CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD,

St. James's Palace, S.W.1. 30th October, 1945.

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned appointment to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for the following awards of the British Empire Medal, and for the publication in the London Gazette of the name of the individual shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for brave conduct.

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

Miss Odette Sansom, First Aid Nursing Yeomanry.

For services in France during the enemy occupation.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

Albert Brown, Farm Labourer, Northampton. Harry Richardson, Farm Labourer, Hardingstone, Northampton.

An aircraft, with a crew of seven on board, crashed in a field. The violence of the impact broke off the rear portion of the fuselage and the remainder of the aircraft disintegrated and burst into flames. Brown immediately rushed to the tail of the aircraft and, single-handed, extricated the rear-gunner. Richardson, then joined Brown and together they entered the burning wreckage and rescued the badly injured mid-upper gunner whom they removed to safety. They returned to the

blazing aircraft and, with help, searched and found the bodies of the remainder of the crew.

Brown and Richardson showed courage and determination without thought for their own safety.

Morven Ritchie TAYLOR, Junior Porter (Dyce), London and North Eastern Railway Company.

An aircraft crashed into a goods train. Six wagons were derailed and three of these were overturned. The nose of the aircraft was jammed in the wreckage which caught fire within a few seconds. Taylor, a 16-year old porter, saw a member of the crew trying to get out of the burning aircraft. Without the slightest hesitation, and amidst a hail of exploding ammunition, Taylor pulled himself on to a burning wagon and lifted the injured airman out of the wreckage. With help, he then lowered him to the ground and immediately returned to attempt the rescue of a second member of the crew. Taylor was forced back by the intense heat and there was then no hope of a further rescue. Shortly afterwards a petrol tank exploded, scattering burning debris in all directions.

Taylor showed courage and, by his prompt action, saved the life of the airman.

KING'S COMMENDATION.

The individual named below has been Commended for brave conduct when an aircraft crashed and caught fire:—

Walter Davenport HACKNEY, Farmer, Aston Tirrold, near Didcot, Berkshire.

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