

George Herbert Whelton, Station Superintendent, London Power Company, Limited.

As the indirect result of enemy action, an explosion occurred in a switch and transformer house. A heavy air raid was in progress and bombs were being dropped in the locality. As a result of the explosion, a serious fire broke out.

Mr. Whelton personally connected the fire extinguishing apparatus, having to traverse areas awash with burning oil, and eventually the fires on ground level were brought under control. The roof of the transformer house had become involved, and Mr. Whelton, at extreme risk, climbed into the roof and along the supporting steelwork to deal with the outbreak locally. It was necessary for him to make three attempts before the roof fire was finally extinguished.

But for this prompt and courageous action, there is little doubt that the fire in the roof would have attained serious proportions and would probably have attracted intensive bombing from the raiders still overhead.

*Awarded the Medal of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for Meritorious Service:—*

Herbert H. Atkins, Fitter, Hants and Dorset Motor Services, Ltd.

During a heavy air raid on Southampton, numbers of incendiary bombs fell on the Omnibus Company's premises. At the same time they were struck by a high explosive bomb. Atkins and another fitter on duty, immediately tackled the fires. A bomb exploded, severely injuring the other fitter. Atkins removed him to a place of safety, returned, and for seven hours entirely alone, dealt with the incendiaries that continued to fall.

High explosive bombs also fell from time to time but Atkins loyally carried out his duties with complete disregard for his personal safety. His prompt action saved the garage and the vehicles from destruction.

Henry Harper Downward, Police Constable, Manchester City Police.

During heavy air raids on Manchester, P. C. Downward has shown courage and tenacity in dealing with incendiary bombs. With little regard for his own safety he has dealt very efficiently with a number of fires. His conduct, general bearing and devotion to duty have been an inspiration to other members of the Police Force.

James William Fawell, Leader, Fire-fighting Service, James Pitkin & Co. Ltd., London.

During an intensive raid on the City, a particularly fierce fire broke out in a factory stored with timber and furniture. Fawell arranged for two hoses to be brought from the street, through a courtyard, and over the roof. These were played on the fire all night and the surrounding works were saved.

It was entirely due to Fawell's initiative, in very dangerous conditions, that the fire was prevented from spreading.

William Hanlon, War Reserve Police Constable, Manchester City Police.

High explosive bombs demolished several houses. Hanlon immediately attempted to release a man trapped in wreckage up to his neck, with his legs held by cross beams. He tunnelled underneath the victim, working continuously for two and a half hours, with debris falling about him, before he succeeded in effecting the rescue.

Although Hanlon sustained minor bruises, he continued to help the rescue squads in extricating other trapped people, remaining on duty for a period of forty hours.

Archibald Idwal Jones, Police Constable, Salford Police Force.

This constable has shown exceptional keenness and zeal during enemy air raids. His work has been an outstanding example of courage and initiative.

He has been responsible for extinguishing many incendiary bombs and incipient fires and showed great courage and entire disregard of personal danger when assisting at rescue a number of casualties trapped in a demolished house.

Albert Frederick McCann, A.R.P. Post Warden, Woolwich.

McCann was present during a period of very heavy bombing and was in control at all the incidents that occurred. He has shown extreme devotion to duty and personal heroism, and has given great encouragement to his Wardens.

Tom Newton, Devon.

A floating mine was being washed through a harbour entrance and appeared likely to ground close to some cottages. Mr. Newton took a long oar and, with complete disregard of his own safety, guided the mine out, passing it along outside the breakwater and fending it off. When he had found a suitable place, he beached the mine and reported it to the authorities.

The mine had all its horns intact which made it specially dangerous. Had the mooring rope fouled, or the mine struck against the breakwater, it might have blown up and killed the people in the cottages.

Frederick Charles Parker, A.R.P. Warden, Woolwich.

When bombs of a very heavy calibre were dropped, one of the effects was to operate electric switches in twenty houses, lighting them up brilliantly. Warden Parker and his colleagues, in the middle of an intense barrage and falling bombs, ran to the scene, extinguished the lights, rescued trapped people and rendered first aid.

Warden Parker then organised the clearing of the area and showed great initiative and ability in dealing with a very difficult and dangerous problem.

Edward Russ, Sergeant, Salford Special Constabulary.

Throughout the raids on Salford, Sergeant Russ was continually in action. A house was demolished by a high explosive bomb and two persons in an Anderson shelter were buried under the debris. Russ obtained help