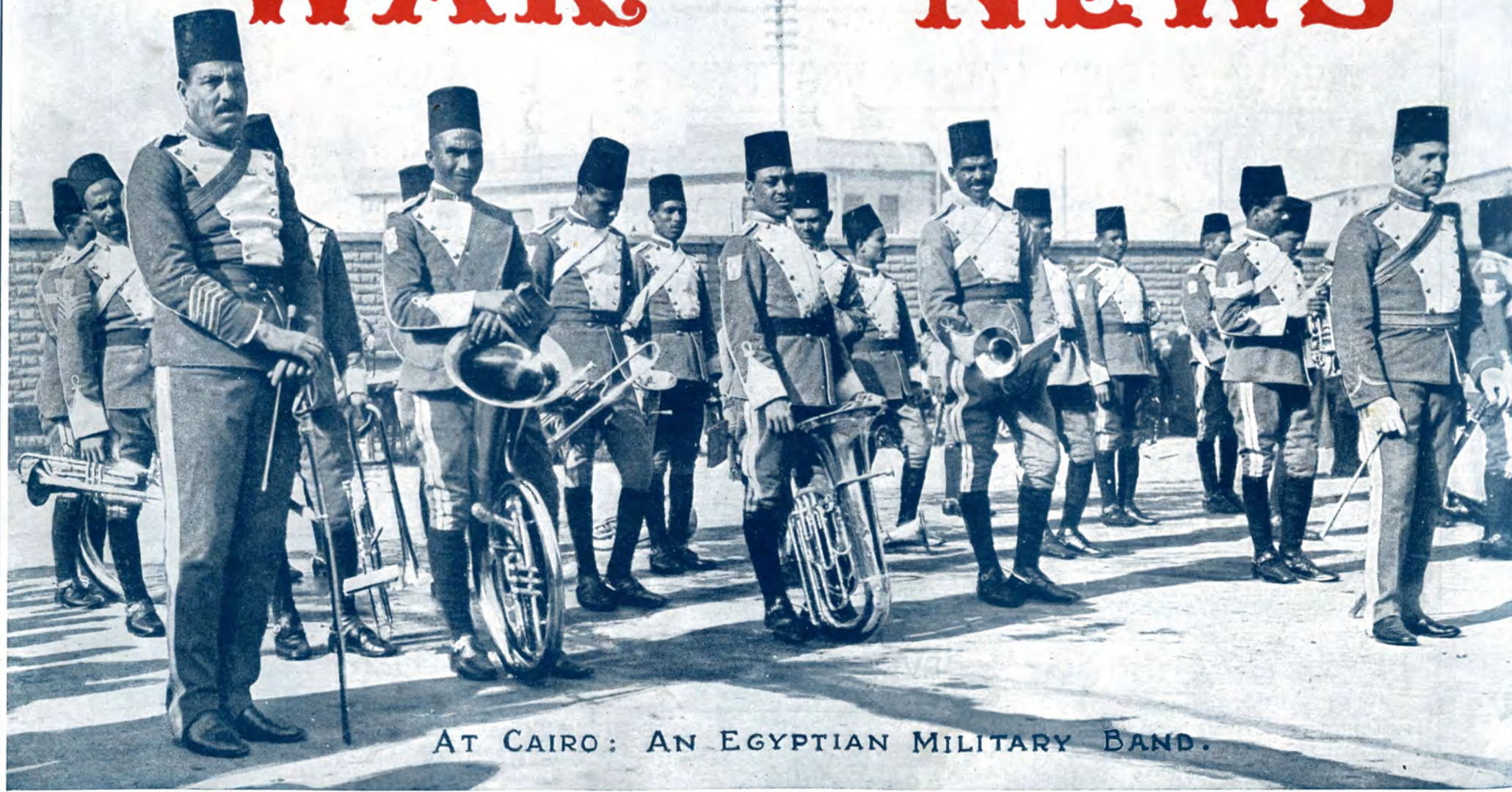


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# The Illustrated War News.



WITH STEEL HELMETS AND CHAIR-BACK SADDLES: TUNISIAN SPAHIS—THE FAMOUS FRENCH-AFRICAN CAVALRY—IN RESERVE IN THE VOSGES.

*Photograph authorised by the French Ministry of War; supplied by Newspaper Illustrations.*



## THE GREAT WAR.

VERDUN is still the fulcrum of Germany's offensive effort. The battle, after having slackened from exhaustion during the early days of the week, showed signs of fresh determination as the week-end approached, and on Friday the enemy attacks were again being developed



APPOINTED NAVAL ADVISER TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE ON BLOCKADE QUESTIONS: REAR-ADMIRAL SIR DUDLEY DE CHAIR.

Rear-Admiral Sir Dudley de Chair became, in 1914, Admiral of the Training Services and Tenth Cruiser Squadron. He served in the Egyptian War, and has been Naval Attaché to the United States, Assistant Controller of the Navy, and Naval Secretary to the First Lord.

*Photograph by Elliott and Fry.*

on their old fierce scale, were being met with the same resolute resistance, and were suffering the same savage losses. The fighting, however, had by this time changed front somewhat, so that the tendency of the German drive is now not from the north and west so much as from the north and north-east. For this new direction the gains of the Germans are partly responsible, but not nearly so responsible as the French scheme of resistance.

The German attack of last week-end was checked by the second and terrible line of the French defence. Wisely, the defending troops had fallen back from their dangerous salients and had entered into a new front holding the set of ridges that extend from the Meuse near Champ-neuveville eastward below the village of Louvemont, by Douaumont, until they turn south near the village of Damloup just above the Verdun-Etain railway line. Here on a line of great power the French were able to exert their full force of artillery and infantry, and to hold up what pressure there was left in the German attack. They were able to do more, Passing to the offensive for the first time in the battle, they drove their foes back at Douaumont, passed the

Brandenburgers and establish their gain of Fort Douaumont definitely—since they laboured under the burden of having advertised its capture too soon. All these attacks were shattered, and, save for shelling and some fierce local encounters, the fighting on this front died down. The French had established themselves in a firm position. The Germans claimed the crest of Talou as their own, but truth showed that neither French nor Germans could live on the shell-bitten ridge, which had become a no-man's-land, with the defenders in the good positions behind. A Berlin claim also gave the height of the Poivre to the attackers. It was partly true. The Germans had gained one ridge, but the predominant ridge above, with all its outworks, was still in French hands. The line, indeed, was too strong for the enemy, and the attack had to be eased off. The offensive of the enemy had, all the same, given him another gain. When the enemy pressed south and west from Ornes and Fromezey, he uncovered the rear of the French fighting on the plain of the Woivre. This position, fairly safe against frontal attack, was now exposed to enfilade fire from any gun positions the Germans cared to erect on the northern hills. The French therefore brought their front back across the flat country, and set it strongly on and at

*[Continued overleaf.]*



ART ON ACTIVE SERVICE: THE FRENCH OFFICIAL ARTIST WITH THE BRITISH FORCES IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AT WORK ON A PICTURE.

*Official Photograph, supplied by C.N.*





**"75's" AS ZEPPELIN-SHOOTERS: ONE OF THE FAMOUS FRENCH GUNS MOUNTED AGAINST AIRCRAFT, ON A MOTOR-CAR.**

The renowned French "75" field-gun has, during the past few days, added to its laurels and achieved fresh fame in a new rôle—as a Zeppelin-shooter. It was a "75," on an anti-aircraft mounting for extreme high-angle firing and installed on a motor platform-car, which performed the exploit of bringing down the Zeppelin destroyed at Révigny, while on its way, as conjectured, to drop bombs on Paris.

The gun-section was commanded by a sub-lieutenant with a squad of gunners. The unit was also accompanied by a specially fitted motor ammunition-wagon; and another motor-vehicle, carrying a search-light apparatus and means of establishing wireless communication with local observation-posts for information as to movements of any of the enemy's aircraft towards the "75" detachment, was on duty.



the foot of the hills east of Verdun, along a line Damloup - Blanzée-Manheulles - Fresnes. From the swampy ground about Fresnes it bends back in the long loop that stretches towards St. Mihiel. This line is extraordinarily strong. It is backed by the steep Meuse hills and the gun positions on them, and these dominate a country flat and difficult for manœuvre in bad weather and giving few opportunities for artillery emplacements at any time. Fresnes is not actually supported by the hills, but the village and much of the surrounding country is swampy, Fresnes itself standing on a firm patch in a sea of mud.

The Germans, discovering the retreat of the French a few hours too late, immediately conquered the undefended territory by marching. There were no infantry battles until the French line was reached at Eix, Manheulles—which was captured by the Germans, but reached later, though not retaken, by the French—and Fresnes, and in these encounters the Germans were driven off with great loss, some of the fighting being particularly fierce. Along this new line the attack was developed locally, attempts being made against the gap above Eix through which the road and railway strike towards Verdun, and also against the flatter, if swampy, ground about Fresnes. These attacks have given way to an intense bombardment of the entire line—a prelude, probably, to attack in force.

The net result of what must be considered the first phase of the



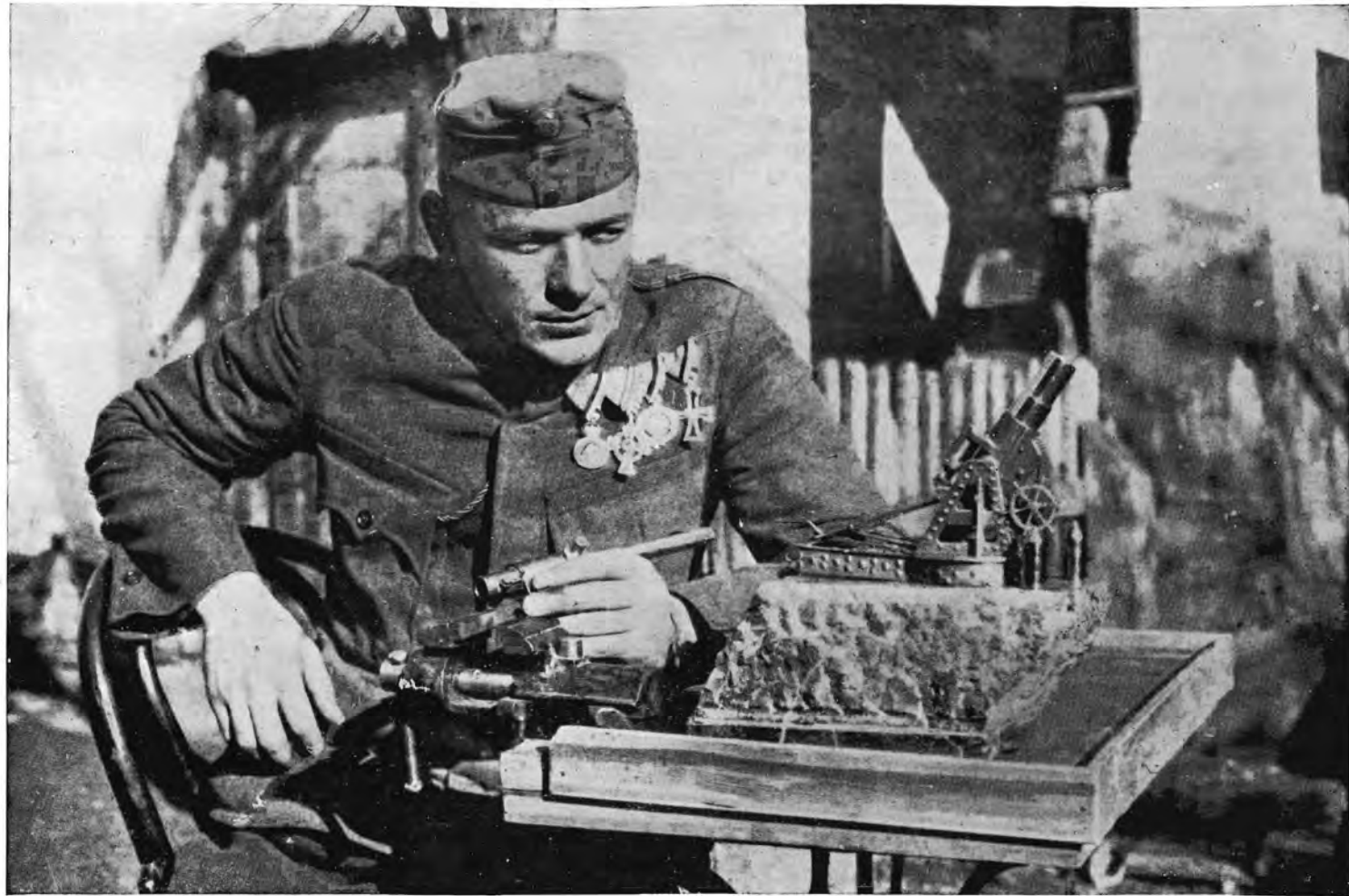
WEARING THE LEEK IN THEIR BEARSKINS: THE BAND OF THE WELSH GUARDS MAKE THEIR FIRST APPEARANCE AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE, ON ST. DAVID'S DAY.

On St. David's Day, March 1, which was likewise Welsh Flag Day, the newly formed band of the Welsh Guards made their first appearance at Buckingham Palace. They attended the changing of the guard, and then played a selection of Welsh airs for the benefit of the assembled spectators. There was some discussion last year whether the leek or the daffodil should be the badge of the Welsh Guards. The King chose the leek.—[Photo, by Newspaper Illustrations.]

battle of Verdun is, therefore, a gain of ground to the north and east—170 square miles is the German estimate—and the failure of the first German plan, with great loss of life. The Germans show—first by their willingness to enthuse over victories too soon, and next by the curious dumbness of their communiqués after the check, as well as the uneasy silence in their Press—that they had been led to expect swift and immediate success. The victory was not merely to gain Verdun, but also to impress the suffering and discontented people at home. The check cannot be palatable to either the army or to the inhabitants of Germany. On the other hand, the success of their defence has given a new inspiration to the French. Never at any time viewing the battle in any but a grave and sober light, the defenders have gained a fine sense of resolute confidence from the fact that they were able to hold the hitherto invincible hammer-head attack of Germany. They have perceived the wisdom that caused them to retreat from dangerous fronts to fronts of greater strength, and they gain assurance from the fact that they know they are fighting on lines less wasteful and more compact than their opponents. They are now on the alert. The full power and method of their assailants have been exposed, and the means in men, guns, and positions have been assembled to cope with them. The French have brought out of the fight a sense of confidence that will help them win. Their spirit, their

[Continued overleaf.]





AN AUSTRIAN OFFICER TAKING A "BUSMAN'S HOLIDAY": PUTTING TOGETHER A MODEL 30·5 CM. MORTAR IN LEISURE HOURS.

