Given under the Official Seal of the Ministry of Labour this 2nd day of April, in the year One thousand nine hundred and twenty-eight.

John S. Godden,
(L.S.) Assistant Secretary to the Ministry of Labour.

Given under the Official Seal of the Ministry of Finance this 2nd day of April, in the year One thousand nine hundred and twenty-eight.

G. C. Duggan,
(L.S.) Assistant Secretary to the Ministry of Finance.

OLD AGE PENSIONS (NON-CONTRIBUTORY).

General Regulations, p. 168. | *Transitional Arrangements, p.* 180.

General Regulations.

REGULATIONS DATED 31ST DECEMBER, 1928, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS UNDER THE OLD AGE PENSIONS ACTS (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1908-1927.

1928. No. 132.

The Ministry of Labour, in conjunction with the Ministry of Home Affairs so far as relates to local authorities or officers of local authorities, in pursuance of the powers conferred on them by Section 10 of the Old Age Pensions Act, 1908, as amended by the Old Age Pensions (Administration) Act (Northern Ireland), 1927, and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf hereby make the following Regulations :—

Short title.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Non-Contributory Old Age Pensions Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1928.

Interpretation.

2.—(1) In these Regulations unless the context otherwise requires—

"the Acts" means the Old Age Pensions Acts (Northern Ireland), 1908 to 1927 ;

"the Minister" means the Minister of Labour ;

"the Ministry" means the Ministry of Labour ;

"investigating officer" means such officer as may be designated by the Ministry to investigate claims to pensions ;

"paying officer" means such officer as may be appointed or designated by the Ministry for the purpose of paying pensions under the Acts and includes any officer who may be designated to act as paying officer in pursuance of any arrangement made under Section 63 of the Government of Ireland Act, 1920, for the purpose of paying pensions on behalf of the Ministry;

"paying office" means such place as the Ministry may designate for the payment of pensions;

"pension" means an old age pension under the Acts;

"claim" means a claim to a pension;

"claimant" means a person by whom a claim has been made;

"pensioner" means, except where otherwise provided, a person in receipt of a pension;

"appropriate form" means the form set out in the schedule to these Regulations which is appropriate to the circumstances of the case, or such other form as the Ministry may from time to time direct.

(2) References in these Regulations to enactments of the Parliament of the United Kingdom shall be construed as references to those enactments as they apply in Northern Ireland.

(3) The Interpretation Act, 1921, applies to the interpretation of these Regulations, as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

MAKING OF CLAIMS AND RAISING OF QUESTIONS.

Method of making a claim. Form No. O.A.P. 501

3.—(1) Every person who desires to make a claim shall fill up the appropriate form and deliver or send the form when filled up to the Ministry:

Provided that a claim shall not be made more than four months before the date as from which the claimant alleges that his title to pension will commence.

(2) The Ministry shall supply on demand to any person who desires to make a claim an appropriate form of application, gratis.

(3) The Ministry shall arrange that those of its officers whom the Ministry may from time to time so direct, shall give to any person desiring to make a claim such information and assistance for the proper completion of the form of application as is in their power to give.

Raising of question by pensioner.

4.—(1) Any pensioner may raise a question as to the weekly rate of the pension awarded to him by sending to the Ministry a written statement of the question, together with a summary of any evidence in its support, and for the purpose of the investigation and determination of the said question such statement shall be regarded as a claim and the following provisions of these Regulations shall apply accordingly:

Provided that a question shall not be raised more than four months before the date as from which it is claimed that the title to a different rate of pension will arise.

(2) The date on which a written statement of the question is received by the Ministry shall be deemed to be the date on which the question is raised.

Raising of question by Ministry.

5.—(1) A pensioner's title to pension may be re-investigated at any time by an investigating officer and the following provisions of these Regulations as to the investigation of claims shall apply to such re-investigation.

(2) If an investigating officer has reason to believe as a result of re-investigation that the pensioner is not entitled to continue to receive a pension, or is not entitled to continue to receive a pension at the rate which is being paid, he shall raise a question.

(3) When a question is raised such steps may be taken as the Ministry may direct to suspend payment of the pension until the question is determined, and for this purpose the investigating officer may be empowered to require the pensioner to deliver to him the current book of pension orders.

