1981 No. 367

SOCIAL SECURITY

The Social Security (Unemployment, Sickness and Invalidity Benefit and Credits) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981

Made . . . . . *11th November 1981*

Coming into operation . . . *23rd November 1981*

The Department of Health and Social Services, in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by sections 13(4) and 17(1)(*a*) and (2) of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Act 1975(**a**), and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations which correspond to provision contained in regulations made by the Secretary of State for Social Services in relation to Great Britain and which accordingly, by virtue of section 10(2) of, and paragraph 21 of Schedule 3 to, the Social Security Act 1980(**b**) are not subject to the requirement of section 10(1) of that Act for prior reference to the Social Security Advisory Committee:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Social Security (Unemployment, Sickness and Invalidity Benefit and Credits) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981 and shall come into operation on 23rd November 1981.

(2) In these regulations—

"the Benefit Regulations" means the Social Security (Unemployment, Sickness and Invalidity Benefit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1979(**c**);

"the Credits Regulations" means the Social Security (Credits) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1975(**d**).

Amendment of regulation 9 of the Benefit Regulations

2. For regulation 9 of the Benefit Regulations (reckoning of periods of interruption of employment) there shall be substituted—

"*Reckoning of periods of interruption of employment*

9.—(1) For the purpose of reckoning periods of interruption of employment, but for that purpose only, a person shall be deemed to be available to be employed in employed earner's employment on any day specified in paragraph (2) and any such day shall be treated as a day of unemployment.

(2) The days specified for the purpose of paragraph (1) are—

(*a*) any day to which regulation 6(1)(*f*) (days when a person is attending a training course not to be treated as days of incapacity for work) applies;

(**a**) 1975 c. 15
(**b**) 1980 c. 30
(**c**) S.R. 1979 No. 211 to which there are amendments not relevant to the subject matter of these regulations
(**d**) S.R. 1975 No. 113; the relevant amending regulation is S.R. 1977 No. 132

(*b*) any day in respect of which the person concerned is entitled to a supplementary allowance under the Supplementary Benefits (Northern Ireland) Order 1977(**a**) if on that day regulation 6(*q*) of the Supplementary Benefit (Conditions of Entitlement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1980(**b**) applies to him (persons of 60 and over entitled to supplementary allowance without being required to register for employment)''.

Amendment of regulation 9 of the Credits Regulations

3. The following amendments shall be made to regulation 9 of the Credits Regulations (credits for unemployment or incapacity for work)—

(*a*) at the end of paragraph (2)(*b*) there shall be added ''; or'' and after that sub-paragraph there shall be inserted the following new sub-paragraph—

''(*c*) a week for any part of which the person concerned is entitled to a supplementary allowance under the Supplementary Benefits (Northern Ireland) Order 1977(**a**) if for that period regulation 6(*q*) of the Supplementary Benefit (Conditions of Entitlement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1980(**b**) applies to him (persons of 60 and over entitled to supplementary allowance without being required to register for employment).'';

(*b*) in paragraph (9)(*c*) after ''unemployment benefit'' there shall be inserted ''and for the purposes of this sub-paragraph a person shall be treated as having claimed unemployment benefit for any week if he was entitled to a credit for that week by virtue of paragraph (2)(*c*)''.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland on 11th November 1981.

(L.S.) *I. M. S. Jordan* (Miss)
Assistant Secretary

(**a**) S.I. 1977/2156 (N.I. 27)
(**b**) S.R. 1980 No. 416, as amended by S.R. 1981 Nos. 215 and 282

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These regulations amend the Social Security (Unemployment, Sickness and Invalidity Benefit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1979 (''the Benefit Regulations'') and the Social Security (Credits) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1975 (''the Credits Regulations''). Regulation 1 relates to the citation, commencement and interpretation of these regulations. Regulation 2, which amends regulation 9 of the Benefit Regulations, provides for treating a period when a person over 60 is receiving a supplementary allowance at the long-term rate without being required to register for employment as part of a ''period of interruption of employment'' for the purposes of these regulations. Regulation 3 amends regulation 9 of the Credits Regulations to enable such a person to be credited with contributions under the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Act 1975.