

PERSONAL NEWS

Captain C. Gatey, C.B.E., A.D.C., who joined the Navy as a cadet at the R.N.C., Osborne, in 1918, retired on 30th June, 1956, after more than thirty-eight years service. He transferred to the 'E' Branch in 1922 and later, from 1929 to 1931, served on the Staff of the R.N.E.C., Keyham. His varied seagoing career included a carrier, four battleships, four cruisers, and two destroyers. During the war he was Engineer Officer of H.M.S. *London*, Assistant to E.A.P. and was the Engineer Officer of *Despatch*, the Headquarters Ship of the Mulberry Harbour during the invasion of Normandy. He was the Executive Officer of *Fisgard* from 1947 to 1949. After being A.E.O., North Western District he became the F.E.O., Far East Station until the end of the Korean War and was made a C.B.E. for his services. He was the Commanding Officer of H.M.S. *Thunderer* from 1953 until 1956.

Captain Gatey's service in Training Establishments brought him in close contact with many of the officers and men for whose well-being he continually worked so hard. He inspired a quiet confidence and seemed always to remember not only a face and a name, but the personality that went with them.

Captain A. B. Vickery, O.B.E., M.I.Mech.E., was appointed in command of H.M.S. *Fisgard* on 21st September, 1956, after serving with the Ministry of Supply as Assistant Director Guided Weapons (Servicing) for over two years. His first shore appointment was in 1934, when he joined Chatham Dockyard as the Assistant for the Catapult Section. He was the Senior Engineer of

H.M.S. *Glorious* from 1938 to 1939, when he became the Assistant to the Chief Engineer, Sheerness, until promoted to Commander in 1942. He served, then, for two years as the Engineer Officer of H.M.S. *Mauritius*. In 1944, he joined the newly created Personnel Section of E.-in-C.(L) as Assistant to (then) Rear-Admiral Ford where he remained until, three years later, he joined the R.A.E., Farnborough, in the Guided Weapons Department where he served until promoted to Captain in 1950. In 1951, he joined the E.-in-C.'s Department, Bath, as the Assistant for New Construction.

Captain W. L. G. Porter took up his appointment as Commanding Officer, H.M.S. *Condor* on 11th May, 1956. Since promotion to Captain in December, 1952, he has served on the Admiralty Interview Board at the R.N.C., Dartmouth, on the Staff of the Supreme Allied Commander with Headquarters in Norfolk, Virginia, U.S.A., and has taken a Senior Officers' Tactical Course at H.M.S. *Vernon*. From 1939 to 1942, he served in the Mediterranean on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief and from 1942 to 1944 in H.M.S. *Belfast*. Other recent appointments have included the cruisers *Kent* and *Aurora* as E.O., the Staff of R.A.R.A. and F.O.G.T., Executive Officer of *Fisgard*, and service with E.-in-C., (London).

Captain Sir John S. W. Walsham, Bt., O.B.E., was appointed Commanding Officer of the Royal Naval Engineering College, Manadon, on 26th May, 1956, after serving for over two years as the Chief Engineer, Singapore. He was a member of the Staff of the R.N.E.C. from 1939 to 1942. In 1942, he was appointed Senior Engineer of H.M.S. *Warspite*, and later became the Engineer Officer. Leaving the ship in 1945, he spent two years in Devonport Dockyard. He has twice served in E.-in-C.'s Department, once in the Personnel Section in London (1947-1949) and once in Bath in the Projects Section (1950-1953) at the end of which appointment he was promoted to Captain.

Captain P. H. Craven-Phillips, O.B.E., M.I.Mar.E., was appointed Superintendent of the Admiralty Engineering Laboratory on 1st October, 1956, after serving for two years as S.E.O. to Flag Officer, Mediterranean Flotillas. He qualified in submarines in 1931, but has also had a varied 'surface' career. In 1941, he became the B.E.O., Naval Party 100, at Polgarnoye and Archangel in N. Russia, where many British and Allied war and merchant ships were repaired. Returning to the U.K. in 1952, he stood by the conversion of S.S. *Clan Campbell* to an 'X' craft depot ship and took part in the trials and working-up practices of the six 'X' craft which attacked the *Tirpitz*. He also attended the trials and working-up of the Chariots-Welmans and the mobile flotation unit for canoes. As E.O. of H.M.S. *Aurora*, 1944-1945, he took part in the 'mopping-up' operations in the Aegean and in the landings in the south of France. He then became, until 1946, the E.O. of H.M.S. *Newfoundland*, operating against the Japanese mainland. He was in charge of the M.T.E., Devonport, 1947-1949, S.E.O. to S.O.R.F., Clyde, 1950-1952, and Secretary to R.A.(E), Portsmouth, 1953, when he was promoted to Captain.

He has always been a keen hockey player and in 1931, while serving in H.M.S. *Queen Elizabeth* in Malta, played for the Navy Hockey Team there.

Captain D. A. Cotman will take up his appointment as F.E.O. on the Staff of F.O.S.M. on 22nd October, and will thus start his fourth period of service in H.M.S. *Dolphin*. Joining submarines in 1933, he has spent twenty years in them or in kindred appointments which have included Superintendent of the U.L.E., Bournemouth and Engineer Officer in the Department of Naval Equipment,

the first for twenty-five years. He has been, since July, 1953, Superintendent of the A.E.L., at West Drayton. His only 'surface' appointments have been to H.M.S. *Nelson*, in 1931, on leaving the R.N.E.C., Keyham, and as Engineer Officer of H.M.S. *Devonshire*, the cadet training cruiser, from 1949-1950.

