



The London Gazette

Published by Authority

Registered as a Newspaper

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FRIDAY, 31 OCTOBER, 1952

Privy Council Office, 31st October, 1952.

UNIVERSITIES OF OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE ACT, 1923.

A Statute made by University College, in the University of Oxford, on the 27th October, 1952, has been submitted for the approval of Her Majesty in Council, and notice of its having been so submitted is published in accordance with the provisions of "The Universities of Oxford and Cambridge Act, 1923".

Westminster, 30th October, 1952.

This day, the Lords being met, a message was sent to the Honourable House of Commons, by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, acquainting them that *The Lords authorised by virtue of a Commission under the Great Seal, signed by Her Majesty, for declaring Her Royal Assent to the Acts agreed upon by both Houses, to desire the immediate attendance of the Honourable House in the House of Peers to hear the Commission read,* and the Commons being come thither, the said Commission, empowering the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, and several other Lords therein named, to declare and notify the Royal Assent to the said Acts, was read accordingly, and the Royal Assent given to:—

- Insurance Contracts (War Settlement) Act, 1952.
- Marine and Aviation Insurance (War Risks) Act, 1952.
- Irish Sailors and Soldiers Land Trust Act, 1952.
- Cockfighting Act, 1952.
- Agriculture (Poisonous Substances) Act, 1952.
- Prisons (Scotland) Act, 1952.
- Agriculture (Calf Subsidies) Act, 1952.
- Housing (Scotland) Act, 1952.
- Intestates' Estates Act, 1952.
- Licensed Premises in New Towns Act, 1952.
- Defamation Act, 1952.
- Visiting Forces Act, 1952.
- Cinematograph Act, 1952.
- Hamilton Burgh Order Confirmation Act, 1952.
- Lerwick Harbour Order Confirmation Act, 1952.
- Rochester Corporation Act, 1952.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

St. James's Palace, S.W.1.

31st October, 1952.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following promotion in the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—

(To be dated 23rd October, 1952.)

To be an Ordinary Knight Commander of the Civil Division of the said Most Excellent Order:—

William George PENNEY, Esq., O.B.E.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

St. James's Palace, S.W.1.

31st October, 1952.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased, on the advice of Her Majesty's Australian Ministers, to approve the undermentioned awards:

George Medal.

A.11162 Leading Aircraftman Robert Mansfield STEWART, Royal Australian Air Force.

British Empire Medal (Military).

A.5425 Corporal John Daly KELLY, Royal Australian Air Force.

On 6th April, 1952, five servicemen from two Royal Navy vessels which were visiting No. 2 Airfield Construction Squadron, Royal Australian Air Force, based on Cocos Island, went bathing on West Island despite a previous warning of the hazards of the surf in that area. They swam outside the safety limits to a dangerous reef, and from there were carried into the open sea by the heavy surf, with the result that one serviceman was drowned. Seeing that these men were in difficulties, members of the Royal Australian Air Force commenced rescue operations during which two airmen were drowned. Despite warnings of the treacherous nature of the surf, Leading Aircraftman Stewart, without thought for his own personal safety, swam over the reef towards the servicemen in difficulties. With coolness he advised one Englishman of the best manner in which to regain the reef and actually dived under one man pushing him on to the crest of a wave. To dive under water on the seaward side of the reef with breakers up to fifteen feet high with terrific back surge of water and the danger of being sucked under the shelf of the reef, was a deed of great heroism. On satisfying himself that one Englishman had been swept to safety on the reef, Leading Aircraftman Stewart then endeavoured to save the life of a fellow airman in a huge sea, but unfortunately, without success. Although he was becoming exhausted, he swam further out to sea where he saw three other men in difficulties. Remembering a gap in the surf, he decided to lead the others there, although it entailed a three miles swim. While fully aware that they were in shark infested waters, this airman by his cheerfulness and advice was able to keep up the morale of the others and lead them to safety. During this period, one member sustained cramp of the foot which was successfully treated by Leading Aircraftman Stewart whilst in the water. This airman displayed outstanding qualities of courage, determination, skill and stamina. By his efforts it is considered that he helped to save the lives of four men. Corporal Kelly was the first airman to go to the assistance of the five British servicemen. He swam through a heavy surf with breakers up to