Some of the heaviest guns used by the enemy in the war are said to have been of Austrian manufacture, emanating, no doubt, from the famous Skoda ordnance works. It was reported that in the fighting round Tarnow the Austrians employed a battery of 52 cm. (20·5-inch) mortars, which fired a shell weighing over  $\frac{1}{4}$  ton more than that of the German 17-inch mortars. It can hardly be said, however,

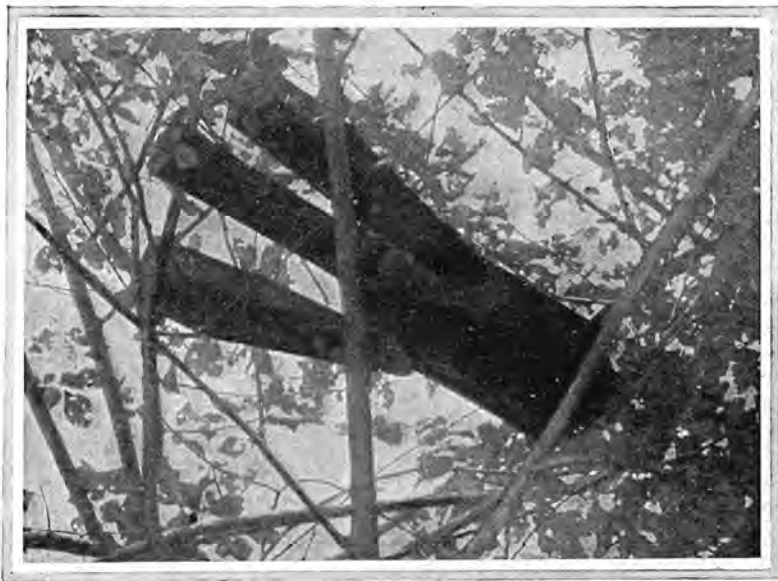
that the unaided achievements of the Austrian Army have been on a scale commensurate with the weight of their artillery. In the campaign against Italy the Italian gunners have gained the mastery; nor is it forgotten how the Austrians were routed by the Russians in Galicia, and ignominiously driven out of Serbia by the Serbians when they first invaded that country.—[Photo. by Continphot.]



positions, and their *matériel* give them the chances of the battle. By Thursday the Germans had reorganised their plan and reconcentrated their forces. The assault began to develop again, first with gun-fire, and then by the usual heavy attacks against definite points. The positions of the French forced them—on the north—to make these assaults on narrow fronts, and their line of movement was compressed against Douaumont and against the village of Vaux to the east of the fort. Douaumont had become a lode-stone, and masses of men were flung against

muniqués is horrible. Yet the holocaust continues, thousands being added to the 100,000 already hit in the course of the successive assaults, and, in spite of the furies of the incessant attack, nothing has been gained before Douaumont. The village is still a zone of fluctuant possession, the Germans being able to hold it no longer than the French. The week ends with the Germans no further advanced.

Along the rest of the Western front there have been moments of interest, but no great distracting movement either from our or the enemy side.



UNEXPLODED: A FRENCH AIR-TORPEDO CAUGHT IN A TREE OVER A GERMAN TRENCH—A PHOTOGRAPH FROM A GERMAN PAPER.

the French here in a savage and frantic desire to capture the broken remains of the obsolete work. The weight of the attack brought the Germans, after several setbacks, to the village of Douaumont, and then the fighting settled down to a furious battle across the single street. The assaults on Vaux were launched with the same ferocious pressure, but under gun and rifle fire they all collapsed, and the enemy was forced to retreat, leaving a great number of dead in the barbed wire. The German casualties along the front were consistently terrible, and the reading of the com-

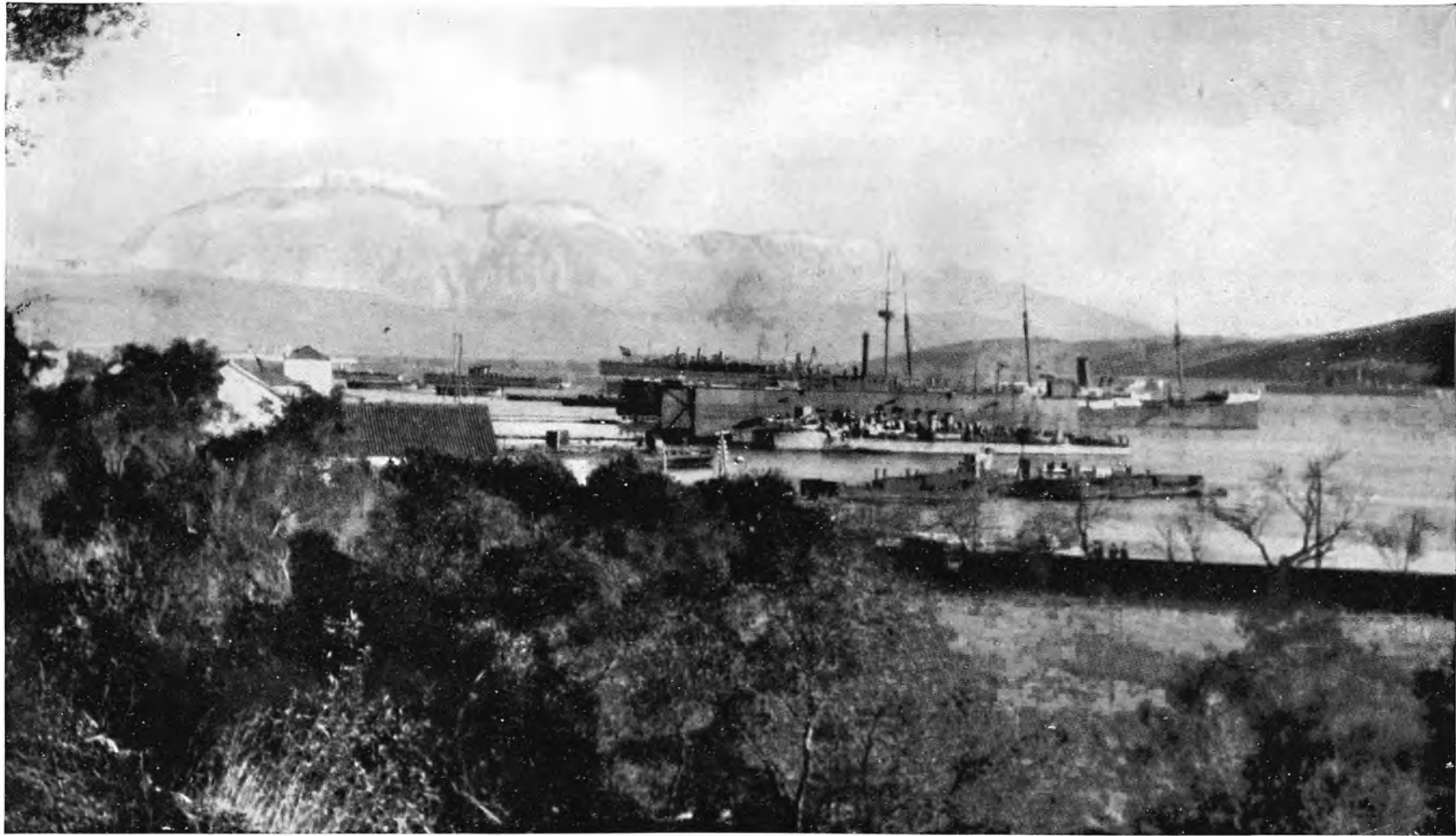


UNEXPLODED: A GERMAN 290-MM SHELL LANDED ON THE PARAPET OF A FRENCH FIRST LINE TRENCH IN CHAMPAGNE.

That we should possess ourselves patiently and hold to our plans is no doubt wise, but that the Germans should refrain from attempting an advance elsewhere was unexpected. There was a moment when it seemed that, actually, they were doing something of the sort. On Wednesday an assault was pushed forward in the Champagne, and a mile of trenches, with the village of Navarin, fell into enemy hands. The movement, on the extreme edge of the gains made by the French last autumn—that is, in the neighbourhood of the Souain-Somme-Py road—stopped after the

[Continued overleaf.]





WHERE THEY DISCREETLY REMAINED DURING THE EVACUATION OF DURAZZO: AUSTRIAN WAR-SHIPS IN CATTARO HARBOUR—WITH MOUNT LOVTCHEN.

"Interesting details are now published," writes Mr. A. Beaumont, "of the evacuation of Durazzo, in which the Italian Navy distinguished itself by keeping the Austrian fleet bottled up at Cattaro and bombarding the approaches to Durazzo. . . . The Austrian fleet meanwhile prudently remained within the Port of Cattaro, under the command of Admiral Kraus, who . . . dared not meet the Italian fleet

which was cruising near by. The fact that the Allies evacuated Durazzo is compensated for by the knowledge that for months the Austrian fleet, with its base almost within gun-shot of the Albanian coast, was unable to prevent the movement of the Allied and Italian fleets, which thus freely conveyed scores of transports up and down the Adriatic."—[Photo. by Continphot.]





A RUSSIAN PRISONER'S INGENIOUS HAND-  
WORK: A TABLE SET, WITH CHAIN AND KEY,  
CARVED OUT OF A SINGLE PIECE OF WOOD.  
This illustration of a remarkable piece of wood-carving  
by a Russian prisoner of war is reproduced from a  
German paper.

under trying conditions over roads deep in snow, our Ally's troops are advancing their line in splendid fashion. This week the left wing, working from Lake Van, has followed up its victory at Mush by the storm of Bitlis, fifty miles south of Mush. In a military sense this is an excellent stroke. Bitlis commands the Armenian road to Mesopotamia, and is within striking distance of the Bagdad railway between Ras el Ain and Nisibin. This threat should have effect on the forces facing us at Kut. General Aylmer is, apparently, improving the shining hour by gunnery work, though conditions do not yet favour movement; and these facts and the anxiety the victories—another success has been gained by Russia

opening movement, and nothing more was heard of it. On their part, the French have forced an advance in Upper Alsace, capturing several elements of German trenches east of Sepois, on the right bank of the Great Largus; and something of the same thing was done in Lorraine, in the region of Thiauville Ponds, also. Both gains appear to have been held. The British have been distracting German attention too. On Wednesday the famous "International Trench" once more changed hands, and we are again in the possession of the bastion near the Ypres-Comines Canal. Since our rush was more successful on this occasion than the German on the last, we have also added a small German salient of about two hundred yards to this advantage. On Thursday this work was followed by more near the Hohenzollern Redoubt. Five mines were exploded, and the craters occupied. All positions have been consolidated.

With the German failures in the West march the Russian successes in the East. Moving

in Persia, near Hamadan—must be having on the Turks, as well as the disorganisation of reinforcements and supplies, show all in our favour. From the north of Erzerum we have no further definite news, but the Russians appear to be pressing towards Trebizond, and the position of the Turkish troops in the district is thereby in peril. Politically these brave marches are said to be having a disturbing effect on the Turks. There are hints of unrest, and the hints are probably true. With the majority of the Turks the war has never been popular, and in any case there was no necessity or excuse for it. The public mind is probably beginning to realise that the whole bad business is the work of a faction, that has brought the German yoke upon them for its own ends.

A smaller item of news concerns the air-raid on the British south-east coast on Wednesday evening. The effect of the bomb-dropping was, as usual, small, though a baby of nine months was killed. The German sea-plane flew inland for a depth of several hundred yards, and then made off rapidly. However, its success, small though it was, was short-lived. The machine

came down north of Middelkerke Bank on the way back, one of the aviators being drowned and one rescued by the French. Since then, on Sunday, there has been a Zeppelin raid on certain counties on the North-East coast, but, as usual, it possessed no military value, and did very little damage.

DOUGLAS NEWTON.  
LONDON:  
MARCH 7, 1916.



MUNICIPAL CONSIDERATION FOR WOUNDED SOLDIERS: A SEAT FOR  
THEIR SPECIAL BENEFIT IN HARROW.

The Urban District Council of Harrow have placed in the streets of the town seats inscribed: "For the Use of Wounded Soldiers." Harrow, it will be remembered, is "on the Hill," and the Hill is steep.—[Photo. by Sport and General.]



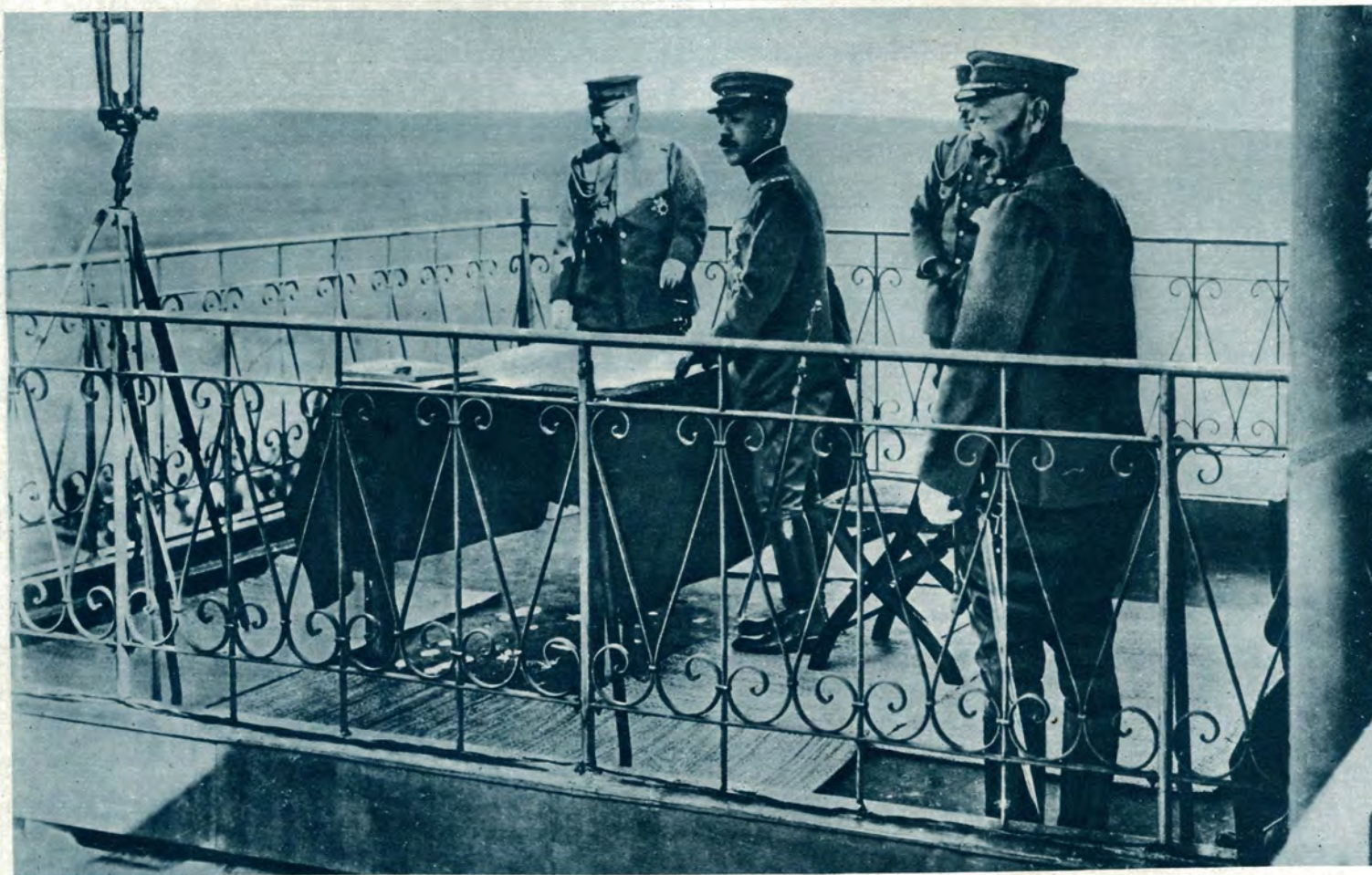


**THE RAT PLAGUE IN THE TRENCHES: AN ELECTROCUTION "TRENCH" SUCCESSFULLY USED BY THE FRENCH IN THE ARGONNE.**

Rats continue to plague the men in the trenches, British and French equally, all over the front in Flanders and Northern France. All sorts of methods to keep their numbers down are employed, terriers being used in some places, and rat-catchers' traps, many improvised on the spot with remarkable ingenuity, at others; while, on the French front, electricity also has been called to aid. The illustration

shows an electrical exterminator in the Argonne. A trough is excavated along a rat-run adjoining the trenches, and strung with wires through which a constant current is passed, electrocuting any rat who touches the wires. Hundreds of the vermin are said to be so killed every week.—[*French Official Photograph, supplied by Newspaper Illustrations.*]



