

## FRENCH TANKS JUMP INTO ACTION



This is a scene from one of the phases of the big July offensive of the allies, taken while bullets zipped about the ears of the photographer and the stretcher-bearer lying in the foreground.

Somewhere in the rolling country of the Somme-Alsne front the two light French tanks in the picture are hurrying forward, probably having as a special goal a machine gun nest which has been harrying the advancing French, British or American infantry. The light tanks have been one of the greatest factors in forcing the Germans back, and at the same time have held the allied casualties to a comparatively low figure.

## RIGHT SYSTEM OF HIGHWAYS

It Should Include Everything From Expensive Concrete to Minor Dirt Wagon Ways.

What we need and in time will have is a system of highways which will ramify from the largest cities to the doorway of the humblest citizen—villager or farmer. Such a system of highways will include trunk lines with expensive concrete or brick surfaces for the very heavy traffic, including trucks and automobiles. Less used but important roads may be of waterbound macadam or gravel. Perhaps in certain regions where stone and gravel are not at hand old roads may prove most economical and practical. Minor wagon ways must remain of native soil, built and maintained with the road drag. Meanwhile antagonism to road dragging breeds in a lack of information or a narrowness which fails to comprehend the facts.—D. Ward King.

### Duluth Sets Good Example.

The city of Duluth has erected a schoolhouse and extensive playground on land donated by the housing company. The Gary system of education is applied in this school, which is equipped with auditorium, gymnasium, library, workshops and laboratories. Land has been set aside for a Protestant and a Catholic church. Approximately eight acres have been assigned to use for clubhouse and recreation grounds. The clubhouse and grounds are leased by the housing company to the Morgan Park club, which is composed of employees. A separate club building, or neighborhood house, is provided for people who live in low-rental houses. Aside from the opportunities for outdoor sport offered in connection with school and clubhouse grounds are baseball and football grounds, tennis courts, a skating rink and equipment for boating, bathing and camping. A modern hospital is another feature.

### Natural Charms Best.

That garden is best and most pleasing, if it be a large one, that had the most varied charms before the hand of man began to interfere with nature and work at variance with its dictates.

### His Position.

"What's your part in these big drives? Are you one of the drivers?" "Oh, no," answered the German private soldier; "I am one of the people who are being driven."

### Have Not the Right Touch.

Many gardens are so out of touch with art and nature that no one feels at home in them and the owners throughout live in constant wonder as to what is wrong.

### When It Grew.

"Our children and the neighbors' children had a quarrel yesterday." "Did it amount to much?" "Not until we parents butted into it."

The Maryland Casualty Company will insure your employees under the Idaho Compensation Act. See Herv Rothwell.

## IMPROVED TOOLS SAVE MUCH TIME

Modern Methods and Implements Mean More Work Accomplished at Less Cost.

## LABOR SAVED IN HAYMAKING

Scarcity of Man Power Necessitates General Use of Certain Types of Labor-Saving Machinery—Horse Solves Problem.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Thousands of young men have been called to the colors, and on many farms this results in a scarcity of labor. The problem of the hay grower is how to handle his crop with a smaller crew than hitherto, and one often mostly of middle-aged men and boys. With methods used heretofore this type of labor certainly cannot harvest the hay in the usual time, at least on many farms in the East and South, where it has been the custom to use a comparatively large amount of hand labor in making hay.

### Solution of Problem.

Although there is a scarcity of man labor, there are still plenty of horses on most farms, and herein lies the so-



This Method Saves Much Hard Work in Hay Making.

lution of the problem. On farms where considerable hay is grown methods must be adopted by which the greater part of the heavy labor is done by horses. This will necessitate the general use of certain types of labor-saving machinery, some of them not so common in the East, which have been thoroughly tested and proved satisfactory in the western part of the United States. The small hay grower, however, need not make a very heavy investment in new haying apparatus, for by re-arranging the work of his crew and using a little more horse labor for the hard work, he can add considerably to the efficiency of his crew.

The time of day when the mower is started has a direct bearing on the amount of hay made per day and the number of men required. This is especially true on farms where it is the custom to haul or stack hay in the afternoon only. If mowing is done in the morning and raking in the afternoon, more men and horses than usual will be required, and if mowing and raking are both done in the afternoon, still more men and horses will be needed.

### Use Larger Mowers.

The 5-foot cut is the most common size used in the East. With the present scarcity of labor, it will be economy to use larger mowers; 6, 7, and even 8-foot sizes can be used on a great many farms. Some idea of the time saved by using these larger sizes may be had when the difference in the amount of work done by each is known. Under average conditions, a 5-foot mower will cut ten acres in ten hours, a 6-foot mower will cut 12 acres, a 7-foot 14 acres, and an 8-foot about 16 acres in ten hours. It should be borne in mind that more power is required for the wider cuts. Many alfalfa growers are using the 8-foot cut with good success, and make a practice of mowing early in the morning before the dew is off, or even during a light rain. It does not pay to wait until the dew is off, before starting the mower, if the tedder is used to "kick" the water out of the hay. The size of mower used and the time of day it is started are the most important factors in crew arrangement. The use of the tedder and rake are next in importance, and these three implements should be kept clearly in mind when attempting to solve the problem of how to make a small crew efficient.

### Good Feed for Chicks.

A Johnnycake makes good feed for chicks when crumbled up fine. After the first week you can begin feeding small grains such as millet, pinhead oatmeal, rolled oats, cracked wheat and cracked corn.

### Thin Cream With Water.

If the cream is too thick it should be thinned out before the churn starts, but in all cases the thinning should be done with water.

