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emy. Our men were by this tme, a Graphic Description of can be imagined, somewhat exhausted but they nobly responded when ordered to make a fresh attack on the hill. the Fighting Around Loos On Sunday morning, after an hour's

Highlanders, by Sheer Pluck and Indomitable ward with gallantry, but the enemy's Endurance Hold Positsons for Three Days formidable obstacle, and an intensive in Face of Terrible Fire from the Enemy. guns hidden behind sandbags proved Work of New Army and Territorials will Live as Long as British Nation Survives.

is now close upon two months maze of trenches was behind our line since the great advance was made in order to afford cover and communon the Western front, and though the ication for the troops prior to the asmain story of that great operation sault, while other special arrangehas already been graphically told by ments were made for providing an Sir John French, the part played by adequate water supply for dealing the New Army and Territorials in the with the wounded and for maintaining fighting around Loos have never been telephonic communication. Special lantry of the men deserve. It is a bombs and ammunition, and an impornarrative of incredible courage and tant task consisted in the arrange endurance. It would be seen how ments for gas and smoke, with which comparatively raw levies, some but the attack was to be cloaked. All a short time in the country, fought this colossal labour was carried out side by side with Regulars and sea- with the greatest cheerfulness by the soned Territorials and acquitted Divisional Royal Engineers, and every themselves with the greatest glory thing was ready on September 20.

and distinction. Men who but a short The Great Attack. year back were engaged in the ordin- On the following day the great bomary pursuits of civilian life evinced bardment began, and lasted till and personal initiative that will stand emy's reply, it was noted, was weak to the credit of their British birth as The troops formed up at 2 a.m. Two brigades were to make the assault; That initial charge made by the third being in reserve, ready to move 15th (Highland) Division of the New up as they required. Gas and smoke

At 9.30 the headquarters of the

Division learnt that the greater part

through, or had already passed

through, Loos, while the reserve bri-

gade had occupied our front line

trenches vacated by the remainder of

the Division. In the meantime the at-

tack of the 1st Division on the left

had been held up, and thus the left

flank of the 15th Division which had

oushed so far forward was seriously

threatened. To relieve this situation

a party of about 100 bombers from the

brigade was ordered up to the Ger-

man front line, though, as a matter

of fact, the right hand battalion or

either through the eagerness of the

Consolidating the Gains.

As the morning advanced, however.

Army which carried the Kilts right were used shortly before 6 o'clock The weather was dull, with a slight ways be remembered as one of the rain, and the wind light. Such con great feats of the war. With scarcely ditions were not very favourable for check the men dashed over the 21/2 the gas attack. At 6.30 precisely the miles that intervened between assault was launched on a narrow ines and the hill, sweeping all frontage of 2000 yards, and although sistance away in front of them the men met with heavy casualtie. on leaving the parapet, they continu-Division had been ordered to go "all ed the advance unchecked and with out," and it did, with the result that such speed that the reserve brigade every objective was carried within a had begun to move forward at 6.40 At comparatively short space of time 9.30 certain units of artillery were after the men had left their parapets. ordered to move forward, passing over The attack on the Hulloch-Loos frontspecial crossing places constructed age was carried out by the 4th Corps, by the Engineers over the British which previous to the asault held the and German front lines. By this line running roughly from Grenay vancing up the slope of Hill 70.

to the Vermelles-Hulloch road. the left, the 1st Division, composed of hardened Regulars, was to attack the German main line through points marked on a map as the "Lone Tree" and the Bois Garee. The 47th Diviion, composed of London Territorials was on the extreme right just south of Loos, with a formidable "double rassier" as its main objective, while the 15th Division in the centre had to take Loos Village, and subsequently Hill 70. Such was the main outline

Elaborate Preparations.

In the centre and on the right all Camerons were sent off to assist the went like clockwork, but the 1st Divi- right brigade of the 1st Division, and sion on the left was held up for a con- these actually succeeded in clearing siderable time, for though the brigade some 70 yeards of the enemy trenches on the left got through to the out- Shortly after 10 o'clock the left briskirts of Hulloch, its sister brigade on gade of the 15th Division was report. the right was stopped by uncut wire ed to be on Hill 70 and the reserve in front of the "Lone tree." Here the battalions sent to the south and north this brigade had already gone forward of the German position at the "Lone Tree" managed to force a way through men or as the result of a misunderand surround the place, capturing stood order. Some of these men actsome 700 of the enemy in the opera- ually reached Hill 70. Incidentally tion. From here the brigade pushed the fremendous speed with which the on to the Bois Hugo and Puits 14 Bis, initial charge was carried out may be where it held on until it was ulti- gauged by the fact that this battalion mately relieved. In the centre the was passing through Loos as early as 15th Division had got right through 7.20, close on the heels of the other and was on the slopes of Hill 70, battalions comprising the attacking while the 47th Division on the right brigades. had gained all its objectives by 9.30 a.m. Fighting went on all through the day, and towards about 5.30 in he evening the 15th and 57th Divisions were still holding their posi-

