3. MARRIAGE (PRESCRIPTION OF FORMS)

The Marriage (Prescription of Forms) Regulations, 1949

1949 No. 2414

Made - - - - 21st December, 1949

M.H. 109969.

The Registrar General, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 74 of the Marriage Act, 1949(a), and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, with the approval of the Minister of Health, hereby makes the following regulations:—

Citation

1. These regulations may be cited as the Marriage (Prescription of Forms) Regulations, 1949, and shall come into operation on the first day of January, 1950.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these regulations "the Act of 1949" means the Marriage Act, 1949(a).

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

Form of notice of marriage

3.—(1) The form of notice of marriage to be given under subsection (1) of section 27 of the Act of 1949 where a marriage is intended to be solemnized on the authority of a certificate of a superintendent registrar without licence shall be the form set out in part I of the first schedule hereto, except that where either party to the marriage is under the age of twenty-one years, and not a widower or widow, the form shall be that set out in part II of the said first schedule.

(2) The form of notice of marriage to be given under subsection (2) of section 27 of the Act of 1949 where a marriage is intended to be solemnized on the authority of a certificate of a superintendent registrar by licence shall be the form set out in part III of the first schedule hereto, except that where either party to the marriage is under the age of twenty-one years, and not a widower or widow, the form shall be that set out in part IV of the said first schedule.

Endorsement on notice of marriage to be solemnized in a registration district in which neither party resides

4. The endorsement on the notice of marriage to be made under subsection (1) of section 35 of the Act of 1949 where a marriage is intended to be solemnized in a registered building which is not within a registration district in which either of the persons to be married resides shall be in the form set out in the second schedule hereto.

(a) 12, 13 & 14 Geo. 6. c. 76. (b) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

Form of certificate and form of certificate and licence for marriage

5.—(1) The form of certificate for marriage to be issued by a superintendent registrar under section 31 of the Act of 1949 shall be the form set out in part I of the third schedule hereto.

(2) The form of certificate and licence for marriage to be issued by a superintendent registrar under section 32 of the Act of 1949 shall be the form set out in part II of the third schedule hereto.

Form of instructions for solemnization of a marriage in a registered building without the presence of a registrar

6. The instructions to be given under sections 31 and 32 of the Act of 1949 to one of the persons whose marriage is to be solemnized in a registered building for which an authorised person has been appointed, where no notice has been given requiring a registrar to be present at the marriage, shall be in the form set out in the fourth schedule hereto.

Form of marriage entry

7. The form of entry of marriage in a marriage register book to be made under section 55 of the Act of 1949 shall contain the following:—

(*a*) particulars of the marriage, in the form set out in part I of the fifth schedule hereto; and

(*b*) particulars of attestation of the marriage, in the form appropriate to—

(i) marriage according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England or of the Church in Wales;

(ii) marriage in a superintendent registrar's office;

(iii) marriage in a registered building in the presence of a registrar;

(iv) marriage in a registered building in the presence of an authorised person;

(v) marriage according to the usages of the Society of Friends; or

(vi) marriage according to the usages of the Jews;

as the case may be, and set out respectively in part II of the said fifth schedule.

Form of quarterly return to superintendent registrar

8.—(1) The form of certification of copies of marriage entries in a marriage register book to be made quarterly by a registrar to a superintendent registrar under paragraph (*a*) of subsection (1) of section 57 of the Act of 1949 shall be the form set out in part I of the sixth schedule hereto.

(2) The form of certification that no marriage has been registered in the said book during any period specified in paragraph (*b*) of subsection (1) of section 57 of the Act of 1949 shall be the form set out in part II of the said sixth schedule.

Saving for existing forms

9. Notwithstanding anything in these regulations to the contrary, any form lawfully used immediately before the coming into operation of these regulations for any of the purposes for which these regulations provide shall be valid and may be used for such purposes until the first day of January, 1951.

FIRST SCHEDULE

FORM OF NOTICE OF MARRIAGE

PART I

Form of Notice of Marriage by Certificate without Licence

(For persons each of whom is either 21 years or over, or, if under 21, a widower or widow)

Particulars relating to the persons to be married

Name and surname (1)	Age (2)	Marital status (3)	Occupation (4)	Place of residence (5)	Period of residence (6)	Church or other building in which the marriage is to be solemnized (7)	District and county of residence (8)
	years						
	years						

To the Superintendent Registrar of the district of..... in the county.....

