

Ministers, to give orders for the following award:—

*Awarded the George Medal:—*

Mervyn Lester Holden, Farmer, Pouaaw, Gisborne, New Zealand.

An aircraft crashed through a farm building, overturned and caught fire. Mr. Holden, who witnessed the crash from 300 yards away, immediately rushed to the blazing wreckage and attempted to extricate a man who was still attached to the aircraft by his harness. Holden, who was not acquainted with the release mechanism, cut away the harness with a sheath knife. Although still unable to move the man, and in spite of his own severe burns, he persisted in his efforts until eventually, with some assistance from the victim, who was recovering consciousness, he succeeded in releasing him.

By his courage and determination Mr. Holden saved the man's life.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD,

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1.*

*21st January, 1944.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following awards and for the publication in the London Gazette of the name of the person specially shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for brave conduct in Civil Defence:—

*Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—*

Percy Victor Tripp, Emergency Escape Servicelayer and Repair Party Leader, Plymouth and Stonehouse Gas Light and Coke Company.

Ernest Alexander Webb, Mains Foreman, Plymouth and Stonehouse Gas Light and Coke Company.

Mr. Tripp and Mr. Webb have shown outstanding coolness and courage during air raids. On many occasions their devotion to duty and disregard of personal safety have set a wonderful example to the Repair Parties.

In circumstances of great danger they have executed repairs and cut off gas supplies in heavily bombed districts, thus reducing the danger from fire.

COMMENDATION.

The individual named below has been Commended for brave conduct in Civil Defence:—

Alfred George Webb, Messenger, Police Auxiliary Messenger Service, Grimsby.

The award to Alfred Fisher announced in Gazette No. 36312 of 4th January, 1944, page 71. is now dated 3rd November, 1943.

The names of the undermentioned are as now described and not as stated in Gazette No. 36312 dated 4th January, 1944:—

Albert Edward McLeod, page 72.

Benjamin Andrew Pettican, 73.

LONDON

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:

York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;

39-41 King Street, Manchester 2; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;

80 Chichester Street, Belfast;

or through any bookseller

1944

Price Sixpence net

S.O. Code No 65-36338