shall be disregarded in determining the sums received or which ought to have been received by the Authority for the purposes of this Regulation.

3.—(1) The fire service grant payable to the Authority in respect of any financial year by virtue of section five of the Act shall be paid as soon as the Ministry receives from the Authority an abstract, certified by a local government auditor, of the accounts for that financial year kept by the Authority in pursuance of section eight of the Act.

(2) The Ministry shall, in paying a fire service grant, take into account any payments on account made under sub-section (2) of section five of the Act.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland this 7th day of December, nineteen hundred and fifty in the presence of

H. C. Montgomery,

(L.S.)

Assistant Secretary.

Qualifications of Fire Officers

REGULATIONS, DATED 29TH SEPTEMBER, 1950, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS UNDER SUB-SECTION (2) OF SECTION SIX OF THE FIRE SERVICES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) (REPRINT), 1947, AS AMENDED BY THE FIRE SERVICES (AMENDMENT) ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1950.

1950. No. 169

The Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland, by virtue and in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by sub-section (2) of section six of the Fire Services Act (Northern Ireland) (Reprint), 1947, as amended by the Fire Services (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland), 1950, hereby makes the following Regulations :—

1.--(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Fire Services (Qualifications of Fire Officers) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1950.

(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.

(3) In these Regulations "the Authority" means the Northern Ireland Fire Authority, and "the Ministry" means the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland.

2. The qualifications of fire officers shall be as set forth in the Schedule to these Regulations.

FIRE SERVICES

3. The Fire Services (Qualifications of Chief Officers and of Fire Officers) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1949 (a) are hereby revoked.

4. These Regulations shall come into operation on the date hereof.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland this 29th day of September, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty in the presence of

(L.S.)

H. C. Montgomery,

Assistant Secretary.

SCHEDULE

QUALIFICATIONS OF FIRE OFFICERS

1. No person shall be qualified to be appointed a fire officer of the Authority unless —

- (1) he has had not less than five years' practical experience of fire-fighting in -
 - (a) the National Fire Service (Northern Ireland) or the National Fire Service of Great Britain and has at any time held a rank not lower than that of Leading Fireman therein; or
 - (b) a whole-time fire brigade and has at any time held a position in such a brigade substantially equivalent to a rank not lower than that of Leading Fireman in the National Fire Service (Northern Ireland); or
 - (c) retained service in the fire brigade of a fire authority established under the provisions of the Fire Services Act (Northern Ireland) (Reprint), 1947 or in the fire force of the Authority and has held a rank not lower than that of a Section Leader therein.

Provided that the period of five years' practical experience of fire-fighting need not be confined solely to one or other of the organisations described in (a), (b) and (c), but may be obtained in two or more of such organisations.

(2) he has passed an educational and technical examination of a standard approved by the Ministry or was employed in the rank of fire officer in a whole-time brigade at 31st March, 1950; and

(3) he produces satisfactory evidence that his health and character are good ; and

(4) he is a natural born British subject and the son of a father also a natural born British subject, and has, during the whole of the period of five years ending on the date of his appointment, been resident in the United Kingdom; and

(5) at the date of his appointment he is not more than forty years of age; save that a person shall not be disqualified for appointment on grounds of age alone if at the date of his appointment he is serving in a whole-time fire brigade and has so served for a continuous period of five years terminating on the date of such appointment.

Provided that no person qualified as aforesaid shall, by virtue of that qualification, be eligible for appointment to a higher rank than that of Training Officer under the Authority unless he has passed a further technical examination of a standard approved by the Ministry.

2. The Ministry may, where it is satisfied that a person possesses such qualifications or experience as render him suitable for appointment to a post of a specialised nature carrying fire officer rank, assent in respect of such appointment to a departure from the requirements of sub-paragraphs (1) and (2) of paragraph 1 of this Schedule.

(a) S. R. & O: 1949 No. 53.

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