

SOCIAL SECURITY AMENDMENT BILL

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Clause 1 relates to the Short Title.

PART I

MONETARY BENEFITS

Clause 2 amends section 11 of the principal Act, which provides that the Social Security Commission shall have the powers of a Commission of Inquiry.

The amendment extends the Commission's powers to enable it to inquire into the means, earning capacity, and economic circumstances of any party to domestic proceedings. This function was given to the Commission by the Domestic Proceedings Act 1968.

The clause will come into force on 1 January 1970, being the date of commencement of the Domestic Proceedings Act 1968.

Clause 3: Section 12 (2) of the principal Act provides that it shall be the duty of every person to answer all questions put to him by the Commission or by any officer of the Social Security Department concerning any applicant for a benefit or any statements in an application for a benefit.

The amendment extends the provision to make it a duty to answer questions concerning the means, earning capacity, and economic circumstances of any party to domestic proceedings.

The clause will come into force on 1 January 1970, being the date of commencement of the Domestic Proceedings Act 1968.

Clause 4 amends section 14 of the principal Act, which relates to residential qualifications for superannuation and age benefits.

The amendment provides that, in calculating any absence from New Zealand for that purpose, no account shall be taken of any absence while serving as an accredited volunteer of Volunteer Service Abroad Incorporated.

Clause 5 repeals section 67 of the principal Act and the Eleventh Schedule thereto. The provisions being repealed relate to the special income exemption of \$3 a week for women engaged in domestic or nursing employment. The clause will be deemed to have come into force on 14 May 1969.

Clause 6 amends section 80 of the principal Act which relates to the periods for which benefits are payable and the renewal of benefits.

The amendment provides that, if the period for payment of a benefit has expired and the benefit is not renewed within 3 months after expiry, the Commission may determine that the beneficiary has ceased to be entitled to the benefit and may suspend or cancel it. However, on application by the beneficiary, the Commission may reinstate and renew the benefit from such date as it thinks fit.

Clause 7 increases the rates of monetary benefits.

The rates of superannuation, age, widows', invalids', miners', sickness, unemployment, and related emergency benefits are increased by \$1 a week in respect of unmarried persons and 75c a week in respect of married persons.

However, the rates of sickness, unemployment, invalids' and related emergency benefits payable to persons under 20 years of age without dependants are increased by 50c a week.

The rate of orphans' benefits is increased by 50c a week.

Mothers' allowances payable in conjunction with widows' benefits are increased by 75c a week in respect of the first or only dependent child.

Family maintenance allowances payable in conjunction with age, invalids', sickness, unemployment, and emergency benefits are increased by—

- (a) Seventy-five cents a week in respect of the first or only dependent child, where the allowance is paid to an unmarried person.
- (b) Twenty-five cents a week in respect of the second dependent child, where the allowance is paid to married persons. (Family maintenance allowance is not payable to married persons in respect of a first or only dependent child.)

The clause also increases allowable incomes as follows:

In respect of women with a dependent child or children, receiving widows' benefits, the allowable income is increased by \$3 a week to \$15 a week.

In other cases, where the present allowable income is \$8 a week, the allowable income is increased by \$3 a week to \$11 a week.

The clause will be deemed to have come into force on 14 May 1969.

NOTE—The new Fifth, Tenth, and Twelfth Schedules to the principal Act set out in the First Schedule to this Bill are unchanged. They are being re-enacted so that all of the Schedules will appear in one Act.

PART II

MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL BENEFITS AND OTHER RELATED BENEFITS

Clause 8 provides that this Part of the Bill will come into force on 1 October 1969.

Clause 9 amends section 88 of the principal Act which interprets various terms used in Part II of the principal Act.

Subclause (1) repeals the definition of the term "obstetric specialist" as that term will no longer appear in Part II.

Subclause (2) inserts a definition of the term "specialist".

Clause 10 amends section 93 of the principal Act which relates to fees for general medical services.

