

and the fallen ground, which consisted mainly of a large slab of ore, dropped quite close to his feet. After the fall, Awuni Frafra collected all the uninjured boys and organised a means of lifting them up to the higher level. Pieces of rock were still falling from the hanging wall when, hearing a trapped boy cry out, Awuni went back into the danger zone and found a Timber Boy partially buried by a large rock. Although a further fall might have occurred at any moment Awuni stayed and by moving some large stones was able to free the injured boy and take him to safety.

Awuni showed courage and determination and was the means of saving the life of the Timber Boy.

Thomas STEPHENS, Chargeman of Skilled Labourers, Royal Naval Establishment, Sydenham, Belfast.

An aircraft crashed at Sydenham Airport, Belfast, when taking-off for a test flight. There were two passengers in the machine which on impact with the ground immediately caught fire.

Stephens, then leading fireman in charge of the duty firecrew at the Royal Naval Establishment, Sydenham, saw that the aircraft was about to crash nearby and ran towards it, instructing his crew to follow. Before he reached the machine, however, it had burst into flames. Without a moment's hesitation and with complete disregard of self, he continued in his efforts, succeeded in reaching the burning aircraft and, in spite of the intense heat, extricated one passenger from the wreckage. Stephens knowingly risked his life and was severely burned in effecting the rescue of the passenger.

Miss Maria WATI, Fijian servant, Vatukoula, Fiji.

A party of three Europeans and a Fijian girl, Maria Wati, were fishing in the Nadrauniivi passage, north of Sali Sali Reef, approximately five miles off shore from Tavua, when a wind of gale force and a swift current forced the 14 ft. launch on to the north-east side of the reef where it grounded and sank.

The top structure of the launch was carried away by the gale, taking with it one of the Europeans.

With the help of pieces of wreckage the other three scrambled on to the reef. The two men could not swim but with the light of day the girl persuaded them to leave the launch and try to make for Manava Islet and the three of them made their way slowly along the reef towards Vatia.

The tide was rising and the going was difficult and Maria Wati took the lead. The feet of both men were badly cut as they progressed slowly along the reef but after travelling in this fashion for about two miles they eventually reached a beacon. Manava Islet was about two miles away and the

party had to change direction and move against the wind and the current. Here Maria Wati showed great courage and determination in helping both men on. Every few yards the party had to stop and rest but she remained cheerful all the time and when one of the men collapsed with cramp she took off the "salu" which she was wearing round her waist and told him to hang on to the other end while she pulled him along. In this way he was dragged to safety.

Eventually the party reached the islet and all were rescued the following day.

It was due to the courage and determination of Maria Wati that the two men were not drowned.

KING'S COMMENDATIONS FOR BRAVE CONDUCT.

Arthur Eric BECKETT, Abrasive Wheelmaker. (Burton-on-Trent.)

For rescuing a child from a burning house.

John Francis BULLOCK, Bank Guard, Bristol.

For services when an armed raid was made on a bank.

Richard Herbert COPPLESTON, Accounts Clerk, Royal Arsenal Co-operative Societies. (Bexley, Kent.)

For services when thieves raided a branch office.

Cecil John FOXALL, Police Sergeant, Worcester County Constabulary. (Stourbridge.)

For services when a household was attacked by an armed burglar.

Henry HARRIS, Fireman, Durham Fire Brigade. (Felling, Co. Durham.)

For attempting to rescue a boy from a quarry pond.

Joseph HOBSON, Miner. (Leamside, Co. Durham.)

For services when rescuing a man from a burning house.

James McKENNA, Compressor Driver, Francis Morton and Company Ltd., Liverpool.

Bruce MORTON, Riveter, Francis Morton and Company Ltd., Liverpool. (Birkenhead.)

John MORTON, Riveter, Francis Morton and Company Ltd., Liverpool. (Birkenhead.)

For services when an accident occurred during building construction.

Miss Mildred Ellen ROGERS, Sub Office Assistant, Barking Road Sub-Post Office. (Plaistow, E.13.)

For services when an armed robbery took place at a Sub-Post Office.

Thomas ROUND, Excavator Driver. (Rossington, Yorkshire.)

For services when rescuing a man from drowning.

Thomas TAYLOR, Police Constable, "A" Division, Metropolitan Police. (Westminster, S.W.1.)

For services when attempting to rescue a man from drowning.

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