

To be an Additional Member of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—

Kenneth William Cripps Sinclair-Loutit,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Medical Officer, A.R.P.
Casualty Service, Finsbury.

Awarded the George Medal:—

Richard John Fox	} Leaders, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Finsbury.
George Frederick Harris	

H.E. bombs demolished a building, causing casualties in a basement shelter. Dr. Loutit gave invaluable assistance in determining the exact position of the victims and, for a period of over twenty-seven hours, he was in constant attendance on these casualties as contact was made with them by tunnelling. He administered medical aid and tube feeding, and assisted in their final rescue.

All live casualties were removed except two women who were in the debris at the rear of the basement. Progress had been made towards them but this was slow as there was room for one man only to work at a time. Harris and Fox worked alternately in the tunnel, excavating debris by hand. As it was essential that the rescue should be effected with the utmost speed, such safety measures as temporary propping or strutting were ignored and this added greatly to the danger. Dr. Loutit advised and assisted in the extrication of these women.

Fox and Harris are cool, wise and courageous Leaders of Rescue Parties and continually risk their lives in carrying out their duties.

Marian Edith, Mrs. Boulton, Matron, Sir Robert Geffery's Homes, Mottingham.

When a wing of the Sir Robert Geffery's Homes was set on fire as result of enemy action, Mrs. Boulton entered the burning building and rescued two elderly women, both of whom had been unable, on account of age or infirmity, to make use of the shelter provided for the Residents.

Mrs. Boulton showed remarkable courage and coolness in risking her life to effect these rescues and afterwards continued to direct the removal of the inmates of another wing.

Albert William Brittan, Leader, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Greenwich.

Five persons were trapped by the debris of a collapsed building.

Brittan crawled through the wreckage and brought out a baby. He then moved a door and beams which were obstructing his way, found the mother of the child and carried her out to safety. By crawling and forcing his way further, Brittan rescued one person and recovered the body of another. Whilst doing this the roof of the adjoining house collapsed and almost buried him. With absolute disregard of his own safety he carried on and finally released the last casualty, a man who was pinned down by floor joists. Brittan was under the debris for five hours without relief and displayed initiative, resource, and a high courage. Through his exertions four persons were rescued alive.

George Cox, Skilled Member, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Finsbury.

On many occasions Cox has been responsible for the rescue of casualties trapped in demolished buildings. He has risked his life repeatedly when tunnelling beneath debris and on one occasion, after effecting the release of four people buried in a basement, was himself trapped and injured.

Cox, whether on or off duty, has shown initiative, skill, courage and perseverance.

Frederick Charles Dickason, Watchman, Bristol.

A building was struck by a H.E. bomb which partly demolished it and trapped a man. Dickason, who was acting as Watchman, at once went to his companion's assistance and was engaged in extricating him when an incendiary bomb fell, starting a fire inside the building. Dickason continued his work of rescue notwithstanding the danger of the fire and of other bombs which were dropping nearby. There was every possibility of being trapped himself by further falls of debris but he managed to release the casualty and then succeeded in extinguishing the fire. This he did at great personal risk and did not leave the building until he was satisfied that there was no danger of adjacent premises being affected.

Dickason, who is over 67 years of age, showed great courage.

William Thomas Fenn,	} A.R.P. Rescue Party, Bethnal Green.
Leader.	
Samuel Simmonds,	
Member.	

Hearing a bomb drop nearby Simmonds, although off duty, at once ran to the scene of the incident. Despite the fact that a fire, fed by gas, was raging only three yards away, he located trapped persons in a basement, dug a hole with his hands and finally broke through the side wall of the basement. He entered and released two men, one of whom was seriously affected by gas fumes. Part of the basement was flooded by water to a depth of three feet and there was a strong escape of gas. After searching, he discovered the stopcock and succeeded in stopping the flow of water. Subsequently he found another man. Simmonds succeeded in freeing him before being himself overcome by gas fumes. Leader Fenn then arrived and took over.

Under his instructions the party rapidly dug down into the debris and made a hole in the side of the basement. Fenn entered this and found two men whom he carried on his back, one after the other, to the exit. These rescues called for considerable effort for the tunnel did not allow him to stand and he was compelled to crawl. On returning to make further search, he found a third man. Fenn lay on his back and with great skill removed the dangerous debris until the injured man was freed. Fenn managed to pull him on to his own stomach and, in that position, edged his way back to the exit hole. Fenn was suffering from the effects of coal-gas but on being informed by the released man of another casualty still down