Putting the Finishing Touches to the Training of Our Boys Over There

American Troops in France Being Taught the New Trench Warfare by Those Who Have Been Through It

Photographs from Pictorial Press.

They're at it eight hours a day, with a few hours over for work at night. Digging in, at the guns, or over the top in their training, with a vim and an enthusiasm that win the admiration of the French and English officers.

A vital part of the teaching of trench tactics is the effective use of various bombs and hand grenades designed for close-up fighting. The poilu shows the right way to throw a hand grenade.

The idea is to teach the game to these first of our troops so thoroughly that they in turn may act as instructors to the later contingent coming over. These troops are being shown how to occupy a trench with the least exposure.

The real rub of trench warfare, but the monotony of digging in is relieved when the practice under fighting conditions begins. The troops are kept keyed up to real fighting pitch by duplicating as nearly as possible actual fighting. It trains them in concentration and keeps their wits keen.

"Ready! Give 'em 'ell in the stomach!" shouts the English drill sergeant when the practice seriously begins, and each Sammy with a desperate drive runs a *Boche* through and carries on to the next as fast as ever he can.

A well earned rest after a hard day's traininig and marching. Time for a talk and a smoke and a thought for the folks back home. This is the time when the playing cards or the little pocket volumes thoughtfully provided prove their usefulness.