Voluntary Contributors.

REGULATIONS, DATED 26TH FEBRUARY, 1929, MADE BY THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE JOINT COMMITTEE, AND THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR FOR NORTHERN IRELAND, ACTING JOINTLY, UNDER THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE ACT, 1924, AND THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE ACT, 1928, AS APPLIED TO NORTHERN IRELAND BY THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE (EXTENSION OF ENACTMENTS) ORDER (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1928, AND UNDER SECTIONS 14 (5) AND 15 (5) OF THE WIDOWS', ORPHANS' AND OLD AGE CONTRIBUTORY PENSIONS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1925 (15 & 16 GEO. 5, C. 23).

1929. No. 27.

The National Health Insurance Joint Committee and the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland, acting jointly, in pursuance of the powers conferred on them by Section 1 of the National Health Insurance Act, 1924, and the National Health Insurance Act, 1928, as applied to Northern Ireland by the National Health Insurance (Extension of Enactments) Order (Northern Ireland), 1928, and under sub-section 5 of Section 14, and sub-section (5) of Section 15, of the Widows', Orphans' and Old age Contributory Pensions Act (Northern Ireland), 1925, and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, hereby make the following Regulations :—

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the National Health Insurance and Contributory Pensions (Voluntary Contributors) Amendment Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1929, and shall be read as one with the National Health Insurance and Contributory Pensions (Voluntary Contributors) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1926 (*a*) (hereinafter referred to as " the principal Regulations "), and the principal Regulations, the National Health Insurance and Contributory Pensions (Voluntary Contributors) Amendment Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1928 (*b*) and these Regulations may be cited together as the National Health Insurance and Contributory Pensions (Voluntary Contributors) Regulations, 1926 to 1929.

(2) Except where otherwise stated, these Regulations shall have effect as from the 1st day of January, 1929.

2.—(1) Paragraph (2) (*b*) of Article 3 of the principal Regulations shall be read and have effect as if for the words " within twelve months after the end of the contribution week in which he ceases to be so employed " therein there were substituted the words " before the expiration of the period during which he is deemed to continue to be insured for the purposes of the Pensions Act."

(a) S. R. & O. of N. I., 1926, No. 6. (b) S. R. & O. of N. I., 1928, No. 90.

(2) The portion of paragraph 2 of the said Article commencing with the words " In calculating the said period of twelve months " to the end of the sub-paragraph shall cease to have effect.

3. Article 6 of the principal Regulations shall cease to have effect.

4.—(1) For the purposes of the Insurance Act (other than sub-section (5) of Section 7 of that Act) a person who has elected to become a voluntary contributor shall be treated as a voluntary contributor from the commencement of the contribution week in which he gave notice of his desire to become a voluntary contributor :

Provided that for the purpose of payment of contributions, by a person who was insured at the time when he gave such notice, he may be treated as having become a voluntary contributor on such earlier date as will permit him to pay contributions in respect of any period prior to the date on which he gave such notice and subsequent to his being employed, so long as such contributions are paid within the relative period of grace allowed under any Regulations made under the Act relating to arrears and for the time being in force.

(2) For the purposes of sub-section (5) of Section 7 of the Insurance Act a person who has elected to become a voluntary contributor shall be treated as a voluntary contributor—

(*a*) where he was insured as an employed contributor immediately prior to becoming a voluntary contributor, either (i) as from the commencement of the contribution year following that in which he ceased to be employed, or (ii) if on ceasing to be employed he was rendered incapable of work by some specific disease or by bodily or mental disablement of which notice was given, as from the commencement of the contribution year following that in which he ceased to be so incapable of work, or (iii) as from the commencement of the contribution year in which he gave notice of his desire to become a voluntary contributor, whichever is the later ; and

(*b*) in any other case, from the date on which he gave notice of his desire to become a voluntary contributor

(3) In the case of a person whose time for electing to become a voluntary contributor has been extended under paragraph (1) of Article 231 of the National Health Insurance (Approved Societies) Regulations, 1924, the foregoing provisions shall have effect as if the notice of desire to become a voluntary contributor had been given immediately before he ceased to be insured.