

## 10 THE STORY OF THE 13TH BATTALION.

quarters—was favourable, while it shielded movements effectively.

The battalion went over in four successive waves, with an interval of thirty seconds between each wave. Major K. M. Perry commanded the first two waves, and Major G. E. McCuaig the other two. The first objective was the new enemy front line from Observation Ridge Road on the south up to and including Vigo street on the north—the line which had been so gallantly attacked by the 14th Battalion on the morning of the 3rd June. Upon reaching this line the first two waves were to halt and reorganise, one platoon to be left behind to clear the trenches of any remaining Germans and the remainder to press on to the second objective.

The second objective was our old reserve or “Montreal” line. When this point was gained the first two waves now united were to halt and the third and fourth waves were to pass over them and continue to the Winnipeg Line. This they were to consolidate rapidly, while a squad of bombers would continue to Vancouver Line, block the communication trenches leading to the old German line, and establish posts. When this was done a red flare was to notify the watchers in the rear that everything had gone well.

Every man carried 270 rounds of ammunition, two bombs, five sandbags, one day's rations, and every second man took a shovel to help in the consolidation work.

For three-quarters of an hour before the attackers climbed out of their trenches the German positions were deluged with every kind of shell. The German artillery replied and caused a number of casualties, but when the order to advance was given the four waves moved forward through the German barrage steadily and without flurry. The advance line found the enemy wire had been well cut by the bombardment, and, except in isolated places, the Germans were dazed and anxious to surrender. On the left of the advance, near Vigo Street, an enemy machine gun held up the advance for a short time till a party of bombers cut it off and silenced it and