The amendment increases the general medical services benefit from 75c to \$1.50 for medical services provided for persons receiving superannuation, age, widows', invalids', miners', sickness, unemployment, emergency, and orphans' benefits, and for persons receiving war veterans' allowances, economic pensions, wives' pensions, and war orphans' pensions, under the War Pensions Act 1954. Medical services provided for the dependants of such persons will also qualify for the increase.

Clause 11 inserts a new section 93A in the principal Act.

The new section provides that, in respect of medical services rendered on Sundays and public holidays or between the hours of 8 p.m. and 8 a.m., an additional fee not exceeding 50c shall be payable to medical practitioners.

This provision at present appears in the Social Security (General Medical Services) Regulations 1950.

Clause 12 inserts a new section 94A in the principal Act.

The new section provides for additional payments to be made to medical practitioners residing and practising in rural areas to be designated by the Minister of Health.

In respect of general medical services benefits and additional payments in respect of services rendered on Sundays and public holidays and at night, such medical practitioners will be entitled to an additional 10 percent.

In respect of mileage fees they will be entitled to an additional 25 percent.

Clause 13 is a consequential amendment.

Clause 14 repeals section 97 of the principal Act relating to specialist medical services, and substitutes a new section.

The new section amends the existing law as follows:

- (a) Provision is made for the recognition by the Minister of specialists.
 - A medical practitioner may not be recognised as a specialist unless the Minister is satisfied that he possesses recognised qualifications in a medical or surgical specialty.
- (b) If specialist medical services are provided by a recognised specialist for a patient referred to him by another medical practitioner, a specialist medical services benefit will be payable as follows:
 - (i) Five dollars in respect of the first visit to a specialist who is a physician, psychiatrist, neurologist, neurosurgeon, or paediatrician, and \$3.50 in respect of the first visit to any other type of specialist.
 - (ii) 75c in respect of each subsequent visit, increased to \$1.50 in the case of persons to whom *clause 10* of this Bill applies, i.e., beneficiaries, etc.
- (c) If a patient is referred by a specialist to another specialist, the benefit will not be payable unless the medical practitioner who referred the patient to the first specialist concurs in the patient being further referred.
- (d) If specialist medical services are provided by a medical practitioner who is not a recognised specialist, a benefit of 75c will, as at present, be payable in respect of each visit. However, if the patient is a beneficiary, etc., the benefit will be \$1.50.

Clause 15 amends section 103 of the principal Act, which relates to hospital benefits in respect of hospital treatment in institutions.

The amendment provides that an institution within the meaning of the Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Act 1966 not conducted by the Crown or a Hospital Board may be recognised by the Minister as a hospital for the purposes of paying hospital benefits.

Clause 16 is a consequential amendment.

Clause 17: At present, under section 113 of the principal Act, an obstetric specialist may, in addition to the fees payable to him by the Department of Health for medical services rendered in relation to maternity benefits, charge a fee for those medical services.

The clause amends this provision by extending it to apply to all medical or surgical specialties that are material to the provision of maternity benefits.

Clause 18 provides that the amendments made by this Part of the Bill will apply only in respect of services rendered by medical practitioners on or after the date of commencement of this Part of the Bill. In respect of services rendered before that date, the existing law will apply.

PART III

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Clause 19 amends section 124 of the principal Act.

Subclause (1) provides for the payment of rehabilitation allowances to disabled persons aged 15 or over.

In addition, provision is made for the expenditure of money for the purpose of making such special arrangements as the Minister of Social Security considers advisable for providing adequate services for the rehabilitation of the disabled under any rehabilitation programme approved by the Minister.

Subclause (2) provides for the maximum rates of rehabilitation allowances.

Subclause (3) adds a new Fifteenth Schedule to the principal Act.

The new Schedule (set out in the Second Schedule to this Bill) sets out the maximum rates of rehabilitation allowances and the maximum amount that may be received from all sources by a disabled person and his or her spouse (if any) in receipt of a social security benefit.

The clause will be deemed to have come into force on 1 April 1969.