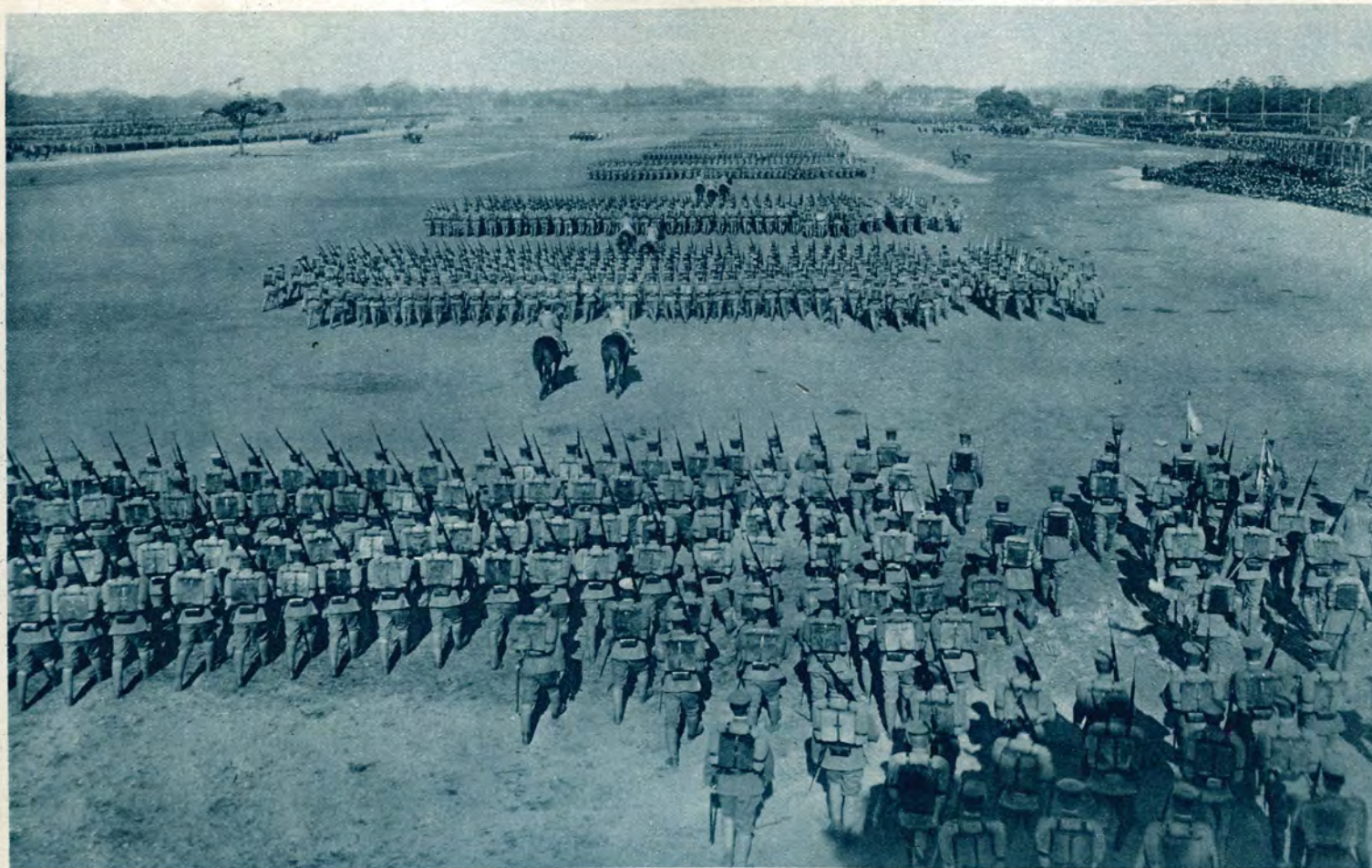


**OUR IMPERIAL FAR-EASTERN ALLY, WHO HAS SENT WAR-SHIPS TO THE MEDITERRANEAN: THE EMPEROR OF JAPAN REVIEWING TROOPS.**

It was reported from New York recently that Japan had sent a strong protest to Germany and Austria, through the United States, against the sinking of the Japanese liner "Yasaku Maru" by an enemy submarine in the Mediterranean, adding that, if such unlawful and inhumane destruction of Japanese ships continued, the Japanese Government could not promise to continue its present generous treatment

of German prisoners. Japan, however, has done more than protest. It was stated recently that several Japanese war-ships, accompanied by a great number of aircraft, had arrived in the Mediterranean, to protect Japanese shipping and assist in securing the safety of communications between East and West. Our photograph shows the Emperor Yoshihito (at the table) reviewing troops.—[Photo. by Bain.]





**PART OF THE POWER BEHIND JAPAN'S PROTEST AGAINST THE SINKING OF LINERS: A GRAND CORONATION REVIEW AT TOKYO.**

Although it is some time since the Japanese Coronation, or rather, Enthronement, took place (on November 10) this photograph is interesting in connection with the one showing the Emperor of Japan holding a more recent review of his troops, as showing the kind of scene that met his eyes. Other Enthronement celebrations, our readers will remember, have already been illustrated in our pages. The

review here seen took place on the great parade-ground (*Aoyama rempeiba*) near the Aoyama Palace, which stands in a spacious wooded park, at Tokyo. The fine bearing and precision of the Japanese troops are very striking. One point worth noting in the men's equipment is the neat method of carrying the rolled overcoat, arranged on three sides of the haversack on the back.—[Photo. by the Meiji Seihanjo.]





**THE SOLDIERS' OWN CIRCUS AT SALONIKA: "CROWDED-OUT" FIGHTING-MEN USING BEDSTEADS AS GRAND STANDS!**

Both with officers and men, the open-air circus which has been inaugurated at Salonika for the amusement of the Allied troops is immensely popular. The arena in which the programme is carried out has been specially dug out and prepared, and is at least as satisfying as the circus-tents of the famous "Lord" George Sanger and other proprietors so popular in England and in other lands where horse-

lovers are plentiful. It will be noticed that so attractive is the show that the audiences overflow round the sides of the arena, a number of the soldiers seen in one of our photographs having hit upon the idea of fetching their bedsteads to enable them to see. The bedsteads are made, with characteristically French ingenuity, with a wooden frame and a lattice of iron barrel-hoops, and by their aid the soldiers

*[Continued opposite.]*





THE SOLDIERS' OWN CIRCUS AT SALONIKA: A TRAINED HORSE IN THE RING MADE BY THE MEN.

*Continued.*

are able to view the ring from a sort of "upper boxes" or "grand stand" arrangement which they find perfectly satisfactory. From our photograph upon the second page, an excellent idea is given of the arena, which is suggestive of an amphitheatre of old Rome, and the vast audience, made up on this occasion mostly of French soldiers, is impressive and interesting. There is an element of sport in the

whole thing, and the performances are in themselves so enjoyable that they increase the feeling of camaraderie among the troops. The idea was one of the happiest inspirations, and the manner of its carrying-out was thorough, as with all the undertakings of the Army. — [Official Photographs issued by the Press Bureau, supplied by Newspaper Illustrations, Ltd.]





**WHERE THE SERBIAN ARMY HAS RENEWED ITS STRENGTH: THE PRINCE REGENT OF SERBIA WELCOMED AT CORFU BY M. PASHITCH.**

The concentration of the Serbian Army at Corfu, it was stated recently, is now complete, so that a force of 160,000 men will be ready to take the field after receiving new equipment and taking a rest, very necessary after the hardships of the retreat. The troops were convoyed from Albanian ports to Corfu by Italian war-ships, co-operating with the French. In Corfu the Serbian Army is being

reorganised under the supervision of a French Mission commanded by General de Mondesir. The Prince Regent of Serbia, Prince Alexander, here seen being welcomed on his arrival at Corfu by M. Pashitch, the Serbian Premier, and other Ministers, shared the hardships of his army. Although ill, he refused to embark from Albania till every Serbian soldier had left that country.





**RESPECTED PRISONERS: CAPTURED TURKS BEING MARCHED THROUGH CAIRO TO A SPECIAL DETENTION - CAMP.**

The considerate treatment experienced by our Turkish prisoners admittedly surprised them at first. Their German officers had told them—it has since come out—that the British invariably maltreated their prisoners! The lie, however, was soon disposed of, and, as a fact, not a few of our Turkish prisoners (interned in detention-camps in Egypt, in the healthiest part of the country) have frankly declared that

they would much rather remain in our custody than go back to their German leaders. As all the Allies see that it is everywhere, the religious beliefs of our special prisoners are scrupulously respected. They are said, further, to get on well with those in charge of them; for the average Turkish soldier is a frank, straight-forward fellow and essentially a fair fighter in action.—[Photo. by Topical.]



## Little Lives of Great Men.

LX.—WILL CROOKS, P.C.

THE rise of Mr. Will Crooks to a seat at the most honourable board of his Majesty's Privy Council is a romantic story. Mr. Crooks is the typical Labour Member, and perhaps the most popular and respected of all that brotherhood, and his appointment to the Privy Council was universally approved. It came appropriately at the present time to mark the sturdy and active patriotism of a Labourist, for Mr. Crooks has set a shining example by his strenuous services to recruiting and by his visits to our soldiers in the trenches, where his cheery humour and geniality won him golden opinions, and served as the pleasantest of bonds between the people at home and the fighters at the front. That is Mr. Crooks in his latest phase. He is for the working-man, but he puts his country before questions of hours and wages. If all Labour leaders were of this stamp, we should have no trouble in the munitions factories. Will Crooks was born sixty-three years ago, and is a son of the Thames riverside. His earliest years and his upbringing were the care of the State. At the age of eleven he was apprenticed to a cooper, and he got to know something of the conditions of the workmen up and down the river. Always interested in labour and social problems, he became in time an organiser to several bodies, and at last stood for the L.C.C., to which he was elected for Poplar as a Progressive member in 1889. In 1901 he became Mayor of Poplar, and two years later he stood for Parliament, and was returned for Woolwich after one of the most sensational

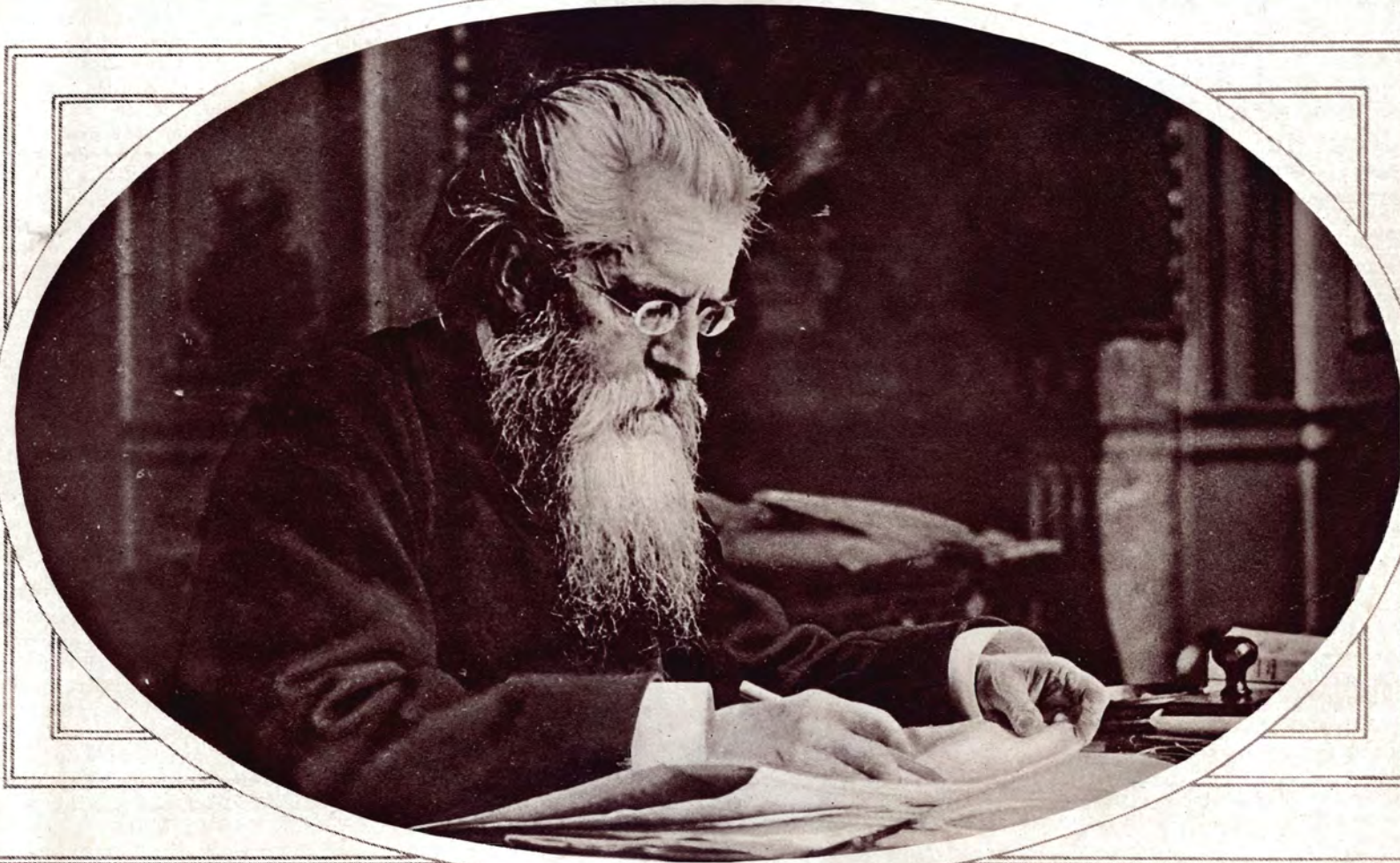


THE RIGHT HON. WILL CROOKS, P.C.

