

TELLS OF PLANS FOR PRODUCING MANY GAS MASKS

Details for Overwhelming German Trenches With Poison Gas Made Public; War Stops Plans.

New York, Dec. 14—Details of the enormous preparations which had been made in this country to overwhelm the German armies with poison gas were made public yesterday by the New York section of the American Chemical Society under the auspices of which a conference of chemical organizations was recently held at the Chemists' club, New York City. It is the belief of military authorities, and engineering chemists as well, that the knowledge that there existed such facilities for the manufacture of deadly vapors and protective devices against them was an important factor in the petition of Germany for an armistice.

Col. Bradley Dewey, commanding officer of the gas defense, stated that in May 1917 the production of gas masks was started by a group of five volunteers. In eight weeks they had shipped 20,000 masks far inferior to the present type. There had been produced up to the time the Huns laid down their arms five million masks, three million extra canisters, one half million horse masks and a large quantity of mustard gas suits, gloves, ointments and antidotes. The production of gas masks when hostilities ceased had reached 40,000 a day. The 1919 model, which the colonel exhibited, represents a revolution in design and overcomes all the discomforts of the earlier patterns, while efficiency is ten-fold increased. The officer expressed regret that all the men at the front could not have had the latest type before the signing of the armistice.

Arrangements to Make Mustard Gas

Col. William H. Walker, commanding officer of the Edgewood arsenal, and a prominent member of the society, summarized the achievements of the gas defense program of the government. "We had," he stated, "on November 11 of this year all the facilities for producing mustard gas at the rate of 100 tons a day, to say nothing of our resource for deluging our enemies with chlorine, phosgene, chloropicrin, and most vapors previously unknown to them."

Colonel Walker showed that the errors of extended investigations, seeking new and improved processes which caused so much delay in quantity output in some of the lines of war activities could not be charged against the chemists. From the outset, he declared, well-known and efficient toxic gases were selected for manufacture in effective quantities, while simultaneously a corps of expert research workers sought for improved methods and products. As a result, there was never a day when the production of materials did not exceed the ability to utilize it. In fact, large quantities were shipped overseas in bulk, because other departments were failing in their delivery of containers. Following the discovery of improved processes of manufacture, more factory units were built, but meanwhile production by the old methods continued until the new plants were ready for operation.

Praises Chemists.

In appreciative words, Colonel Walker paid tribute to the patriotic spirit in which the chemists of the country, for the most part enlisted men, had braved the dangers of the poisonous gas plants, far from the glamor of the real battlefields, and in some cases had made the supreme sacrifice.

He also told of the co-operation which he had received from the private chemical companies throughout the country, and as a part return for their helpfulness, offered to supply their research laboratories with any quantities of his poisonous materials for experimental purposes.

If gas warfare is to hold a permanent place in war programs, the American chemist is prepared.

Women Spending More Than Men, Store Managers Say

Chicago.—Who have been more economical, men or women, during the conservation period of the war? Men—that is the answer of trade statistics.

A State street department store manager said: "Women have bought twice as much in our store as men during the war." A jeweler said: "Women have bought two-thirds of all the jewelry sold. This includes diamonds and pearls, which have doubled in price since the war began but are safe investments because they will go higher for several years after the war." A garment manufacturer said: "Sales of women's dress goods this year have been a third greater than last."

The merchants point in explanation to the fact that more women are working than ever before and making good wages. Thousands of men, on the other hand, have gone away to war. Purchases of clothes seem to prove, however, that men are naturally more economical than women. Women are buying more clothes than ever. Men are buying less. This is proved by the showing of the tailoring trade. While the army drafts have seriously affected this trade, tailors say their older customers, who are not within the draft age, have decreased their patronage and are ordering fewer suits in a season.

Rabbit Raising Pays.

Salt Lake City.—In Utah many boy and girl club members are going into the rabbit-raising business, finding it most profitable, according to word received by the States Relations service, United States Department of Agriculture. They have found that it costs about 25 cents to raise a rabbit to the age of three months, and that at that time it may be marketed at 35 to 40 cents a pound. The pelts bring from 15 to 75 cents, depending on the kind of rabbit and size.

New Faces For Mutilated Soldiers One of Miracles of the World War



ADJUSTING THE MASK

Men Who Had Nose, Ears or Jaw Shot Away in Battle Will Return Home With No Change in Appearance.—And They Have an American Woman to Thank.

When Aladdin gave new lamps for old he did nothing very wonderful. But when humanity, sympathizing with the misfortunes of others, replaces war-torn, scared faces with new—when it hides honorable disfigurements gained in the defense of liberty—then there is a story worth while the telling.

This, then, is the story of "Old Faces For New." It is a recital of men's glory and woman's devotion; it is a song of sympathy and humanity—of practical Christianity—of materialized altruism.

How Work is Done.

From the photograph and the plaster cast Mrs. Ladd, guided by her sculptor's art, reconstructs another plaster cast of only those parts which are mutilated. Then a copper mask is made one-sixteenth of an inch thick. Then comes the first fitting.

If the mask so far as finished fits properly then it is silver plated. Next comes the question of making the mask appear natural. If eyebrows are needed they are inserted hair by hair; if eyelids are missing, artificial eyelids adorn the mask, with a hole through them that the wearer may see; if eyes are missing altogether then artificial eyes are placed in the mask.

