

THE RED CROSS COLUMN

The Red Cross in this war has been the great safe guard of the rights of all non-belligerents.

It does not pose as a neutral term open to the suspicion of a hypocritical partiality for one side or the other.

It is not a political party in the ordinary sense of the word. Its aims are entirely non-political.

It does not attempt to influence the military policies of any government.

It is not a party to the war. It is not a party to the peace. It is a party to humanity.

It is not a party to the future. It is a party to the present. It is a party to the past.

It is not a party to the world. It is a party to the globe. It is a party to the universe.

It is not a party to the life. It is a party to the death. It is a party to the resurrection.

It is not a party to the end. It is a party to the beginning. It is a party to the middle.

CONFLICTING REPORTS COME FROM BALKANS

Correspondents Muddling Up Facts With Their Own Theories—Big Russian Win in Persia

London states that speculation over the development of an attack on the Entente allies at Saloniki continues.

Some papers credit the central powers with a plan to bear down on Saloniki from three sides, the Germans forming the centre, with the Turks and Bulgarians on the left and right wings respectively.

From different correspondents came various reports on the situation in the Balkans, some contending that the Bulgarians have accomplished all the territorial gains within their immediate ambitions, and therefore will not move further.

Other correspondents represent them as being determined to extend their boundaries to include the important port of Saloniki.

Russian Successes Continue Authentic information having been received of the arrival at Rabatkerim, 25 miles southwest of Teheran, of a band of a thousand horsemen under Emir Kischmet, the Russians sent a detachment of troops there under Col. Belomestoff, with orders to destroy the band by a swift blow.

Col. Belomestoff encountered the enemy near Rabatkerim. The enemy consisted of two battalions of gendarmes, five hundred of Chief Emir's horsemen and two hundred Kakhtiaras.

The enemy opened a violent fire. Col. Belomestoff, after artillery preparations, attacked with his whole force in an endeavor to surround the enemy.

The enemy was thoroughly dispersed, losing in men sabred alone 118, including two officers.

Huns Lose 8,000 Men Two days of continuous fighting between Ypres and Armentieres resulted in a loss to the Germans of 8,000 effectives, says the war correspondent of La Liberté, Paris.

FACTS TO BE FACED IF WAR IS TO BE WON

Lloyd George Speaks Plainly at Glasgow on Britain's Exact Position—Scott's Great Rally

Mr. Lloyd George, addressing three thousand trade unionists at Glasgow, urged the employment side by side of skilled and unskilled labor.

He placed before his hearers three fateful alternatives: "Either we must tell the soldiers that we are sorry we cannot get the guns to enable them to win throughout 1916 owing to trade union regulations, or we must tell them that if they manage to hold out for another year perhaps American workmen will help us to get a sufficient supply for 1917."

Another alternative, "is that we might tell the Kaiser frankly that we cannot go on. He might let us off with the annexation of Belgium, with the payment of an indemnity, and with a British colony or two, but he would certainly demand that Great Britain surrender her command of the sea, and Great Britain then would be as completely at the mercy of Prussian despotism as Belgium is to-day."

Hecklers Rebuked "Eighty thousand skilled men are required," proceeded the Minister of Munitions. The gun and munition factories in the United Kingdom called for this number of workers.

"You won't get them," someone in the audience shouted. Mr. Lloyd George silenced the interrupter by exclaiming, "I come here and face three thousand Glasgow trade unionists. Will that gentleman venture to go to Flanders and face three thousand British soldiers in the trenches?"

Prolonged cheers showed on which side stood the Glasgow workmen present.

All Machinery Needed The problem of the Minister is no longer ammunition, but guns and machine guns. Plants for the manufacture of artillery cannot be improvised, and it is clear that every bit of suitable machinery in the United Kingdom must be used night and day to meet the demand.

The Government has been very patient, but trades union rules which involve the possibility of defeat if not temporarily set aside will not much longer be permitted to lessen the output of the nation's workshops.

ENGLAND WAKES UP Conscription For Single Slackers to Come in Vogue It is stated on excellent authority that the Cabinet has virtually decided upon a modified form of conscription bill, to be introduced in the House of Commons next week.

KING "SOCCER" REIGNS ON BRITISH FRONT

Tommies Spend Christmas Day in Pursuing Their Favorite Sport—No Truce Made With Enemy

The Reuter correspondent at British Headquarters in France sends the following account of how the men spent Christmas: "Christmas broke over the British western front wet and blowing, and altogether cheerless."

As the morning advanced the sun struggled through the mists; by the soldiers' dinner time it was quite fine and very mild. The day was uneventful in the trenches. Plenty of good fare was provided and conditions were as comfortable as possible amid the waterlogged environments.

Amongst the troops in reserve and billets Christmas was celebrated with more thoroughness. The enemy seemed satisfied to spend his Christmas quietly, and there was no intention in the British lines, if the Germans manifested no desire to be aggressive, to force them into hostile activity.