*Photograph by Elliott and Fry.*

elections of recent times. He secured a majority of 3229, which was double any previous Labour majority, and captured a stronghold from the Unionists. They had held the seat since 1885. It is curious, after only thirteen years, to read the comments on that overturn. Official organs saw in Mr. Crooks's return the first serious onslaught of the forces of the proletariat. The forces of Socialism, it was believed, were now for the first time seriously to be reckoned with in this country. To judge from the dismal tone of the prophecies, one would have thought that Mr. Crooks's election was the beginning of the end. It was referred to as a portent of coming revolution. So, in effect, it was; but not as the scribes imagined. For Parliament gained an active, a sagacious, and a popular Member, who is always heard with respect and who speaks with authority. Whenever there is discussion of a measure affecting the welfare of the body politic, Mr. Crooks never fails to say a sound word. He is a good Parliamentarian, and knows how to handle the House. His attitude he summed up on his election: "It will be my life's work to do all I can for the electors of Woolwich, whether they have voted for me or not." His public services have been many and various. On the County Council he was for many years Chairman of the Bridges Committee, and he is a member of the Metropolitan Asylums Board. He also served for eight years on the Poplar Board of Guardians. In Poplar the Right Honourable Will Crooks lives among his own people, and is much beloved. He is their guide, philosopher, and friend; public and private counsellor—P.C. in every sense.



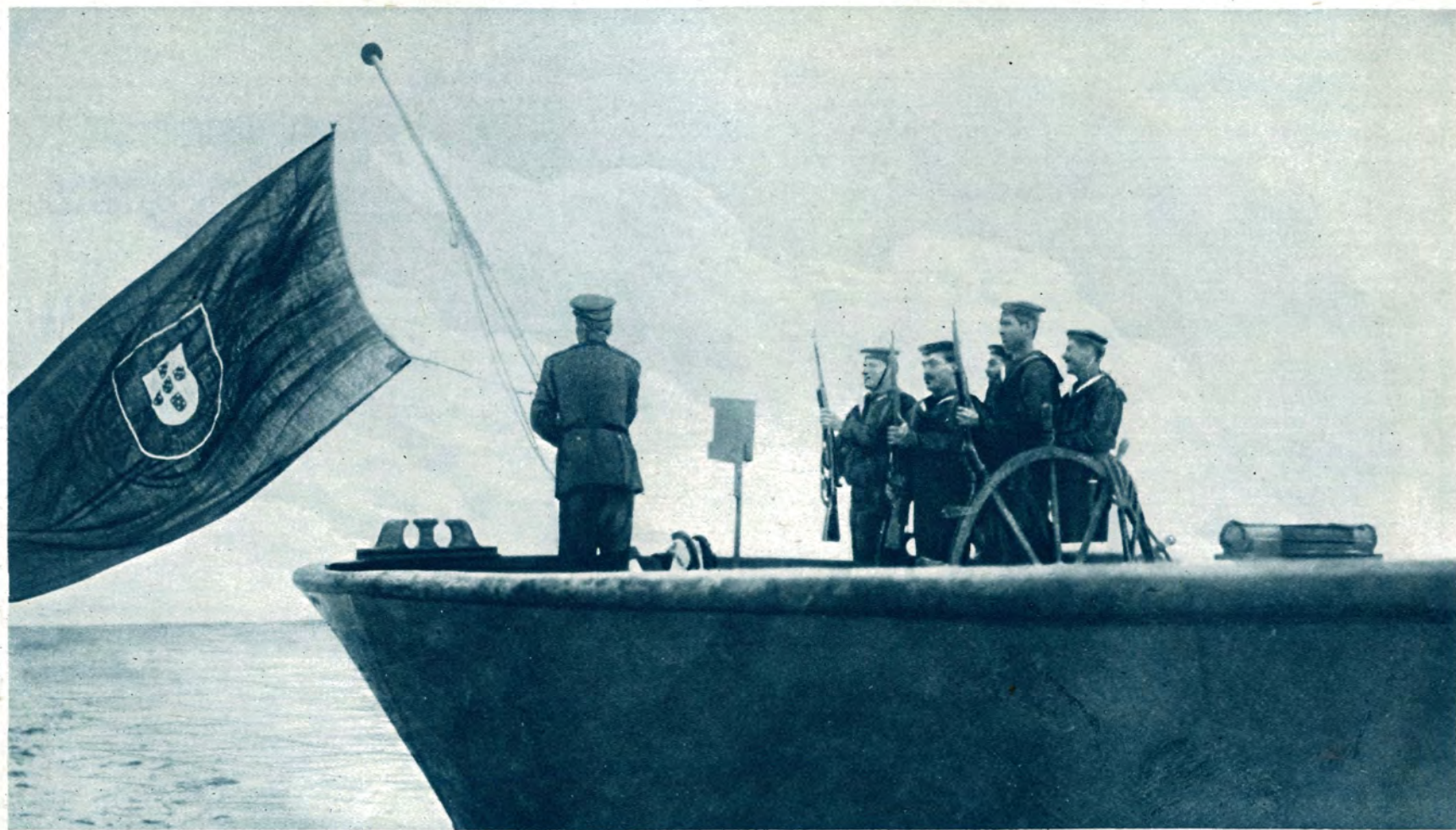


FRANCE'S PRESS CENSOR-IN-CHIEF : M. GAUTIER, BLUE PENCIL IN HAND.

Press Censorship is a modern war necessity, so many facilities existing for the transmission of important information to the enemy. All the belligerent Powers find a Press Censorship indispensable, and the public of all nations willingly accept the situation. In the Crimean War the absence of a Press Censor caused severe loss of life to England during the siege of Sebastopol, owing to intelligence in war corre-

spondents' letters reaching the enemy. In the war with France during the War of American Independence, because there was no Press Censor, information got printed which enabled the enemy to capture a merchantman convoy valued at two millions sterling, the loss making half London bankrupt. "The English papers," said Napoleon during the Peninsular War, "make my best spies."





**PORTUGAL'S SEIZURE OF GERMAN SHIPS: SAILORS REPLACING THE GERMAN FLAG BY THE PORTUGUESE ON A VESSEL IN THE TAGUS.**

It was reported from Lisbon on February 23 that the German steamers which had been lying interned in the Tagus since the war began had been seized, and that the Portuguese flag had been hoisted over them, its appearance being greeted by a salute of 21 guns from the war-ships. All the Germans on board the ships were disembarked. Two Portuguese war-ships stood by in the event of any resistance

being offered. Among the ships seized were two Norddeutscher liners. Eight German vessels at St. Vincent, one at Oporto, and some at the Azores, were also seized. The Portuguese Premier, Dr. Affonso Costa, is reported to have said: "The Government's action was dictated by the necessities of our economic situation. The requisition was carried out wholesale in order to avoid acts of sabotage."—[Photograph by Benoliel.]





**A UNIT OF A "CAT SQUADRON" ABOARD THE "QUEEN ELIZABETH": THE SHIP'S PET ON ONE OF HER AFT 15-INCH GUNS.**

The great super-Dreadnought "Queen Elizabeth," which figured so prominently in the naval operations at the Dardanelles, was reported as back with the Grand Fleet last September, some months before the evacuation of Gallipoli. Describing the first "Anzac" landing on Gallipoli, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett wrote: "Seven war-ships had moved in close to the shore, whilst the 'Queen Elizabeth,' farther out, acted as

a kind of chaperon to the lot. . . . Turkish infantry moved forward to the attack. They were met by every kind of shell which our war-ships carry, from 15-inch shrapnel from the 'Queen Elizabeth,' each one of which contains 20,000 bullets, to 12-inch, 6-inch, and 12-pounders. The 'Queen Elizabeth' carries eight 15-inch guns."—[Official Photograph, supplied by C.N.]



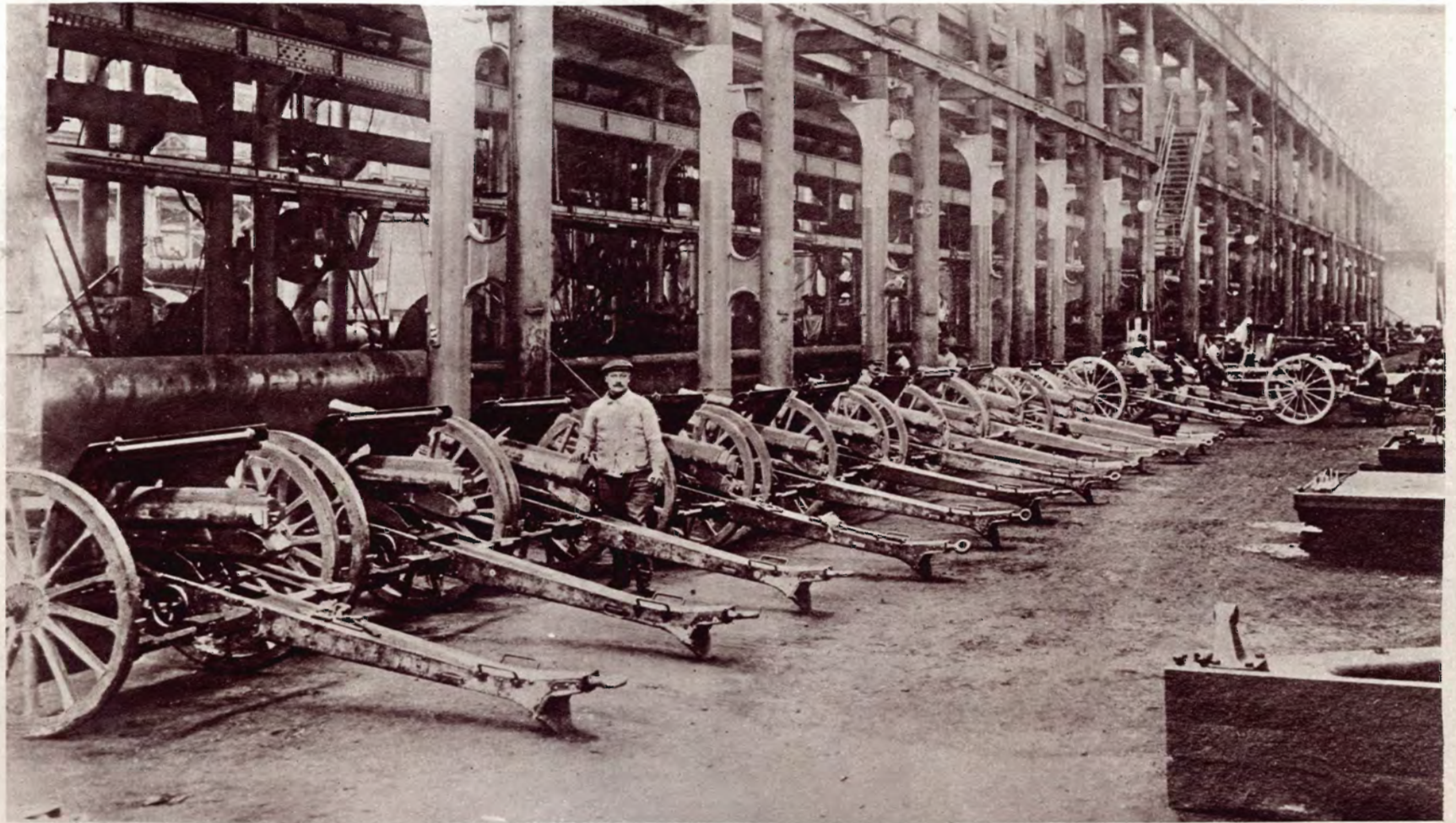


WHERE THE DOWNS SQUADRON KEEPS WATCH: A SMALL GERMAN COAST-BATTERY AMONG THE SAND-DUNES OF FLANDERS.

As official despatches have stated, and as it is generally known from various published narratives, the sand-dunes on the sea-front along the Belgian littoral, from Zeebrugge to the south of Ostend, are lined with numerous German batteries. Guns of all calibres are mounted in them; at one place heavy, long-range pieces; at another, light quick-firers of the pom-pom or small-shell throwing type, manned

by German Navy sailors and marine infantrymen, such as are shown in one of the batteries in the above illustration from a German paper. Their practical usefulness to the enemy is another question; for, so far, the German batteries have (rather than anything else) served as targets for the shells of the British Downs Squadron in its periodical bombardments of the locality.





AT ONE OF THE GREAT GUN-FACTORIES OF FRANCE: "75's" READY TO BE SENT TO THE FRONT.

The reserve and intermediate artillery depôts and parks of the French Army are kept completely stocked in readiness to answer promptly all demands that come from the front; and behind them, again, the gun-factory workshops and arsenals keep continually turning out more and more guns. There is no possibility of any deficiency, even if, from the fortune of war, at any one point guns have to be aban-

doned in the vicissitudes of a give-and-take combat. In particular, is the reserve abundant in the case of the "75's," the field-gun *par excellence* of the Army. Fought as they repeatedly have to be in the forefront of the firing-line, "75's" more than any other piece are exposed to risk by misadventure.—  
[French Official Photograph, supplied by Newspaper Illustrations.]