1. I, the above-named....., give you notice that I and the other person named above intend to be married by certificate without licence within three months from the date of entry of this notice.

2. I solemnly declare that I believe there is no impediment of kindred or alliance or other lawful hindrance to the marriage, and that I and the other person named above have for the period of seven days immediately preceding the giving of this notice had our usual places of residence within the above-mentioned district(s) of.....

3. And I further declare that I am not under the age of twenty-one years or, if under that age, am a widower or widow, and that the other person named above is not under the age of twenty-one years, or, if under that age, is a widower or widow.

4. I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the declarations which I have made above are true. I understand that if any of the declarations are false I MAY BE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION UNDER THE PERJURY ACT, 1911.

5. I also understand that if, in fact, there is an impediment of kindred or alliance or other lawful hindrance to the intended marriage the marriage may be invalid or void and the contracting of the marriage may render one or both of the parties GUILTY OF A CRIME AND LIABLE TO THE PENALTIES OF BIGAMY OR SUCH OTHER CRIME AS MAY HAVE BEEN COMMITTED.

Signed and declared by the above-named..... (Signed) .....
in the presence of

Name of witness..... Date.....

Description (*a*).....in and for the.....district of.....

Place of residence .....

(*a*) Insert here " Superintendent Registrar ", " Deputy Superintendent Registrar ", " Registrar of Births and Deaths ", " Registrar of Marriages ", " Deputy Registrar of Births and Deaths " or " Deputy Registrar of Marriages ", as the case may be.

PART II

Form of Notice of Marriage by Certificate without Licence
(For persons either of whom is under 21 years and not a widower or widow)
Particulars relating to the persons to be married

Name and surname (1)	Age (2)	Marital status (3)	Occupation (4)	Place of residence (5)	Period of residence (6)	Church or other building in which the marriage is to be solemnized (7)	District and county of residence (8)
	years						
	years						

To the Superintendent Registrar of the district of..... in the county.....

1. I, the above-named....., give you notice that I and the other person named above intend to be married by certificate without licence within three months from the date of entry of this notice.

2. I solemnly declare that I believe there is no impediment of kindred or alliance or other lawful hindrance to the said marriage, and that I and the other person named above have for the period of seven days immediately preceding the giving of this notice had our usual places of residence within the above-mentioned district(s) of.....

3. And I further declare that (*a*)....., not being (*b*)..... a widower or widow, (*c*)..... under the age of twenty-one years and that (*d*).....

.....

.....

4. I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the declarations which I have made above are true. I understand that if any of the declarations are false I MAY BE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION UNDER THE PERJURY ACT, 1911.

5. I also understand that if, in fact, there is an impediment of kindred or alliance or other lawful hindrance to the intended marriage the marriage may be invalid or void and the contracting of the marriage may render one or both of the parties GUILTY OF A CRIME AND LIABLE TO THE PENALTIES OF BIGAMY OR SUCH OTHER CRIME AS MAY HAVE BEEN COMMITTED.

Signed and declared by the above-named..... (Signed) .....
in the presence of
Name of witness..... Date.....
Description (*e*).....in and for the.....district of.....
Place of residence .....

(*a*) Insert here "I", "I and the said" (followed by the name of the other party) or "the said" (followed by the name of the other party), as the case may be.

(*b*) Where both the persons to be married are under 21 and neither is a widower or widow the words "either of us" should be inserted here, and where only one of them is under 21 the words "or widow" or "widower or", as the case may be, should be deleted.

(*c*) Insert here "is", "am" or "are both", as the case may be.

(*d*) Here must follow a declaration that the consent of the person or persons whose consent to the marriage is required by law has been obtained, that the necessity of obtaining any such consent has been dispensed with as provided by law, that the Court has consented to the marriage or that there is no person whose consent to the marriage is required by law. Where only one of the parties is under 21 years, and not a widower or widow, the declaration must contain a statement that the other party is over 21, or, if under that age, a widower or widow.

