

THE KING PRAISES LONDON FIREMEN.

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A realistic turnout was staged at London fire-brigade headquarters when it was visited by the King. His Majesty was paying a tribute to the fire personnel, regular and auxiliary, who have saved the capital of the Empire from destruction.

Every night for weeks past the men have battled with great fires while bombs dropped all around them. It was to recognise such valour that the King instituted the George medal and the George Cross. Girl ambulance-drivers have performed acts of bravery as fine as those of the men.

A communal feeding centre - another aspect of the Battle of London - was also inspected. This time the Queen accompanied King George. Each night the German bombs make still more people homeless. At centres like this, raid-victims can have meals till new housing arrangements are made for them. When the first shock's over they quickly get back their high spirits and put a wonderfully brave face on their plight. The one thing they'd like now would be news that the Germans are having a taste of their own medicine. The fact that the King and Queen deeply sympathise with them helps courageous Londoners to remain optimistic.

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