Chapter I

Scope of compulsory insurance

1. Any Norwegian subject or other person permanently resident in Norway, who is engaged in forestry within the realm, in the service of another person in return for a salary or other remuneration consisting totally or partially of money, is liable for insurance under this Act.

2. Forestry under this Act comprises production, transport and floating of timber, wood, or other wooden material, and all work connected with it, as well as any work connected with growth and production of timber.

3. Any person whose time of employment by its very nature cannot exceed the minimum of six days, or who draws an old age pension according to this Act, as well as a member of another public pension scheme which the Ministry considers equivalent to the pension scheme of this Act, is exempt from insurance.

4. A person liable for insurance, who has been engaged in forestry for at least 75 weeks during the last 5 years, of which at least 15 weeks occurred during last year, and who is temporarily employed in other work by his employer, is considered liable for insurance for a period of up to 15 consecutive weeks.

Chapter II

Commencement and Cessation of Liability for Insurance

5. Liability for insurance begins at the time of commencement of work and ceases at the conclusion of the period of employ-
6. In the event of the insured person's work being interrupted due to illness or call-up for military services, he continues to accumulate further benefits without paying a premium so long as expenses for illness or treatment in hospital are provided according to the Health Insurance Act, or until such a time as his service is completed. In the same way insurance rights can be accumulated without payment of premium during the time the insured attends vocational training school for forestry workers.

Chapter III
Registration and Cancellation

7. (1) When a person is or becomes liable for insurance, his employer shall register his name for insurance through the insurance fund of his place of work. The Health Insurance Act, Section 7, subsection 2, 3 and 12, apply similarly.

(2) The employer is obliged to undertake the registration laid down in Section 1, within 5 days after liability for insurance commences.

Registration shall be carried out in the manner laid down by the National Insurance Institution.

Should the employer fail to register in time, he is compelled, in any case, to pay the insured’s as well as his own premium from the day liability for insurance commenced.

(3) When the insured leaves his job or the liability for insurance ceases for any other reason, the employer shall give written notice of this to the insurance fund within 5 days.

If the notification is not made within the above mentioned time-limit, the employer is, in any event, obliged to pay the insured’s as well as his own premium from the cessation of liability for insurance until such time as the insurance fund is notified in writing or by some other means.

(4) The person liable for insurance shall notify the insurance fund as soon as he is informed that registration has been overlooked.

Chapter IV
Voluntary Insurance

8. A person liable for insurance who has been engaged in forestry for at least 75 weeks during the last 5 years is entitled to continue his insurance voluntarily during a consecutive period of up to 75 weeks.

The rules respecting compulsory insurance are applicable to voluntary insurance as well, unless otherwise specified according to this Act.

9. Any person desiring voluntary insurance must apply to his local insurance fund no later than two weeks after compulsory insurance ceases.

In the event of the voluntarily insured person changing his place of residence, his insurance rights are transferred to the insurance fund of his new place of residence, as from the conclusion of the period for which premiums have been paid.

Should a voluntarily insured person take up employment which renders him liable for compulsory insurance, his voluntary insurance ceases, but continues once his compulsory insurance is at an end, unless the person concerned clearly states that he does not want to continue voluntary insurance.

If it comes to the notice of the insurance fund at his place of work that a person liable for compulsory insurance, at the time his liability commences, is voluntarily insured elsewhere, it should promptly notify the other insurance fund of the commencement of his liability for insurance. A corresponding notification is made when compulsory insurance ceases.

Chapter V
Benefits of the Fund
A. Old Age Pension

10. Persons having had 750 premium weeks are entitled to old age pension.
11. The age for old age pension is 65 years, but old age pension may be drawn at the age of 60, when the total of age premium weeks amount to 80 years or more. 50 premium weeks are counted as one year.

12. (1) The annual pension amounts to kroner 1.20 for each premium week. Old age pension is not based on more than a total of 1500 premium weeks.

