4. Notwithstanding any of the foregoing provisions of this Scheme, a person shall not be appointed to be an officer of the Authority except as provided in Section 57 of the Health Services Act (Northern Ireland), 1948, or in paragraph (*e*) of Section 20 of the Mental Health Act or in a Management Scheme made under Section 29 of the Health Services Act (Northern Ireland), 1948.

5. The General Scheme shall be read and shall operate as modified by this new General Scheme.

SEALED WITH THE COMMON SEAL of the Northern Ireland Hospitals Authority this twenty-third day of October, (L.S.) one thousand nine hundred and fifty-six.

W. McKinney
Marcia H. Mackie — Members of the Authority.

E. H. Jones — Secretary of the Authority.

General Medical and Pharmaceutical Services

REGULATIONS, DATED 27TH SEPTEMBER, 1956, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE, UNDER THE HEALTH SERVICES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1948.

1956. No. 150 [C]

The Ministry of Health and Local Government (in these Regulations referred to as "the Ministry"), in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Sections 5, 6, 10, 12, 13, 14, 74 and 80 of the Health Services Act (Northern Ireland), 1948, and in conjunction with the Ministry of Finance hereby makes the following Regulations:—

PART I

GENERAL

Short title and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Health Services (General Medical and Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1956 and shall be deemed to have effect from the 1st October, 1956.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the respective meanings hereby assigned to them:—

"the Act" means the Health Services Act (Northern Ireland), 1948;

"appliance" means an appliance listed in Part I of the Second Schedule and conforming to any specification which may, from time to time, be included in the Drug Tariff in respect of that appliance;

"assistant" means a medical practitioner who acts as an assistant to a practitioner;

"Board" means the Northern Ireland General Health Services Board;

"Central Medical Committee" means the Committee appointed under Regulation 12 of the Health Services (Services Committee) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1948(a);

"drugs" includes medicines, reagents and oxygen;

"Drug Tariff" means the statement referred to in Regulation 28.

"maternity medical services" means the provision under Section 38 of the Act of personal medical services during and following pregnancy and labour in respect of all conditions arising therefrom up to the end of a period of six weeks after the date of confinement;

"Medical Adviser" means a registered medical practitioner in the full-time employment of the Board;

"medical card" means a card issued to a person, in a form approved by the Ministry, for the purpose of enabling that person to obtain or establish a title to receive general medical services (other than maternity medical services), general dental services or supplementary eye services and shall include any card provided for a like purpose under the National Health Insurance (Medical Benefit) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1938(b);

"practitioner" means a registered medical practitioner in contract with the Board to provide general medical services;

"prescribed charge" means a charge made in accordance with the Health Services (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1952(c);

"quarter" means a period of three months ending on the 31st March, 30th June, 30th September or 31st December;

"reagent" means a reagent specified in Part II of the Second Schedule;

"training school" means a school approved by the Ministry of Home Affairs under Section 106 of the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland), 1950;

"treatment" means treatment as defined in paragraph 6 of the First Schedule;

"year" means a period from the 1st April, in any calendar year to the 31st March in the next succeeding calendar year.

(a) S.R. & O. (Northern Ireland), 1948, No. 164.
(b) S.R. & O. (Northern Ireland), 1938, No. 141.
(c) S.R. & O. (Northern Ireland), 1952, No. 85.

(2) In these Regulations the expression " chemist " means a person, firm or body corporate entitled to carry on the business of a pharmaceutical chemist under the Pharmacy and Poisons Acts (Northern Ireland), 1925 and 1945, who provides pharmaceutical services. The Regulations shall also apply (except so far as the context may otherwise require) to a person, firm or body corporate whose name is included in the pharmaceutical list for the purpose of supplying appliances only.

PART II

PRACTITIONERS

Terms of service for practitioners

3. The arrangements which the Board are required by Section 6 of the Act to make with medical practitioners for the provision of personal medical services shall incorporate the terms of service contained or referred to in Part I of the First Schedule.

Medical list

4.—(1) The Board shall prepare a list, to be called " the medical list ", of the medical practitioners who, having made an application in the form set out in Part II of the First Schedule, or a form to the like effect approved by the Ministry, are entitled to be included in the list.

(2) Subject to the provisions of the Health Services (Temporary Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland), 1950, any medical practitioner resident in Northern Ireland, not disqualified under the provisions of Section 16 of the Act, who wishes to be included in the medical list, shall be so included.

