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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

St. James's Palace, S.W.1. 4th January, 1943.

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned appointments to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for the following awards of the George Medal and of the British Empire Medal, and for the publication in the London Gazette of the names of the persons specially shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for their brave conduct in Civil Defence:—

To be Additional Members of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—

Miss Doris Beatrice Lane, Matron, City Maternity Home, Norwich.

During an air raid on Norwich, the Maternity Home was partly demolished by a high explosive bomb and rendered uninhabitable. The Matron was knocked over by the blast of the explosion but she immediately organised the removal of the patients to comparative safety and obtained the necessary help for the immediate and complete evacuation of the Home to another place. Miss Lane's courage, coolness and determination set an admirable example and inspired all her staff in the dangerous and difficult circumstances.

The Reverend John Newton Sykes, B.A., Vicar of Holy Trinity, Stepney.

During the period of air raids on London, the Reverend John Newton Sykes has shown personal courage and readiness to assist in every possible way, however humble, strenuous or difficult. By his indomitable spirit and his untiring efforts in succouring the injured, he has set an example to all with whom he came in contact.

On many occasions he has fought fires and helped to release trapped people and his prompt actions when attending to the injured have been the means of saving life.

- To be an Additional. Member of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—
- Reginald Charles Taylor, M.M., B.Sc., A.M.I.Mech.E., Engineer and General Manager, The Torquay and Paignton Gas Company.

Awarded the George Medal:---

- John Willie Denton, Assistant Engineer and Manager, The Torquay and Paignton Gas Company.
- Frederick Charles Richardson, Assistant Electrician, The Torquay and Paignton Gas Company.

During a daylight air raid a gas holder was attacked by enemy aircraft and fierce fires resulted. Taylor, Denton and Richardson climbed to the crown and, with total disregard of personal danger, worked hard to extinguish the flames before nightfall. Their clothes often caught fire and, while encircled in flames at a height of some 120 feet, Denton and Richardson undoubtedly saved the life of a workman by pulling him back to safety as he was rolling off the edge of the crown. Denton fractured two ribs in this action but carried on with his duties.

Some weeks later another holder was bombed and subjected to severe cannon fire by enemy aircraft. The holder was burning fiercely on one half of its perimeter. Denton and Richardson again set a magnificent example of courage and devotion to duty and, as a result, the fires were extinguished, temporary repairs effected and the supply of gas in that area was uninterrupted.

Mr. Taylor was in charge of the firefighting arrangements on both occasions and his example was a great incentive and encouragement to the workers.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):-

Lusby, Supervisor, Rescue Party, George Civil Defence Rescue Service, Cromer.

William Woodhouse, Leader, Rescue Party, Civil Defence Rescue Service, Cromer.

Leslie Norman Birt Woolf, Police Constable, Norfolk Constabulary.

During an air raid a bomb demolished a house. After the debris had subsided, Lusby and Woodhouse tunnelled several feet and reached the head of a woman. She was pinned by a beam between the ceiling of the kitchen and the floor of the room above. Woodhouse and Police Constable Woolf then tunnelled further until they were able to lift the beam, but they could not move the victim. Lusby cleared away the debris from the top of the supports which Woolf and Woodhouse were holding up and sawed through the beam and so enabled the rescue to be completed. During this time there was every possibility that the gable end of the roof, which was held by only two small supports, would collapse on all three men. The rescue was made more difficult owing to escaping gas, leaking water-pipes and many live electric wires. The three men acted with promptitude and great courage without regard for their own safety.

COMMENDATIONS.

Those named below have been Commended for brave conduct in Civil Defence:

- Henry Francis Budden, Fireman, No. 14 (Ryde, Isle of Wight) Fire Force Area, National Fire Service.
- James Charles Goddard, Fireman, No. 14 · (Ryde, Isle of Wight) Fire Force Area, National Fire Service.
- Melville Martin, Foreman, Rescue Party, Defence Rescue Service, Civil Truro. Cornwall.

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be an Additional Officer of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:-

Lieutenant-Colonel John Jardine, J.P., Deputy Commissioner, Middle East Commission, British Red Cross Society and Order of St. John.

For services to the Forces in the Middle East.

Awarded the George Medal:-

Sergeant-Major of Police, Vouza, Retired Guadalcanal, British Solomon Islands Protectorate.

Vouza was caught by the Japanese and closely questioned as to the whereabouts of American troops. Although such troops were hidden near, he refused to divulge He was then tied to a tree, information. bayonetted in the arm, shoulder, face and stomach, and left for dead. He crawled into the United States Marines lines and, although on the verge of collapse, reported all intormation to his senior officer before seeking medical treatment.

Vouza showed great courage and devotion to duty.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):-

William Gordon Miller, Farmer, Marsworth Buckinghamshire.

Daniel Ernest Millins, Farm Labourer. Marsworth, Buckinghamshire.

An aircraft crashed in a field and immediately caught fire.

Miller and Millins, who were nearby, ran to the burning machine and climbed on to the cockpit cover. They were blown off by an explosion but climbed up again and Miller, leaning through the hatch, caught hold of a man. With Millins' help, he pulled him out and carried him to safety. They then returned to the aircraft and, with great difficulty, extricated another man whose clothing was on fire. Millins extinguished the flames with his hands.

Miller and Millins showed courage and determination in the face of fire and exploding petrol-tanks and ammunition.

COMMENDATIONS.

Those named below have been Commended for brave conduct when attempting to rescue the crews of crashed and burning aircraft:-

Arthur Pearson, Joiner, Sheriff Hutton, Yorkshire.

Pearson, George Joiner, Sheriff Hutton, Yorkshire.

James Daymon Pithers, Farm Labourer, Taplow, Bucks.

Herbert Leslie Sanderson, Police Constable, Lincolnshire Constabulary.

The name of Richard Edward Barratt, Kitchen Porter, Birmingham, is as now described and not as stated in Gazette No. 35828, dated 18th December, 1942, page 5517.

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