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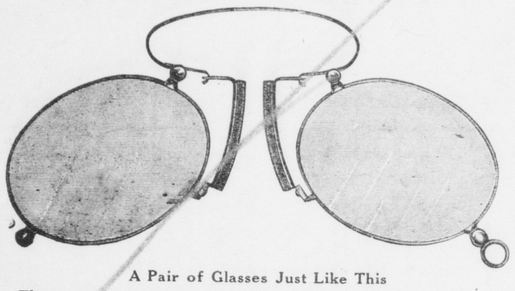

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Advertise in the Bulletin

WEEKLY WAR NEWS DIGEST

STORIES OF ACTIVITIES AND CONDITIONS THRUOUT THE U. S. AND ON THE BATTLE FRONTS

Gas Masks for Horses Are Being Sent to France

The Gas Defense Service is now manufacturing about 5,000 horse gas masks per day. These are being sent to France, and it is expected that within a short time every horse connected with the American Expeditionary Forces will be equipped with the new masks.

The Gas Defense Service has a completely equipped factory for the manufacture of the masks. In less than three weeks a building was selected and the factory was producing masks. The introduction of riveting machinery has done away with the heavy hand sewing of the frame which supports the masks on the faces of the horses. The masks are so constructed that no metal or chemically impregnated parts can chafe the horse.

Browning Machine Gun Passes Tests for Airplane Use

The Browning machine gun has successfully undergone a test to determine its value for use with aircraft. This is one of three types of machine guns with which the rate of fire can be so synchronized with the revolutions of the propeller of a tractor airplane that the gun can be fired by the pilot of a combat plane through the revolving blades.

Airplane propellers revolve at from 800 to 2,000 revolutions per minute. The machine gun is connected with the airplane engine by a mechanical or hydraulic device, and impulses from the crank shaft are transmitted to the machine gun. The rate of fire of the machine gun is constant and its fire is synchronized with the revolving propeller blades by "wasting" a certain percentage of the impulses it receives from the airplane engine and by having the remaining impulses trip or pull the trigger so that the gun fires just at the fraction of the second when the propeller blades are clear of the line of fire.

The pilot operates the gun by means of a lever which controls the circuit and allows the impulses to trip the trigger.

British Officers Aid Instruction in Gas Defense

Because of the instruction of gas officers who have been at the various camps for the last six months, the troops which are going forward to France are well posted on methods of combating gas attacks, says a statement authorized by the War Department. A group of British gas officers has been in this country since last summer. One of these men has been at each of the training camps, advising and assisting the division gas officer.

All the men going overseas are supplied with gas helmets. Under the division gas officers and their assistants, the men are drilled in the use of masks, taught how to detect the presence of gas, and given actual experience with different sorts of gases. Mimic gas shells and cloud attacks, used often at night in connection with high explosives, help to make the training realistic.

The United States has been able to build on the experience of the British and French, to whom gas attacks were unknown when they entered the war. No American troops have been sent to the front without practical experience in defending themselves against gas.

The training of instructors in gas defense includes a course of about one month. Most of the gas officers are commissioned first lieutenants.

Bands Enlarged and Bugle and Drum Corps Organized

Acting on a suggestion of Gen. Pershing an order has been issued increasing each regiment's band from 28 to 50 members. Band leaders having had more than five years' military experience as band leaders will be made first lieutenants; those with less than five years' experience will be made second lieutenants.

Beside enlarging the bands a bugle and drum corps will be added to each regiment. Each corps will include the company buglers of its regiment, and not more than 13 drummers.

Big Crowds See American Base Ball in London

"As the latest wonder of the world London has taken to base ball," says a Committee on Public Information representative in London. "The English never before had much use for our great game. They called it an exaggerated form of rounders and wondered what the noise was all about, but the American and Canadian soldiers in England have been educating them.

"A regular league of eight teams has started a summer schedule, and the English public is learning what it has missed. Big crowds witness the game which is played every Saturday, and the sport bids fair to become widely popular. Here is the way Thomas Burke, the short-story writer, reports a game in the London Star of May 27:

"'Last week I discovered base ball. The match between the Army and Navy teams was my first glimpse of a pastime that has captivated a continent, and I can well understand its appeal to a modern temperament. Believe me, it's the good goods. And the crowd! I had heard and read much of base ball fans and their methods of rooting, but my conceptions were nothing near the real thing. The grandstands, crowded with megaphones and tossing hats and demoniac faces, would have made a superb subject for a lithograph by Sir Frank Bragwyn.

"'The game got hold of me before the first pitched ball. The players in their hybrid costumes and huge gloves, the catcher in his gas mask, and the movements of the teams as they practiced runs shook me with excitement. Then the game began and the rooting began. In past years I have attended various foot ball matches in mining districts where the players came in for a certain amount of ragging, but they were church services compared with the furious abuse and hazing handed to any unfortunate who failed to play ball.

"'There was, for example, an explosive, reverberating "A-h-h-h-h-h" which I have been practicing in my back yard ever since, but without once catching its true quality. You should have heard Admiral Sims, as college yell leader, when the Navy made a home-run hit, with his "Atta Boy; Oh, attaway to play ball," and when they got an error he sure handed the Navy theirs.

"'Yes; I've got it. From now on I'm a fan. I'm going to see every base ball match played anywhere near London. I shall never be able to watch with excitement a cricket or foot ball match after this; it'd be like a tortoise race. Come along with me to the next match and join me in rooting and killing the umpire.'"

