CARRY ON!

The order for all Irish Volunteers at the present time is to carry on as usual. Political controversy in the ranks must be discouraged.

For the present the paramount necessity in the interests of the country and the public safety is to maintain that splendid solidarity and discipline which has made the Army of Ireland honoured and loved everywhere. A number of factors making for political and social disorder exists at the present moment and at this crisis it is essential that the Army should remain steady, carrying out its ordinary routine duties with the same efficiency as in the past, and everywhere proving itself now, as always, a defender of the common rights of all and a steadying influence in the temporarily disturbed life of the community.

GENERAL NOTES

Cloisimid go bhfuil Liam O'Rinn chun an tamaí foillitű de "Shli na Saoirse" a chur chuig mhoil. Isé rud atá i "Shli na Saoirse" ná leabhar dríle i nGaedhilg i gcóir Oglách na h-Eireann. Gheobhfar le hóbair Airm na h-Eireann. Fuair an leabhar duais ag an Oireachtais; do ghlaic G.H.Q. leis go holfgeamhail tar éis dóibh beirt do cheapadh chun é mhion sgrúdú go haireach. Ba cheart go mbeadh e a dhéanamh maith ar an dtarna cur amach.

SIGNALLING LAMPS.

**General Description.**

This is an oil lamp in which the light is concentrated by a 6 inch lens (bull's-eye.) It is fitted with a screw to secure it to the stand, which is the same as that used with the heliograph. A flat wick 2½ inches in width is used in a circular burner, and its height is regulated by a pinion which passes through an opening in the back of the lamp. The reservoir holds ¾ pint of kerosene oil, which will burn for about 10 hours. Openings in the body of the lamp covered by wire gauze serve as ventilators. One of these may be used to write by.

A metal chimney, one spare spring, and a wooden fork are carried inside the lamp.

A shutter is fixed inside the lamp in front of the flame. It is worked by a button on the outside of lamp. The cowl stack and cowl (the latter attached to the lamp by a chain) are removable. When the lamp is used they are put into position and protect the flame from wind, but when the lamp is not in use the cowl stack is removed and placed inside the lamp by being reversed. It fits round the felt jacket covering of the glass chimney, which is always kept on the burner. The cowl in this case is put in the proper lower end of the cowl stack.

The spare glass chimneys in felt jackets are also carried inside the lamp, by being placed between the shutter and the lens. An oil can to hold two pints of oil, a pair of scissors, and a wooden case to hold six glass chimneys, packed with cotton waste and spare wick, are also fitted inside the box provided for each lamp.

Weight of lamp complete 14 lb., of box 14 lb., range of lamp at home about 5 to 7 miles.

*To Trim the Lamp.*

1. Remove the cowl, and take hold of the lower edge of the felt jacket with the left hand, and lift out the cowl stack with the right hand carefully, for all a rule the glass chimney with its felt jacket comes up with the cowl stack. Raise the felt jacket until it clears the glass chimney, and remove it, then take out the chimney itself.

2. Raise the latch at the back of the lamp, and take out the reservoir.

3. Unscrew the burner, see that it, the reservoir, and wick are thoroughly clean. Nearly fill the reservoir with kerosene; be careful always to use oil with a flashing point of 150°, as it gives the best light. Turn up the wick until about only an inch only projects below the burner, then screw the burner into the reservoir; when in correct position the pinion head should be at right angles to the reservoir.

Care should then be taken to turn up the wick through the burner before screwing it in, for if the whole of the wick is below it gets so twisted from the action of turning that it becomes very difficult afterwards to raise the wick evenly, and impede the oil rising from the reservoir.

4. Having screwed in the burner, turn down the wick, pick off with the thumb and forefinger any charred portion, and rub it, with the finger or a bit of cotton waste

(Continued on page 4)
AIRE AN GHUNNA.


DEFENCE OF VILLAGES.

If it is decided to occupy a village, either in the main zone of a defensive position or as a supporting point in rear, every effort should be made to organise an obstinate defence. Such places, strongly held, not only assist in breaking up the attack, but may be of great assistance in driving out the enemy, should he succeed in penetrating the position. It will, as rule, be advisable to regard a village as a section of the position, and in no case should the main highway through a village form a boundary between adjacent sections of defence.

The superior commander will decide whether a village, situated in a position, is to be occupied or not.

The suitability of a village for defence depends on:—

(a) The nature of its surroundings.
(b) The extent and shape of the village itself.

As regards the latter point, villages lying end-on to the enemy can often be made strong against flank attack, and may, therefore, be useful on the flanks of a position.

For the defence of a village, a definite garrison should be detailed under the command of a selected officer. The latter will be responsible for selecting the main and any interior lines of defence, for dividing the village into sub sections, for allotting to each a proportion of the garrison, for arranging for a central hospital for wounded men, and for notifying the position of his headquarters. A general reserve should be retained in the hands of the commander to deliver counter attacks against any of the enemy's troops who may succeed in entering the village and to man the "keep" if one is prepared.

