

LT.-COM. COOKSON, NOW DEAD, AWARDED THE V.C.

Set Tiny Gunboat Comet To Destroy River Barrier In Advance to Kut

(Reuter's Agency War Service)
London, January 21.—A glorious feat performed by the little gun-boat Comet is told in today's Gazette, which announces that her commander, Lieut.-Commander E. C. Cookson, has been awarded the Victoria Cross, while Surgeon D. Loughlin, Engineer T. Kerr and Flight-Lieutenant V. G. Blackburn are awarded Distinguished Service Crosses.

During the advance to Kut, H.M.S. Comet, on September 23, was ordered to examine and, if possible, to destroy an obstruction across the river. Although subjected to very heavy machine-gun and rifle fire from both banks, H.M.S. Comet attempted to sink the center dhow of the obstruction by gun-fire.

Having failed to do this, Lieut.-Commander Cookson ordered the Comet to go alongside, so as to board the dhow and cut the ropes. He was killed on board the dhow while hacking with an axe at the wire hawsers connecting the dhow with two others.

Surgeon Loughlin tended the wounded under very heavy fire. Engineer Kerr kept the Lancars in the engine-room in excellent order and also carried wounded to the surgeon. Flight-Lieutenant Blackburn carried despatches between the General Commanding and the Comet.

The Gazette announces that the Distinguished Service Cross has been conferred on Sub-Lieutenant L. C. Tudway, for remarkable ability and coolness in maneuvering the armed launch Sumana under fire, during the advance to Kut-el-Amara.

'ALI BABA' TO AID POLAND

The Bohemian Girl is considered a bit out of date now-a-days, but there are few of us who do not remember the haunting strains of that lovely song in the opera, "The Fair Land of Poland." Fair no longer, unfortunately, for war has devastated the country. The hard-working peasantry have had to abandon their farms and their homes, and their need for succour is great. It is a matter of which Shanghai may be justly proud that something is being attempted to help to alleviate the terrible distress among the Poles. That something, as may be seen from our advertising columns, is to take the shape of a gala performance, in the Lyceum Theater next Thursday evening, when, under the patronage of the Russian consul-general and suite, the popular "Ali Baba" pantomime is to be repeated in aid of the funds of the Red Cross Society of Poland. A big house may be expected for certain, and those intending to be present would be well advised to bear in mind that the booking-plan will be thrown open at Messrs. Moutrie's tomorrow morning at eight o'clock. Some new songs and other novelties, we understand, are to be introduced into Thursday night's show.

DR. WU ON MORALS

Instead of the usual religious conference at the International Institute, there will be held this afternoon at four o'clock at the same place a special meeting to listen to Dr. Wu Ting-fang. He will speak on the necessity of morals and good conduct, on the unity of all truth, and on the mysteries of life. Dr. Wu is devoting his time to the study of religion and will have much to say which will be of interest. Both foreigners and Chinese are invited to attend this meeting which is being arranged for by Dr. Wu's friends who are interested in the same subject.

President Yuan Shih-k'ai Honors Dr. W. H. Park of Soochow



Dr. Park is shown at the left, next the Scroll, and the Taoyin (with jewel on hat) at the right; next to him is Chief Magistrate Sen.

Special Correspondence of The China Press

Soochow, January 21.—Dr. W. H. Park of Soochow, who came to China in 1882, is probably the oldest American medical missionary now in active practice in this country. Not long ago President Yuan Shih-k'ai, in answer to a petition from Dr. Park's former medical pupils, conferred upon the doctor the decoration of the Golden Harvest (Kin Ho) 6th class, and he has now, in answer to a petition from the officials and gentry of Soochow, followed this up with an Honorary Scroll to be copied on a board and placed in the Soochow Hospital, the hospital the Doctor has had charge of so long, and the scroll itself is to be mounted and kept as an heirloom in the doctor's family.

The first intimation Dr. Park had of a favorable answer to the petition was the following notice, on Decem-

ber 6, 1915, from the Commission of Foreign Affairs in Soochow:

The Peking Government Press Nos. 1277 and 1279 published the following:—The Ministry of Home Affairs, on the 26th of November, 4th year of the Chinese Republic, requested that a Testimonial Board be conferred upon the American Doctor of Medicine, W. H. Park, on account of his zeal in meritorious work, and

1. THE PRESIDENT order that such a Board be given with the following inscription in four characters

'Benevolent Heart, Benevolent Art.' The scroll reached Soochow last week and was brought wrapped in yellow paper and carried in a red palanquin borne by four bearers, accompanied by a band and a troop

of sixty soldiers in full accoutrements, to Dr. Park by the highest officials in the city.

