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State Intelligence

NORTHERN IRELAND ORDERS IN COUNCIL

The following Orders have been made and are available at Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

THE APPROPRIATION (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1978 No. 456 (N.I. 1) price 25p.

This Order authorises the issue of the Consolidated Fund of Northern Ireland of further sums for the year ended on 31st March 1978 and of sums on account for the year ending on 31st March 1979 and appropriates those sums for specified services in Northern Ireland. It also authorises the application of certain further sums as appropriations in aid for the service of the year ended on 31st March 1978 and reduces four sums already authorised to be applied as appropriations in aid.

THE HOUSING (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1978 No. 457 (N.I. 2) price 35p.

This Order empowers the Department of the Environment to make a scheme providing financial assistance to owner-occupiers in respect of mortgage payments on houses in Northern Ireland. Persons borrowing money from a qualifying lender may opt to receive a subsidy from the Department by credit towards their mortgage payments. Borrowers opting for the subsidy are to relinquish any right to tax relief on the interest they pay on the loan (Article 3). The subsidy will be available only where the house is for occupation by the borrower or a qualifying relative of the borrower (Article 6). After 31st March 1982 a borrower may terminate an option notice providing four years have elapsed from the date of the repayment contract (Article 9). Bodies which may be qualified lenders are set out in Article 10 and the Department is obliged to consult them before making any scheme.

Housing grants schemes under certain enactments are terminated by Article 15. Article 16 extends Parts III and IV of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1976 to allow registered housing associations to dispose of property on any basis approved by the Department and Article 17 enables persons lending money to the Northern Ireland Housing Executive to do so without enquiring into the purposes for which that money is to be used.

THE INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT (NORTHERN IRELAND)
ORDER 1978

No. 458 (N.I. 3) price 15p.

This Order enables the Department of Commerce for

Northern Ireland to transfer from the Northern Ireland Development Agency to the Department certain undertakings which in 1976 were transferred from the Northern Ireland Finance Corporation to the Agency.

THE PROPERTY (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1978 No. 459 (N.I. 4) price 25p.

This Order enables the Lands Tribunal for Northern Ireland to determine the scope and effect of obligations or restrictions impeding the enjoyment of land, and empowers the Tribunal to modify or extinguish such obligations or restrictions which are unreasonable (for example, because they have become obsolete). The Order also amends the law of property with respect to transactions in which the same person takes part on both sides in different capacities or in which more than one person is concerned on the same side, and repeals certain statutory provisions which are obsolete or unnecessary. The existing power for Land Registry Rules to provide for the award and taxation of costs in contentious proceedings is re-enacted and extended to costs in proceedings on a hearing before the Registrar of Titles. Power is given for the Rules to provide for the recovery through the Enforcement of Judgments Office of costs awarded by the Registrar.

THE SEXUAL OFFENCES (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1978 No. 460 (N.I. 5) price 25p.

This Order amends the law relating to rape by restricting the evidence which may be given at trials for rape offences and by providing for anonymity of complainants and defendants in rape offence cases.

SUPREME COURT FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

CIRCUIT OF NORTHERN IRELAND

Spring Assizes 1978

THE TWENTY-SEVENTH YEAR OF THE REIGN OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II

The Circuit will go out on Monday, 15th May 1978, and Assizes will be held for the following Counties:

County of Antrim

Belfast: Monday, 15th May, at 11.00 a.m.