obtaining a further certificate when required so to do, and such disqualification shall be for such number of days (beginning not earlier than that day on which the failure occurs) as may be decided by the determining authority, subject to the qualification that in the event of her being confined after such failure she shall not by reason of such failure be so disqualified for the day on which the confinement occurs or any day thereafter.

Certificates given abroad.

5. For the purpose of paragraph (*c*) of subsection (1) of section 15 of the Act (which paragraph relates to the definition of a qualified practitioner), the expression "qualified practitioner" shall, in relation to certificates given in respect of women outside the United Kingdom, include a medical practitioner or a midwife having qualifications which, in the opinion of the Ministry, correspond to the qualifications of a registered medical practitioner or a certified midwife respectively.

Fractions of a penny.

6. Where any sums payable by way of attendance allowance or maternity allowance would, apart from this regulation, include a fraction of a penny, that fraction shall be disregarded if it is less than a halfpenny and shall be treated as a penny if it is a halfpenny or more.

Given under the Official Seal of the National Insurance Joint Authority this 21st day of June, nineteen hundred and forty-eight.

(L.S.)

C. D. Curtis,
Secretary,
National Insurance Joint Authority.

Medical Certification

REGULATIONS, DATED 24TH JUNE, 1948, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL INSURANCE UNDER THE NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1946.

Amended SR&O (1949 (N.I.) 1)48 1948. No. 256

The Ministry of Labour and National Insurance, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 40 of the National Insurance Act (Northern Ireland), 1946, and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations :—

Citation, commencement and interpretation.

1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the National Insurance (Medical Certification) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1948, and shall come into operation on the 24th June, 1948.

(2) In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires—

" the Act " means the National Insurance Act (Northern Ireland), 1946 ;

" the Ministry " means the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance for Northern Ireland ;

" the determining authority " means, as the case may require, an insurance officer or a local tribunal appointed or constituted in accordance with the National Insurance (Determination of Claims and Questions) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1948, or an umpire or deputy umpire appointed by the Governor of Northern Ireland for the purposes of the Act ;

" incapacity " means incapacity by reason of which a person is rendered incapable of work ;

and other expressions have the same meanings as in the Act.

(3) References in these regulations to any enactment or regulations shall include a reference to such enactment or regulations as amended by any subsequent enactment, order or regulations.

(4) The Interpretation Act, 1921, applies to the interpretation of these regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of the Parliament of Northern Ireland.

(5) For the purpose of any provision of these regulations providing that any certificate shall be in a form as set out in the schedule to these regulations, any reference to such form shall include a reference to any such other form substantially to the like effect as the Ministry may from time to time approve.

Certificates of incapacity and confinement.

2.—(1) Every person claiming sickness benefit shall furnish evidence of incapacity, in respect of the days for which the claim is made, by means of a certificate given by a registered medical practitioner in accordance with the rules for medical certification set out in Part I of the schedule to these regulations in the form appropriate to the circumstances of the case, as set out in that Part, or by such other means as the determining authority may accept as sufficient in the circumstances of any particular case or class of cases.

(2) Every woman by whom or on whose behalf a claim for maternity benefit is made shall furnish evidence, that she has been or that it is to be expected that she will be confined, by means of a certificate given in accordance with the rules for certification set out in Part II of the said schedule on the appropriate form as set out in that Part, or by means of such other certificate as the determining authority may accept as sufficient in the circumstances of any particular case or class of cases.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance for Northern Ireland this 24th day of June, 1948, in the presence of

(L.S.)

William Allen,
Assistant Secretary to the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance for Northern Ireland.

SCHEDULE

PART I—INCAPACITY

A. Rules for Medical Certification

1. In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires—

"certificate" means a certificate of incapacity;

"claimant" means the person in respect of whom a certificate is given;

"practitioner" means a registered medical practitioner;

"the Board" means the Northern Ireland General Health Services Board constituted in accordance with the provisions of the Health Services Act (Northern Ireland), 1948.

2. Every certificate shall be in writing in ink or other indelible substance, and shall contain the following particulars:—

(*a*) the claimant's name;
(*b*) the date of the examination on which the certificate is based;
(*c*) a concise statement of the disease or disablement by which the claimant is, in the practitioner's opinion, at the time rendered incapable of work;
(*d*) the date on which the certificate is given;
(*e*) the address of the practitioner.

3. The statement of the incapacitating disease or disablement in the certificate shall specify the cause of incapacity as precisely as the practitioner's knowledge of the claimant's condition at the time of the examination permits: provided that, if in the practitioner's opinion a disclosure to the claimant of the precise cause would be prejudicial to his well-being, the certificate may contain a less precise statement.

4. Every certificate must have been given on a date not more than one day later than the date of the examination upon which it is based, and no further certificate based on the same examination shall be furnished other than a certificate to replace an original certificate which has been lost or mislaid, but in that case the form shall be clearly marked "duplicate".

5. Where the claimant has been accepted on the list of a practitioner providing general medical services under the Health Services Act (Northern Ireland), 1948, and is being attended by such a practitioner, or is receiving treatment on the advice of such a practitioner at any hospital or similar institution as an out-patient, the certificate shall be on a form supplied by the Board for the purpose and shall be signed by that practitioner.

6. Where the claimant is being attended by any other practitioner the certificate shall be either on a form supplied by the Board, or on such other form substantially to the like effect as the determining authority may accept, and shall be signed by such other practitioner.

7. Except in any case to which the provisions of rule 11 or 12 apply, a certificate shall be furnished in every contribution week during the continuance of the incapacity.

8. Where the claim is the first claim for sickness benefit made by the claimant after he has become or again become incapable of work, the certificate shall be in the form of a first certificate.