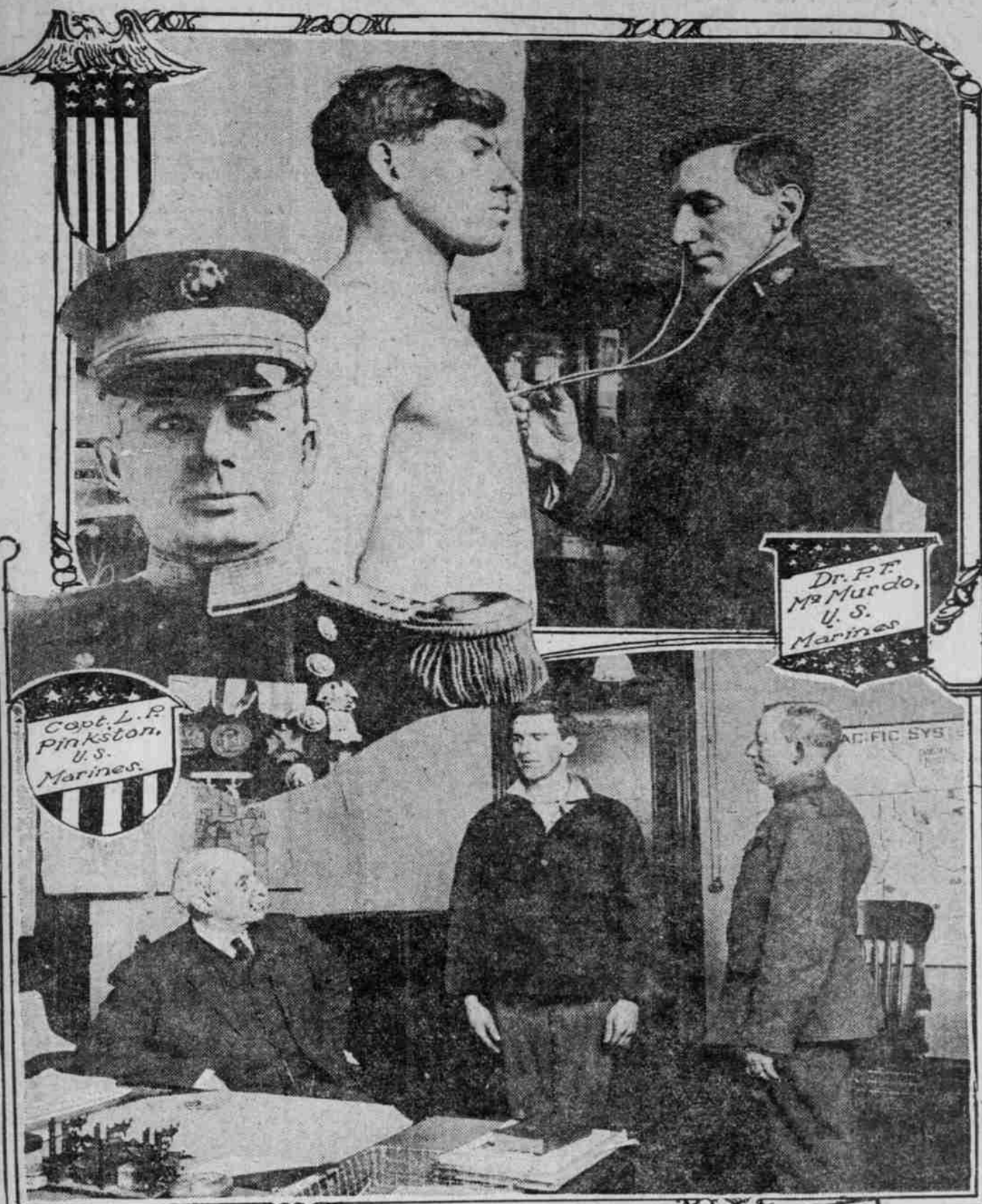


# PORTLAND RECRUITING STATIONS ARE BUSY ENLISTING FOR ARMY, NAVY AND MARINES

Naval Service Makes Special Effort to Fill 22,000 Vacancies—This Arm Offers Highest Pay of Any in World, Besides Teaching Trades and Affording Opportunities.



