1960 No. 1604

The Registration (Births, Still-births, Deaths and Marriages) Amendment Regulations, 1960

Made - - - - 5th September, 1960
Coming into Operation 1st October, 1960

The Registrar General, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 39 of the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1953(a), and section 20 of the Registration Service Act, 1953(b), and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, with the approval of the Minister of Health, hereby makes the following regulations :—

Citation and commencement

1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Registration (Births, Still-births, Deaths and Marriages) Amendment Regulations, 1960.

(2) Regulations 1 to 9 of these regulations shall come into operation on the first day of October, 1960, and regulations 10 to 12 of these regulations shall come into operation on the first day of January, 1961.

(3) These regulations and the Registration (Births, Still-births, Deaths and Marriages) Regulations, 1954 and 1959(c), shall be construed as one and may be cited together as the Registration (Births, Still-births, Deaths and Marriages) Regulations, 1954 to 1960.

Interpretation

2.—(1) The Interpretation Act, 1889(d), shall apply to the interpretation of these regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament and as if these regulations and the regulations hereby revoked were Acts of Parliament.

(2) In these regulations " the principal regulations " means the Registration (Births, Still-births, Deaths and Marriages) Consolidated Regulations, 1954.

Re-registration of birth of a legitimated person

3. In regulation 40 of the principal regulations (which provides for the making of a declaration for the re-registration of the birth of a legitimated person in certain circumstances) in the proviso to paragraph (4) for the words " shall be of no effect for the purposes of this regulation if it is not authenticated by one of the said officers " there shall be substituted the words " shall be authenticated by one of the said officers if the Registrar General so requires ".

(a) 1 & 2 Eliz. 2. c. 20.
(b) 1 & 2 Eliz. 2. c. 37.
(c) S.I. 1954/1596, 1959/528 (1954 II, p. 1871; 1959 II, p. 2300).
(d) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

Registration of still-birth—Cause of death

4. For regulation 60 of the principal regulations (which provides for the entry to be made in the register as to the evidence upon which a still-birth is registered) there shall be substituted the following regulation :—

"*Entry of cause of death and evidence that child was still-born*

60. In column 8—

(*a*) where the still-birth is registered on the production of a certificate of a registered medical practitioner or a certified midwife the registrar shall—

(i) enter the whole of the particulars as to the cause of death as certified in the certificate in the precise terms in which it is therein certified, and

(ii) enter thereafter the words "Certified by" followed by the name of the registered medical practitioner by whom the certificate was signed in the form in which he signed it and his registered medical qualification, or the name of the certified midwife by whom the certificate was signed in the form in which she signed it followed by the words "Certified Midwife";

(*b*) where the still-birth is registered on the production of a declaration in pursuance of paragraph (*b*) of sub-section (1) of section 11 of the Act, the registrar shall enter the words "Declaration by informant"."

Verification of particulars in still-birth register

5. In regulation 61 of the principal regulations (which provides for the verification by the informant of the particulars entered in the still-birth register) for the words "columns 6 to 8" there shall be substituted the words "columns 6 and 7".

Registration of still-birth where no inquest is held

6. For the proviso to regulation 64 of the principal regulations (which relates to the registration of a still-birth after reference to the coroner in cases where no inquest is held) there shall be substituted the following proviso:—

"Provided that where the coroner certifies in the said notification that an examination made by his direction has disclosed that the child was still-born or that there was not sufficient evidence to show that the child was born alive and delivers to the registrar a certificate in the prescribed form signed by the registered medical practitioner by whom that examination was made stating that the child was not born alive and stating to the best of his knowledge and belief the cause of death, the registrar shall enter in column 8 of the entry in lieu of the particulars required by paragraph (*a*) of regulation 60 of these regulations the cause of death as certified in that certificate in the precise terms in which it is therein certified and shall next thereafter enter the words "Certified by" followed by the name of the registered medical practitioner by whom the certificate was signed in the form in which he signed it, followed by his registered medical qualification and the words "after post-mortem held by direction of ....." inserting the name of the Coroner, the word "Coroner" (or "Deputy Coroner" or "Assistant Deputy Coroner" as the case may be) and the area of his jurisdiction."

Registration of still-birth after inquest

7. For paragraph (6) of regulation 65 of the principal regulations (which provides for the registration of a still-birth where an inquest has been held) there shall be substituted the following paragraph :—

"(6) In column 8 the registrar shall enter without omission, alteration or addition the cause of death as stated in the certificate followed by the words "Coroner's" (or "Deputy Coroner's" or "Assistant Deputy Coroner's", as the case may be) certificate after inquest held on ....., inserting the date of the inquest as stated in the coroner's certificate."

