

NEWPORT DOCKS DISASTER

CONSPICUOUS BRAVERY RECOGNISED

BRONZE MEDALS AWARDED

DECORATIONS TO BE PRESENTED BY THE PRINCE OF WALES

Col. H.C.Perrott, Secretary of the Grand Priory of the Order of St John of Jerusalem and England (St. John's Ambulance Association) has intimated that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Prior and the Chapter-General of the Order of St John of Jerusalem have awarded the bronze medal of the Order for gallantry in saving or attempting to save life on land at imminent risk to the following men: James Andrews, Charles Crogan, George Bradford, Anthony Kinsella and Walter Willis, in the employ of Messrs Easton Gibb and Son, and John Aldridge, dock gateman,; Daniel McCarthy, dock constable: and George Osbourne, an inspector, in the employ of the Alexandra (Newport and South Wales) Docks and Railway Co. for conspicuous bravery on the occasion of Newport Docks Disaster, and an official notification of the fact has been sent to Viscount Tredegar, who signed the petition on their behalf. These men will be required to attend at Marlborough House on a day to be fixed by his Royal Highness for the presentation of the medals, and notice will be received in due course.

Mr G.H. Osbourne is one of the hoist inspectors in the employ of Alexandra Dock Co., and superintendent of the Alexandra Docks division of the St John's Ambulance Brigade, while Messrs. McCarthy and Aldridge is also member of the Docks Division of the Ambulance Brigade. The men to whom this honor has been awarded were among the rescue parties at work immediately the disaster occurred, and at great risk to themselves went down among

the large timbers, which every moment threatened to close in upon them, for the purpose of endeavoring to rescue

The Work of the Rescuers Commended

Below are given a few incidents worthy of notice in the work performed by some of those omitted in the list of honours recently published. P.C.'s D. Moyle (Borough Police) and R. Manns (Dock Police)* who were the first on the spot after the accident were actually buried up to their knees in running sand. They brought out the first two men dead, suffocated by sand, and were the means of rescuing two other men and restoring them by artificial respiration, enabling them to be removed to safety. They were mentioned individually in the newspapers at the time. Mr Ferris, the contractor's engineer, who also gave evidence at the Board of Trade Inquiry worked from the time of the accident till noon on Saturday in rescuing the injured, and with D. Buckley and C. L. Abbott of A.D.C. Engineer's staff, special attention was given to the rescue of Percy Doughton, who was operated on in the trench. It necessitated the partial drawing of six piles and the sinking of a hole behind the piles over 20 feet deep to get at the imprisoned man. During the time the work was in progress the two last named went down among the timbers in turn, and gave Doughton the first stimulant, which was brandy. This he refused, and then he took hot milk, Bovril or water every half hour. He was not left, and when the amputation was completed by Dr's Hamilton, Cook and Crinks, under heroic circumstances, straw had to be thrown in a sudden gap to prevent a sand rush while they were down in the trench, performing the operation. Abbott then accompanied the man to the hospital, but he died on the way, and finally to the mortuary with the body having been on duty over 15 hours.

* Reubin Minns surname was misspelt in the original newspaper article.