(2) In the case of anyone wishing to draw his old age pension before the age of 65, the pension is reduced by 5% for each year the person is short of being 65 — at the time the pension commences. If a pensioner has lost 2½ or more of his working capacity, the National Insurance Institution, after observations made by the insurance fund’s Board, may dispense with the reduction of the pension. 6 months or more are counted as a year.

(3) For anyone wishing to draw his old age pension after the age of 65, the pension is increased by 10% for each year, past 65, which the pensioner waits to draw his pension, and is employed in forestry as mentioned in this Act, but not beyond the age of 70. 6 months or more are counted as a year.

For anyone who has not accumulated the right to a pension by the age of 65, the supplement awarded for pensions drawn after they fall due is not counted until such a time as he is entitled to a pension, cf. Section 10.

(4) The old age pension of a pensioner supporting a spouse, is increased by 33½ per cent. The pension of a pensioner compelled to support a spouse, from whom he is separated or divorced, may not be increased by more than the amount of support he is compelled to pay.

(5) The old age pension of a pensioner supporting children, as mentioned in Section 21, is increased by 10% of a single person’s pension in respect of each of the first five children.

13. The old age pension commences as from and including the month the request for pension reaches the insurance fund and continues until a month after the death of the pensioner.

When special circumstances render it equitable the Board of the insurance fund may decide that the pension shall commence at an earlier date.

B. Widow’s Pension

14. (1) A widow, entitled to a pension, with dependent children under the age of 18, receives the pension from the time of the husband’s death.

(2) A widow, entitled to a pension, who at the time of her husband’s death has no dependent children, receives the pension at the age of 55. At the time of the husband’s death she receives a temporary benefit corresponding to a two years’ pension, which is correspondingly reduced if she is older than 53.

(3) The National Insurance Institution may grant total or partial pension to:

a. A disabled widow who, according to subsection 2, is not entitled to a pension.

b. A woman, not married to the deceased, if she maintains the children of the deceased and was supported by him.

c. A wife, whose marriage was legally dissolved due to the husband’s disappearance.

15. The regulations in the Marriage Legislation apply to a divorced woman’s right to a pension and benefits as laid down in this Act. A divorced woman’s pension may, however, not exceed the financial support she was entitled to. The pension of a wife to whom the insured was married at the time of death shall not be less than half the widow’s pension.

16. The widow’s pension amounts to 60 per cent of the old age pension incl. supplement for spouse.

17. (1) The pension of the widow of a person who dies while he is compulsorily or voluntarily insured, or within the period of time mentioned in Section 6, shall be stipulated on the sum which the husband’s old age pension would have amounted to had he remained in employment, which rendered him liable to compulsory insurance, up to pensioning age, and as the limitation of Section 10 is disregarded. The same applies in the event of the husband dying within 3 months after the termination of compulsory insurance or of the period of time mentioned in Section 6.

(2) The pension of the widow of an old age pensioner shall
be stipulated on the husband's pension, irrespective of whether it has been reduced according to Section 12, subsection 2 and Section 24.

(3) The pension of a widow which is not stipulated according to the regulations in subsection 1 or 2, shall be stipulated on the pension the husband would have been entitled to at pensioning age, irrespective of whether his pension would have been reduced according to Section 24, subsection 2.

(4) The pension of the widow of a person who accumulates a supplement granted to those drawing a pension after the pensionable age, according to Section 12, subsection 3, is stipulated on the old age pension to which the husband was entitled at the time of his death.

18. A widow is not entitled to a widow's pension in the event of the husband dying within 2 years of the time of marriage, and death being due to an illness from which the husband was suffering at the time of marriage and of which one of them may be presumed to have been aware.

Under special circumstances, the National Insurance Institution may, however, grant total or partial pension.

