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HEARN & COMPANY

St. John's, Newfoundland.

A BRILLIANT EXPLOIT BY THE FRENCH TROOPS

Small Force Cut Off by Foe
—Held Position Until
Relieved

HONORED BY
THE WHOLE ARMY

Germans Attacked Time After
Time Only to be
Mowed Down

Paris, July 12.—Details of the desperate fighting which resulted in the capture of the summit of Hilgenfirst, more than 3,000 feet high, in the Langfeldkopt region, are given in an account of the struggle written by an official eye-witness with the French army.

"In the fight for the capture of the eminence," says the eye-witness, "one company of our advance guards which forced a breach in the German lines was cut off from its battalion as the result of a German counter-attack. This company nevertheless succeeded in maintaining the conquered position four days, until finally relieved."

"On June 14 the sixth company of the 7th Battalion crawled from its trenches and deployed towards a clearing in the woods opposite. It then charged, taking the German trenches. The Germans fled to the woods, leaving a quick-firer. Our men immediately began fortifying the position, but our sentries reported that German patrols had been seen encircling the French. Other companies were ordered forward immediately to support the one in the trench."

"Meanwhile large German reinforcements had been brought up, making it impossible to reach our men. The captain in the trench realizing that he was surrounded ordered some of his men to form a hollow square and defend the position while others dug trenches on four sides. The Germans attacked in great force with quick-firers and rifles, but withdrew at nightfall after a battle lasting two hours. Our men defending the position numbered 137, including five officers. One officer and 27 men were wounded."

Good Work of 75's.

"The following day, despite a well directed fire from our main positions, the Germans again attacked in large numbers, advancing in columns of four. The situation now began to look critical, but at the crucial moment a hail of shrapnel from our 75's completely decimated one advancing column. The edge of the wood out of which the column advanced was piled high with German bodies, and the remainder of the force scattered in flight."

In the afternoon the Germans again prepared for an attack, but the attempt was frustrated by our infantry fire. During the night the captain told off men to rest in squads, the others being constantly on the alert. At dawn a second lieutenant and a few men surprised a small German scouting detachment of 20 men commanded by a non-commissioned officer. Our men threw themselves upon the Germans, killing the officer and two men, the others taking to their heels at top speed."

"At ten o'clock the main body of our troops succeeded in establishing communications with the isolated company, which called for help in the provincial dialect. We answered that we would attack at nightfall, but that the attack would be preceded by a heavy bombardment."

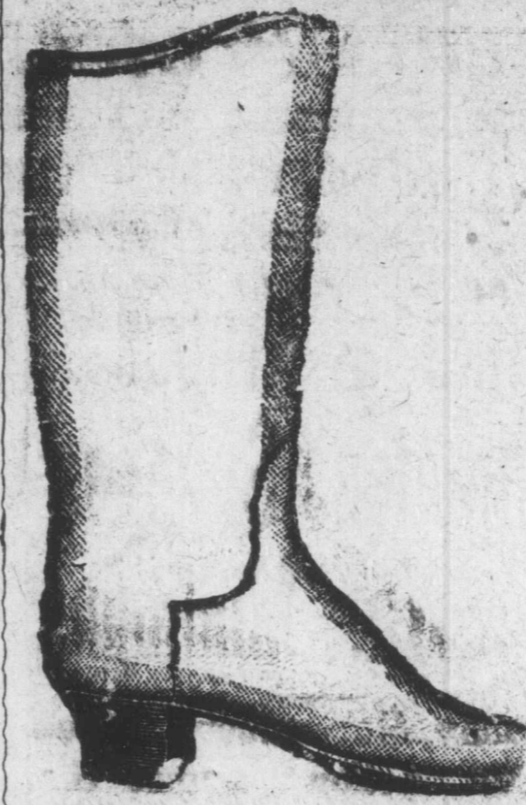
"Accordingly they constructed heavy bomb-proof shelters on the four sides of the square and anxiously waited. At 9 o'clock the attack was begun with artillery, quick-firers and rifles, but it was insufficient to drive out the Germans who had, in the meanwhile, established well-protected trenches and with an excellent telephone system made any surprise movement impossible."

Rations Became Low

"The company's rations were now becoming very low. Delirious cries of the wounded added to the discomfort of the men. The following morning a German patrol tried to take the position by storm, and some of the men succeeded even in mounting the parapet. These were driven off by a quick-firer which had been captured from the Germans. On other advancing troops of the enemy huge boulders, dug from the hillside, were rolled down and we succeeded in dispersing the attack."

"Another attack was prepared by us for that night, but the danger was great on account of the narrowness of the position occupied by the company. The captain of the company was ordered to light fires at the op-

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post ends of his position so that our artillery could better regulate its fire, as there was great danger of killing our own men.

