

fire on all occasions. On one occasion the battalion, which had been very much reduced in numbers, both of officers and men, delivered a successful counter-attack, driving back the enemy a considerable distance, and capturing men and machine guns. Company Serjeant-Major Betts was conspicuous for the fearless manner in which he attacked the machine-gun positions, and his behaviour had a marked effect on the men.

(D.C.M. gazetted 26th November, 1917.)

240734 Sjt. (A./C.S.M.) W. Bourne, D.C.M., R. War. R. (Birmingham).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an enemy attack. He personally covered the retirement of an exposed flank with a Lewis gun, and inflicted heavy losses on the advancing enemy. He displayed great courage and rendered fine service at a critical moment.

(D.C.M. gazetted 28th March, 1918.)

240321 (formly. 1714) R.S.M. J. Brammall, D.C.M., York. R. (Scarborough).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He selected a position for a machine gun and worked it until the corporal of the section arrived. He showed great initiative and kept the gun fed with ammunition. His conduct throughout was most conspicuous, and by his untiring efforts in getting ammunition up to the front line a superiority of fire was maintained and the position held.

(D.C.M. gazetted 3rd June, 1916.)

9136 C.S.M. T. Brannan, D.C.M., R. Scots (Shorncliffe).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty under heavy shell fire. When the enemy tried to advance he accounted for several of them by sniping until wounded in the throat. Though unable to speak he refused to leave his post until he saw that the enemy attack had been definitely stopped, nor would he leave his company until he had reported the situation to his company commander. He set a very fine example by his coolness and courage.

(D.C.M. gazetted 30th June, 1915.)

5820 C.S.M. W. Biddle, D.C.M., Glouc. R. (Anerley, S.E.).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When all communication failed with battalion headquarters, and the enemy were working round in the rear of his company, he attacked with a dozen details and drove them back. He did the journey (1,200 yards) between his company and battalion headquarters under heavy bombardment three or four times during the day when runners failed to get through.

(D.C.M. gazetted 14th November, 1916.)

H/46673 (formly. 5820) Sqdn./S.M. D. Brunton, D.C.M., Hrs. (Aldershot).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when, at a very critical moment, under heavy shell fire, this warrant officer set a splendid example of coolness and command in checking the leading troops of the squadron, which had got momentarily out of

hand, and bringing them up in the direction which had been signalled.

(D.C.M. gazetted 17th December, 1914.)

17229 C.S.M. H. E. Bufton, D.C.M., M.M., Shrops. L.I. (Ludlow).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This warrant officer was in charge of some 200 non-commissioned officers and men when a hostile attack appeared imminent. With prompt initiative he pushed forward with his command to an advanced position, whence he delivered a heavy and accurate fire upon the enemy, causing him such losses that the development of what might have proved a serious attack was prevented. Throughout the operation his courage and leadership were conspicuous.

(D.C.M. gazetted 22nd October, 1917.)

50773 (formly. 21146) Pte. F. H. Burke, D.C.M., M.G.C. (Queensland).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when he kept his gun firing till all gunners, except himself and a signaller, had become casualties, inflicting severe losses on the enemy. He only retired when attacked on both flanks by bombers, after destroying his gun.

(D.C.M. gazetted 30th Mar. 1916.)

18327 Cpl. A. Burnett, D.C.M., M.M., M.G. Corps (Leith).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This N.C.O. was in charge of a machine gun, his flanks being protected by infantry, when about 500 of the enemy attacked. On the infantry withdrawing to a fresh position he covered the movement and remained firing his gun from the top of a disused dug-out, inflicting severe casualties, and helping to break up the attack. He was all the time under machine-gun fire.

(D.C.M. gazetted in this Gazette.)

201098 C.S.M. J. C. Cairns, D.C.M., Ox. and Bucks. L.I. (E. Ham).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in action. During a withdrawal he collected a mixed force when the situation was most critical, and held the enemy in check while the remainder of the battalion reorganised. In ten days of heavy fighting he showed the utmost courage and resource in rallying and organising men, and his quickness to grasp the situation was of the highest value.

(D.C.M. gazetted 22nd October, 1917.)

200001 C.S.M. J. R. Carpenter, D.C.M., Shrops. L.I. (Shrewsbury).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Under heavy shell and machine-gun fire, this warrant officer established and maintained connection with our front line. Subsequently, owing to casualties among the officers, he was in charge of half the company, in which capacity he displayed admirable qualities of initiative and resource, and, although badly wounded, he remained at his duty until the operation was complete. He set a very fine example to his men, which encouraged them at a critical and anxious time.

(D.C.M. gazetted in this Gazette.)