

round a flank, exacting heavy casualties. His promptitude and initiative were of great service.

16106 L./Cpl. J. Barratt, M.G.C. (Nun-eaton).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. After a three-hours' hostile bombardment, during which he was badly wounded, he mounted his gun and was the first to open fire on the advancing enemy. He would not leave his position until ordered to do so after the enemy attack had been definitely repulsed.

21413 Sjt. W. H. A. Barratt, Leic. R. (Leicester).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during a hostile attack. When all the officers of his company had become casualties, he assumed command, and, although wounded, kept the company under perfect control until fresh officers came up to take it over. In spite of his wounds, he refused to retire, and did splendid work, not only by encouraging and cheering the men, but also by superintending the issue of rations and ammunition.

D/20040 S.S.M. (A./R.S.M.) L. F. Barrett, M.M., Dn. Gds. (Stockbridge).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during a difficult period. He kept touch between regimental headquarters and squadrons of two other regiments. He took all important messages himself, and organised runners and despatch riders. Throughout the fighting he displayed the greatest gallantry. His coolness and the perfect touch he maintained while entering or leaving villages were of the greatest value.

13697 C.S.M. P. Barrow, Manch. R. (Manchester).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He successfully resisted an enemy attempt to bomb down the trench, and personally shot six. He set a very fine example of courage and energy, both in fighting the enemy and in causing his own wounded to be saved.

45722 Pte. G. Bartlett, Devon. R. (Camelford).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. In defence of a bridge-head, when an enemy armoured car advanced, killing two men alongside him, he kept his Lewis gun in action, and forced it to retire, saving a critical situation.

500154 Cpl. W. F. Barton, R.E. (Patchway).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty whilst commanding a cable detachment. He controlled his men under very trying conditions, and by his fine example caused the detachment to do excellent work.

60804 Sjt. E. G. H. Basher, R.F.A. (S. Africa).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This N.C.O. was of invaluable assistance to the two officers in charge of the corps' ammunition dump established in four different places successively. Though suffering from severe concussion from the explosion

of a shell, he insisted on remaining at duty in spite of pain and fatigue. When, for military reasons, the Labour Company had been withdrawn from work at the dump, Sjt. Basher collected all the details in the vicinity, and setting them a very fine example of calm devotion to duty and disregard of danger, he maintained the issue of the ammunition in spite of heavy shelling and many fires and explosions. During five days' hard and difficult work, when each dump at which he was on duty became in turn a favourite mark for enemy shells and air bombs, he was of the greatest assistance to the officers responsible for the supply of ammunition during severe fighting. His behaviour was splendid.

686818 B.S.M. W. T. Baudains, R.F.A. (Athlone).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When the two forward guns of his battery had been surrounded by the enemy, he pushed forward alone, and on his own initiative, from our front line to reconnoitre the position and ascertain if it were possible to get the guns back. Finding this to be hopeless, he returned under very heavy machine-gun and rifle fire, and was largely instrumental in saving the other four guns from falling into the hands of the enemy. The fine example of gallantry set by this warrant officer throughout the operations had a most inspiring effect on the men.

99480 Cpl. W. C. Bawn, M.G.C. (Redfield).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty while in charge of a Battalion Scouts reconnoitring patrol. He rallied infantry under heavy machine-gun and rifle fire, and held them to their ground. He carried out very valuable reconnaissances, commanded his Scouts with great ability, and set a magnificent example to all ranks.

14024 L./Cpl. L. Bayley, Leic. R. (E. Kirkby).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty while in charge of a Lewis-gun section. For five hours he maintained his position and covered the flank of his company, remaining behind until his company had withdrawn and the wounded had been brought back, when he rejoined his platoon and again used his gun with the greatest effect. His courage and devotion to duty were magnificent.

241658 L./Sjt. H. J. Beale, L'pool R. (Liverpool).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When his platoon commander was wounded, this N.C.O. took command during four days' fighting. On several occasions the breastwork he was holding was blown away by shell fire. He showed coolness and judgment in reorganising the post, and in selecting new positions.

14979 Pte. W. Beardmore, York. R. (Leamside).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This man, with another, was a company stretcher-bearer. These two continually crossed an open gap of about 50 yards, swept by machine-gune fire, attending to wounded and carrying them away. On