General Medical and Pharmacuetical Services

REGULATIONS, DATED 17TH AUGUST, 1949, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNDER THE HEALTH SERVICES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1948.

1949. No. 143

The Ministry of Health and Local Government for Northern Ireland, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by sections six, twelve, and thirteen of the Health Services Act (Northern Ireland), 1948, hereby makes the following Regulations, that it to say :—

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Health Services (General Medical and Pharmaceutical Services) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1949, and shall be construed as one with the Health Services (General Medical and Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1948 (**a**), (hereinafter referred to as the Principal Regulations) and the Health Services (General Medical and Pharmaceutical) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1948, (**b**).

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1921, shall apply for the purpose of the interpretation of these Regulations in like manner as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of the Parliament of Northern Ireland.

2. The following paragraph shall be substituted for paragraph (1) of Regulation 9 of the Principal Regulations :—

" (1) The number of persons whose names may be placed on the list of a practitioner 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 4,000 ;

(*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 5,000, and the average of the numbers on the lists of both or all the partners shall not exceed 4,000 ;

(*c*) where a practitioner or a partnership of practitioners is authorised 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 2,400 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

(**a**) S. R. & O. (N.I.) 1948, No. 147.
(**b**) S. R. & O. (N.I.) 1948, No. 260.

exceed 6,400, and, where two or more such assistants are employed, the total number on the combined lists shall not exceed an additional 2,400 in respect of each such additional assistant :

Provided that —

(i) where notification is received by the Board under paragraph 8 (3) of Part I of the First Schedule to these Regulations of intention to employ a permanent assistant, and the circumstances of the employment are, in the opinion of the Board, such as to warrant some restriction of the maximum numbers which would otherwise be permissible upon the list of the practitioner or practitioners concerned, the Board, after consultation with the Central Medical Committee, may determine a lesser number as the appropriate maximum addition in respect of that assistant, having regard to the circumstances of the practice ;

(ii) the imposition of a limit of numbers shall not restrict a practitioner from accepting persons who apply to him as temporary residents or who are assigned to him as a temporary arrangement under Regulation 12, or exempt him from any liability to give treatment immediately required to any person who applies for acceptance, or to give emergency treatment under Regulation 8."

3. The following Regulation shall be substituted for Regulation 20 of the Principal Regulations :—

"**20.**—(1) Where the Board have required a medical practitioner to supply all requisite drugs and prescribed appliances to a person on his list, the practitioner may elect to be paid either on the basis of the Drug Tariff for all such drugs and appliances actually supplied, or

(*a*) by capitation fee in respect of each person to whom he is required to supply drugs and prescribed appliances, such capitation fee to be determined by the Ministry after consultation with such organisation as may be recognised by the Minister as representing the medical profession, and

(*b*) on the basis of the Drug Tariff for such drugs and appliances only as may be scheduled in a special list drawn up by the Board in consultation with the Ministry,

and payment shall be made by the Board accordingly :