

under five years of age. (Section 29, subsection 4.) If the applicant is unable to write, or can only do so imperfectly, the Registrar *may* fill up the form of application.

Every application must be dated, and the applicant must affix his or her signature or mark thereto.

CERTIFICATE ON FORM NO. 1.

On receiving an application (on Form No. 1) for a certificate of the death of a person aged ten years or upwards (*insured with a registered Friendly Society*), the Registrar should *at once* comply therewith, by writing in the schedule on the back thereof a correct copy of the entry made in the register book.*

CERTIFICATES ON FORMS 2 AND 3.

On receiving an application (on Form No. 2) for a certificate of the death of a child between five and ten years of age, or an application (on Form No. 3) for a certificate of the death of a child under five years of age (required for the purpose of obtaining money from *any Society whatever, or from an Industrial Assurance Company*), the Registrar or other person having the custody of the register book must, before granting such certificate, see whether the cause of death was recorded in the register book on the authority of the certificate of a registered medical practitioner who attended such deceased child during its last illness, or whether the death was registered by a Coroner after inquest held. In either of such cases he should *at once* grant the required certificate.

If, however, no such medical certificate of the cause of death was produced at the time of registration, and no inquest was held respecting such death, but the cause of death was recorded solely on the authority of information given by the informant, the Registrar must, before issuing a certificate of the death, require the production of a certificate of the *probable* cause of death signed by a registered medical practitioner. If the applicant is unable to obtain such a certificate, he or she must be required to produce *other satisfactory evidence* of the *probable* cause of death. (Section 29, subsection 4.)

The Registrar-General desires that in every case in which the issue of a certificate of the death of a child depends upon the production of "satisfactory evidence" of the *probable* cause of such death, the Registrar will exercise the utmost caution in determining whether the evidence produced is really "satisfactory." A statutory declaration of the *probable* cause of death by a person who is not a parent of the child, and is not interested in any moneys to be received at its death, may be accepted as satisfactory evidence; but where a statutory declaration is not produced, the Registrar may accept the next best evidence he can obtain, such as the statement of an unregistered medical attendant, or of a person who was in attendance on the deceased child during its last illness, but is not a parent of the child, and is not interested in the money to be received.

If, in endeavouring to obtain such satisfactory evidence, it should appear that the death has been caused by violence, or has been attended by suspicious circumstances, the Registrar must take such means as may be necessary, either through the police or otherwise, to bring the case under the notice of the Coroner, whatever may have been inserted in the entry as the cause of death. If in any such case it is determined that an inquest is unnecessary, the opinion of the Coroner, or the result of an inquiry by the police, may be accepted as "satisfactory evidence."

On receipt of the certificate of a registered medical practitioner, or of satisfactory evidence of the *probable* cause of death, the Registrar may write in the schedule, on the back of the form of application, a correct copy of the entry made in the register book.

He should then draw a line through the words or statements in the paragraph marked (a.), immediately following the schedule, which do not apply to the case, so that it may plainly appear under which of the four above-mentioned conditions the certificate of the death is granted.

If it be a case in which "satisfactory evidence" of the *probable* cause of death has been produced, he must state in the blank space marked (b.) the precise nature of such evidence—thus: Statutory declaration by [*naming person making the same, or statement of* , medical attendant, or opinion of Coroner, or inquiry by the police, or as the case may be].

In the blank space marked (c) he must insert the probable cause of death, if such has been ascertained by a medical certificate or by satisfactory evidence.

In the blank space marked (d) he must state whether the certificate is the "first," "second," "third," "fourth," &c. certificate of the same death which he has issued. (Section 29, subsection 3.)

In the blank space marked (e) he must state the name of the Friendly Society or Industrial Assurance Company from which a sum of money is sought to be obtained. (Section 29, subsection 3.)

In the blank space marked (f) he must state the sum of money sought to be obtained (section 29, subsection 3), which sum, together with the moneys mentioned in any previous certificate or certificates of the same death, must not, in the case of a child between five and ten years of age, exceed £10; and, in the case of a child under five years of age, must not exceed £6. (Section 29, subsection 4.)

CERTIFICATE ON FORM NO. 4.

On receiving an application (on Form No. 4) for a certificate of the birth of a person (to be insured with a registered Friendly Society), the Registrar should *at once* comply therewith, by writing in the schedule on the back thereof a correct copy of the entry made in the register book.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Registrar issuing the certificate must insert therein the date on which it is issued, and must affix his signature thereto.

* N.B.—If a certificate of the death of a person aged ten years or upwards, or a certificate of the birth of any person, insured or to be insured in an unregistered Friendly Society, or in any Benevolent Society (registered or not), or in an Industrial Assurance Company, is required, such certificate should be given on an ordinary form, and the ordinary fee of 2s. 6d., or if under seal, 5s., must be charged.