in connection with the operation of the provisions of the National Insurance Act (Northern Ireland), 1959; by virtue of Regulation 2 the present Regulations apply to awards, other than supplemental pensions, granted under the Royal Ulster Constabulary Pensions Orders on a person ceasing to be a member on or after 3rd April, 1961.

By virtue of section 6(2) of the Act of 1959 an employment may not be contracted out of the graduated National Insurance scheme unless persons in that employment qualify for equivalent pension benefits. The conditions to be satisfied if a retirement pension under an occupational pension scheme is to be treated as an equivalent pension benefit are set out in section 7(1); the pension, or part thereof, must (subject to retirement) start not later than insured pensionable age (paragraph (*a*)), must be payable for life unless terminated or suspended for prescribed causes (paragraphs (*b*) and (*c*)) and must be payable at not less than a specified rate (paragraph (*d*)). Regulation 3 secures that these conditions shall be satisfied in relation to a police pension; paragraph (1) provides that a part of such a pension (being a part payable at not less than the specified rate and referred to, in the Regulation, as the secured portion) shall not, except for a cause prescribed under section 7(1)(*c*), be forfeited or, save as respects a period before insured pensionable age, suspended (the expression "secured portion" is defined in Regulation 8(6)); paragraph (2) makes consequential amendments to Royal Ulster Constabulary Pensions Orders.

Regulation 4 provides for the reduction of certain awards under the said Orders where a payment in lieu of contributions under the Act of 1959 is also payable.

Regulations 5 and 6 provide that where account is taken of a period of service or employment for the purposes both of a police pension and of graduated retirement benefit under the National Insurance scheme the police pension shall be abated.

Regulation 7 provides that where account is taken of a period of service or employment for the purposes both of an ill-health pension, being a pension of which the secured portion is payable by virtue of Regulation 3(2)(*a*), and of some other police pension, the latter shall be abated by the secured portion of the former.

1961. No. 72 **[NC]**

DISEASES OF ANIMALS

Importation of Dogs, Cats and Vegetables

ORDER, DATED 24TH MARCH, 1961, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTION 18 OF THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1958(a).

The Ministry of Agriculture in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 18 of the Diseases of Animals Act (Northern Ireland), 1958, and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Order :

(a) 1958, c. 13.