

# PERSONAL NEWS

## New Year Honours

The following members of the Engineering Branch were among recipients of New Year Honours :—

- K.C.B. Vice Admiral (E) F. T. Mason, C.B.
- C.B. Rear Admiral (E) J. G. C. Given, C.B.E.  
Rear Admiral (E) P. C. Taylor
- O.B.E. Commander (E) F. J. S. Corney, R.N. (Retd)
- M.B.E. Lt.-Cdr. (E) W. F. M. Davies, R.N. (Retd)  
Lt. (E) C. G. Smith, R.N. (Retd)

**Rear Admiral (E) F. S. Billings, C.B.E., M.I.Mech.E.**, was placed on the retired list on 16th October, 1954, having held the post of Engineer Manager of Portsmouth Dockyard for the past four years.

On 15th November, 1954, he assumed duty as Admiralty Regional Officer, Midland Region (Birmingham).

**Rear Admiral (E) C. Littlewood, C.B., O.B.E., M.I.Mech.E., M.I.Mar.E.**, who retired from the Royal Navy on 28th February, was appointed Assistant Director of Dockyards in February, 1952. He was Assistant Engineer-in-Chief (M.R.) from 1946 to 1949, and was at Malta Dockyard for an unbroken period between 1938 and 1944, as 1st Assistant and as Manager, Engineering Department. He later served in the British Pacific Fleet during the Okinawa campaign.

**Engineer Rear Admiral J. E. Cooke, M.I.Mech.E.**, who took up his appointment as the Engineer Manager in Portsmouth Dockyard in October, 1954, held a similar appointment in the Dockyard at Malta from 1950 to 1953, when he was promoted to Engineer Rear Admiral and joined the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, Plymouth.

Admiral Cooke has served in several Dockyard and Admiralty appointments as well as being the Engineer Officer of five ships, including two aircraft carriers.

**Rear Admiral (E) L. A. B. Peile, D.S.O., M.V.O.**, took up his appointment as Assistant Director of Dockyards on 28th February, 1955. He has had considerable previous Admiralty experience, having served in E.-in-C. Department three times and in D. of D. once. He was the Engineer Officer of H.M.S. *Vanguard* in 1946-47 when His late Majesty King George VI and members of the Royal Family sailed in her to tour the Dominion of South Africa. Promoted to Captain (E) in December, 1947, he was appointed to the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Washington, D.C. Returning to the United Kingdom in 1949, he spent two years in E.-in-C. (Bath), and became Commanding Officer of *Thunderer* in 1952. In 1954 he served at the Imperial Defence College.

**Captain (E) D. J. Hoare** was appointed to the Imperial Defence College on 4th January, 1955. On promotion to Captain (E) in 1953 he was appointed an additional Assistant E.-in-C. in Bath, with a directive to investigate the development of the Maintenance Organization of the Fleet. From 1949-51 he was Engineer Officer of H.M.S. *Vanguard*, then in the Training Squadron, from which appointment he went as Executive Officer, to the R.N.A.S. Arbroath, the training establishment for air artificers, air mechanics and Petty Officer air fitters.

It is noteworthy that Captain Hoare has contributed an article to the *Journal* on experience gained in each of the above appointments.

**Captain (E) A. E. Turner** has recently been appointed Superintendent of the R.N. Aircraft Repair Yard, Fleetlands. As Air Engineer Officer R.N.A.S. Arbroath and Crail, he was in charge of Central Maintenance, supporting a wartime flying training task of 36,000 hours. His extensive Staff experience has been gained with the British Admiralty Delegation, Washington; Flag Officer Naval Air, Pacific; A.C.R.; and R.A.R.A. More recently he has attended a variety of Industrial Management and Work Study courses. His sea service has included almost every type of ship, and his experiences include arctic circle trials in U.S.S. *Philippine Sea* and H.M.S. *Vengeance*.

**Captain (E) J. W. Esmonde, O.B.E., D.S.C.**, who was previously in charge of the S.P.D.C. (U.K.) at Eaglescliffe, was appointed Commanding Officer of H.M.S. *Alaunia* on 10th January, 1955. After spending the war years in destroyers and Combined Operations, he became the Executive Officer of the Fleet Air Arm Ground Training Establishment at Arbroath. He then served at *Phoenix*, in which appointment he was promoted to Captain (E).

**Commander (E) G. D. F. Bloomer** takes up his appointment as assistant Drafting Officer, H.M.S. *Victory*, on 28th March, 1955, after serving for three years in E.-in-C. Department at Bath in charge of the 'Oils' section. He has had other experience of drafting in Australia, Ceylon and Singapore, and was, rather unusually for an engineer officer, the Drafting Officer of the Far Eastern Fleet.

**Commander (E) G. F. A. Trewby** has recently been appointed Engineer Officer of H.M.S. *Albion*. For the past four years he has served in E.-in-C's Department as Inspector of the Gas Turbine Section. During this period he read papers on Naval Gas Turbines in New York, Washington, Naples and Stockholm, as well as in London, Birmingham, Liverpool and Portsmouth. The British version of Commander Trewby's paper appeared in the *Journal*, Vol. 7, Nos. 2 and 3.

Before joining E.-in-C's Department, Commander Trewby had served as Engineer Officer of H.M.S. *Cadiz* and had completed the Naval Staff Course at R.N. College, Greenwich.

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It is with regret that the death of Engineer Rear Admiral Alfred Turner, which occurred on 5th January, 1955, is announced. Born in 1880, he joined the Royal Navy in 1897, and after a varied career of distinction, became in 1925, Superintendent of the Admiralty Engineering Laboratory, West Drayton. He retired in 1932, but in 1939 was recalled, and many will remember his valuable work during the war as Repair Overseer on the Thames. He returned to a well earned retirement in 1945.

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