to reside in a suitable hostel or lodgings except where he is placed in residential employment.

(2) Where a foster child has been placed in employment, the welfare authority shall arrange that a visitor shall visit him within one month of his taking employment and not less often thereafter than once in every three months and, if he continues to be boarded out with the foster parent, so much of Regulation 12 of these Regulations as requires a visit once in every calendar month shall cease to apply.

16. The welfare authority shall designate or with the approval of the Ministry appoint an officer or officers to act as a visitor or visitors for the purpose of assisting the authority in the performance of their functions under these Regulations.

17. Before the welfare authority board out a foster child in a home outside the authority's area, the authority shall notifiy to the welfare authority in whose area the home is situated the address of the proposed home at which the child will be boarded out, and shall make administrative arrangements for that other authority to exercise supervision over the child, and any such administrative arrangements shall include arrangements for visiting the child, exercising supervision over the boarding out arrangements and over the welfare of the child, medical examination and medical care and the furnishing of all reports upon the child.

18.—(1) The welfare authority shall keep a record of all foster children committed to or received into their care and of any children with respect to whom they have undertaken supervision under arrangements made under the last foregoing Regulation.

(2) The welfare authority actually exercising supervision over a foster child shall cause the date of every visit to the child and the effect of every report made under these Regulations to be entered in their records.

19. The welfare authority to whose care a foster child has been committed shall arrange for a review of the progress of the child, and such review shall be made at the expiration of three months from the date on which the child was committed to their care and thereafter at

intervals of not more than six months. A note of the result of such review shall be made in the record of each foster child.

20.—(1) The welfare authority shall maintain records relating to suitable foster homes and children boarded out in their area in such form as the Ministry may direct and shall furnish to the Ministry or to any of its officers such information in such form as the Ministry or the officer may require.

(2) Any foster child may be visited at any time by an inspector appointed under the Act by the Ministry and all records of the welfare authority referring to the foster child shall be made available to the inspector.

21. Where in the opinion of the welfare authority it is desirable in the special circumstances of any case that the provisions of one or more of the foregoing Regulations should not apply, a special arrangement may be made with the prior consent of the Ministry.

22. The Regulations of the Local Government Board for Ireland made on the 17th day of December, 1902, under the Pauper Children (Ireland) Acts, 1898 and 1902 are hereby repealed.

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

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

SCHEDULE *Rule* 8

AGREEMENT OF FOSTER PARENT.

1. I, A.B. of do hereby agree with the Welfare Authority of the County (County Borough) of that —

(*a*) I will receive C.D. into my home and feed, clothe and look after him and bring him up as carefully and kindly as I would a child of my own ;

(*b*) I will help him to become a good citizen, send him to school (work)* and to his church, and arrange for recreation suited to his age ;

(*c*) I will look after his health and consult the doctor whenever the child is ill, and in the event of his serious illness or accident I will also notify the Welfare Authority immediately ;

(*d*) I will provide for the cleaning, mending and renewal of his clothing and its proper care ;

(*e*) I will at all times allow any person authorised by the Ministry of Home Affairs or by the Welfare Authority to see the child, and his home and clothing, and I will attend to the advice of any such person ;

(*f*) I will allow him to be removed from my home when required by any person so authorised ; and

(*g*) I will, before moving to a new address, give the Welfare Authority two weeks' notice of my intention to do so.

2. I make this agreement with the Welfare Authority in consideration of my receiving the sum of

3. I acknowledge having received C.D. into my home on and agree that he brought with him the following articles of clothing and personal possessions :

Signature of Foster Parent.....

Address .....

Date.....

* Delete if not applicable.