Each subordinate commander should consider the preparations for the defence of his sub-section in the following order:

(i) Improvement of the field of fire.
(ii) Provision of cover and preparation of buildings for defence, much of which may be done concurrently with (i).
(iii) Provision and improvement of communications.
(iv) Provision of obstacles and barricades.
(v) Arrangements for extinguishing fires.
(vi) Ammunition supply.
(vii) Food and water.
(viii) Removal of sick and wounded.
(ix) Retrenchment.

The firing line should usually be entrenched in front of any buildings to prevent casualties from shells which burst against their walls, and arrange to bring a powerful volume of fire on the best lines of attack.

Guns and machine guns should not, as a rule, be located amongst buildings, as there is considerable risk of their being discovered in such a position, in which case they are likely to become the object of concentrated hostile fire. Concealed positions on a flank should preferably be selected from which to flank a village and bring a cross fire on the enemy.
probable lines of approach, and from which they can
be more easily moved in accordance with the progress
of the battle.

If, as is often the case, important bridges are located
within the village definite instructions as to their value
to the commander should be obtained before defence
preparations are commenced.

TRAINING.

The importance of training cannot be over estimated,
for it is the preparation of the Officer and the man for
the duties he shall carry out in War.

To defeat the enemy is the ultimate aim of all
training.

The Officer is the leader and instructor of his men.
He must always remember that to maintain discipline
he must possess the confidence of his men in his pro-
fessional ability. But it is often the case that
he may be called upon to assume responsibilities
beyond those of his rank. Therefore he must train
himself by a sound system to acquire the habit of
quickly and correctly appreciating a situation; of
arriving quickly at a decision; of translating that
decision into suitable orders, and to ensure the rapid
execution of those orders.

In the absence of actual fighting experience, the
constant study of military problems, and the handling
of troops in the field, can alone give the Officer the
capacity for grasping a situation, and deciding the best
course of action.

It is not alone necessary to know what is the best
course of action, but you must have the determination
to put your orders into execution at all hazards. The
more difficult the situation the greater is the need for
resolute action.

Men who will resolutely attempt the seemingly
impossible when the occasion demands it, will often
gain a victory in circumstances in which more cautious
methods would fail.

Factors such as the feeling of self confidence and
power which springs from a thorough training, the
spirit of the offensive, the determination to conquer at
all hazards, patriotic feelings, the power of endurance,
all tend towards the attainment of moral force, and it
should be the constant aim of all ranks to cultivate
them during their period of training.

The non commissioned Officer forms the connecting
link between the Officer and the man. He must be
proficient in the duties which are performed by the
rank and file, such as Musketry, Close and Open Order
Drill, Revolver, Bombing, Scouting, etc., and should
be capable of instructing them in their duties.

He must also receive special training, and be given
opportunities of practising these duties, so that he may
be fitted when the time comes to take his place as an
officer.

The soldier's duty in War and Peace alike is to carry
out the orders given by his leader, so long as he
remains under his control. Should he find himself
beyond the control of his leader, he must act intell-
igently with the spirit of the orders he has received.

The development of intelligence and self reliance,
combined with discipline and skill with Arms, will,
therefore, form the principal features of the training
of the soldier.

WIRE OBSTACLES.

A low wire entanglement can sometimes be usefully
employed in undergrowth. It can be made by driving
pickets into the ground, so as to leave 12 or 18 inches
projecting. The tops of these pickets are then joined
to one another with wire.

High wire entanglement forms a very effective
obstacle. It should be as wide as time and material
will allow, but the width need not be uniform. It
should be greatest where the fire of defence is least
effective. It will be more difficult to remove if it is
constructed in two zones with a small space between
the parts.

The stouter the posts that are used, the better; but
if they are very large, it will be difficult to drive them
into the ground, while their stability suffers if holes
have to be dug for them. They should average 4 to
5 inches in diameter, and 5 to 8 feet in length.

The outside posts must be well stayed, especially
those nearest the defenders, and, to render the passage
of the obstacle by means of hurdles, planks, etc., more
difficult, the posts should be driven in at irregular
intervals (5 to 8 feet), and to varying heights (averaged
4 feet.) With the same object, large nails may be
driven into the heads of the posts.

Each post should be joined with taut wire, head to
foot and foot to head, to all the adjoining ones. The
wire should be wound round the posts and secured by
staples, which may be made of the wire itself. Barbed
wire should then be hung in festoons to the posts by
short lengths of wire.

It is essential to the efficiency of the obstacle that it
should be impossible to crawl under it without the use
of cutting tools.

