Benjamin Beckerman, Who in 26 Years Has Averted Many Tragedies, Gets Citation

Benjamin Beckerman, key man in many heroic rescues for over 26 years, has received recognition in the form of a citation for his distinguished service from Brooklyn Consistory No. 76 of Free and Accepted Masons.

Beckerman's heroism at sea has saved innumerable lives and millions of dollars. Answering Benjamin Beckerman, radio distress calls under emergency conditions has become almost a habit with this radio operator.

Twice his facile and accurate key brought the S.S. Madison into prominence. Once, while its deck housing was being battered to bits, his calls brought help in time to prevent the loss of a single life. Again, when the S.S. Monroe and S.S. Nantucket met and crashed in mid-ocean in 1914, Beckerman's alert ear caught the tragic message.

OTHER RESCUES.

Passengers and crew were rescued, but Frederick Kuehn, operator of the S.S. Monroe and a friend of Beckerman's, lost his life with the surrender of his lifebelt to a woman passenger.

Beckerman's instrument it was that brought rescue to every passenger on the ill-fated Merida when she went down in 1911 with $4,000,000 worth of treasure, off the Virginia coast.

When the Princess Anne left only a spar above water off Rockaway Point in 1920, Beckerman summoned aid from the New York City Police Boat Patrol, and everyone was rescued.

In addition to these incidents, the heroic radio operator has been a principal in two fires and three collisions at sea.

A WORTHY PRINCE.

The resolution of the Masons says:

“Resolved, that it views with great pride and deep gratification that one of its own Sublime Princes, Benjamin Beckerman, by his rare and extraordinary ability and humanitarianism did exemplify in practice the tenets of our body by steadfastly and under the most trying conditions do his duty to his fellow-men and to his God, and thereby inscribed himself indelibly as a worthy and enviable Sublime Prince, and may his deeds continue to the credit of himself and of all his associates.”

Furnished by Dick Eq. 38.