

Congresbury holding a shot gun in a menacing manner. His brother tried to persuade him to hand over the gun but he refused and lunged at him with a large sheath knife. He was next seen by Mr. Austin. He was still carrying the shot gun and told Austin it was loaded and that he was going to shoot a Policeman. Austin tried to persuade him to hand over the gun and go home quietly, but he refused. The Police were called and went with Austin towards the man's caravan. As they did so a shot was fired and the man appeared carrying two shot guns. He had a large sheath knife between his teeth. He fired two or three shots at the Policeman and then fired two shots into a Police patrol car, doing extensive damage. Mr. Austin was by now within 15 yards of the man trying to reason with him, and he followed him up to the village, always within a few yards of him trying to persuade him to put the guns down. The man kept in the open and after firing several more shots at Police Officers he went into the side door of Allen's shop. It was clear to Mr. Allen that the man was in a most dangerous mood, and that it would be an almost certain fatal risk for any Police Officer to try and get near him. Allen picked up a walking stick, came up behind the man and struck a blow on his head, causing him to drop both guns, but he turned and with considerable ferocity he stabbed Allen twice in the stomach with the sheath knife. Allen managed to hang on to the man until Austin and the Police Officers ran forward and overpowered him.

Gerald HEAPHY,
Fitter's Mate,
Acton,
London W.3.

An explosion occurred at a factory when a valve broke on a horizontal ammonia compressor. The highly saturated ammonia fumes poured out of the fractured valve, and a workman was overcome. Heaphy, who was about to enter the compressor room at the time of the explosion, went into the room but had to retreat because of the fumes, which formed a dense white fog about four feet high from the floor. Heaphy put on a gas mask, which was suitable only for low concentrations of ammonia, and went into the room to the rescue of the unconscious workman. He found him lying on his back on the floor close to the damaged compressor, and tried to lift him, but was unable to do so. By this time the fumes had penetrated Heaphy's clothes and gas mask. He nevertheless managed to get hold of the man's legs and dragged him across the floor and, by lifting and half dragging him over the concrete platform of another compressor and through the compressor room, got him to the door. Heaphy then took off his gas mask to get fresh air, put it on again and re-entered the room from another doorway in an attempt to close the delivery valves. The workman died in hospital the next day as a result of inhaling fumes. Heaphy, who suffered burns on the chest, neck and right hand, realised the risk of gassing or of burning from contact with liquid ammonia involved in entering the compressor room wearing an unsuitable gas mask, but did not hesitate in making the attempt to save his workmate.

Gordon William MOUATT,
Sergeant,
Queensland Police Force.

Terence Norman FERGUSON,
Detective Constable,
Queensland Police Force.

Vaughan Francis GOOLEY,
Constable,
Queensland Police Force.

Ronald Robert ROBINSON,
Ambulance Bearer,
Queensland Ambulance Brigade.

A cyclone struck the township of Bowen causing great damage to property. Sergeant Mouatt summoned all available Police, and they carried out protective measures to save life and property. Shortly after 7 p.m. the whole of the township was completely blacked out, and this condition remained throughout the night. At 8 p.m. the gale force winds increased to terrifying velocity. A large portion of the approach to a wharf was carried away and debris dislodged girders and stanchions which were strewn over the permanent way of the railway line. Heavy seas were breaking against the superstructure of the remainder of the jetty and it was raining heavily. During the progress of the cyclone Sergeant Mouatt, Constable Gooley and Detective Constable Ferguson together with Ambulance Bearer Robinson displayed exceptional bravery in assisting persons to safety and in restoring radio communication. They carried out their duties during the full period of the cyclone at considerable risk to their own lives.

Joseph Marshall NELSON,
Plumber's Mate,
Glasgow.

Two brothers aged 7 and 9 years and a companion aged 9 years were playing on the ice on the Firhill Timber Basin when the ice gave way and the two older boys fell into the water 50 feet from the north bank of the Basin. The youngest boy made good his escape and shouted for help. A number of passers-by made several unsuccessful attempts to rescue the drowning boys. Mr. Nelson had witnessed the commotion from his house and ran the distance of about half a mile over a rough and icy road to the canal side of the Basin which was nearer to the position of the boys. He then made his way on hands and knees over the ice until it gave way under him and he went into the water. By this time, only one boy could be seen and Mr. Nelson swam the remaining few feet to him, took hold of him and swam back to the edge of the ice. As the ice kept breaking Nelson was unable to lift the boy to relative safety until he was thrown a rope from the bank. As rescuer and rescued were towed ashore, Nelson broke the ice with his elbows and forearms until firm ice was reached. The rescued boy was conscious throughout but was suffering from shock, exposure and bruising to the face. Mr. Nelson sustained extensive cuts to the body, arms and hands caused by the breaking ice. The body of the other boy concerned was not recovered until later.