

AMERICANS TRAIN FOR CONVOY WORK

Leave Ambulance Corps to Take Up Army Transportation Service.

RIGID ROUTINE IS FOLLOWED

Course of Training is Really an "Intensive Course" to Fit Men in Shortest Possible Time to Take Command of Transports.

Paris.—Fifteen Americans have exchanged the strenuous life of the ambulance field service (which had intervals in its strenuousness) to study to become officers in the French army transportation service at a school where the course seems to leave no opening for the proverbial funder of employment for idle hands.

This school was established in Meaux toward the end of last March, and had 150 French pupils, officers and noncommissioned officers in training when the American contingent joined a week ago. The course is exactly the same for French and Americans, but the Americans are kept in a special class for the sake of those that need English-speaking instructors.

At 5:30 in the morning everyone is up and must be dressed, have made his bed and had breakfast in time to answer his name at roll call at 6:25. As regards breakfast, the American stomach found that it could not do a morning's hard work on the regulation French breakfast of coffee and bread, so eggs and bacon have been added. From 6:30 to 7:30 theory is studied, and from 7:30 to 9:30 lectures on automobile technique are given, followed by practical work in the workshop, such as soldering metals, tempering steel and all sorts of forge work.

Busy Session in Afternoon.

Luncheon at eleven is taken in the mess shed, and is, like dinner later, an excellent example of that proficiency in cuisine for which France is unrivaled. At first the 15 Americans sat together, but on the second day their French comrades gave a dinner in their honor, and after that the Americans (who still wear their field section uniforms) divided up among the other tables.

From 12:45 to 5:30 p. m. on three afternoons a week, work is done on the bodies of camions (military trucks); they are dissected and put together again, etc. On the other three afternoons the convoi (train) of camions, generally eight, are taken out as if they were on actual service. Each man in turn is named head of the section (and is in general charge for the day). Orders are given him to take a hypothetical load of munitions to some point some miles away, and he has to conduct his train by the map, set the pace, keep them together, and show them how to overcome difficulties that arise. These difficulties are at present chiefly imaginary, but hypothetical cases of broken axles, or towing cars, etc., are treated.

The lieutenant attached to the American group, Lieutenant de Kersauson, whose long residence in California has given him a perfect mastery of the American language, accompanies the train, but gives no advice, only observes. If the officer of the day mistakes his route, he has to find out his error and rectify it himself. After the return at 5:45, the lieutenant gives a half-hour criticism of the convoi's work and points out mistakes made and how to avoid them.

Evening Spent in Study.

Dinner is at 6:30, and more study follows till 10 p. m., when all lights are put out. Such a program, with plenty of manual work in the open air, provides enough exercise, but regular army drill is put in three times a

EATS GOLD FISH IN POND



Ma-ha-ruc-su-on, an Indian maid sixteen years of age, heard the call of the wild and ran away. One morning a keeper in a Los Angeles park found the girl bending over the fish pond. Beside her on the bank was a gold fish struggling with its last gasp. Ma-ha-ruc-su-on had caught it with her hand. "Why catch the gold fish?" asked the keeper. "Ma-ha-ruc-su-on eat um," said the girl as she picked up the fish and ran away.

week under two veteran quartermasters, who see that the hour allotted is well employed.

Sunday is a day of rest, or would be, only that many—in fact, all—find it necessary to catch up the week's work, read up notes, make or finish diagrams and such things, which they have had only the time to do hurriedly during the week.

The course is really an "intensive course," somewhat forced, as it is hoped that after three weeks' study the Americans will be prepared for examinations which will allow them to be made sublieutenants in the transport service and be put in charge of a section of 50 men. Five weeks is the time allowed their French comrades for the same work.

Everyone knows what automobile transportation means in modern warfare, and its importance has been plain to the least military mind ever since it saved Verdun. A section of 50 Americans is already at work at the front conducting camions moving ammunition from railroad to the ammunition stations, and the new school at Meaux will provide Americans to officer these sections and the new ones that will follow if Pratt Andrew, inspector general of the "American field service in France," is justified in his hope of seeing a hundred men arrive each week from the States for this service.

American Flag on the Gate.

