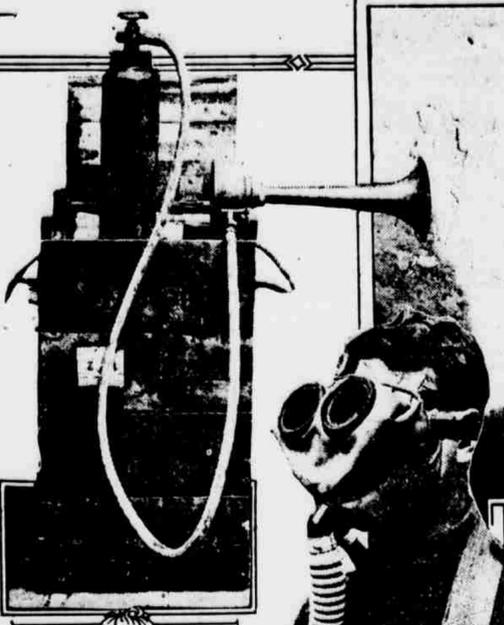


MOST UP TO DATE OF GAS MASKS FOR PERSHING'S MEN



Seven Hundred Men in Gas Defence Service of the Medical Department Are Continually at Work Devising Means to Improve Protective Methods.

THE United States Army is being prepared to meet the gas attacks of the enemy, the means of protection having been devised by the gas defence service of the Medical Department, which comprises about 100 officers and approximately 600 enlisted men.

The two principal factors in gas defence are effective masks and thorough training of soldiers in the use of masks and various methods of avoiding contact with poisonous vapors.

Experts who have been sent to this country by the allied Governments have pronounced the present American masks the most efficient in existence. The production of these masks is progressing at a rate which insures that the requirements of the American troops are being met.

At each cantonment in the United States a gas defence school has been established and placed in charge of a divisional gas officer, who works in conjunction with the chemical adviser, both training in the theory and practice of meeting gas offensive.

Through these schools every officer and man receives instruction as to proper means of gas defence.

Gases may be employed in the form of clouds, or in shells, bombs and hand grenades. The first gas attacks in the present war were in clouds. Fumes were liberated from steel containers and were distributed in groups of three or four at intervals of fifty yards along the trenches opposite the line to be attacked.

form of a dense greenish yellow cloud. At best the cloud method of using gas is uncertain.

By far the commoner gas method is its use in shells, bombs and hand grenades. Gas thus used has a distinct military advantage in that it is possible to place it where it may be needed to form a gas barrage or a smoke barrage to prevent the bringing up of reinforcements or the retreat of defeated troops.

Many kinds of gases are used. Some merely affect the eyes temporarily and are more inconsequential than serious. Other gases are terrible in their effects unless proper protection is available.

The first work toward the establishment of an American gas defence service was done under the supervision of the Bureau of Mines. In July, 1917, a special department to carry on gas defence work was established. Following the example of the English, this department was incorporated into the medical department of the army.

his mouth. The end of a flexible tube has a rubber mouthpiece through which the man breathes. The incoming breath comes through the canister, which is filled with several layers of special chemicals of an absorbent nature, which neutralize or render harmless the gas laden air.

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With no actual experience in the work to depend upon, much research was necessary. An extensive experimental organization was built up, with branches in several cities. Recently it was decided to establish a Government operated plant to handle the final assembling and the difficult sewing operations on the face piece.

troops approach a danger zone the straps are shortened and the knapsack is shifted to rest high on the chest, ready for instant use.

The chemicals in the canister must neutralize the heaviest concentrations of gases for a period at least ten times longer than the possible duration of any gas attack.

While the main function of the field supply station is to supply gas masks, it is also responsible for the supply of all other gas defence equipment.

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THE HORN WHOSE SOUNDING MEANS "GAS COMING!"

THE AMERICAN MASK IN POSITION READY FOR THE GAS.

