

ground, the strength employed, and the objects in view, i.e., prevention of surprise and protection of troops in rear.

2. *Extensions.*

3. *Alteration of extended line to formation for attack*—A battalion moving in this formation may at any time strengthen its extended line for the attack.

4. *Reinforcements.*—All reinforcements should be made from the same unit as long as possible; a primary extension should therefore consist of one or both sections of a half company in an extended line, supported by the remainder of the company, instead of an extended company supported by another company.

5. *Reserves.*—The companies in the firing line and supports should have a reserve from their own battalion.

6. *Intervals.*—Intervals of six paces will be preserved between companies, and of two paces between sections.

7. *Enemy's position to be defined.*

8. *Distribution of command.*

9. *Commanding officers.*

10. *Mounted officers.*—The major will lead the reserves, and the adjutant will assist generally, and see that the mules and ammunition carts are kept close at hand.

11. *Reinforcing by the reserves.*—After the absorption of the supports, gaps in the firing line will be filled by bringing up sections or sub-sections from the reserve. Should there be any admixture of fire units after reinforcement, the men will consider themselves under the command of the nearest officer. Companies in reserve will move in the most suitable formation, and must regulate their advance so as to be at hand to reinforce the firing line after the supports have been absorbed therein.

12. *Mounted officers to dismount.*

13. *Colours.*

14. *Drummers and buglers.*—The drummers, pipers, and buglers, except the buglers with captains of companies, will be with the reserves.

15. *Sergeant-major.*—The sergeant-major will accompany the mules and ammunition carts, see that they keep close up, and will assist in the distribution of ammunition.

16. *Instruction of battalion.*—The battalion will be exercised in moving to the attack from all formations. It will be practised as if acting alone, and also as forming part of a brigade. In brigade the whole battalion may be employed in the first line, furnishing its supports and reserves; the first line may also be formed by half battalions. The battalion will also be exercised as if it were exclusively in the second line; in this case a skeleton firing line of a few men would sufficiently represent the advance and action of a checked first line.

17. The companies to form the firing line, with their supports, will divide the front to be occupied between them.

18. *Skeleton enemy.*—The enemy should always be represented by a skeleton or other force, and blank ammunition be used as often as possible.

19. The passing of information by selected men will be practised.

20. *Cavalry.*—The battalion will be practised in receiving cavalry. See the Company General Rule 10.

21. *The assault.*—During the delivery of the assault on the enemy's position, the men will cheer, drums be beaten, the bagles sounded and pipes played.

THE BRIGADE, DIVISION, OR ARMY CORPS.—GENERAL RULES

1. *Company and battalion rules applicable.*

2. *Tactical formation.*

3. *General commanding.*—If he quits this position it is his duty, by leaving a staff officer, to inform those under his command where he may be found. It is equally the duty of commanders of battalions, brigades, and divisions, to keep themselves at all times acquainted with the position of their immediate commanders.

4. *Distribution of the attacking force.*—This can only be settled on the ground, but should be governed by the following principles:—Greater strength opposite the point or points where it is intended to drive the attack home. Smaller strength opposite such parts of the enemy's position where it is intended only to hold him to his ground. Strong echelons on the flanks, unless one or both are completely secured by natural obstacles. In a brigade of four battalions, two will be ordinarily in the first line, one in the second, and one in the third line. With a division the two brigades will ordinarily be formed side by side. With an army corps two divisions will ordinarily be formed side by side, the third division forming a general reserve, and being available for employment on a flank movement. With large masses of troops, a reserve in addition to the force detailed for attack is desirable. It may be assumed that a brigade will ordinarily occupy a front of about half a mile, a division about three-quarters of a mile, and an army corps about a mile and a half.

5. *Method of attack.*—The position of an enemy having been ascertained, either by cavalry or infantry scouts, and the intervening ground and the position itself having been reconnoitred, the necessary instructions for the distribution of the attacking force will be given, and the troops detailed will advance in accordance with the general principles already laid down. Flank attacks will be met by the troops upon whom the attack falls, but as a general principle, they should be disposed of by a counter attack from the troops in rear of the second line, to enable that line to fulfil its duty of continuing its support to the first line. Having regard to the increased accuracy of modern weapons, it will generally happen that a frontal attack will not be successful unless combined with a flank attack.

6. *Attacking force assuming the defensive.*

7. *Attack by cavalry.*—Attacks by cavalry will be met on the principles laid down in Battalion General Rule 21.

8. *Retirement.*—Should a retirement become necessary, in order to ensure a continual and steady resistance to the enemy, it must be conducted by the successive retirement of alternate portions of the force, those in rear occupying the strongest positions offered by the ground (entrenching themselves if time permits), and covering by their fire the retirement of those in their front.

THE DEFENCE.—GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE OCCUPATION OF A DEFENSIVE POSITION.

1. *Requirements of a defensive position.*—The chief points to be considered in selecting a position may be taken in the following order:—The extent of the position should be suitable to the strength and composition of the defending force. As a rough estimate, it may be assumed that, including all arms and troops in reserve, about five men per yard are required. In the event of it being necessary to occupy a position too extended for the number available for its defence, it will usually be preferable to occupy the front thinly, and to keep a strong reserve to assist any threatened point, rather than to distribute the force generally throughout the front.

2. *Advanced posts.*—The garrison for such may vary considerably, but it can seldom be desirable to place a large body of troops in close formation in front of a line on which they will eventually have to retire.

3. *Communication.*

4. *Ranges to be noted.*

5. *Distribution.*—The first or firing line. The position should be divided into sections for the purpose of command, each section having its separate local reserve. The supports and reserves should be placed well under cover, but near at hand so as to replace casualties in the firing line, which has to provide for the occupation, both of the front line and of the advanced posts. The second line will provide for the defence of the flanks, the troops detailed