

Admiralty, 3rd September, 1917.

The KING has been graciously pleased to confer the Decoration of the Albert Medal on:—

Ernest A. Pooley, Chief Motor Mechanic,
M.B. 1627.

Herbert Powley, Deckhand, S.D. 1193.

The following is the account of the services in respect of which the Decoration has been conferred:—

On the 22nd April, 1917, a violent explosion occurred on board H.M. Motor Launch 431 while she was lying alongside the jetty at the Base.

The after part of the vessel was wrecked, and it at once became known that Sub-Lieutenant Charles W. Nash, R.N.V.R., was buried beneath the wreckage.

Chief Motor Mechanic Pooley and Deckhand Powley, who were on board their own vessel lying at the jetty some fifty yards astern, immediately hurried to the motor launch, which was by that time burning fiercely. The flames were every instant drawing nearer to the spot where Sub-Lieutenant Nash lay buried, and it was clear that there was imminent danger of the after petrol tanks exploding at any moment. Regardless of the fact that this would mean certain death to them, Powley and Pooley jumped on board the vessel and succeeded in extricating Sub-Lieutenant Nash from beneath the wreckage and carrying him to the jetty. As they were leaving the boat the whole of the after part burst into flames, and, in all probability, had they been delayed for another thirty seconds all three would have perished.

Deckhand Powley, who led the way on board the burning motor launch, had subsequently to be sent to hospital suffering from the effects of fumes.

Admiralty, 3rd September, 1917.

The KING has been graciously pleased to confer the Decoration of the Albert Medal on—

Artificer Engineer (now Acting Mate (E))
Edmund John Pysden, R.N.

The following is the account of the services in respect of which the Decoration has been conferred:—

On the morning of the 27th February, 1917, one of the auxiliary stop valves in one of H.M. Ships accidentally burst, the boiler room immediately becoming filled with dense steam. In spite of the danger of burning and suffocation from steam, and of the fact that it was impossible to draw fires or at once to lift the safety valves, which rendered the possibility of a second and even worse accident highly probable, Mr. Edmund John Pysden, Artificer Engineer, R.N., made several gallant attempts to enter the stokehold, and succeeded in bringing out two men who were lying insensible on the stokehold plates, and helped to bring out others. Several of the survivors would undoubtedly have lost their lives but for the rescues effected by this officer and others. Mr. Pysden also eventually succeeded in opening the safety valve, which relieved the immediate danger of a further accident. Although he had a wet rag tied over his mouth, he swallowed a considerable quantity of live steam, and was partially incapacitated by its effects. Notwithstanding the gallant efforts of Mr.

Pysden and other members of the ship's company, three men lost their lives owing to the accident and nine were seriously injured.

Admiralty, 25th August, 1917.

R.M.A.

Lieut.-Col. John Markham Rose returns to Corps duty from the secd. list, and is borne supy. till absorbed. 3rd Aug. 1917.

R.M.L.I.

Lieut.-Col. Lewis Stratford Tollemache Halliday, V.C., C.B., is secd. for special service. 15th Aug. 1917.

Maj. and Bt. Lieut.-Col. Richard Henry Julius Meister to be Lieut.-Col., vice Halliday, secd. 15th Aug. 1917.

Admiralty, 27th August, 1917.

R.M.

The undermentioned to be tempy. 2nd Lieuts.:—

Ernest Flavell Smith (from Gunner, R.M.A.).

Leslie Conway Hills (from Inns of Court O.T.C.).

Lawrence Harold Pascall.
20th Aug. 1917.

Tempy. Lieut. Frederick Herbert Wrenn to be actg. Capt. whilst comdg. a Coy. 19th July 1917.

Admiralty, 28th August, 1917.

R.M.A.

Maj. and Bt. Lieut.-Col. Frederick Lewis Dibblee is secd. for special emplt. 9th Aug. 1917.

Maj. Henry Knighton Stephens (supy.) is absorbed in the estabtd., vice Dibblee, secd. 9th Aug. 1917.

R.M.

The undermentioned proby. 2nd Lieuts. (tempy. Lieuts.) to be Lieuts.:—

Rioull Cunningham Graeme Mackenzie.

Mark Cuthbert Adamson.

Maxwell Hardy Spicer.

Charles Robert Wharram Lamplough.

John Hugo Haddon.

Alan Bennis Fennell Alcock, D.S.C.

Kenneth Alfred Bridge Puckle.

Reginald Hanhart Watts.
27th Mar. 1915.

Tempy. Lieut. Ralph Howard Fowler (secd.) to be tempy. Capt., and to remain secd. 20th Aug. 1917.

Labour Corps.

William John Farthing (from Pte., R.M.L.I.) to be temp. 2nd Lieut. 22nd Aug. 1917.

Admiralty, 30th August, 1917.

R.N.R.

To be tempy. Sub.-Lieut.—

Cleve C. Paine. 30th Aug. 1917.

R.M.

Proby. 2nd Lieut. (tempy. Lieut.) John Wallace Edwards Crooke is placed on the ret. list on account of medical unfitness. 15th Aug. 1917.