

there was a shortage of petrol throughout this operation, the Canadian Independent Force in particular being put out of action for a considerable time from this cause.

Add to this the fact that all traffic had to go over two roads—the Amiens-Roye road and the Amiens-Villers Bretonneux road, the latter being also used for Australian supply—and the general congestion can be realized. Nevertheless, though only after incredible exertions, many lorries running continuously for forty-eight and even sixty hours, a great quantity of ammunition was gathered together, six hundred rounds per gun being available. Great credit is due the administrative branches of the Canadian Corps of whom the D.A. and Q.M.G., Brig.-General G. J. Farmar, was an Imperial officer of outstanding talent and energy.

The barrage would have been wonderful if the ground had been known and prepared and every feature of the artillery problem carefully studied out in advance. It was nothing less than marvellous when the facts are taken into account that many of the batteries were only brought up a few hours before the engagement opened, that it was impossible for them to expose their presence by any attempt at registration, and that the barrage had to be plotted out entirely from maps and by triangulation. The guns were in dormant batteries, unregistered and without permanent emplacements when "zero" hour struck.

It was a triumph for Canadian gunnery. Five days only were available for preparation, and great credit is due the G.O.C., Major-General E. W. B. Morrison, his Staff and Divisional Brigade and Battery Commanders, with their rank and file. The Canadian Divisional Artillery Commanders were as follows:—1st., Brig.-General H. C. Thacker; 2nd., Brig.-General H. A. Panet; 3rd., Brig.-General J. S. Stewart; 4th., Brig.-General W. B. M. King; and 5th., Brig.-General W. O. H. Dodds. Great credit is also due the Imperial and Canadian Heavy Artillery, Brig.-General R. H. Massie, whose counter-battery work was so magnificent that the enemy artillery was smothered, and we overran many batteries that