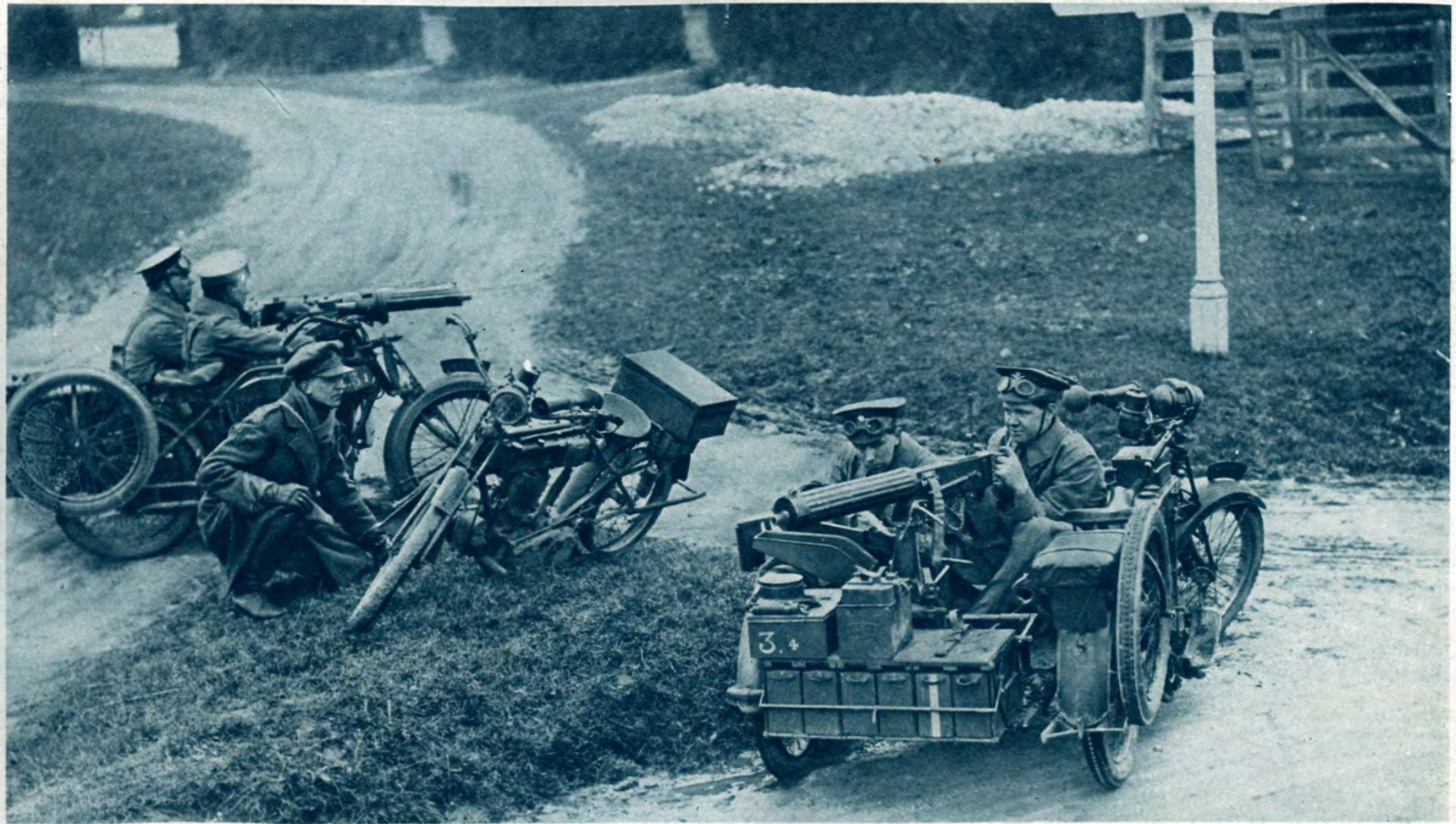


WEAPONS IN THE OUTPUT OF WHICH THERE HAS BEEN "AN ENORMOUS INCREASE": A MOTOR MACHINE-GUN SECTION IN TRAINING.

Replanning in the House of Commons the other day to Sir Henry Dalziel, who said he had received complaints from men who are handling machine-guns that there is an urgent need for more, Dr. Addison, on behalf of the Ministry of Munitions, said that there had been an enormous increase in the output of machine-guns; in fact, it had exceeded anticipations and was rapidly growing. It will be remembered

that a Machine-Gun Corps was instituted last autumn as a separate organisation. It has since developed greatly and attained high efficiency. The above photographs, illustrating a motor machine-gun section in training, show: (1) Machines on the road, off for a field-day; (2) Successfully driving through 3 feet of water; (3) Bringing the guns into action; (4) Guarding a main road.—[Photos. by Sport and General.]





**THE BRITISH ARMY'S NEW STRENGTH IN MACHINE-GUNS: A MOTOR MACHINE-GUN SECTION IN TRAINING—GUARDING TWO ROADS.**

The importance of the machine-gun in the war has been fully recognised by the military authorities. The Minister of Munitions, speaking on the subject in Parliament, said: "When the war began our ideas were that each battalion should be supplied with 2 machine-guns. The Germans supply each with 16 machine-guns. There is no doubt that a machine-gun is by far the most destructive weapon in the

whole of their Army; it has destroyed far more lives than their rifles. I am told that the machine-guns and the artillery between them are probably responsible for more than 90 per cent. of the casualties. . . . One of the first steps was to make arrangements for multiplying many-fold and as quickly as possible our output of machine-guns. We immediately placed large orders."—[Photo. by Sport and General.]





#### ITALY BATTERING HER WAY THROUGH THE ALPS TO ADVANCE INTO AUSTRIA:

In the mountain war which the physical configuration of the Austrian frontier has imposed on the Italians, both in the Trentino and along the line of the Isonzo, artillery has to play the chief part. For years past, the Austrians have spent millions in building forts all over the Alpine region, works constructed with extreme scientific ingenuity, and perched mostly on almost inaccessible crags so as to sweep the passes and paths of approach. At the same time, the forts support one another, being disposed so as to bring a cross-fire in all directions.





6-INCH GUNS IN ACTION ON A MOUNTAIN RIDGE, FIRING AT LONG RANGE.

It is small wonder, therefore, that the rate of advance made by our gallant Allies seems sometimes slow: the Italians have, literally, to bombard their way forward across a mountain barrier upwards of a hundred miles wide in parts. Their batteries have to shell ridge after ridge, occupying each hardly won position as the means of getting at the next beyond. One of the Italian 6-inch gun batteries is seen so at work in the illustration, attacking a distant enemy position with the guns elevated for the long range.



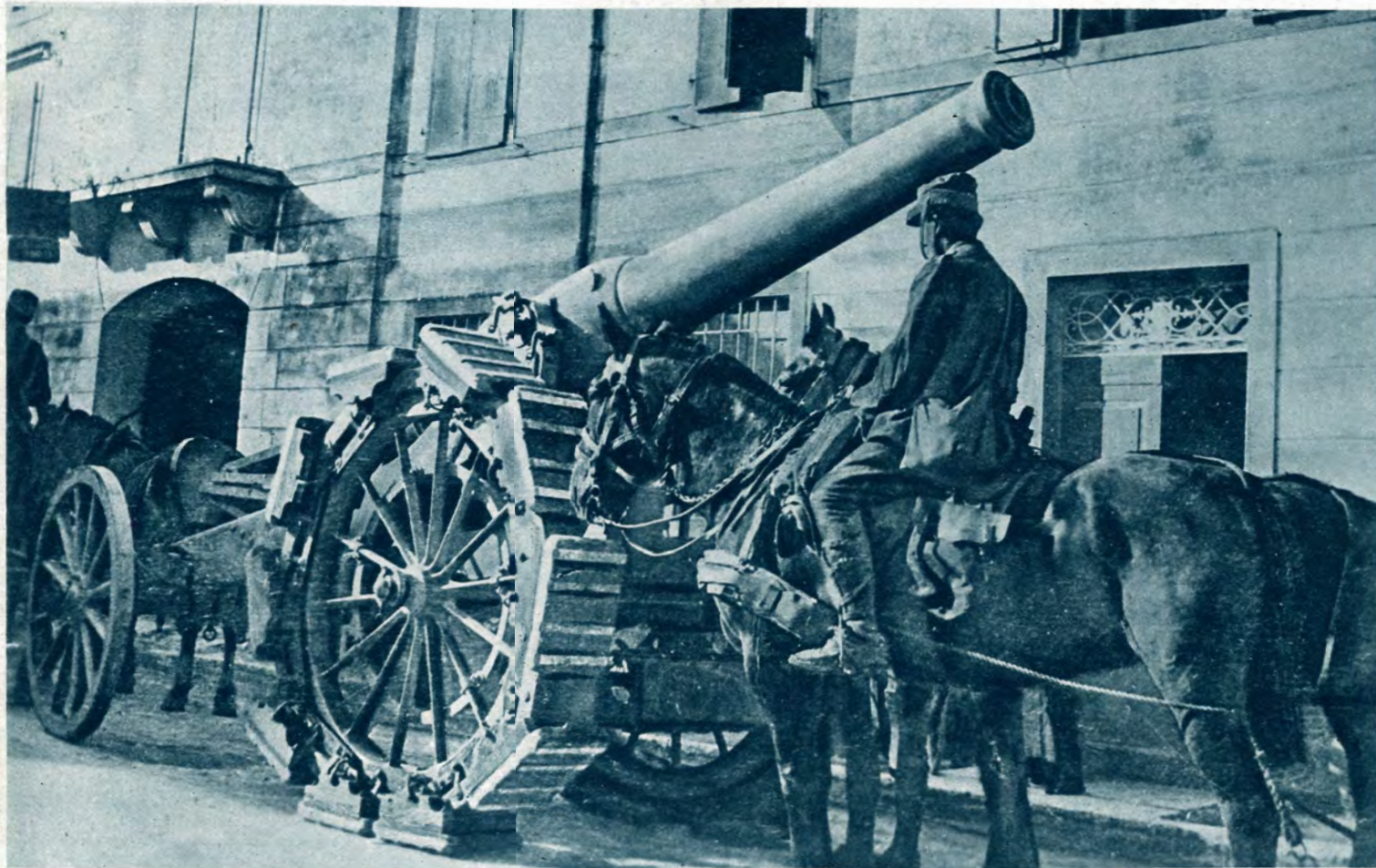


**MEN FROM EITHER SIDE THE ALPS FACING ONE ANOTHER: A HILL-SIDE FIGHT BETWEEN AUSTRIAN TYROLESE AND ITALIAN ALPINI.**

Mountaineer is seen fighting mountaineer in the above illustration, which is reproduced from a German paper. A rear-guard detachment of Austrian Tyrolese Rifles is seen attempting to keep back an advanced-guard patrol of Italian Alpini, in a ravine among the mountains, with musketry and by heaving rocks down on their indomitable assailants. The Austrian Tyrolese troops form a special corps, recruited

locally and organised in formations of their own as rifle battalions of infantry, mounted rifle regiments, and mountain-batteries, with, in reserve, specially mobilised local levies of "Landesschützen," as the equivalent in the Tyrol of the ordinary Landwehr and Landsturm of other provinces of the Austrian Empire are officially designated. On the Tyrolese troops most of the Austrian rear-guard fighting falls.





ITALY'S WEAPON FOR ALL OCCASIONS IN THE ALPINE WAR: A 6-INCH GUN-BATTERY *EN ROUTE* FOR THE FRONT.

In the series of mountain battles which the Italians are fighting among the Alps their 6-inch position-gun has to fulfil in many ways the same indispensable rôle that the French "75" field-gun is filling at the front in Champagne and Artois, as a piece particularly adapted for the circumstances of the campaign. The long range of the gun and the heavy projectile that it fires, together with the comparative lightness

of the weapon, and its mobility in transport over rough and difficult ground, give the gun its special value during the Alpine campaign. One of the Italian guns in its battery is seen above on the line of march passing through a township in Northern Italy *en route* for the front. The wheels of the gun-carriage are shod with "girdles" (or "caterpillars" in popular parlance) for rough ground.



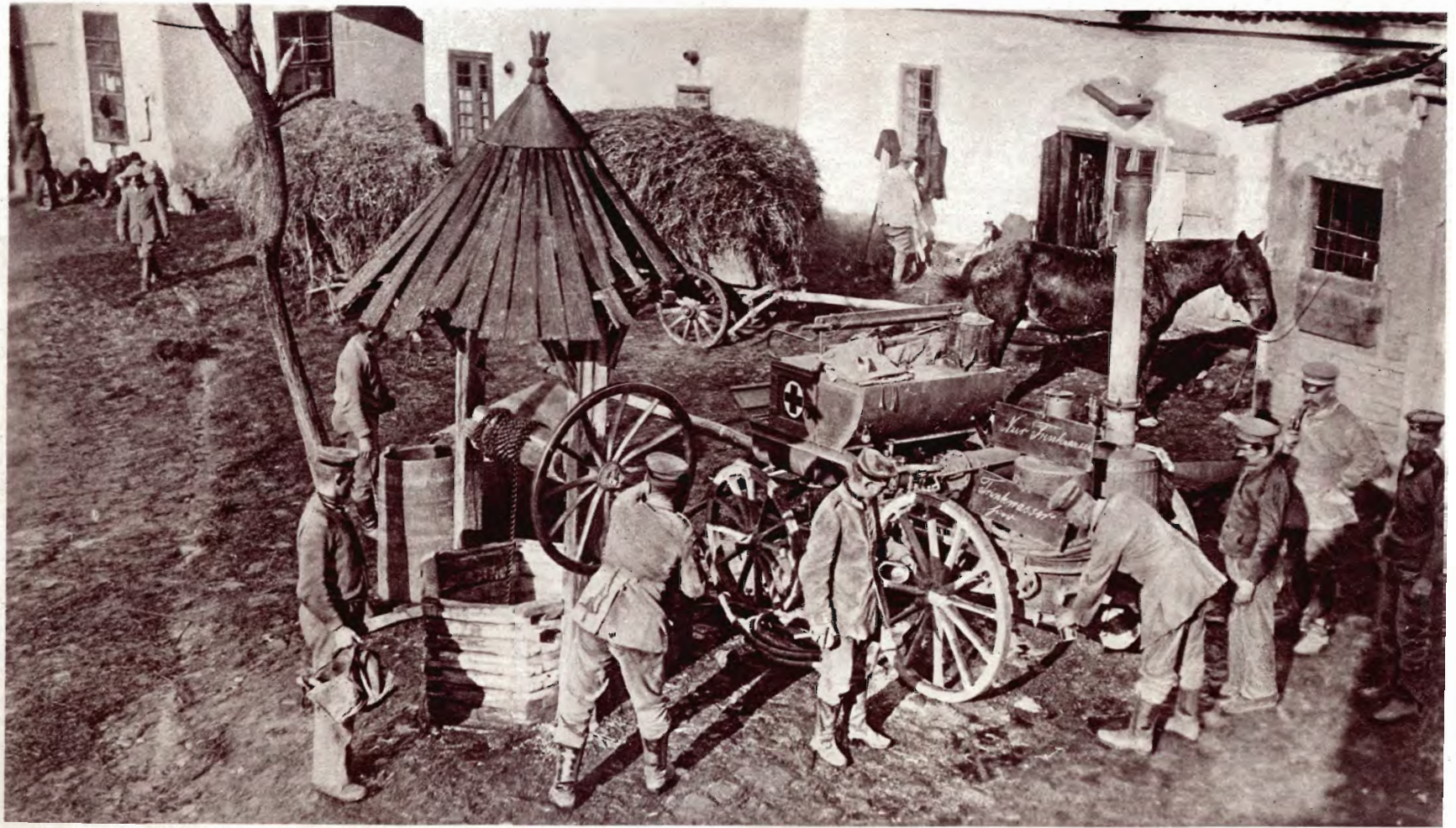


FIGHTING-MEN AS WAR-WORKERS IN THEIR SPARE TIME: SOLDIERS MAKING A TRENCH-COVER.