(4) A proposal to alter or revoke a provisional allowance of a claim may be made, after at least seven days' notice has been given by the pension officer to the claimant in such manner as the Ministry may direct, and such a proposal shall be regarded as a question raised by the Ministry and the provisions of these Regulations shall apply accordingly.

INVESTIGATION OF CLAIMS.

Method of investigation.

6.—(1) As soon as may be after receiving any claim, the Ministry shall cause the claim to be investigated by an investigating officer for the purpose of enabling the pension officer to determine whether the claimant is entitled to a pension, and if he is so entitled, to what rate of pension:

Provided that in any case where, in the opinion of the pension officer, no fresh and substantial evidence is adduced by the claimant or pensioner, an investigation shall not be required unless six months have elapsed since the date of the determination of a previous claim or similar question.

(2) Subject to compliance with such instructions as may from time to time be given by the Ministry, an investigating officer shall investigate a claim in such manner as he thinks best fitted for the purpose.

(3) Every claimant or pensioner shall furnish such certificates and such other documents or information as the investigating officer may require for the proper investigation of the claim.

(4) In any case in which he thinks it desirable so to do for the purpose of the proper investigation of a claim, the investigating officer may reduce to writing any question which he desires to put to any claimant and the answer to the question given by the claimant, and may require the claimant to sign the answer.

7. As soon as he has completed his investigation the investigating officer shall forward to the pension officer a report of his investigation together with any other documents in his possession relating to the claim or question. Report of investigating officer.

Determination of Claims and Questions.

A. *Pension Officer.*

8. Within seven days of the receipt of a report on a claim or question from the investigating officer, the pension officer shall take into consideration the report of the investigating officer and any other evidence or information laid before him, and shall give a decision. Determination of claim or question by pension officer.

9.—(1) As soon as may be after the pension officer has given his decision on a claim or question the Ministry shall cause to be issued to the claimant notification of the pension officer's decision. Notification of pension officer's decision.

(2) In any case where the decision of the pension officer has been to refuse a pension, the form of notification shall contain the ground on which the pension officer decided to refuse a pension.

(3) In any case where the decision of the pension officer has been to refuse a pension or to allow a pension at a rate lower than 10/–, the form of notification shall contain an intimation to the claimant of his right to appeal against the pension officer's decision to a local pension court.

10. If the pension officer is satisfied that a claimant is likely, at any time within four months from the date on which the claim is being considered, to be entitled to a pension, he may allow the claim provisionally so as to take effect, subject to the provisions of the Acts, on any future date not later than four months from the date of his decision. Provisional allowance of claims.

11.—(1) Where a claimant or pensioner desires to appeal against the pension officer's decision to a local pension court, he shall, within fourteen days from the date of the receipt by him of notification of the decision, send to the pension officer a written notice of appeal. Appeal to local pension court.

(2) The said written notice of appeal shall be on the appropriate form and there shall be inserted thereon by the claimant or pensioner the grounds for his appeal. Form No. O.A.P. 517.

(3) The Ministry shall supply, on demand, to any person desiring to appeal against a decision of the pension officer a copy of the appropriate form, gratis.

12.—(1) As soon as may be after the receipt of the form of appeal the pension officer shall refer the claim or question to a local pension court for its recommendation. Reference by pension officer to local pension court.

(2) In any case where the pension officer instead of himself determining a claim or question, refers it to a local pension court, the provisions of these Regulations shall apply to such a reference as though it were a reference required by a claimant or pensioner.

B. *Local Pension Courts.*

Term of office of members of panels.

13. The members of the panels of local pension courts shall hold office for such term as the Minister may direct:

Provided that the Minister may at any time terminate the appointment of any member of a panel.

Composition of court.

14.—(1) A local pension court shall consist of a Chairman appointed by the Minister and two or more persons selected from the panel for the district in such manner as the Minister may direct and duly summoned to serve on the court:

Provided that not less than one half of the members of a local pension court (not including the Chairman) shall be persons who, in the opinion of the Minister, are representative of the classes of persons for whose benefit non-contributory old age pensions are intended.

(2) No member of a panel shall act as a member of a local pension court during the consideration of a case in which he is or may be affected.

(3) Any claim or question referred to a local pension court may, with the consent of the claimant or pensioner but not otherwise, be proceeded with in the absence of any member or members of the court other than the Chairman.

