1967. No. 156 **[C]**

FOOD AND DRUGS

Composition and Labelling

Sausages and Other Meat Products

REGULATIONS, DATED 28TH JUNE 1967, 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 Sausage and Other Meat Product Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1967 and shall come into operation on 31st May 1969.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these regulations—

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

"canned" in relation to any food means packed in a tin, jar or other hermetically sealed container, and either sterilised or pasteurised after sealing, and "canning" shall be construed accordingly;

"canned sausage" means any sausage canned for human consumption, and any reference to canned sausage includes any such sausage after removal from its container;

"cereal" includes potato flour, potato starch, rice flour, rice starch, ground rice and soya flour but does not include grain rice, pastry, dumplings or any form of pasta;

"complete meat product" means any meat product which is homogeneous and complete in itself and is capable of being removed from a container in a single piece when the contents of the container are not frozen or congealed;

"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;

"drained weight" means the weight of any canned sausage when removed from its container and from any medium in which it has been canned;

"gravy" means the product usually known by that name, and consisting of a liquid, thickened or unthickened, frozen or otherwise, having a

(a) 1958. c. 27.

flavour essentially derived from meat and including gravy sauce and any other product having characteristics similar to gravy;

"lean meat content" means the total weight of lean meat free of visible fat, when raw or after curing or any other similar processing, contained in any meat product expressed as a percentage of the total weight of that product;

"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 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 or after curing or any other similar processing contained in any meat product expressed as a percentage of the total weight of that product;

"meat paste" means any readily spreadable product 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;

"meat pie" means any product containing meat which is wholly or partly encased in pastry and is intended for sale for human consumption and includes pasty and meat pudding but does not include sausage roll or vol-au-vent;

"meat product" means any product intended for sale for human consumption containing meat;

"meat with cereal" means any meat product which has a vegetable content of less than 25 per cent. and of which the principal ingredient by weight, other than meat, is cereal, and includes luncheon meat, but does not include any faggot, rissole, croquette or meat ball described as such;

"meat with gravy" means any meat product which has a vegetable content of less than 25 per cent. and of which the principal ingredient by weight, other than meat, is added gravy;

"meat with jelly" means any meat product which has a vegetable content of less than 25 per cent. and of which the principal ingredient by weight, other than meat, is added jelly;

"meat with sauce" means any meat product which has a vegetable content of less than 25 per cent. and of which the principal ingredient by weight, other than meat, is added sauce;

"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(a);

"sauce" means a liquid, thickened or unthickened, frozen or otherwise, used as a garnish with food and having a colour and flavour derived essentially from ingredients other than meat, but does not include gravy sauce or any other product having characteristics similar to gravy;

"sausage" means a product of a shape usually known as sausage shape or part of that such product made of comminuted meat with or without the addition of cereal and other minor ingredients, whether contained in an edible or inedible casing or not, and includes any chipolata, frankfurter, salame, saveloy and polony;

"sausage meat" means a product made of meat, with or without the addition of cereal and other minor ingredients, commonly used for or intended for the making of sausages or sold under any description which states or implies that the product is sausage meat;

"sell" includes offer or expose for sale or have in possession for sale and "sale" and "sold" shall be construed accordingly;

(a) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1960, No. 165.

"vegetable" means any product usually regarded as a vegetable for culinary purposes and includes mushroom and other edible fungus, tomato and grain rice as normally consumed.

(2) All percentages mentioned in these regulations are percentages calculated by weight and are calculated on the weight of the product as sold.

(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 provisions of these regulations shall not apply in relation to—

(*a*) any meat paste;

(*b*) any canned meat product to which the provisions of the Canned Meat Product Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1967(**a**) apply;

(*c*) any meat pie or sausage roll to which the provisions of the Meat Pie and Sausage Roll Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1967(**b**) apply, except that the provisions of regulation 6(1) of these regulations shall apply as therein mentioned in relation to any such meat pie or sausage roll which is part of some other meat product;

(*d*) any meat pie or sausage roll which weighs $1\frac{1}{2}$ ounces or less;

(*e*) any meat product bearing a clear statement that such meat product is intended for consumption exclusively by invalids, babies or young children, and no statement to the effect that such meat product is intended for consumption by any other class of person;

(*f*) any product containing the fat, but no other meat, of any animal or bird normally used for human consumption;

(*g*) any gravy or sauce in each case described as such;

(*h*) any haggis, black pudding or white pudding in each case described as such;

(*i*) any sandwich or vol-au-vent in each case described as such;

(*j*) any canned, dehydrated or frozen soup or any other form of soup in each case described as such;

(*k*) any whole carcase of any bird or half-carcase thereof (from which in each case no bones except those of the head, the neck or the feet have been removed) or any whole leg or whole wing of any bird in each case described as such;

(*l*) any meat product which is sold for exportation to any place outside the United Kingdom;

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

(*n*) any meat product 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.

(a) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1967, No. 157.
(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1967, No. 155.
(c) 15 & 16 Geo. 6 & 1 Eliz. 2, c. 67.

