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FRIDAY, 2 MARCH, 1934

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 28th day of February, 1934.

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS there was this day read at the Board a Memorial from the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, dated the 22nd day of January, 1934 (C.W. 249/34), in the words following, viz.:—

"Whereas by Section 3 of the Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions Act, 1865, it is enacted, inter alia, that all pay, pensions or other allowances in the nature thereof payable in respect of services in Your Majesty's Naval or Marine Force to a person being or having been an Officer, Seaman, or Marine therein, shall be paid in such manner and subject to such restrictions, conditions and provisions as are from time to time directed by Order in Council:

"And whereas by Your Order in Council dated the 12th day of February, 1931, Your Majesty was pleased to sanction special rates of retired pay for Lieutenant Commanders and Lieutenants, Royal Navy, of certain seniorities, with a view to reducing the surplus then existing in the number of Officers of these ranks on the Active List:

"And whereas we consider it desirable that further steps should be taken with the object of reducing the present numbers of Lieutenant Commanders and Lieutenants on the Active List of the Royal Navy to those estimated to be necessary:

"We beg leave humbly to recommend that Your Majesty may be graciously pleased, by Your Order in Council, to sanction the following proposals:—

I. That the option of retiring with the special rates of retired pay authorised by Your above-mentioned Order in Council of the 12th day of February, 1931, shall, as from the 27th day of July, 1932, and at our discretion, be extended to Lieutenant Commanders of seniority 1932 and to Lieutenants of seniorities 1924, 1925 and 1926; and the said option shall further, as from the 1st day of January, 1934, and at our discretion, be extended to Lieutenants who have attained at least six years' seniority on the 1st day of January of the year in which they retire: such special rates of retired pay to be subject, in all cases, to the conditions laid down in Your Order in Council of the 12th day of February, 1931.

II. That Lieutenants who are confirmed in that rank on or before the 30th day of June, 1934, and Lieutenant Commanders under the age of 40 shall be given the option of retiring with gratuities as follows; this option to be exercised within a period commencing on the 1st day of January, 1934, and terminating on the 1st day of January, 1935, or on such earlier date as we may consider desirable.