1968. No. 103 **[C]**

FOOD AND DRUGS

Composition and Labelling

Fish and Meat Spreadable Products

REGULATIONS, DATED 18TH APRIL 1968, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES UNDER SECTIONS 4, 7 AND 68 OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1958.

The Ministry of Health and Social Services, in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by sections 4, 7 and 68 of the Food and Drugs Act (Northern Ireland) 1958(a), having consulted with such organisations as appear to it to be representative of interests substantially affected by these regulations, hereby makes the following regulations:—

PART I

PRELIMINARY

Citation and commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the Fish and Meat Spreadable Products Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1968 and shall come into operation on 15th March 1971.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these regulations—

"the Act" means the Food and Drugs Act (Northern Ireland) 1958;

"binder" means flour, or starch derived therefrom, of any non-leguminous starchy grain, non-leguminous root or non-leguminous tuber or of any physical modification of any such grain, root or tuber, and includes any soya flour, soya starch, groundnut flour or groundnut lipoprotein;

"butter-fat content" means the total weight of butter-fat contained in a paste expressed as a percentage of the total weight of the paste;

"container" includes any form of packaging of food for sale as a single item, whether by way of wholly or partly enclosing the food or by way of attaching the food to some other article, and in particular includes a wrapper or confining band;

"fish" means the edible portion of any fish including edible molluscs and crustacea;

"fish content" means the total weight of fish when raw contained in any fish paste expressed as a percentage of the total weight of that fish paste;

"fish paste" means any readily spreadable product intended for sale for human consumption of which fish is a major ingredient and includes potted fish, chopped fish, minced fish, flaked fish and pâté intended, in each case, for a use similar to any normal use of fish paste;

"lean meat content" means the total weight of lean meat, free of visible fat, when raw, contained in meat paste expressed as a percentage of the total weight of that meat paste;

"meat" means the flesh, including fat, and the skin, rind, gristle and sinew in amounts naturally associated with the flesh used, of any animal or

(a) 1958. c. 27.

bird which is normally used for human consumption and includes cured meat and permitted offal, but does not include fish;

"meat content" means the total weight of meat when raw contained in any meat paste expressed as a percentage of the total weight of that meat paste;

"meat paste" means any readily spreadable product intended for sale for human consumption of which meat is a major ingredient and includes potted meat, chopped meat, minced meat, flaked meat and pâté intended, in each case, for a use similar to any normal use of meat paste;

"paste" means fish paste or meat paste;

"permitted offal" means any offal other than offal prohibited to be used in any uncooked open meat product by the Offals in Meat Products Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1960(**b**);

"sell" includes offer or expose for sale or have in possession for sale;

"sell by retail" means sell to a person buying otherwise than for the purpose of re-sale.

(2) All percentages mentioned in these regulations are percentages calculated by weight.

(3) Any reference in these regulations to a label borne on a container shall be construed as including a reference to any legible marking on the container however effected.

(4) For the purposes of these regulations, the supply of food, otherwise than by sale, at, in or from any place where food is supplied in the course of a business shall be deemed to be a sale of that food, and references to purchasing and purchaser shall be construed accordingly.

Exemptions

3. The following provisions of these regulations shall not apply to any paste—

(*a*) sold, consigned or delivered for exportation to any place outside the United Kingdom; or

(*b*) supplied under Government contracts for consumption by Her Majesty's forces or supplied for consumption by a visiting force within the meaning of any of the provisions of Part I of the Visiting Forces Act 1952(**c**); or

(*c*) sold, consigned or delivered to a manufacturer for the purposes of his manufacturing business or to a caterer for the purposes of his catering business.

PART II

DESCRIPTION AND COMPOSITION OF MEAT PASTE AND FISH PASTE

Description and composition of meat paste

4.—(1) Subject to the provisions of regulation 6, any meat paste sold, consigned or delivered shall bear one of the following descriptions and comply with the compositional requirements specified in relation to that description, save that the appropriate description need be borne by any meat paste sold, consigned or delivered otherwise than in a container only when such meat paste is sold by retail:—

(**b**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1960, No. 165. (**c**) 15 & 16 Geo. 6 and 1 Eliz. 2. c. 67.

(*a*) "meat paste" if the meat paste has a meat content of not less than 70 per cent.:

Provided that in place of the word "meat" there may be substituted the name of any meat characterising the meat paste, and in place of the word "paste" the word "pâté" in the case of a meat paste which has the characteristics of a pâté;

(*b*) "X spread", the description being completed by inserting at "X" the name of any meat, if the meat paste has a meat content of such meat of not less than 70 per cent.:

Provided that in the place of the word "spread" there may be substituted the word "pâté" in the case of a meat paste which has the characteristics of a pâté;

(*c*) "potted meat", "chopped meat", "minced meat" or "flaked meat" if the meat paste has a meat content of not less than 95 per cent. and does not contain any added binder;

(*d*) "potted X", "chopped X", "minced X" or "flaked X", the description being completed by inserting at "X" the name of any meat, if the meat paste has a meat content of such meat of not less than 95 per cent. and does not contain any added binder;

(*e*) "potted meat and Y", "chopped meat and Y", "minced meat and Y" or "flaked meat and Y", the description being completed by inserting at "Y" the name of another main ingredient, if the meat paste has a meat content of not less than 80 per cent. and a content of meat and that other main ingredient, taken together, of not less than 95 per cent. and does not contain any added binder;

(*f*) "potted X and Y", "chopped X and Y", "minced X and Y" or "flaked X and Y", the description being completed by inserting at "X" the name of any meat and at "Y" the name of another main ingredient, if the meat paste has a meat content of such meat of not less than 80 per cent. and a content of such meat and that other main ingredient, taken together, of not less than 95 per cent. and does not contain any added binder:

Provided that in any description mentioned in this or the last preceding sub-paragraph there may be substituted for the word "and" the word "in" or "with";

(*g*) "chopped meat in jelly", "minced meat in jelly" or "flaked meat in jelly" if the meat paste contains added jelly but no added binder and has a meat content of not less than 70 per cent.;

(*h*) "chopped X in jelly", "minced X in jelly" or "flaked X in jelly", the description being completed by inserting at "X" the name of any meat, if the meat paste contains added jelly but no added binder and has a meat content of such meat of not less than 70 per cent.;

(*j*) "brawn" without any word or words stating or implying that the meat paste with jelly has a meat content of not less than 70 per cent., if the meat paste contains added jelly but no added binder and has a meat content of not less than 60 per cent.;

(*k*) any description mentioned in sub-paragraph (*a*) or (*b*) followed by the words "and butter" or "with butter" if the meat paste has a butter-fat content of not less than 6 per cent. and complies with the requirements specified in sub-paragraph (*a*) or (*b*), as the case may be, in relation to that description;

(*l*) any description mentioned in sub-paragraph (*c*) or (*d*) followed by the words "and butter" or "with butter" if the meat paste does not contain