Col. C. A. Varnum, (left) Sergeant R. J. Fuller (right) U. S. Army



Lieut. Commander John H. Blackburn, Chief Yeoman J. Enos, Chief Yeoman Alvin S. Reid, Gunner H. F. Kijie, W. E. Garrish, U. S. Navy.

PORTLAND is providing its quota of men for the Army and Navy. Warlike situations that have been arising thick and fast have had no little effect on the minds of young Americans. They have been stirred by patriotic appeals for at least preparedness, and they are coming forth manfully and enlisting in the various arms of the country's defense.

During the past week there was more than usual bustle in the several recruiting stations in Portland. The United States recruiting station in the Dekum building received several applications daily, and as there is a great need for men in the Navy, special efforts are being made by Lieutenant-Commander J. H. Blackburn, who is in charge of the office, to swell the enlistments. He received telegraphic instructions from Washington Thursday to keep the office open nights, and a special recruiting detail was put on duty immediately.

The United States Marine Corps headquarters in the Panama building has been attracting many applicants, and recruiting is increasing steadily. Captain Lovick Pinkston, who is in charge, says that the war scare is aiding in swelling enlistments. He recently returned from a trip to the Island Empire and has arranged to establish sub-stations at several points.

**Portland Keeps Pace.**

The United States Marine Corps has four divisions, known as the Eastern, Central, Southern and Western. Portland, as one of the headquarters of the Western Division, is keeping pace with the other stations.

The full strength of the Marine Corps is 14,981. At present it is short of full strength by 2929 men, but it is expected that this number will be obtained before July 1.

The recruiting office of the United States Army in the Worcester building, which is in charge of Lieutenant-Colonel Charles A. Varnum, is making a big showing in enlistments. Its jurisdiction comprises all of Oregon and a small part of Washington. During the past three or four months it has been averaging nearly 190 recruits a month.

In November the Oregon district stood at the head of the Army in recruiting in proportion to population, and has been making almost as creditable a showing since. Colonel Varnum says that a large number of recruits are coming from the outlying districts, and are an excellent class of men. It is his opinion that at least one per cent of the Nation's population ought to enlist each year in order to bring the standing Army up to the proper strength. Such a proportion would mean 160,000 enlistments a year.

**Naval Militia Is Recruiting.**

At the Oregon Naval Militia headquarters in the Morgan building there has been unusual activity the past 19 days. A campaign for members has been started in earnest, and applications are coming in steadily. Lieutenant-Commander Blair, who is now in the East on official business, is expected home soon. In his absence various officers of the Naval Militia are taking turns in looking after enlistments.

The present enrollment is about 210, and efforts will be made to increase the membership to 500 as soon as possible.

According to Acting Adjutant-General Wilson, there will be no special efforts at present to obtain enlistments in the Oregon National Guard. The number of guardsmen, including the Coast Artillery Corps, is about 2300.

While there is a recognized need of more men in the Army, even from the standpoint of preparedness, it is pointed out that with the present international complications, the most urgent need for men is in the Navy. The full strength of the Navy is 78,000, but at present it lacks 22,000 men. In the opinion of many high Naval officers the United States should make every effort to swell the Navy enlistments

fers to young men are many. Under provisions of an act passed by Congress on August 29, 1916, a young man, after one year's sea service, can receive his honorable discharge if he desires it. As he is required to train four months on land first, it is possible to receive his discharge 18 months after actual enlistment.

"Every man in the Navy is trained in not only things military, but as a modern man-of-war is a mass of complex machinery, every young man in the Naval service must become something of a machinist, or electrician, or fitter, or structural iron worker, or chemical worker, or become an expert in handling high explosives.

"Physical training is such that the death rate in the Navy for the past five years has been only .8 per 1000, while in the army it amounts to about the same ages in civil life has been slightly above 8 per 1000.

**Navy Pay Is Highest.**

"The pay in the United States Navy is the highest of any military service in the world. Promotions are more rapid, due to the variety of trades required, than in any other service. A man in the first enlistment receives \$300 a month to \$77 in the first enlistment; with longer service the maximum increases to about \$25 a month. All warrant officers come from the ranks, and their pay ranges from \$154 to \$318 a month.

"Another fact to be remembered is that 25 young men each year have been appointed from the ranks to Annapolis. Beginning this year, 1000 will be sent from the ranks to the Naval Academy. That Annapolis is a democratic institution is shown by the fact that one of the young men from the ranks in 1915 has been elected by his classmates as president of his class.

