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

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

5th June, 1951.

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned appointments to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for the following 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.

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

**Peter Stanford LONDON, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S.,
 L.R.C.P., Birmingham Accident Hospital.**

In the course of transporting a 35 ton "Comet" tank through Birmingham it became necessary to unload the tank from the transporter in order that both vehicles could ascend a sharp incline in the centre of the city. When the tank was being re-mounted on to the trailer it heeled over and fell to the ground, trapping a man between the tank tracks and a parapet wall.

Dr. London was in charge of the Mobile Surgical Unit which was summoned and on his arrival he immediately went to the trapped man and commenced anti-shock treatment. In order to release the man, hawsers were fixed to the tank which was then slowly raised from the wall on which it was resting. To prevent further injury to the man Dr. London jumped into the

cavity between the wall and the still-moving tank, so that he could support him.

The Doctor was fully aware of the danger that the tank might fall back on him during the lifting operations, but without regard for his own safety he remained with the injured man until the latter had been released and removed to hospital.

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

Leonard Charles KIRBY, Bank Teller, Mandeville, Manchester, Jamaica.

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

Eric Alexander LEVY, Mechanic, St. Ann, Jamaica.

The Cave River, St. Ann, Jamaica, overflowed its banks and flooded the Cave Valley village to a depth varying between 18 and 40 feet. Three families were marooned in the centre of the village and 25 other families isolated in the surrounding area. The members of one family were in imminent danger of drowning as the water was rising and had reached the upper storey windows of the house in which they were trapped. Levy and Kirby volunteered to rescue them and by means of an improvised raft brought nine persons to safety. The rescuers made 15 trips, swimming at great personal risk through the strong currents.

The two men showed persistent courage in swimming continuously through the cold and filthy water, littered with wreckage, in order to rescue the marooned family.

Awarded the George Medal:—

Thomas CONVERY, Foreman Rigger, P. Bauer (Salvage) Ltd. (Ardglass.)

James Sangster Melville CRAIG, Shipwright Diver, P. Bauer (Salvage) Ltd. (Aberdeen.)

Neil MACDONALD, Principal Salvage Officer, P. Bauer (Salvage) Ltd. (Stornoway, Isle of Lewis.)

Neil MACQUARRIE, Assistant Salvage Officer, P. Bauer (Salvage) Ltd. (Oban.)

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

Herbert BULLEN, Shipwright Diver, P. Bauer (Salvage) Ltd. (Stromness, Orkney.)

Peter HYNES, Welder, P. Bauer (Salvage) Ltd. (Kilsyth.)

While salvage work was being carried out on the vessel "Warspite," three salvage hands entered the air lock entrance to a section which was under pressure and then went into the compartment below. They found the compartment to be in good order and after about 20 minutes they began the ascent of the ladder back to the air lock. Whilst climbing the ladder two of the men were overcome by gas, but the third man managed to reach the deck and give the alarm. As soon as he learned what had happened, MacQuarrie, accompanied by Convery, entered the pressure chamber and without hesitation descended the ladder to the unconscious salvage hands. The two rescuers were soon affected by the noxious gas, which produced a heaviness in their limbs accompanied by a dazed condition. Nevertheless, MacQuarrie and Convery made every effort to get one of the men up the ladder to the air lock but they became weaker and had to abandon their task. While Convery remained in the pressure chamber MacQuarrie returned to the deck for help. Taking a rope with him he re-entered the air lock with an assistant who lowered the rope to Convery while MacQuarrie descended the ladder, but Convery lost consciousness as he tried to tie the rope around one of the unconscious men. MacQuarrie then attempted to fasten the rope but he too lost consciousness before it could be secured.

MacDonald, who had been engaged ashore, returned to the ship at this stage and took charge of the rescue work. He first gave orders for a gentle flow of oxygen to be fed into the pressure chamber and then entered the air lock with Craig. Together they descended to the pressure chamber and raised Convery to the air lock where he was taken out on to the deck in a state of delirium and semi-consciousness. MacDonald and Craig immediately returned to the air lock and were joined by Hynes. MacDonald again descended into the pressure chamber but was now becoming exhausted and could not raise MacQuarrie, but after further efforts fastened a rope to the unconscious man, who was then hoisted up to the air lock by Craig and Hynes. MacDonald saw that Craig was losing consciousness and helped him back to the deck.

Meanwhile Hynes had been joined by Bullen and they entered the pressure chamber and were successful in raising one of the unconscious men with the aid of a rope.

Craig had now recovered and, undeterred by his previous experiences, entered the pressure chamber for the third time and helped to complete the rescue.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

Cecil Victor HOLLIS, Shift Charge Hand, Sugar Beet Factory, British Sugar Corporation, Cantley, Norwich.

Hollis was in charge of the boilerhouse shift of three men and was standing near the control panel when he noticed the fire blowing out from No. 1 boiler and large clouds of steam accumulating. Almost immediately afterwards the fires of the next three boilers on the high pressure range were blown out. Hollis switched off the blower at the panel and then climbed up the cat ladder to the narrow iron runway leading across the tops of the boilers. Realising that the conditions at the high pressure end were extremely bad owing to the accumulating steam, he took with him an old mackintosh. Owing to poor visibility he was not able to take a direct route along the walkway, but putting a sack over his head to protect his face and mouth, he climbed over to the isolating valve of No. 1 boiler and turned it off. The journey across the tops of the boilers was extremely hazardous in the circumstances and Hollis exposed himself to the risk of being badly scalded whilst climbing over the various fittings. He returned to ground level by the same route.

Hollis displayed courage and resource and prevented what might have been a serious accident and a complete break-down in the factory.

John Thomas MATTHEWS, General Foreman, Mitchell Construction Company, Rotherham.

