

1—American battery of 155-millimeter heavy artillery which helped capture Soissons. 2—British cleaning up the Menin road after the retreat of the Germans. 3—Latest photograph of King Alfonso of Spain, taken while on a bear hunt.

DOUGHBOYS BRINGING UP THEIR MACHINE GUNS



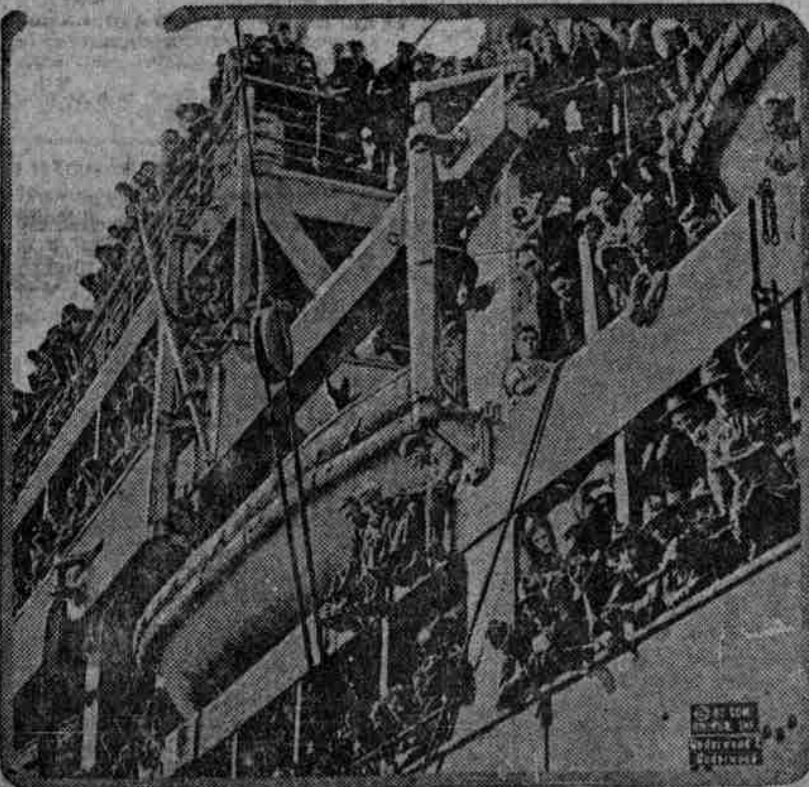
American infantrymen attached to a machine-gun battalion of the First division passing through a French village en route to the front. The First division is one of those that are being used in the allies' great offensive against the Huns.

HUN PRISONERS BAGGED BY THE FRENCH ON THE AISNE



A long column of German prisoners marching with their officers at the head is shown in this French official photograph. They were taken by the French in the Aisne district.

THEIR FIRST GLIMPSE OF FRANCE



On board of a former Hamburg-American liner, American soldiers are having their first look at the land of their chivalrous ally, France.

DAYLIGHT SIGNAL LAMP



This corporal is signaling by means of an electrical daylight signal lamp.

Not Necessary.

"Before I engage in this new sport I would like to con the rules." "I can assure you it is not a 'cop game'."

BROWNING GUN IN CLASS BY ITSELF

Remarkable New Tool Better Than Anything of Its Type.

DIFFERENT FROM ANY OTHER

Fired From Shoulder or Hip in Bursts of Twenty Shots in Two and One-Half Seconds—Air Cooled, Gas Operated.

By JAMES H. COLLINS. (From the Committee on Public Information, Washington, D. C.)

Three hundred senators, representatives, journalists, and army officers of the French, British, Italian, Belgian and American forces stood behind a little squad of ordnance men the other day at a rifle range outside of Washington.

"Attention!" commanded the officer in charge of the squad.

"Shoulder fire—one magazine—automatic—Ready! Load! Aim! Fire!"

There was a popping like that, say, of half a dozen packs of giant fire-crackers all set off at once. It lasted about ten seconds, the time required to fire 20 shots from what looked like an ordinary rifle in the hands of each soldier. Five hundred yards away the dirt flew behind a row of small targets set up to represent men.

"Shoulder fire—one magazine—automatic—load!" was the next command given.

But a different volley was heard at the command "Fire!" It sounded like B-r-r-r-r-r! and lasted only two and a half seconds! If you want to estimate the rapidity, listen to the ticking of your watch, which averages about four ticks per second, and realize that the automatic fire of this weapon was just twice as fast—eight standard army rifle cartridges fired in a second with one pull of the trigger.

And that was the new Browning machine gun which Uncle Sam was about to manufacture at the rate of thousands a week, and had brought to this rifle range for its first public exhibition.

Other methods of firing were shown with the gun placed at the hip and with the soldiers marching toward the target, firing as they walked. Then spectators crowded around and began to ask questions.

"Air cooled or water cooled? How much weight? How fast can it be fired? What do they cost? Is it any better than this machine gun?"

All Were Convinced.

