

closed them. As the wheels had been partly smashed the men had to use a crowbar and this operation took nearly an hour. All this time a heavy raid was in progress. Although badly shaken Holtham carried out his duties throughout the night.

Holtham showed great courage and endurance.

Albert James Sambridge, Member, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Hackney.

A high explosive bomb struck a building starting fires in the upper floors and breaking the water mains. An opening had to be made in the wreckage for members of the squad to enter the basement where water was three feet deep and still rising. A woman was found but could not be moved. The water had by this time risen to five feet and the men were advised to leave. Sambridge, however, continued his efforts to release the victim.

By going under the water, he managed partly to free her. He then had a rope passed down which he tied to himself and the woman. He directed the men above to pull on the rope taking the strain on his own body and by this means the woman was released. The water was by now within two feet of the ceiling but he managed to guide her to the hole through which she was hauled to safety. Owing to the complete darkness and the difficulties in dealing with the casualty, Sambridge was left swimming in the water, which rose to within six inches of the ceiling, before he also was rescued on the point of collapse.

Sambridge, in effecting this gallant rescue, showed extreme devotion to duty and total disregard of personal safety.

George Stevens, Wallasey.

A woman was trapped in a house which had been extensively damaged by a H.E. bomb and the outer walls were in danger of collapse.

Stevens, regardless of all personal danger, burrowed through the wreckage and found the victim. Despite falling debris and continual enemy action, Stevens persisted in his untiring efforts to rescue her. After working for two hours in a very limited space he succeeded. Stevens then continued with further rescue work, showing great zeal and courage in his endeavour to help the stricken people.

Kenneth Edwin Tapper, O.B.E., M.B., Ch.B., Head of A.R.P. Casualty Services, Bromley.

Dr. Tapper has on many occasions during enemy air attacks crawled under wreckage to search for and give treatment to injured casualties pinned down by debris.

When people were buried beneath the wreckage of a German aeroplane and two houses Dr. Tapper gave medical aid to the victims whilst large unexploded bombs were removed.

Dr. Tapper has shown great gallantry in his efforts to relieve suffering amongst air raid victims.

Awarded the George Medal:—

James Burns, B.Sc., Ph.D., } Gas Light and
Engineer, Coke Company
Arthur Stanley Heap, Head } Limited.
of Works A.R.P. Services,

*Awarded the British Empire Medal
(Civil Division):*—

Frank Anderson, Assistant Valveman,	Gas Light and Coke Company Limited.
William John Dixey, Retort Pipe Fitter,	
Albert Frederick Smith, Retort Pipe Fitter,	
Eric Napper Smith, Works Police Constable,	

Ernest William Wenborn,
Holder Attendant,

During an air raid incendiary bombs perforated gas-holders and the torches thus lit presented a target to the enemy.

Dr. Burns, with Police Constable Smith, climbed to the top of one holder and found that Anderson and Wenborn were already coping with the flames, and between them the four men extinguished all the fires.

A further shower of incendiaries caused fires in various sections of the plant. These fires were so widespread that all the resources of the works were required to cope with them. Mr. Heap quickly mobilised his men and the works fire brigade tackled all the fires.

The enemy then started to bomb the works with H.E.'s, and holders were pierced.

Anderson and Wenborn, at great risk to themselves, closed the valves beside the flaming holders, while Mr. Heap, with A. F. Smith and Dixey, put out the many flaming torches on the tops of holders.

Dr. Burns showed coolness and foresight in co-ordinating the efforts of the various units, and Mr. Heap's gallant leadership was outstanding. All these men showed courage in the face of grave danger.

*Awarded the British Empire Medal
(Civil Division):*—

Albert Edward Alcock, Head A.R.P. Warden, Coventry.

Alcock has attended every major incident in his section, and has supervised and taken an active part in rescue work.

He has worked untiringly in very dangerous and difficult conditions, and on one occasion helped to rescue four civilians who were trapped.

On another night he rescued an elderly man from a bed in a badly damaged house and, while bombs were falling nearby, removed him to safety. He also supervised the rescue of a number of people who were trapped in a private shelter, and it is chiefly due to him that all were rescued alive.

His courage and energy were an inspiration to his colleagues.

Cyril Howard Barwick, Leader,	A.R.P. Rescue Party, Sutton and Cheam.
William Henry Pollock, Deputy Leader,	

A high explosive bomb demolished part of a building.

A man was buried under a heavy pile of debris, upon which lay a large fallen chimney stack in a most insecure position.