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THE BRITISH NAVY

London Daily Express.—The duty of the Government is to conserve our own financial resources, and to use the power it happily possesses to weaken the financial resources of the enemy. The British Navy is gradually but surely draining Germany's life-blood. She may obstinately hold on in the west. Owing to our initial errors in diplomacy she may win battles in the Balkans, and may fight her way to Constantinople. All this can profit her little while the seas are barred to her traffic and her merchant fleet is idling in harbor. It is preposterous that the splendid effectiveness of the work of the Navy should be balked by the interference of doctrinaire politicians. Until Germany is conquered there can be no peace and no security in Europe. The Navy is encompassing her downfall. What madness it is to weaken the wall of the seas in order to please Denmark or America or any other neutral Power! It is wholly against the British tradition.

Domestic Politics In Britain. Westminster Gazette.—But it is not desirable that even in the period of the war we should get into the habit of thinking of domestic politics as unimportant or suppose that they will be abolished at the end of the war by the mere process of wiping them off on the contrary, to devote all our spare thoughts to some of the subjects that divided us before the war, so that, if possible, when the war is over, we may avoid the deep and dangerous schisms that threatened us in the last days of peace. We should like to think that, before the next General Election comes, we shall have settled the question of the franchise by consent between parties. When millions of working-people have shown that they are willing to sacrifice their lives for the country, no one can seriously wish to perpetuate an ancient anomaly which prevents them from having an equal voice in its affairs. When the women of the country have shown the zeal and ability to which every camp and hospital bears witness, it cannot be tolerable that we should return to the old struggle about admitting them to the franchise.

BRITISH LINER ARLANZA SUNK OFF ARCHANGEL

The big British liner Arlanza was sunk off the Russian port of Archangel, probably by a floating mine, on December 10, according to authoritative information reaching shipping circles here today. The news is said to have been suppressed by the British censor for fear that neutral shipowners might become alarmed at the possible dangers in Russian waters. Excepting the Lusitania and the Arabic, the Arlanza is the largest steamer sunk by mines or submarines since the beginning of the war. She was owned by the Royal Mail Packet Company and was registered at Belfast.—New York, Jan. 12, '16.

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MOUNTED SCOUTS OF SIBERIAN FORCES' HARDY, DARING TROOPS

Held Back the Germans on One of Their Drives on Warsaw and Turned the Tide of Battle—Russian Red Cross Very Efficient—Flying Columns Which Aid the Wounded.

Headquarters of the Russian Army of the Center, Dec. 30.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press)—One of the most perilous branches of army service in Russia is that of mounted scouts, an organization peculiar to the Siberian corps. There are one hundred of these scouts to each regiment, and a harder, more daring lot of rough riders would be hard to find. They are for the most part plainmen, whose life has been spent in the open and on horseback.

Raid German Lines This organization played an important part in the Japanese war where, by their impetuous attacks they saved the Russian troops in many instances from heavy losses. After the Japanese war they were disbanded, but with the outbreak of the present conflict, were re-organized by Captain Benjamin Jessotsky, who became their commander. During the recent months while the Russians and Germans have been facing each other in the trenches these scouts frequently have raided the German lines and during the last week in November on the Eastern front, they bagged a German staff, consisting of two generals, a doctor and six non-commissioned officers. A colonel and many soldiers were killed in the action. The following incidents concerning the scouts activities earlier in the war were given by an officer at the front who participated in events related.

At 3 o'clock on the afternoon of September 29th the last companies of the first division left their positions before Warsaw to take up others behind the defenses of the city. The entire defence of the city was left to the Siberian scouts. Commander Pessotsky, who had remained with the scouts, took upon himself to order his men to spread out and occupy the left wing of the positions between Yulanova and Novo Ivitchni, in front of a woods.

