

Alan Henry Saul Fletcher, Indian Civil Service, Deputy Commissioner, Cachar, Assam.

Throughout the period of refugee evacuation Mr. Fletcher was in charge of the Cachar district into which the Bishenpur route from Manipur emerges. He gave invaluable assistance in the organisation of that route and in addition, organised and controlled the reception camp at Chapermoina and the entertainment camp at Silchar. Throughout the year his district has been the scene of great military activity, involving heavy demands on Mr. Fletcher's time and energy, to which he has always cheerfully responded.

William Malcolm Victor Green, Transport Officer, Civil Defence Department, Burma.

Mr. Green was responsible for the evacuation of refugees from camps and for the transport of staff and the distribution of food. By his energetic methods he managed to keep his drivers at their work and his vehicles in perfect running order.

When the organisation moved to Mandalay his difficulties were redoubled, as his reliable lorries were commandeered for military purposes and were replaced by ancient Burmese buses, which he managed to keep in running order by salving spare parts from abandoned vehicles. He continued to work day and night distributing food, collecting cholera victims, removing evacuees and transporting labour for the Army. The whole work of the Evacuation organisation depended on the efficiency of its transport, and the fact that this never broke down was entirely due to Mr. Green's personal efforts.

Ruth, Mrs. Hamilton, Honorary Secretary, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Rangoon.

When the evacuation of Rangoon started Mrs. Hamilton made arrangements for the collection of many hundreds of domestic animals whose owners had been killed or had fled leaving their pets behind.

Owing to the dislocation of the railway services, due to air raids, a large number of animals were left locked up in railway wagons and Mrs. Hamilton spent much of her time in feeding, watering and moving them to the Municipal lairs thus incidentally making them available to increase the scanty food supply of Rangoon. On the evacuation of Rangoon she successfully moved the whole of her staff and vehicles to Upper Burma. On arrival in India, Mrs. Hamilton continued her good work by devoting her energy to the care of human refugees in Calcutta.

William Ross Henderson, British Burma Petroleum Company, Ltd., Rangoon.

Mr. Henderson was the representative of his Company with the final demolition party in Rangoon and, during the trying period while the demolition signal was awaited, did much to help maintain the morale of the demolition contingent. He personally supervised the demolition of the refinery at Thilawa 20 miles below Rangoon and successfully evacuated the refinery personnel. He finally left Rangoon with the last party to go by sea.

Flying back to Burma at the earliest possible moment, Mr. Henderson entered wholeheartedly into the denial plans for the

Yenangyaung oilfield, in the ultimate destruction of which he played a worthy part.

Lady (Irene) June Beatrice Hobson, Lady Superintendent of the St. John Ambulance Brigade Overseas, Burma.

Lady June Hobson has during the past four or five years done much in organising and training the St. John Ambulance Brigade in Burma. Although the force at her command was greatly depleted when bombing started in Rangoon, she performed magnificent service in handling the large number of casualties which occurred. She devoted her entire time and energy to this work and was quite dauntless and fearless under fire. By her coolness and courage she set an example which undoubtedly was responsible for maintaining the morale and retaining the services of those who remained with her right up to the end of Rangoon.

Alfred Joseph Jones, Indian Police, Superintendent of Police, Burma.

Throughout the Burma campaign Mr. Jones' fighting spirit, zeal and determination were outstanding. He ably carried out the police administration in Pegu and for some time was responsible for the whole of the civil administration. By his personal example and intrepidity he kept his force at their duties until the district was evacuated by the Army. He then remained on duty with the military police in the Tharawaddy and Prome districts.

Gordon Sinclair Jury, M.A., Ph.D., Professor of Philosophy, Rangoon University, Burma.

Professor Jury rendered great service in organising blood-transfusion centres which he helped to maintain until Rangoon was evacuated.

He then went to Mandalay where he displayed great courage in his work in the cholera segregation camps and helped in inoculation and vaccination work. Although possessing no medical qualifications, he worked night and day in an emergency hospital attending to the worst cases of bomb injuries.

Professor Jury, who is nearly 60 years of age, could have been evacuated by air but insisted on staying in Mandalay until the end and then marched out to India through Manipur.

Douglas James Lapping, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Medical Officer, Jokai Tea Company, Panitola, Assam.

When air evacuation from Myitkyina to Dinjan started, with only the briefest of notice, there was near the aerodrome a military hospital of 50 beds only. In a few days Mr. Lapping organised hospitals with a capacity of 650 beds and mobilized staff ready to deal with 1,800 wounded soldiers who were flown to Dinjan within a period of three weeks. Following on this, there set in the refugee evacuation through Ledo which, owing to the severity of the conditions and the climate, produced a high percentage of seriously sick. These also were taken care of by the organisation built up by Mr. Lapping. A difficult situation was promptly met and it was due to the resource and organising ability of this doctor that what might have been a calamity was in fact averted.