

The Motorcycle as a Valuable Asset in War Operations

FROM the arrival of the British Expeditionary Force in Belgium in the late summer of 1914 down to the present time, the motorcycle has steadily gained in importance in different branches of the military service. Its use has not been restricted to the Allied armies. The best authorities place the number

of motorcycles employed by the armies of the Central Powers, at the time of the Battle of the Marne, at 18,000. The British had at least 40,000 in service in the Spring of 1915, while the French had about 11,000. The Italian forces, up to the present, have 10,000 according to recent estimates.

It has been figured that more than 750,000 motorcycles have been in use for military purposes by the belligerent powers since July, 1914. This does not include those at present in the United States Army services, for prior to our entrance in the Great War, the American Army did not have more than perhaps 150 machines in all.

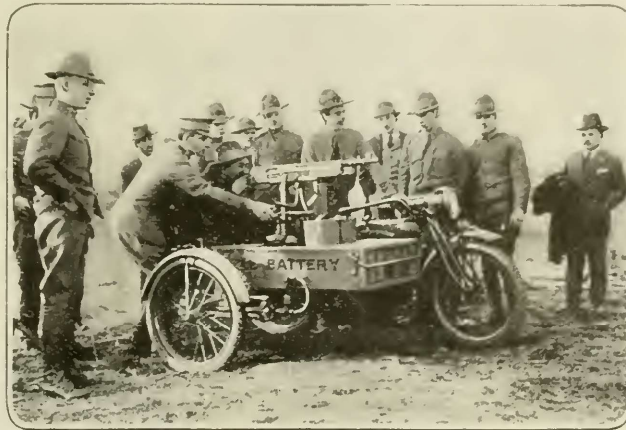
Before the era of trench warfare on a large scale, the greater number of motorcycles in use were for despatch riding. By reason of its readiness for use at a moment's notice and its ability to thread its way among the heavy traffic behind the lines, the motorcycle superseded all other means employed for carrying despatches between head-

quarters, often long distances apart.

Another important use of the motorcycle in war is that of conveying supply trains from base to distributing stations along the front. The flexibility of the

motorcycle makes it particularly valuable for such work. Motorcycles have also been used in considerable numbers, to convey picked rifle-mentopoints on the front where reinforcements are needed, and whole battalions

are sometimes transported in this manner.



Japanese motor vehicle experts study our motorcycle machine gun units and methods

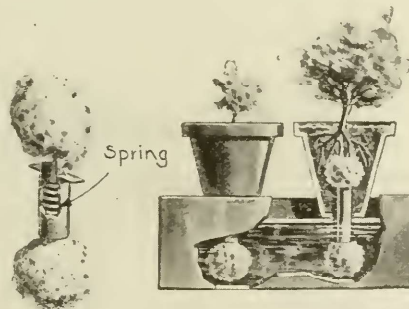
Supplying Water to the Thirsty Root-lets of Potted Plants

THE device illustrated, once installed, will reduce to an absolute minimum the work of keeping the potted plants supplied with the required amount of water. It consists, in its main fea-

ture, of small tubes containing sponge or some other water-absorbing material, which protrudes from the tube at both ends. These tubes are inserted with their upper end through the hole in the bottom of the flower pots, so that the sponge reaches well up into the soil surrounding the roots, while the lower part of the tube with its cor-

responding sponge end goes through the cover of the pan or receptacle, upon which the pots are arranged, and reaches into the water with which the pan is filled.

Capillary attraction carries the water up the tubes and the plants are thus thoroughly irrigated.



This little arrangement will save much trouble if you grow plants