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FRIDAY, 6 OCTOBER, 1944

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 28th day of September, 1944.

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 6th day of September, 1944 (P.M. 2248/44), 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, or to the widow or relative of a deceased Officer, Seaman or Marine, 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 the Pensions (Increase) Act, 1944, provision is made under a general scheme, subject to certain conditions and restrictions, for the increase of certain civil pensions payable in respect of public service, and for the increase under a special scheme of certain pensions payable under the Superannuation Acts, 1834 to 1943:

"And whereas we are of opinion that provision should be made for the increase of certain Naval pensions and other awards to correspond, as nearly as may be, with the benefits provided by the Pensions (Increase) Act, 1944:

"And whereas by Clause 7 of the said Act it is enacted, *inter alia*, that in determining whether any person is eligible for a special Greenwich Hospital pension, under section five of the Greenwich Hospital Act, 1869, and the amount of any such pension, any additional sum payable under any Order in Council for the grant to persons who have been in His Majesty's Naval Service of benefits corresponding to those provided under the Act shall be disregarded:

"We beg humbly to recommend that Your Majesty may be graciously pleased by Your Order in Council to empower us to grant at our discretion increases of retired pay or pension to the extent and under the conditions prescribed in the Schedules annexed hereto.

"The Lords Commissioners of Your Majesty's Treasury have signified their concurrence in these proposals.

" SCHEDULE I.

" This Schedule relates to:—

(a) officers' service retired pay, or the service portion of disability retired pay,

(b) the service retired pay, or the service portion of disability retired pay, of members of Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service, and Nursing Service Reserve,

(c) men's Service pensions, including elements for rank and age,

(d) the Service pensions of Teachers in the Girls' and Infants' Schools of the Royal Marine Forces who are pensionable under Order in Council of the 10th February, 1905, and previous Orders,

(e) pensions payable under Order in Council of the 27th October, 1936, and previous Orders relating to Riggers and Yardcraft personnel,

(f) pensions payable under Order in Council of the 3rd July, 1939, and previous Orders relating to European members of the Hong Kong Dockyard Police,

(g) pensions payable under Order in Council of the 27th October, 1936, and previous orders relating to certain Shipwrights,

(h) Officers' widows' "ordinary" pensions and children's "ordinary" compassionate allowances,

(i) Victoria Cross annuities of £10 (with £5 for each bar) and pensionary awards attaching to other bravery medals,

(j) Meritorious Service Annuities payable to Royal Marines,

(k) Retired Officers Naval Pensions and Good Service Pensions,

(l) any award increased under Orders in Council of the 13th August, 1920, or the 8th December, 1924, or which would have been increasable under those Orders but for the income limits imposed thereby.

" 2. Conditions of Eligibility.

" An award to which this Schedule relates may be increased provided the following conditions are fulfilled.

(a) The total income of the pensioner, including pension and pension increase, does not exceed, in the case of a pensioner who is married, or has at least one dependant, £300 a year, or in any other case, £225 a year, but in assessing income for this purpose the first £52 a year of income other than the increasable pension or pensions shall be disregarded.

(b) (i) The pensioner has attained the age of 60 years (or, where the pension is one payable on account of widowhood, 40 years), or has not attained the age of 16 years, or

(ii) the pensioner was invalided from the Naval Service, or

(iii) the pensioner is a woman who has at least one dependant, or

(iv) the pensioner is permanently incapacitated by physical or mental infirmity from engaging in any regular full-time employment.

" 3. Amount of Increase.

" The maximum increase admissible is as follows:—

(a) If the pensioner is married, or has at least one dependant, 30 per cent. of the pension where the pension does not exceed £100 a year, or 25 per