

THE DOGS OF WAR: THE TRAINING OF CANINE DESPATCH-CARRIERS.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY SPORT AND GENERAL.



TRAINED TO FACE THE BULLETS: DOGS PASSING THROUGH A SQUAD OF SOLDIERS VOLLEY-FIRING.



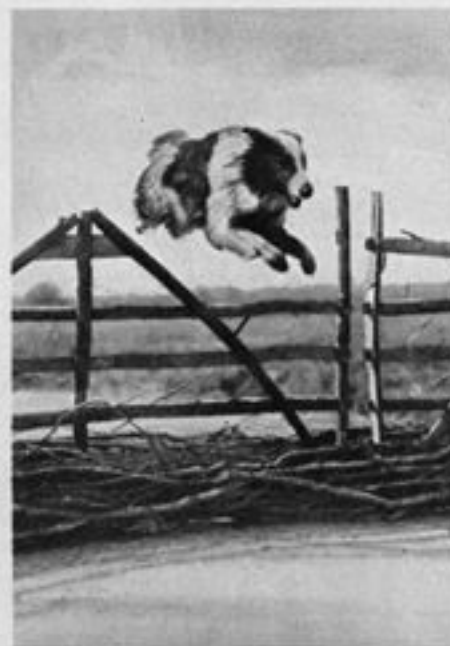
THE WONDERFUL TRAINING OF MESSENGER-DOGS: PASSING UNDETERRED THROUGH A SMOKE-BARRAGE.



INSTRUCTIONS: A SIGNALLER PUTTING A DESPATCH IN A WALLET FASTENED TO THE DOG'S COLLAR.



ARRIVED AT HEADQUARTERS: A MAJOR RECEIVING THE DOG'S DESPATCH.



ON HIS WAY TO DELIVER THE DESPATCH: JUMPING A GATE.



TRAINED TO CLEAR ALL OBSTACLES IN TRAVELLING ACROSS COUNTRY: DOGS CROSSING A DITCH.



FASTER THAN ANY "RUNNER" IN CONVEYING DESPATCHES: DOGS JUMPING OVER BARBED WIRE.

Dogs have proved themselves extremely useful in war, for despatch-carrying and other purposes, such as scouting, sentry work, traction of light vehicles, and the tracking of wounded after action. The above photographs illustrate the training of dogs employed by the British Army for carrying messages. It will be seen that the tests to which the animals are put are severe, and no obstacles deter them. They can carry a message across country in much quicker time than any runner. In this connection it is interesting

to recall an announcement made a few weeks ago by the War Office, to the effect that dog-owners wishing their dogs to be trained for use with the Army should address their offers to the Commandant, War Dog School, Shoeburyness. It will be noticed that the dogs employed at the training school here illustrated are of various breeds. These photographs afford one more proof of the wonderful sagacity possessed by "the friend of man."

THE DOGS OF WAR: TRAINED ANIMALS AT WORK AT THE FRONT.

OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHS.



WAR-DOGS AT THE BRITISH FRONT: A MESSENGER-DOG BASE JUST BEHIND THE LINE.



GOING ACROSS COUNTRY UP TO THE FRONT LINE: MESSENGER-DOGS WITH THEIR KEEPERS.



A WAR-DOG ON DUTY AT THE FRONT: JUMPING ACROSS SHELL-HOLES ON THE WAY BACK TO HEADQUARTERS WITH A MESSAGE.



SWIMMING A CANAL TO DELIVER A MESSAGE TO HIS MASTER: A MESSENGER-DOG AT THE FRONT.



A MESSENGER-DOG DELIVERING A MESSAGE: AT A SHELL-HOLE USED AS A TEMPORARY POST.

On another page we illustrate the training of British war-dogs; here we see some of them actually at work at the front, carrying despatches. Dogs are employed for various purposes by most of the armies engaged in the war, including the French, Italian, and Belgian, and on the enemy side the German Army. Of the Italian war-dogs, for example, Mr. Herbert Vivian writes recently: "When I was at Capri quite a panic arose from a notice that all dogs above a certain size were to be conscripted. . . . At the canine

base everything is as smart and luxurious as any brave war-dog can desire. He finds the training great sport. . . . He must accustom himself to drawing a sledge, wearing a gas-mask, and telling the difference between friend and foe. The latter is taught by offering him the enemy's uniform impregnated with something he dislikes. . . . Some are marked out by superior energy or courage for dangerous night work, carrying provisions or ammunition to the firing-line, while others have easy billets at the rear."