Spare time is not allowed to pass without being turned to account in one form or another among our men on service, whether on sea or land. As we heard recently, during their spare time the sailors of Sir John Jellicoe's fleet have been, of their own accord, turning to and occupying themselves in making munitions for the use of their comrades of the sister service. In the illustration above we see soldiers

not for the time being at the front, employing themselves in special work, in the making of trench-covers to give protection from the weather. The men have themselves been in the trenches, and know exactly the kind of thing that is wanted, and there could be no more capable or willing workmen, incited as they are by the desire to do a good turn to their brothers-in-arms.





**AN UNNECESSARY PRECAUTION: GERMANS TESTING THE WATER IN A SERBIAN VILLAGE WELL, FEARING POLLUTION.**

Conscious of their own unscrupulous and barbarous practices in carrying on war-operations, the Germans show themselves nervously suspicious, fearing—without cause—that their opponents may have recourse to similar devices against them. Water poisoning is one of the methods they have employed—a diabolical form of wickedness that it is unthinkable for any of the Allies to perpetrate. On more

than one occasion last year on the Flanders front the French found that wells and streams had been polluted by the enemy; while during General Botha's campaign in German South-West Africa, practically every well on the line of our advance was found to have been "doctored." A German Army filtering and water-testing machine is here seen at work at a Serbian village well.





GERMAN AIR-RAIDERS AND NEUTRALS: A BOMBED SALONIKA STREET.

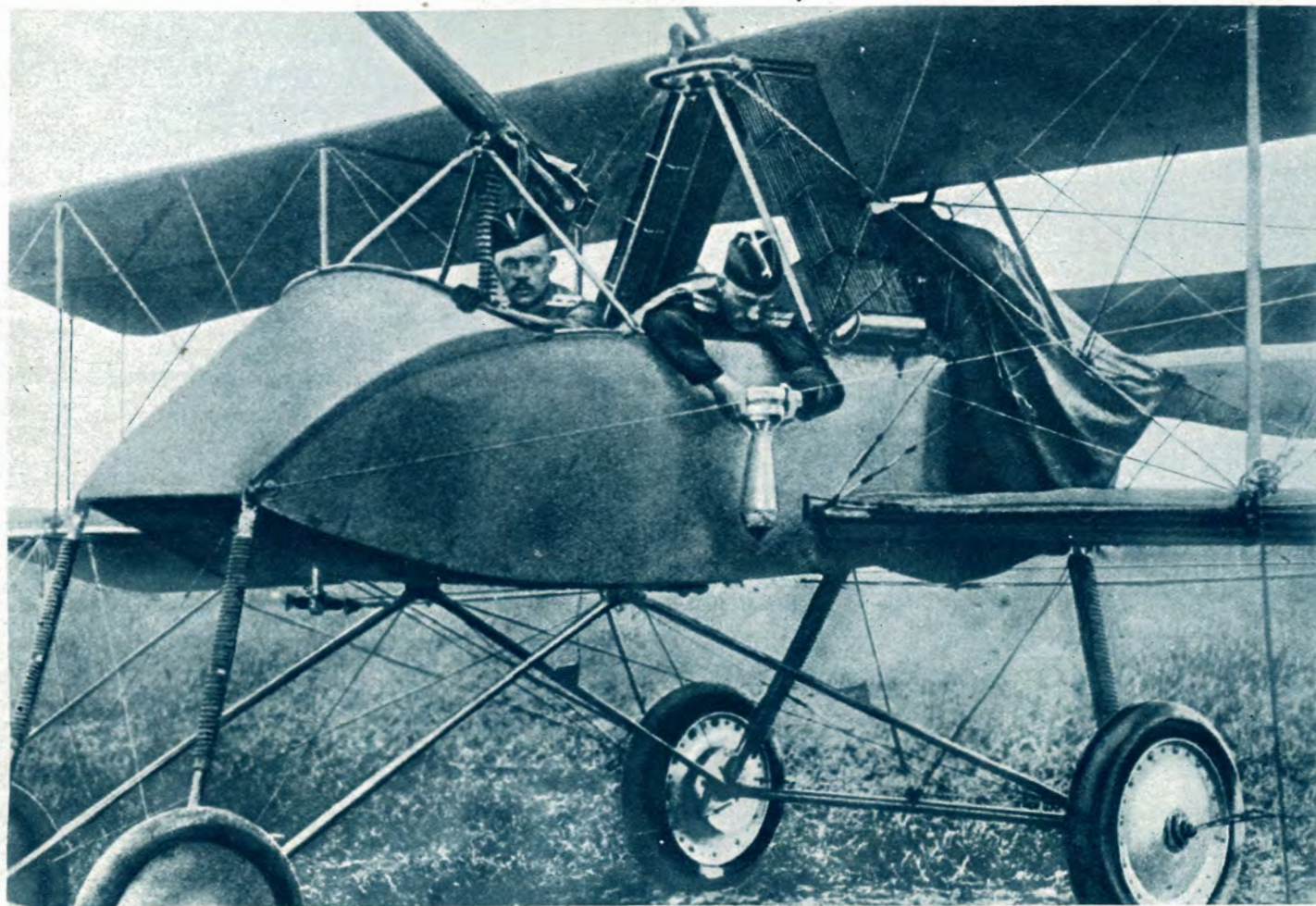
In the same reckless spirit in which the German Zeppelins and aeroplanes have taken their passage over Holland and Switzerland while *en route* to drop bombs on the open towns of their opponents, the Germans in the Balkans have not hesitated to cross the frontiers of neutral Greece and, in their attempts to do damage to the Allied camp at Salonika, let their bombs fall anywhere, regardless of harm to the



GERMAN AIR-RAIDERS AND NEUTRALS: A BOMBED SALONIKA HOUSE.

Greek civilian population. Their first air-raid on Salonika, which led to the arrest and deportation of the German, Austrian, Turkish, and Bulgarian Consuls at Salonika, only resulted in killing and wounding some poor Greek peasants and townfolk, and later raids had just the same results. Above we see places in Salonika where the bombs fell.—[Official Press Bureau Photographs, supplied by L.N.A.]





**THE AIRMEN OF OUR ALLY ON THE EASTERN FRONT: A RUSSIAN ARMoured AEROPLANE—FASTENING A BOMB BEFORE STARTING.**

Beyond an occasional brief mention in Petrograd telegrams, little reaches the West of the doings of Russia's airmen. Yet their activities in all weathers, in spite of the extreme cold, ten-fold more intense in the upper air than below, are as incessant and valuable as those of their fellows whose raids keep the enemy occupied on the Western front. The Russian Army, in addition to its special group of giant

aeroplanes, is equipped with a numerous and well-found fleet of efficient aeroplanes of different designs, including special armoured types for reconnoitring and air-patrol service as well as for bomb-dropping. A machine of the latter kind is seen here about to start on a cruise to beat the enemy's quarters. The officer in charge is making fast one of his bombs.





ERECTED BY GERMAN SOLDIERS NEAR ST. MIHIEL: A BISMARCK CENTENARY MONUMENT.

The motto reads: "We Germans fear God and nothing else in all the world." The verses may be translated: "Bismarck, thou great German, a people of millions greets you to-day . . . In this time of stress and storm every German feels what you have been and remain. Every German, with our Kaiser, says, 'We Germans thank you that we are German.'"—[Photo. by Underwood and Underwood.]



EVIDENCE OF GERMAN LOSSES: A MEMORIAL TO FALLEN GERMANS AT BÂRRINGEN.

Monuments to the German soldiers who have been killed in the war are now, it is said, very numerous in all parts of Germany. In themselves they bear testimony to the enormous sacrifices the nation has made for the "blessings" of Kaiserism! Over the coat-of-arms at the base of this memorial is a small shield inscribed "Kriegsjahr (war year), 1914-1915."—[Photo. by Underwood and Underwood.]



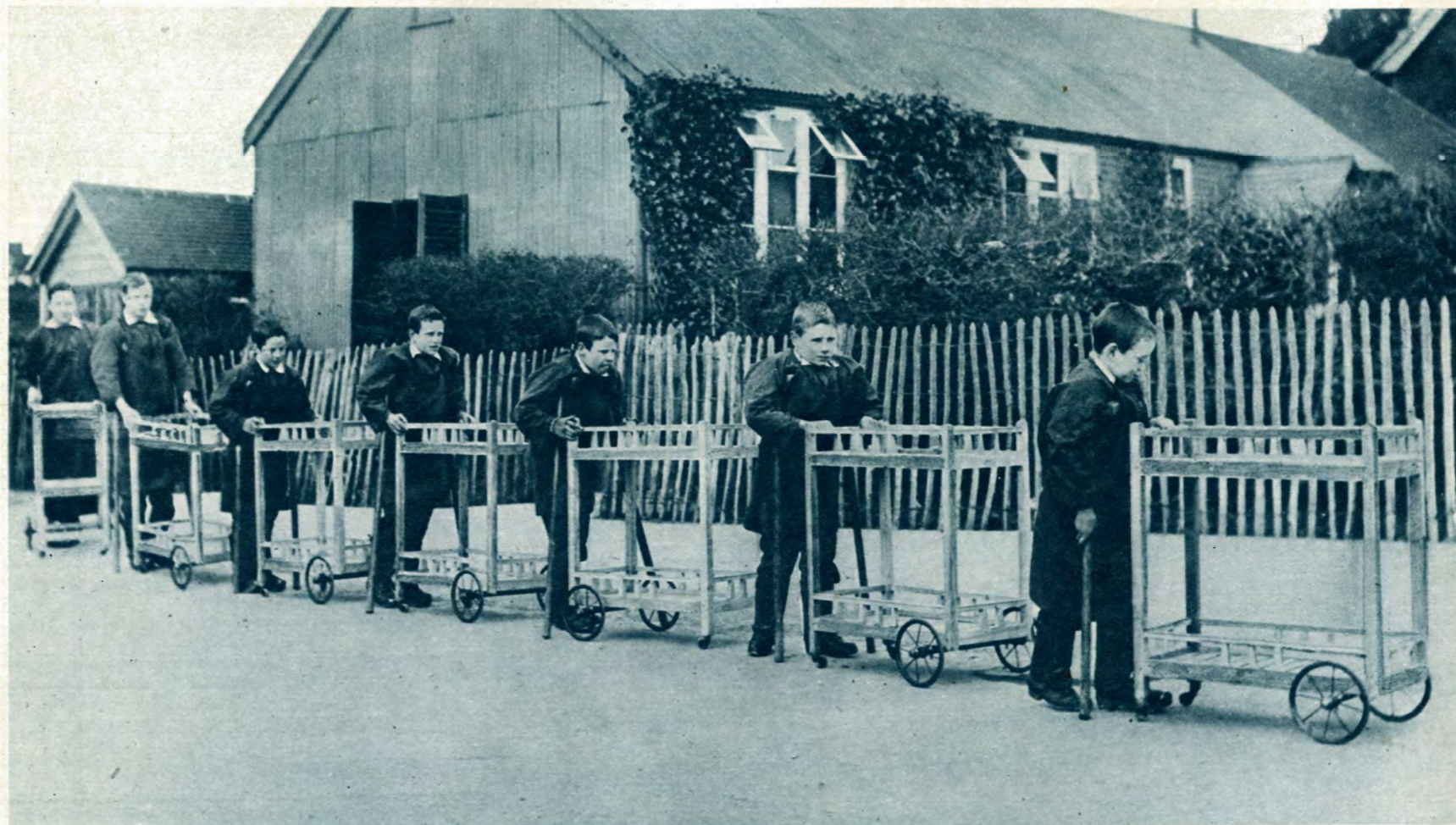


**STEEL HELMETS REPLACE THE BLUE MOUNTAINEER-CAP FOR FRANCE'S CHASSEURS ALPINS: AN OUTLYING PICKET IN THE VOSGES.**

Following the example of the rest of the French Army elsewhere, the Chasseurs Alpins have at length laid aside their well-known and distinctive blue "beret" head-gear, and have adopted in its place the steel helmet, originally introduced only for linesmen on duty at exposed points in the trenches. The steel helmet has now become the universal battlefield wear of the French Army, and is worn by officers and men

alike on all occasions. The above photograph shows men of a picket of Chasseurs Alpins in the outpost line in the Vosges where the greater part of the famous French mountaineer division—akin in organisation and characteristics to Italy's famous Alpini—have been fighting with such brilliant distinction throughout the war.—[French Official Photograph, supplied by Newspaper Illustrations.]





**CRIPPLED CHILDREN'S WORK FOR THE WOUNDED: TAKING FINISHED HOSPITAL-TABLES TO THE DESPATCH-ROOM, AT CHAILEY.**

Now that all are doing what lies within their power to mitigate the sufferings of the wounded, it seems peculiarly fitting that more than a hundred crippled children should be working industriously at the Arts and Crafts School, "The Hermitage," Chailey, Sussex, making crutches, splints, tables, and other requisites for the inmates of the military hospitals, the strain upon whose resources is inevitably increasing with

the constant development of the war. The boys shown in our photograph look healthy and well cared for, as indeed they are, but—they are cripples, and to them, in their useful work, might be applied the memorable lines spoken by Garrick at his Farewell, nearly a century and a half ago: "A fellow-feeling makes one wondrous kind."—[Photo. by Sport and General.]





**JAPAN'S RED CROSS WORK IN AID OF HER ALLIES: AN ADDITIONAL MEDICAL UNIT STARTING FOR RUSSIA.**

Japan, quite apart from the notable service that her naval and military forces rendered to the common Allied cause by the successful operations at Tsing-tau, has been ever since, and is at the present time, giving invaluable assistance to her Allies in many other ways. One of the departments of war-work in which the activities of our Far-Eastern ally are earning the gratitude of the Entente Powers has been

Red Cross ambulance and field-hospital service in Europe; and a number of Japanese medical units for assisting the wounded are on duty. The illustration above shows the starting-off of members of one of the additional Japanese Red Cross ambulance-parties of physicians and nurses which left Japan for Russia not very long since.—[Photo. by C.N.]



