NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.

Approved Societies (Amendment).

THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE (APPROVED SOCIETIES) AMENDMENT REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1923,* DATED SEPTEMBER 10, 1923, MADE BY THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE JOINT COMMITTEE AND THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR FOR NORTHERN IRELAND, ACTING JOINTLY, UNDER THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE ACTS, 1911 TO 1922.

1923. No. 27.

The National Health Insurance Joint Committee and the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland, acting jointly, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by the National Health Insurance Acts (Northern Ireland), 1911 to 1922, and of all other powers enabling them on that behalf, and with the consent of the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland, hereby make the following Regulations :—

1. These Regulations may be cited as the National Health Insurance (Approved Societies) Amendment Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1923, and these Regulations and the National Health Insurance (Approved Societies) Consolidated Regulations, 1918 to 1922, may be cited together as the National Health Insurance (Approved Societies) Consolidated Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1918 to 1923.

2. The following definition shall be added to paragraph (1) of Article 3 of the National Health Insurance (Approved Societies) Consolidated Regulations, 1918 (hereinafter referred to as "the principal Regulations") :—

"The Act of 1922 (Northern Ireland)" means the National Health Insurance Act (Northern Ireland), 1922 (12 & 13 Geo. 5, ch. 15).

3. The following sub-paragraphs shall be added to paragraph (2) of Article 11 of the principal Regulations :—

"(m) all sums repayable to the Society out of moneys payable to the Ministry of Labour out of the Central Fund in pursuance of sub-section (1) of Section 1 of the Act of 1922 (Northern Ireland) ;

"(n) all sums payable to the Society out of moneys provided by Parliament in pursuance of the proviso to sub-section (2) of Section 1 of the Act of 1922 (Northern Ireland)" ;

4. The following Article shall be added immediately after Article 17 of the principal Regulations :—

"(1) The sum to be applied by the Ministry of Labour in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (1) of Section 1 of the Act of 1922 (Northern Ireland) in respect of each of the total

* These Regulations supersede the Provisional Regulations which were made, and came into force, on May 1, 1923.

number of the members of the Society shall, subject as hereinafter provided, be at the yearly rate of two shillings and three pence ; and the sums so payable shall be debited to the Society in the Approved Societies' Current Account.

" (2) For the purpose of sub-section (1) of Section 1 of the the Act of 1922 (Northern Ireland) and of the immediately preceding paragraph of these Regulations the total number of members of a Society shall be ascertained by adding the number of members of the Society at the end of the year to the number of members at the end of the preceding year and dividing the total by two, no account being taken of fractions ; and for this purpose " member " does not include a member of a Society who is of the age of 70 years or upwards, or a seaman, marine, soldier or airman in the service of the Crown, or a member who, being a married woman, has ceased to be a person whose normal occupation is employment within the meaning of Section 22 of the Act of 1918, or has on marriage ceased to be a voluntary contributor, and in whose case more than twelve months have elapsed since the date of unemployment or the date of marriage, as the case may be.

" (3) In the event of the sums prescribed in paragraph (1) of this Article being more than sufficient for the purposes for which they are required under the provisions of Section 1 of the Act of 1922 (Northern Ireland), for the period during which that Section continues in force the Ministry shall credit to each Society its due proportion of the excess."

5. In paragraph (1) of Article 25 of the National Health Insurance (Approved Societies) Consolidated Regulations, 1918 (which relates to the rate of interest to be credited to Approved Societies on sums standing to their credit in the Investment Account), there shall be substituted for the words " four per centum per annum " the words " four and one-half per centum per annum."

This Article shall have effect as from the 1st day of January, 1923.

6. The following paragraph shall be added immediately after paragraph (b) of Article 43 of the principal Regulations :—

" (bb) any other improper payment of benefit where the Society or branch satisfies the Minister that the payment in question has not been made in wilful breach of the provisions of the National Health Insurance Acts (Northern Ireland), 1911 to 1922, or of any regulations made thereunder, and that, in the special circumstances of the case, the payment may reasonably be treated as expenditure on benefits."

7. Article 49 of the principal Regulations, as substituted by Article 7 of the National Health Insurance (Approved Societies) Amendment Regulations, 1922, shall have effect as if in paragraph (4) thereof the words " within the period prescribed by regulations made for the purposes of Section 17 (b) of the Act of 1918 " were substituted for the words " within four weeks of the date of the notice thereof."

