

HIGH COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE No. 75 OF 1920.

WAR MEDALS.

Granted by His Majesty the King to the Mercantile Marine, Licensed Pilots, Fishermen, and Crews of Pilotage and Lighthouse Authorities' Vessels, and of Post Office Cable Ships.

The subjoined notice issued by the Board of Trade is published for general information.

With reference to paragraph (a) of the instructions as to the submission of claims for the award of medals, the Authorities in Basutoland, the Bechuana-land Protectorate, and Swaziland, to whom applications should be made by persons residing in those Territories are the Government Secretaries at Maseru, Mafeking, and Mbabane respectively.

Notice No. 64 of 1920 is hereby cancelled.

By Command of His Excellency
the High Commissioner.

H. J. STANLEY,
Imperial Secretary.

High Commissioner's Office,
Capetown, 10th September, 1920.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE MERCANTILE MARINE, AND
THE PILOTAGE, LIGHTHOUSE, AND FISHING SERVICES.

WAR MEDALS.

The following Announcement has been made for public information :—

I.

His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to signify his pleasure that the British War Medal which has been granted to His Majesty's Forces, be granted also to the British, Dominion, Colonial, and Indian Mercantile Marine.

In the United Kingdom the Medal, in Silver, will be given to those who can supply such evidence as may be approved by the Board of Trade of having served at sea for not less than six months between the 4th August, 1914, and 11th November, 1918, inclusive; and those entitled to receive it will include Licensed Pilots, Fishermen, and Crews of Pilotage and Light-house Authorities' Vessels, and of Post Office Cable Ships.

In other parts of the Empire the qualifying service will be the same, but all details will be determined by the several Governments.

II.

His Majesty the King has also been graciously pleased to signify his pleasure that a Mercantile Marine War Medal be granted to the persons who are qualified for the British War Medal, by virtue of the previous paragraph, and who can also supply such evidence as may be approved by the Authorities referred to in that paragraph of having served at sea on at least one voyage through a danger zone. For this purpose a voyage through a danger zone means :—

(a) A voyage on a ship which entered or cleared a United Kingdom port, or a French port, or a Mediterranean port;

(b) Such other voyages in other parts of the world as shall be specified in a further notice.

The medal will be in bronze, and the riband will be green and red arranged vertically, with a narrow white line between them.

III.

The Authorities referred to in paragraphs I and II will determine whether any applicant is disqualified for the Medals by reason of misconduct during the war.

part of the Colonial Government. I would particularly direct your attention to those raw materials required for Imperial trade or defence which are produced within the Empire, either in inadequate quantities or not at all, such as flax, hemp, medium stapled cotton, the lighter timbers, ores of aluminium and copper, phosphate rock, potash, and mineral oil. The question of the possible establishment or extension of fishing industries for export is also worth attention.

5. The committee on commercial and industrial policy after the war drew special attention to this question of raw materials in paragraph 122 of their final report (Cd. 9035). Much of the existing deficiency can be supplied by the tropical Colonies and Protectorates if their great potential resources are adequately developed, and one of the most sure and speedy agents in such development is undoubtedly scientific investigation. The war has furnished a striking instance of the correctness of this view. One of the conspicuous examples of material produced to an insufficient extent within the Empire, to which the committee called attention, was bauxite, the ore of aluminium. At the present time this country is almost entirely dependent on foreign sources of supply, and there is reason to apprehend that these will remain both costly and insufficient. Aluminium is essential to a number of British industries, and the position would be serious if alternative sources of supply had not been found within the Empire. The scientific investigations of the Director of the Geological Survey of the Gold Coast have recently resulted in the discovery of a very large deposit of the mineral in that Colony, and it is hoped that arrangements can be made which will enable it to be worked on a paying basis. Valuable deposits of bauxite have also been found in British Guiana, and are now being developed. Other deposits in the same Colony are now under investigation. If these enterprises are successful, the position of the British industries in question will be greatly strengthened.

This is a solitary instance, but it is typical, and could, if necessary, be supported by others drawn from different parts of the Empire. There can indeed be no doubt that a sound and adequate scheme of scientific investigation would be of the utmost value in developing the resources of the Colonies.

6. Another example of the need of research is furnished by the destructive agencies of various kinds, such as animal and plant diseases, insect pests, etc., which are responsible at the present time for an enormous amount of damage in the Colonies. Such damage can literally be assessed in millions of pounds. Valuable work in this sphere has already been done and continues to be done in many parts of the Empire, but there is undoubtedly great scope for extended research. Such work is likely to prove exceptionally fruitful, since many of these destructive agencies are widely distributed, and scientific discoveries which have been made in one Colony can often be utilized elsewhere. The scale on which this destruction takes place is well illustrated by a recent dispatch from the Acting Governor of the East Africa Protectorate reporting that "more scientific and progressive methods must be adopted in dealing with stock diseases in native reserves if the future welfare of the stock industry is to be secured. It would be difficult to estimate the annual loss from the ravages of stock diseases in native reserves, but if it were placed at the low estimate of 12 per cent. it would easily represent a sum of approximately one million pounds per annum."

7. In Colonies and Protectorates whose financial resources are small, such as the one under your Government, there has hitherto often been great difficulty in finding the means to carry out investigations in themselves very desirable. I am glad to be able to inform you that, for the benefit mainly of such Colonies and Protectorates, I have obtained the consent of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury to the provision of a liberal grant of £20,000 a year from the estimates of the United Kingdom for 1919-20 and the four following years, to be expended in stimulating scientific research with a view to developing the economic resources of the Colonies and Protectorates. This grant, if it is duly voted, will be administered by a small committee, to be known as the Colonial Research Committee, which will work in co-operation with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, the Imperial Mineral Resources Bureau, the Universities, particularly those of industrial districts, and other existing institutions. In the first instance the members of the committee will be Mr. H. J. Mackinder, M.P. (Chairman), two Assistant Under-Secretaries of State for the Colonies, and Sir Frank Heath, the Secretary of the Department for Scientific and

Industrial Research. The grant, liberal though it is, is evidently insufficient for a large number of researches, and the committee will have to content itself with selecting for investigation a few of the most promising of the subjects which may be brought to its notice.

8. To the whole question of research and investigation raised by this dispatch I attach the greatest possible importance, and I trust that you will give it your personal consideration, in consultation with your scientific and economic officers and with suitable members of the unofficial community, and that you will then furnish me with a brief review of the present position of affairs, and with an account of the further steps which in your judgment should be taken in the near future. You should also send in time to arrive by the end of November next particulars of any proposals which you may wish to be laid before the committee in connection with the grant for 1919-20. It would be well that you should not omit any appropriate research of which the need can be foreseen, since but few researches can be completed in one year, and accordingly the grants for years subsequent to 1919-20 may be to some extent hypothecated by the committee's first decision. If you are ready to make any particular proposal at once, such proposal should be sent in advance of the general review, and as soon as possible.

9. There is no objection to the publication of this dispatch.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

MILNER.