Hon. Mr McKay

SOCIAL SECURITY AMENDMENT

ANALYSIS

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A BILL INTITULED

An Act to amend the Social Security Act 1964

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same,
5 as follows:

No. 80—1

1. Short Title—This Act may be cited as the Social Security Amendment Act 1969, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Social Security Act 1964* (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

PART I

5

MONETARY BENEFITS

2. Powers of Commission extended—(1) Section 11 of the principal Act is hereby amended by inserting in subsection (1), after the words “benefit under this Act”, the words “, or of enquiring as to the means, earning capacity, and economic circumstances of any person for the purposes of section 8 of the Domestic Proceedings Act 1968,”. 10

(2) This section shall come into force on the 1st day of January 1970.

3. Investigation of claims and grant of benefits—(1) Section 12 of the principal Act is hereby amended by adding to subsection (2) the words “, or concerning the means, earning capacity, and economic circumstances of any person, for the purposes of section 8 of the Domestic Proceedings Act 1968”. 15 20

(2) This section shall come into force on the 1st day of January 1970.

4. Residential qualifications—Section 14 of the principal Act is hereby amended by inserting in subsection (2), after paragraph (d), the following new paragraph: 25

“(e) In the case of any applicant, any period of absence while serving in any capacity as an accredited volunteer appointed by Volunteer Service Abroad Incorporated—”.

5. Repealing provisions relating to earnings of women from domestic or nursing service—(1) Section 67 of the principal Act and the Eleventh Schedule thereto (as substituted by section 6 (1) of the Social Security Amendment Act 1968) are hereby repealed. 30

*1964, No. 136

Amendments: 1966, No. 85; 1967, No. 4; 1968, No. 44

(2) This section shall be deemed to have come into force on the 14th day of May 1969.

6. Periods for which benefits payable—Section 80 of the principal Act is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:

“(3) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Part of this Act, if, under subsection (2) of this section, the period for payment of a benefit has expired and the benefit is not renewed within 3 months after the date of expiry, the Commission may determine that the beneficiary has ceased to be entitled to the benefit and may suspend or cancel it:

“Provided that the Commission may, on application in that behalf by the beneficiary, reinstate and renew the benefit from such date as it thinks fit.”

7. Increasing income exemptions and rates of benefits—

(1) The principal Act is hereby further amended by repealing the First to Tenth and Twelfth Schedules (as substituted by section 6 (1) of the Social Security Amendment Act 1968) and the Fourteenth Schedule (as added by section 4 (2) of the Social Security Amendment Act 1968), and substituting the First to Tenth, Twelfth, and Fourteenth Schedules set out in the First Schedule to this Act.

(2) Section 6 and subsection (2) of section 4 of the Social Security Amendment Act 1968 and the First and Second Schedules to that Act are hereby repealed.

(3) This section and the First Schedule to this Act shall be deemed to have come into force on the 14th day of May 1969.

PART II

30 MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL BENEFITS AND OTHER RELATED BENEFITS

8. Commencement of this Part—This Part of this Act shall come into force on the 1st day of October 1969.

9. Interpretation—(1) Subsection (1) of section 88 of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing the definition of the term “obstetric specialist”.

(2) The said section 88 is hereby further amended by inserting in subsection (1), after the definition of the term “pharmaceutical requirements”, the following definition:

“ ‘Specialist’, for the purposes of section 97 or section 113 of this Act, means a medical practitioner who is recognised by the Minister as a specialist in accordance with the provisions of the said section 97 or the said section 113, as the case may require; and, for the purposes of the said section 113, includes every medical practitioner who, on the 30th day of September 1969, was recognised as an obstetric specialist in accordance with that section before its amendment by section 17 of the Social Security Amendment Act 1969:”.

