

Basutoland, Swaziland and Rhodesia, and the Bechuanaland and Nyasaland Protectorates;

Monsieur William Thévenaz as Consul of Switzerland at Hull;

Mr. Hugo A. Davidson as Consul of Uruguay at Plymouth, with jurisdiction also at Falmouth; and

Mr. L. M. Pietersz as Consul of Belgium at Kingston, Jamaica.

*Whitehall, 20th June, 1917.*

His Majesty the KING has been graciously pleased to award the Edward Medal of the 2nd Class to Charles Slack, deputy overman at the Woodland Colliery, Durham, under the following circumstances:—

On 2nd November, 1916, a fall of roof occurred, completely burying a hewer named Richardson. Slack immediately sent for help, and himself started to remove the stone from Richardson, although the roof was still obviously very dangerous. Almost immediately a further fall occurred, burying Slack except for his legs. He was pulled out by two hewers, and, after recovering himself, returned to Richardson's assistance. He worked for about ten minutes, and then told the other helpers to get clear, as another fall was about to occur. He attempted to prop the falling stone up with his back, and by so doing succeeded in canting it off Richardson's head, which was now exposed, but he himself was again buried. Both men were finally extricated after about one and a half hours' work.

Slack undoubtedly risked his life in saving Richardson.

Also the Edward Medal of the 2nd Class to Robert John Kirkham, Fourth Class Examiner in the Department of Munitions Inspection.

On the 6th February, 1917, Kirkham, who was working in a filling shed at Watford, noticed smoke issuing from a filled 4-inch Stokes bomb. With most commendable presence of mind and courage he picked up the bomb, threw it out of the shed and shut the door. The bomb exploded in the open with sufficient violence to project the steel head, weighing 20 ounces, a distance of 120 yards. The steel propellant container flew 50 yards in the opposite direction. But for Kirkham's action the explosion would have occurred inside the filling shed, in which about 50 persons were working and a quantity of explosive was stored, and it is probable that loss of life would have resulted. Kirkham was well aware of the nature of the bomb and of the destructive qualities of the explosives with which it was filled.

Also the Edward Medal of the 2nd Class to Thomas Luther Burt, Chief of Police in H.M. Factory at Watford.

On the 13th February last an outbreak of fire occurred at the Watford Factory, at which explosives are manufactured. Burt, who was on his round of inspection at the time, at once rushed into the building, which was burning fiercely and full of suffocating smoke. He carried out Mixer Price, and immediately returned to rescue Mixer Morecroft, the smoke being then so dense and the heat so great that he was compelled to crawl along on his hands

and knees before he could reach Morecroft. Afterwards he worked hard in assisting in the removal of explosives from the burning buildings.

Also the Edward Medal of the First Class to the representatives of Dr. Andrea Angel and Mr. George Wenborne, who lost their lives in endeavouring to save the lives of others on the occasion of a fire which broke out at the Silver-town Chemical Works on the 19th of January, 1917, and His Majesty has been graciously pleased to award the King's Police Medal to the representative of Police Constable Edward George Brown Greenoff, who lost his life on the same occasion.

Also the Edward Medal of the 2nd Class to Percy Roberts Havercroft, Albert Henry Tomlinson, John Walker, and Edward Wingfield.

On the 27th August, 1915, a descending cage containing ten men, collided about half-way down one of the shafts of the Waleswood Colliery, near Sheffield, with an empty ascending cage. The impact was extremely violent, severely injuring all the men and breaking the winding ropes. Both cages were, however, wedged together in the shaft, so that, fortunately, neither of them fell to the bottom, though there was serious danger that they might do so at any moment. A hoppit manned by Tomlinson, Havercroft and Walker was at once sent down to effect the rescue of the imprisoned men. All the men were carried from the damaged car along a girder to the hoppit, which made five descents altogether, the rescue occupying about two hours. During the whole of this time Tomlinson, Havercroft, and Walker were exposed to great danger either from the hoppit being upset by the winding ropes swinging in the shaft, or from the damaged cage breaking loose and falling down the shaft.

Wingfield, who was one of the occupants of the descending cage, had both legs fractured, and received a severe wound on the thigh and a wound on the head. He seized hold of another man who had fallen half-way through the bottom of the cage, and held him up until he was rescued. During the whole time he displayed the greatest coolness and bravery, despite his very severe injuries, and insisted on all his fellow-workmen being removed to a place of safety before allowing himself to be taken to the surface.

Also the Edward Medal of the First Class to Alfred John Henney.

On March the 14th, 1917, a bucket containing detonators was discovered to be on fire at the factory at which Henney was employed. He ran to the building, which was full of smoke, crawled through the smoke on his hands and knees until he found the burning bucket. The rope handle was in flames; but he seized it by the rim and carried it outside, where he extinguished the contents. His promptitude and courage averted a most serious disaster.

Also an Edward Medal of the 2nd Class to Herbert John Gollidge.

On the 25th February, 1917, George Weeks, Under Manager of the Braysdown Colliery, near Bath, was ascending the shaft when the cage struck a water pipe which had become unfastened and was projecting from the shaft. The pipe pierced the roof of the cage and severely injured Weeks, at the same time preventing the cage from ascending. Gollidge