"Several high school boys and three University of Oregon students recently enlisted in the Navy. There are great opportunities for young men in the Navy, and those who are made of the right stuff will be heard from."

## Babies in Arms Barred From Billiard Halls.

Proprietor Asks Mother to Take Infant Out So as to Comply With Roseburg Law.

ROSEBURG, Or., Feb. 10.—(Special.)—Whether babies in the arms of mothers are minors susceptible to the influence of card games, billiards and pool was the mooted question that threatened to divide the City Council at its regular meeting this week.

J. C. McElroy appeared before the Council and asked that the present city ordinance be amended so children under the age of 16 years could visit his billiard rooms in the event they were chaperoned by their parents. Mr. McElroy said he had asked a woman to remove her infant from the billiard room because its presence there was contrary to the city laws.

"If there is any place the children cannot go," said Councilman Creason, "let's close it up entirely."

"Then you would close even the men's meetings at the churches," returned Councilman Hamilton.

"And them, too," responded Mr. Creason.

Because of the drastic ordinance now in effect here, a number of private dances planned by the young people of the city during the carnival of the Winter will be abandoned.

## NORTH WANTS IDAHO SPLIT

Different Interests Are Pointed Out as Principal Reasons.

LEWISTON, Idaho, Feb. 10.—(Special.)—The bill introduced in the Legislature providing for the division of the state is meeting with unanimous support in the northern part of the state.

It is pointed out that on account of the geographical condition the two parts of the state have no interests in common. The people of the south are absorbed in dry land farming and irrigation projects, while the interests of the north are centered in mining, timber and stockraising, as well as the development of immense agricultural areas.

The portion of Idaho seeking admission to the Union as a separate state has a population of approximately 150,000 on 48,285 square miles and has an assessed valuation of \$150,000,000. The remaining portion of the state will comprise about 725,000 population, about 140,000 square miles and an assessed valuation of \$240,000,000.

## BURNS' BIRTH HONORED

Coos Bay Society Enjoys Dances and Programme of Readings.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Feb. 10.—(Special.)—The Coos Bay Citizens League, which now has a membership of more than 70, celebrated its third observance of Robert Burns' birthday in this city. The event was made up of a formal line of entertainment for the most part, and a programme of Scotch songs, readings from Burns' poems, followed by a luncheon and dancing. There were 300 present, the largest attendance the club has enjoyed.

Dan Macdonald, of North Bend, was master of ceremonies. There were Scotch reels and individual sword dances and Highland flings by the Flamingo and the Marshfield, and specialties by local vocalists.

## PEPPERMINT TO BE GROWN

Plans Indicate Increased Acreage Near Buena Vista.

BUENA VISTA, Or., Feb. 10.—(Special.)—The United States Geological experiment conducted on the island near here during the last season has led farmers in this vicinity to lay plans for the growing of peppermint the coming season. According to experts who have examined the soil in this neighborhood, the climate is just what is needed for peppermint to thrive.

It is likely that some of the fields in the low spots along the Willamette and Luckiamute rivers will be converted from hop-growing acreages into big peppermint fields.

## NOTED ARCHITECT COMING

Charles Harris Whitaker to Visit at University of Oregon.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, Feb. 10.—(Special.)—Plans for the entertainment of Charles Harris Whitaker, architect of Washington, D. C., and lecturer at the American Institute of Architecture Magazine, who will visit the University Architectural Club during the week of February 25, are well under way.

W. R. B. Wilcox, of Seattle, and several prominent architects from Portland have been invited to attend the lectures and exhibits of the school of architecture during the week.

