

Brave Firemen Gallantry Recognised Presentations in Sheffield

An interesting ceremony took place this morning in the Second Court at the Sheffield City Police. After the usual business had been transacted, Supt. F. W. Frost, Sergeant J. R. Corbett, Fireman George P. Waller, and Fireman George Kirkley, were present to receive bronze medals and certificates for bravery at a fire at the Plough Inn, Broad Street, Park, on Sunday, April 26th. The medals and certificates were given by the Sheffield Society for the Recognition of Bravery, and presented by the Lord Mayor, Alderman H. P. Marsh. The president of the Society, Colonel Sir John Bingham, was on the Bench, with Mr. Sydney Robinson and Mr. R. H. Dunbar, a member of the society, was also present.

The Lord Mayor, in making the presentation, described the incidents of the fire. Owing to the promptitude with which the motor fire tender arrived upon the scene, the firemen were successful in saving all eight lives. When the tender arrived the inn was fully alight, and dense choking smoke of intense heat was coming from the front of the building. The fire escape was at once run up, and they were instrumental in bringing the inmates of the house down. Besides which Superintendent Frost forced his way upstairs and managed to reach a top flight, where he found the wife of the licence holder in a comatose condition. She was taken down, as also was her husband, Edward Lucas. He, the Lord Mayor, thought great credit was due to the whole of those firemen for the promptitude, activity, and rigour they displayed on that occasion. He did not hesitate to say that if the same opportunity came to any member of the force they would equally seize it to do the same. Those men had the opportunity of doing it and did it immediately, and they deserved their warmest thanks and every credit that could be given to them for what they did.

In his reply, Supt. Frost voiced the thanks of himself and his brother firemen. There were forty of them in all, and any one of them, if he had the opportunity, would, as the Mayor put it, do exactly the same.

The medals and certificates were then handed over, and Col. Sir John Bingham, rising, said he had received a message from Councillor Wing the secretary of the society, regretting his inability to be present. Speaking for himself, he was only too pleased to emphasise what the Lord Mayor had said. He admired the manly way in which Supt. Frost expressed himself, that he and the men had only done their duty. He, as superintendent, could have ordered one of them to do that which he did bravely and with such aptitude himself.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Lord Mayor on the motion of Mr. Sydney Robinson.

The photographs used in our magazine page on Saturday were by Mr. H. Sandell, photographer, Sheffield.