

if he had temporarily lost the effect of his previous training. It should be stated that he was accustomed to the moderate use of alcohol.

The effect of alcohol on skill in shooting was investigated by Staff Surgeon Mernetsch, who made observations on a number of picked soldiers and non-commissioned officers, all good shots. The men shot at a 200 yards target, and then they were given 50 c.c. of brandy (about  $1\frac{3}{4}$  ozs.). "The trials were made on different days, under varying conditions, several times a day, and the result was always the same. When alcohol had been given the result was 30 per cent. fewer hits in quick-fire, although the men always thought they were shooting faster, whereas actually they shot much more slowly. When slow aiming was allowed, the difference even went to 50 per cent. in favour of shooting without having taken alcohol."\*

The experience of shooting in the Navy confirms that obtained in the Army. An elaborate research, extending over a long period, was carried out by a gunnery instructor, Captain Ogilvy, R.N., and it was found that the rum ration caused a falling off of at least 30 per cent. in the accuracy of gun-fire.

The effect of alcohol on industrial work was investigated by Aschaffenburg,† who experimented with four compositors. The subjects were all accustomed to taking beer, and one of them occasionally drank to excess, but they abstained during the experimental period, which lasted four days. On the second and fourth days each man drank 7 ozs. of Greek wine,

\* V. Horsley and M. D. Sturge, "Alcohol and the Human Body." Fifth edition, 1915, p. 309.

† "Psychologische Arbeiten" of E. Kraepelin, vol. i., p. 608.