(*e*) Insert here "Superintendent Registrar", "Deputy Superintendent Registrar", "Registrar of Births and Deaths", "Registrar of Marriages", "Deputy Registrar of Births and Deaths" or "Deputy Registrar of Marriages", as the case may be.

PART III

Form of Notice of Marriage by Certificate and Licence

(For persons each of whom is either 21 years or over, or, if under 21, a widower or widow)

Particulars relating to the persons to be married

Name and surname (1)	Age (2)	Marital status (3)	Occupation (4)	Place of residence (5)	Period of residence (6)	Church or other building in which the marriage is to be solemnized (7)	District and county of residence (8)
	years						
	years						

To the Superintendent Registrar of the district of..... in the county.....

1. I, the above-named....., give you notice that I and the other person named above intend to be married by certificate and licence within three months from the date of entry of this notice.

2. I solemnly declare that I believe there is no impediment of kindred or alliance or other lawful hindrance to the said marriage, and that (*a*)..... .....for the period of fifteen days immediately preceding the giving of this notice had (*b*).....usual place of residence within the above-mentioned district of.....

3. And I further declare that I am not under the age of twenty-one years, or, if under that age, am a widower or widow, and that the other person named above is not under the age of twenty-one years, or, if under that age, is a widower or widow.

4. I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the declarations which I have made above are true. I understand that if any of the declarations are false I MAY BE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION UNDER THE PERJURY ACT, 1911.

5. I also understand that if, in fact, there is an impediment of kindred or alliance or other lawful hindrance to the intended marriage the marriage may be invalid or void and the contracting of the marriage may render one or both of the parties GUILTY OF A CRIME AND LIABLE TO THE PENALTIES OF BIGAMY OR SUCH OTHER CRIME AS MAY HAVE BEEN COMMITTED.

Signed and declared by the above-named..... (Signed) .....
in the presence of

Name of witness..... Date.....

Description (*c*).....in and for the.....district of.....

Place of residence .....

(*a*) Insert here " I have " or " the other person named above has ", as the case may be.

(*b*) Insert here " my ", " his " or " her ", as the case may be.

(*c*) Insert here " Superintendent Registrar ", " Deputy Superintendent Registrar ", " Registrar of Births and Deaths ", " Registrar of Marriages ", " Deputy Registrar of Births and Deaths " or " Deputy Registrar of Marriages ", as the case may be.

PART IV

Form of Notice of Marriage by Certificate and Licence
(For persons either of whom is under 21 years and not a widower or widow)
Particulars relating to the persons to be married

Name and surname (1)	Age (2)	Marital status (3)	Occupation (4)	Place of residence (5)	Period of residence (6)	Church or other building in which the marriage is to be solemnized (7)	District and county of residence (8)
	years						
	years						

To the Superintendent Registrar of the district of..... in the county.....

1. I, the above-named....., give you notice that I and the other person named above intend to be married by certificate and licence within three months from the date of entry of this notice.

2. I solemnly declare that I believe there is no impediment of kindred or alliance or other lawful hindrance to the said marriage, and that (*a*)..... .....for the period of fifteen days immediately preceding the giving of this notice had (*b*).....usual place of residence within the above-mentioned district of.....

3. And I further declare that (*c*)....., not being (*d*)..... a widower or widow, (*e*)..... under the age of twenty-one years and that (*f*).....
.....
.....

4. I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the declarations which I have made above are true. I understand that if any of the declarations are false I MAY BE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION UNDER THE PERJURY ACT, 1911.

5. I also understand that if, in fact, there is an impediment of kindred or alliance or other lawful hindrance to the intended marriage the marriage may be invalid or void and the contracting of the marriage may render one or both of the parties GUILTY OF A CRIME AND LIABLE TO THE PENALTIES OF BIGAMY OR SUCH OTHER CRIME AS MAY HAVE BEEN COMMITTED.

Signed and declared by the above-named..... (Signed) .....
in the presence of
Name of witness..... Date.....
Description (*g*).....in and for the.....district of.....
Place of residence .....

(*a*) Insert here "I have" or "the other person named above has", as the case may be.

(*b*) Insert here "my", "his" or "her", as the case may be.