## WOODLOT PROVIDES WINDBREAK AND SUPPLY OF FIREWOOD, FENCE POSTS AND LUMBER



Not Only Is a Well-Managed Farm Timber Stand a Source of Fuel, but It Shelters the Farmstead From the Prevailing Winter Winds.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Trees and shrubs about the home and farmstead not only increase the value of the property but make conditions pleasanter and more healthful. A limited amount of planting may be done, therefore, for comfort alone irrespective of other return. Where a considerable plantation is contemplated, however, it is essential to know what material may be grown economically and the uses to which it may be put.

On the average farm in the plains region the first effort in planting is to provide a small grove plantation which will protect the buildings from severe winds and furnish shade for greater comfort of both man and animals. Sometimes when such a windbreak has been established the owner tries to make it furnish a supply of material for use on the farm. This is a mistake, for if a belt of trees is planted primarily as a protection against the wind the pruning and removal of much large material may lessen or even destroy its protective value.

### Value of Plantation.

The value of a plantation, other than a windbreak, on the farm lies in its ability to furnish fuel, posts and a limited amount of lumber and repair material. Within a very few years after planting the plantation will need to be pruned and the pruning will furnish considerable fuel, depending upon the size of the plot. If good care is given the trees they will develop rapidly and some thinning will have to be done to prevent harmful crowding. The material thus removed will contribute materially to the upkeep of the farm by furnishing posts and stakes. When the plantation is still older more valuable material may be harvested. Small timbers for building construction, poles for implements, also tool handles, neckyokes, eveners, whiffletrees and, in favorable situations, a limited amount of lumber is provided at home as needed.

Throughout the plains region there is a marked scarcity of timber which will produce even a fair grade of lumber and this fact should be taken into account when species are selected for planting. When a large planta-

tion is established care should be taken to put out such trees as will give the maximum amount of body material and to arrange them so as to derive the greatest benefit.

### Secure Best Results.

In windbreak planting the best results usually are secured when the shortest trees are placed on the side facing the wind, so that a sloping face is presented and the air currents are deflected upward. These short trees should have low-branching habits and dense foliage, in order that they may offer as much hindrance to the passage of air currents close to the ground as is possible. The Russian olive is probably the best for this. Not infrequently, when complaints are made of the reputed ineffectiveness of windbreaks it develops upon examination that the planter has either used unsuitable species and given them poor care or has failed to establish belts of sufficient width.

### Species for Northern Region.

The northern half of the plains region, which includes the eastern portion of Montana, Wyoming and Colorado and the western portions of the Dakotas and Nebraska, is characterized by lower temperatures, heavier precipitation, and a shorter growing season than the southern half. The species recommended for it are: Hackberry, honey locust, white elm, cottonwood, narrow-leaf cottonwood, white poplar, white willow, diamond willow, Russian olive, buffalo berry, Siberian pea tree, Jack pine, western yellow pine.

### Species for Southern Region.

All the species recommended for the northern portion of the plains region may be planted in the southern portion, which includes southeastern Colorado, western Kansas and Oklahoma and northern Texas, and on account of the more moderate temperatures it is possible to extend the list. The following additional species are recommended: Box elder, green ash, black locust, red cedar, Chinese arbor vitae.

Specific information on these species is published in Farmers' Bulletin No. 888, a copy of which can be obtained by applying to the United States department of agriculture, Washington, D. C.

## LETTER FROM MAC GREGG.

American E. F., France.

Dear Parents.— Just a line or so to let you know that I am getting along nicely and am in the best of health.

I have changed locations since I last wrote you, and am very well pleased with present surroundings. Am getting good food and have good quarters and plenty of exercise, so there's no cause to complain, whatever.

All of the old bunch were in good health when I last saw them.

I had quite a pleasant trip recently. I saw some fine country and passed through some big cities, one of them being Paris. We saw a good show there and had a look at a couple of museums. It is a wonderful city even now, although the war has caused it to lose some of its brilliancy, which it will no doubt regain before long.

I am starting in on some very important work, but I won't tell you until

I have an assured success. It is going to require hard work and long hours of study, but I haven't a doubt but what I shall succeed for I intend to apply myself as I really should in accord with the reward that is the object I have in view.

I was glad to hear that you were getting along so well, and the main thing to do is to keep it up—"keep your morals at 100 per cent," as they say in the army.

This scrap can't last forever and when it's over I'll show you what a "dutiful son" is really like.

Well, dear parents, I must close for the present. I hope this finds you well and happy.

1st SGT. W. M. GREGG,  
Co. I, 14th Engineers

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## INCREASE SUPPLY OF CHICKENS AND EGGS

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Every commercial breeder, every farmer, every back-yard poultry raiser, is urged to keep these things steadily in view:

1. Keep better poultry. Standard-bred poultry improves the quality and increases production.
2. Select healthy, vigorous breeders to produce strong chicks.
3. Hatch early to produce fall and winter layers.
4. Preserve eggs when cheap for home use.
5. Produce infertile eggs, except for hatching.
6. Cull the flocks to eliminate unprofitable producers.
7. Keep a small back-yard flock to supply the family table.
8. Grow as much poultry feed as possible.
9. Eat more poultry and eggs to conserve the meat supply.

### Preserve Eggs for Winter.

It is the duty of every farmer not only to preserve eggs for his own use, but to urge his friends living in town to preserve eggs for next fall and winter use.

### Hens in Confinement.

Hens like freedom but good feed and care reconcile them to confinement. Mature, rugged birds often lay more eggs in close confinement than when at liberty.