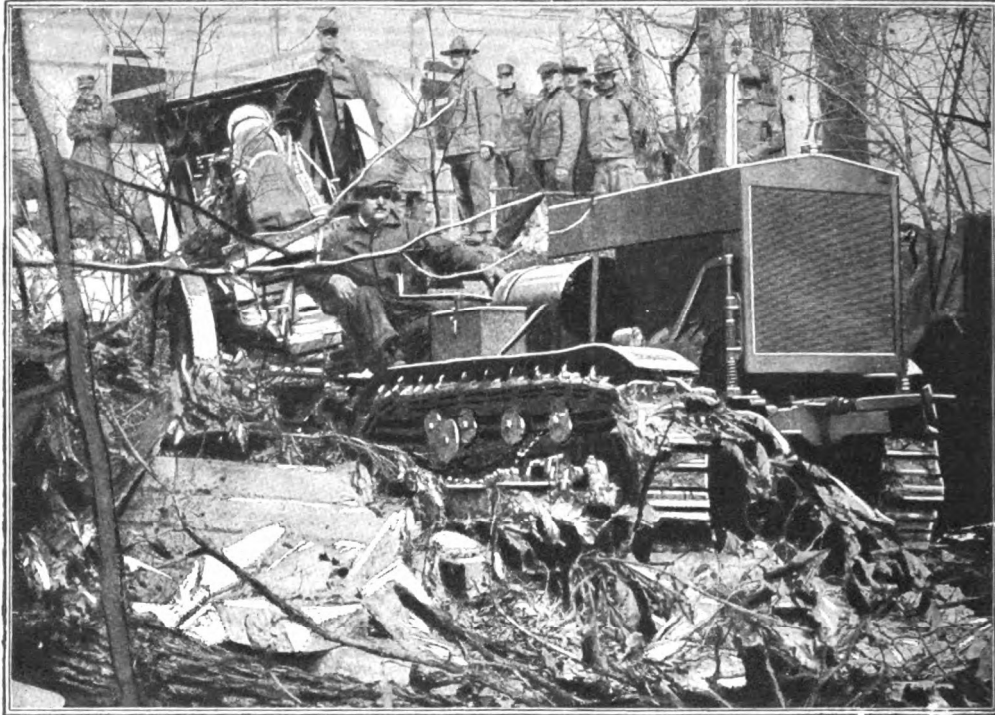


## Forward, the Tractor Brigade!

The American guns will keep pace with the advancing infantry in any drive



It takes more than fallen trees, rocks, and piles of brick and masonry to stop the progress of these tractors

**F**OR days before the big drive the artillery has been firing over the heads of the infantry, which is "dug in" along the edge of No Man's Land, keeping up a terrific bombardment of the enemy lines. The hostile trenches have been destroyed or made uninhabitable; the hostile guns within range have been silenced; and the road is cleared for the drive.

Over the top go the fighters and begin their rapid advance. The wire entanglements have been leveled. The advancing men, supported by their machine-guns, kill or capture such of the enemy as have survived the bombardment.

Hand-grenades and bayonets clean out the trenches and shell-holes, and the forward rush continues until the barrage fire of the enemy's artillery puts a temporary stop to it.

Another zone must be cleared ahead of the zone just occupied. The artillery must keep pace with the advancing infantry to avoid a delay that would enable the enemy to bring up his reserves, place his artillery, and perhaps undertake a counter-attack. But heavy guns and howitzers can not be moved as quickly as infantry over ground cut by trenches, deeply pitted by shell-craters, and obstructed by fallen trees and other debris.

Americans have profited by the lessons of this war. There will be no delay in the forward movement of our artillery when we advance. The Government has planned to equip the army with 40,000 armored military tractors of two and one-half, five, and ten tons capacity, capable of hauling all but the heaviest pieces of field artillery over the roughest ground at a rate of from six to eight miles an hour.