19. The widow's pension or temporary benefit ceases when the widow remarries.

In the event of her being widowed again, or the new marriage being dissolved by divorce, the National Insurance Institution may, provided that her economic status renders it equitable, grant her a pension of up to the amount of the difference between the pension provided by this Act, and the maintenance or pension she receives from a later marriage.

20. A widow's pension commences (and includes) the calendar month the husband dies or his pension ceases, or as from the month the pension-request reaches the insurance fund. The widow's pension is paid out up to and including the month after the day of her death, or up to and including the day she remarries.

C. Children's Pension.

21. Children under the age of 18, supported by the deceased are entitled to a children's pension.

Children born out of wedlock have the same right to a pension as other children. The same applies to adopted or foster children whom the deceased had undertaken to bring up without receiving any remuneration. If the deceased was drawing an old age pension, he must have undertaken the added responsibility previous to the time he was pensioned off.

Adopted or foster children have no right to a children's pension in the event of the employee dying within two years after undertaking the support of the children concerned, and his decease is due to an illness from which he was suffering at the time, and of which he may be presumed to have had knowledge. In special cases, the National Insurance Institution may grant total or partial pension to adopted or foster children who are not entitled to a pension.

Should the National Insurance Institution find it reasonable out of consideration for the child's education, it may extend a current children's pension totally or partially for one year at a time, but not past the age of 21. Similar rules apply when the breadwinner dies after the child is 18 years of age.

22. (1) A child's pension is stipulated on the widow's pension as follows:

a. when a widow's pension is granted:
   1 child receives 40 per cent of the widow's pension
   2 children receive 60 per cent of the widow's pension
   3 children receive 75 per cent of the widow's pension
   4 children receive 90 per cent of the widow's pension
   5 or more children receive 100 per cent of the widow's pension.

b. when a widow's pension is not granted:
   1 child receives 100 per cent of the widow's pension
   2 children receive 140 per cent of the widow's pension
   3 children receive 160 per cent of the widow's pension
   4 children receive 180 per cent of the widow's pension
   5 or more children receive 200 per cent of the widow's pension.

(2) The children's pension is to be divided equally among the children.

(3) A child may be granted a pension through one insured person only. In the case of more possible pensions, the largest of the pensions is granted.
23. A child's pension runs from a period corresponding to the one mentioned in Section 20 respecting widow's pensions and ceases the month the child reaches the age of 18. If the child dies before reaching the age of 18, the pension runs up to and including one month after the date of his death.

An increased child's allowance, according to Section 22, subsection (1), b, runs from and including the calendar month when the widow's pension ceases or the father dies.

Chapter VI
Reduction and Loss of Pension

24. (1) According to this Act a pension is reduced by the amount of the benefit to which the pensioner is entitled in accordance with the acts respecting accident insurance or war pensions.

If the accident occurs while the insured was compulsorily or voluntarily insured, the old age pension shall nevertheless be reduced only when, together with the benefit mentioned in par. one, it exceeds the amount the pension would have been had the insured kept up his insurance until pensioning age. The old age pension is then reduced by the excess amount.

(2) A pension according to this Act is reduced by the amount to which the individual is entitled according to the old age pensions act.

25. The Board of the insurance fund may reject application for a pension, totally or partially withdraw or withhold the pension awarded if the applicant for a pension (pensioner) has given incorrect information or withheld information of importance respecting the pension.

26. The pension is withdrawn for the period of time during which the pensioner is committed to prison upon conviction beyond one month. If the pensioner has a wife or children under the age of 18, the Board of the insurance fund may decide that total or partial pension be paid to them.

Chapter VII
The Financing of the Insurance Fund

27. The expenses involved in paying pensions and granting benefits according to this Act, and for administering the fund, are covered by:
   a. premiums paid by the insured and his employer,
   b. taxes levied on wood products,
   c. grants from the insurance funds means,
   d. State grants.

28. The size of the premium according to Section 27 a, and the size of the premium for voluntary insurance are laid down by the Storting. 3/8 of the premium for compulsory insurance is paid by the insured: 5/8 by his employer.

