

with his shoulders until Bignall finally dragged her to safety.

Both officers showed exceptional coolness, courage and perseverance, disregarding the risk of being overcome by gas fumes.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

Charles Bertram Allmand, A.R.P. Warden, West Riding of Yorkshire.

Occupants of a house damaged by a bomb were buried under a quantity of wreckage. The bedroom floor was in a most dangerous condition and likely to fall. Part of the debris was cleared from a woman's head and body, and it was then found that her feet were trapped by a beam of timber. Allmand obtained a saw, cut the timber away and, after a considerable amount of hard work, succeeded in liberating the woman.

Allmand continued with the work of rescue until the remaining occupants were released. He worked very hard in dangerous conditions regardless of his own safety.

Joseph Adrian Ambrose, Police Station Cleaner, Metropolitan Police.

During enemy air attacks, Mr. Ambrose has always been ready to accompany rescue parties going to scenes of damage. At all times of the day and night he has absolutely refused to be deterred from sharing the risks that necessarily fall upon those who conduct such operations.

On many occasions, quite voluntarily, Ambrose has assisted the Police in rescue work, often at risk to his own life.

William Morgan Ayres, }
John Alfred William } A.R.P. Wardens,
Pillar. } Swansea.

Francis Henry Dart, Police Constable, Swansea Police Force.

A bomb destroyed three houses and a shop. A man and his wife were trapped in one of the houses. Ayres and Pillar removed considerable debris, and succeeded in rescuing them. As they were doing so, and before they got the people out, they noticed that the side wall was on the point of collapsing. Pillar held this up by putting his back against it, whilst Ayres helped the man to carry his wife clear. He then returned to Pillar's assistance.

Suspecting that someone was buried under the wreckage of an adjoining house Pillar attempted to get under the debris but a large stone was dislodged which held him fast. Ayres was able to release Pillar. P.C. Dart then entered the cavity feet foremost, followed by Ayres.

Working in extremely dangerous conditions they were able to dig through the debris and reach the trapped person, an old lady, who was then alive. She was covered with plaster and bricks, which Dart attempted to remove whilst Ayres protected and supported her head. Unfortunately, before she could be released from the heavy weight of wreckage, she died.

Ayres and Pillar then went to the shop, entered through a small hole, and found a

man and woman. After some difficulty they managed to get them out. During this time the enemy attack continued and bombs fell nearby. The Wardens and the Police Constable showed great courage and devotion to duty in very dangerous circumstances.

Edward Barnard, Sub-Officer of Stretcher Parties, A.R.P. Casualty Service, Wandsworth.

Houses were demolished by high explosive bombs and several people trapped. In order to reach these persons it was necessary to tunnel through the wall of an adjoining house. A narrow tunnel fifteen feet long was constructed. Mr. Barnard volunteered to crawl along this to administer morphia. He had been in the wrecked building throughout and several times before had crawled into the adjoining houses. He knew the considerable risk involved as the walls were actually cracked at the time and had to be constantly shored up. He went in to see if he could possibly reach the two persons who were still alive. He was then given a syringe containing morphia and again crawled through the tunnel to give injections to a man and a woman.

Although aware that at any moment the building and tons of debris might collapse, Barnard returned three times to give injections. He showed splendid devotion to duty regardless of the extreme danger.

Stanley Charles Dunn, Police Constable, Southampton Police Force.

Richard Edward Holdsworth, War Reserve Constable, Southampton Police War Reserve.

Dunn and Holdsworth displayed courage and endurance during air raids on Southampton. They tackled serious fires in premises damaged by bombs, took charge and directed operations which resulted in the saving of the lives of a number of casualties and throughout showed initiative and coolness in promptly dealing with various incidents.

George Eastman, }
Member, } A.R.P. Rescue Party,
Arthur James Rentle, } Acton.
Skilled Member, }

When a house was wrecked by a bomb a man and woman were trapped in bed by the first floor joists and a heavy load of debris a few inches over their heads.

In order to release them a hole was cut through the joists and Rentle and Eastman crawled into the space below. They put props under the floor to prevent further collapse and then began the work of releasing the victims. To do this the bed had to be cut away. Gas was escaping in several places and the building was practically surrounded by fire which at one time reached to within a yard of where the men were working. They were soaked with water from hoses but carried on until they had extricated the casualties. This took nearly two hours.

By their endurance and courage in the face of considerable danger, Eastman and Rentle saved two lives.