exhausted by this time, being blown by was somewhat relieved by the arrival jacent to it defied all attempts their long charge and the heat of the of a brigade of the 21st Division, but capture-On Monday the copse were carried out during the night; and fighting that its future movements are sion, which eventually came out of on Sunday morning an attack. was hard to trace. During the afternoon the line on Tuesday morning.-Mearns nade on the redoubt at the top of the advanced troops were engaged in Leader. the hill, but falled. Later in the day digging themselves in on the slope we lost the Puits 14 Bis. Reinforce- of the hill, worried the whole day by were put in to hold Loos. There was o'clock a brigade of the 1st Divison

nents in the shape of dismounted a heavy German fire from their batavalry came up on Sunday night, and teries and finally shortly before 5 further heavy fighting on Monday, in which it will be remembered had which the Brigade of the London Divi- been held up by wire managed to Chalk Pit copse south of Loos which the safety of the left flank of the 15th was strongly held by German machine Division was somewhat allayed. At guns. From that time onwards the 6 o'clock orders were given for the line was maintained against every positons won to be consolidated and counter-attack, and finally on the 30th strengthened. Sporadic fighting went on all through the evening, but the

Having described the operations of line was maintained, though the enthe 4th Corps as a whole we may now emy made violent attempts to regive individual performances of the gain the lost ground. A heavy New Army and the London Divisions counter-attack was delivered shortly in greater detail. All the prepara- after midnight, but was repulsed with tions for the attack were made with heavy losses to the attackers and an he greatest care by the 15th Division, assault of a more violent nature, the and every possible precaution was Germans advancing in close formatio taken so that each unit might know several lines deep, was also beaten off exactly what it had to do. A perfect with still heavier losses to the en- READ THE MAIL & ADVOCATE

redoubt on the top of the hill was a fire poured out by massed machine too strong, and our men had perforce to fall back. The assault was renewed, the gallant Scots charging with the bayonet, but again was checked, and our line on the slope of the hill was re-occupied. The whole of Sunday was a critical day. The enemy had had time to reorganize his men and to bring up reserves and artillery while our men, who had been fighting consistently since dawn, were greatly fatigued. Despite these adverse conditions, however, those Highlanders held their line against all odds. Nothing could shake them. The line they were holding had naturally been hurriedly dug, and, therefore, lacked much of the usual cover afforded by well-made trenches. About 5 o'clock, however, just as darkness was coming up, further reinforcements arrived, and some of the tired men were relieved. All through the evening the enemy's shelling was very heavy particularly of Loos village, but there way. Towards midnight a dismounted cavalry brigade came into the village with instructions to hold it at costs, assisted by certain units of the 16th Division. In the meantime parties of stragglers who had been separated from their regiments were collected, and time was found to bury the dead and attend to the wounded. Highlanders' Indomitable Endurance. Towards half-past 6 on Monday evening some of the cavalry were

sisted by the 62nd Brigade, went for-

sent to reinforce the troops hanging on to the hill who were being very hard pressed, and half an hour after midnight on Tuesday morning the gallant 15th Division withdrew. It is hard to speak in sufficient eulogistic words of the performance of the Highlanders. They took their objectives and they held them for three days against all the force the enemy was able to bring up against them. They suffered heavily, but not a man complained so long as he knew that every effort of the Germans to win back lost ground had been baffled by sheer pluck and indomitable endurance.

The attack of the Division on the extreme right, the 47th (London) was nade simultaneously with the Highanders. Two brigades made the asault with a third in reserve. The orders were to take the long double slag heap known as the "Double Cassier," and from that to form a defensive flank facing towards the south Other units were then to advance and occupy the the "Chalk Pit" south of Loos, the way to which was guarded by an enclosure which was a collection of fortified houses. The assault was launched at 6.30 to the minute, all the units going forward with greatest steadiness, to the intense amazement of the French in their trenches on the extreme right of the Division's frontage. One man the London Division led the charge with a football at his feet which he 'dribbled" for nearly a mile. Little rouble was experienced with the enemy's first line, and the men then pushed on to the "Double Cassier," where a machine gun caused casualties until it was put out of action, by a well-aimed bomb. The western end of the "Cassier" was finally taken, though the enemy still held the eastern extremity, and the Londoners pushed on to the outskirts of Loos. Bloody fighting ensued in the cemetery situated on the south of the vilcritical, and at noon there was still lage, where the enemy had hidden innumerable machine guns, placing no sign of the promised reinforcements. The two brigades were still them in many places, hehind the very 1st Division was coming into Bois holding on to Hill 70, but were un-tombstones..... While the left of Hugo, south-east of "Chalk Pit," and able to advance against the Cite St. the Division was fighting in the cemetery a struggle was going on around the "Chalk Pit" on the right. The pit brigade came up to garrison Loos The men were, of course, somewhat village. A little later the position was finally taken, but little copse ad-

subsequent fighting. Various reliefs such was the confused manner of the ally fell into the hands of the Divi-

SOME "KID" THIS

steps of a signal box between Nothingham and Derby the other day and told the startled signalman that sho sion distinguished itself by winning get forward and the anxiety felt as to had fallen out of a train. When he had recovered from his surprise, his little visitor added that she was five years old: lived with her grandmother, who was expecting to meet her at Beeston; had travelled by the 11.40 p.m. from Nottingham, and after falling out had found herself on some grass. With the exception of a lew bruises she was not hurt by her fall. Passengers who saw the child fall stopped the train and a party set on from Beeston to find the body think ing that the little girl had been killed.

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