Medical Benefit.

REGULATIONS, DATED 27TH SEPTEMBER, 1932, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR FOR NORTHERN IRELAND UNDER THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE ACTS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1924 TO 1932.

1932. No. 107.

The Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland in exercise of the powers conferred on it by the National Health Insurance Acts (Northern Ireland) 1924 to 1932, and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations :—

1. These Regulations may be cited as the National Health Insurance Medical Benefit (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1932, and shall be read as one with the National Health Insurance (Medical Benefit) Regulations, 1930, hereinafter referred to as the Principal Regulations.

2. The following paragraphs shall be substituted for paragraphs (1) and (2) of Article 18 of the Principal Regulations :—

" (1) Where an insured person who is on the list of a practitioner has removed permanently from one place of residence to another or has temporarily removed from his place of residence, he shall, subject to the provisions of the next succeeding paragraph, be entitled to select another practitioner.

(1*a*) The provisions of Article 17 of these Regulations shall apply in any case where the insured person's new place of residence or the place to which he has temporarily removed, is within the district within which the practitioner upon whose list he was before removal, has undertaken to practice :

Provided that in any case where there is reasonable cause for an application for acceptance by another practitioner on the ground of distance or inconvenience, the practitioner upon whose list the insured person was before removal, shall not withhold his consent to the said application without the approval of the Ministry.

(2) The name of a person who is accepted by another practitioner, in accordance with the provisions of this Article, shall be removed from the list of his former practitioner as from the date on which the Ministry is notified that he has been accepted by another practitioner :

Provided that if the removal is temporary, the insured person may be accepted for treatment by another practitioner as a temporary resident and

his name shall not be removed from the list of the practitioner in which it was included before removal."

3. The following paragraphs shall be added to Article 19 of the Principal Regulations :—

(2) (i) During such period as may be determined by the Ministry after consultation with the Central Insurance Practitioners Committee, the Ministry shall from time to time, at such dates and in respect of such periods as it may determine, repay from the Practitioners Fund to the Medical Benefit Account an amount calculated at the rate of 10.8 pence per year in respect of each of the aforesaid total number of insured persons entitled to medical benefits, and for the purposes of Part 4 of the First Schedule to these Regulations, the Practitioners Fund shall be deemed to be the Practitioners Fund less the amount so repaid to the Medical Benefit Account.

(ii) Any amounts repaid to the Medical Benefit Account in accordance with the provisions of the immediately preceding paragraph shall, for the purposes of the Economy (National Health Insurance) Order (Northern Ireland), 1931, be deemed to be emergency economies in the case of Medical Benefit.

This Article shall be deemed to have had effect from 1st October, 1931.

4. The following amendments shall be made in the First Schedule to the Principal Regulations—Terms of Service for Practitioners.

(1) Clause 72 shall be amended by the substitution therein for the words " If the practitioner " down to the words "that period" of the words " If the practitioner upon examination of an insured person who has been continuously incapable of work during the preceding twenty-eight days."

(2) In Clause 90 the following shall be added to the scale of fees :—

(*j*) Attendance on the patient at the practitioner's residence or surgery between the hours of 8 p.m. and 8 a.m. - - - - 5s. 0d.

and there shall be substituted for the words " (*d*) surgical operation requiring local or general anaesthetic," the following :—"(*d*) surgical operation requiring general anaesthetic."

(3) In Clause 97 for the word " main " shall be substituted the word " nearest."

(4) In Clause 98 the following scale shall be substituted for the scale appearing therein :—

Exceeding	2	miles	but	not	exceeding	3	miles—	1	Unit.
,,	3	,,	,,	,,	,,	4	,,	2	Units.
,,	4	,,	,,	,,	,,	5	,,	4	,,
,,	5	,,	,,	,,	,,	6	,,	6	,,
,,	6	,,	,,	,,	,,	7	,,	8	,,
,,	7	,,	..		..		..	10	,,

(5) The following Clauses shall be inserted :—

Payment of Mileage for Anaesthetist.

100—(*a*) Where the services of a second practitioner are required for the purpose of administering a general anaesthetic, there shall, in addition to any fee payable from the Practitioners' Fund, be payable out of the Mileage Fund the sum of 1/- for each mile or part of a mile beyond two miles of the distance between the place where the anaesthetic was administered and the residence of the nearest available doctor.

Payment of Mileage for Temporary Residents.

100—(*b*) The number of units in respect of each Temporary Resident added to a practitioner's list during the course of a year shall be calculated in accordance with Clause 98 and shall be added to the number of units credited to the practitioner in accordance with Clause 99.

(6) In Clause 103 for the word " main " shall be substituted the word " nearest " and for " residence and surgery " read " residence or nearest surgery."

(7) In Clause 107 the words " Urban Districts or Towns " shall be substituted for the words " or Urban Districts."

5. The following Clause shall be substituted for Clause 9 of the Second Schedule to the Principal Regulations—Terms of Service for persons supplying drugs and appliances :—

" (9) A chemist is required to supply with reasonable promptness to any person who presents an order for drugs or appliances on a prescription form provided by the Ministry for the purpose and signed by any practitioner on the medical list of the Ministry or his deputy or assistant, such drugs or appliances as are so ordered, and shall so far as practicable keep in stock for that purpose the drugs mentioned in the Drug Tariff for the time being in force, and shall also keep in stock the appliances set out in the First Part of the Third Schedule to these Regulations and mentioned in the Drug Tariff for the time being in force.

6. The Schedule to these Regulations shall be substituted for the Third Schedule to the principal Regulations.

Given under the Official Seal of the Ministry of Labour this twenty-seventh day of September, in the year One thousand nine hundred and thirty-two.

(L.S.) *John S. Godden,*
Assistant Secretary to the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland.

SCHEDULE.

First Part.—To be kept in stock by persons supplying drugs and appliances.

Appliances.

Adhesive plaster.
Bandages, Rolled :
- *Calico.*
- *Crepe.*
- *Domette.*
- *Elastic-web.*
- *Flannel.*
- *India-rubber.*
- *Open-wove.*
- *Plaster of Paris, 3 inch.*

Bandages, Suspensory.
- *Cotton.*

Catheters :
- *Gum-elastic.*
- *Soft rubber.*

Cotton Wools, Absorbent :
- *Boric.*
- *Unmedicated.*

Elastic Adhesive Bandages.
Eye Baths.
Eye droppers.
Gauzes :
- *Boric.*
- *Carbolic.*
- *Cyanide.*

Gauzes—*cont.*
- *Iodoform.*
- *Picric.*
- *Unmedicated.*

Gauze and cotton wool tissue.

Hypodermic syringes and parts thereof, for self-administration of Insulin.

Ice bags :
- *Check sheeting.*

Lints :
- *Boric.*
- *Unmedicated.*

Protectives :
- *Gutta percha tissue.*
- *Oiled cambric.*
- *Oiled paper.*
- *Oiled silk.*

Splints.
Standard Dressing No. 1.
„ „ No. 2.
Tampons.
Tow, Plain.

Chemical Re-Agents.

Fehling's Solution and Benedict's Solution when required for the proper regulation of the treatment of diabetes.

Second Part.—To be supplied with reasonable promptness by persons supplying drugs and appliances.

Bandages :
- Plaster of Paris, sizes other than 3 inch.

Cellulose Tissue.
„ Wadding.
Cotton Wool, Absorbent Sublimate.
Gauze, Sublimate.
Ice Bags : India-rubber.
Pessaries, Ring.
Wood wool.
Zinc Paste Bandages.