8. In paragraph (1a) of Article 46 of the principal Regulations (which paragraph was added to the said Regulations by Article 6 (1) of the National Health Insurance (Approved Societies) Amendment

Regulations, 1922) for the words "such sum as may hereafter be prescribed" there shall be substituted the following words :—

"a sum at a rate not exceeding the proportion stated below of the amount paid by the Society or branch out of sums available under the scheme for provision of that benefit in the year, viz. :—

(a) for the year 1921, ten per cent.,
(b) for the year 1922, seven and one-half per cent.,
(c) for the year 1923 and each subsequent year, five per cent.:

Provided that in respect of the period up to the 31st day of December, 1922, the following proportions may, if a Society so desires, be substituted in the case of that Society for those stated above, viz.:—

(a) for the year 1921, nothing,
(b) for the year 1922, ten per cent.

Provided also that in respect of any amount so paid by the Society or Branch which is declared by the Ministry of Labour to be capital expenditure, there shall be substituted for the above proportions such portion of the amount as the Ministry of Labour may determine.

The Schedule to the National Health Insurance (Approved Societies) Amendment Regulations, 1922, shall be read and have effect for the year 1921 and subsequent years as though the following provisions were inserted therein after paragraph (2) :—

"(2a) If a Society or Branch whose scheme for the distribution of additional benefits includes an increase of sickness or disablement or maternity benefit has accepted a transfer of the engagements of a Society or Branch which has no scheme providing for an increase of any of such benefits, then for the purpose of determining what further amount may be carried to the administration account under the proviso to the foregoing paragraph, the number of members shall, so long as persons who were members of the last-mentioned Society or Branch are not entitled to such increase, be reduced by a number representing the membership of that Society or Branch during the latest year during the whole of which that Society or Branch was empowered to transact business under the Acts.

"(2b) If a Society or Branch which has no scheme providing for an increase of sickness or disablement or maternity benefit has accepted a transfer of the engagements of, or has amalgamated with, a Society or Branch having a scheme which does so provide, there may, during the currency of such scheme, be carried to the administration account of the first-mentioned Society or Branch, or, in the case of an amalgamation, of the amalgamated Society or Branch, in addition to the amount referred to in paragraph (2) of this Schedule an amount calculated at the rates specified in the proviso thereto for every person who was a member of the Society or Branch having a scheme providing for such increase during the latest year during the whole of which that Society or Branch was empowered to transact business under the Acts."

9. As from the 1st day of January, 1924, for the purpose of calculating the maximum sum which may be carried to the administration account of a society or branch for the year out of contributions

payable under the principal Act, "two shillings and twopence halfpenny" shall be substituted for "two shillings and fivepence," and "four shillings and fivepence" for "four shillings and tenpence" in sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) respectively of paragraph (2) of the Schedule to the National Health Insurance (Approved Societies) Amendment Regulations, 1922, and as from the date aforesaid the National Health Insurance (Approved Societies) Consolidated Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1918 to 1923, shall be read accordingly.

Given under the Official Seal of the National Health Insurance Joint Committee, this 10th day of September, in the year one thousand, nine hundred and twenty-three.

(L.S.) *W. F. Wackrill,*

Secretary to the National Health Insurance Joint Committee.

Given under the Official Seal of the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland, this 10th day of September, in the year one thousand, nine hundred and twenty-three.

(L.S.) *J. A. Dale,*

Secretary to the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland.

The Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland hereby consent to these Regulations.

Given under the Official Seal of the said Ministry this 10th day of September, in the year one thousand, nine hundred and twenty-three.

(L.S.) *E. Clark,*

Secretary to the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland.

Deposit Contributors (Amendment).

THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE (DEPOSIT CONTRIBUTORS) AMENDMENT REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1923, DATED FEBRUARY 26, 1923, MADE BY THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE JOINT COMMITTEE AND BY THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR FOR NORTHERN IRELAND, AMENDING THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE (DEPOSIT CONTRIBUTORS) REGULATIONS (IRELAND), 1918-1921.

1923. No. 17.

In exercise of the several powers conferred on them by the National Health Insurance Acts (Northern Ireland), 1911 to 1922, and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, the National Health Insurance Joint Committee and the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland acting jointly so far as regards Regulations which the said Joint Committee are empowered to make jointly with the said Ministry and acting separately so far as regards Regulations which the said