10. Fees for general medical services in respect of social security beneficiaries, etc.—Section 93 of the principal Act is hereby amended by inserting, after subsection (1), the following subsection:

“(1A) If a medical practitioner provides any general medical services for a patient who is—

“(a) A beneficiary within the meaning of Part I of this Act, other than a child in respect of whom a family benefit is being paid; or

“(b) A person in receipt of an economic pension, a pension as the wife of a member of the forces, an allowance as a veteran or the wife, widow, or child of a veteran, or a war orphan’s pension, under the War Pensions Act 1954; or

“(c) The wife of any such beneficiary or person, or a child who is for the time being under the care and control of any such beneficiary or person and in respect of whom a family benefit is being paid under Part I of this Act; or

“(d) A member of a class of persons to which the provisions of this subsection have been declared to apply by the Minister by notice in the *Gazette*—

the references in subsection (1) of this section (as amended by section 7 (1) of the Decimal Currency Act 1964) to 75 cents shall be read as references to \$1.50.”

11. Additional fees for general medical services on public holidays and at night—(1) The principal Act is hereby further amended, by inserting, after section 93, the following section:

“93A. (1) Notwithstanding anything in section 93 of this Act, but subject to the other provisions of this Part of this Act, in respect of every occasion on which a medical practitioner provides any general medical services for any patient—

“(a) On a Sunday or public holiday, in response to an urgent request received by him on the same day;
or

5 “(b) Between the hours of 8 p.m. and 8 a.m., in response to an urgent request received by him between those hours—

there shall be payable by the Department to the medical practitioner, in addition to any fee payable under the said section 93, a reasonable fee not exceeding 50 cents.

10 “(2) In this section, the term ‘public holiday’ means Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year’s Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, Anzac Day, the Sovereign’s Birthday, Labour Day, and the holiday observed in the locality concerned as Anniversary Day; and includes, when any of those holidays
15 (other than Anzac Day) that can fall on a Saturday or Sunday so falls, the day that is observed in the locality concerned as a substituted public holiday; and also includes, when Boxing Day falls on a Monday, the day following Boxing Day.”

20 (2) Regulation 5 of the Social Security (General Medical Services) Regulations 1950 is hereby revoked.

(3) Regulation 2 of the Social Security (General Medical Services) Regulations 1950, Amendment No. 1, is hereby consequentially revoked.

25 **12. Rural practice bonuses**—The principal Act is hereby further amended by inserting, after section 94, the following section:

30 “94A. (1) In this section, ‘rural area’ means an area that the Minister has by notice in the *Gazette* declared to be a rural area for the purposes of this section.

“(2) Subject to the provisions of this Part of this Act, in addition to any fee payable by the Department under section 93, section 93A, or section 94 of this Act, there shall be payable by the Department to every medical practitioner
35 residing and practising in a rural area an additional amount equal to—

“(a) Ten percent of the fee, if it is payable under the said section 93 or the said section 93A; or

40 “(b) Twenty-five percent of the fee, if it is payable under the said section 94.”

13. Refund system—Subsection (1) of section 96 of the principal Act is hereby amended—

(a) By omitting the words “or section 95”, and substituting the words “, section 93A, or section 95”:

(b) By inserting, before the words “No medical practitioner”, the words “Except as provided in section 94A of this Act,”. 5

14. Specialist medical services—(1) The principal Act is hereby further amended by repealing section 97, and substituting the following section: 10

“97. (1) A medical practitioner shall not be recognised as a specialist for the purposes of this section unless the Minister is satisfied that he possesses recognised qualifications in a medical or surgical specialty.

“(2) Before recognising any medical practitioner as a specialist for the purposes of this section, the Minister shall refer the application for such recognition to the Director-General of Health and to the Council of the Medical Association of New Zealand for reports and recommendations; and the Minister shall take those reports and recommendations into account before granting or refusing the application. 15 20

“(3) Where any specialist provides any specialist medical services for a person who is entitled to any of the benefits provided for in this Part of this Act and who has been referred to the specialist by another medical practitioner for that purpose, the person by whom the fee in respect of those services is paid to the specialist shall, subject to the provisions of this section, be entitled to receive from the Department a refund not exceeding— 25

