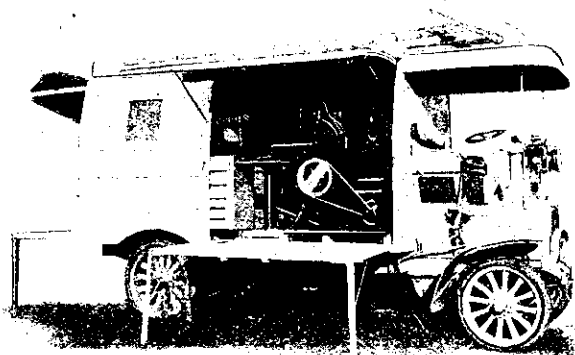


winter ends, and the ground becomes solid enough for these uncouth but wonderful machines.

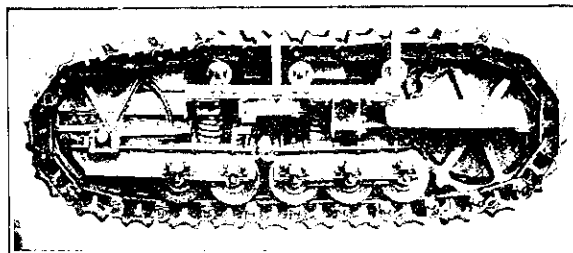
H. G. Wells, with the imagination of Jules Verne and a substantial equipment of common-sense, can pride himself on his talent for prophesy. He correctly predicted that when war came with Germany, it would take the shape we now realise. In his essays "An Englishman Looks at the World," published in 1914 before the war, he contended earnestly for the development of the aeronautic service and greater utilisation of the motor submarine. He foretold exactly what the German fleet would do, and

dreadnoughts. They will promenade the seas, always in the ratio of 16 or more to 10, looking for fleets securely tucked away out of reach. . . . The enemy we shall discover using unsportsmanlike devices against our capital ships. Unless he is a lunatic he will prove to be much stronger in reality than he is on paper in the matter of submarines, torpedo boats, waterplanes and aeroplanes."

Britain needed waking up, no doubt, to the tremendous potentialities of the motor-driven destructive machine, and we can now say with confidence that the process has been accomplished. The aviators of the Allies dominate the position on the Western front, and our steadily-growing preponderance in artillery is being used to good advantage because we have developed a type of slow-flying 'plane which can fly low, and keep closely in touch with the movement of advancing infantry.



Aviation Repair Lorry.

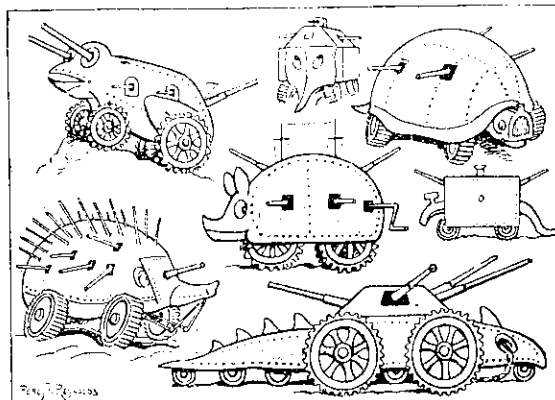


Caterpillar Tractor Gear.



PARIS MOTOR-BUS CHASSIS FULLY EQUIPPED AS A SURGICAL DEPOT.

The installation includes a small Operating Theatre and X-ray Apparatus.



MR. PUNCH'S IDEA OF THE TANK.

A few conceptions picked up from the Press accounts here and there, of what the Tanks are really like.

ridiculed general anticipations about naval warfare thus: "The plan of action is presented with an alluring simplicity. Our adversary will come out to us, in a ratio of 10 to 16, or in some ratio still more advantageous to us, according as our adversary happens to be this Power or that Power, there will be some tremendous business with guns and torpedoes, and our admirals will return victorious to discuss the discipline and details of the battle and each other's little weaknesses in the monthly magazines! This is a desirable but most improbable anticipation. No hostile power is in the least likely to send out any battleships against our invincible

The "tank" is a development of the farm tractor with caterpillar tractive mechanism. Several types of this machine were listed by British makers before the war, and the "caterpillar" was experimented with for gun hauling several years ago, the motive power being steam. It was a desperately heavy, but efficient machine, with strict range of action owing to its capacity for using up large quantities of fuel and water. But the petrol engine solved this side of the problem, as the previous volatile fluid gives a store of power in small space enormously in advance of coal.