Held The Line The Germans began to advance on Novo Ivitchni, sending a flying column in front. Pessotsky ordered his men to open fire. The German column to their surprise began to fall back, firing. Pessotsky got on top of a small house and through his glasses observed the enemy, ordering changes in position to give the impression that the trenches were fully manned. The Germans began shelling the village and the house where he was. In face of this he sent an officer to the rear, saying that he was holding the position and asking that reinforcements be sent. The enemy began pressing forward in force, but Pessotsky's heroic action had given time for the whole Russian column to move forward again and by a flank movement to drive back the Germans. This was the beginning of the

German retreat that ended at their frontier.

The Red Cross. It may also be said that during the war the Russian Red Cross has done more than ever could be expected of it. The doctors, surgeons and sisters on the one hand and the volunteer organizations on the other have worked with marvellous efficiency.

Flying Columns. One of the most interesting phases of the work is the operation of the flying columns, which move along with the army and work while engagements are in progress. In each flying column there is an officer in charge with all the rights of a military commander of a separate military unit, although he may come from civil life. Besides him there are two or three aides. The medical side of the organization is represented by three surgeons, eight students and two sisters. One hundred and eighty men of each column are assigned and trained to the work required of them from the ranks of enlisted men. The column has also a large number of sanitary carriages, several field kitchens, field operating rooms and in case of necessity tents to live in.

How They Work. During battle the column is divided into three sections. The commander either mounted or afoot, moves forward with the sanitars, as near as possible to the trenches. Sometimes they locate in the trenches themselves. Very often when trenches or positions change hands the flying column has to stay on until the last to take away the wounded in spite of the danger of falling into the enemy's hands. Two columns have been entirely destroyed by the fire of the enemy, and several have been captured to say nothing of individual losses among other columns. Not only have they to bring first aid to the trenches, but frequently they must transport the wounded in their sanitary carriages through the zone of artillery fire.

During battle the columns also organize field feeding points and bring not only to the trenches first aid, but food for the wounded who often must lie for hours before they can be moved.

GEN. VON EMMICH BURIED

Berlin, Dec. 27 (by wireless to Sayville).—The funeral of Gen. Von Emmich, who died recently at Hanover, was held at the town hall. All the church bells of the city were rung as the body was taken to the cemetery. The Grand Duke of Oldenburg and the Duke and Duchess of Brunswick attended the service.

THE CRESCENT PICTURE PALACE.

"BLACK SHEEP"

A strong Society Drama produced in 2 Reels by the Vitagraph Company, featuring Edward Cecil and Hector V. Sarno.

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An Edison feature, a dog's devotion saves life and honour.

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SOME PLACES THAT HAVE NOT YET HEARD THAT WAR IS RAGING

Incredible though it may sound, there are a number of places on this earth where civilized men live, but are probably still in ignorance that one of the greatest wars in the world's history is raging.

Tristian da Cunha, the lonely South Atlantic island, has not received a mail since the outbreak of war. Tristian da Cunha is entirely dependent on chance communication from the Cape, 1,500 miles away. Sometimes it is a year or more without its people hearing from the outside world. It is a British possession, and its people, numbering about eighty, are mainly descendants of shipwrecked sailors. They are of mixed origin—English, Scotch, Irish, Americans, Dutch, Italian, Asiatic and negro.

Another place that has probably not yet heard of the war is Yquitos, in Eastern Peru. Yquitos has perhaps the most romantic mail service in the world. It is only a few hundred miles from Lima, the Pacific capital of Peru, but the wall of the Andes is an almost impassable barrier. The "quick" mail route, therefore, from Yquitos to Lima is all the thousands of

UNEASINESS OVER STEAMER MINTO

Summerside, Jan. 10.—There is some uneasiness in shipping circles regarding the steamer Minto, recently sold to the Russian government. The steamer is about five weeks out, and overdue. It is thought that there were a number of Canadians on board when she departed for Archangel, Russia. Reports in a United States paper that Germany intended to see to it that Russia should not have the use of good vessels to help her keep the port at Archangel open this winter has added to the uneasiness felt regarding the safety of the Minto. It is quite probable she is safe, but that she has been delayed by unfavorable weather, or word may have been received regarding the vessel, but owing to the general delay of postal and other forms of communication, the news has not yet reached Summerside.

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