EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

These regulations, made in pursuance of Section 1 of the Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 1959, make it unlawful for the employer of a worker employed in agriculture (or, where the employer is a contractor, for the occupier of the farm) to cause or permit a worker to work at or use certain specified places on farms—mostly in buildings—except in accordance with the scheduled requirements. These requirements cover the construction and maintenance of floors and stairways, the provision of handrails in connection with stairways; the guarding in the prescribed manner of apertures in floors and walls, and of edges of floors, wherever a worker is liable to fall more than 5 feet; and precautions which must be taken where silage is consolidated with a tractor or other machine.

The regulations prohibit workers from removing the prescribed guards except as permitted under the regulations, and require workers to report prescribed defects to their employers.

1966. No. 166 **[C]**

AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE

Stationary Machinery

REGULATIONS, DATED 8TH JULY 1966, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTION 1 OF THE AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1959(a).

The Ministry of Agriculture in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 1 of the Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 1959 and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, after consultation with such organisations as appear to it to represent the interests concerned, hereby makes the following regulations:—

Citation and commencement

1. These regulations, which may be cited as the Agriculture (Stationary Machinery) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1966, shall come into operation as follows:—

(*a*) This regulation and regulations 2 and 6 shall come into operation on the 1st day of August 1966;

(*b*) regulations 3, 4 and 5 shall come into operation on the 1st day of August 1967.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these regulations—

"the Act" means the Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions)

(a) 1959, c. 24.

Act (Northern Ireland) 1959;
"stationary machine" has the meaning assigned to it in Part I of the Schedule.

(2) Expressions used in Parts II and III of the Schedule of which there are definitions in Part I thereof have the meanings thereby respectively assigned to them.

(3) The provisions of these regulations shall apply, in addition to the provisions of the Agriculture (Circular Saws) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1966(a), to any stationary machine that is a circular saw as therein defined.

Obligations affecting employers

3. Subject to the provisions of these regulations the employer of a worker employed in agriculture shall not cause or permit a worker so employed, in the course of his employment, to work at a stationary machine unless the requirements contained in Part II of the Schedule are complied with.

Obligations affecting workers

4. Subject to the provisions of these regulations a worker employed in agriculture who, in the course of his employment, works at a stationary machine shall comply with the requirements contained in Part III of the Schedule.

Prohibition of sale and letting on hire of non-complying stationary machines

5.—(1) No person shall sell to a purchaser for use in agriculture in Northern Ireland, any stationary machine that does not comply with the requirements contained in paragraphs 2 to 6 of Part II of the Schedule:

Provided that this paragraph shall not apply in respect of a stationary machine that has previously been sold to a purchaser for use by him in agriculture.

(2) No person shall let on hire for use in agriculture in Northern Ireland any stationary machine that does not comply with paragraphs 2 to 7 of the said Part II.

(3) For the purposes of these regulations a stationary machine which is subject to a hire purchase contract shall be deemed to be sold and not to be let on hire.

Certificates of Exemption

6. Notwithstanding anything in these regulations, the Ministry may grant certificates exempting (for such periods as may be specified therein and subject to such conditions, if any, as may be so specified) particular cases or particular persons from the operation of the provisions of these regulations, and where any such conditions are imposed, an employer of a worker employed in agriculture, and a worker so employed, to whom any such certificate applies shall comply with those conditions.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland this 8th day of July 1966.

(L.S.) *A. McKelvie,*
Assistant Secretary.

(a) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1966, No. 164.

SCHEDULE

PART I

Regulation 2(2)

INTERPRETATION

1.—(1) In this Schedule—

"belt" includes any flexible material used to transmit power from one pulley to another;

"primary driving belt" means a belt for transmitting power from the driving pulley of a prime mover to any stationary machine (other than a prime mover);

"prime mover" means any internal combustion engine or electric motor, whether or not any such engine or motor is designed for stationary use only;

"run-on point" means the on-running point of contact of a belt with a pulley, or of a chain with a sprocket;

"shafting" means a shaft or system of shafts (including any couplings and clutches) used for transmitting power;

"stationary machine" means any machine (together with any transmission machinery used therewith) designed or adapted for stationary use only, and includes any prime mover which is so designed or adapted;

"striking gear" means a device by which a belt while in motion can be moved from a fast to a loose pulley, and vice versa.

(2) References in this Schedule to a worker coming in contact with any part of a stationary machine, or prime mover that is not a stationary machine, shall be construed as references to his coming in contact therewith either directly or by means of his clothes.

PART II

Regulation 3

REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO EMPLOYERS

Components of stationary machinery

2.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this paragraph every component of a stationary machine, being a component to which this paragraph applies, shall be so situated or so guarded as to protect a worker from coming in contact therewith.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing subparagraph a component, and any part of a component, shall be deemed to be so situated as aforesaid if it is more than 6 feet 6 inches from every floor, platform, staircase, fixed ladder or other place to which a worker has access in the course of his employment.

(3) The components of a stationary machine to which this paragraph applies are any shafting, pulley, flywheel, gearing, sprocket, chain, belt, or, as respects any fan, (in addition to any of the foregoing components) any wing or blade thereof:

Provided that this paragraph shall not apply to a shaft to which the Agriculture (Power Take-off) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1966(a) apply, and shall only apply to a primary driving belt if the prime mover and the stationary machine which it drives by means of such belt are both permanently fixed installations.

(4) Nothing in this paragraph shall require the guarding, elsewhere than at the run-on points, of any chain or belt moving at less than 30 feet per minute, or of any conveyor chain or belt for the movement of materials.

Primary driving belts

3.—(1) Whenever power is transmitted by means of a primary driving belt from a prime mover to a stationary machine (other than a prime mover) every run-on point both on the prime mover and on the stationary machine shall be so situated or so guarded as to protect a worker from coming in contact therewith.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing subparagraph a run-on point shall be deemed to be so situated as aforesaid if it is more than 6 feet 6 inches

(a) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1966, No. 163.