

Appendix II.

SOME UNSOLVED PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH TRENCH WARFARE.

1. Destruction of enemy's obstacle in the shortest possible time, generally:—

Including—

(a) a suitable type of chain shot or projectile especially effective against wire.

(b) a method of crossing over barbed wire or other obstacle.

2. Protection of our own obstacles against the enemy's fire.

3. Simultaneous suppression of fire during assault, generally:—

(a) an accurate short range mortar, or,

(b) an accurate short range mechanical bomb thrower.

(c) an accurate rifle grenade.

(d) adaptation of the standard hand grenade to fire from the rifle.

(e) percussion type of trench mortar bomb.

(f) a suitable method for transporting hand grenades into the trenches after fusing.

(g) a suitable method for carrying fused hand grenades on the person.

4. Location of the enemy's strong points, keeps, and machine gun emplacements.

5. Maintenance of message communications under heavy bombardment, generally:—

Including—

(a) a good system of daylight visual signalling which can be concealed from the enemy, suitable for flat country.

(b) improvement of rockets or similar appliances, possibly electrically fired from a short distance, for signalling.

6. Method of sapping rapidly.

7. Method of mining rapidly.

8. A good pattern of portable obstacle.

9. A good trench stretcher for evacuation of wounded round narrow traverses, etc.

10. Protection from gas attacks generally:—

Including—

(a) portable air or oxygen container.

(b) a system of piped oxygen and air supply in the trenches.

11. Protection of machine guns and their detachments from shell fire.