characters and in such position as to be conveniently read by the persons employed in the factory, shall be in the form N.I. 954, set out in the Schedule to this Order.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland this third day of December, in the year one thousand nine hundred and forty-five, in the presence of

(L.S.) *F. C. S. Moore,*
Assistant Secretary.

SCHEDULE.

NOTE :—The Form N.I. 954, constituting the Schedule, is not printed in this Volume but may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, Belfast.

Health, Safety and Welfare.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS, DATED 12TH DAY OF APRIL, 1945, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR UNDER SECTIONS 47 AND 65 OF THE FACTORIES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1938.

1945 No. 41

The Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland (hereinafter referred to as " the Ministry "), in pursuance of the powers conferred upon it by Sections 47 and 65 of the Factories Act (Northern Ireland), 1938 (hereinafter referred to as " the Act "), and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Special Regulations :—

PART I.

Preliminary

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Electric Accumulator Special Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1945, and shall come into force on the 1st day of May, 1945.

(2) The Regulations made by the Secretary of State on the 21st November, 1903, under Section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901 (**a**), for the Manufacture of Electric Accumulators (**b**), are hereby revoked so far as they relate to Northern Ireland.

2.—These Regulations shall apply to all factories in which is carried on the manufacture or repair of electric accumulators or parts thereof containing lead or any lead compound :

Provided that these Regulations shall not apply to the repair on the premises of any accumulator forming part of a stationary battery.

(**a**) 1 Edw. 7, c. 22. (**b**) S. R. & O. 1903, No. 1004.

3.—In these Regulations the following expressions * have the meanings hereby assigned to them respectively, that is to say :—

Lead process means the melting of lead or any material containing lead, casting, pasting, lead burning, or any other work involving the use, movement or manipulation of, or contact with, any oxide of lead, including trimming, or any other abrading or cutting of pasted plates.

Manipulation of raw oxide of lead means any process involving any manipulation or movement of raw oxide of lead other than its conveyance in a receptacle or by means of an implement from one operation to another.

Chief inspector has the same meaning as in the Act.

Surgeon means the examining surgeon appointed under Section 132 of the Act, for the district in which the factory is situated, or a duly qualified medical practitioner appointed by written certificate of the *chief inspector*, which appointment shall be subject to such conditions as may be specified in that certificate.

Suspension means suspension from employment in any *lead process* by written certificate in the Health Register signed by the *surgeon.*

Part II.

Duties of Occupiers

4.—It shall be the duty of the occupier of every factory to which these Regulations apply to observe this Part of these Regulations.

5.—(1) A person under eighteen years of age shall not be employed in any *lead process.*

(2) A woman or a person under eighteen years of age shall not be employed in any room in which the *manipulation of raw oxide of lead* or pasting is carried on.

6.—Each of the following processes shall be carried on in such a manner and under such conditions as to secure effectual separation from one another, and from any other process :—

(*a*) *manipulation of raw oxide of lead* ;
(*b*) pasting ;
(*c*) drying of pasted plates ;
(*d*) formation, with lead burning (" tacking ") necessarily carried on in connection therewith ;
(*e*) melting down of pasted plates.

7.—In every room in which a *lead process* is carried on, there shall be allowed for each person employed at any time in the room, at least 500 cubic feet of air space, and in computing this air space no height over 12 feet shall be taken into account.

* Printed throughout in italics.

8.—Every workroom shall be provided with inlets and outlets of adequate size so placed and used as to secure and maintain efficient ventilation in all parts of the room.

9.—In any room in which pasting is carried on, the distance between the centre of the working position of any person employed in pasting and that of the nearest person similarly employed shall not be less than 5 feet.

10.—The following processes shall not be carried on without an efficient exhaust draught provided and maintained by mechanical means as near as possible to the point of origin of any dust or fume so as to prevent such dust or fume from entering the air of any workroom :—

(*a*) melting of lead or any material containing lead ;

(*b*) *manipulation of raw oxide of lead*, unless done in an enclosed apparatus so as to prevent the escape of dust into any workroom ;

(*c*) pasting ;

(*d*) trimming, brushing, filing or any other abrading or cutting of pasted plates giving rise to dust ;

(*e*) lead burning other than —

(i) " tacking " in the formation room ;

(ii) chemical burning for the making of lead linings for cell cases necessarily carried on in such a manner that the application of an exhaust draught is impracticable :

Provided that at pots containing molten lead the exhaust draught may be affected by natural means, but shall not be deemed to be efficient unless it produces through the working opening over the pot an air velocity measured at any point across the plane of the opening of at least 120 linear feet per minute.

11.—The products of combustion resulting from the heating of any melting pot shall not be allowed to escape into the air of any workroom.

12.—A suitable receptacle shall be provided and used for dross as it is removed from every lead melting pot ; while in the workroom such receptacle shall be kept covered by means of a tightly fitting cover, except when dross is being deposited therein, when an efficient exhaust draught shall be applied to the receptacle so as to prevent any dust from entering the air of the workroom.

13.—In every room in which a *lead process* is carried on there shall be provided sufficient and suitable receptacles in which old plates and waste material likely to give rise to dust shall be deposited.

14.—(1) The floor of every room in which a *lead process* is carried on shall be —

(*a*) constructed of cement or similar material so as to be smooth and impervious to water ;

(*b*) maintained in sound condition ;

(*c*) kept free from obstruction and from articles or materials not immediately required in the process ;

(*d*) cleansed throughout daily.

(2) Such cleansing as aforesaid shall, where *manipulation of raw oxide of lead* or pasting is carried on, include swilling with water or thorough washing by means of a hosepipe, and in any other room, except a grid casting room, shall be performed after thorough spraying with water at a time when no other work is being done in the room.

15.—The floor of every room in which the *manipulation of raw oxide of lead*, pasting, or trimming cutting or abrading of pasted plates is carried on shall be kept constantly wet while work is being done.

16.—(1) Every work-bench at which a *lead process* is carried on shall —

(*a*) have a smooth surface and be maintained in a sound condition ;

(*b*) be kept free from articles or materials not immediately required in the process ;

(*c*) be cleansed daily.

(2) Except in the case of a casting room, such cleansing as aforesaid shall be performed —

(*a*) by means of an efficient suction cleaning apparatus or by a wet method ;

(*b*) at a time when no other work is being done at the work-bench.

17.—Every work-bench used in the process of pasting shall be —

(*a*) covered throughout with sheet lead or other impervious material ;

(*b*) provided with raised edges ;

(*c*) kept constantly wet while pasting is being carried on thereat.

18.—The racks and shelves in a drying room shall be of open-work construction, and shall not exceed 8 feet in height and 2 feet in overall width (or if set or drawn from both sides, 4 feet in overall width). Such racks and shelves shall be kept clean either by means of an efficient suction cleaning apparatus or by a wet method.

19.—(1) Every person employed in a *lead process* shall be examined by the *surgeon* within seven days of the date of first employment and