1

IN connection with this photograph of the French stores at Mudros, it may not be out of place, perhaps, to quote an interesting passage on the question of supplies for the British troops at Salonika in a recent despatch from Mr. G. Ward Price, who is attached to the forces there. "Supply," he writes — "a term which covers the provision of food, fuel and forage for the Army, and its transport from the base to the front—is a problem that is more difficult in the Balkans than in France. For one thing, this Army is so much farther away from home. On the Western front any special article required can be ordered from England by telegraph, or even by telephone direct to the War Office, and three days later it arrives. Here at Salonika the same process takes three months. For, though the direct voyage out in a transport is not a matter of more than three weeks, the line of communications from England to the Balkans is lengthened by the fact that it has to pass through Egypt. . . . What facilities for transport exist are those which we ourselves have made in the last four months. When our first supply-ships steamed up the Gulf last October there was only one jetty at which their cargoes could be discharged, and but one berth available for them alongside the quays. There was not enough water at the jetty for transports to berth there, so that supplies could only be landed in lighters. . . . The immediate background of the landing jetty was a tract of waste ground used by the Greeks as a sort of remount depôt for pack ponies. It was a broad

[Continued in Box 2.]



#### SUPPLIES IN ABUNDANCE FOR THE ALLIED FORCES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN: THE FRENCH STORES AT

The fine equipment and abundant supplies of the Allied forces at Salonika—British as well as French—have won general admiration. What makes it possible to keep large numbers of distant troops so well provided is, of course, the command of the sea due to the splendid work of the British Navy, in conjunction with those of our Allies in the Mediterranean. In this panoramic view of Mudros Harbour, evidence may be

found both of the shipping activity which enables the Allies to convey men and material across the water, and, more particularly, of the plentiful store of supplies that France has provided. Beyond the great piles of sacks and fodder in the foreground may be seen quite a colony of wooden buildings and tents. With this abundance of supplies it is significant to contrast the many recent rumours of shortage in the enemy's





2

slough of mingled mud and manure. Beyond that lay the rough-paved streets of the town, ending in the two indifferent main roads that go out into the country, neither of them in a condition to stand the traffic of heavy motor-lorries to which they were about to be subjected. The improvement of this state of things was the first task with which the Army Service Corps and the Royal Engineers had to cope before any sort of supply-base could be established. The result of their efforts has been that the Augean remount lines, cleaned up and floored with tons of stone and gravel, have become our Base-Supply Depôt, piled high with tons of foodstuffs. When we came here it was expected that we should be carrying on a campaign in Serbia; the expectation may still conceivably be realised this spring. There, of course, the question of supply will be a most intricate and absolutely vital one, upon which the whole of our operations and the rate of our advance will depend. . . . It is by long strings of mules and ponies winding up mountain-paths and along dry water-courses that the Army would have to be fed. . . . But it is not so much rations as forage that makes up the bulk of the supply-train. . . . It is around the base-supply depôt that the busiest scenes in Salonika are to be found. Gangs of Greek labourers pad to and fro carrying cases on their backs from the jetties to the piles that already stand 30 ft. high within a barbed-wire fence." To judge by the photograph, the French must have carried out very similar operations at Mudros.

#### MUDROS, IN THE ISLE OF LEMNOS, FORMERLY A BASE FOR THE EXPEDITION TO THE DARDANELLES.

country. A well-known English author who was not long ago released from a German prison at Ruhleben—Mr. Francis Gribble, wrote the other day: "For most people in Germany now economy is only another name for privation. In the cases in which it does not mean absolutely going without things it means using 'substitutes' instead of the real article. The live-stock in Germany is being fed on fodder substitutes, the

sausages are being stuffed with meat substitutes, and the mattresses with wool or straw substitutes. There is a substitute for almost every article of food, and for a great many articles of clothing. And such substitutes! Of some of them I have had personal experience." It is satisfactory to know that the Allies are not hampered by such deficiencies.—[Official Photo., supplied by C.N.]



## HOW IT WORKS: LIX.—MILITARY TELESCOPES AND BINOCULARS.

THE work of a Field Officer of the present day involves the use of a large number of interesting scientific instruments, amongst which the telescope in its various forms takes a leading place. An ordinary

pattern of single telescope used by artillery officers gives good definition up to 6000 yards in clear atmosphere, with a magnifying power of 18 diameters and a "field" whose diameter is about 52 yards at a distance of 1000 yards from the instrument.

In very clear atmosphere a telescope with a high magnifying power can be used, but better results are obtained from a lower-power instrument in misty or hazy weather. In order to provide for this it is usual to supply two separate interchangeable eye-pieces with each telescope, so that the lower-powered one can be used when weather conditions require it (Fig. 1).

Although a single telescope has a greater range than a binocular, the latter instrument is more useful for quick work, its "field" being wider than that of the single instrument and its general shape more convenient to handle. There are two distinct systems of binocular construction—that known as the "Galilean," in which the line of sight passes directly from the eye-lens

to the object-glass; the other the Prismatic System, in which the line of sight is deflected by means of prisms situated between the eye-lens and the object-glass. One pattern of Service binoculars of the first-named type magnifies to three diameters only, but the field covered at 1000 yards is about 80 yards. It is evident, therefore, that an object is more quickly found by this type of glass, although the magnification is much less and the power consequently lower. A wide-angle binocular for airmen's use is constructed to cover a field of 117 yards at 1000 yards range.

The prismatic binocular (Fig. 8) is a more complicated instrument, the object of its design being to permit the use of a long-focus object-glass in a short-bodied instrument. This result is obtained by placing a right-

angled prism in a position to receive the light from the object-lens and to reflect it back to a second prism, which again alters its course and directs it on to the eye-lens. In this way the ray of light is forced to travel a considerable distance after it passes through the object-glass before it strikes the eye-lens, and consequently a powerful long-focus lens can be used.

Fig. 7 shows the relative positions of the lenses and prisms in the instrument, the dotted arrow showing the course of the ray of light. In this device advantage is taken of the fact that a ray of light passing into a transparent prism will not pass out of it through a plane surface placed at an angle with the direction of the ray, but will be deflected by this surface, the angle at which the ray leaves the surface being equal to that at which it meets it. If the outside of the plane surface be dulled by moisture or otherwise, the intensity of the reflected ray is reduced. A prismatic binocular can be made to cover a field of about 80 yards at 1000 yards range with a magnification of 8 diameters. A glass diaphragm called a "graticule" is frequently placed in front of the right eye-piece of one of these instruments, a number of lines being engraved on its surface to represent angular distances in its field (Fig. 3). An artillery officer can, by means of this device, observe the angular error of his shell-bursts, and make necessary corrections. A graticule can also be used with the single telescope for the same purpose.

In a prismatic binocular it is possible to arrange so that the object-glasses are further apart than the eye-pieces: the stereoscopic effect is thereby increased.

An Angle-of-Sight Clinometer for artillery use (see Fig. 4) consists of a single telescope above which a spirit-level is mounted on trunnions, whose angular movement in relation to the telescope is controlled by a vertical screw of which the head is graduated in minutes, while a pointer attached to the spirit-level shows degrees on a scale fixed to the frame. The spirit-level can be observed through a hole in the side, and also by means of a sloping mirror above it. The instrument is fixed on a tripod, and the telescope laid on the object under observation (Fig. 6).

(Continued opposite.)

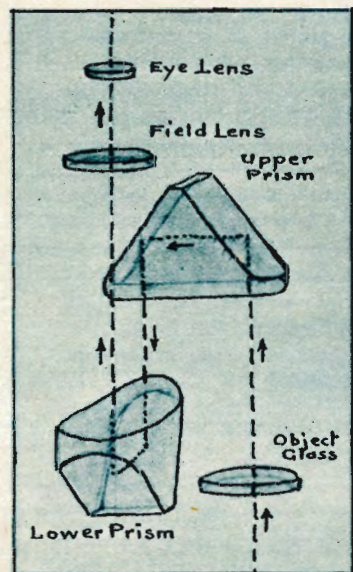


FIG. 7.—THE LENS ACTION IN THE PRISMATIC BINOCULAR.

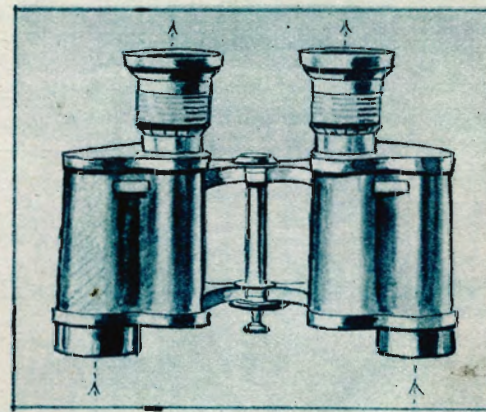
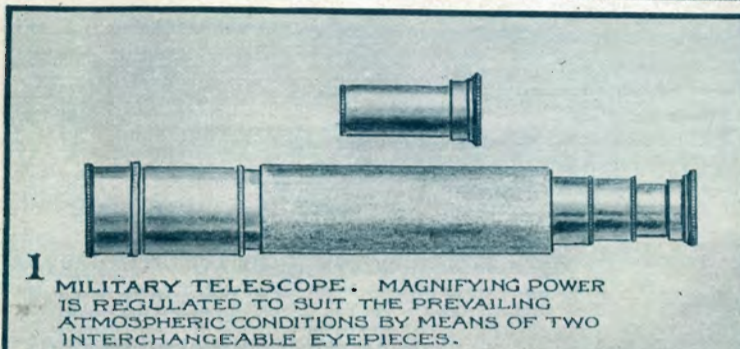


FIG. 8.—EXTERIOR OF THE PRISMATIC BINOCULAR.





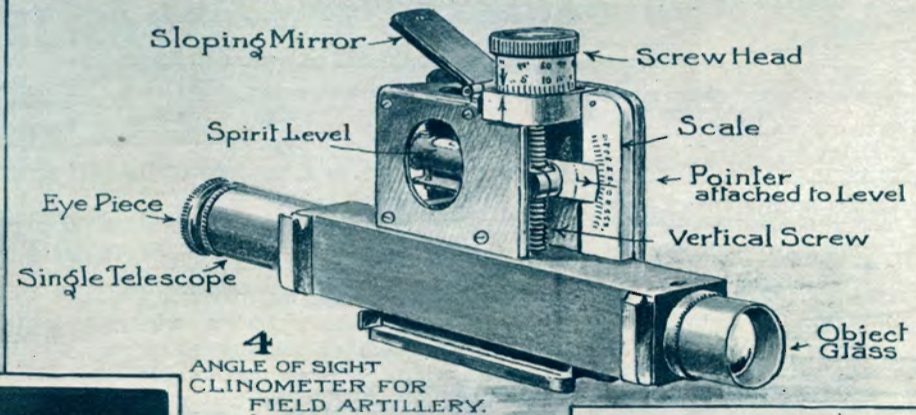
**1** MILITARY TELESCOPE. MAGNIFYING POWER IS REGULATED TO SUIT THE PREVAILING ATMOSPHERIC CONDITIONS BY MEANS OF TWO INTERCHANGEABLE EYEPIECES.



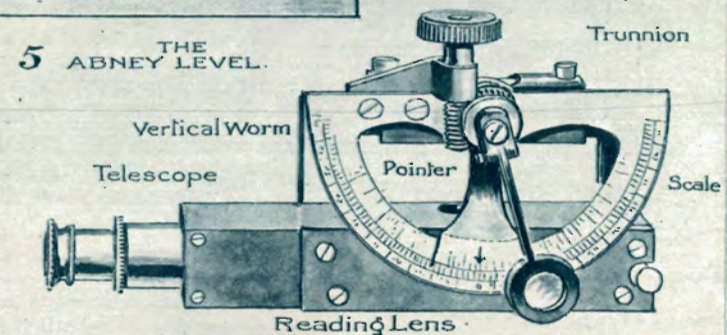
**2** RANGE FINDING BINOCULAR.



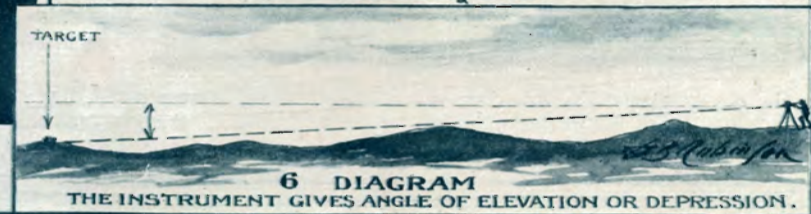
**3** DEFLECTION GRATICULES OF A PRISM BINOCULAR.  
TARGET MARKED T. SHELL BURST B.



**4** ANGLE OF SIGHT CLINOMETER FOR FIELD ARTILLERY.



**5** THE ABNEY LEVEL.



**6** DIAGRAM  
THE INSTRUMENT GIVES ANGLE OF ELEVATION OR DEPRESSION.

# HOW IT WORKS: LIX.—MILITARY TELESCOPES AND BINOCULARS.

*Continued.*

The spirit-level is then set by the vertical screw and the angle read off from the scale. The Abney Level (Fig. 5) is a similar instrument, but in its case a semicircular scale is provided and the spirit-level trunnion carries the pointer, together with an adjustable reading lens. It is operated by a vertical worm engaging with a worm on the trunnion. A prism placed over one eye-piece of a binocular deflects

the image seen through that particular barrel at a given angle, the effect of this arrangement being to produce the impression of two images some distance apart from one another (Fig. 2). As this distance varies directly with the range, the latter can be estimated from it, and the binocular becomes a simple range-finder.



