

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

Arulmani George DRAVIAM, Secretary, Young Men's Christian Association, Chittagong.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD,

St. James's Palace, S.W.1.
16th October, 1945.

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned appointments to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, in the Merchant Navy, and for the publication in the London Gazette of the names of those specially shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for their brave conduct.

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

Captain George Edward Oxley GIRLING, Master, m.v. "G.S. Walden" (Anglo-American Oil Company Ltd.).

The m.v. "G.S. Walden," sailing in convoy from Italy, was torpedoed. The torpedo struck forward and the fore peak and fore deep tanks at once flooded. The bulkhead held however and the ship proceeded under her own power to Oran where temporary repairs were carried out.

The vessel had been previously torpedoed in the North Atlantic and badly damaged. On that occasion the ship was awash to the main cylinder tops in the engine room and down considerably by the stern but in spite of the damage she was brought safely to port.

Captain Girling was also in command when the m.v. "James Maguire" was mined. The ship commenced to settle by the head but remained afloat sufficiently to return to port under her own power.

It was mainly due to Captain Girling's courage and sound seamanship that both the vessels were brought safely to port.

Captain James Goodall DONALD, Master.

Captain James REEVE, D.S.C., Master.

Captain William WILSON, Master.

Charles DOBSON, Esq., Chief Engineer Officer.

For gallantry and initiative in hazardous circumstances.

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

Captain Winston Stanley Charles MERSER, Master, s.s. "San Tirso" (Anglo Saxon Petroleum Company, Ltd.).

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

Ernest Charles SCALES, Esq., Chief Officer, s.s. "Scottish American."

Robert Owen WILLIAMS, Esq., Chief Officer, m.v. "British Freedom" (British Tanker Company, Ltd.).

Colin McKellan YOUNG, Esq., Chief Officer, s.s. "San Tirso" (Anglo Saxon Petroleum Company, Ltd.).

For brave conduct in hazardous circumstances during oiling operations in the North Atlantic.

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

Captain Herbert Harold HENSON, Master, s.s. "Oranmore" (John Kelly Ltd.).

The s.s. "Oranmore" was mined about ten miles off the Normandy coast. Though the explosion damaged the steering gear, it was found that the ship could still be navigated, though with some difficulty, and she was kept working towards the beaches where she was anchored. Later the vessel was taken into port and the cargo discharged.

Captain Henson displayed great courage and coolness. He handled the situation with determination and, in spite of the many hazards, brought his ship to safety with her valuable and dangerous cargo of cased oil and octane spirit.

KING'S COMMENDATIONS.

Those named below have been Commended for brave conduct when their ships encountered enemy ships, submarines, aircraft or mines:—

Osman ABOO, Seaman, s.s. "British Fusilier" (British Tanker Company, Ltd.).

William Hay ALLAN, Esq., Chief Officer, s.s. "Director" (Charente Steamship Company, Ltd.).

Captain Joseph BOLGER, Master, s.s. "British Fusilier" (British Tanker Company, Ltd.).

Edgar Henry BRADSHAW, Esq., Second Radio Officer, s.s. "Port Brisbane" (Port Line, Ltd.).

Captain William Ott BURNS, O.B.E., Master, m.v. "British Freedom" (British Tanker Company, Ltd.).

George Dallas DOBSON, Esq., Chief Officer, s.s. "Empire Gold" (Common Bros., Ltd.).

Captain James Domic DONOVAN, O.B.E., Master, s.s. "Scottish American."

Norris Vivian DUFF, Esq., Chief Engineer Officer, s.s. "Director" (Charente Steamship Company, Ltd.).

John Kirk EWING, Able Seaman, s.s. "Gothland" (Currie Line, Ltd.).

Walter Frederick Clarence FRENCH, Esq., Third Officer, s.s. "Empire Cromwell" (Lambert Bros., Ltd.).

John GALAGHER, Esq., Third Engineer Officer, s.s. "Fort Louisbourg" (W. Thomson & Company).

Captain James Barnes Sprot GILHOME, Master, s.s. "Empire Blessing" (W. Runciman & Company, Ltd.).

Ernest William GRESLEY, Esq., Chief Engineer Officer, s.s. "Cranmore" (John Kelly, Ltd.).

Lawrence Gordon HADDEN, Esq., First Radio Officer, s.s. "Samsip" (New Zealand Shipping Company, Ltd.).

Captain John Henry HARPER, Master, s.s. "Samselbu" (Walter Runciman & Company, Ltd.).

Donald Stephen HARRIES, Esq., Third Officer, s.s. "British Fusilier" (British Tanker Company, Ltd.).

William HARRISON, Esq., Chief Radio Officer, s.s. "Empire Blessing" (W. Runciman & Company, Ltd.).

David HEATON, Esq., Second Officer, s.s. "Samselbu" (Walter Runciman & Company, Ltd.).