Chemicals and Absorbents Made From Secret Formulas Neutralize Noxious Fumes, but Success Depends Upon Speed With Which Device Is Donned.

that is noiseless and sometimes invisible. The necessity for thorough and continuous training is illustrated by the following incident:

The Germans at a certain position on the western front knew that the British were planning to deliver a gas attack on a German naval division which was equipped with masks but poorly trained in their use.

As in all other elements of warfare the principles of defence can be comprehended only through a knowledge of offensive tactics. So the 2,500 or 3,000 officers of a cantonment are formed into classes and instructed as to German methods, the kinds of gases used, how the Germans place the cylinders, atmospheric conditions favorable to an attack and the advantages the enemy hopes to gain from a gas attack.

The officers learn of the problems of giving the alarm of a gas cloud attack. Whistles or horns cannot be heard if a man's head is covered with a mask. Watchmen's rattles and empty shell cases are excluded, and the officers learn about the various kinds of gas which is blown by a tank of compressed air and gives a blast that may be heard

for a mile by simply turning a wrench. A gas cloud attack will corrode the mechanism of a machine gun and soon put it out of commission and it will spoil instruments such as a telephone or telegraph.

When the instructor fills the gas chamber with chlorine and invites the class to enter, the student has some misgivings. From school days he remembers chlorine as a gas which took the color out of a piece of calico or gave off a cloud of smoke and fumes when a piece of paper moistened with turpentine was dropped in a jar of the gas.

Series of trenches with dugouts have been constructed at each cantonment. They are filled with smoke or gas to represent the condition at the end of a gas attack. The men adjust their masks and file in. Each man is provided with a flapper fan which looks like a big fly swatter.

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Finally a gas attack is arranged. The class is placed in the trenches, each man is given a definite assignment, sentries are posted, the alarms are made ready and the dugouts occupied. Without warning clouds of smoke and chlorine are liberated by the instructors. Masks are hurriedly put on, alarms sounded, sleeping men in dugouts aroused and the curtains lowered.

Sometimes the class is taken on a hike, preferably at night. Suddenly a report is heard and a harmless looking smoke cloud arises fifteen or twenty feet away and drifts toward the column. Woo to the man who does not get his mask on at once!

Gas warfare is new. The methods of gas and shell and cloud attack are being changed almost daily. New conditions can only be met by thorough training and rigid discipline.

The conclusion of this astounding narrative, which totalled 11,000 words, was printed on August 23, in the valley of the temple a new set of man bats was found.

THE FAMOUS MOON HOAX ARTICLE THAT FOOLED THE WHOLE WORLD

times of human savages, and from the appearance of smoke in nearly all of them there is no doubt of its being accounted with the use of fire.

The largest lake described was 266 miles long and 193 wide, shaped like the Bay of Bengal and studded with islands. One island in a bay was pinnacled with quartz crystals as brilliant as fire.

Having observed them at this distance for some minutes, some extraordinary lens, which brought them to the apparent proximity of eighty yards—the highest clear magnitude we possessed until the latter end of March, when we effected an improvement in the gas burners.

The next view we obtained of them was still more favorable. It was on the borders of a little lake, or expanded stream, which we then for the first time perceived running down the valley to a large lake, and having on its eastern margin a small wood. Some of these creatures had crossed the water and were lying like spread eagles on the skirts of the wood.

These creatures, who were of both sexes, led to results so very remarkable that I prefer they should be first laid before the public in Dr. Herschel's own work, where I have reason to suppose that they are fully and faithfully stated, however inaccurately they may be received.

The three families then almost simultaneously spread their wings and were lost in the dark confines of the canopy before we had time to breathe from our paralyzing astonishment. We scientifically denominated them the vesperalians, or man bats, and they are doubtless innocent and happy creatures, notwithstanding some of our terrestrial notions of decorum.

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The instrument of the discoveries printed on August 23 revealed to the reader the great Temple of the Moon, built of polished sapphires, with a roof of some yellow metal supported by columns seventy feet high and six feet in diameter.

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Broadway, looking up from Bowling Green, at the time of the founding of THE SUN and the publication of the Moon Hoax.