The premium is always calculated for a whole calendar week regardless of which day of the week compulsory insurance commenced or ceased.

When a compulsorily insured person is exempt from paying the sickness insurance premium, according to the Health Insurance Act, Section 4, subsection 3, he is also exempt from liability to pay the premium for the old age pension. The same applies when he attends vocational training school for forestry workers.

29. The employer shall pay the insurance fund the whole premium for the same period and at the same time as he pays the sickness insurance premium. If the premium is not paid when it falls due, a 6 per cent annual interest is added until payment takes place.

The employer is entitled to deduct from the salary that portion of the premium allocated to the compulsorily insured person according to the same rules as for the sickness insurance premium.

Cancellation of the premium must be approved by the Board of the insurance fund.

Rules for collection and distraint to ensure payment of the sickness insurance premium are otherwise to apply correspondingly.

30. The premium for voluntary insurance is payable to the insurance fund in advance for at least 4 weeks at a time. The
insurance fund may grant delay of payment of up to 3 weeks in special cases.

If voluntary insurance ceases because the insured enters compulsorily insured work, the insured is credited with the excessive premium he has paid for voluntary insurance.

31. The insurance fund shall keep the insurance moneys separate from any other means.

The premium income which during the fiscal year is not needed to cover the insurance expenses according to this Act, is paid to the National Insurance Institution according to rules specified in detail by the latter.

If the current premium income is not sufficient to cover the expenses of the fund, the National Insurance Institution will put the necessary means at the disposal of the insurance fund.

32. The taxes on wood products according to Section 27 b shall be paid by producers of cellulose, pulp, paper, cardboard, carton, and wallboard, and shall be calculated on the amount of wood product used in the production thereof.

The amount of duty imposed is laid down by the Crown.

The Crown may decide that no duty be paid on wood products imported from abroad, nor on products used for manufacture of articles sold within the realm.

The Crown may make a decision on exemption or reduction of duty in other cases as well.

33. The Crown establishes in more detail the rules for the assessment and payment of duty and establishes the necessary rules for supervision. Within this framework it may be decided that the duty be calculated on a basis of the amount of manufactured goods or semi-finished products.

The duty enjoys the same priority as income-tax and property tax payable to local or national revenue authorities, and may be raised by distraint in the case of anyone liable thereto.

34. The moneys paid to the fund for the pensioning of forestry workers, which was established by temporary Act of 3rd December 1948, cf. provision of 20th October 1949, and 13th October 1950, constitute the basic fund.

The capital of the basic fund may not be used to cover the current expenses of the fund.

35. Any surplus funds accruing for each year shall be placed in a reserve fund. Rules for the use of the reserve fund are established by the Crown with the approval of the Storting.

Should the expenses of the fund during the fiscal year exceed its income, according to Section 27 a-c, the State will make up the deficit.

Chapter VIII
Refund of Premium

36. An insured having less than 750 premium weeks is entitled to a refund of the premium he himself has paid into the fund in excess of the premium for the first 75 weeks. The refund will not take place before the insured reaches pensionable age. If he dies before then, the estate may claim payment of the amount.

The right to a refund lapses if, according to the Act, a widow's or child's pension is paid to the surviving dependents of the insured.

Chapter IX
Administration

37. Local organs of this fund are the official municipal insurance fund and its Board, see Section 39 of the Health Insurance Act.

If none of the members of the insurance fund's Board are insured according to this Act, the municipal council may choose a representative, with a personally nominated deputy, for the insured persons; this representative joins the Board of the insurance fund when dealing with cases falling under the terms of this Act.

The same applies to employers if none of the members of the insurance fund's Board are liable to pay premiums according to this Act.

Otherwise Section 41 of the Health Insurance Act applies.
38. The National Insurance Institution lays down the necessary regulations respecting the local administration, account supervision and responsibility.