When the mask is complete the mutilate goes for a final fitting. Mrs. Ladd adjusts the mask or has one of her expert assistants attend to the task. The mask is held in place by "fake" eyeglasses and strings or by a wig, the attaching mechanism being so camouflaged as to be practically invisible.

But the work is not yet done. One of the most important operations in its manufacture is in the coloring. Mrs. Ladd takes her palette and with specially prepared pigments colors the mask to match the complexion of the unmutilated part of the face. Then the work and labor of love is done.

Leaves Studio New Man. Then the mutilate walks out of Mrs. Ladd's studio a new man. He is no longer a mutilate—an object of horror mingled with pity. He is a human being again, self confident, happy. He no longer dreads to be seen in public. People no longer gaze on him in pity, scarcely able to disguise their aversion. The transformation is complete—at a cost of \$20 supplied by the American people and the devotion of an American woman.

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The accompanying pictures were taken especially for the American Red Cross that the people of the United States might know of her splendid work in saving human beings for society. Mrs. Ladd may be seen in one painting the mask worn by M. Caudron, who was mutilated early in the war. The man wearing the glasses was a fine, healthy man, whose lower face was completely shot away. Without the mask he would have been an object of intense horror despite his patriotic sacrifice.

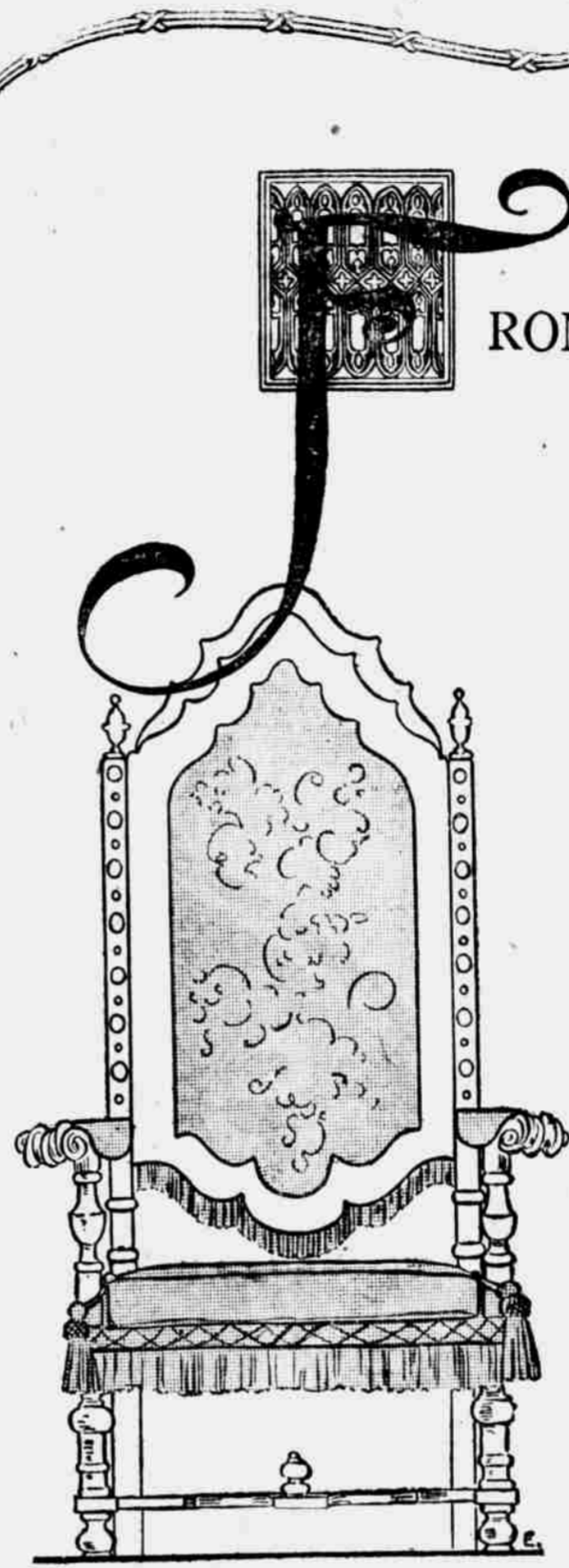
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Christmas Trees Also Are Dearer in East This Year Over Last

New York's first Christmas trees are in, and what looks like a small forest has suddenly sprung up before the docks at the foot of Park Place. They are going to be just as straight as last year, just as tall, and just as brilliant green, if they all follow the fashion of that part of the vanguard which has appeared says a writer in the New York Post. The only noticeable difference will be in price, which promises to be about double what they brought in 1917.

Two of the best balsams which came in with the first shipments set sail with president's party Wednesday as the George Washington's Christmas trees. Their fellows are now selling at \$5 a piece.

Wholesale the trees will cost from \$2 to \$1.50 a bundle. The rise in price of the trees was due, it was said to the difficulty attached to their transportation at present. Most of the trees come from Canada and Maine, and on account of their nature and bulk require special care in moving. Freight charges alone on the Christmas tree in City Hall Park last year amounted to \$88.



FROM just a practical standpoint the Athletic Club is an excellent building of stone, steel, brick, concrete, etc., well planned and masterfully executed. We venture to think that the Fine Furniture, Hangings, Floor Coverings and Wall Decorations play no small part in its satisfactory completion—but in a far greater sense and of much larger significance is the idea behind the whole enterprise, the real originating genius that gives Omaha a Club worthy of this great metropolis and of a manhood that would be physically fine, mentally alert and morally erect.

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