(*c*) Insert here "I", "I and the said" (followed by the name of the other party) or "the said" (followed by the name of the other party), as the case may be.

(*d*) Where both the persons to be married are under 21 and neither is a widower or widow the words "either of us" should be inserted here, and where only one of them is under 21 the words "or widow" or "widower or", as the case may be, should be deleted.

(*e*) Insert here "is", "am" or "are both", as the case may be.

(*f*) Here must follow a declaration that the consent of the person or persons whose consent to the marriage is required by law has been obtained, that the necessity of obtaining any such consent has been dispensed with as provided by law, that the Court has consented to the marriage or that there is no person whose consent to the marriage is required by law. Where only one of the parties is under 21, and not a widower or widow, the declaration must contain a statement that the other party is over 21, or, if under that age, a widower or widow.

(*g*) Insert here "Superintendent Registrar", "Deputy Superintendent Registrar", "Registrar of Births and Deaths", "Registrar of Marriages", "Deputy Registrar of Births and Deaths" or "Deputy Registrar of Marriages", as the case may be.

SECOND SCHEDULE

Endorsement on notice for marriage in registration district in which neither person to be married resides

I declare that I, being (i)....., and the other person named in this notice in solemnizing our intended marriage desire to adopt the form, rite or ceremony of the (ii).....; and that to the best of my belief there is not within the superintendent registrar's district in which (iii)..... .....reside(s) any registered building in which marriage is solemnized according to that form, rite or ceremony; and that the nearest district to (iv)..... place of residence in which there is a registered building in which marriage may be so solemnized is the superintendent registrar's district of (v).....; and that we intend to solemnize our marriage in the registered building described in this notice and which is situated within that district.

(i) Insert here " a Roman Catholic ", " a Methodist ", " a Baptist " or other Christian denomination to which the party professes to belong.

(ii) Insert here " Roman Catholics ", " Methodists ", " Baptists " or other denomination whose form, rite or ceremony the parties desire to adopt.

(iii) Insert here " I " or " the other person named in this notice ", as the case may be.

(iv) Insert here " my ", " his " or " her ", as the case may be.

(v) Insert here the name of the district in which is situated the registered building in which the intended marriage is to take place.

THIRD SCHEDULE

PART I

Form of Superintendent Registrar's Certificate for Marriage without Licence

I, ..., Superintendent Registrar of the district of.....,
in the county ..... of ..... hereby certify that on the.....
day of ..... 19..... notice was duly entered in the Marriage Notice Book of the said district of the marriage intended to be solemnized between the parties hereinafter named and described.

Name (1)	Age (2)	Marital status (3)	Occupation (4)	Place of residence (5)	Period of residence (6)	Church or other building in which the marriage is to be solemnized (7)	District and county of residence (8)
	years						
	years						

I further certify that the issue of this certificate has not been forbidden by any person authorised to forbid the issue thereof.

Witness my hand this ..... day of .....19..... .....
Superintendent Registrar

NOTE:
This certificate will be void if the marriage is not solemnized within three months from the date of entry of notice given above.

PART II

Form of Superintendent Registrar's Certificate and Licence for Marriage

I, ..., Superintendent Registrar of the district of.....,
in the county ..... of ..... hereby certify that on the.....
day of ..... 19..... notice was duly entered in the Marriage Notice Book of the said district of the marriage intended to be solemnized between the parties hereinafter named and described.

Name (1)	Age (2)	Marital status (3)	Occupation (4)	Place of residence (5)	Period of residence (6)	Church or other building in which the marriage is to be solemnized (7)	District and county of residence (8)
	years						
	years						

I further certify that the issue of this certificate has not been forbidden by any person authorised to forbid the issue thereof.

Now therefore I, the said Superintendent Registrar, grant to the above-named parties licence to contract and solemnize their intended marriage.

Witness my hand this..... day of..... 19..... .....
Superintendent Registrar

NOTE:
This certificate and licence will be void if the marriage is not solemnized within three months from the date of entry of notice given above.

FOURTH SCHEDULE

Instructions for the solemnization of a marriage in a registered building without the presence of a registrar

1. This marriage must take place in the registered building named in the superintendent registrar's certificate or superintendent registrars' certificates for marriage, *and nowhere else.*

2. The authorised person duly appointed for the registered building named in the certificate or certificates, or an authorised person for some other registered building in the same registration district, must be present at the marriage.