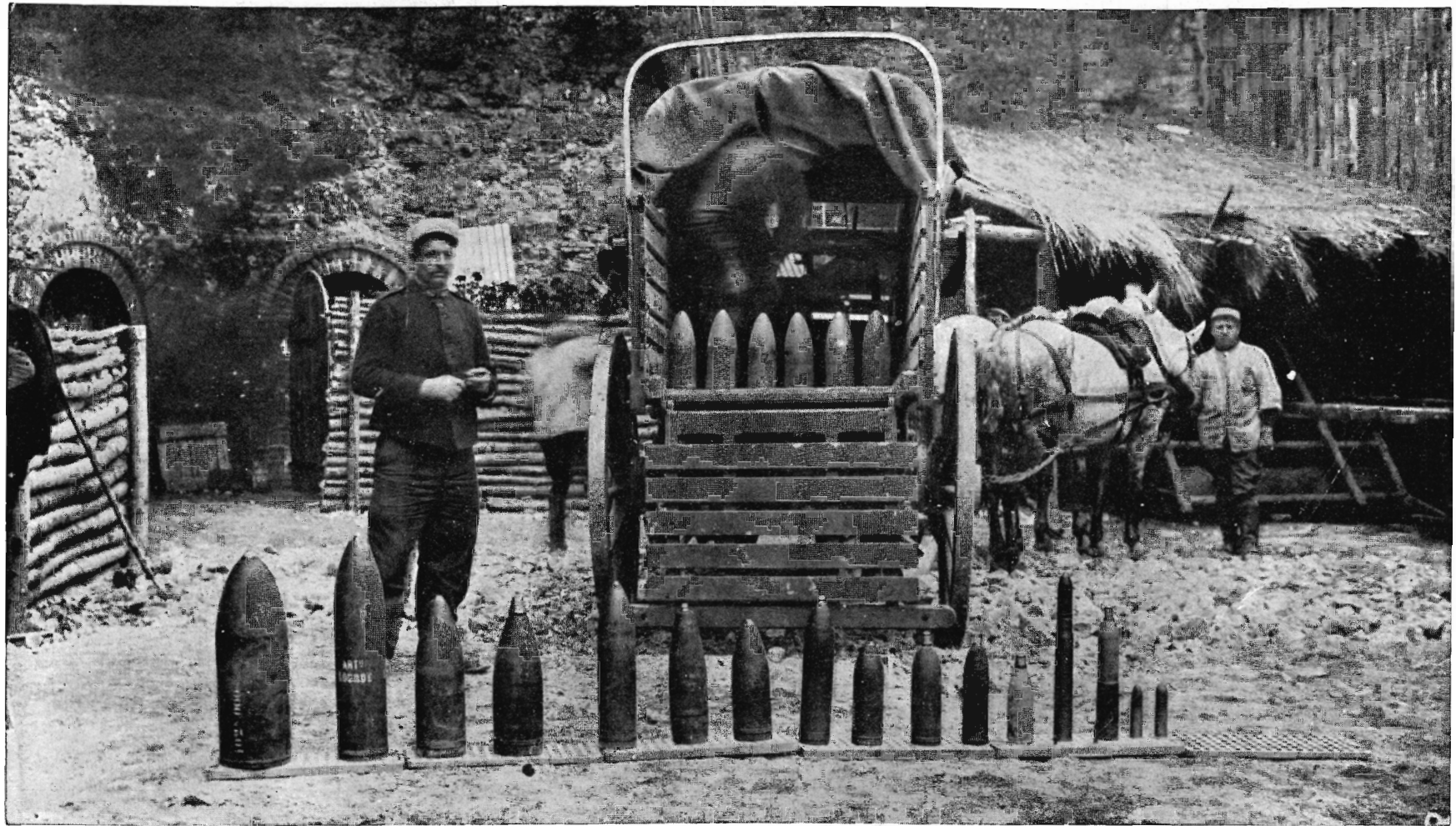


**PAINTING THE GERMAN CROWN PRINCE TO MAKE HIM POPULAR! PROFESSOR JUNKER—AND ONE OF HIS WORKS.**

The fate of the Imperial German Dynasty being in the balance, the Kaiser's heir is evidently most desirous of securing an additional popularity which might mean much in the present critical condition of public opinion, notably in Berlin, where the war, with its attendant sorrows and discomforts, is not so popular as the enemy would wish us to believe. For that reason, it is said, Professor Junker has

been commissioned to paint some pictures of the Crown Prince calculated to make a favourable impression upon the German public. Already photographs showing the Crown Prince performing acts of kindness to French children are on sale in Berlin! Our photograph shows Professor Junker and one of his paintings, which suggests a drive to Ascot on Cup Day!—[Photo. by E.N.A.]





"FROM MIGHTY HOWITZERS TO THE GRACEFUL FRENCH MITRAILLEUSE": A FRENCH AMMUNITION-STORE, WITH 16 DIFFERENT TYPES OF SHELLS.

Lord Northcliffe, in his recent article from the Verdun front, writes: "As one gets nearer and nearer the great arena on which the whole world's eyes are turned to-day, proofs of French efficiency and French thoroughness are countless. I do not pretend to any military knowledge other than a few scraps gathered in some half-dozen visits to the war, but the abundance of reserve shells for guns, from

mighty howitzers to the graceful French *mitrailleuse* of the aeroplane, rifle ammunition, petrol stores, motor-wagons of every description, was remarkable. I can truly say that their volume exceeded anything in my previous experience." We show an ammunition-store in France, with sixteen shells of different calibre.—[Photograph authorised by the French Ministry of War; supplied by New Paper Illustrations.]





**AT THE BATTLE OF VERDUN: A DESTROYED FRENCH FIELD-GUN BESIDE WHICH A HEAVY GERMAN SHELL BURST.**

We see here the wrecked remains of a French field-gun close beside which a heavy German high-explosive shell burst, falling in the gun-pit seen to the left of the illustration. The gun, it would seem, from the position of the litter of used shell cartridge-cases beside the parapet of the gun-pit, was in action at the moment, and was practically dismembered by the explosion, a portion of the gun-carriage being hurled

bodily over the parapet to the place where the wreckage is seen lying. That the gun was being fired at the moment is also suggested from the unused shells, scattered on the ground from the destroyed ammunition-wagon (which would normally be standing close alongside the gun) among the cartridge-cases.—[*French Official Photograph, supplied by Topical.*]





AT THE BATTLE OF VERDUN: HELPERS IN RETAKING DOUAUMONT—"THE COOKS ARE LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR SUCCESS."

"It is impossible to exaggerate the merits of our cooks," said a French officer of rank at Verdun in an interview with a correspondent of the Paris "Journal," during the temporary cessation of the battle after the beating back of the first German grand attack. "Under fire the French cook does his work imperturbably. In the first-line, despite the terrible danger, they always managed to bring us our meals

punctually. When we left to retake Douaumont, we had our bellies full. A moment before we had just had piping hot coffee, and it does not interfere with the effectiveness of the charge. The cooks are largely responsible for our success." The snow and slush-bespattered cooks seen are some of those at Verdun.—[French Official Photograph: supplied by Topical.]





AT THE BATTLE OF VERDUN: DÉBRIS FROM A FRENCH FRONT-LINE TRENCH AFTER THE ENEMY'S OPENING BOMBARDMENT.

"Everywhere upon the French line," describes Mr. Warner Allen, speaking of the German artillery fire which opened the attack on Verdun, "there raged such a storm of huge projectiles as has never been known in the history of war. . . . Practically no small-calibre guns were used by the Germans and their main artillery preparation was made by eight and twelve-inch guns. 'They used their 12-inch

guns just as we use our seventy-fives,' said a Captain. . . . There was a hail of heavy shells upon the French trenches that was only comparable with the *rafale* of the French seventy-fives which fire twenty rounds a minute." What the fearful tornado meant in one front-line trench is indicated by the débris shown above.—[French Official Photograph, supplied by Topical.]



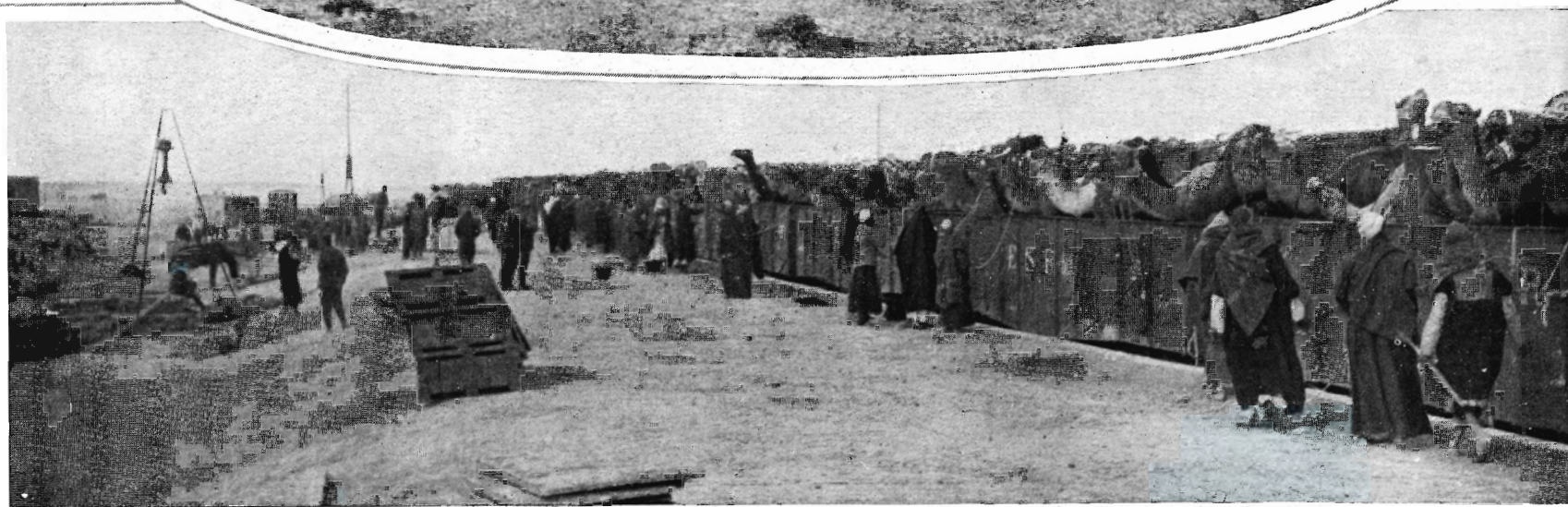
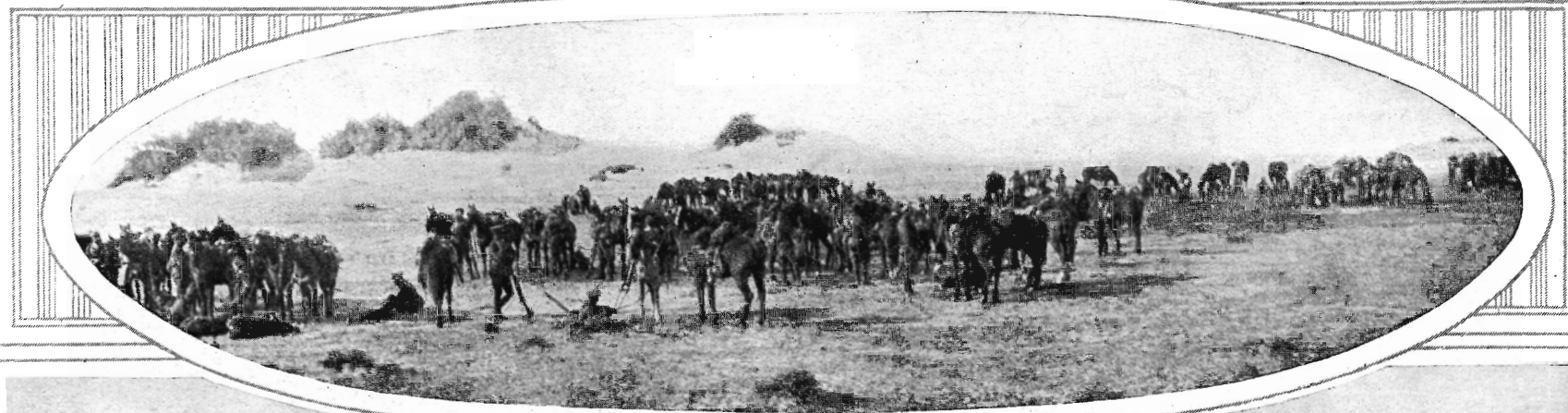


AT THE BATTLE OF VERDUN: A FRENCH MACHINE-GUN AMMUNITION-TEAM ON THE WAY TO THE FIRING-LINE.

All through the accounts of the battle at Verdun, a specially satisfactory feature has been that there is no possibility of any shortage of ammunition-supplies. Long before the Germans began their attack, the French Generals had become aware, from various indications, of the quarter in which it was to be delivered, and every possible provision of ammunition was made in advance. In the illustration is seen

a team of machine-gun ammunition-supply horses halted momentarily a little in rear of the firing-line. As the French accounts say, it was the merciless fusillade from their machine-guns, in particular, that shattered the German rushes, shooting down the enemy whole ranks at a time. — [French Official Photograph, supplied by Topical.]





WHERE THE DORSETSHIRE YEOMANRY MADE A "BRILLIANT AND MOST EFFECTIVE" CHARGE : SCENES DURING THE CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN EGYPT.

These photographs of the successful campaign in Western Egypt show, on the left-hand page, British cavalry watering their horses during the march across the desert, and camels belonging to the British force arriving at the Western frontier ; on the right-hand page, some typical Bedouin prisoners captured during the fighting. The first official account of the victory stated : "The enemy's column under Nuri

and Gaafar was attacked yesterday morning (February 26) at Agagia . . . by General Lukin's column, consisting of South African troops, Yeomanry, and Territorial Artillery. By 3.30 p.m. the enemy had been completely routed and was fleeing in scattered parties, pursued by our cavalry. At 4 p.m. aeroplanes reported them to be eight miles south-west of Agagia, still being pursued." Later, the War

[Continued opposite.]





**AFTER THE BRITISH VICTORY IN WESTERN EGYPT, WHERE ENVER'S BROTHER WAS KILLED: BRITISH CAVALRYMEN WITH PRISONERS.**

*Continued.*

Office issued a further report from General Maxwell. "The fight on Saturday last," he said, "ended in a decisive success for our arms. The enemy were under the personal command of Nuri Bey (brother of Enver), with Gaafar as his principal subordinate, and were holding a strong position some fifteen miles south-east of Barani. General Peyton reports that the attack by the South African Infantry, under

General Lukin, was completely successful, and that 'the charge of the Dorsetshire Yeomanry was brilliant and most effective.' In this charge Gaafar was wounded and made a prisoner, and Nuri was killed. The enemy left more than 200 killed and wounded on the ground. Two other Turkish officers are also prisoners in our hands. One machine-gun was captured."—[Photos. by Central Press.]





**SODA-WATER BOTTLES AS HAND-GRENADES! MANUFACTURING AN IMPROVED TYPE OF A WEAPON REVIVED BY TRENCH-WARFARE.**

Many types of grenade—a weapon revived by modern conditions of warfare—have been illustrated, but the use of soda-water bottles for the purpose appears to be a novelty. "In this war the hand-grenade is king," writes Mr. E. Alexander Powell in his interesting book, "Vive La France!" a record of a visit to the Western front. "Compared with it the high-power rifle is a joke. . . . For cleaning out

a trench or stopping a massed charge there is nothing like a well-aimed volley of hand-grenades. . . . The grenade commonly used by the French is of the 'bracelet' type. . . . The French also use a primed grenade attached to a sort of wooden racket, which can be quickly improvised on the spot, and which, from its form, is popularly known as the 'hair-brush.'"—[Photo. by C.N.]



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