

8. After Regulation 42A the following regulation shall be inserted:—

"42AA. If any person within any area in respect of which the operation of Section one of the Defence of the Realm (Amendment) Act, 1915, is for the time being suspended procures or persuades a soldier to desert or absent himself without leave, or knowingly aids or assists a soldier about to desert or absent himself without leave, or knowingly conceals a deserter or absentee without leave, or aids or assists him in concealing himself, or aids or assists in his rescue, that person shall be guilty of an offence against these regulations, and for the purpose of this provision shall be deemed to have had knowledge unless he proves that he had not knowledge.

"If any person within any such area as aforesaid—

- (a) buys exchanges takes in pawn detains or receives from an officer or soldier or any other person; or
- (b) solicits or entices an officer or soldier to sell exchange pawn or give away; or
- (c) assists or acts for an officer or soldier in selling exchanging pawning or making away with

any arms ammunition equipment or clothing of an officer or soldier, that person shall be guilty of an offence against these regulations, unless he proves either that he acted in ignorance of the same being the arms ammunition equipment or clothing of an officer or soldier, or that the same was sold by order or under the authority of the Army Council."

9. After Regulation 55A the following regulation shall be inserted:—

"55B. (1) Where a Secretary of State is satisfied as respects any area that it is expedient for the better protection of that area from fire that, in case of an air raid or apprehended air raid, the fire brigades and fire appliances in that area or any of them should be employed under single control he may by order:—

- (a) constitute the area a special fire brigade area and define the limits thereof;
- (b) provide that, in case of an air raid or apprehended aid raid, the fire brigades in the special area or any of them shall co-operate in accordance with a scheme approved by him, and shall, for the purpose of carrying out such scheme, act under the directions of a single authority, being the Chief Officer of one of the Fire Brigades in the special area or such other person or authority as may be specified in the order;
- (c) make such additional and supplemental provisions as appear to him to be necessary for the purpose of giving full effect to the order;

and a Secretary of State may also from time to time give such directions as appear to him expedient for the purpose of giving full effect to the order.

"(2) All officers and members of fire brigades in the area to which the order applies shall comply with the directions of the Secretary of State, and with the directions of the authority specified in the order.

"(3) The powers conferred by this regulation on a Secretary of State shall as respects any area situated in Scotland be exercised by the Secretary for Scotland."

ALMERIC FITZROY.

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 22nd day of August 1917.

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Whereas, by virtue of the provisions of the Naval and Military War Pensions, &c. (Transfer of Powers) Act, 1917, the Statutory Committee in the said Act mentioned is to be dissolved, and certain other provisions in the said Act contained are to take effect, as from such date as may be fixed by His Majesty by Order in Council:

Now, therefore, His Majesty is pleased, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, by virtue of the power in that behalf vested in Him by the said Act, to fix the first day of September, nineteen hundred and seventeen, as the date as from which the said Statutory Committee shall be dissolved and as from which the said other provisions in the said Act contained shall take effect, and to order that the said Act shall have effect accordingly.

ALMERIC FITZROY.

Privy Council Office, August 21, 1917.

MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT, 1894.

Notice is hereby given, that after the expiration of 40 days from the date hereof, it is proposed to submit to His Majesty in Council, in pursuance of the above-mentioned Act, the Draft of an Order in Council relating to Passenger Steamer Certificates issued by the Governments of Bengal and Bombay.

And Notice is hereby given that, in accordance with the provisions of the Rules Publication Act, 1893, copies of the proposed Draft Order in Council can be obtained by any Public Body, within 40 days of the date of this Notice, at the Privy Council Office, Whitehall.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

*Lord Chamberlain's Office,
St. James's Palace, S.W.,*

August 20, 1917.

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following promotion in the Most Honourable Order of the Bath in recognition of the services of the undermentioned Officer during the War:—

To be an Additional Member of the Military Division of the Second Class, or Knights Commanders, of the said Most Honourable Order:—

Lieutenant-Colonel (temporary Brigadier-General) Auckland Campbell Geddes, C.B., M.D., Territorial Force Reserve, Director of Recruiting.