

Miss Joan Bamford FLETCHER, Women's Transport Service (First Aid Nursing Yeomanry).

For services to the Forces in the Far East.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

Derick Godfrey GOODALL, Cadet, Air Training Corps, Bashley, Christchurch, Hampshire.

Peter Harold WEST, Smallholder, Bashley, Christchurch, Hampshire.

When an aircraft crashed and caught fire Derick Goodall, who is fifteen years old, and his seventeen year old friend Peter West, were first to reach the wreckage. Breaking a way into the fuselage they found one member of the crew still conscious. They helped him out of the wrecked aircraft and over the boggy ground to firm land. One airman was found under the wreckage of the engine fuselage and another was lying in the bog. Both of these men were carried to safety by the two boys. On returning to the aircraft to look for the remainder of the crew, they heard shouts for help coming from a wood where they found a fourth airman in a dazed condition.

The prompt and courageous actions of the two boys resulted in the rescue of four airmen.

Jumma KHAN, Interpreter, Village Yari-pok, Manipur (Assam).

For services to the Forces in Burma.

Henry O'NEILL, Overman, Walknill Colliery, Cumberland.

O'Neill was in his cabin when he heard an explosion and saw a cloud of dust. Without hesitation he went to investigate and found the dust cloud came from a shaft inset where he knew three men had gone to measure the water level. He arranged for the accident to be reported to the manager and then without thought for his own safety, went on alone into the explosion area.

The dust cloud was so thick at the time that visibility was reduced to a few feet. O'Neill came upon two injured men. He made them as comfortable as he could and searched for the third man but was unable to locate him. He went back for assistance and then returned to look for the missing man who was eventually found dead.

O'Neill showed courage and was largely instrumental in saving the life of the survivor.

Mary, Mrs. SMITH, lately British resident in Athens.

For services to the Forces in Greece.

Stephen WAINWRIGHT, Leading Stoker, Blackburn Meadows Generating Station, Sheffield.

An explosion occurred in a boiler house and all inside were in danger of being scalded to death.

Wainwright instinctively made for the door but instantly returned and, under con-

ditions of considerable danger and difficulty, made his way as near to the boiler as he dared and located the cause of the explosion. He then toured the building and, having made sure that there were no injured, took measures to ensure the safety of his plant. He stopped all the mechanical stokers and made his way to the top of the defective boiler and shut off the stop-valve there. During all these operations the boiler house was completely filled with scalding vapour and visibility was practically nil.

Wainwright showed courage without thought for his own safety. His prompt action prevented more damage to the plant and, possibly, further injuries to personnel.

KING'S COMMENDATIONS FOR BRAVE CONDUCT.

Miss Evelyn GORE-SYMES, lately British resident in Budapest.

For special services to the Allied cause.

Herbert Edward TURNER, Apprentice, s.s. "Empire March" (Headlam & Son).

For attempting to escape from a Prisoner-of-War Camp in Japan.

Henry Charles Ralph Fulford WILLIAMS, Administrative Officer, Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

For services in a Prisoner-of-War Camp in Japan.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1,
29th October, 1946.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following award in the Merchant Navy:—

British Empire Medal (Civil Division).

Harry Richard PHILLIPS, Apprentice, s.s. "Empire Webster" (Hall Brothers).

On 7th February, 1943, s.s. "Empire Webster," sailing in convoy, was torpedoed. The torpedo struck the after end of the ship, and a second explosion caused the vessel to settle down by the stern.

It was found that the stern was almost blown away and the after-deck a mass of wreckage. As the vessel was sinking, orders were given to abandon ship.

Two members of the crew who were trapped were freed by Apprentice Phillips. He gave up his lifejacket to one of the injured men and, after helping him on to a raft, swam to one of the boats.

The survivors were picked up by a corvette. About three hours later a further torpedo struck the "Empire Webster," causing her to sink immediately.

Apprentice Phillips showed great courage, without thought for his own safety.

LONDON

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

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1946

Price Sixpence net

S.O. Code No. 65-37771