PART II

COMPOSITION OF SAUSAGES AND OTHER MEAT PRODUCTS

Calculation of meat content

4.—(1) Any egg which is present in any meat product, not exceeding one fifth by weight of the meat content of such meat product, may be reckoned as part of the meat content of such meat product for the purposes of regulation 5, if the meat product bears as part of or in immediate proximity to its name, a description indicating the presence of egg in such meat product.

(2) The minimum meat content required by regulation 5 for any sausage or sausage meat, shall include a lean meat content of not less than 50 per cent. of such minimum meat content and, in the case of any other meat product, shall include a lean meat content of not less than 60 per cent. of such minimum meat content.

(3) The weight of any bone which is present as part of, or adhering to, any meat product, being bone which a purchaser may expect to be present by reason of a specific declaration on the container of such meat product, or by words otherwise disclosing or implying the presence of bone, shall be calculated as meat, for the purposes of regulation 5, but any bone otherwise present shall be reckoned as part of the total weight of the meat product, but not as part of the weight of the meat.

(4) Any edible casing used to enclose any meat product shall not be included in calculating, for the purposes of regulation 5, the total weight of any such meat product or the percentage of meat, jelly, gravy, sauce or cereal in such meat product.

(5) (*a*) The meat content of any dehydrated meat product shall be calculated, for the purposes of regulation 5, on the weight of such meat product as reconstituted if such meat product bears a clear statement that the ingredients are intended to be reconstituted before consumption;

(*b*) The total weight of any meat product of which one or more but not all of the ingredients is or are dehydrated shall, if such meat product bears a clear statement that the dehydrated ingredients are intended to be reconstituted before consumption, be calculated, for the purposes of regulation 5, as if the dehydrated ingredients were reconstituted, and the percentage of the total meat product which such ingredients represent shall be calculated on the weight of such ingredients as if they were reconstituted.

Composition of sausages and other meat products

5.—(1) Any meat product sold, consigned or delivered shall comply with such one of the compositional requirements as is specified in relation to such meat product in the following sub-paragraphs, namely—

(*a*) any sausage or sausage meat or polony or hog pudding shall have a meat content of not less than 50 per cent.;

(*b*) any sausage or sausage meat, described directly or by implication as a pork sausage or as pork sausage meat, shall have a meat content of not less than 65 per cent.;

(*c*) any sausage (other than a canned sausage to which sub-paragraph (*d*) applies), which is described directly or by implication as a "frankfurter", "Vienna sausage" or "salame" shall have a meat content of not less than 75 per cent.;

(*d*) any sausage, canned in brine or other liquid medium, which is described directly or by implication as a "frankfurter", "Vienna sausage" or "salame" shall have a meat content of not less than 70 per cent. calculated on the drained weight of the sausage;

(*e*) any meat with jelly shall have a meat content of not less than 80 per cent.:

Provided that any meat with jelly may have a meat content of not less than 60 per cent.—

(i) if there is included in the description of such meat with jelly as or as part of or in immediate proximity to its name, the expression "brawn" or "collard head" or "pressed meat" or "pressed X" and such description has been completed, where appropriate, by inserting at "X" the common or usual name of the meat present, and

(ii) such description does not contain any words stating or implying that such meat with jelly has a meat content of not less than 80 per cent.;

(*f*) subject to the provisions of paragraph (2), any meat with gravy shall have a meat content of not less than 75 per cent.:

Provided that any meat with gravy may—

(i) have a meat content of not less than 60 per cent. if such meat with gravy—

(*aa*) contains no meat other than sliced meat, and

(*ab*) bears as a description as or as part of or in immediate proximity to its name the expression "sliced meat with gravy" or "sliced X in gravy" and such description has been completed, where appropriate, by inserting at "X" the common or usual name of the meat present;

(ii) have a meat content of not less than 50 per cent. if such meat with gravy—

(*aa*) contains more than 12½ per cent. of onion or of mushroom or of asparagus, but no other vegetable, or more than 12½ per cent. of stuffing, or more than 12½ per cent. of dumpling or of any form of pasta, and

(*ab*) bears as a description, as or as part of or in immediate proximity to its name the expression "X with Y and gravy", and such description has been completed by inserting at "X" the word "meat" or the common or usual name of the meat present, and at "Y" the word "onion" or "mushroom" or "asparagus" or "stuffing" or "dumpling" or "pasta" or the common or usual name of any kind of pasta present, as the case may be;

(*g*) subject to the provisions of paragraph (2), any meat with sauce shall have a meat content of not less than 60 per cent.:

Provided that any meat with sauce may—

(i) have a meat content of not less than 40 per cent. if such meat with sauce—

(*aa*) contains more than 15 per cent. of onion or of mushroom or of asparagus, but no other vegetable, or more than 15 per cent. of stuffing or more than 15 per cent. of dumpling or of any kind of pasta, and

(*ab*) bears as a description as or as part of or in immediate proximity to its name the expression "X with Y and sauce", and such description has been completed by inserting at "X" the word "meat" or the common or usual name of the meat present,