Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland this 19th day of July, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty, in the presence of

(L.S.) *G. W. Brownell,*
Assistant Secretary.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.

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Medical Benefit.

THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE (MEDICAL BENEFIT) AMENDMENT REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1940, DATED JUNE 14, 1940, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR FOR NORTHERN IRELAND UNDER THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE ACTS (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1936 TO 1939.

1940. No. 60.

The Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by the National Health Insurance Acts (Northern Ireland), 1936 to 1939, and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations :—

1.—These regulations may be cited as the National Health Insurance (Medical Benefit) Amendment Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1940, and shall be read as one with the National Health Insurance (Medical Benefit) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1938 (hereinafter referred to as the " principal regulations "), and the National Health Insurance (Medical Benefit) Amendment Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1939, and shall have effect as from the commencement of the period of the present emergency.

2.—In these regulations the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them :—

" Absentee practitioner " means a practitioner who has for the time being ceased, owing to his absence on emergency service, to be able to give treatment personally and who has signified his acceptance of a mutual scheme for the protection of the practices of practitioners absent on emergency service.

" Acting practitioner " means an insurance practitioner who, not being on emergency service, has signified his acceptance of a mutual scheme for the protection of the practices of absentee practitioners,

" Emergency service " means whole-time service, during the period of the present emergency, in any of the Naval, Military or Air Forces of the Crown, or in whole-time employment during that period in civil defence service or otherwise which the Ministry considers may properly be treated for the purposes of these regulations in the same manner as service in those Forces.

" Period of the present emergency " has the meaning assigned to it in Section 17 of the National Health Insurance and Contributory Pensions (Emergency Provisions) Act, 1939, that is to say, the period beginning with the 3rd September, 1939, and ending with such date as His Majesty may by order in Council declare to be the date on which the emergency that was the occasion of the passing of the National Health Insurance and Contributory Pensions (Emergency Provisions) Act, 1939, came to an end.

" Permanent list " means the list prepared under regulation 14 of the principal regulations of persons who had been accepted by an insurance practitioner or who had been assigned to him in accordance with the principal regulations and for whose treatment the practitioner was responsible at the date of the commencement of the period of the present emergency.

" Temporary list " means the list of persons accepted by or assigned to an insurance practitioner in accordance with the provisions of the principal regulations since the date of the commencement of the period of the present emergency.

3.—Notwithstanding anything in the principal regulations the following provisions shall have effect for the period of the present emergency :—

(*a*) The name of an insured person shall not be removed from the permanent list of an absentee practitioner unless that person has died, ceased to be entitled to medical benefit, removed outside the district within which that practitioner has undertaken to provide treatment, or transferred to a practitioner who is not an acting practitioner.

(*b*) A person accepted by or assigned to any insurance practitioner after the commencement of the period of the present emergency shall be placed upon the temporary list of that practitioner.

(*c*) An insured person on the list of an absentee practitioner may make application for acceptance by another insurance practitioner and if accepted by, or assigned to, such practitioner shall be entitled to obtain treatment from him forthwith.