

fire in check until the arrival of the fire brigade.

Longmire, who sustained burns and other injuries to his hands, set a splendid example of bravery and devotion to duty and undoubtedly assisted in saving life by his prompt action.

William Benjamin Mendham, Company Officer, London Auxiliary Fire Service.

Alfred North, Senior Fireman, London Fire Brigade.

On the occasion of serious fires in the City, Company Officer Mendham worked unceasingly for over eight hours taking different crews into various buildings where fires had gained a strong hold. These buildings were considered unsafe owing to hits by high explosive bombs. His prompt actions confined the fires to the scenes of origin.

Senior Fireman North led parties of men to the upper floors of two separate eight-storey buildings where fire had obtained a good hold, and was threatening other buildings as well as showing considerable light to the enemy overhead. By his exertions, leadership and initiative, the fires were confined to these two buildings and quickly subdued.

William Henry Patstone, School Caretaker, Coventry.

During a severe enemy air attack the basement of a Girls' School was used as a shelter by members of the public. Patstone took charge of the shelter and those using it. H.E. bombs were falling in the district and there were many fires. The school was struck by a bomb and a fire broke out. Patstone climbed into the rafters and fought the fire for some considerable time despite the fact that bombs were dropping nearby. Many houses were demolished and Patstone took the homeless into the school shelter, inspiring them by his coolness and courage, particularly when the entrance was damaged. On two occasions he was blown down the steps into the shelter by blast. This did not deter him from attending to the protection of those persons present and of the property.

Sidney Henry Richman, Leader, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Battersea.

Richman has shown continual good service and devotion to duty. With his Party he has attended many incidents and performed rescue work with great efficiency. On one occasion, in order to release an injured man who was trapped, he worked continuously for about one and a half hours in a confined space fully realising that the remaining portion of a four-storey wall was liable to collapse and burv him at any moment. He successfully extricated the casualty.

Edward Thomas Stacey, Chief Inspector, Southampton Police Force.

During an air raid on Southampton a H.E. bomb fell on a Police building. Inspector Stacey, who was standing nearby, was partially buried by debris. After releasing himself, he assisted in removing others, and was then conveyed to Hospital with injuries to the chest,

He returned to Headquarters a short time later, again took charge of the Control Room, although suffering considerable pain, and remained on duty for the whole of the night.

Chief Inspector Stacey's leadership during the raid was of the highest order and he set a fine example to other members of the Force.

Frank Williams, Special Constable, Derbyshire Special Constabulary.

Special Constable Williams was on duty during an enemy air raid, when a H.E. bomb dropped and demolished the back half of a house. Six persons were trapped under the staircase and there was a very strong smell of coal gas from a fractured gas main. Williams immediately started to remove the fallen debris and extricated the six people, four of whom were suffering from coal gas poisoning.

During the time the rescue was being effected, other bombs were falling and there was great danger of the rest of the building collapsing.

Thomas Ellis Wilson, Police Constable, Lancashire Police Force.

P.C. Wilson was on duty when bombing commenced. One of the bombs fell whilst passengers were alighting from an omnibus nearby, and a number were killed. Others were injured.

P.C. Wilson at once took charge of rescue operations and, besides rendering first aid to the injured, he quickly organised the local residents and led a search in wrecked houses for possible casualties.

It was thought that an unexploded bomb was lying close to the scene of the incident, but this did not deter the Constable from remaining and he was, at times, the only person not under cover when bombing was renewed in the district. He set an inspiring example by his gallantry and devotion to duty throughout conditions which could hardly have been more difficult.

COMMENDATIONS.

Those named below have been brought to notice for brave conduct in Civil Defence.

James Atkins, A.R.P. Warden, Manchester.
John James Atkinson, Constable, Liverpool Fire Brigade.

Sidney Thomas Browning, Sub-Leader, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Ramsgate.

Arthur Buckley, Works Fitter, City of Stoke-on-Trent Gas Department.

David Forsyth Crawford, Police Constable, Birmingham Police Force.

Joseph Deacon, A.R.P. Warden, Worsley.

William Charles Dixon, Member, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Ramsgate.

Cyril George Dunn, Police Constable, Metropolitan Police.

Harold Emery, Member, Works Fire Brigade, Birmingham.

Miss Marjorie Joyce Fairfax, First Aid Post Worker, Sheffield.

Harry Charles Fisk, Constable, Liverpool Fire Brigade.

Ernest Victor Foxon, Deputy A.R.P. Post Warden, Hendon.

Lionel Frederick Grape, Section Officer, London Auxiliary Fire Service.