



## REGIMENTAL COLORS

*A flag factory embroidery expert is at work on colors for the Eighteenth Coast Artillery. The flag is in natural colors, the shield has a black projectile on red ground and a red octopus on yellow ground and the silk flag itself is red. Projectile symbolizes the artillery, octopus the coast. The motto means, "As much by courage as by skill."*

## MILITARY SCIENCE

## It's Flag Day All Year In Quartermaster's Depot

### U. S. Army Headquarters Depot in Philadelphia Is Working Two Shifts a Day to Make Flags for Army

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**T**HE United States will be celebrating Flag Day June 14, and many cities will celebrate Flag Week, June 8 to 14. But it is Flag Day every day for 100 Betsy Rosses in the U. S. Army Headquarters Depot, in Philadelphia, who are now turning out Army flags at speed of World War days.

With a smaller flag factory plant than in 1918, it is taking two shifts a day to keep up with the present demand for flags for the Army, according to depot officers.

In normal times, the flag factory may have orders for 30 flags a day. Now, electric cutters and sewing machines whir to produce 200 storm, post, and

garrison types of American flags, and 150 to 200 guidons a day. Guidons are small flags, used in guiding troops.

Post flags, flown in clear weather, look large and heavy at close range, measuring 10 by 19 feet, and made of wool bunting. But the really large flags are the garrison flags, which the Army brings out for holidays and special occasions. They measure 20 by 38 feet and each red and white bunting stripe is 20 inches wide. Made of cotton, which is cheaper than bunting, and small for standing the wind, are the Army's storm flags, only 5 by 9 feet 6.

Definite scientific standards for the United States flag have been set and recorded, so that if all Army flags, by some inconceivable mishap should be

destroyed, new ones could be made with the present red and blue exactly duplicated.

To make sure that bunting and cotton for Army flags is up to requirements for fastness, the Quartermaster depot tests samples from time to time. As a rainy day test, red or blue goods is braided with some white and soaked in tap water for an hour. To test the fabric's resistance to salt water and soap, samples are soaked in tap water containing sodium chloride, magnesium chloride, and soap. Tags of color are also exposed on the depot roof to sun and air to test resistance of the Army's flag goods to fading. The life of a flag in the Army is not long, even with all scientific care in production.

In addition to quantity production of wool and cotton flags, the Army's flag factory is turning out embroidered silk flags at the rate of three or four a week. Taffeta with metallic fringe is the material for making handsome regimental flags, and for making the colors of the President of the United States and high Army officials.

Miss Mary E. Ring, in charge of the hand embroidery department, estimates that it takes just 22½ days to embroider an American eagle in shaded natural colors on one of these flags. To embroider a design completely is a 45-day job for the color-size, and 35 days for the smaller, termed a standard.

The idea of spotlighting the American flag for an entire week, introduced two years ago by the late Col. James A. Moss, as president general of the United States Flag Association, is reported to be approved by an increasing number of cities this year. As one city celebrating Flag Week, Philadelphia expects to see some of its own flag factory work flying when events of the week climax in a big parade on June 14, with Army units in the line of march, and Army flags floating down the street to Independence Square.

*Science News Letter, June 7, 1941*

## ● RADIO

Miss Dorothy Deming, General Director of the National Organization for Public Health Nursing, will discuss the work of that organization as guest scientist on "Adventures in Science," with Watson Davis, director of Science Service, over the coast to coast network of the Columbia Broadcasting System, Thursday, June 12, 3:45 p.m. EDST, 2:45 EST, 1:45 CST, 12:45 MST and 11:45 a.m. PST. Listen in on your local station. Listen in each Thursday.