

#### 4. Sex and Marriage.

(i) Both men and women are eligible.

(ii) Married women are not eligible for appointment to Branch B of the Foreign Service; a woman member of Branch B must resign her appointment on marriage.

(iii) Married women who have formerly been established civil servants and have drawn marriage gratuity (other than those who resigned compulsorily on marriage and whose resignation took effect before 15th October 1946, or who are widows or divorced, or who are separated from their husbands, or whose husbands suffer without hope of recovery from total physical or mental incapacity) will not be eligible for appointment to the Home Civil Service unless they undertake to refund on appointment the marriage gratuity paid. Provided that this undertaking will not be required if the break between the first period of service (including any period of unestablished service immediately following the period in respect of which the gratuity was paid) and the date of re-establishment is more than seven years.

(iv) The approval of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs is required before a successful male candidate who is married takes up appointment in Branch B of the Foreign Service.

#### 5. Nationality.

Candidates must be British subjects. They must also satisfy one of the following conditions:—

(a) If natural-born British subjects, they must either

(i) have at least one parent who is or was at death a British subject; or

(ii) have resided in Her Majesty's Dominions and/or been employed elsewhere in the service of the Crown for at least five years out of the last eight years preceding the date of their appointment.

(b) If naturalised British subjects, they must have resided in Her Majesty's Dominions and/or been employed elsewhere in the service of the Crown for at least five years out of the last eight years preceding the date of their appointment.

(c) If not qualified under (a) or (b) of this paragraph they must satisfy the Commissioners that they are so closely connected with Her Majesty's Dominions either by ancestry, upbringing or residence, or by reason of national service, that an exception may properly be made in their favour.

For the Foreign Service every candidate must be a natural-born British subject, and have been born within the United Kingdom or one of the self-governing Dominions, of parents both of whom were also born within the United Kingdom or one of the self-governing Dominions.

No departure from this rule will be made without the special permission of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and then only in exceptional cases, and in favour of candidates who satisfy the conditions laid down above for the Home Civil Service.

#### 6. Health and Character.

Successful candidates must satisfy the Civil Service Commissioners as to their health and character.

#### 7. Examination.

The examination will be in the following subjects:—

1. English.
2. Arithmetic.
3. General Knowledge.
4. One of the following:—

Mathematics, French, German, History, Geography, Economics.

To be eligible for consideration for a Post in Branch B of the Foreign Service a candidate must take either French or German as subject 4, and must reach a satisfactory standard in it.

Candidates will be arranged in order of merit according to their total marks in the examination as a whole. Even if there are unfilled vacancies, no candidate will be appointed who does not reach a standard that satisfies the Civil Service Commissioners. Not more than one-third of the vacancies to be filled from the examination will be available for persons serving as Postal and Telegraph Officers in the Post Office.

#### 8. Candidates Trained as Teachers.

Candidates who have been trained as teachers and upon whose training public money has been spent, cannot be appointed until the consent of the appropriate central education authority (e.g., the Ministry of Education, the Scottish Education Department, the Ministry of Education for Northern Ireland) has been notified to the Commissioners.

#### 9. Assignment.

The Commissioners will decide to which Department each successful candidate is to be assigned. A candidate

who declines to accept the post offered will have no claim to be assigned to another, but will be regarded as having declined appointment. Assignments will be made in accordance with the needs of the public service, but the wishes of candidates will, where possible, be taken into account.

Before a successful candidate can be assigned to Branch B of the Foreign Service he must establish, in an interview at the Foreign Office, that he is in all respects suitable for appointment to the Foreign Service.

#### 10. Fee.

An application fee of 7s. 6d. is payable by all candidates. This must be sent with the application form, and is not returnable in any circumstances. A further fee of 12s. 6d., being the balance of the prescribed fee of £1, must be paid by each candidate on admission to the examination.

11. The application form must be accompanied by a certificate from the authorities of the Department in which the candidate is serving in the space provided on the application form, that he (or she) satisfies the conditions laid down in Clauses 2 and 3 of these Regulations and that his (or her) service has been approved.

The Civil Service Commissioners further give notice that a Limited Competition will be held under the above Regulations commencing on 2nd March 1954.

No person will be admitted to the Competition from whom the Secretary of the Civil Service Commission has not received, on or before 31st December 1953, an application on the prescribed form which may be obtained from the Secretary at once.

STATEMENT showing the QUANTITIES SOLD and AVERAGE PRICES OF BRITISH CORN per cwt. of 112 Imperial lb. computed from returns received by the MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES in the week ended 12th December 1953, pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882, the Corn Sales Act, 1921, and the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1943.

British Corn	Quantities Sold	Average Price per Cwt.
	cwt.	s. d.
WHEAT ... ..	397,153	31 4
BARLEY ... ..	335,862	28 0
OATS ... ..	53,502	22 5

NOTE.—The above statement is based on returns received from 108 prescribed towns in England and Wales in the week ended 12th December 1953. The prices represent the average for all sales at these towns, which include transactions between growers and merchants, and some transactions between merchants during the week ended 5th December 1953.

P. G. ELLIS.

Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries,  
3 Whitehall Place,  
London, S.W.1.

#### NATIONAL INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE NOTICE OF SUBMISSION OF PRELIMINARY DRAFT REGULATIONS ENTITLED NATIONAL INSURANCE (UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFIT) AMENDMENT REGULATIONS, 1953

In accordance with Section 77 of the National Insurance Act, 1946, the National Insurance Advisory Committee give notice that they have received from the Joint Authority (comprising the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance and the Minister of Labour and National Insurance for Northern Ireland) for consideration and report thereon the preliminary draft of Regulations entitled the National Insurance (Unemployment and Sickness Benefit) Amendment Regulations, 1953.

A short Explanatory Note on these Regulations is appended to this Notice.

Copies of the preliminary draft of these Regulations may be purchased directly, price 2d., from Her Majesty's Stationery Office at the following addresses:—York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 13A Castle Street, Edinburgh, 2; 39-41 King Street, Manchester, 2; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; 80 Chichester Street, Belfast; or through any book-seller.

The Committee will take into consideration any objection, made by or on behalf of persons affected, sent to them before 15th January 1954. Having regard to the terms of the Act, which provides that objections must be made within a period of twenty-eight days at most, the Committee