3. At least two witnesses must also be present, and the doors of the registered building must be open. (The doors need not be actually open provided they are not so closed as to prevent persons from entering that part of the building in which the marriage is solemnized.)

4. Any certificate or certificates issued by a superintendent registrar as the legal authority for the marriage must be delivered to the authorised person in whose presence the marriage is to be solemnized. Unless this document (or these documents) are in his possession the authorised person must on no account allow the marriage to take place.

5. It is absolutely essential to the validity of the marriage that in some part of the ceremony each of the parties shall make the following declaration:—

"I do solemnly declare that I know not of any lawful impediment why I, A.B., may not be joined in matrimony to C.D."

and that each of them shall say to the other either—

"I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, A.B., do take thee, C.D., to be my lawful wedded wife [*or* husband]"; or

"I, A.B., do take thee, C.D., to be my wedded wife [*or* husband]".

6. These declaratory and contracting words must be said in the presence of the authorised person acting on the occasion and of the witnesses to the marriage.

7. Immediately after the marriage is solemnized the authorised person must register all the particulars prescribed by law in the duplicate marriage register books of the registered building in which the marriage has taken place; the entry in both books must be signed by the parties married, by at least two witnesses and by the authorised person.

8. After the registration of the marriage a certified copy of the entry thereof may be obtained from the authorised person on payment of the prescribed fee, provided application is made for it at the time of the marriage; if applied for subsequently, a search fee is payable in addition.

FIFTH SCHEDULE

FORM OF ENTRY OF MARRIAGE IN MARRIAGE REGISTER BOOK

PART I

Particulars of marriage

19..... Marriage solemnized at..... in the.....
of ..... in the .....

No.	1 When married	2 Name and surname	3 Age	4 Condition	5 Rank or profession	6 Residence at the time of marriage	7 Father's name and surname	8 Rank or profession of father

PART II

Particulars of Attestation

(i) For marriage according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England or of the Church in Wales.

Married in the.....according to the rites and ceremonies of the.....by.....
or after.....by me,
This marriage was solemnized between us, ... in the presence of us, ...
.....

(ii) For marriage in a superintendent registrar's office.

Married in the.....by.....before me,
This marriage was solemnized between us, ... in the presence of us, ...
.....
.....

(iii) For marriage in a registered building in the presence of a registrar.

Married in the.....according to the rites and ceremonies of the.....by.....
.....by me,
This marriage was solemnized between us, ... in the presence of us, ...
.....
.....

(iv) For marriage in a registered building in the presence of an authorised person.

Married in the.....according to the rites and ceremonies of the.....by.....
This marriage was solemnized between us, ... in the presence of us, ... and in the presence of Authorised Person for ....
.....

(v) For marriage according to the usages of the Society of Friends.

Married in the.....according to the usages of the.....by.....
This marriage was solemnized between us, ... in the presence of us, ...
.....

(vi) For marriage according to the usages of the Jews.

Married in the.....according to the usages of the.....by.....
This marriage was solemnized between us, ... in the presence of us, ...
.....

SIXTH SCHEDULE

PART I

Form of Certification by a Registrar of the copies of entries of marriages made during the preceding quarter in the Marriage Register Book kept by him.

I, ..., Registrar of the district of ..... in the ..... do hereby certify that this is a true copy of the entr..... of marriage registered in the said district from the entry of the marriage of..... and..... number..... to the entry of the marriage of..... and ..... number.....

Witness my hand this.....day of..... 19.....

.....
Registrar

PART II

Form of Certificate by a Registrar that no marriage has been registered during the the preceding quarter in the Marriage Register Book kept by him

Registration District.....

I hereby certify that no marriage has been registered in the marriage register book now kept by me in the above-named district during the quarter ended..... 19.....

The number of the last entry recorded in the register book prior to that date is.....

Witness my hand this.....day of..... 19.....

....
Registrar

(Countersigned).....
Superintendent Registrar

Given under my hand this 21st day of December in the year 1949.

George North,
Registrar General.

I approve.

Aneurin Bevan,
Minister of Health.