Increase in Army Since Start of War More Than 1,500 Per Cent

One of the interesting developments of the war, according to a statement authorized by the War Department, is the rapid expansion of the various bureaus of the War Department. At the outbreak of the war there were less than 3,000 employees on duty. The number now is approximately 25,000, an increase of 800 per cent. While this represents a tremendous expansion, the increase in the Army itself has been more than 1,500 per cent.

Only 4 out of every 100 officers in the service were in the Army at the time the war began.

The increase in personnel at the administrative end of the war thus has not kept pace with the growth of the Military Establishment.

Meat Ration Cut in Germany—Hog Stocks Dwindle

In Bavaria the monthly meat ration has been cut 20 per cent.—from 1,000 to 800 grams—according to German newspapers. The monthly meat ration in Saxony has been reduced from 800 to 700 grams. Public officials are reported in the Prussian press as discussing the possibility of a further reduction of the bread ration in Prussia.

A Munich paper reports that from the beginning of the war to March 1, 1918, Bavarian hog stocks have decreased from 2,106,312 to 766,391 head. The Danish hog census shows a decrease from 1,651,000 hogs July 12, 1917, to 789,000 December 5, 1917, or a decrease of one-third the number at the beginning of the war.

Ordnance Department Spends Huge Sums for War Material

The Army Ordnance Department has negotiated approximately 12,000 contracts since this country entered the war, involving within $175,000,000 of the total funds directly available for the Department for the present fiscal year—$3,383,286,045. Additional contracts totaling $1,503,703,741 have been entered into on the authority of Congress aggregating $1,671,466,750.

The magnitude of the task of the Ordnance Department financially is evidenced by the disbursement recently in a single day of more than $25,000,000 on ordinary contract vouchers. Disbursements for the month of April, 1918, ran to $356,884,863, an interesting amount as compared with the $5,059,264 disbursed by the Ordnance Department in April, 1917. These disbursements were made at the Ordnance Office in Washington. Amounts disbursed at Government arsenals are not included.

One check recently drawn by the Ordnance Disbursing Officer for ordnance material was for $18,750,000. One requisition made recently by this same officer on the Treasury was for $169,000,000. This is the largest single requisition ever made by any United States disbursing officer.

Prior to two months ago, before the Ordnance Department established its 11 district offices which zoned the country to expedite payments to contractors and relieve the strain upon the main office in Washington, the Disbursing Officer at Washington signed from 500 to 3,000 checks a day.

Arrangements have been made for a reduced railroad fare of approximately 1 cent a mile for soldiers and sailors who desire to visit their homes before going overseas.

The restriction on the importation of crude rubber has been followed by restrictions on importation of four commodities possessing some of the characteristics of rubber, and capable under some circumstances of being used as substitutes for natural rubber.

Increased demands for common labor are shown by a recent employment survey by the United States Employment Service. Fifty-three centers have calls exceeding the present supply, while but three cities, all in the West, report a surplus. Normal conditions are reported by 25 cities.

In March and April the Secretary of Agriculture, on recommendation of the Office of Public Roads and Rural Engineering, approved 212 State road-building projects involving more than 2,500 miles of highways under the Federal aid road act. The estimated cost of these improvements to the States is about $15,000,000. The Federal aid allowed is more than $5,000,000.

Bottlers of soft drinks in the United States may save approximately 50,000 tons of sugar annually by using other sweetening materials, according to investigations by specialists of the Bureau of Chemistry, United States Department of Agriculture. The Bureau of Chemistry is preparing to furnish bottlers with sweetening formulas that will allow the actual sugar content in soft drinks to be cut to 50 per cent. or less and at the same tme will preserve the customary taste of the beverages. Starch sugar, starch sirup, maltose sirup, and honey are the substitutes used.

The Doctor Away From Home When Most Needed

People are often very much disappointed to find that their family physician is away from home when they most need his services. Diseases like pain in the stomach and bowels, colic and diarrhea require prompt treatment, and have in many instances proven fatal before medicine could be procured or a physician summoned. The right way is to keep at hand a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhea Remedy. No physician can prescribe a better medicine for these diseases. By having it in the house you escape much pain and suffering all risk. Buy it now; it may save life.
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The several forms are known to medical science as **Bronchial Asthma, Catarrhal Asthma: Hay** Asthma (latter more commonly known as **Hay Fever**).

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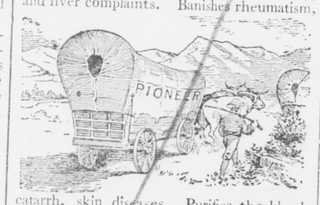

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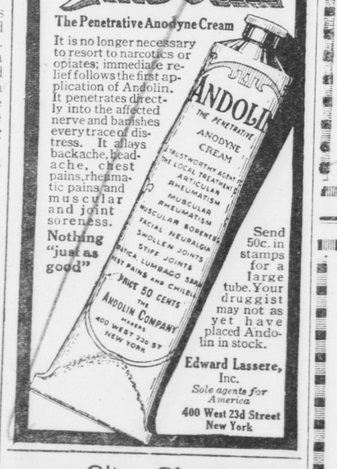

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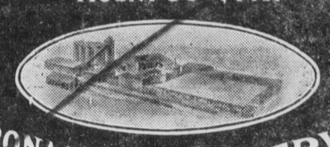

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