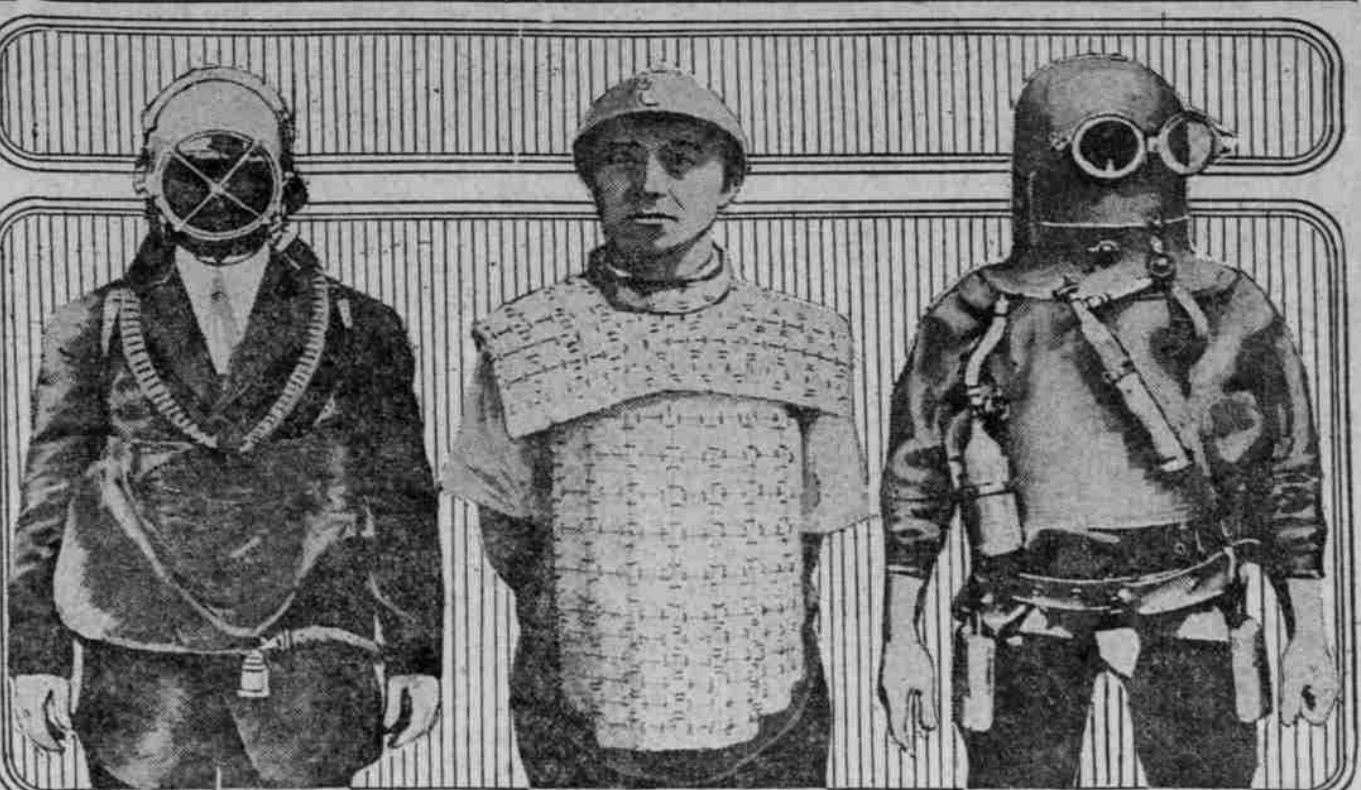
## Local Men Do Well.

A report just received regarding 11 men now on the cruiser San Diego is interesting. These men obtained from this district have all advanced in the service as follows: Two to first-class petty officers, four to second-class petty officers, two to third-class petty officers, and the remaining three to the highest ratings short of petty officers.

