

assisted in the saving of the ship. He left his post only on instructions from his superior officer when the critical point had been passed.

Edward Collins Martyn, Esq., Chief Officer.

The ship, sailing alone, was torpedoed and sustained heavy damage. The propeller dropped off and she began to sink rapidly. It was realised that the position was hopeless and orders for abandonment were given. The crew managed to leave in two boats, one of which reached land after nine days sailing. The occupants of the other were rescued after five days.

The Chief Officer showed great courage and leadership throughout. He took charge of and navigated one of the boats for a voyage of nine days during which a distance of 750 miles was covered. He made a good landfall and it was due to his outstanding skill and seamanship that the occupants of the boat were brought to safety.

COMMENDATIONS.

Those named below have been Commended for brave conduct when their ships encountered enemy ships, submarines, aircraft or mines:—

Joseph Henry Cooper, Esq., Chief Officer.

Philip John Darwin, Esq., First Radio Officer.

Benjamin Bernard John Derry, Esq., Second Officer.

Dugald McFarlane, Esq., Chief Engineer Officer.

Captain John Waring, Master.

James Mills Young, Esq., Chief Officer.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

St. James's Palace, S.W.1.

4th April, 1944.

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned awards of the George Medal and of the British Empire Medal, and for the publication in the London Gazette of the names of the persons specially shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for their brave conduct.

Awarded the George Medal:—

Robert Brinley Jenkins, Mechanical Maintenance Fitter, Royal Ordnance Factory, Ministry of Supply.

An explosion occurred at a factory. Fire broke out immediately and the building was filled by blinding smoke of a chemical origin.

Another explosion followed quickly on the first. It wrecked the roof of the building and heavy beams fell in and large pieces of masonry were hurled from the walls and door arches.

Jenkins, who was about fifty yards away, immediately ran to the wrecked and burning building and was the first man to enter. Firemen provided a water curtain which alone made this possible. Single-handed he rescued four men and later, with the help of others, recovered the body of a man buried under masonry and helped to carry it from the building.

Only when he was satisfied that all casualties were out, did he actually get clear of the building.

By his promptness in running to the rescue at the sound of the first explosion, his cool courage in groping his way into the building not only once, but again and again, and the speed with which he worked, Mr. Jenkins saved the lives of four men.

Nathaniel Mayer Victor, Baron Rothschild, Ph.D., Administrative Assistant, War Office.

For dangerous work in hazardous circumstances.

Awarded the George Medal:—

Harry Hudson, Foreman, Royal Ordnance Factory, Ministry of Supply.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

Rowell Hall, Overlooker, Royal Ordnance Factory, Ministry of Supply.

Foreman Hudson and Overlooker Hall were in a building in charge of the mixing of explosives. This process starts with the mixing and heating of high explosive in an incorporator. During a test Hall saw flames coming from under the charging door of the incorporator. He called Hudson who, having verified that the mixture was on fire, sent the operatives from the building and ordered Hall to bring sand. Hudson stood on the platform of the incorporator and, helped by Hall, threw the sand on the fire as it was brought to him. To do this it was necessary practically to bend over the fire. The mixture was liable to explode at any moment and had the fire spread the building would, without any doubt, have been wrecked. These men voluntarily faced great danger in remaining in a building containing a large quantity of explosives, but they continued until the flames were subdued and the fire was finally extinguished.

It was due to the cool courage of Hudson and Hall that the building with its valuable equipment and stock of explosives was saved.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

Thomas Herbert Daniels, Company Officer, No. 40 (Birmingham) Area, National Fire Service.

A fire occurred in a dwelling house and two children were trapped in a room on the first floor. Company Officer Daniels ascended a ladder but was unable to get into the room on account of the intense heat and smoke. However, despite the fact that the downstairs living room was by this time well ablaze and flames were issuing towards the stairs, Daniels managed to get up the staircase and found a child. He carried her to the window and handed her to a fireman but he then collapsed and had to be helped down the ladder and taken to hospital where he was detained suffering from severe burns.

Company Officer Daniels showed courage and devotion to duty.

COMMENDATIONS.

Those named below have been Commended for brave conduct:—

When rescuing children from a burning house:—

Archibald Fraser, Column Officer, No. 40 (Birmingham) Area, National Fire Service.