On the other hand, every preparation had been made to meet the least tendency to "strafing" in a vigorous manner. Hence, comparative quiet lay upon the fire within the occupied zone. During the afternoon every available acre of meadow in the rear of the lines was taken possession of for football.

In the trenches themselves there was much hearty singing, ranging from what the French call 'that melancholy hymn,' 'Tipperary,' to 'A Che le Morte.' In places where the enemy lines skirt the British closely the guttural chanting of the Germans was borne athwart the shrill song of the southeaster, and was invariably the signal for a deeper outburst of chorusing on the part of our men to drown the sound.

Invaders Are Remembered "Overtures toward fraternizing by the Germans were but slight and faint-hearted, as though their rejection was a foregone conclusion. There appears to be a general sense of relief among the soldiers that Christmas is over. The spirit of the season is completely out of harmony with the grim atmosphere of the trenches, and contrasts born of the reminiscences are not of a cheerful order."

"We don't want to stop and think more than we can help," said a Highlander. "We just want to get on with it, so that we may sooner be finished."

Canada May Again be Called Upon to do Her Share in the War Sir Geo. Foster, Minister of Trade and Commerce, intimated in an address that a Canadian domestic loan of \$300,000,000 might soon follow the recent issue of \$100,000,000.

Sir George said that Canadians would be called on to bear a greater share in the financing of the war. It will no longer be possible to do this by foreign loans, he said, and the people of the country would have to practice strict economy in order to be able to do their part.

No. 14 NORMANBY

Names arranged in order of merit IV—J. McVain, E. Lewis. Sr. III—R. McVain. Jr. III—E. Seim, L. Stewart, A. Seim. II—F. McIvride, C. Smith, M. Lewis. Sr. I—J. Stewart, M. McVain, K. McNamara. Sr. Pr—A. Stewart, J. Lane, W. Lewis. Jr. Pr—B. Lewis.

HE HAD FOUND OUT

Jinks—She's decidedly against vivisection. Jenks—I found it out the minute I tried to open my heart to her.—The Club-Fellow. "Your wife's dinner parties are always beautiful affairs." "Yes," replied Mr. Cumrox. "At first people didn't seem to want to come to 'em, but I guess mebbe the high cost of living is making a difference."—Washington Star.

BARGAINS

For the next Ten Days we will give our customers 25 per cent. discount on all Toys and Dolls.

We have an immense stock of Skates, Hockey Sticks, Shin Pads, Hockey Gloves, Pucks and Sleighs.

When you are driving make yourself comfortable by using a good Robe. We have a large stock of Black and Grey Robes, and our prices are right.

In Horse Blankets, we have quality, quantity, assortment and patterns.

In Sleigh Bells we have full strings, and different kinds of open bells.

In Halters we have what suits every person.

W. BLACK

New Store

A Stock of Choice, Fresh Groceries, Fruits and Confectionery just opened, next to Macfarlane's Drug Store

A Trial Order Solicited Prices Right Phone 45 Prompt Delivery

BUTTER AND EGGS WANTED

WM. BUCHAN



High grade Pianos of several makes. Columbia Grafonolas and Records. Musical Instruments and Supplies. Sanitary Closets. SPECIAL NOTICE. Good Second Hand Coal Heater at a Bargain. H. J. Snell Agent Durham

MARRIED

TRAFFORD-MILLER—In Ben-tinck at the home of the bride's mother, by Rev. W. W. Wylie, on Tuesday, December 28th Charles Elmer Trafford to Miss Ruth Miller.

HARDEN'S PAPER FORBIDDEN

According to The Telegraph the publication of Maximilian Harden's Die Zukunft has been forbidden by the German military authorities.

"FOXY" IN GENEROUS MOOD

The King of Bulgaria has instructed his military attaches in Berlin to drive fifty golden nails into the wooden statue erected in honor of Field Marshal Von Hindenburg. Each nail is to cost \$25 and the proceeds are to be devoted to charities.

QUEEN REMEMBERS CANADIANS

Queen Mary has sent a box of candy to each soldier in the Canadian Hospital at Shorncliffe. Princess Louise also sent cigarettes to each inmate of the Canadian Hospital at Cliveden with an autograph inscription on each. Ninety thousand stationery wallets were sent to the Canadians in France, the usual character of this gift having been especially appreciated.

KAISER'S ILLNESS EXAGGERATED

Alarming rumors, probably of an exaggerated nature, are being circulated in Switzerland concerning Emperor William's illness. The rumors state that the Emperor's condition is causing profound anxiety in Berlin.

THE TURK ANNOUNCEMENTS

That two British monitors had been sunk is untrue. Saxon F. Shenstone, sec-treasurer of the Dominion Radiator Co., Toronto, died suddenly Christmas Day. French Socialists will not mix with Germans after the war. Henry Ford of "peace" fame has called for New York from Sweden.