

FIRST PHASE.

At 5.40 a.m. on October 26th, the 3rd and 4th Divisions attacked the German line before Passchendaele, the P.P.C.L.I. remaining in support. The operation, as a whole, was fairly successful, but the final objective was not gained. The fighting was close and desperate, and only the spirit of our men saved a serious check.

SECOND PHASE.

On October 30th, the 3rd and 4th Divisions continued the offensive, and this time the Princess Pats had as much work to do as the most ardent fighting man among them could wish. At 5.50 a.m. the Regiment went forward, and for a time the men made good and steady progress. But the low ground about Friesland proved a serious obstacle, and there were numerous casualties as the Princess Pats made their way through the water-logged country. Major Papineau was killed during the advance upon Meetcheele, a very serious loss to his regiment and to Canada. Men will remember his letter to the French-Canadian politician. For a time a pill-box upon the crest of the hill beyond Meetcheele checked our advance, but this was captured by Sergeant Mullin, who won the Victoria Cross as well as the position. Finally Graf was secured, and our approximate objective consolidated.

Altogether the regiment won much glory in that fight, but it was won at a very heavy cost. Nine officers were killed or died of wounds, and eleven wounded, and there were some 340 casualties amongst the men.

The Princess Pats, of course, took no part in the operations of November 6th and 10th, which completed a most successful and hard-fought offensive; and military rules forbid us to follow further the adventures of the regiment.