

of the said Act (of which Notice has already been published) for including amongst the persons employed within the meaning of Part I. of the said Act any person engaged in the class of employment aforesaid if the person so engaged is mainly dependent for his livelihood on the earnings derived by him from employment as a sub-postmaster, and renders on the average not less than 18 hours personal service in each week in that capacity.

These combined Provisional Special Orders came into operation on 10th October 1913, and copies of them can be purchased, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons Ltd., Fetter Lane, London, E.C., and 54 St. Mary Street, Cardiff; or Clerk-in-Charge, Publications Department, H.M. Stationery Office, 23 Forth Street, Edinburgh; or Messrs. E. Ponsonby Ltd., 116 Grafton Street, Dublin.

Dated this 11th day of October 1913.

NATIONAL INSURANCE.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.

The National Health Insurance (Arrears) Order, 1913, dated 11th October, 1913, made by the National Health Insurance Joint Committee under Section 78 of the National Insurance Act, 1911 (1 & 2 Geo. 5, c. 55).

Whereas by Section 78 of the National Insurance Act, 1911 (in this Order called "the principal Act"), it is amongst other things enacted that if any difficulty arises with respect to bringing into operation Part I. of the principal Act, the Insurance Commissioners, with the consent of the Treasury, may by Order do anything which appears to them necessary or expedient for bringing that part of the principal Act into operation, and that any such Order may modify the provisions of the principal Act so far as may appear necessary or expedient for carrying the Order into effect:

And whereas by sub-section (2) of Section 43 of the National Insurance Act, 1913 (in this Order called "the amending Act"), it is enacted that the amending Act shall be deemed to be part of Part I. of the principal Act except as to any provisions superseding or amending any provisions of Part III. of the principal Act:

And whereas under the National Insurance (Joint Committee) Regulations, 1912 and 1913, the power of making Orders under Section 78 of the principal Act relating to matters arising under the provisions of Section 10 of that Act and Section 8 of the amending Act is vested in the National Health Insurance Joint Committee acting alone:

And whereas by Section 10 of the principal Act it is amongst other things provided that where an insured person being a member of an Approved Society is in arrear with his weekly contributions as therein specified he shall be liable to a reduction, postponement or suspension of benefits, but that in calculating arrears of contributions, no account shall be taken of any arrears accruing in the case of an employed contributor

during the first twelve months after the commencement of the principal Act:

And whereas by Section 8 of the amending Act (which section comes into operation on the 12th day of January, 1914) it is provided that, subject to the provisions of sub-section 4 of Section 10 of the principal Act, insured persons who are in arrear shall be liable to such reduction, postponement, or suspension of benefits as may be prescribed, so however that any such reduction, postponement, or suspension of benefit shall be approximately equivalent to the value of the loss occasioned by the failure to pay the contributions in arrear, and that the provisions of the principal Act regulating the reduction, postponement, and suspension of benefits on account of arrears shall cease to have effect, and that the Regulations of the Insurance Commissioners may prescribe the time within which, and the conditions under which, arrears may be paid up:

And whereas in view of the provisions of Section 8 of the amending Act, it is necessary and expedient, for the purpose of bringing into operation Part I. of the principal Act as amended by the amending Act, that the arrears of employed contributors being members of Approved Societies should not operate to reduce, postpone or suspend benefits, except in accordance with the provisions of Section 8 of the amending Act, and that provision should be made with regard to the reduction, postponement or suspension of benefits in the case of voluntary contributors who are members of Approved Societies and who are in arrears:

And whereas by reason of the premises a difficulty within the meaning of Section 78 has arisen with respect to the bringing into operation of Part I. of the principal Act as amended by the amending Act:

Now, therefore, the National Health Insurance Joint Committee, in pursuance of the powers conferred on them by the principal Act and the amending Act, and all other powers enabling them in that behalf, with the consent of the Treasury, hereby order as follows:—

1. This Order shall have effect until the 12th day of January, 1914.

2. Notwithstanding anything in Section 10 of the principal Act, the benefits of an employed contributor being a member of an Approved Society shall not, so long as this Order is operative, be reduced, postponed or suspended on account of arrears.

3. Where at any time before the 13th day of October, 1913, the benefits of a voluntary contributor being a member of an Approved Society have been reduced, postponed or suspended on account of arrears, they shall be deemed to have been reduced, postponed or suspended in accordance with the provisions of the principal Act, if, subject to the provisions of sub-section (4) of Section 10 of the principal Act, such reduction, postponement or suspension was based upon the total number of weekly contributions in respect of which he was actually in arrear at the expiration of the quarter immediately preceding the date at which the reduction, postponement or suspension took effect, any arrears in the case of a person entering insurance after the expiration of the first week of a quarter which accrued during that quarter being disregarded.