

Henry Edward WEEKS (deceased), Able Seaman, s.s. "Tantalus" (Ocean S.S. Company, Ltd.).

For services when attempting to escape from an internment camp.

FALAVI OF VAITUPU, Wireless Operator at Beru.
MAHEU OF NANUMEA, Wireless Operator of Funafuti and Niutao.

MATUSI OF NUKUFETAU, Wireless Operator at Kuria.

PELETI OF FUNAFUTI, Wireless Operator at Ocean Island.

TELAVI OF NANUMEA, Wireless Operator at Abaiang.

For services to the Coast Watching Organisation, Gilbert and Ellice Islands.

Michael TAPERELL (deceased), British resident in France.

For services to the Forces during the enemy occupation of France.

Edward Tibbs BOYSON, Special Constable, Northamptonshire Constabulary.

For services when arresting a suspected person.

John S. FEARON, Constable, Northampton Borough Police Force.

For rescuing the occupants of a burning house.

John LOVE, Miner, Kilsyth, Stirlingshire.

For rescuing a man from drowning.

KING'S COMMENDATION FOR VALUABLE SERVICE IN THE AIR.

Geoffrey Patrick de la Trobe Shea-SIMONDS, M.B.E., Test Pilot, Rolls Royce Ltd.

For services when testing aircraft.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD,

St. James's Palace, S.W.1.

22nd January, 1946.

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned appointments to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, in the Merchant Navy, and for the publication in the London Gazette of the names of those specially shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for their brave conduct.

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

Captain Andrew Melville CAVAYE, Master, s.s. "Iceland" (Currie Line Ltd.).

The s.s. "Iceland" was sailing from Gibraltar in a convoy which was attacked by submarines, and two ships were lost. On the same day an attack by enemy bombers was made on the convoy, causing the loss of four ships. The "Iceland" turned back to the assistance of one of these vessels, which, sinking quickly, had overturned a lifeboat of survivors. The "Iceland" launched her starboard boat and succeeded in rescuing seven of the men who had been thrown in the water.

The following day a further attack was made on the convoy, and another ship was sunk. The steering gear of the "Iceland" parted and she was obliged to stop for repairs. Two shells were fired over s.s. "Iceland" by the German cruiser "Admiral Hipper", and the Master had no alternative but to abandon ship. In spite of the bad weather all the crew got into the lifeboats safely and were made prisoners by the raider. They have now been repatriated. Captain Cavaye was outstanding throughout and he displayed great courage in the face of overwhelming odds.

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

Douglas William DAVIDSON, Esq., Second Officer, s.s. "Portia" (Coast Lines Ltd.).

A tanker struck a mine and immediately caught fire. Although the sea was covered with blazing spirit over a large area, the s.s. "Portia" which was following in the wake of the vessel at once lowered a boat. Five survivors were picked up in spite of the grave danger of the burning spirit which continued to spread rapidly.

The Second Officer, who was in charge of the boat, displayed coolness and courage in the rescue operations.

KING'S COMMENDATIONS.

Those named below have been Commended for brave conduct when their ships encountered enemy ships, aircraft, submarines or mines:—

Harry Valentine BAKER, Assistant Steward, s.s. "Portia" (Coast Lines Ltd.).

William BYRNE, Junr., Donkeyman, s.s. "Brittany Coast" (Coast Lines Ltd.).

Leonard COTTRELL, Deck Hand, s.s. "Harlesden" (J. & C. Harrison, Ltd.).

Charles Reginald CRIPPS, Esq., Second Officer, s.s. "Empire Bairn" (Bulk Oil Steamship Company, Ltd.).

Captain Geoffrey DEVINE, Master, m.v. "Diloma" (Anglo Saxon Petroleum Company, Ltd.).

John Langdon FRIEND, Esq., Chief Engineer Officer, s.s. "Harlesden" (J. & C. Harrison, Ltd.).

Harold Leslie George GITTINS, Able Seaman, s.s. "Portia" (Coast Lines Ltd.).

Francis Hubert JOHNSTONE, Steward, s.s. "Empire Bairn" (Bulk Oil Steamship Company, Ltd.).

Francis Michael McCABE, Esq. (deceased), Chief Engineer Officer, s.s. "Brittany Coast" (Coast Lines Ltd.).

Robert McMillan NISBET, Deck Hand, s.s. "Harlesden" (J. & C. Harrison, Ltd.).

Briercliffe PARKER, Chief Cook, s.s. "Harlesden" (J. & C. Harrison, Ltd.).

Captain Charles PARRY, O.B.E., Master, s.s. "Harlesden" (J. & C. Harrison, Ltd.).

James Wylie RICHMOND, Esq., Chief Officer, s.s. "Brittany Coast" (Coast Lines Ltd.).

Edgar Roger SADDINGTON, Able Seaman, s.s. "Portia" (Coast Lines Ltd.).