

Tool boxes should be of heavier construction in order to withstand the very hard usage to which they are subjected in the field.

10. RESULTS:

It is the opinion of the Ordnance Observer that the First Transcontinental Motor Convoy, as the pioneer undertaking of its kind, was a successful operation, and that the experiences gained during this trip will prove invaluable, not only to the Army, but to all users of motor trucks in general.

All along the route, great interest in the Good Roads Movement was aroused by the passage of the Convoy, and it was reported that several states had voted favorably on large issues of road bonds. However, the officers of the Convoy were thoroughly convinced that all transcontinental highways should be constructed and maintained by the Federal Government, because the sparsely settled states of west area in the Rocky Mountain region are absolutely unable to finance their own sections of such a project. The Townsend Bill, now before Congress, provides for just such an undertaking under a Federal Highway Commission, and it is earnestly hoped that this measure may be favorably acted upon at an early date, in order that the nation may be ready for the commercial "Ship by Truck" movement.

Although the number of enlistments actually secured by the Recruiting Officer was not large, great interest in the warlike activities of the Army was stimulated throughout the regions covered by the Convoy, and reports from Recruiting Stations indicate that several hundred recruits were obtained as a direct result of the Convoy.

The interest of the general public in the Convoy was evidenced by a whole-hearted hospitality which never failed from beginning to end of the trip, and which was quite as spontaneous in the small towns as in the larger cities. Everybody was glad to see the trucks and the men, who were showered with every variety of refreshments all along the route. In the larger towns and cities, luncheons and dinners were served, entertainments and dances given, and the clubs and many homes opened to the entire personnel. Great credit should be given to the Red Cross Aid Station Service, the War Camp Community Service, the Knights of Columbus, the Y.M.C.A., the Chambers of Commerce, the Commercial Clubs, the Lions, and many similar organizations who served the Convoy with distinction all the way "From Coast to Coast."

In the operation and maintenance of a motor truck train many valuable lessons were learned, which warrant the following recommendations: