American Forces in Germany

By LEW RIESS.



E. W. Brannon (at left), Chief Athletic Director Y.M.C.A.; Capt. Lee B. Gerow, Chief Athletic Officer.

Soccer football was a welcome addition to the sports repertoire of the American soldier in Germany last year. Three schedules were played through and it was only the opening of the baseball season that called a halt on the kicking game. The task of getting a league started fell to Donald L. Henderson, formerly a major in the U. S. Army, now a director of formal sports for the "Y." He was assisted in soccer organization work by ex-Sergeants Tom Heelan and Ray E. Chapin.

The soldier players who helped to place soccer on the high plane which it reached were Corporal Elmer Zedeker. Headquarters Troop; Private C. F. Jensen, Bridgeport, Conn.; Sergeant J. A. Brown, Boston, Mass.; Corporal E. Rea, First Engineers. These men were from the First Brigade. Out in the Second Brigade, Chaplain Cleary and Bill Hefelfinger of the "Y" boosted the game so that the Fiftieth Infantry at Mayen put a team in the field, and over in Engers. Captain Leo Farrell and Captain E. T. Wheatley of the Second Brigade Machine Gun Battalion Center, developed a fairly strong eleven for that section.

THE A. F. IN G. TEAM.

Considering the short time for practise and remembering that the Yanks were just taking up soccer, the record made by the A.F. in G. team was a remarkable one. Twenty-four games were played, of which eleven were victories, six were drawn and seven were lost. Of the first five contests the Yanks lost four, but with experience their play improved and the record which they made was ery creditable.

Rea, the goal tender, was considered by experts one of the best goalies in any of the Allied armies. Heelan, captain and coach, was a splendid full-back, and Scott was a fast little man in the same position. Jensen starred at center half, and Brown, Lewis and Robertson were a trio of excellent forwards. The squad contained the following players:

Corporal E. Rea, First Engineers, Bronx, New York City; Corporal Jos. Bartlett, Co. K., Eighth Infantry, Detroit, Mich.; Tom Heelan, Y.M.C.A.,