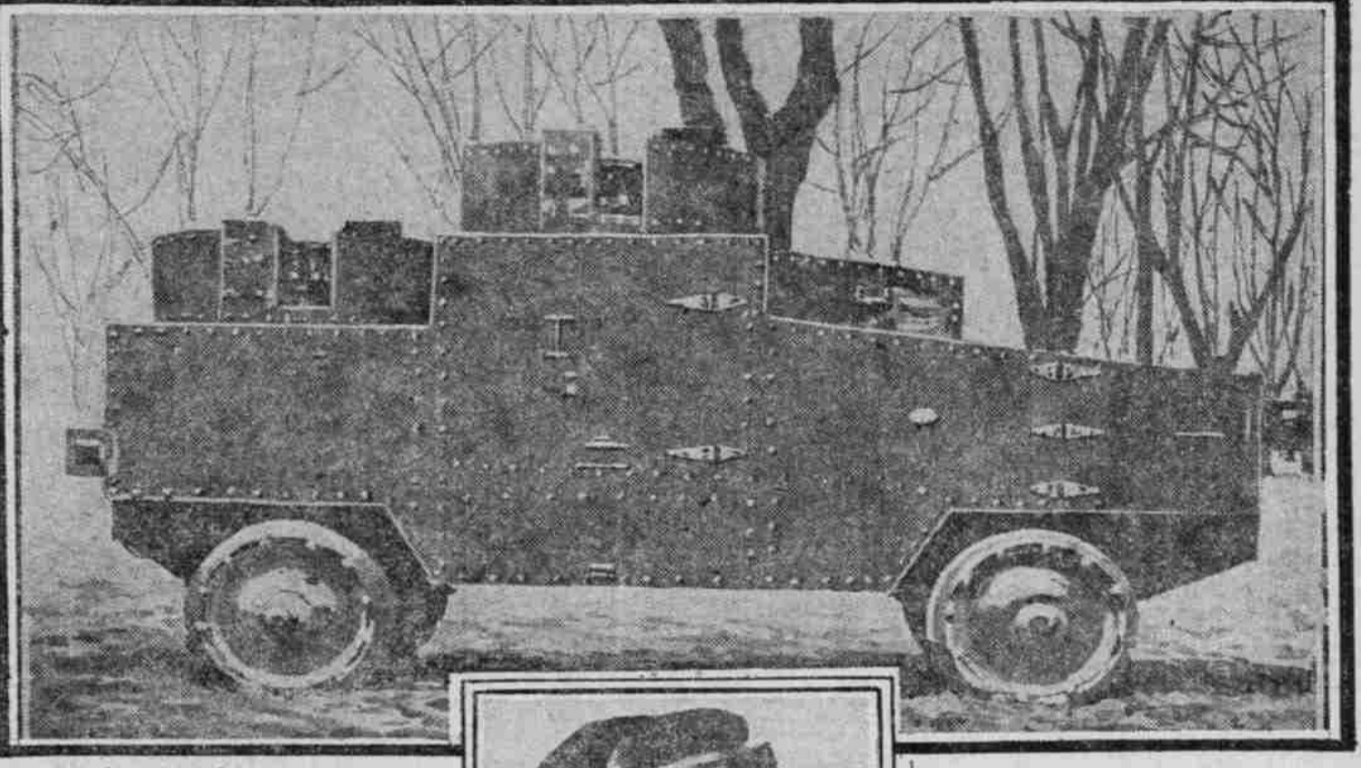
"The advantages which the Navy offers

# ARMOR OF KNIGHTS OF MIDDLE AGES GIVES HINT FOR PROTECTION OF MODERN SOLDIER

Coats of Mail Appear Again on Present-Day Battlefields, With Masks for Protection Against Gas Attacks and Helmets to Ward Off Storm of Bullets—Submarines to Have Escape Doors.



Helmets Newly Adopted By The U. S. Army, Adopted By British Soldiers Handling Poison Gas. A Bullet-Proof Helmet Worn With Collar and Breast Plate. Submarine "Escape Armor" Recently Adopted By United States Navy Department.



One Of Uncle Sam's New Armored War Cars.

BY RENE BACHE.

RARELY has such secrecy surrounded any of the doings of the War Department as that which envelops certain experiments with poison gas, flame projectors and gas bombs that are now in progress. American military authorities have taken up these new weapons of war and with full intention to make use of them are trying to develop them to the highest attainable point of efficiency.

But as to details not a word of information is being given out. These war devices for the destruction of human life are being perfected, with improvements of the latest European models, by the bureau of ordnance. That is all that is definitely known—except as regards contrivances in the way of armor, etc., for the safety and protection of the men engaged in operating such weapons.

**Flame Protection Unolved.**

Upon this matter much attention is being bestowed. So far as the flame projectors are concerned, no means of protection have as yet been discovered, when an enemy employs them—none, that is to say, except a gas mask. They inflict frightful burns, destroying the flesh to the very bone. Their range is only about 30 yards, hence they cannot be employed to advantage save at close quarters.

Against the poison gas, on the other hand, whether delivered by liberation from tanks with the help of a favoring wind or by the explosion of bombs, there is adequate defense by masks.

The device for the purpose (dating back less than two years) was nothing more elaborate than a wad of cotton steeped in chemical, held in place through the mouth by two pieces of tape. But the gas mask in its up-to-date development is a rubber helmet. For the protection of soldiers engaged in handling the gas-producing apparatus, the War Department has adopted a special equipment closely resembling the headpiece of the mine rescuer's armor and supplied with oxygen from a steel flask connected with it.