The following are some of the reasons given by the officials and gentry for this high honor to Dr. Park:

1. Active philanthropic work, as a kind medical missionary for over thirty years, known and beloved by the people of Soochow even down to beggars and children on the street.

2. Dr. Park was one of the charter members of the Anti-Opium League formed in Soochow under the leadership of the late Dr. H. C. D. Bose, and was its treasurer for many years and also, under the direction of the League, compiled a book "Opinions of Over 100 Physicians on the use of Opium in China" that was used by Mr. Taylor in making his famous motion in the British House of Commons that

marked the beginning of the overthrow of the opium trade.

3. Interest in and help in educational work, most of the large donations from Chinese friends for buying and walling in the beautiful campus of the Soochow University coming in through Dr. Park's hands and the hands of some of his former pupils in medicine.

The mention of pupils calls to mind the fact that he helped largely in carrying on for many years a medical school for both men and women, some of the graduates of which are now among the most successful practitioners in China, and he is still a teacher in the Woman's Medical School in Soochow, the former union medical school being closed and united with the Union Medical School, now the Medical Department of the University of Nanking.

BRITISH LOSE HEAVILY IN FRELINGHIEN ATTACK

Smoke Bombs Aid Big Advance Which Is Repulsed With Severe Casualties

(Ostasiatische Lloyd War Service)

Official German telegram.—Western theater of war.—Headquarters, Jan. 20.—The British attacked the German positions north of Frelinghien in an extension of several hundred meters with smoke bombs, but were repulsed with very heavy losses for the enemy.

The enemy's artillery deliberately shelled the church of Lens.

Near Tours, a German airman shot down a British battle aeroplane armed with two machine-guns. On the Yser, German guns forced an aeroplane to land in the enemy's lines, whereupon it was destroyed by German artillery fire.

The Germans have thrown bombs on military establishments at Nancy.

Eastern theater.—Artillery duels and advance-guard fights have taken place.

Headquarters, January 21.—Eastern theater.—Small Russian detachments were easily repulsed between Pinsk and Chortorisk.

Official Austro-Hungarian telegram. (Through the Deutscher Ueberseesendienst.)—Vienna, January 20.—Russian theater.—The new battle on the Bessarabian front has increased in violence. Tenacious attacks of superior Russian forces on several places

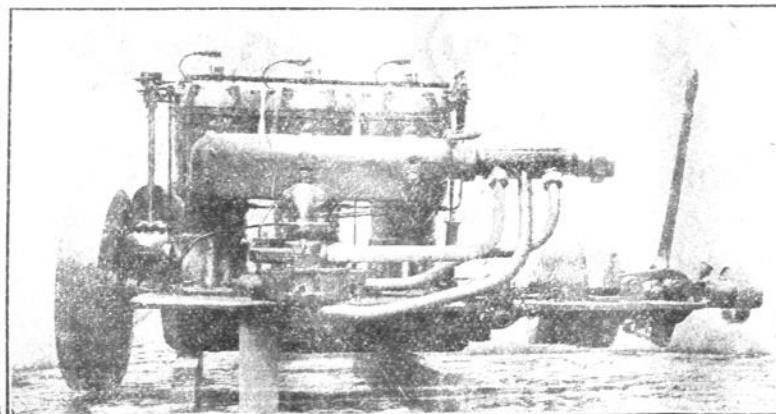
between Toporoutz and Bofan were repulsed, principally by the Budapest Honved division. Several times the enemy entered the trenches, only to be always repulsed, with heavy losses.

The 6th and the 30th Honved regiments made energetic counter-attacks in one place, where the ground before

the trenches is strewn with dead Russians. In the fighting section of a single battalion over 800 dead Russians were counted.

The front of General von Pflanzer-Baltin is under Russian artillery fire. Artillery duels are taking place in Eastern Galicia.

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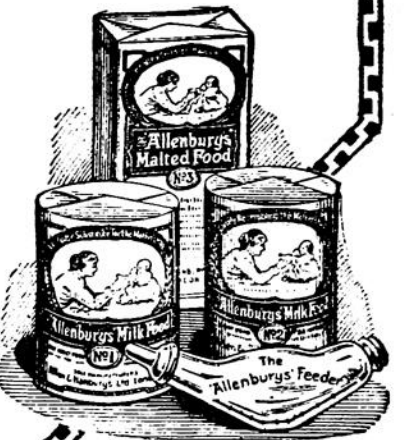
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