(*b*) in the form of an adequately ventilated timber joisted floor with tongued and grooved boarding.

(4) *External Walls.*

(*a*) External walls shall be of cavity construction, formed with an outer and inner skin each of 4½ inches thick brickwork, adequately tied together across a 2 inch cavity with wall ties which are free of mortar droppings.

(*b*) So that the inner skin cannot be affected by weather penetration of the outer skin, damp-proof courses and membranes, or other recognised barriers shall be provided at parapets, lintels, sills, and jambs of windows and doors, and other places where the cavity may be bridged.

(5) *Party Walls.*

Party walls shall be :

(*a*) of cavity construction, formed with two skins each of 4½ inch thick brickwork adequately tied together across a 2 inch cavity with non-rigid wall ties, or

(*b*) of 9 inch thick solid brickwork, and

(*c*) continued to a height not lower than the under side of the roof covering.

(6) *Roofs.*

Roofs shall be covered with slates or tiles, with an underlay of felt.

(7) *Alternative forms of construction.*

The Ministry may approve a form of construction other than as required in paragraphs (3) to (6) of this Schedule, provided that it is shown that the alternative form proposed is not materially inferior to the requirements of the said paragraphs.

SCHEDULE V

CALCULATION OF SUPERFICIAL AREA

The superficial area of a house shall be calculated in accordance with the following provisions :—

(1) The superficial area shall be the whole area, measured to the unfinished wall surfaces (the normal thickness of plaster, if any, being assumed), within the external or containing walls, so as to include the area of partitions, chimney breasts, bay windows and similar space, and, in the case of a house of more than one storey, shall be the combined areas, as so measured, of the several storeys.

(2) The area of accommodation provided in a basement or in an attic or storey formed in the roof space shall be included without regard to the use to which the said accommodation may be intended to be put, provided that the area of so much of the said accommodation as has a ceiling height of less than six feet (measured from the floor level) shall be excluded.

(3) The area of accommodation provided in an outbuilding of permanent construction shall be included, and shall be measured within the external or containing walls of the said outbuilding. For the purposes of this paragraph, "outbuilding" means a building which does not communicate with the house, and which is outside the external or containing walls thereof, whether attached thereto or not.

(4) The area of a porch, verandah, or covered open space shall be included, except so much of the said area as does not exceed 20 square feet.

(5) The area of a fuel store provided in an outbuilding of permanent construction or within the containing walls of the house shall be included, except so much of the said area as does not exceed 8 square feet.

REGULATIONS, DATED 5TH AUGUST, 1952, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNDER THE HOUSING (No. 2) ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1946.

1952. No. 143

The Ministry of Health and Local Government for Northern Ireland in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by the Housing (No. 2) Act (Northern Ireland), 1946, hereby makes the following Regulations :—

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Housing (Owner Occupation) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1952, and shall be construed as one with the Housing (Owner Occupation) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1952 (**a**) (in these Regulations referred to as " the principal Regulations ").

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1921, shall apply for the purpose of the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of the Parliament of Northern Ireland.

2. The principal Regulations shall have effect as if for the words and figure " ceiling height of less than 6 feet " in paragraph (2) of Schedule III, there were substituted the words and figure " ceiling height of less than 5 feet " and for the words " six feet " in paragraph (2) of Schedule V, there were substituted the words " five feet ".

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Health and Local Government for Northern Ireland this fifth day of August, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-two, in the presence of

(L.S.) *J. E. Pittaway*,
Assistant Secretary.

Small Dwellings Acquisition—Rate of Interest

ORDER, DATED 29TH FEBRUARY, 1952, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE, UNDER SECTION FIVE OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1921.

1952. No. 22

The Ministry of Health and Local Government for Northern Ireland, in pursuance of the powers conferred upon it by section five of the Housing Act, 1921, and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, with the approval of the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland, hereby orders as follows :—

1. The rate of interest on advances to be made under section one of the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1899, on or after the 1st day of March, 1952, shall be four and one half per centum per annum :

Provided that nothing in this Order shall affect the rate of interest on any advance made or to be made or expenses incurred or to be incurred in respect of contracts entered into or applications granted under the said section prior to the 1st day of March, 1952.

2. The Rate of Interest (Housing) Order (Northern Ireland), 1951 (**b**), made by the Ministry of Health and Local Government for Northern Ireland on the 13th day of November, 1951, is hereby revoked.

(a) S. R. & O. (N.I.) 1952, No. 3. (b) S.R. & O. (N.I.), 1951, No. 202.