The officers in charge of the automobile instruction center at Meaux (there are other schools for drivers, mechanics, etc.), from Colonel Borschneck down, are all keenly interested in the coming of the Americans, and the colonel spoke highly of the serious way they had settled down to work. The gate into the camp of 16 barrack sheds has an American flag on one post and a French one on the other.

When the New York Sun's correspondent visited the school recently, the convoi was sent to the village of Crecy, where all the trucks were to be parked in the market place (drawn up side by side, close together, at an angle to the main road so that they could be started off again without delay). The little village seemed sad and deserted as the convoi arrived, as do most French villages these days, with nothing but aged men, women and children at home. But it woke up as the trucks lumbered in and took up their appointed places.

"Are they English?" asked a woman who appeared at her shop door. "No!" "Then they are Russians." "Neither!"

UNREST GROWING

As U-Boat Toll Decreases the People Show Signs of Dissatisfaction.

GLOWING PROMISES FAIL

England Shows No Signs of Weakening, but Seems More Determined to Prosecute War More Bitterly Than Ever.

Copenhagen.—Private advices from Germany tell of growing dissatisfaction among the people at large with the political results of the ruthless submarine campaign and the absence of any indications that it has brought the desired peace near to hand.

During their long campaign for the unrestricted use of submarines the advocates of the measure made very definite promises of immediate results. "Two or three months" was the phrase used everywhere in street and newspaper arguments in regard to the time it would take to bring England to her knees, ready for peace. Even though the official propaganda since has declared the government bound itself to no particular time to produce results, the prediction that they would be obtained in two or three months has remained in the minds of the people.

Grumbles are now heard that, although four months have passed, England shows no signs of weakening, but, on the contrary, seems determined to prosecute the war more bitterly than ever.

Reports of France Discredited.

Statements that France has been "bled white" and will be forced to retire from the war have been made so often that they no longer attract the slightest credence. The entry of the United States and Brazil into the war and the rupture of relations between Germany and the bulk of the neutral world outside Europe are now taken seriously and regarded with gloom.

Questions have been recently asked the correspondent by Germans here, not in official positions, who are disgruntled over the results of the submarine campaign up to the present time, with regard to what would be the effect in the United States if the submarine warfare were abandoned. The government, however, shows no signs of weakening and is now engaged in a vigorous publicity campaign to bolster up the waning confidence at home and quiet the complaints of neutrals.

It is a matter of knowledge to the correspondent that at least one member of the German government refused to commit himself to any definite

When she heard that they were Americans, then she beamed with content. It seemed an earnest of the aid that was coming, and evidently convinced the good woman that the United States had declared war far more vividly than anything she had read or heard said.

The military spirit is strong in this new band of fighters for France. A salute and permission is asked from the lieutenant to go and buy cigarettes at the shop, 20 yards away, although the camions were all now parked in an irreproachable line and a halt was being taken. At a previous halt, when the officer of the day was deciding which road he should take, and every driver had got down for a few minutes, great was the discussion whether a cigarette could be smoked, the "ants" holding that they were on duty, when smoking is barred, while the "pros" agreed that a halt was a break in the service.

Military Etiquette Observed.

The captain of the center, who was conducting the New York Sun's correspondent to see the convoi at practical work, passed by the drivers several times, and this brought up the question whether he should be saluted every time or treated as being on duty with them, when the first salute at meeting would suffice.

But there was a deeper question that each was eager to discuss. Were they doing the best they could for their own country and for France? Should they be where they were, or ought they to be in their own country offering it their services directly? They all had served with the American ambulance sections at the front, and have all succeeded in becoming heads of sections. This experience has taught them a useful knowledge of the French language. Several have lived years in France and know the language thoroughly. It has taught them much about the French army and trench warfare, and given them already a valuable training. They wonder whether they are using this training to the best advantage, or whether they ought to be at home, where armies are forming and men with their qualities are being needed. Meanwhile they are working hard and acquiring further training, which will assuredly make them valuable officers for the first American troops to take the field in France.

This first class of 15, training at Meaux to become transport officers, is composed of Charles Freeborn, California; Allan Muhr, Philadelphia; Henry Iselin, Paris; George Struby, Denver; A. Douglas Dodge, New York; B. Read, New Jersey; William Bigelow, Boston; W. H. Wallace, Rye, N. Y.; A. Henderson, New York; H. Burton, Houston, Philadelphia; Downs Dunham, Boston; S. Colford, New York; Thomas Dougherty, Philadelphia; Ralph Richmond, Walton, Mass.