(3) The medical list shall contain:—

(*a*) the name of each practitioner and, if he practises in partnership, the name of each of his partners;

(*b*) the address of any surgery and other place or places of consultation, if any, at which the practitioner attends for the purpose of treating persons receiving general medical services;

(*c*) particulars of the days and hours at which the practitioner undertakes to be in attendance at each place;

(*d*) where the practitioner is acting as an assistant, the name and address of the principal;

and may, if the Board think fit, be so arranged as to show the area in which each practitioner will provide treatment.

(4) Copies of the medical list shall be available for inspection at the office of the Board and at such other places as appear to the Board to be convenient for informing all persons interested.

(5) The Board shall send a copy of the medical list to the Ministry, the Central Medical Committee, each Local Medical Committee, the Local Pharmaceutical Committee, each health authority, the Northern Ireland Hospitals Authority, the

Northern Ireland Tuberculosis Authority and any person under contract with the Board to provide pharmaceutical services, and, at intervals of not more than three months, shall notify them of any alteration made in the medical list:

Provided that in the case of persons providing pharmaceutical services and each health authority the Board may send to them the portions of the list which appear to the Board to concern them.

Application for inclusion in the medical list

5. Application for inclusion in the medical list shall be made by delivering or sending the application by post to the Board in the form set out in Part II of the First Schedule or in a form to the like effect approved by the Ministry.

PART III

METHOD OF OBTAINING GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES

Selection of practitioner

6.—(1) Application by a person (being a person ordinarily resident in Northern Ireland or to whom the provisions of the Health Services (Availability of Services) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1950(a), apply) for acceptance by a practitioner for inclusion in his list shall, subject to the provisions of paragraph (1) of Regulation 11, be made by delivery to the practitioner either of a medical card duly signed and dated or of a signed and dated application for acceptance on his list in such form as the Board may direct.

(2) Application by a person to a practitioner for acceptance as a temporary resident shall be made in writing on a form supplied by the Board and provided by the practitioner.

Assignment of persons to practitioners

7.—(1) If a person, having been refused by a practitioner to whom he has applied for acceptance, gives notice to the Board that he desires to be assigned to a practitioner, the Board shall assign him to such practitioner as they think fit, and, subject to the discretion of the Board, such practitioner shall not, within a period of three months from the date of the assignment, be entitled to have him removed from his list unless the person has meanwhile applied to and been accepted by another practitioner in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 11.

(2) In making any assignment, the Board shall have regard to the distance between the residence of the person and the various practitioners on the medical list, and to such other circumstances as appear to be relevant.

(3) The Board shall have power, subject to the terms of proviso (iii) to sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 26 of Part I of the First Schedule, to exempt from liability to have persons assigned to him any practitioner who applies to the Board for that purpose.

(a) S.R. & O. (Northern Ireland), 1950, No. 66.

(4) The Board may authorise their chairman or any other member or members to exercise the power of assignment under this Regulation.

Provision of treatment in emergencies

8.—(1) If any person requires treatment immediately, owing to an accident or other emergency, it shall be the duty of any practitioner engaging in general medical services, who is summoned and is available or at whose surgery the person attends, to give any treatment immediately necessary unless a practitioner who is responsible for the person's treatment under these Regulations, or his partner, deputy or assistant is available. The treatment shall be given without charge unless the person or anyone acting on his behalf has specifically asked for treatment under private arrangements.

(2) The Board shall have power on application by a practitioner, subject to the terms of proviso (iii) to sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 26 of Part I of the First Schedule, to exempt him, on the ground of age or infirmity or where he is exempted from liability to have persons assigned to him under paragraph (3) of Regulation 7, from any liability for emergency night calls to persons not on his list.

Limitation of practitioners' lists

9.—(1) The number of persons whose names may be placed on the list of a practitioner or on the combined lists of a partnership of practitioners (hereinafter referred to as the "permitted maximum") shall be limited as follows:—

(*a*) in the case of a practitioner carrying on a practice otherwise than in partnership, the number of persons shall not exceed 3,500;

(*b*) in the case of two or more practitioners carrying on practice in partnership, the number on the list of any one of such practitioners shall not exceed 4,500 and the average of the numbers on the lists of both or all the partners shall not exceed 3,500;

(*c*) where a practitioner or a partnership of practitioners is authorised by the Board under these Regulations to employ one, or more than one, permanent assistant, the additional number of persons for whose treatment the practitioner or practitioners may be responsible shall not exceed 2,000 in respect of each such assistant;

(*d*) where a practitioner employs an assistant who is also included in the Board's list as an independent practitioner, the total number on the combined lists shall not exceed 5,500, and, where two or more such assistants are employed, the total number on the combined lists shall not exceed an additional 2,000 in respect of each such additional assistant:

Provided that—

(i) where notification has been received by the Board under sub-paragraph (3) of paragraph 14 of Part I of the First Schedule of