“(a) In respect of the first occasion on which the services were provided— 30

“(i) Five dollars, if the services were provided by a specialist physician, psychiatrist, neurologist, neurosurgeon, or paediatrician; or 35

“(ii) Three dollars and fifty cents, if the services were provided by any other type of specialist; and

“(b) Seventy-five cents in respect of each subsequent occasion (related to the first occasion) on which the services were provided: 40

“Provided that a refund shall not be payable under this subsection in respect of services provided by a specialist for a person referred to him by another specialist, unless in a letter to the first-mentioned specialist the referring specialist
5 states that the medical practitioner who first referred the person to him concurs in the person being referred to the first-mentioned specialist.

“(4) Where any medical practitioner, other than a specialist, provides any specialist medical services for a person who
10 is entitled to any of the benefits provided for in this Part of this Act, the person by whom the fee in respect of those services is paid to the medical practitioner shall, subject to the provisions of this section, be entitled to receive from the Department a refund not exceeding 75 cents in respect of every occasion on
15 which the services were provided.

“(5) If any person for whom any specialist medical services have been provided is a person to whom subsection (1A) of section 93 of this Act applies, the reference in subsection (3) or subsection (4) of this section, as the case may require, to
20 75 cents shall be read as a reference to \$1.50.

“(6) No person shall be entitled to receive a refund under this section if some other benefit or supplementary benefit is available under this Part of this Act in respect of any specialist medical services so provided.

25 “(7) Notwithstanding anything in subsection (3) or subsection (4) of this section, payment of any sum payable under either of those subsections may be made, at the option of the specialist or other medical practitioner, direct to him instead of by way of refund to the person by whom the fee was paid.”

30 **15. Payments in respect of hospital treatment in institutions**—Section 103 of the principal Act is hereby amended by inserting in subsection (2), after the figures “1911”, the words “or that is an institution within the meaning of the Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Act 1966 not conducted by the Crown or
35 a Hospital Board”.

16. Payment of fees in respect of maternity benefits—Section 112 of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting from subsection (3) the word “obstetric”.

40 **17. Specialists in relation to maternity benefits**—(1) Section 113 of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing subsection (1), and substituting the following subsection:

“(1) A medical practitioner shall not be recognised as a specialist for the purposes of this section unless the Minister is satisfied that he possesses recognised academic qualifications in a medical or surgical specialty that is material to the provision of maternity benefits and that he has held or holds hospital or other public appointments affording special opportunities for acquiring special skill and experience in that specialty.” 5

(2) The said section 113 is hereby further amended—

(a) By omitting from subsection (2) the words “an obstetric specialist”, and substituting the words “a specialist for the purposes of this section”: 10

(b) By omitting from subsection (3) the word “obstetric”:

(c) By omitting from subsection (4) the words “obstetric specialists”, and substituting the words “specialists for the purposes of this section”. 15

18. This Part of Act to apply only to services provided after commencement—The amendments made by this Part of this Act shall apply only in respect of services provided by medical practitioners on or after the date of commencement of this Part; and in respect of services so provided before that date Part II of the principal Act shall continue to apply as if this Part had not been enacted. 20

PART III

GENERAL PROVISIONS

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19. Money payable out of Consolidated Revenue Account—
(1) Subsection (1) of section 124 of the principal Act is hereby amended by inserting, after paragraph (d), the following paragraph:

“(dd) Any money that may be appropriated by Parliament for the purpose of— 30

“(i) Granting a rehabilitation allowance to any disabled person who has attained the age of 15 years to assist in the rehabilitation of that person; and 35

“(ii) Making such special arrangements as the Minister of Social Security considers advisable for providing adequate services for the rehabilitation of disabled persons under any programme for the rehabilitation of disabled persons that has been approved by the Minister.”. 40

(2) The said section 124 (as amended by section 8 of the Social Security Amendment Act 1968) is hereby further amended by adding the following subsection:

“(4) Any payment made out of the Consolidated Revenue Account pursuant to paragraph (dd) of subsection (1) of this section to any disabled person by way of a rehabilitation allowance shall be at a rate determined to be appropriate in
5 the circumstances by the Social Security Commission, but shall not in any case exceed the appropriate rate specified in clause 1 of the Fifteenth Schedule to this Act:

Provided that an allowance shall not be granted to any disabled person who is in receipt of a benefit or whose spouse
10 is in receipt of a benefit under Part I of this Act of such an amount that the total amount from all sources (including any such benefit) received by the disabled person and his or her spouse (if any) exceeds the appropriate amount specified in clause 2 of the said Fifteenth Schedule.”

15 (3) The principal Act is hereby further amended by adding the Fifteenth Schedule set out in the Second Schedule to this Act.

(4) This section and the Second Schedule to this Act shall
20 be deemed to have come into force on the 1st day of April 1969.

SCHEDULES

Section 7 (1)

FIRST SCHEDULE

NEW FIRST TO TENTH, TWELTH, AND FOURTEENTH SCHEDULES
TO PRINCIPAL ACT*(Effective on and from 14 May 1969)*

Section 15

"FIRST SCHEDULE

RATES OF SUPERANNUATION BENEFITS

1. In every case \$624 a year.
2. The rate specified in clause 1 of this Schedule may, in the discretion of the Commission, be increased by \$65 a year in any case where the beneficiary is an unmarried person:
 Provided that the Commission may refuse to increase any benefit under this clause in any case where, in the opinion of the Commission, the beneficiary is sharing household expenses with any other person.

Sections 18, 19, 20

"SECOND SCHEDULE

RATES OF AGE BENEFITS

1. (a) To any unmarried beneficiary \$689 a year diminished by \$2 for every complete \$2 of the annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$572 a year.
- (b) To a married beneficiary whose wife or husband is granted an age benefit or invalid's benefit in her or his own right \$624 a year, diminished by \$1 for every complete \$2 of the total annual income of the beneficiary and his or her spouse in excess of \$572 a year.
- (c) To a married male beneficiary whose wife is not granted a benefit in her own right \$624 a year, increased by \$624 a year in respect of his wife, the total rate to be diminished by \$2 for every complete \$2 of the total annual income of the beneficiary and his wife in excess of \$572 a year.
- (d) To any other married beneficiary \$624 a year, diminished by \$2 for every complete \$2 of the total annual income of the beneficiary and the spouse of the beneficiary, including the amount of any benefit under Part I of this Act (other than an increase of benefit under section 69) granted to the spouse of the beneficiary in excess of \$1,196 a year:

Provided that the rate specified in paragraph (a) of this clause may, in the discretion of the Commission, be reduced by an amount not exceeding \$65 a year in any case where the Commission is satisfied that the beneficiary is sharing household expenses with any other person:

Provided also that in computing for the purposes of this clause the income of any totally blind person the Commission shall take no account of the personal earnings of that person:

FIRST SCHEDULE—*continued*

“SECOND SCHEDULE—*continued*

Provided further that in any case where a beneficiary is totally blind, the rate of the age benefit, together with any benefits and allowances payable to or in respect of the wife or husband of the beneficiary, shall not be less than the aggregate rate of the benefits and allowances that would have been payable to or in respect of the beneficiary and his or her spouse if the beneficiary had been eligible for an invalid's benefit.

2. Special income exemption where application for age benefit deferred \$13 a year in respect of each year of deferment.
3. Additional age benefit for South African war veterans, in every case \$52 a year.

“THIRD SCHEDULE

Sections 21, 24

RATES OF WIDOWS' BENEFITS

1. To a beneficiary without dependent children \$689 a year, diminished by \$2 for every complete \$2 of the annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$572 a year.
2. To a beneficiary with one or more dependent children \$689 a year, increased, in the discretion of the Commission, by a mother's allowance not exceeding the appropriate rate specified in clause 3 of this Schedule, and diminished by \$2 for every complete \$2 of the annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$780 a year.
3. Additional mother's allowance to a beneficiary—
 - (a) On account of first or only dependent child \$494 a year.
 - (b) On account of each additional dependent child after the first \$52 a year.
4. The rates specified in clauses 1 and 2 of this Schedule may, in the discretion of the Commission, be reduced by an amount not exceeding \$65 a year in any case where the Commission is satisfied that the beneficiary is sharing household expenses with any other person.

