Given under the Official Seal of the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland this 14th day of June, in the year One thousand nine hundred and twenty-nine.

G. C. Duggan,

Assistant Secretary to the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland.

Mercantile Marine.

THE CONTRIBUTORY PENSIONS (MERCANTILE MARINE) AMENDMENT ORDER (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1929, DATED JANUARY 31ST, 1929, MADE BY THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE JOINT COMMITTEE AND THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR FOR NORTHERN IRELAND, ACTING JOINTLY AND IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND, UNDER SECTION 17 OF THE WIDOWS', ORPHANS' AND OLD AGE CONTRIBUTORY PENSIONS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1925 (15 & 16 GEO. 5, C. 23), RELATING TO SEAMEN.

1929. No. 30.

The National Health Insurance Joint Committee and the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland acting jointly in pursuance of the powers conferred on them by Section 17 of the Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act (Northern Ireland), 1925, and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, in conjunction with the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland and after consultation with the Board ot Trade, hereby make the following special Order :—

1. This Order may be cited as the Contributory Pensions (Mercantile Marine) Amendment Order (Northern Ireland), 1929, and shall be read as one with the Contributory Pensions (Mercantile Marine) Order (Northern Ireland), 1926 (hereinafter referred to as the "principal Order").

2. Article 2 of the principal Order shall have effect and shall be deemed always to have had effect as if the following provisions were added at the end of paragraph (1) thereof :—

"'The Ministry' means the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland;

This Order having lain before both Houses of Parliament for 10 days in accordance with Section 4 (1) of the Rules Publication Act (Northern Ireland), 1925 duly came into force.

'Half-year' means any period in respect of which contribution cards may be issued under any Regulations relating to the Collection of Contributions made under the Insurance Act and for the time being in force."

3. The principal Order shall have effect and shall be deemed always to have had effect as if the following Articles were added after Article 5 thereof :—

"6. For the purposes of Sections 5 and 8 of the Pensions Act, contributions paid in respect of a master or seaman at the time prescribed in the Regulations for the time being in force relating to the payment of contributions shall be deemed to have been paid week by week in the course of the period in respect of which they were paid.

7. In calculating the periods of one month and two months respectively mentioned in sub-section (1) of Section 28 of the Pensions Act, no account shall be taken of any period during which the claimant is continuously absent from Northern Ireland by reason of serving on a ship, and for the purposes of this provision separate periods of absence shall be treated as if the absence had been continuous unless in the meantime there had elapsed a period of two weeks.

8.—(1) If a master or seaman whose permanent place of residence is in the Irish Free State or the Isle of Man has served on a ship and is insured for the purposes of the Pensions Act in respect of such service, he may, if he served on a foreign-going ship, within six months after the termination of a voyage, and in any other case within six months after the termination of a half-year, make application to the Ministry for the return of the contributions paid by him under that Act in respect of service during that voyage or half year, and if he satisfies the Ministry as to his permanent place of residence and furnishes such other particulars as the Ministry may require, the Ministry shall repay to him a sum equal to the amount of those contributions.

(2) Where contributions have been refunded to a master or seaman under this Article, no widow's or orphan's pension shall be payable in respect of his insurance within a period of four years, and no old age pension shall be payable to him under or by virtue of the Pensions Act within a period of ten years, from the termination of the last voyage or half year as the case may be, in respect of which contributions were refunded."

4. As from the 2nd day of January, 1928, Part II of the First Schedule to the Pensions Act shall in its application to masters

and seamen employed on foreign-going ships be read and have effect as if the specified rates of contributions per week and the amounts payable by the employer were each reduced by 1½d.

Given under the Official Seal of the National Health Insurance Joint Committee this thirty-first day of January, in the year one thousand nine hundred and twenty-nine.

(L.S.) (Signed) *H. W. Vaughan Williams,*
Secretary to the National Health Insurance Joint Committee.

Given under the Official Seal of the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland this thirty-first day of January, in the year one thousand nine hundred and twenty-nine.

(L.S.) (Signed) *J. S. Godden,*
Assistant Secretary to the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland.

Given under the Official Seal of the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland this thirty-first day of January. in the year one thousand nine hundred and twenty-nine.

(L.S.) (Signed) *G. C. Duggan*
Assistant Secretary to the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland.

Mercantile Marine : Collection of Contributions.

WIDOWS', ORPHANS' AND OLD AGE CONTRIBUTORY PENSIONS *included with* UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE *in S.R.O.* 1929. *No.* 161 : *see p.* 429.

Voluntary Contributors.

WIDOWS', ORPHANS' AND OLD AGE CONTRIBUTORY PENSIONS *included with* NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE *in S.R.O.* 1929. *No.* 27 : *see p.* 359.