AMONG GERMANS

time limit for bringing Great Britain into a frame of mind to discuss peace. In the correspondent's last informal conversation with Dr. Alfred Zimmermann, head of the foreign office, a few hours before news of the rupture of relations with the United States was received in Berlin, the minister, who was on tenterhooks to know what the United States would do, declared impulsively:

"If the United States will only keep hands off and let us alone, two or three months will be enough."

Then, noticing the correspondent pricking up his ears at the foreign office use of the stock phrase of the ruthlessness advocates, he quickly amended his estimate.

"Say six months," he said, and then reading a further query in the correspondent's eyes, added:

"Well, let us not fix any definite time."

Doctor Zimmermann then went on with the argument that England and the entente quickly would be made amenable to the peace idea if the United States would only refrain from breaking relations or declaring war in consequence of the proclamation of the unrestricted submarine campaign.

German naval writers for some time have been preparing their readers for a possible falling off in the monthly figures of tonnage destroyed by submarines. Many of them furnish the advance explanation that, if it happens, it will be due largely to the absence of vessels to torpedo, or, in some articles, to the results of British methods. No mention of any increase in losses of submarines is made.

Seminary Graduates Fast Leave for War.

New York.—Only 20 of 43 members of the graduating class of Union Theological seminary were here at the commencement to receive their diplomas. The others had joined the colors.

Of the classes of 1917 and 1918 of the seminary, 11 men had gone as chaplains, ten to the Y. M. C. A. field service, six to Plattsburg, either as student officers or to do spiritual work, and four were in Europe with Rev. Dr. Thomas C. Hall.

Husband and Wife Enlist.

Chester, Pa.—Mrs. James R. Donnelly led her husband to a naval recruiting station. After he signed up as a machinist, she enlisted as a chief yeoman.

BEST OF VEGETABLES

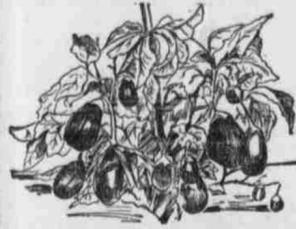
Corn, Tomatoes and Eggplant Are Favored for Table.

Successive Plantings of Sweet Corn May Be Made—Tomato and Eggplant Are Started and Handled in About Same Way.

Three of the most popular vegetables for the family table are sweet corn, tomatoes and eggplant.

Sweet corn, to be at its best, should be eaten within a few hours after it is picked, for its sugar content disappears very rapidly after it is removed from the garden. For this reason and because of its very general popularity, it is an excellent vegetable to grow in the home garden. It should be planted on rich land and cultivated in the same manner as field corn. Beginning as soon as the soil is warm, successive plantings may be made every two or three weeks until late summer. Another method of prolonging the supply is to plant early, medium and late varieties.

Another favorite vegetable is the tomato, which now forms one of the most important of our garden crops. In the North, it is very desirable to start the plants in a house or a hotbed, and to transplant them once or twice in order to secure strong and vigorous plants by the time all danger from frost is past. Pot-grown



Eggplant is Popular.

plants are especially desirable and they may be brought to the blooming period by the time it is warm enough to plant them with safety in the garden. If the plants are not to be trained, but allowed to lie on the ground, they should be set about four feet apart each way. If trimmed and tied to stakes they may be planted in rows three feet apart and 18 inches apart in the row.

Eggplant is started and handled in the same way as the tomato. It is, perhaps, less widely known, but is rapidly becoming a popular vegetable. The soil best adapted for its production is a fine, rich sandy loam, well drained. The plants should be set in rows three feet apart, and two feet apart in the row. Free cultivation is desirable and the plants should be kept growing rapidly. On the other hand, many growers believe that fresh stable manure should not be used for eggplants, and that the land should not contain unfermented vegetable matter to any large extent. A dozen good, healthy plants should supply enough for the average-sized family throughout the season.

REDUCTION IN LIVING COSTS
Garden is Quickest and Best Means of Lessening Expenses and Relieves Food Shortage.

The garden is the quickest and best means of reducing the cost of living. Present food prices can best be reduced by growing a new supply of food. It will take several months to produce a surplus of many food products such as meat, potatoes and flour. Furthermore, the effect of this surplus on the price which the consumer has to pay is doubtful.

