**Blue Ensign of TS Exmouth with shield of London County Council.**

by *Martin Grieve*, 6 September 2003 The Local Government Act of 1929, transferred the functions of the Board to the London County Council

and an new Admiralty Warrant was issued.

"By the Commissioners for Executing the Office of Lord High Admiral of the United Kingdom.

Whereas we deem it expedient that the Training Ship Exmouth of which the Length is 300 feet, the Breadth 53 feet, the Tonnage 4,300, shall be authorised to wear the Blue Ensign of His Majesty's Fleet with the distinctive Marks of the said ship in the Fly thereof, to wit, barry wavy of six azure and argent on a chief of the last the cross of St George charged with leopard of England. The shield is ensigned with a mural crown.

We do therefore by virtue of the Power and Authority vested in us hereby Warrant and Authorise the Blue Ensign of His Majesty's Fleet with distinguishing Marks aforesaid to be worn by the said Training Ship Exmouth. This our warrant shall be recoverable at our discretion at all times, and shall determine and cease to have effect when the Ship named and described herein shall cease to be employed by the London County Council in the training of boys.

Given under our Hands and the Seal of the Office of Admiralty this Fifteenth day of April in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty."

The image is based on a sketch that I made of an illustration in National Archive (PRO) ADM 1/8744/122. It had an unusual mural crown with turrets. The image is not quite right but close.

In September 1939 the school was moved on shore and the ensign lapsed. The ship was bought by the Admiralty, but she will turn up again later as the TS Worcester with a different ensign.

*David Prothero*, 6 September 2003

The ensign was resurrected after the war when the London Nautical School applied to the Admiralty for permission to fly it on shore at Woolverstone, Essex. Permission was granted in a letter dated 3 November 1947. [National Archives (PRO) ADM 1/20882]

*David Prothero*, 18 October 2003

