

attack and the Imperials lost a portion of their trench line temporarily. Lieut.-Colonel W. St. Pierre Hughes, who commanded the 21st, which was our right Battalion at the moment, saw the situation and immediately organised a party of about 40 men to go to the assistance of the Imperials, later reporting his action to Brigade. These men did splendid work in helping to bomb the enemy out of the trenches, enabling the Imperials to re-occupy them.

*April, 1916.*

On April 2nd, the 18th Battalion was relieved in the P trenches by the 27th Battalion, temporarily attached, and the following night the 20th Battalion was relieved by the Durham Light Infantry. On the 4th-5th the Brigade was completely relieved by the 151st Imperial Brigade and disposed as follows: 18th Battalion to SCHERPENBERG; 19th Battalion to RIDGEWOOD; 20th Battalion to LOCRE; 21st Battalion to LA CLYTTE; Brigade M.G. Company went to LOCRE; and Brigade H.Q. to LA CLYTTE.

Subsequently the 2nd Canadian Division took over the ST. ELOI Sector, the 6th Brigade relieving the Imperials. On April 6th, the Germans attacked, and the 6th Brigade, after severe fighting, was forced back. They were then relieved in the OLD FRENCH TRENCH by the 4th Brigade, who established a new line and also recovered a portion of the lost territory. There was much fighting between the 9th and 11th.

On the night of the 11th, they were relieved by the 5th Brigade, and the general system of reliefs continued for the rest of the month.

On the 28th, Major Macdonald, who had relieved Major Hill as Acting Brigade Major, went on leave, and Captain Reginald Brook took over his work. Captain Corrigan, of the 20th Battalion, became Acting Staff Captain. Brigade H.Q. was then ZEEVECOTEN.

On the 29th, the War Diary records: "Shortage of steel helmets is seriously inconveniencing all Battalions and is necessitating constant transfers of steel helmets from one Brigade to another."

*May, 1916.*

Brigades had to help each other in these strenuous line-holding days. If one was in the line, the others had to assist with working parties. On May 4th, the 20th moved up to relieve the 29th Battalion and to supply two companies each night as 6th Brigade carrying parties. The other units of the 4th Brigade also supplied working parties. Then followed a general relief of the 6th by the 4th. This was the typical procedure.

At this time the Canadians held only one "crater," while the others were held by the enemy. This made constant strife. On the 16th, the 4th Brigade was relieved and Brigade H.Q. moved to M 4 b 7.25. On the 20th, Capt. Harington, D.S.O., reported back for