By planting a garden the consumer can relieve the food shortage directly in a few weeks. He can substitute his fresh garden vegetables for canned products and for many of the high-priced staples.

BIG MISTAKE WITH HARNESS
Poor Practice to Hang It Over or Near Manure—Ammonia Destroys Life of Leather.

A mistake that is often made is that of hanging harness over or near manure. The ammonia rising from the manure sooner or later destroys the life of the leather. Sometimes, too, harness not used in the winter is thrown into a corner, perhaps on the ground, and left there until spring. No manufacturer can turn out leather goods and stitching that will stand such neglect. If harness is cleaned and oiled at no other time, it should at least be so treated in the fall, then hung in a dry place when not in use.

IMMENSE DEMAND FOR FOOD
World's Needs and Possible Profits Should Stimulate Farmers to Their Best Efforts.

There appears to be a world-wide demand for foodstuffs. Prices for all staple crops are high and promise to continue above the average level for a year or more. The promise of profits from growing farm products was never stronger than at present.

The world's needs and the possible profits, together, should stimulate farmers to their best effort in production. No chances that can be avoided should be taken on securing good crops.

SALSIFY IN FAMILY GARDENS

Rapidly Becoming One of Most Popular Root Crops—Fairly Rich Loam Soils Are Best.

Salsify is rapidly becoming one of the most popular root crops grown in the home garden. Its high food value, its ready response to cultural methods, and the ease with which the crop may be stored for winter and spring use class salsify among the leading garden vegetables.

Well prepared, fairly rich loam soils are most favorable to the growth of the crop. While clay soils will produce a fair yield, the roots will be more branched and of a poorer quality. Seeds are planted in rows 15 to 24 inches apart, with 10 to 15 seeds per foot of row, as soon as the soil can be worked nicely. Depth of planting ranges from three-quarters to one and one-quarter inches. Cultivation throughout the summer is similar to that of carrots and other root crops.

Of the several varieties of salsify offered for sale by seed firms, Mammoth Sandwich Island is doubtless the best. When well grown, roots of this variety are long, straight, smooth and one and one-half to two inches in diameter at the top.

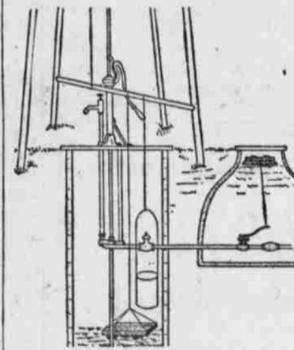
The crop, which matures about October 1, may be used from the garden during fall and winter. Many gardeners, however, are finding it an advantage to lift and store the crop in the cellar in order that it may be had for use at times when the ground is frozen. For storing, roots are placed in a box or piled in a heap on the floor of a cool cellar room and covered with fairly dry soil or sand.

TO REGULATE THE WINDMILL

Plan Outlined to Aid Farmer in Having Cistern Full of Water When the Wind is Blowing.

Regulating the windmill and water supply on the farm is an important matter. The following plan works well and is worth many times its cost, as with it one can depend on having a cistern full of water when the wind blows.

The cistern may be at any elevation or distance from the well and any kind of force pump may be used. It is made as follows: In the center of the cistern on an up-turned nipple, a common float valve is used, through which the water enters the cistern. On the end of the pipe a horizontal check valve is used through which the cistern is drained. In the well, next to the pump, a T and cut-out valve is



Regulating Windmill.

used, which is adjusted to the water pressure. Under this on a heavy wire, attached to the lever, a five-gallon pail or keg is hung.

When the cistern is full the float valve closes and the increased pressure opens the cut-out valve, and fills the pail, and its weight shuts the mill off. A small leak drains the pail in a short time and allows the mill to turn on again.

SWEETENING FOR ACID SOILS

Ground Limestone is Usually Cheapest and Most Satisfactory—Screenings Can Be Used.

To sweeten an acid soil, a sufficient amount of finely ground limestone or slaked lime must be scattered evenly over the plowed ground and worked into the top soil. Ground limestone is usually the cheapest and most satisfactory in general, though it takes effect more slowly than quicklime, slaked lime or hydrated lime, and a larger quantity must be applied to get the same results. The screenings from an ordinary rock crusher can be used. Coarser material has little immediate effect on the soil, but if a much larger quantity of the coarse material is used it will keep the soil sweet for a longer time. Screenings can be obtained at from 25 cents to \$1 a ton. In some cases where hauling from the railroad is expensive and where limestone is accessible, small grinders can be used to grind the limestone on the farm.

