DESPATCHES FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

No. 49.

CIRCULAR.

Downing Street, 28th December, 1909.

Sir,—I have the honour to transmit, for your information, a copy of an Order of the King in Council of 22nd November, 1909, made under Section 4 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1906, providing that French ships in ports of the United Kingdom shall be exempt from the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, relating to life-saving appliances on proof that they have complied with the French regulations; and also a copy of an Order in Council of the same date, making similar provision as regards Swedish ships.

I have, &c.,

CREWE.

The Officer Administering the Government of Hongkong.

AT THE COURT AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE,

THE 22ND DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1909.

PRESENT,

THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY IN COUNCIL.

WHEREAS by section four of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1906, it is provided that sections four hundred and twenty-seven to four hundred and thirty-one of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894 (hereinafter called the Principal Act), relating to life-saving appliances shall, after the appointed day, apply to all foreign ships while they are within any port of the United Kingdom as they apply to British ships:

Provided that His Majesty may by Order in Council direct that those provisions shall not apply to any ship of a foreign country in which the provisions in force relating to life-saving appliances appear to His Majesty to be as effective as the provisions of Part V of the Principal Act, on proof that those provisions are complied with in the case of that ship:

And whereas by section five of the said Act it is provided that the said appointed day shall be the first day of January, nineteen hundred and nine, or such other day not being more than twelve months later, as the Board of Trade may appoint:

And whereas the Board of Trade have appointed the first day of October, one thousand nine hundred and nine, to be the day after which the provisions of the Principal Act relating to life-saving appliances shall appliy to all foreign ships while they are within any port of the United Kingdom as they apply to British ships:

And whereas it appears to His Majesty that the provisions in force in France relating to life-saving appliances are as effective as the provisions of Part V of the Principal Act:

Now therefore His Majesty, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, is pleased to direct that the provisions of sections four hundred and twenty-seven to four hundred and thirty-one of the Principal Act shall not apply to any French ship while within any port of the United Kingdom, if it is proved that the aforesaid French provisions relating to life-saving appliances are complied with in the case of that ship.

ALMERIC FITZROY.

AT THE COURT AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

THE 22ND DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1909.

PRESENT,

THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY IN COUNCIL.

WHEREAS by section four of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1906, it is provided that sections four hundred and twenty-seven to four hundred and thirty-one of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894 (hereinafter called the Principal Act), relating to life-saving appliances shall, after the appointed day, apply to all foreign ships while they are within any port of the United Kingdom as they apply to British ships:

Provided that His Majesty may by Order in Council direct that those provisions shall not apply to any ship of a foreign country in which the provisions in force relating to lifesaving appliances appear to His Majesty to be as effective as the provisions of Part V of the Principal Act, on proof that those provisions are complied with in the case of that ship:

And whereas by section five of the said Act it is provided that the said appointed day shall be the first day of January, ninteen hundred and nine, or such other day not being more than twelve months later, as the Board of Trade may appoint:

And whereas the Board of Trade have appointed the first day of October, nineteen hundred and nine, to be the day after which the provisions of the Principal Act relating to life-saving appliances shall apply to all foreign ships while they are within any port of the United Kingdom as they apply to British ships:

And whereas it appears to His Majesty that the provisions in force in Sweden relating to life-saving appliances are as effective as the provisions of Part V of the Principal Act:

Now, therefore, His Majesty, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, is pleased to direct that the provisions of sections four hundred and twenty-seven to four hundred and thirty-one of the Principal Act shall not apply to any Swedish ship while within any port of the United Kingdom, if it is proved that the aforesaid Swedish provisions relating to life-saving appliances are complied with in the case of that ship.

ALMERIC FITZROY.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

No. 50.

The following Rules relating to the Examinations of Masters and Mates in the Mercantile Marine were made by the Governorin-Council under Sub-section (8) of Section (4) of the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1899, (Ordinance No. 10 of 1899), on the 7th day of February, 1910, and all rules previously in force were then cancelled.

CHAPTER I.

General Rules.

1. These Regulations are issued in pursuance of the Merchant Authority for Regula-Shipping Ordinance, No. 10 of 1899. tions.

lations 1909,

In accordance with sub-section 2 of section 4 of that Ordinance, Board of every British Ship, and every Colonial Ship exceeding 60 tons, and Trade Reguevery Foreign Ship holding a Passenger Certificate under section 10, shall, when leaving any Port of the Colony, be provided with Officers who possess valid Certificates of Competency of a grade appropriate to their stations in the Ship, or of a higher grade, according to the following scale:—

(a.) In any case, with a duly certificated Master.