(4) Subject as aforesaid the constitution of a local pension court (including the procedure for summoning the court) shall be such as the Minister may determine.

Procedure of local pension court.

15.—(1) Before the meeting of a local pension court at which any claim or question is to be considered, reasonable notice shall be sent to the claimant or pensioner informing him of the time and place of the meeting and affording him an opportunity of being heard. Such notice shall state the grounds for the reference.

(2) During the consideration by a local pension court of any claim or question, the claimant or pensioner, the pension officer or his deputy, and any other officer of the Ministry that the Ministry may direct, shall be entitled to be present at the sitting of the court, and the claimant or pensioner may be represented at the sitting of the court by any person authorised by him, including counsel or a solicitor:

Provided that for the purpose of discussing its recommendation the court may order any or all persons, not being members of the court, to withdraw from the sitting of the court.

(3) The local pension court may allow any person appearing to the court likely to be affected by its recommendation to be present during the consideration of a case; but save as aforesaid there shall not be admitted to the court any member of the public or the representative of any newspaper.

(4) The local pension court may adjourn the consideration of a claim or question from time to time as it may think fit.

(5) If, after notice of the meeting has been duly given, the claimant fails to appear at the court, the local pension court may make such recommendation or take such proceedings with a view to the disposing of the reference as it may think just.

(6) The recommendation of a majority of a local pension court shall be the recommendation of the court; but any member dissenting from any recommendation of the court may record his dissent and his reason therefor, and a statement that the member so dissented and the reason recorded by him for so dissenting shall be transmitted to the pension officer with the recommendation of the court.

(7) Subject as aforesaid the procedure of a local pension court shall be such as the Ministry may determine.

C. *The Umpire.*

Procedure for references to the umpire.

16.—(1) Where the pension officer disagrees with any recommendation of a local pension court, or where a claimant or pensioner, with the leave of that court, requires the pension officer to refer a matter to the umpire, the pension officer shall give notice to the claimant or pensioner of the grounds for the reference and shall afford the claimant or pensioner an opportunity of submitting a statement of his evidence.

(2) On the receipt of the claimant's or pensioner's statement of evidence, or on the expiration of fourteen days from the date that the above mentioned notice has been given, whichever happens first, the pension officer shall refer the matter to the umpire.

(3) The pension officer shall forward to the umpire any documents submitted by the claimant or pensioner, together with a statement showing to what extent he admits or disputes the facts stated in such documents and setting out any further facts and the contentions on which he relies.

Proceedings of umpire.

17.—(1) The umpire may at any time require a claimant or pensioner or the Ministry to furnish to him in writing such further particulars in regard to the reference as he may reasonably require and may, at any stage of the proceedings, allow the amendment of any application or particulars upon such terms as he may think just.

(2) If the umpire is of opinion that the case is of such a nature that it can properly be determined without a hearing, he may dispense with a hearing and may determine the reference summarily.

(3) If in the opinion of the umpire a hearing is required he shall, as soon as may be, fix a date and place for the hearing.

(4) The Ministry shall cause a notification to be sent to the claimant or pensioner giving him at least seven days' notice of the time and place of the hearing.

(5) The claimant or pensioner shall be entitled to be present at the hearing and to be represented by any member of his family or by any other representative including counsel or a solicitor.

(6) The pension officer shall be entitled to be present at the hearing and to be represented by any person including counsel or a solicitor, who may be appointed for the purpose.

(7) Subject as aforesaid, there shall not be admitted to the hearing any member of the public or the representative of any newspaper.

(8) The umpire may adjourn the hearing from time to time as he may think fit.

(9) If, after notice of a hearing has been duly given, the claimant fails to appear at the hearing, such decision may be given or such proceedings may be taken, with a view to the disposing of the reference as the umpire may think just.

(10) The Ministry shall cause notification of the decision of the umpire to be sent as soon as may be to the claimant or pensioner.

(11) Subject as aforesaid, the proceedings of the umpire in determining a reference may be conducted in such manner as he considers best fitted for the purpose.

Payment of Pensions.

Pensions payable by pension orders.

18.—(1) Subject as hereinafter provided pensions shall be paid by means of pension orders payable in each case to the person to whom the pension is payable under the Acts (in this Article referred to as the pensioner) at such paying office as the Ministry, after consultation with the pensioner, may from time to time determine.

