

Reference No: E109/26/45; **Date:** 30/09/1947

Circular 27/1947:- Irish Spelling

A Dhuine Uasail,

I am directed by the Minister for Finance to refer to this Department's Circular No.20/45 dated 19th July, 1945, concerning Irish spelling and to say that a few amendments have been made in the rules contained in the booklet "Litriu na Gaeilge: An Caighdean Oifigiúil" in order further to simplify and standardize the spelling. These are the final amendments which it is proposed to make and they should be adopted henceforth.

2. The Stationery Office has now published a new edition of the booklet under the title "Litriú na Gaeilge: Lámhleabhar an Chaighdeain Oifigiúil," which incorporates the additional amendments. Copies of the booklet may be obtained from that Office on requisition in the ordinary way. The staffs of Departments should be informed that this booklet is available. A copy should be supplied free to every officer in Sections where official work is carried out in Irish as well as to every officer subject to the written Irish promotion test under this Department's Circular No.14/45. In addition a free copy of the booklet should be given to any officer who asks for it.

3. The Minister desires again to draw attention to the requirement that the standard spelling should be used in all official work.

4. The new booklet contains a list of the titles and addresses in Irish in standard spelling of Government Departments and Offices. The titles as indicated on this list should now be brought into use and the Irish versions only should be used in addressing official correspondence. Official notepaper need not be changed, until reprinting becomes necessary.

5. When any forms issued in Irish are being reprinted, the standard spelling should be employed. Where necessary, a copy of any such form should be sent to the Translation Branch, Houses of the Oireachtas, to ensure that the spelling will be correct. This Department will deal with General Service forms.

6. As from the 1st January, 1948, the standard spelling as set out in the new booklet will be used in the question papers for the Irish competency and promotion tests and candidates will be required to use the standard spelling in their answers as from the 1st January, 1949.

Mise, le meas,

Sean O'