Among those present was one member of congress who, a few weeks before, during an anxious inquiry into our war preparations, had stated his belief that the Browning machine gun was only a dream. And now he was allowed to fire the weapon himself, and planted a succession of bullets in the distant target with an accuracy which left no question in his mind as to the tangibility or accuracy of this new tool of the American soldier.

On the following morning newspapers throughout the country published a detailed description of both this gun, known as the "light Browning," and another type called the "heavy Browning," which was also demonstrated, being fired from a tripod, water cooled, and fed with canvas belts containing 250 cartridges each. It has fired 20,000 shots in a little less than 48 minutes.

Each legislator and journalist asked his own questions, and there was an honest spirit of inquiry evident. Every American present, while admitting the impressive nature of the test, seemed to feel that he was personally representing the nation and bound to overlook no technical details touching the efficiency of these new weapons. And in that matter each American did truly represent the nation which has been keen to discover every part of our war program open to question, each according to his own light and reading.

The reader of this article, too, will want to ask his own technical questions, and for his information all the facts about both types of guns have been summarized separately, so that attention here may be concentrated upon another aspect of the machine-gun program—its tactical use as a tool apart from the mere details of how much it weighs, how fast it fires, how many shots a second, how many times it jams in a test, how it is cooled, how many parts it has, how quickly they can be taken down and put together again, etc.

Provide Something Better.

Our ordnance department has been working since we entered the war to send American soldiers to France with a complete kit of tools representative of American inventive ability. First sizing up the job of cracking the Hun out of trench, shell box, and subterranean tunnel, and ascertaining what the allies have found useful in the way of saw, hammer and hatchet, the ord-

nance department has worked to provide something a little better in every case, from poison gas and gas masks to machine guns and high-explosive shrapnel.

The light Browning, also known as the "automatic rifle," requires no cooling apparatus, because in its tactical use in battle as a tool it will be called upon only for what are known as "bursts of firing." It is a remarkable new tool, better than anything of its particular type yet developed, and different from every other weapon in the world. Its nearest prototype is the French Chauchat automatic rifle, which has proved extremely effective.

At the present stage of tactics the Browning automatic rifle will be a superior tool for perhaps three definite jobs in trench warfare. First, being as portable as the ordinary army rifle, it can be quickly brought into action along every part of a trench by defenders to stop the advance of an enemy. With the heavier types of machine gun fired from a tripod and requiring considerable time for getting into position, if not permanent emplacement, such resistance of invaders in a pinch might prove difficult. With the new Browning firing 20 shots automatically in less than three seconds, or 20 shots semiautomatically as fast as one desires to pull the trigger, loading with a fresh magazine each 20 shots in a couple of seconds, an entire trench front can be protected with outbursts of machine-gun fire, which will not have to be continued long to do the work—not long enough for heating of the gun to become a problem.

Sweeps the Trenches.

The third job for this characteristic Yankee notion comes when our fellows have reached the enemy trenches. At that moment, even though but a few arrive, the Browning automatic rifle is expected to replace the bayonet and bomb under certain conditions, and multiply the effectiveness of each soldier who gets across No Man's Land, for the rapidity and accuracy of the Browning fire is such that it will be only a matter of seconds to sweep an enemy trench in both directions.

There are other tactical uses for these automatic rifles as sufficient to lay down a temporary barrage at right angles to a trench front, and even two of them quickly placed at opposite ends of a trench can establish a cross fire as effective as a barrage under some circumstances. For with each gun firing along one leg of a letter V meeting and passing somewhere out in No Man's Land, the chances of an enemy getting through this V will be very slim—this will be a defense equivalent to frontless rifle fire from dozens of individual soldiers, and can be established with the minimum of exposure.

These are the tactical points of the new weapon, and one has only to consider it from this viewpoint to understand that technical questions such as have been raised by laymen during recent discussions of the merits of one machine gun as against another do not touch the heart of the military problem—both the design of this gun and its use as a tool in battle are palpably matters to be left to military men.

Another interesting viewpoint on both the light and heavy types of Browning guns can be gained by briefly considering the general development of machine guns as fighting tools. From the days of slings and stones and arrows fighting man has sought ways of delivering enough missiles into the ranks of an advancing foe to stop him. With gunpowder and portable guns the number of missiles increased, and also their deadliness. The matchlock fired clumsily from a tripod was replaced by smooth-bore muzzle-loading guns, and then muzzle-loading rifles, breech-loading rifles capable of firing shots singly, and finally the repeating rifle, with a capacity of five or six shots in rapid succession. Then came shrapnel, delivering a spray of bullets over a considerable range, and also the first machine guns equipped to fire hundreds of shots in rapid succession, but at first so heavy and clumsy that they could not be moved much more quickly than artillery.

Fired From Shoulder and Hip.