“FOURTH SCHEDULE

Section 29

MAXIMUM RATES OF ORPHANS' BENEFITS

- In every case \$351 a year, diminished by \$2 for every complete \$2 of the annual income of the orphan in excess of \$104 a year.

FIRST SCHEDULE—*continued*

Section 34

"FIFTH SCHEDULE

RATES OF FAMILY BENEFITS

In respect of each child \$1.50 a week.

Sections 42, 43

"SIXTH SCHEDULE

RATES OF INVALIDS' BENEFITS

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. (a) To an unmarried beneficiary under the age of 20 years | \$585 a year, diminished by \$2 for every complete \$2 of the annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$572 a year. |
| (b) To any other unmarried beneficiary | \$689 a year, diminished by \$2 for every complete \$2 of the annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$572 a year. |
| (c) To a married beneficiary whose wife or husband is granted an age benefit or invalid's benefit in her or his own right | \$624 a year, diminished by \$1 for every complete \$2 of the total annual income of the beneficiary and his or her spouse in excess of \$572 a year. |
| (d) To a married male beneficiary whose wife is not granted a benefit in her own right | \$624 a year, increased by \$624 a year in respect of his wife, the total rate to be diminished by \$2 for every complete \$2 of the total annual income of the beneficiary and his wife in excess of \$572 a year. |
| (e) To any other married beneficiary | \$624 a year, diminished by \$2 for every complete \$2 of the total annual income of the beneficiary and the spouse of the beneficiary, including the amount of any benefit under Part I of this Act (other than an increase under section 69 of this Act) granted to the spouse of the beneficiary, in excess of \$1,196 a year: |

Provided that the rates specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this clause may, in the discretion of the Commission, be reduced by an amount not exceeding \$65 a year in any case where the Commission is satisfied that the beneficiary is sharing household expenses with any other person:

Provided also that in computing for the purposes of this clause the income of any totally blind person, the Commission shall take no account of the personal earnings of that person.

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| 2. Maximum amount from all sources where subsidy paid on earnings of blind invalid, in every case | \$1,508 a year, increased, in the discretion of the Commission, by \$65 a year where the beneficiary is an unmarried person. |
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FIRST SCHEDULE—*continued*

“SEVENTH SCHEDULE Sections 49, 53

RATES OF MINERS’ BENEFITS AND MINERS’ WIDOWS’ BENEFITS

1. (a) To a married miner \$624 a year, increased by \$624 a year in respect of his wife.
- (b) In any other case \$689 a year.
2. To a miner’s widow \$624 a year.
3. The rates specified in paragraph (b) of clause 1 and clause 2 of this Schedule may, in the discretion of the Commission, be reduced by an amount not exceeding \$65 a year in any case where the Commission is satisfied that the beneficiary is sharing household expenses with any other person.

“EIGHTH SCHEDULE Section 55

RATES OF SICKNESS BENEFITS

1. (a) To an unmarried beneficiary under the age of 20 years without dependants \$10.25 a week, diminished by 10c for every complete 10c of the weekly income of the beneficiary in excess of \$11 a week.
- (b) To any other unmarried beneficiary \$13.25 a week, diminished by 10c for every complete 10c of the weekly income of the beneficiary in excess of \$11 a week.
- (c) To a married male beneficiary \$12 a week, increased by \$12 a week in respect of his wife, the total rate to be diminished by 10c for every complete 10c of the total weekly income of the beneficiary and his wife in excess of \$11 a week.
- (d) To a married female beneficiary \$12 a week, diminished by 10c for every complete 10c of the total weekly income of the beneficiary and her husband (including the amount of any benefit under Part I of this Act received by the husband) in excess of \$23 a week:

Provided that the rates specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this clause may, in the discretion of the Commission, be reduced by an amount not exceeding \$1.25 a week in any case where the Commission is satisfied that the beneficiary is sharing household expenses with any other person.