To ensure something being done at once and
throughout, it may be advisable to order the construc-
tion of a fence of so many strands between the selected
points which will form a nucleus for the finished
obstacles.

Trip wires may be put in front of likely points of
attack. They should be in lengths of about 10 yards,
fastened at each end to a stout peg, hammered flush
with the ground. The wire should be quite loose,
and should be tightly coiled up before placing. It may
be curly when placed in position.
SIGNALLING LAMPS (Continued from page 1)

wood, quite even with the top of the burner. Never cut the wick unless absolutely necessary. If a new wick is required it should be inserted dry, and should not exceed six inches in length.

(v) Any kerosene found on the outside of the burner or reservoir must be removed.

(vi) Now place the reservoir in position, let down the latch, put on the glass chimney, and add the metal chimney.

(vii) Next put the cowl stack into its place, and drop the cowl into the top, taking care that they fit properly.

(viii) The bearings of the shutter should be kept well oiled and free from rust and dirt; a mixture of rangoon and kerosene oil is a good lubricant.

To light the Lamp—(i) Turn up the wick slightly.

(ii) Lift the glass chimney straight up with the thumb and finger of the left hand, until it just clears the top of the gallery, then apply, with the right hand, a match to the wick and replace the chimney; if the chimney is too hot to be lifted up by the fingers, it should be done by aid of the wooden fork, which is made so as to fit the choke of the glass chimney.

(iii) Take special care that the chimney is pressed down, and that it rests evenly in its gallery; any air space at the bottom of the chimney will have the effect of destroying the whiteness of the flame.

(iv) Close the door and keep the flame low for a few minutes, after which the wick can be turned up a little.

The maximum light is obtained when the flame reaches the lower edge of the metal chimney. Take special care that the lamp does not smoke.

Should the flame be "spinking" it is evident that the edge of the wick is not even. As this "spinking" will prevent a proper cone of flame being secured, the lamp should be extinguished, and the wick rubbed down quite evenly.

(v) If the night is windy, the door and air guards must be kept quite closed, but if it is still and close, both should be opened. It may even be advisable to remove the cowl. A mineral oil flame requires all the air one can give it, but it cannot stand wind. The supply of air, therefore, must be regulated according to the weather. In damp weather, wipe the glass chimney quite dry inside and outside before lighting the lamp. If there is moisture in the choke of the chimney, the glass is likely to crack when heated by the flame.

(vi) When using the lamp the charred wick should be occasionally removed, or the flame will be affected.

To Extinguish and Pack up the Lamp.—(i) Extinguish the lamp by turning the wick down until only a small blue flame appears. Let this remain for a minute or two and it will die out. Then remove the cowl and cowl stack.

(ii) Lift the metal chimney, taking hold of it by means of cotton waste, a small quantity of which should always be carried for this purpose, as well as for cleaning, in each lamp. Put the metal chimney into its holder. Allow the glass chimney to cool and then put on the felt jacket.

(iii) Next reverse the cowl stack, dropping it into position over the felt jacket, and put the cowl in the base of the cowl stack. Be careful always to keep the felt jacket on the glass chimney when the lamp is not in use.

(iv) Unscrew the lamp from the stand.

(v) If the lamp has only to be taken for a few miles it is easily carried in the hand, but for long journeys it should invariably be packed in its box.

To align the Lamp.—(i) If the stations are very far apart the lamp should be aligned during daylight, as it is a difficult matter to aim on the distant light after darkness has set in. This precaution is not necessary if the range is moderate. The lamp is aligned by looking through the sighting tube and bringing the cross wires to bear on the distant station. If the lamp is on a stand, the adjustment is obtained by moving the legs.

(ii) If the signaller receives intimation that his light is not bright, he should first look to see if the wick is sufficiently turned up, and that the lens, glass chimney, etc., are clean. If however, the lamp itself is correct, he should, as soon as the distant station shuts off his light, keep the lamp in the position it occupied at that moment.

(iii) It will be found an assistance sometimes, when working at long ranges, to place a flag pole or a couple of stones on the ground in the alignment, as these will show the position of the distant station should the position of the lamp have been accidentally disturbed.

(iv) The direction of the distant station can be fixed by day by means of three pickets, whose tops must be in an exact line between the proposed position the lamp will occupy at night and the distant station. When a spare stand is available and the weather allows, the opening of night work will be facilitated by aligning the place of aligning pickets as described above, as the lamp may be shifted accidentally, and the pickets further ensure means of resetting the lamp in the event of light having been turned temporarily in another direction during the night.

To Signal with the Lamp.—(i) The shutter is worked in the same manner as the dummy key.

(ii) Care should be taken that the shutter is fully opened for dots as well as dashes. Some signallers have a tendency to cut the dots too short, but this should be carefully guarded against.

(iii) The diagram on box illustrates the method of arranging four lamps for transport on a pack animal, two on each side.