

Act") it is amongst other things provided that if any difficulty arises in bringing Part I of the Act into operation, the Insurance Commissioners, with the consent of the Treasury, may by Order make any appointment and do anything which appears to them necessary or expedient for bringing Part I of the Act into operation, and any such Order may modify the provisions of the Act so far as may appear necessary or desirable for carrying the Order into effect:

And whereas by virtue of sections 80, 81 and 82 of the Act respectively the Scottish Insurance Commissioners, the Irish Insurance Commissioners, and the Welsh Insurance Commissioners for the purpose of carrying Part I of the Act into effect in Scotland, Ireland, and Wales respectively, have the like powers and duties as are by the Act imposed on the Insurance Commissioners:

And whereas by the National Insurance (Joint Committee) Regulations, 1912, it is amongst other things provided that the National Health Insurance Joint Committee shall exercise and perform either alone or jointly with the several bodies of Commissioners as the case may require such of the powers and duties of those bodies under section 78 of the Act as may be necessary to enable the Joint Committee to exercise and perform the several powers and duties of the Joint Committee under the Act and those Regulations, and that the Joint Committee may, under subsection (2) of section 83 of the Act make such financial adjustments as may be necessary between the several funds under the control and management of the several bodies of Commissioners:

And whereas by virtue of section 23 of the Act the Insurance Commissioners have power to approve any society for the purposes of Part I of the Act, and by the National Insurance (Joint Committee) Regulations, 1912, it is provided that the National Health Insurance Joint Committee alone shall exercise the power of approving for the purposes aforesaid any society and any separate section of a society which has among its members insured persons resident in more than one part of the United Kingdom.

And whereas under the above-mentioned provisions of the Act and the said Regulations a society is not entitled to accept as a member for the purposes of Part I of the Act an insured person who is resident in some part of the United Kingdom other than that for which it has been approved:

And whereas both before and immediately after the commencement of the Act many insured persons owing to a misapprehension of the provisions of the Act and the said Regulations purported to become members of societies which had not been approved for that part of the United Kingdom in which such insured persons were then respectively resident:

And whereas it is apprehended that the admission of any such person as aforesaid to membership in the society was wholly inoperative, and that after the prescribed time for joining an approved society had elapsed such person became a deposit contributor, and that any sums paid by the society in respect of his benefits or the administration of his benefits were improperly paid:

And whereas it is inequitable that in the circumstances aforesaid such person should be

deprived of the advantage of joining an approved society within the prescribed time, and by reason of the premises a difficulty has arisen within the meaning of section 78 aforesaid:

Now, therefore, the National Health Insurance Joint Committee, acting jointly with the Insurance Commissioners, the Scottish Insurance Commissioners, the Irish Insurance Commissioners, and the Welsh Insurance Commissioners, in pursuance of the powers conferred on them by the Act and by the National Insurance (Joint Committee) Regulations, 1912, and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, with the consent of the Treasury, hereby order as follows:—

1. Where owing to a misapprehension of the provisions of the Act and of the said recited Regulations, or otherwise, an insured person has at any time before the date of this Order purported to become a member, for the purposes of Part I of the Act, of a society which was not approved for that part of the United Kingdom in which he was then resident, and he has not before the date aforesaid received notice either from the society or from the Insurance Commissioners for that part of the United Kingdom that he is not a member of the society, he shall be deemed to have been validly admitted to membership of that society for the purposes aforesaid.

2.—(1.) Any sums paid by a society in respect of the benefits or the administration of benefits of an insured person who under the provisions of this Order is deemed to have become a member of the society shall be deemed to have been as properly paid as if the person had in fact become a member of the society.

(2.) Any sums credited or debited to a society in respect of such insured person as aforesaid in the National Health Insurance Fund of the part of the United Kingdom for which the society is approved shall be deemed to have been as properly credited or debited, as the case may be, as if the insured person had been a member of the society and had been resident in that part of the United Kingdom.

3. This Order may be cited as the National Health Insurance (Membership of Approved Societies) Order, 1913

Given under the Seal of Office of the National Health Insurance Joint Committee this 16th day of September, in the year one thousand nine hundred and thirteen.

*R. W. Harris,*

Clerk to the National Health Insurance Joint Committee.

Given under the Seal of Office of the Insurance Commissioners this 26th day of September, in the year one thousand nine hundred and thirteen.

*John Anderson,*

Secretary to the Insurance Commissioners.

Given under the Seal of Office of the Scottish Insurance Commissioners this 20th day of September, in the year one thousand nine hundred and thirteen.

*H. L. F. Fraser,*

Assistant Secretary to the Scottish Insurance Commissioners, and authorised by them to act on behalf of the Secretary.