(2) In every case in which there is a decision under which a pension is payable the Ministry shall cause arrangements to be made whereby, on furnishing such evidence of identity and such other particulars as the Ministry may require, the pensioner shall be supplied with a book of pension orders, and the Ministry shall cause to be sent to the pensioner written information of the appropriate paying office and of the arrangements affecting the pensioner.

(3) On or before the issue to a pensioner of a fresh book of pension orders the pensioner shall furnish in writing a statement in such form as the Ministry may require as proof that he continues to be entitled to receive the pension.

(4) The Ministry shall cause arrangements to be made for the the issue to every pensioner of a fresh book of pension orders as soon as may be after the expiration of the previous book.

(5) Notwithstanding anything in this Article the Ministry may in any particular case arrange for the payment of the pension otherwise than by means of pension orders through the paying office.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Persons suffering from incapacity.

19.—(1) Where any person, being either a person to whom a pension is payable or a person who is alleged to be entitled to a pension or a person by whom or on whose behalf a claim has been made, is, by reason of any mental or other incapacity, unable to act and no committee or quasi-committee of his estate has been appointed, the Ministry may, upon written application being made to it, appoint a person to exercise on behalf of the person unable to act any right to which that person may be entitled under the Acts and to receive on behalf and for the benefit of that person any sums which may become payable to that person by way of a pension:

Provided that—

(*a*) no person under 18 years of age shall be capable of being appointed to act under this Article;

(*b*) the Ministry may at any time, in its absolute discretion, revoke any appointment made under this Article; and

(*c*) any person appointed under this Article may, on giving the Ministry one month's notice of his intention so to do, resign his office.

(2) Anything required by these Regulations to be done by or to any such person as aforesaid who is, by reason of any mental or other incapacity, unable to act, may be done by or to the committee or quasi-committee of his estate, or by or to the person appointed under this Article to act on his behalf.

Deductions from pension under Section 7 (3) of the Old Age Pensions Act, 1911.

20. Any deductions which the Ministry directs under Section 7 (3) of the Old Age Pensions Act, 1911, to be made from any sums to which a person may become entitled on account of a pension shall be made by withholding payments on account of the pension until the total of the sums withheld amounts to the total of the sum so directed to be deducted.

Provision as to evidence on determination of claims, etc.

21. The pension officer, the local pension court and the umpire may for the purpose of determining any claim or question have regard to any such evidence or information as, in the opinion of the pension officer, local pension court or umpire, is sufficient for the purpose and is the best evidence or information which it is reasonably possible to obtain.

Information to be supplied by poor law officers.

22. For the purpose of enabling a pension officer to ascertain whether any claimant or pensioner is, by reason of being an inmate of any workhouse or other poor law institution, disqualified for receiving or continuing to receive a pension, or to ascertain the yearly means of any claimant or pensioner, every officer or person acting in the administration of the relief of the poor shall, if so requested by the Ministry, supply such information as it is in his power to give as respects any person who is or has been an inmate of a workhouse or other poor law institution or is or has been otherwise in receipt of poor relief.

Use of offices of Local Authorities.

23.—(1) The Ministry shall, for the purposes of meetings of local pension courts or of hearings by the umpire, be entitled to use free of charge (except such charge as may be approved by the Ministry with the consent of the Ministry of Finance for heating, lighting and cleaning) at all reasonable times, and after reasonable notice, any offices of any local authority situate within the area in which the meeting or hearing is required.

(2) If any question arises under this Article it shall be determined by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Surrender of book of pension orders on cessation of pension.

24. Upon a pension ceasing to be payable on account of the death of a pensioner or from any other cause, or upon a pensioner ceasing to be entitled to a pension at the rate which is being paid, the book of pension orders shall be delivered to the Ministry by any person having possession of such book or thereafter obtaining possession of it.

Extension of periods.

25. Notwithstanding anything in these Regulations the Ministry may extend the period within which anything is required by these Regulations to be done in any case in which it appears to the Ministry reasonable so to do having regard to all the circumstances.

Authentication of copies of decisions.

