pit. Water had been thrown in and as a result he could see nothing on account of smoke and steam. He knew there was a drop of eight feet and that there might be some molten slag on the floor of the pit, but he jumped straight in and saw the man on fire at the far end. Moffatt's boots were burning but he dashed across the pit, picked up the injured man and carried him out of the pit and up the steps to the Ambulance Room.

Moffatt suffered burns on the hands and arms in effecting the rescue.

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

Ali Muhammad AULAQI, Sergeant, Government Guards, Aden Protectorate.

A number of dissidents from the Ahl Abdulla Section of the Dayyani tribe attacked the Government Guard Fort at Kihaura, determined to overpower or annihilate the garrison and to occupy the post.

The spearhead of the attack, under pretence of friendship, approached the door of the Fort, shot the sentry, stabbed him to death and seized his rifle. Two Government Guards, who were on a barrack roof, opened fire on the attackers and killed one, causing the other two to withdraw into a passage, from where they engaged the Guards on the roof. On hearing the shots Ali Muhammad Aulaqi rushed to the doorway at the front of the Fort, took what little cover there was and, although under fire from the rest of the attacking party, held his position until the two dissidents dashed out of the passage in an attempt to escape. Both were shot and killed and the Sergeant regained the Fort.

Heavy firing continued against the Fort and Naib Ali Muhammad Aulaqi showed a high degree of leadership and courage during the subsequent attacks and held off the attackers until reinforcements arrived.

Percy George BURGESS, Ripper, Penllwyngwent Colliery, Glamorganshire. (Nantymoel.)

The roof across a roadhead in the Penllwyngwent Colliery suddenly collapsed and some 25 tons of large coal and fine debris fell and completely buried two men. A cavity formed by the fall extended across the roadhead close to the coal face and up into the roof a distance of about 20 feet.

Rescue operations were commenced without delay, but roof movement, continual small falls and the confined space made rescue work slow and difficult. Both the buried men could be heard calling for help and after about two hours one was released, mainly through the sustained efforts of Burgess who persisted in working in the forward position. The other man was still completely buried. Burgess continued to make determined efforts to reach him and, by burrowing through the rubbish with his hands, eventually uncovered his face. Disregarding his own safety, which was continually threatened by falls from the roof and sides of the roadhead, Burgess at last uncovered the man's legs, but before he could be removed there was a further fall and he was again completely buried.

The only possible way left to release the man was for someone to clear the newly fallen rubbish by working in the cavity. Burgess, fully aware of the very dangerous conditions, immediately volunteered and after several attempts managed to squeeze himself up into the cavity. Whilst clearing the rubbish he was trapped for an hour when one of his feet became wedged but he remained in the cavity and erected supports to protect the buried man. The rescue work was continued and the trapped miner, after being buried for about seven hours, was finally released. He was found, however, to be dead.

James Arthur CATLING, Porter, London, W.1. (London, S.E.1.)

Catling was on duty in a jeweller's shop during the lunch hour when a man entered the shop, produced an automatic pistol, pressed it into Catling's stomach, pushed him into a chair and threatened to shoot him if he made a noise. Instead of submitting, however, the porter, despite his 67 years, attacked the gunman and called for help.

A struggle ensued during the course of which Catling was struck twice about the head by the gun, sustaining injuries which later necessitated hospital treatment. In spite of his injuries, however, he was able to hold on to the criminal until help arrived.

A fierce struggle ensued but the man was finally overcome and arrested.

James Albert HALL, Sub-Postmaster, Lee-on-Solent, Hampshire.

One evening at about 7 p.m., Mr. Hall opened the door of his Sub-Office, after hearing a knock, and was confronted by two masked men, armed with revolvers, who demanded the keys of his safe. He refused and tried to give the alarm but the intruders hit him a number of times on the head with their revolvers, kicked him in the groin and shot him through the back of the neck. When he recovered consciousness he found only one of the men guarding him. He managed to distract his attention and moved forward, hit him in the face and tore off the mask. He then ran into the street to obtain assistance. The intruders escaped but were later arrested and eventually convicted.

Wallace George MARTIN, Constable, New South Wales Police Force.

Constable Martin and another officer received a wireless message that an explosion has just occurred at the Wentworthville Post Office. Both officers immediately went to the Post Office and on arrival Constable Martin leaped the fence and ran along the western side of the premises to the back door.

Here he saw a man, masked, wearing gloves and armed with a ·45 calibre automatic pistol. Martin approached the man who pointed the pistol at the Constable and threatened to shoot him. Constable Martin immediately closed and grappled with the gunman, at the same time calling to the other Constable, warning him that the man was armed. A fierce struggle took place during which the man continually attempted to raise his right arm and point the pistol at