

he heard the sound of a door closing. Together with the constable who was driving the van he searched the entry and the common stair but finding no trace of the men he decided they had entered the house on the ground floor. Leaving the constable to keep watch he returned to the local police station and obtained the assistance of Constable Campbell and two other constables. They returned to the house where they met one of the men who, on being questioned, invited them into the house. One of the other men was in the kitchen and the third in another room in which were also the two suitcases. The suitcases were opened and found to contain bags of money. A search was then instituted for the metal box and during the course of this search the officers became separated. Inspector Hyslop, having searched the bathroom, entered the hall of the house where he was confronted by one of the men now in possession of a pistol. The gunman aimed the pistol at the Inspector's head and pulled the trigger. The Inspector heard the sound of the pistol misfiring and immediately made to close with the gunman who took deliberate aim and fired a shot which struck the Inspector on the face, smashed his jawbone and teeth before becoming embedded in his neck, and caused him to lose the power of his limbs. The sound of the shot was heard by the other police officers, two of whom ran into the hall and, in attempting to disarm the man, were both shot in the head at close range. Constable Campbell, who had remained in the room where the money had been found, then tried to enter the hall but was impeded by a body lying across the doorway. The gunman was about to fire another shot at Inspector Hyslop when his attention was distracted and this gave Constable Campbell an opportunity to enter the hall where he grappled with the gunman and after a struggle disarmed him. Other police officers arrived and the gunman together with one of his companions was taken into custody. The two shot constables died as a result of bullet wounds. Inspector Hyslop was discharged from hospital some six weeks later but was unfit for duty for some time thereafter. Inspector Hyslop, faced with an armed criminal who had already attempted to fire a shot at him, showed a complete disregard for his own safety in making a determined attempt to disarm the man and arrest him. Constable Campbell acted with a very high degree of gallantry when, knowing that the gunman had shot and had at least injured his three companions, made a successful bid to disarm him.

*Awarded the British Empire Medal for
Gallantry
(Civil Division)*

Raymond Charles GALLEY, Constable, Cheshire Constabulary.

David THOMAS, Post Office Driver, Lostock, Northwich.

Mr. Thomas was on duty when a lady made a complaint to him regarding the conduct of a man who was in a telephone kiosk. He immediately investigated and saw a man who on being questioned left the kiosk and apparently went away. Thomas then went into the kiosk to telephone on behalf of the lady and while using the 'phone saw the same man standing at the open door pointing a shot gun at him. The man

threatened to shoot Thomas if he used the 'phone and immediately there was a loud report and panes of glass in the kiosk were shattered. The armed man then ran away pursued by Thomas and two young men who had witnessed the incident. Thomas stopped a passing motor car the driver of which readily agreed to give Thomas a lift in pursuit of the armed man. The man stopped and fired the gun at a shop window, causing damage, then saw the car and recognising Thomas he fired at the car hitting the front near-side and puncturing the tyre. The driver was forced to stop but Thomas jumped out of the car and continued pursuit. A motor cyclist who had witnessed this incident stopped to give Thomas a lift on the pillion seat in pursuit of the armed man to a point near to a busy thoroughfare. Meanwhile, Constable Galley who was on uniform patrol duty had received messages regarding the shooting incidents and was making his way quickly to the scene when he saw the man in the road. On seeing the Officer the man adopted a menacing attitude and advanced across the road towards him with the gun in the shooting position. He stopped in the road centre and a passing car slowed down to avoid him. He tried to get into the car on the passenger side but failed. During this temporary diversion Constable Galley ran and closed with the man in an effort to disarm and arrest him. Both men fell to the ground in a violent struggle. The gun was fired again and the shot went into a brick wall of a nearby building. Mr. Thomas and another civilian then helped the Constable and the man was eventually disarmed and arrested.

Thomas REDMOND, Painter and Decorator, Clapham Common, London, S.W.4.

A fire occurred on the top floor of a four-storey dwelling house divided into sixteen self-contained flats. Mr. Redmond, a resident who was familiar with the layout of the building and knew it had no external fire escape, immediately ran up the stairs with the intention of locating the fire and dealing with it. On reaching the third-floor landing he saw smoke coming through a slightly open door and flames shot out of the room. A woman resident on the top floor was trapped in her room above the fire and could not be reached by the stairs owing to the density of the smoke. Redmond decided to get outside the house and on to a roof at the back from which he would be able to find out if she was in her room, and also from which there was a means of escape to an adjoining building. Redmond then made his way to the third-floor bathroom and climbed through the window on to a sloping slate roof some 70 feet above ground level and 10 feet below the fourth floor room. He shouted up to the window of the room and when the window was opened smoke came out. Redmond realised the only escape from the room would be by dropping down on to the sloping roof beside him and he shouted instructions to the woman accordingly. At this stage he was forced to close the bathroom window as thick smoke was escaping from it. This left him with no hand-hold and precariously balanced on the sloping roof. He was fully aware that if he slipped he had no means of saving himself. The woman then began to lower herself from her window holding on to the window ledge, and Mr. Redmond prepared to catch her legs.