2. A person desiring to appeal under these rules shall give notice, in writing, to the manager within four weeks of the date on which he is notified of the decision against which he desires to appeal, but the manager may, if he thinks fit, extend the time within which notice of appeal must be given under this rule.

3. On receipt of such notice, the manager shall inform the appellant of the name of some suitable person to act as arbitrator, and the appeal shall be decided by such arbitrator, unless within 14 days the appellant elects to nominate another arbitrator and informs the manager of the name and address of the person so nominated, in which case the two arbitrators shall agree upon an umpire, or, in the event of failure to agree, an umpire shall be chosen by lot, and the appeal shall be decided by the arbitrators and umpire.

4. The arbitrators and umpire shall not be officers of the society or branch or persons directly or indirectly interested in the funds of the society or branch.

5. A hearing shall take place before the arbitrator or arbitrators and umpire in every case, unless the parties otherwise agree in writing. Such hearing shall be held at a place, to be fixed by the arbitrator or by the umpire, within reasonable proximity and accessibility to the appellant. A convenient time shall be arranged, and the manager shall give not less than five days' notice in writing to the appellant of the date and place of hearing. The appellant shall be entitled to be accompanied at the hearing by one other person, in addition to any witnesses whom he may call. The award of the arbitrator or umpire shall be communicated by the manager to the appellant within 14 days of the date of the hearing.

6. The society or branch shall in the first instance pay all the expenses of the arbitration, other than the fee (if any) payable to the arbitrator nominated by the member ; and the expenses of the parties shall, in the first instance, be borne by the parties themselves. The award may, however, direct the unsuccessful party to pay all or any part of the expense of the arbitration and of the other party's expenses, except that the sum which the member is so directed to pay shall not exceed 10s. 0d. in all, or, in any case in which the arbitrator certifies that the member's case was clearly frivolous or vexatious, 20s. 0d.

Contributory Pensions

REGULATIONS, DATED 31ST JANUARY, 1947, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL INSURANCE, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE, UNDER THE NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1946.

1947 No. 27

The Ministry of Labour and National Insurance, acting in conjunction with the Ministry of Finance, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 66 of the National Insurance Act (Northern Ireland), 1946, and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations :—

1. These regulations may be cited as the National Insurance (Increase of Contributory Pensions) Amendment Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1947, and shall be read as one with the National Insurance (Increase of Contributory Pensions) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1946 (hereinafter referred to as " the principal regulations ").

2. In the proviso to paragraph (2) of regulation 9 of the principal regulations (which regulation contains provisions relating to retirement) a reference to the 30th September, 1947, shall be substituted for the references in paragraph (*a*) thereof to the 31st December, 1946, and the 31st January, 1947, wherever those dates occur.