1968. No. 91 **[C]**

DANGEROUS DRUGS

Drug Addiction

REGULATIONS, DATED 4TH APRIL 1968, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS UNDER SECTION 11 OF THE DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT 1965 AS EXTENDED BY SECTION 1(1) OF THE DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT 1967 AND SECTIONS 5 AND 8(3) OF THE SAID ACT OF 1967.

The Ministry of Home Affairs, in exercise of the powers vested in it by section 11 of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1965(a) as extended by section 1(1) of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1967(b) and sections 5 and 8(3) of the said Act of 1967 and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

Citation and Commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Dangerous Drugs (Supply to Addicts) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1968 and shall come into operation on 16th April 1968.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these Regulations the expression "drug" means any substance for the time being specified in Part I of the Schedule to the Dangerous Drugs Act 1965.

(2) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954(c) shall apply to the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies to an Act of the Parliament of Northern Ireland.

Supply to Addicts

3.—(1) Subject to paragraph (3), a medical practitioner shall not administer, supply or authorise the administration or supply to persons addicted to any drug, or prescribe for such persons, any substance to which this Regulation applies except—

(*a*) for the purpose of relieving pain due to organic disease or injury; or

(*b*) under the authority and in accordance with the conditions of a licence issued to him by the Ministry of Home Affairs in pursuance of these Regulations.

(2) For the purposes of the preceding paragraph, a person shall be regarded as addicted to a drug only if, as a result of repeated administration, he has become so dependent upon the drug that he has an overpowering desire for the administration of it to be continued.

(3) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the administration or supply by a medical practitioner of a substance to which this Regulation applies if the administration or supply is authorised by another medical practitioner under the authority and in accordance with the condition of a licence issued to him in pursuance of these Regulations.

(a) 1965. c. 15. (b) 1967. c. 82. (c) 1954. c. 33.

(4) This Regulation applies to—

(*a*) cocaine, its salts and any preparation, admixture, extract or other substance containing any proportion of cocaine or its salts other than a preparation for the time being falling within paragraph 10 of the Schedule to the Dangerous Drugs Act 1965;

(*b*) diamorphine, its salts and any preparation, admixture, extract or other substance containing any proportion of diamorphine or its salts.

4. A licence issued for the purposes of Regulation 3 shall be valid for such period and subject to such conditions as may be specified in the licence and may be revoked by the Ministry of Home Affairs at any time.

Application to Servants of the Crown

5. These Regulations and, in relation only to the requirements of these Regulations, sections 1, 2 and 3 of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1967 and sections 16 and 20 of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1965 shall apply to servants and agents of the Crown.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland this 4th day of April 1968.

(Sgd.) J. H. Parkes,
Assistant Secretary.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

These Regulations prohibit a medical practitioner from administering, supplying or authorising the administration or supply to drug addicts, or prescribing for drug addicts, cocaine or diamorphine (commonly known as heroin) except for the purpose of relieving pain due to organic disease or injury or under and in accordance with a licence issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs in pursuance of the Regulations. Their provisions and such of the provisions of the Dangerous Drugs Acts of 1965 and 1967 as are necessary to implement them are applied to servants and agents of the Crown.