26. For the purposes of sub-section (2) of Section 7 of the Old Age Pensions Act, 1911, every copy of a decision of a pension officer on any matter which is not referred to a local pension court or on any recommendation of a local pension court that is not referred to the umpire and every copy of a decision of the umpire shall be regarded as duly authenticated if it purports to be certified as a copy of such a decision by a secretary or assistant secretary of the Ministry, unless the contrary is shown.

Repeal.

27. The Old Age Pensions Consolidated Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1925, are hereby repealed, but without prejudice to anything done thereunder.

Given under the Official Seal of the Ministry of Labour this thirty-first day of December, 1928.

John S. Godden,
Assistant Secretary.

(L.S.)

Given under the Official Seal of the Ministry of Home Affairs this thirty-first day of December, 1928.

(L.S.)

D. L. Clarke,
Assistant Secretary

SCHEDULE.

FORM O.A.P. 501.

OLD AGE PENSIONS ACTS (NORTHERN IRELAND) AND BLIND PERSONS ACT.

CLAIM TO OLD AGE OR BLIND PERSON'S PENSION.

NOTE.—A claim may be made for the provisional allowance of a pension before the date on which the claimant will become actually entitled to receive the pension if allowed, but not more than four months before that date.

Warning.

Any person who, for the purpose of obtaining or continuing a pension, either for himself or for any other person, or for the purpose of obtaining or continuing a pension for himself or any other person at a higher rate than that appropriate to the case, knowingly makes any false statement or false representation, and any person who knowingly obtains payment of, or continues to receive a pension which he is disqualified from receiving, shall be liable on summary conviction to imprisonment. (Old Age Pensions Act, 1908—Section 9 (1).)

(1) Full name of claimant ....

(2) Home address .... Give full postal address.
.....

(3) Sex ....

(4) State whether single or married, widower or widow ....

(5) Date of birth..... .....

(6) Place where born.
Street, Road or Townland.. .....

Town or Parish..... .....

County ....
Father's full name and Surname ....

Father's occupation..... .....
Mother's full name and Surname ....

Mother's maiden name ....

(7) If you are married state :—
(*a*) Your wife's (or husband's) full name..... .....

(*b*) Her (or his) present age .. ..

(8) Are you a British subject ? .. ..

(9) At what place or places have you lived during the past 20 years ?.. .....

(10) What is your occupation ? .....

(11) If you have been employed at any time during the past twelve months state :—

(*a*) The names and addresses of all your employers..... .....
(*b*) The period of employment with each, and ....
(*c*) The total amount of wages received ....

(12) How much have you coming in per week in money ?..... .....

What are your other means of subsistence (if any) ?..... .....

Do you pay rent for the house or lodging in which you live ? .....

This question need not be answered unless the claimant is claiming as a blind person.

(13) Are you so blind as to be unable to perform any work for which eyesight is essential ?..... .....

(14) Have you previously claimed a pension under the :—

(1) Blind Persons Act ?..... .....

(2) Old Age Pensions Acts ?.... .....

(3) Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act ? ....

(15) If so, state :—

(*a*) where and on what date the claim was made, and .....

(*b*) the result of the claim..... .....

(16) If you have previously been granted one of the pensions mentioned at (14) above, state :—

(*a*) the number of your Pension Order Book..... .....

(*b*) if that pension is not now being paid, why payment ceased ....

(17) Is your wife (husband) in receipt of an Old Age Pension ? ....

If so what is the number of her (his) Pension Order Book ? ....

(18) State the full address of the Post Office at which you desire that a Pension, if awarded, should be payable..... .....

(NOTE.—This should ordinarily be the Post Office nearest to your home address).

(19) I declare that all the above statements are true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that I am not, so far as I know, disqualified from receiving a pension.

(Sign only in the presence of the person who signs in the space provided below.)

Signature (or mark).....

Date.....

The claimant must sign or mark the claim himself in all cases, except when he is incapable of so doing through bodily or mental infirmity. In such a case the local officer of the Ministry of Labour should be consulted.

TO BE SIGNED BY A PERSON HAVING ANY OF THE QUALIFICATIONS SHOWN IN THE MARGIN.