Captain Cotman has always been an enthusiastic supporter of all games and a performer in most ; though perhaps his rugby football and cricket will be best remembered.

Captain G. W. Tanner was appointed as Assistant D.A.M.R. on 4th August, 1956, after completing a Senior Officers' War Course at the R.N.C., Greenwich. He was promoted to Captain in December, 1955, after serving as Deputy Superintendent, and later Works Manager, at the R.N.A.Y., Fleetlands. Qualifying in Air Engineering in 1944, he became the Air Engineer Officer of the R.N.A.S., Easthaven, and from 1946 to 1949 was head of the Aircraft Modification Section of the Department of Aircraft Equipment and Naval Photography. From 1949 to 1952 he was the Air Engineer Officer and Training Commander at the R.N.A.S., Yeovilton. Before turning his attention to the air, he had a varied experience with ships which included service in one battleship, two cruisers and three destroyers, and standing-by one cruiser and a destroyer while building.

Captain E. C. Beard, M.I.Mech.E., M.I.N.A., A.F.R.Ae.S., recently relinquished the post of Assistant Director (Organization) in D.A.M.R. and was appointed Chief Staff Officer to F.O.R.A. on 18th August, 1956. Since specializing in air engineering in 1944, except for short appointments to H.M.S. *Implacable* and the M.T.E., Chatham, his time has been spent on Fleet Air Arm matters and his appointments included a period of three years in the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough.

Captain J. E. P. Smeall, M.I.Mech.E., will take up his appointment as A.D.E.O., Northern District, on 15th October after two years service at the M.T.E., Chatham. From 1946 to 1950 he served in the S.P.D.C. (U.K.), first at Hampstead Norris and then at Eaglescliffe. The remainder of his career has been spent in, or standing-by, ships of almost every class and in almost every part of the world. His first ship, on leaving the R.N.E.C., Keyham, in 1931, was H.M.S. *Glorious*. Senior Engineer, first of *Hermes* and then *Gloucester*, 1936-1940, he became the E.O. of the 'P' Class destroyer, *Penn*, returning to big ships as Senior Engineer of *Renown* in 1943. Promoted to Commander, he became the E.O. of H.M.S. *Devonshire* from 1944 to 1946. From 1950 to 1954 he served continuously with the carriers, *Ark Royal*, *Illustrious* and *Victorious*.

Captain J. G. Cannon was appointed S.E.O. to F.O. (Scotland) on 8th August, 1956. He was recently, 1953-1955, the E.O. of H.M.S. *Ark Royal*, standing-by her for eighteen months while building and serving in her for the first year of her first commission. From 1941 to 1943 he served as the Senior Engineer of H.M.S. *Cumberland*, taking part in convoys to Murmansk, the relief of Spitzbergen, and the North African Landings. In 1945 he steamed *Manxman* to the Pacific where she assisted in the evacuation of the first P.O.W.s from Japan to Australia. He has held several torpedo engineering appointments at home, in the Orkneys, and abroad, flying to Ceylon, Australia and New Zealand between 1944 and 1945 to plan torpedo overhaul and repair facilities for the British Pacific Fleet, and from 1945 until 1949 was the Torpedo Engineer Officer at Singapore, planning and carrying out the rehabilitation of the Torpedo Depot. From 1949 to 1953, he served in the Admiralty, Bath, in the Department of Armament Supply.

Commander P. F. N. Parker, D.S.C., will join R.A.E. on the Staff of C.-in-C., Portsmouth, on 12th November, 1956, for duty with the Class Authority. He specialized for service in submarines in 1937 and, except for one commission in 1949–1950, as the Engineer Officer of H.M.S. *Euryalus*, has served in them, or kindred appointments, ever since. He was the Engineer Officer of *Perseus* and *Turbulent* before the war and was later Assistant F.E.O. on the Staff of the Flag Officer, Submarines. He has been both the Senior Engineer and the Engineer Officer of the 3rd Submarine Squadron and in 1953 became the Superintendent of the Underwater Weapons Launching Establishment.

Commander M. H. Griffin has been appointed Assistant to the Engineer Manager at Rosyth Dockyard, and will take up his appointment on 7th January, 1957. In 1954, he became a pioneer member of the Class Authority staff at Portsmouth. From 1943 to 1949 he served continuously in submarines and was the Engineer Officer of *Trusty*, *Tactician*, *Tally Ho* and *Alderney*. In 1950, he joined E.-in-C. (Bath) as a member of the M./I.C.E. Section and, in 1952, was appointed to *Eagle* in her first commission serving first, as Flight Deck E.O. and later as the Senior Engineer.

Commander J. P. Shenton, A.M.I.Mech.E., has been appointed to the Naval Drafting Authority, following the announcement in A.F.O.517/56 of the intention to set up a centralized drafting system to replace the present individual drafting offices in each Home Port. During the war he served in H.M.S. *Courageous*, sunk by U-boat in 1939, *Icarus*, 1941–1943, mostly employed on Russian and Malta convoys, and in *Bellona*, 1944, taking part in more Russian convoys and the landings in Normandy. He was the Engineer Officer of *Cleopatra* in the Home Fleet in 1950 and of *Manxman* in the Mediterranean between 1951 and 1953. Although not an O/E specialist, he has served for a total of over eight years with the Armament Supply Department, his last appointment, 1953–1956, being as an Engineering Assistant to the Director.
