



SUPPLEMENT TO  
**The London Gazette**

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**TUESDAY, 13 MARCH, 1951**

**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS  
 OF KNIGHTHOOD.**

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

*13th March, 1951.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned awards of the George Medal and of the British Empire Medal 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:—

*Awarded the George Medal:—*

Owen Percival ASHWIN, Police Constable, "P" Division, Metropolitan Police. (Orpington, Kent.)

Ivan Stanley KING, Police Constable, "P" Division, Metropolitan Police. (Bromley, Kent.)

John Kerr McCALLUM, Police Constable, "P" Division, Metropolitan Police. (Bromley, Kent.)

Thomas TEMPLE, Company Director, Biggin Hill, Kent.

Police Constables Ashwin, King and McCallum were in a patrol car when shortly before 1 a.m. they received a message to go to Temple's Stores, Biggin Hill, as it was suspected that persons were unlawfully on the premises.

Thomas Temple, principal director of the Stores, met the officers on their arrival, and he and P.C. Ashwin entered the premises by the back door. The lights were switched on and Temple locked the door on the inside. The other two officers, with two relatives of Temple, covered the outside of the Stores.

Ashwin and Temple went upstairs by different staircases and met at the shop office in which, through the glass panelling, they could see two men. One of the men stepped

out of the office, raised an automatic pistol and fired a shot in their direction. The shot struck the framework of a show case. Both men then ran out of the office to the other side of the building followed by Ashwin and Temple. As he reached that side of the premises the Constable saw the second man, who was unarmed, coming towards him, and the Constable closed with him. The first man, who was at the top of a staircase about three yards away, thereupon turned and fired at the officer, wounding him in the throat. After firing one or two more shots, this man then ran downstairs into another department of the Stores, pursued by Temple, and he eventually plunged through a plate glass window into the street. Temple at once returned to help P.C. Ashwin, whom he found lying unconscious on the floor with the second man on top of him, striking him in the face. Temple struck the man with a batten he was carrying, forced him into a corner of the room, and held him at bay until help arrived.

Meanwhile, the first man, who still held the pistol as he came through the window, was tackled by P.C. McCallum but broke free and ran off down the road. P.C. King, who had been on the roof to prevent any escape through a skylight, joined McCallum, and with Temple's two relatives they went in pursuit. After a chase of some 400 yards the two police officers had almost caught up with the man when he turned round, and pointing the pistol at McCallum, who was slightly in front pulled the trigger. Both officers heard a click but the magazine of the weapon was apparently empty. McCallum jumped for the man's right hand and got hold of the pistol while King grasped his left hand. After a violent struggle they succeeded in overpowering the man.