(1) A Justice of the Peace.
(2) A Barrister or Solicitor.
(3) A Minister of Religion (stating Denomination and address of place of Worship).
(4) A Medical Practitioner.
(5) A Head Teacher of a Public Elementary or Secondary School (stating name and address of the school).
(6) A Police Officer not below the rank of Sergeant.
(7) The Clerk or any member of a Local Authority.
(8) A Captain (or officer of higher rank) of the Salvation Army.
(9) A resident Officiating Church Army Officer.
(10) The Secretary of the appl!cant's Trade Union, Registered Friendly or Approved Society, or of a Registered Branch of such Trade Union or Friendly Society.

I (name).....

of (address).....

(qualification).....

certify that the claimant is known to me personally; that all the statements in this claim are true to the best of my knowledge and belief; and that the claimant has to my knowledge been resident in the United Kingdom for at least twelve years since attaining the age of fifty years (thirty years in the case of a Blind Person).

NOTE.—Residence in the part of Ireland now known as the Irish Free State prior to 6th December, 1922, counts as residence in the United Kingdom for the purpose of the Old Age Pensions Acts, but residence in the Irish Free State since that date does not so count.

The Signature (or mark) to this form was made by the claimant this day in my presence.

Signature..... Date.....

Disqualifications

A person is by law disqualified from receiving a pension in the following cases :—

1. While he is in receipt of poor relief as an inmate of any workhouse or other poor-law institution unless he has become an inmate for the purpose of obtaining medical or surgical treatment, in which case he is not disqualified for a period of three months from the date of admission provided that he so long continues to require such treatment.
2. While he is in prison under a sentence of imprisonment without the option of a fine, or under a sentence of penal servitude.
3. If an order of a court of justice disqualifying him is in force.
4. While he is detained in a lunatic asylum, or while he is being maintained in any place as a pauper or criminal lunatic.

FORM O.A.P. 517.

THE OLD AGE PENSIONS ACTS (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1908-1927, AND THE BLIND PERSONS ACT, 1920.

APPEAL TO LOCAL PENSION COURT.

Name of Claimant (or Pensioner)..... Claim No.....

Directions to Claimant (or Pensioner).

1. Write the grounds of your appeal in paragraph 4 below.
2. If you wish, help in filling this form will be given to you at the Employment Exchange.
3. Post the form, when completed, to :—

THE SECRETARY,
MINISTRY OF LABOUR, PENSIONS BRANCH (I.4),
ORMEAU AVENUE, BELFAST.

4. *Statement of Grounds of Appeal.*

.....

.....

.....

.....

5. Do you wish to attend before the Local Pension Court when your appeal is being considered ?
NOTE.—If you so desire, you may be represented at the hearing by some other person (including a Solicitor or Counsel). .....

6. *Declaration.*

I hereby declare that all the statements which I have made in paragraph 4 above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of Claimant (or Pensioner).....

Address.....

Date..... .....

---

7. I hereby consent to the appeal being proceeded with in the absence of any members of the Court other than the Chairman (Article 14 (3) of the Non-Contributory Old Age Pensions Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1928).

(NOTE.—Without such consent it will be necessary, in the event of the absence of any members of the Local Pension Court other than the Chairman, for the Court to adjourn the case for hearing by another Court).

Signature of Claimant (or Pensioner).....

Transitional Arrangements.

ORDER, DATED 5TH MAY, 1928, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, WITH THE CONSENT OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE, UNDER SECTION 7 (2) OF THE OLD AGE PENSIONS (ADMINISTRATION) ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1927.

1928. No. 48.

Whereas it is provided by sub-section (2) of section 7 of the Old Age Pensions (Administration) Act (Northern Ireland), 1927 (in this Order referred to as " the Act of 1927 ") that the Ministry of Labour with the consent of the Ministry of Finance may, by order, do anything which appears to be necessary for giving full effect to the Act of 1927, and, in particular, may, by any such Order—

(*a*) remove any difficulty which may arise in bringing the Act of 1927 into operation ;

(*b*) provide for the transition from the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Acts (Northern Ireland), 1908 to 1925, to the provisions of those Acts as amended by the Act of 1927, and for the determination, after the commencement of the Act of 1927, of any claims or questions pending at such commencement ; and

(*c*) make, in any enactments of the Old Age Pensions Acts (Northern Ireland), 1908 to 1925, adaptations and modifications in addition to those contained in the First Schedule to the Act of 1927 ;

but so, however, that the powers conferred as aforesaid shall not be exercised after the thirty-first day of December, 1928.