

(A) *Inspection of Tube Helmets.*

Helmets must be inspected once a week, or more frequently if a gas attack is considered imminent. Attention must be paid to the following points:—

- (i) See that the satchels and containers are in good order.
- (ii) See that the helmet is properly folded with the valve flat, and no strain on the flannelette round the valve seating.
- (iii) Valves. The two parts of the valve screw together. The joint should be tight and should grip the flannelette. The mouthpiece should be horizontal. See that the rubber valve is fastened securely to the metal. Each man must test the valve of his helmet by breathing through it. He should not be able to breathe *IN* easily through the valve. The valve rubber sometimes becomes hard; this can be remedied by breathing out through the valve for about a minute at each helmet inspection.
- (iv) Eyepieces. These should be screwed up tightly from the inside, and should grip the flannelette. Screw threads must not be crossed. The glasses must not be cracked or loose.
- (v) There must not be the smallest hole through which gas might enter. Particular attention must be paid to the flannelette round the eyepieces and valve seating.
- (vi) Dating. It is most important that the date of issue should be entered on each helmet in indelible pencil. Helmets deteriorate slowly, and will be withdrawn after a certain period which will be notified from time to time. If at any inspection the date is found to be indistinct, the helmet must be remarked with the original date.
- (vii) Wet tube helmets are effective against gas if they have been kept in the containers and satchels and these have been kept in good condition and well fastened up. If, however, they become so **SODDEN** with water that it is impossible to breathe through them, they must then be condemned.
- (viii) During hot weather helmets may become so dry as to diminish in efficiency. Under these circumstances, when units come back into rest billets, the men will be paraded by companies and the helmets inspected and,