EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Rules, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

These Rules prescribe the circumstances in which the signals of distress prescribed by the Collision Regulations (Ships and Seaplanes on the Water) and Signals of Distress (Ships) Order 1953 (S.I. 1953/1557) are to be used by ships and the circumstances in which such signals of distress, if sent by radio, are to be revoked. The Rules implement provisions of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1948, relating to the misuse of signals of distress.

SHIPS AND SHIPOWNERS

1954 No. 679 (C. 6)

The Merchant Shipping Act, 1954 (Commencement) Order, 1954

Made - - - - *20th May,* 1954

The Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by Section 3 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1954(a), and of all other powers him enabling in that behalf hereby makes the following Order:—

1. The provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1954, shall come into operation on the first day of July, 1954.

2. The Interpretation Act, 1889(b), shall apply to the interpretation of this Order as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

3. This Order may be cited as the Merchant Shipping Act, 1954 (Commencement) Order, 1954.

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation this 20th day of May, 1954.

(L.S.) *N. A. Guttery,*
A Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation.

MINES AND QUARRIES

1954 No. 84

The Metalliferous Mines (Amendment) General Regulations, 1954

Made - - - - *23rd January,* 1954
Laid before Parliament *26th January,* 1954
Coming into Operation *7th February,* 1954

The Minister of Fuel and Power, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section eighty-six of the Coal Mines Act, 1911(c), as applied by

(a) 2 & 3 Eliz. 2. c. 18. (b) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63. (c) 1 & 2 Geo. 5. c. 50.