2. Maximum increase in respect of a housekeeper \$10.75 a week.

FIRST SCHEDULE—*continued*

Section 59

"NINTH SCHEDULE

MAXIMUM RATES OF UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

1. (a) To an unmarried beneficiary under the age of 20 years without dependants \$10.25 a week.
- (b) To any other unmarried beneficiary \$13.25 a week.
- (c) To a married male beneficiary \$12 a week, increased by \$12 a week in respect of his wife.
- (d) To a married female beneficiary \$12 a week:

Provided that the rates specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this clause may, in the discretion of the Commission, be reduced by an amount not exceeding \$1.25 a week in any case where the Commission is satisfied that the beneficiary is sharing household expenses with any other person.

2. Maximum increase in respect of a housekeeper \$10.75 a week.

Section 66

"TENTH SCHEDULE

SPECIAL INCOME EXEMPTION IN RESPECT OF SICK BENEFITS FROM FRIENDLY OR LIKE SOCIETY (AGE, INVALIDS', WIDOWS', AND SICKNESS BENEFITS ONLY)

Maximum rate \$2 a week in the case of a sickness benefit, and \$104 a year in any other case.

Section 69

"TWELFTH SCHEDULE

MAXIMUM INCREASE IN RATE OF BENEFIT PAYABLE TO PARENT OF DECEASED MEMBER OF FORCES OR MERCANTILE MARINE

Maximum rate \$1 a week.

FIRST SCHEDULE—*continued*

“FOURTEENTH SCHEDULE

Section 61A

MAXIMUM RATES OF FAMILY MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCES

1. To any person receiving an emergency benefit payable otherwise than by weekly instalments, or an age or invalid's benefit—
 - (a) At the rate payable to an unmarried beneficiary—
 - (i) On account of first or only dependent child \$494 a year.
 - (ii) On account of each additional dependent child after the first \$52 a year.
 - (b) At the rate payable to a married beneficiary—
 - (i) On account of second dependent child \$39 a year.
 - (ii) On account of each additional dependent child after the second \$52 a year.
 2. To any person receiving an emergency benefit payable by weekly instalments, or a sickness or unemployment benefit—
 - (a) At the rate payable to an unmarried beneficiary—
 - (i) On account of first or only dependent child \$9.50 a week.
 - (ii) On account of each additional dependent child after the first \$1 a week.
 - (b) At the rate payable to a married beneficiary—
 - (i) On account of second dependent child 75c a week.
 - (ii) On account of each additional dependent child after the second \$1 a week.”
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Section 19 (3)

SECOND SCHEDULE

NEW FIFTEENTH SCHEDULE TO PRINCIPAL ACT
(Effective on and from 1 April 1969)

Section 124 (4)

"FIFTEENTH SCHEDULE

MAXIMUM RATES OF REHABILITATION ALLOWANCES

1. (a) To any unmarried disabled person under the age of 20 years, without dependants \$6 a week.
- (b) To any other disabled person \$8 a week.
2. If a disabled person is in receipt of a benefit under Part I of this Act or if his or her spouse (if any) is in receipt of such a benefit, the maximum amount that may be received by the disabled person and his or her spouse (if any) from all sources (including a rehabilitation allowance and any such benefit) shall not exceed—
 - (a) In the case of any unmarried disabled person under the age of 20 years, without dependants \$22.25 a week.
 - (b) In the case of any other unmarried disabled person \$24.25 a week.
 - (c) In the case of a married disabled person \$35.00 a week:

Provided that the amounts specified in this clause may be increased by the amount of any mother's allowance or family maintenance allowance being paid to the disabled person or his or her spouse."