SECOND CROP OF POTATOES

Gardeners of Ohio Experiment Station Outline Plan for Intensive Culture of Tubers.

Intensive potato culture may be practiced by planting a late crop after clover is cut or strawberries are picked. Sun-sprouted seed is required for the second crop. Full benefit of the clover may be realized by planting tubers just after harvest, according to gardeners at the Ohio experiment station. They also say that unusual yields and high quality of potatoes may be expected from plantings made in early summer on old strawberry patches.



HATCH GESE IN INCUBATOR

Doubtful Whether They Would Do Well in Brooders, Therefore It is Not Often Tried.

Goose eggs can be successfully hatched in incubators, but it is not a common practice, because it is doubtful whether they would do well raised in brooders.

Either geese or hens are commonly used for hatching and rearing purposes. If the eggs are hatched by hens or incubators, it would be advisable to add moisture to the eggs during the first week by sprinkling the eggs or nests with warm water. From four to six eggs are usually placed under a hen, and from ten to thirteen eggs under a goose.

If hatched by hens, the hen should be kept confined, and goslings not allowed to go into the water, especially if the water is cold. To be assured of success in raising goslings, they should not be hatched until the grass pasture is fairly good, as grass is their chief diet.

In addition to that they should be fed any of the mashers recommended for chickens or goslings. Special care should be taken in seeing that all of the feed is cleaned up at each meal, as leftover food is very often a source of disease.

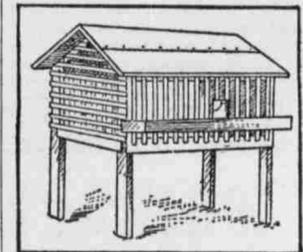
BREAKING UP BROODY FOWLS

Hens Have No Right to Sit and Do Nothing Else While Country Faces Food Shortage.

Eliminate the expense of broody hens. Even the fowls have no right to sit and do nothing at a time when the country is facing so great a food shortage, according to Ross M. Sherwood, acting head of the poultry department in the Kansas Agricultural college.

"The average hen lays four to five eggs a week, worth 12 to 15 cents at the present price of eggs," said Mr. Sherwood. "Hens should be 'broken up' as soon as they become broody. If possible do not let them set over night, for a day saved in shutting them up may save two days of their laying period.

"Broody hens should be placed in airy coops with slat bottoms and kept up off the ground. Too frequently an ordinary box or tub is turned over



Coop for Broody Hens.

them, and as a result they are almost as content to sit on the ground as they were on the nest.

"It is a mistake to starve a broody hen. She should be well fed at this time, so that she will be ready to lay when turned out. Avoid fattening the hen while breaking her up. Give a limited amount of grains and a liberal supply of milk and table scraps. Care should be taken to turn the hens out as soon as they are broken up."

WAYS FOR AIRING INCUBATOR

Best Hatches Are Often the Result of Cooling, Especially During Warm Summer Weather.

One may air the eggs in an incubator in two ways. One method is to air some every day at the night turning, or in the morning, should the temperature be found a trifle high, and the other way is to turn the eggs slowly to inhale fresh air and to confine the real cooling to one or two periods when eggs have been incubated 15 and 17 days and to cool them down until the shells are actually cold. The best hatches are often the result of such cooling, especially in warm weather.

SUPERIOR MASH FOR LAYERS

Good Results Obtained at Maine Station by Feeding Mixtures—Three of Them Outlined.

The Maine station fed the following mash to laying hens with good results:

Wheat bran two parts by weight, cornmeal one, middlings one, gluten meal or dried brewer's grain one, linseed meal one, beef scrap one. The ration might be reduced to wheat bran, shorts, cottonseed meal and beef scrap. Or a fairly good mash can be made of two parts wheat bran, one part cornmeal, one part beef scrap.

Make Study of Fowls.

Select your variety and learn the type that belongs to it, including the correct size and markings. There is the same difference in individual disposition of hens that there is in all other animate things.

Water and Grit.

Clear water and grit ought always to be within the reach of poultry.