

Warden Howard and Constable Hutchings displayed outstanding bravery in effecting the rescues which were carried out in the face of enormous difficulties and danger. After their efforts both men carried on throughout the rest of the night, Howard acting as a messenger for the Fire Services and Hutchings performing police duties.

Awarded the George Medal:—

Harold Etherington Wood, B.E.M., Police Sergeant, Birmingham City Police.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

Ernest Callaghan, Police Constable, Birmingham City Police.

James Hughes, Millwright, Birmingham.
- During an enemy air raid a building was completely destroyed by bombs and two fires were started. Wood and Callaghan at once went to the building and learned that six people were trapped in an underground shelter. They found one man, attended to his injuries and put him in a safe place. They commenced digging operations and found the body of another man beneath the debris. More of the building collapsed and closed the entrance to the shelter. The two men then went to the front of the premises where the exit had been blocked by heavy debris. With help they cleared a way and found that the inside of the shelter had partly collapsed. Although water was escaping into it and there was danger from live electric wires, the Sergeant and Constable Callaghan entered the shelter and commenced rescue work. They were joined by Hughes who followed Wood inside and helped to remove debris from a woman. Another woman was recovered and passed from the shelter.

The building was four storeys high, each floor carrying heavy machinery. This and the steel framework was liable to fall on the rescuers. During their work enemy planes were overhead and bombs fell nearby.

The three men acted in a most courageous manner without thought for their own safety and, by their prompt action and determined efforts, saved the lives of three persons.

Awarded the British Empire Medal

(Civil Division):—

Arnold Ernest Bateson, Motor Driver, Kingston-upon-Hull.

During an air raid a H.E. bomb exploded near some Alms Houses inhabited by elderly people. Two of these houses were demolished, trapping three of the inmates under the debris. There was great danger of being injured by falling masonry but, without hesitation, Bateson climbed through a blown-out window, contacted one of the women, and started to remove the rubble and bricks from her head and shoulders. The roof was hanging from the adjoining house and likely to fall at any moment but, despite the great risk, Bateson continued to clear the wreckage from the casualty.

He worked his way under the debris and at the same time held up a wall, by this action protecting the victim from further injury. Although ordered to come out by a rescue party, he refused until the wall was propped up. Afterwards he still insisted on rendering

such assistance as was in his power and did not leave until the woman had been extricated.

Bateson displayed courage and great determination.

Edwin Charles Buttle, Police Inspector, Norwich City Police.

Charles William Shore, Warden, Civil Defence Wardens Service, Norwich.

Inspector Buttle and Warden Shore have shown outstanding courage and devotion to duty whilst carrying out duties in connection with unexploded time-bombs. Both men worked continually during and after air raids with complete disregard of their personal safety and gave invaluable help to the Bomb Disposal personnel.

The Reverend John Franklin Cheyne, Senior Warden, Civil Defence Wardens Service, Southampton.

The Reverend J. F. Cheyne has shown great courage and determination throughout enemy air raids on Southampton. He has carried out his duties in the Civil Defence Wardens Service with coolness and efficiency and his leadership has been outstanding.

James Pilling Cundy, Stableman, Exeter Co-operative Society, Exeter.

During an enemy air raid the stables where Mr. Cundy worked were set alight by incendiary bombs. Attempts made to extinguish the fires with buckets of water were unsuccessful. There were fourteen horses tethered in the stables and all were terrified by the fire and explosions. The building was burning furiously and debris was falling into the stable, which was full of smoke. Cundy, disregarding the dangers of fire and possible injury from the terror-stricken horses, went into the stables to cut the halters and release the animals. He was able to save all but two which were overcome by smoke.

Mr. Cundy's only thought was for the welfare of the horses and he risked his life to save them.

Phyllis, Mrs. Falcon, Warden, Civil Defence Wardens Service, Southampton.

Throughout enemy air raids Mrs. Falcon has shown courage, resourcefulness and devotion to duty.

On one occasion her promptness in rendering immediate aid to a man who had been injured by a bomb undoubtedly saved his life.

On another night Mrs. Falcon was on duty near her residence when one of the first bombs dropped seriously damaged her home. Although suffering from shock she lost no time in reporting to her Post and throughout the raid rendered first aid with calm efficiency and resourcefulness.

John David Grix, Cyclist Messenger, Civil Defence Messenger Service, Norwich.

Messenger Grix was on continuous duty during an air raid and carried messages with complete disregard of personal safety. He was blown off his cycle no less than five times on his journeys to the Report Centre, but on each occasion he picked himself up and continued. Although severely burnt by acid from a fire, both hands being injured, he insisted on resuming his duties after receiving first aid treatment. In the course of one of his journeys he dealt effectively