



## The SPIRIT of FRANCE

*Photos by Underwood & Underwood*



Even in the depressive midst of their ruined villages at Verdun still flames in the French breast. These earnest youngsters with their mimic "75" battery, gun, captain, observer, gun sighter, and shell passers, are ready to give the Boches a warm greeting should they return. On the left, the battery advances to a new position, gallantly headed by a young Joan d'Arc with the tri-color.

*Photos © Underwood & Underwood.*



While the children carry on their grim play and their fathers act the reality in the trenches, the mothers and invalided men set about the sober task of rebuilding the homes wrecked by Prussian ruthlessness. The peasants on the left are resting at noon, lurching from such crusts as they have. Notice the tiny lamb.

The woman above sits at her ruined hearth, still stunned by the tragedy that has broken upon her peaceful life.