**Gas Is Kept in Tanks.**

The poison gas (chlorine or bromine) is stored in the form of a liquid in portable cylindrical tanks. When allowed to escape it rapidly volatilizes, spreading in the shape of a greenish-yellow cloud, which, being heavier than air, creeps over the earth. But, incidentally to bombardments or owing to accidents, the tanks are often broken or rendered leaky and endanger the lives of the men in charge of them. Whence the value of the "oxygen helmet."

A similar armor, but of new and special pattern, has been adopted by the Navy Department, and is called the "submarine escape dress." It is a rubber jacket combined with a light-weight oxygen helmet—the costume being designed for emergency use, in case an undersea boat happens to be disabled and unable to rise to the surface. In such a situation the men on board would don such armor and leave the submerged craft by the "escape door."

**Submarines Have Escape Door.**

Every one of Uncle Sam's submarines now building is to be provided with an escape door—a novel and ingenious arrangement by which, under such circumstances as above suggested, each man in turn could crawl through an opening into a water-tight and airtight compartment within the outer skin of the boat, shut the door behind him and then emerge into the sea through another door. Air under pressure would keep the water from entering. Once on the men would float to the surface.

If it were necessary for an extraordinary length of time, the men could put on their armor suits and use the apparatus for breathing, the oxygen flasks being refilled at intervals from tanks of the gas.

Such a tank of steel, four feet long and 10 inches in diameter, fitted with

knives, which is so conspicuous a feature of warfare under the new conditions. A man thus protected would be wound-proof, relatively, to an antagonist devoid of any means of defense of the kind.

**Steel Cap Proposed.**

The War Department is considering the question of adopting for service use a light steel cap, to be worn beneath the soldier's hat. It is much more comfortable than the helmet, being so much less heavy, and yet is strong enough to afford some protection against shell splinters and fragments of grenades. The idea is that it would take the place of the helmet satisfactorily at times when the men were idle in the trenches and not engaged in actual fighting.

"In days of old, when knights were bold, largely for the reason that their steel clothing made them safe from attack by ordinary weapons, armor was so expensive that only men of wealth could afford to buy it. A satisfactory suit of such protective material—the best of steel, wrought and fashioned by a highly trained artisan—cost a price that would in our day be equivalent to \$10,000 or more. The common soldier, of course, had no defense of the kind; it was his business to be slaughtered.

The situation in this regard, however, is now radically altered. Armor is cheap. Suits of mail of the ancient kind could be made today at small cost stamped out by machinery, in styles and sizes to meet the market demand. It would not be worth while, as in old times, for the wealthy man to employ a professional armorer to supply him with metal clothing of up-to-date pattern.

In these days it is the common soldier who needs armor, and, thanks to modern mechanical improvements, he can be provided with it at an expense of only a few dollars a suit.

## EZRA B. HARRISON DIES

Soldier, Teacher and Government Employee Succumbs at Farm.

On January 31 Ezra B. Harrison died after a stroke of apoplexy at his home near Oregon City.

Mr. Harrison was born in Mount Pleasant, Pa. When a young man he joined the Army and came West. He served until wounded, losing the use of his right arm by a gunshot. Afterward he came to Oregon, where he taught school in various parts of the state, and in 1855 was the first man appointed from Oregon under civil service to a Government position in Washington, D. C. He held this position until 1915, when he returned to his farm near Oregon City, where he lived until his death.

He is survived by his widow and five children—Arthur P. Harrison, Washington, D. C.; Aryan Y. Harrison, Baltimore, Md.; Lloyd Harrison, a midshipman at Annapolis Naval Academy; Harold and Helen, living with their mother near Oregon City.

## Rate Reduction Date Extended.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Feb. 10.—(Special.)—Secretary Fred Fleet, of the Klamath Commercial Club, has heard from Y. R. Bishop, of the firm of Bishop & Bahler, attorneys, of San Francisco, that the California Railroad Commission has given notice that it had extended the effective date of the order reducing freight rates from February 4 to February 15.

## Hermiston Asks for Road.

HERMISTON, Or., Feb. 10.—(Special.)—A body of Hermiston business men appeared before the Unmatta County Court Thursday and petitioned for a road south from that city to Hinkle and into the Meadows country. There is some objection to this road from Stanfield and Echo, but the Hermiston residents contend these objections are purely selfish.