1972. No. 230 [C]

AGRICULTURE

Employment in Agriculture

SCHEME, DATED THE 7TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 1972, MADE BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE UNDER SECTION 1(1) OF THE AGRICULTURAL (TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE) ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1954 AS AMENDED BY THE AGRICULTURE (TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE) (AMENDMENT) ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1957.

WHEREAS by Section 1(1) of the Agriculture (Temporary Assistance) Act (Northern Ireland) 1954(**a**) as amended by the Agriculture (Temporary Assistance) (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 1957(**b**) the Ministry of Agriculture may, in accordance with and subject to Schemes made by the Minister of Agriculture with the approval of the Minister of Finance, make payments to or for the benefit (whether direct or indirect) of farmers producing any produce specified in the Schemes:

AND WHEREAS by Sub-section 1(*a*) of Section 1 of the Northern Ireland (Temporary Provisions) Act 1972(**c**) it is provided that so long as that Section has effect all functions which apart from that Act belong to any Minister of Northern Ireland shall be discharged by the Secretary of State:

NOW THEREFORE the Secretary of State in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by Section 1 of the Agriculture (Temporary Assistance) Act (Northern Ireland) 1954 as amended by the Agriculture (Temporary Assistance) (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 1957 and by Section 1(1) of the Northern Ireland (Temporary Provisions) Act 1972 and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf hereby makes the following Scheme.

Citation

1. This Scheme may be cited as the Employment in Agriculture (Northern Ireland) Scheme 1972.

Interpretation

2. In this Scheme unless the context otherwise requires the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them:—

"the Ministry" means the Ministry of Agriculture;

"approved" means approved by the Ministry;

"agriculture" and "agricultural land" have the meanings assigned to them by the Agricultural Act (Northern Ireland) 1949(**d**);

"transferred provision" shall have the meaning assigned to it by Section 1(*g*) of the Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954(**e**).

Object of the Scheme

3. Subject to the provisions of this Scheme and with the object of creating and maintaining employment in agriculture and related industries through improved viability and efficiency the Ministry, with the consent of the

(**a**) 1954. c. 31.
(**b**) 1957. c. 3.
(**c**) 1972. c. 22.
(**d**) 1949. c. 2.
(**e**) 1954 c. 33.

Ministry of Finance, may make such payments, to or for the benefit of farmers producing any produce specified in the First Schedule, for any of the purposes specified in the Second Schedule as the Ministry considers expedient and proper.

Conditions of making payments

4.—(1) Payments in respect of any specified purpose made to any person under this Scheme shall be subject to such terms and conditions as the Ministry with the approval of the Ministry of Finance may determine.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the preceding paragraph the Ministry may require the person seeking a payment under this Scheme:—

(*a*) to make application to the Ministry;

(*b*) to submit proposals for approval.

(3) Where applications are required by the preceding paragraph such applications shall be in the form specified by the Ministry.

Amount of payments

5.—(1) The amount or rate of payment in each case shall be such amount or rate as the Ministry shall determine.

(2) Without prejudice to Article 8 where in any case the Ministry is satisfied that the purpose for which a payment was to be made has not been or will not be fulfilled it may withhold payment completely or in part.

(3) The aggregate of sums paid under this Scheme shall not exceed £8,375,000.

(4) Without prejudice to any other provision of this Scheme the Ministry in deciding whether a payment ought to be made under this Scheme or the amount of any such payment may have regard to any assistance which may be available for the same purpose under any other transferred provision.

Duration of Scheme

6. Without prejudice to the making of payments the liability for which has been properly incurred, this Scheme shall cease to have effect on 31st day of December 1975.

Recovery of monies

7. If the Ministry having made a payment under this Scheme finds that for any reason whatsoever such payment ought not to have been made in whole or in part it shall be entitled to recover from that person to whom such payment was made so much of the said sum as ought not to have been paid and without prejudice to any other method of recovery shall be entitled to deduct any sum which it is entitled to recover under this Article from any further sums which might otherwise be payable to that person by the Ministry under this Scheme.

General

8. The Ministry shall be under no obligation to make payments to any person under this Scheme and all such payments shall be made at the Ministry's absolute discretion.

Dated this 7th day of September 1972.

W. S. I. Whitelaw,
One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

FIRST SCHEDULE

Specified Produce

1. Cattle
2. Sheep
3. Pigs
4. Poultry
5. Eggs
6. Milk and Milk Products
7. Crops (including grass) grown on agricultural land
8. Wool

SECOND SCHEDULE

Specified Purposes

1. To reclaim land, to remove hedges, to construct fences and to take measures to improve output from grassland.
2. To increase silage production.
3. To increase production of suitable female beef type breeding stock by artificial insemination.
4. To encourage agricultural education.
5. To improve the production and marketing of agricultural produce.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Scheme, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

This Scheme provides for payments to be made to or for the benefit of farmers in respect of specified purposes which are aimed at creating and maintaining employment in agriculture through improved viability and efficiency. The total amount payable under the Scheme will be £8,375,000. The Scheme will end on 31st December 1975.