Entry of occupation, etc., in death register

8. For regulation 75 of the principal regulations (which relates to the entry of occupation on registration of death) there shall be substituted the following regulation :—

"75. In column 5 the registrar shall enter such of the particulars specified in this regulation as are appropriate to the case :—

(*a*) where the death occurred elsewhere than at the usual place of residence of the deceased, the word "of" followed by particulars of the usual residence of the deceased ;

(*b*) where the deceased was a child under the age of 15 years—

(i) in the case of a child who was of legitimate birth or had become a legitimated person, not being a child to whom sub-paragraph (iii) of this paragraph applies, the words "son (or daughter) of" followed by the name, surname and occupation of the father ;

(ii) in the case of any other child, not being a child to whom the said sub-paragraph (iii) applies, the words "son (or daughter) of" followed by the name, surname and occupation of the mother, or, if the name of the father was recorded in the entry of the child's birth at the joint request of the mother and a person acknowledging himself to be the father and the informant so requests, the names and surnames of both parents and the occupation of the father ;

(iii) in the case of a child in respect of whom there was subsisting at the time of his death an adoption order made under any Act in force in England and Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland, the words "adopted son (or daughter) of" followed by the name and surname of the adopter or each of the adopters.

(*c*) where the deceased was a male over the age of 15 years, the occupation of the deceased ;

(*d*) where the deceased was a female over the age of 15 years—

(i) in the case of a spinster, the occupation of the deceased followed by the word "spinster" ;

(ii) in the case of a woman whose marriage had been dissolved by divorce, the occupation of the deceased followed by the words "formerly the wife of" followed by the name and surname of her late husband ;

(iii) in the case of a married woman or widow, the words "wife (or widow) of" followed by the name, surname and occupation of her husband or deceased husband."

Reference of deaths to coroner

9. In paragraph (1) of regulation 82 of the principal regulations (which requires a registrar to report a death to the coroner in certain cases) for sub-paragraphs (*e*), (*f*) and (*g*) there shall be substituted the following sub-paragraphs :—

"(*e*) which the registrar has reason to believe to have been unnatural or to have been caused by violence or neglect, or by abortion, or to have been attended by suspicious circumstances; or

(*f*) which appears to the registrar to have occurred during an operation or before recovery from the effects of an anaesthetic; or

(*g*) which appears to the registrar from the contents of any medical certificate to have been due to industrial disease or industrial poisoning."

Taking of particulars for purposes of Population (Statistics) Act, 1938

10. For paragraphs (1) and (2) of regulation 116 of the principal regulations (which provide for the taking of particulars for the purposes of the Population (Statistics) Act, 1938(**a**)) there shall be substituted the following paragraph—

"(1) On completion by a registrar or superintendent registrar in accordance with these regulations of a draft of the particulars to be registered concerning a birth, still-birth or death, the registrar or superintendent registrar, as the case may be, shall, except in the case of the death of a child under the age of 16 years or of a birth or death which occurred more than 12 months previously, require the informant to furnish such of the particulars specified in the Schedule to the Population (Statistics) Act, 1960(**b**), as are appropriate to the registration and are within the knowledge of the informant, and shall enter the information so furnished in the form provided for the purpose by the Registrar General.",

and paragraph (3) of the said regulation shall be re-numbered (2).

Offences

11. In regulation 138 of the principal regulations (which relates to the duties of registration officers in regard to offences against certain Acts) the words "or the Population (Statistics) Act, 1938," shall be inserted in paragraph (1) after the words "Registration Acts" and in paragraph (2) after the words "the Act".

Revocation

12. Regulation 115 of the principal regulations and the fourth schedule to those regulations are hereby revoked.

Given under my hand this fifth day of September, nineteen hundred and sixty.

E. M. T. Firth,
Registrar General.

I approve.

J. Enoch Powell,
Minister of Health.

30th August, 1960.

(**a**) 1 & 2 Geo. 6. c. 12. (**b**) 8 & 9 Eliz. 2. c. 32.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

These regulations amend the Registration (Births, Still-births, Deaths and Marriages) Consolidated Regulations, 1954, in certain respects. The regulations relax the requirement for authentication by consular officers of declarations made in foreign countries for the purpose of re-registering births of legitimated persons in England (regulation 3); provide for recording the cause of death in registers of still-births (regulations 4, 5, 6 and 7); modify the requirements as to recording in death registers the occupations of spinsters and divorced women (regulation 8); amend the form of the regulation governing the reporting of deaths to coroners by registrars (regulation 9); and amend the regulations governing the registrars' duties under the Population (Statistics) Act, 1938, to take account of amendments made by the Population (Statistics) Act, 1960 (regulations 10, 11 and 12).