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FRIDAY, 17 MAY, 1918.

At the Court at *Buckingham Palace*, the 11th day of *May*, 1918.

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 4th day of May, 1918, 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 Orders in Council dated the 1st April, 1881, and 8th August, 1911, it is provided that Surgeons of Your Majesty's Fleet must pass a prescribed Professional Examination to qualify for promotion to the Rank of Staff Surgeon, and that failure to pass the

Examination entails compulsory retirement with a reduced gratuity :

“And whereas it has not been possible to hold such Examinations during the War, and it will not be possible to re-introduce them immediately on the conclusion of Hostilities :

“We beg leave humbly to recommend that Your Majesty may be graciously pleased, by Your Order in Council, to authorize us during the period of Hostilities, and for 12 months thereafter, to dispense with this Examination, and to promote to the Rank of Staff Surgeon all Surgeons qualified by length of Service, with retrospective effect accordingly, where necessary, who have had uniformly good reports during their Naval Service, and who are recommended for such promotion by the Director General of the Medical Department.

“The Lords Commissioners of Your Majesty's Treasury have signified their concurrence in this proposal.”

His Majesty, having taken the said Memorial into consideration, was pleased, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, to approve of what is therein proposed.

And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty are to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

Almeric FitzRoy.