

41/34

HARDENING PROCESS.... BRITISH ARMY STYLE.

Give our lads a beam weighing 80 lbs, and they'll play for hours.

Exercises like these (used in a special hardening course for Officers and men of Field Force Units, are looked upon as being a simple way of keeping in trim. These fellows are so tough, that when they crack brazil nuts, they put them between their eyelids and blink. Here's a spot of rough house known as unarmed combat.

Hurt themselves? Don't be silly - they're only cobbie stones.

Exercise No. 3, hurdling a line of planks and scaling a twelve foot wall with full equipment and rifle. There's nothing to it really, especially when you're fed on a diet of raw meat and flywheels off steam rollers.

Here comes the last maneuver. He's the bloke that all the others have been trampling under foot. Nicely done fellers - now let's see you going in for a swim with all your clothes on. Here they go - taking to the water like a gaggle of geese - Nothing like it you know (Thank Heaven) Of course, its a lot nicer when there's ice about because its so much more invigorating.

Another thing about it is this. British battle dress doesn't shrink - the trousers don't girt you under the armpits when you begin to dry off. Mind you the War Office won't make things as easy as this when the next age group is called up. But after all its really childs play compared with what they do in the more advanced classes.