During the construction of a cooling tower at Rotherham Power Station, scaffolding, encircling the tower 250 feet above ground, became detached from its moorings in a violent gale. Heavy timbers fell into a main road and the remainder of the scaffolding was in danger of being blown from its position on to surrounding property. Matthews, with four other men, climbed up inside the tower to deal with the situation. When they reached the top Matthews, despite the gale and heavy rain, passed over the top edge and climbed down the external ladders from the lip of the tower to reach the platform. He tied ropes to the loose planks so that they could be hauled in by the other men, who remained inside the tower, and he then made safe the insecure scaffolding.

Matthews, by his inspiring leadership, cool calculation and courage, prevented what might have been a serious accident with damage to life and property.

Alexander NORTON, Salesman, Ilford.

Leonard James WEST, Window Cleaner, Ilford.

Two thieves who had been disturbed at a house in Dagenham, ran away and were seen by Norton, who was standing nearby with his motor van, and West. Norton and West jumped into the van, went after the two suspects and intercepted them. A struggle ensued and the men escaped.

West and Norton continued the chase, caught the men and forced them into the back of the motor van. A minute or so later the two prisoners, having recovered from their exertions, tried to run away. There was a further struggle during which both Norton and West were injured, but despite this they held on to the men until the arrival of the Police. West and Norton displayed courage and very commendable public spirit in detaining the two criminals.

William Edward ROYAL, Factory Hand, Battersea, London, S.W.11.

During an argument between a man and two women in the street the man took a knife from the right hand pocket of his overcoat and stabbed one of the women. Royal, who was nearby, rushed forward and grappled with the man, grabbing his wrist in an effort to disarm him. Royal was cut by the knife but, with help from passers-by, managed to detain the man until the arrival of the Police.

Royal acted very quickly and courageously and his presence of mind prevented the man from causing further harm.

Simon Crooks WRIGHT, Stoneman, Elemore Colliery, National Coal Board. (Hetton-le-Hole, Co. Durham.)

A workman, who had been loading coal into a large underground spiral chute at Elemore Colliery, was reported missing at the end of his shift. The discovery of an open inspection door in the wall of the chute, which is used to convey coal between two different levels in the mine, led to the conclusion that he had overbalanced while attempting to dislodge coal and that he had fallen into the chute and was buried. After some of the coal had been removed by shovelling through a lower inspection door, the missing workman was heard and was seen to be caught against a batten 16 feet above the door with coal still lodged above him. Wright called for a rope and immediately entered the chute in an attempt to reach the trapped workman although he was fully aware that a large quantity of coal remained in the chute above him and was liable to fall at any moment. Wright was unable to free the trapped man before the coal started to move. He clung on to a batten as the coal swept past him and was partially buried but with his head and arms sufficiently clear to allow him to free himself. The other man was carried down with the coal and asphyxiated.

Wright showed complete disregard for his own safety in making an attempt to save the life of his fellow worker.

KING'S COMMENDATIONS FOR BRAVE CONDUCT.

Leslie ALLEN, Labourer, Haynes, Clarendon, Jamaica.

Robert BELL, Labourer, May Pen, Clarendon, Jamaica.

George HOLNESS, Seaman, May Pen, Clarendon, Jamaica.

Clarence Constantine JOHNSON, Police Constable, Jamaica Constabulary Force.

Austin Fitz-Gerald OTTEY, Police Constable, Jamaica Constabulary Force.

Nehemiah PIKE, Mason, May Pen, Clarendon.

Waldemar Henry ROWE, Sergeant of Police, Jamaica Constabulary Force.

Washington TAYLOR, Mechanic, May Pen, Clarendon, Jamaica.

Cyril TIMOL, Labourer, May Pen, Clarendon, Jamaica.

Gabriel TIMOL, Contractor, May Pen, Clarendon, Jamaica.

For services during flooding in St. Ann, Jamaica.

George William Henry BAKER, Clerk, Torquay.

Josiah Harold PAULL, Farmer, Ashprington, Nr. Totnes, Devonshire.

For services when rescuing an injured boy who had fallen down a cliff.

Charles BARFORD, Sergeant, Worcestershire Constabulary. (Bromsgrove, Worcestershire.)

Horace HEARD, Police Constable, Worcestershire Constabulary. (Andover, Hampshire.)

For services when arresting an armed man.

Aubrey Bryan COOK, Fireman (Part-time), Leicester and Rutland Fire Services. (Syston, Leicestershire.)

For rescuing two children from a burning bungalow.

Robert Reuben COOK, Under-manager, Elemore Colliery, National Coal Board. (Hetton-le-Hole, Co. Durham.)

For services when an accident occurred in a mine.

Archibald Murdoch DICKIE, Air Lock Worker, P. Bauer (Salvage) Ltd. (Kilbirnie.)

Benjamin SMYTHE, Rigger, P. Bauer (Salvage) Ltd. (Ardglass.)

Stuart de Quincy WALKER, Engineer, P. Bauer (Salvage) Ltd. (Marazion.)

For services when an escape of harmful gas occurred during salvage work on the vessel "Warspite".

Adolf KOHN, Shop Manager, Stoke Newington, London, N.16.

For services when an attempt was made to rob a man.

Veerasamy MARIMUTHU, Motor Transport Driver, H.M. Dockyard, Singapore.

WAN ISHAK bin ABDULLAH, Corporal, Army Depot Police Unit, Singapore.

For rescuing persons from the attack of a hostile mob in Singapore.

Arthur Thomas THOMPSON, Housepainter, Kennington, London, S.E.11.

For services when preventing a robbery.

Robert VARVILL, D.S.C., Assistant District Officer, Calabar, Nigeria.

For capturing an armed murderer.

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