amount of graduated contributions equal to one such contribution paid in each week of the period of his service in respect of a weekly payment of remuneration of £15; and for this purpose "service" has the meaning assigned to it by paragraph (2) of regulation 3 of these regulations.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Health and Local Government for Northern Ireland this 3rd day of February, nineteen hundred and sixty-one, in the presence of

(L.S.) *Ronald Green,*
Secretary.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

These regulations modify the Health Services Superannuation Scheme:—

(i) by limiting the right to surrender, commute or assign a pension in certain cases;

(ii) by limiting certain provisions for the reduction, termination or suspension of a pension; and

(iii) by entitling certain officers, who had elected to keep their former pension rights on transfer to the Health Service, to receive a pension after ten years' service at the age of 65 in the case of a man and 60 in the case of a woman.

These amendments are required in order to ensure that pensions under the Health Services Superannuation Scheme shall in all cases be at least equivalent to those provided under the National Insurance Graduated Pension Scheme. This will enable Health Service officers to be contracted out of that scheme.

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NATIONAL INSURANCE

REGULATIONS, DATED THE 3RD DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1961, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNDER SECTION 14 OF THE NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1959.

WHEREAS the Ministry of Finance has determined under sub-section (4) of section 66 of the National Insurance Act (Northern Ireland), 1946(a), that the Ministry of Health and Local Government is the appropriate department of the Government of Northern Ireland to make regulations under that sub-section modifying the scheme for the provision of pensions and other benefits established by regulations made under section 2 of the Local Government (Superannuation) Act (Northern Ireland), 1950;

(a) 1946. c. 23.