

those days when Ahlers was fighting in the foremost line. Thus it is not due to mere chance that Ahlers has once again taken up his pencil in this war. Old memories awoke, the stupendous forces concentrated in the present struggle caught his imagination—unconsciously his pencil responded to these visions. However, these "visions" in Ahlers' case have a very real, a very tangible foundation from which his drawings derive their impressiveness and convincingness. Whatever Ahlers draws hits the mark exactly besides being technically correct. When depicting the torpedoing of a ship, for instance, it is not just any ship that is being sunk but the ship that was actually

torpedoed. Needless to say this artist is equally capable of depicting land operations. He is perfectly familiar with the movements of troops and knows how telegraph wires are repaired. Something else, however, should be noted about Ahlers' work, one of its outstanding features in fact, namely, its form. He is a virtuoso in his mastery of his graphic medium and is thus able to achieve striking effects in black and white. There is nothing indistinct or vague about Ahlers' drawings—the scene he reproduces is



Pioniere sprengen beim Vormarsch eine Straßensperre
 Advancing pioneers blast a barricade across a road