The Ministry establishes the remuneration the insurance fund shall receive for the work involved in the pension insurance.

39. The National Insurance Institution is the central board of the pension insurance.

The National Insurance Institution supervises the activities of the local administration and the carrying out of the Act, cf. Section 51 of the Health Insurance Act.

Disputes arising between insurance funds about claims and obligations as laid down in this Act, are settled by the National Insurance Institution.

40. The insurance fund's moneys are administered by the National Insurance Institution in accordance with the regulations established by the Crown, and approved by the Storting. The insurance fund's moneys shall be kept separate from other means administered by the National Insurance Institution.

Chapter X
Appeal

41. Any decision the insurance fund or its Board makes according to this Act, may, within 6 weeks after the party in question has been notified of the decision, be appealed to the Insurance Committee which is dealt with in Section 54 of the Health Insurance Act. For the constitution of the Insurance Committee in dealing with cases respecting this Act, Section 37, second and third subsection apply correspondingly. Decisions made by the Committee may be tried by the National Insurance Institution. Regulations in Section 56 and Section 54 of the Health Insurance Act apply correspondingly.

Chapter XI
Various regulations

42. The pension is paid out in monthly or quarterly instalments according to the decision of the Board of the insurance fund. Amounts are rounded off to the nearest krone.

A widow's temporary benefit according to Section 14 (2) is fixed in such instalments and in such a way as decided by the Board of the insurance fund.

43. The insurance funds shall assist each other in the collection of premiums, as well as give each other whatever information might be necessary in the carrying out of this Act.

Further regulations respecting this matter will be drawn up by the National Insurance Institution.

44. Public and Municipal authorities are obliged to supply the insurance fund, free of charge, with any information required for cases connected with this Act.

45. Unless circumstances entail severer penalties, fines are imposed on the following:
   a. Anyone who neglects to give the requested notice, assignment, or information by the time-limit stipulated in this Act.
   b. Anyone who intentionally or due to gross negligence gives incorrect information about working conditions or dependents or about the time an employment commences or ceases.
   c. An employer who in spite of a demand neglects to pay the premium established by law to the insurance fund.

No charge is made except at the request of the National Insurance Institution.

46. The Crown may make reciprocal agreements with other countries respecting pensioning of forestry workers.

47. Any privileges enjoyed according to this Act may be changed, curtailed or abolished by subsequent legislation. Benefits granted by the National Insurance Institution according to Section 14 (3), second subsection of Section 18, second subsection of Section 19 and Section 21 may be changed or withdrawn at any time.

48. The Crown may issue detailed rules for the execution of this Act.
Chapter XII

Rules to be observed at the Coming into Force of the Act.

49. (1) Anyone having been employed in forestry within the realm on conditions mentioned in Section 1 for at least 75 weeks during the last 5 years, previous to this Act becoming effective, is credited with 75 premium weeks, and in addition to this, 30 premium weeks for each year he exceeds the age of 35, at the time the Act comes into effect.

If any person as mentioned in subsection 1 has been prevented by illness from accumulating 75 weeks, the National Insurance Institution may, where conditions warrant it, credit him with the number of premium weeks he is short of the 15 weeks, during that particular year.

In this Section work in a sawmill run in connection with forestry is considered in the same category as forestry.

(2) In a refund of premium according to the regulations in Section 36, premium weeks which are credited according to subsection 1, are not included.

(3) The regulation in Section 12, subsection 3, is not applicable to persons having reached the age of 65 at the time the Act comes into effect.

(4) The Crown may set a time-limit for presenting claims respecting crediting of premium weeks according to subsection 1.

50. The family of a deceased who complies with the conditions in Section 49, subsection 1, is entitled to a pension according to the provisions of this Act, even if the man (father) dies after the Act comes into effect.

51. This Act becomes effective 7th January, 1962.

On the same date the Temporary Act of 3rd December, 1948, number 11, respecting tax for the pensioning of forestry workers is repealed.