

*Board of Trade,  
Mercantile Marine Department,  
20 Great Smith Street,  
Westminster, S.W.1,  
31st July 1928.*

The Board of Trade hereby give notice under the General Rules for Formal Investigations into Shipping Casualties and Appeals and Re-hearings, 1923, that they have received during the month of July 1928, the following Reports of Formal Investigations into Shipping Casualties held by Courts in British Self-Governing Dominions, Crown Colonies and Possessions Abroad:—

- s.s. "Canatco."
- s.s. "Saskatoon."
- s.s. "William Scoresby."
- s.s. "Kowarra."
- s.s. "Orama."
- s.s. "Clan Lindsay" and s.v. "Gunja Hoosani."
- s.s. "Lutana" and s.s. "War Spray."
- s.v. "Hazel E. Herman."

*Admiralty, 2nd August 1928.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve of the award of the Albert Medal to

Lieutenant Reginald William Armytage, R.N., and

Leading Seaman Dick Oliver, O.N. J. 65197 (Po.)

for gallantry in endeavouring to save life at sea.

The following is the account of the services in respect of which the decorations have been conferred:—

On the 23rd May 1928, whilst H.M.S. "Warspite" was lying alongside Parlitorio Wharf, Malta, an examination of the bulge compartments situated the Port side aft was being carried out. The manhole door of the lower bulge compartment was removed and the compartment tested. It was found that the air was foul and poisonous. A Chief Stoker attempted to enter the compartment, although aware that it was in a dangerous condition, and was immediately overcome by the gas and fell unconscious to the bottom of the compartment, a distance of about 20 feet.

The alarm was given and Lieutenant Armytage immediately fetched his gas mask and with a life line round him entered the compartment and reached the bottom, when he was overcome and rendered unconscious. With great difficulty, owing to the small size of the manhole, he was hauled to the exit by means of the life line. He was unconscious and had stopped breathing when hauled into the open air, and was eventually removed to the R.N. Hospital in a precarious condition. Lieutenant Armytage was aware that his gas mask would afford no degree of protection against the CO or CO<sub>2</sub> gases likely to be present in the compartment. He realised that the delay incurred in passing a diver through the manholes would probably prove fatal to the Chief Stoker and appreciated to the fullest extent the grave risk he ran in entering the compartment.

As soon as Lieutenant Armytage had been withdrawn from the manhole of the upper bulge compartment Leading Seaman Oliver, who was in attendance with a shallow diving helmet, volunteered to attempt the rescue of the Chief Stoker, despite the fact that he had witnessed the painful and distressing sights attendant on asphyxiation. After donning the helmet he was passed with considerable difficulty through the manholes of the upper and lower bulge compartments and he eventually succeeded in reaching the Chief Stoker and passing a line round his body by means of which the latter was drawn up through the manhole to the pontoon abreast the ship. On emerging from the bulges Oliver was a very bad colour and suffering to some extent from the poisonous gases in the bulge compartments. Although a smoke helmet provides a considerable degree of protection it was obvious that any displacement would be attended by serious results and, further, having regard to the difficulty in passing Oliver through the manholes when equipped with the helmet, it was quite clear that his quick withdrawal in the event of being overcome was a matter of considerable conjecture, and the delay thus involved might have been attended with fatal results.

*Civil Service Commission,  
August 3, 1928.*

The Civil Service Commissioners hereby give notice that, on the application of the Head of the Department, and with the approval of the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, the following situations under His Majesty's Office of Works, &c., have been added to the Schedule appended to the Order in Council of the 22nd July 1920, namely:—

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Superintendent  | } Housing Estate.    |
| Assistant Superintendent  |                      |
| Clerk Collector   |                      |
| Superintendent  | } Brompton Cemetery. |
| Clerical Assistant  |                      |
| Hall Porter, Osborne.   |                      |
| Warders and Guides in the Royal Palaces and Historic Buildings. |                      |

#### PATENTS AND DESIGNS ACTS, 1907 to 1928.

##### Surrender of Letters Patent under Section 26 (3).

Notice is hereby given that General Railway Signal Company have offered to surrender the Letters Patent granted to Salisbury Marcus Day for an invention entitled "Improvements relating to railway signalling systems," numbered 269,024 (18258 of 1926) and bearing date the 21st July 1926.

Any person who desires to be heard in reference to such surrender should notify the Comptroller-General, The Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London, W.C.2, not later than the 3rd September 1928.

W. S. JARRATT,  
Comptroller-General.