SUPPLEMENT

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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

St. James's Palace, S.W.1.
7th February, 1941.

The KING has been graciously pleased to give Orders for the undermentioned appointment to the Fifth Class of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for the following awards of the George Medal and the Medal of the said Most Excellent Order, for Meritorious Service, 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 in Civil Defence:—

To be an Additional Member of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—

Pearl Marguerite, Mrs. Hyde, County Borough Organiser, W.V.S., Coventry.

Throughout the many enemy air raids on Coventry Mrs. Hyde has shown conspicuous bravery in shepherding people to public shelters, visiting shelters during actual raids and encouraging the occupants by her unselfish devotion to duty in ministering to their wants.

Mrs. Hyde has assisted in the feeding of homeless people, showing disregard of danger in organising refreshments for the homeless and Civil Defence Workers, and going out herself when road conditions were perilous from falling masonry and debris, and from the presence of unexploded bombs. She continued this work for several days with but little rest.

Awarded the George Medal:—

Charles Frederick Almond, Special Constable, Metropolitan Police Force.

A house was demolished by enemy bombing. In the wreckage was buried a man whose hand only was showing and who was crying for help. In an endeavour to release the trapped victim, S.C. Almond, who was on the scene, tunnelled below the mass of overhanging debris, which threatened every moment to fall on him. After working alone for some considerable time he succeeded in sufficiently uncovering the man to allow a doctor to administer a hypodermic injection. Eventually a rescue party arrived and took steps to support the wreckage. Even then the Police Officer was the principal worker in securing the eventual release of the casualty. The man was taken to hospital and has since recovered.

There is no doubt that the Special Constable saved his life.

On several other occasions Almond has shown courage of the highest order in rescuing victims of enemy air raids.