

lapsing. More debris had to be removed, and Lamb worked in the cavity he had made for three hours.

As a result of the courageous action and perseverance of Lamb three persons were rescued alive.

Richard Paton, Labourer, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Hammersmith.

Two women and a baby were known to be buried under the debris of a collapsed shelter. Paton began tunnelling to reach them. He had to work his way through a mass of debris which was liable to collapse at any moment. The casualties were pinned under slabs of concrete upon which rested an iron girder. The risk he ran in order to remove this concrete was extremely grave, for, had the girder been dislodged he would have been crushed in its fall. Realising, however, that the trapped casualties could not be extricated alive by any other means, he continued his efforts. Throughout this hazardous operation, which lasted well over two hours, Paton displayed persistency and courage of the highest order. It was due solely to his efforts that the two women and the child were eventually rescued alive.

Charles Reginald Russell, Acting Divisional Officer, Portsmouth Auxiliary Fire Service.

Acting Divisional Officer Russell was in charge of an Auxiliary Fire Station which was wrecked by a high explosive bomb. He was buried beneath the debris.

Two members of his staff were killed and others injured. Mr. Russell assisted in extricating the injured persons in spite of his own injuries.

He remained on duty during the next forty-eight hours and it was largely due to his ability and example that such splendid team work was displayed by the officers and men of his division.

Gerald Frederick Wheeler, Auxiliary Fireman, Portsmouth Auxiliary Fire Service.

During an air raid Wheeler was severely wounded in the left leg and was advised to report to the First Aid Party for immediate treatment and removal to hospital. He did not do this, however, but carried on with his duties on the mobile dam, although it was obvious that he was in great pain. He removed two mobile dams from alongside blazing premises at some personal risk, as the buildings were in a state of collapse.

A block of three-storey buildings was on fire and Wheeler continued to relay water to this site for two and a half hours. He then collapsed. But for his brave efforts many valuable buildings would have been destroyed.

George Samuel Alfred Woodward, Leader.	} A.R.P. Rescue Party, Chelsea.
Walter Capon, Skilled Member.	
George William Pitman, Labourer.	

At great personal risk and after hours of gruelling work Capon, Pitman and Woodward succeeded in carrying out a particularly dangerous tunnelling operation

which resulted in the rescue of a girl from debris under which she had been imprisoned for four days.

The work, carried out in extremely arduous conditions, was rendered more dangerous by the dropping of H.E. bombs nearby. Operations, however, were not interrupted. When the casualty was reached she was pinned by the neck, arms and legs by timbers which were actually supporting the debris above. Despite the risks involved the work of sawing through the timbers was undertaken and she was released.

#### COMMENDATIONS.

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

George Aitkenhead, Foreman, Clydebank and District Water Trust.

John Balfour Allan, M.B., Ch.B., Casualty Service, Lincs (Kesteven).

James Anderson, Control Room Messenger, Public Cleansing Department, City of London.

Frank Anthony Barnes, Schoolboy, Beckenham.

Charles Barraclough, A.R.P. Messenger, Sheffield.

Isaac Bogard, M.M., A.R.P. Stretcher Party Leader, City of London.

Leonard Bryant, Skilled Member, A.R.P. Rescue Party, St. Pancras.

Ernest Bullock, A.R.P. Warden, Bristol.

Robert Charles Cross, Police Constable, Portsmouth Police Force.

Fred Emerson, Leading Fireman, Salford Auxiliary Fire Service.

Aileen Filsell, Ward Sister, Royal South Hants and Southampton Hospital.

Henry Crighton Finnegan, Window Cleaner, Southampton.

Frederick William Foord, Auxiliary Fireman, Thurrock Auxiliary Fire Service.

John Ernest Franklin, Police Constable, Birmingham City Police.

Harold Freeman, Police Constable, "H" Division, Metropolitan Police.

Letitia Cunningham Gardiner, Nursing Auxiliary, Emergency Ambulance Service, Liverpool.

Herbert Beaton Giles, M.B., Ch.B., Casualty Service, Lincs (Kesteven).

Frank Walter Grant, Sub Officer, Thurrock Fire Brigade.

Ellen, Mrs. Gray, Green Hill, Sheffield.

Henry Harvey, Section Officer, Thurrock Fire Brigade.

Charles Francis Bateman Hedges, Police Constable, Portsmouth Police Force.

Leslie Hepher, Taxicab Proprietor, Southampton.

Grace Dora Johnstone, Sister in Charge of Massage and Electrical Treatment Department, Queen Mary's Hospital, London.

Raymond John Jones, Police Constable, Portsmouth Police Force.

Dennis Kendall, Managing Director, Lincs (Kesteven).

Ernest Kirk, Member, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Lincs (Kesteven).

Herbert Larsen, Fireman, Thurrock Fire Brigade.