These first machine guns are known as the heavy types and were presently reduced in weight and developed in mobility, becoming what are known as the portable intermediate types of which the Lewis gun is an example. Still further lightness and mobility were wanted, however; something that would convert an ordinary rifle into an effective machine gun for brief outbursts of fire. In other words, the true type of light machine gun as exemplified first in the French Chauchat and now in the light Browning. These two fighting tools are thus far the only ones of their type, and at present only the French and American armies are equipped to use them tactically, the British army doing its machine-gun work with the portable intermediate Lewis gun. According to reports from our military observers in France, the drift of the French army is decidedly toward greater use of automatic rifles of the highly portable type. The Browning gun is the only gun of its type that can be fired from the shoulder and hip.

SAVING FUEL.

By CHARLES HANSON TOWNE of the Vigilantes.

Out in the middle West in many ways they are doing more to help win the war than the people in the East.

For instance, what is so necessary as the conservation of fuel? In a western city the authorities have adopted the very same and workable plan of stopping the electric surface cars only at every other block to take on or let off passengers. Of course, everyone knows

that it costs money to stop and start a trolley car; and if the starting and stopping can be cut in half, think what amount of money is saved.

In order that passengers may not be confused, the city has posted notices that downtown cars will stop only at every other odd street, and uptown cars only at every other even street.

What a simple, feasible plan it is! Why do not the Eastern cities—and the cities all over the country—take it up? Write to your mayor and see what can be done.

"HRD SKIN" AND FOOT CALLUSES

Mag. Peel them off without pain or soreness

Don't suffer! A tiny bottle of Freezone costs but a few cents at any drug store. Apply a few drops on the toughened calluses or "hard skin" on bottom of feet, then lift those painful spots right off with fingers. Corns also!



When you peel off corns or calluses with Freezone the skin beneath is left pink and healthy and never sore, tender or even irritated. Try Freezone sure!—Adv.

Not Made for a Soldier.

"I understand your hired man has been drafted."

"Yes," replied Farmer Cobbins. "But I'm just a bit dubious about the kind of soldier he's going to make."

"He's not cowardly, I hope?"

"It ain't that. I was thinkin' that if he doesn't show any more 'get up an' get' in handlin' a bayonet than he does when he's got a pitchfork in his hands, he'll never make a German soldier yell, 'Kamerad!'"

Soft, Clear Skin.

Night and morning bathe the face with Cuticura Soap and hot water. If there are pimples first smear them with Cuticura Ointment. For free samples address, "Cuticura, Dept. X, Boston." Sold by druggists and by mail. Soap 25, Ointment 25 and 60.—Adv.

In the Dark.

A colored minister was about to lead his congregation in prayer when suddenly the floor of the church sank a foot, causing a commotion among parishioners. The preacher was taken to the occasion and ostentatiously took up solemnly saying:

"Stay just whar yo' all is, my people, de Lawd is wif' yo'!"

Immediately a big Mose Peters jumped upon a pew and shouted:

"Misto' preacher, if de Lawd was wif' me just now, den' who all's done took me' fo' bits in dis heah low-down bunch o' blackberries!"—Cartoons Magazine.

Important to Mothers

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, that famous old remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of *Wm. H. Fletcher* in Use for Over 30 Years. Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria

Thorough.

"Do you want to sell that mule?" "Whur do you all live?" inquired Mr. Erastus Pinky.

"What has that to do with it?"

"I ain' gwinter transfer him to nobody dat lives less dan two hundred miles away. When I sells him I wants to git rid not only of de mule but of all conversation appertain' to him."

Rose Eyes, Blood-shot Eyes, Watery Eyes, Sticky Eyes, all healed promptly with night applications of Roman Eye Balsam. Adv.

An Impossibility.

Mrs. Justwed—If your husband's judgment should differ from yours, what would you do?

Mrs. Longwed—I never had'n chance to find out. He never dares to differ.

WHY WOMEN DREAD OLD AGE

Don't worry about old age. Don't worry about being in other people's way when you are getting on in years. Keep your body in good condition and you can be as hale and hearty in your old days as you were when a kid, and every one will be glad to see you.

The kidneys and bladder are the causes of senile afflictions. Keep them clean and in proper working condition. Drive the poisonous wastes from the system and avoid uric acid accumulations. Take GOLD MEDAL Haarlem Oil Capsules periodically and you will find that the system will always be in perfect working order. Your spirits will be enlivened, your muscles made strong and your face have once more the look of youth and health.

New life, fresh strength and health will come as you continue this treatment. When your first vigor has been restored continue for awhile taking a capsule or two each day. They will keep you in condition and prevent a return of your troubles.

There is only one guaranteed brand of Haarlem Oil Capsules, GOLD MEDAL. There are many fakes on the market. Be sure you get the Original GOLD MEDAL Imported Haarlem Oil Capsules. They are the only reliable. For sale by all first-class druggists.—Adv.

Quite Right.

Father—"Have you saved any money for a rainy day?" Son—"Yes, sir, and I bought an umbrella with it!"

Naturally.

"Doesn't he write machine poetry?" "Yes, it's mostly about automobiles."