

Wharf, Malta, an examination of the bulge compartments situated the Port side aft was being carried out. The manhole door of the lower bulge compartment was removed and the compartment tested. It was found that the air was foul and poisonous. A Chief Stoker attempted to enter the compartment, although aware that it was in a dangerous condition, and was immediately overcome by the gas and fell unconscious to the bottom of the compartment, a distance of about 20 feet.

The alarm was given and Lieutenant Armytage immediately fetched his gas mask and with a life line round him entered the compartment and reached the bottom, when he was overcome and rendered unconscious. With great difficulty, owing to the small size of the manhole, he was hauled to the exit by means of the life line. He was unconscious and had stopped breathing when hauled into the open air, and was eventually removed to the R.N. Hospital in a precarious condition. Lieutenant Armytage was aware that his gas mask would afford no degree of protection against the CO or CO<sub>2</sub> gases likely to be present in the compartment. He realised that the delay incurred in passing a diver through the manholes would probably prove fatal to the Chief Stoker and appreciated to the fullest extent the grave risk he ran in entering the compartment.

As soon as Lieutenant Armytage had been withdrawn from the manhole of the upper bulge compartment Leading Seaman Oliver, who was in attendance with a shallow diving helmet, volunteered to attempt the rescue of the Chief Stoker, despite the fact that he had witnessed the painful and distressing sights attendant on asphyxiation. After donning the helmet he was passed with considerable difficulty through the manholes of the upper and lower bulge compartments and he eventually succeeded in reaching the Chief Stoker and passing a line round his body by means of which the latter was drawn up through the manhole to the pontoon abreast the ship. On emerging from the bulges Oliver was a very bad colour and suffering to some extent from the poisonous gases in the bulge compartments. Although a smoke helmet provides a considerable degree of protection it was obvious that any displacement would be attended by serious results and, further, having regard to the difficulty in passing Oliver through the manholes when equipped with the helmet, it was quite clear that his quick withdrawal in the event of being overcome was a matter of considerable conjecture, and the delay thus involved might have been attended with fatal results.

*Admiralty, 30th July, 1928.*

*R.M.*

Prob. Lt. H. D. Fellowes is confirmed in the rank of Lieut. 1st Sept. 1927.

The order of seniority of the under-mentioned Prob. 2nd Lts. is as follows:—

John G. Fisher.  
Nigel R. M. Skene.  
Frank C. Horton.

Eric C. E. Palmer.  
Dudley G. Cornelius.  
Timothy P. Honnor.  
James R. C. Browne.  
Franklin F. Clark.  
Edward A. Brown.  
Robert G. S. Lang.

*Admiralty, 1st August, 1928.*

*R.N.*

Paym. Sub-Lieuts. to be Paym. Lieuts.:—

J. H. P. Proctor.  
J. T. Shrimpton.  
A. A. Loveridge.

1st Aug. 1928.

Cd. Engr. R. H. Davies placed on Retd. List at own request. 27th July 1928.

Wt. Mechn. H. J. Phillips to be Cd. Mechn. 1st Aug. 1928.

*R.M.*

Cd. R.M. Gnr. P. W. Sparkes is placed on Retd. List at own request. 1st Aug. 1928.

*R.N.R.*

Lieut. J. S. Bell to be Lieut.-Comdr. 26th July 1928.

*War Office,*

*3rd August, 1928.*

#### REGULAR ARMY.

Maj.-Gen. S. E. Hollond, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., retires on ret. pay. 4th Aug. 1928.

Col. (temp. Brigadier) H. C. Jackson, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., is apptd. A.D.C. to The King, vice Col. G. S. G. Craufurd, C.B., C.M.G., C.I.E., D.S.O., (ret.). 28th July 1928.

The undermentioned Cols. are placed on ret. pay, having reached the age for retirement:—

K. E. Haynes, C.M.G., C.B.E., 2nd Aug. 1928, and is granted the hon. rank of Brig.-Gen.

A. Chopping, C.B., C.M.G., late R.A.M.C. 3rd Aug. 1928.

Lt.-Col. L. D. Watling, from Ind. A.S.C., to be Col., 10th May 1928, with seniority 22nd Jan. 1928.

Lt.-Col. (Bt. Col.) P. H. Henderson, D.S.O., M.B., from the R.A.M.C., to be Col., 3rd Aug. 1928, vice Col. A. Chopping, C.B., C.M.G., to ret. pay.

#### COMMANDS AND STAFF.

Maj. F. H. Linton, D.S.O., Welch R., is apptd. D.A.Q.M.G. (temp.), Rhine Army. 20th June 1928.

#### INFANTRY.

*The King's R.*—Maj. J. H. L. Browne retires on ret. pay. 4th Aug. 1928.

*D.C.L.I.*—2nd Lt. H. G. Cornish-Bowden resigns his commn. 7th July 1928.