"The artillery opened a crushing fire and the Germans began to retreat. As they passed the company's position their men were mowed down by the exactness of the fire of our troops, and finally the brave company was delivered."

"The general in command of the army in the Vosges said in complimenting the men for their bravery the company henceforth should be called 'Company Sid Ibrahim.'"

THE FRENCH AND GERMAN PRISONERS

Exchange Has Been Re-
sumed Through Swit-
zerland

Berne, Switzerland (via Paris), July 14.—The exchange of soldiers who are wounded and incapacitated for the service has been resumed between France and Germany. Two Swiss hospital trains, each carrying about 300 men, start in the evening, one from Constance, Germany, and the other from Lyons, France, and pass through Switzerland during the night.

Altogether between 4,000 and 5,000 invalids are at Constance and Lyons awaiting transportation home.

AGREEMENT ON PRISONERS

Rome, via Paris, July 14.—Italy and Russia have reached an understanding, it is stated, regarding the sending to Italy of prisoners of Italian nationality taken from the Austrian army. Roumania has assented cordially to the passage of such prisoners through that country, it is said, but the negotiations with Bulgaria and Greece have been halted.

It has been arranged that such prisoners be taken shortly.

Our idea of a fool is a person who pays twice for the same brand of experience.

Medical Men Who Examine Recruits Have to Turn Down Many Good Fellows

It is hard to know just where to draw the line in recruiting for overseas service. But as the line must be drawn somewhere as regards size and physical fitness, it causes men to be turned down who would doubtless be able, if allowed to go, to do good service to the country.

"With so much recruiting going on, and medical officers inspecting men in every city of the Dominion, it would scarcely be feasible to allow any more latitude than is given the doctors at present. The medical officers have a certain amount of freedom to use their own discretion but the trouble is that since each man is inspected two or three times, it one doctor gives a man the benefit of a half an inch or so in his height, the next doctor who inspects him may turn him down on that half inch, so he has just wasted his time."

Eyesight Defective.

The other day a blacksmith came from near Brockville to enlist in the artillery as a farrier. He was a well set-up man physically and the officers were very anxious to get him to do the blacksmith work for the 7th Artillery Brigade. But the training which has made him a first class blacksmith, a first class man for the job for which he was wanted, had somewhat weakened one of his eyes, with the result that he was turned down. So he paid his way here and had to go back home rejected.

Even Frederick Kingsley, one of the best 105-lb. boxers in Canada and a perfect specimen of athlete, would not be able to join for overseas as he is slightly under five feet three inches in height. He joined the 43rd regiment for home service last night.

Has Grown An Inch.

One young boy who does not look to be over sixteen years of age, with fair hair and a smiling face, is insisting on joining for overseas. He applied at one of the recruiting offices a month ago and the recruiting officer who did not want to let so young a boy into the ranks measured him very ceremoniously and found him an inch too short. He went away to try another recruiting office. He was measured again, this medical officer admitting that the boy was tall enough but too young.

"What do you think," he said gleefully. "I have grown a whole inch in a month. If the war keeps on until next summer, do you suppose I will be able to go?"

He is one of the few people who wants the war to go on. He is thoroughly satisfied he has stretched up an inch in a month.

SHELLS MUST BE COMPLETE

British War Office Only
Wants Fixed Ammunition

Until the manufacture of brass cartridges necessary to the production of fixed ammunition overtakes the output of empty shells, no further shell orders will be placed in Canada.

This was made clear by the shell committee recently.

The committee have distributed all the orders received from the British government. The British government which, prior to the speeding-up of Old Country shell industries, was ready to purchase empty shells in Canada, now wants fixed ammunition only. In other words the shells from sent Canada hereafter must be complete with brass cartridges and all other essentials.

The production of brass cartridges in the Canadian factories is increasing steadily but there are one million empty shells in the Dominion waiting to be fitted with these cartridges. The shell committee expect that the production of brass cartridges will before very long balance the output of shells, when additional orders may be expected. The situation so far as Canada is concerned is governed absolutely by the extent and nature of the War Office requirements and the increased manufacture of fixed ammunition in Great Britain has stopped the demand for empty shells from Canada.

The brass cartridges are now being manufactured at eight different points in Canada and very satisfactory progress is being shown in the volume of the output.

In The Spring

In the spring the young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of how he can get the suit he's after Without paying for it now.

—Boston Transcript

Anderson's New Modern Store In the West

IS now open to the general public—all our dry-goods, with the exception of a few odd lines, has been removed from Grace Building and is carefully arranged and placed in the various departments.

We are ready to cater to the wants of our patrons, to whom we extend a hearty invitation to call and see us.

Quite a different appearance here from Grace Building—it is bigger, brighter, and better and the stock is well displayed which should tend to make this New Building a busier store.

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- 10 Barrels NEW TURNIPS.
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- 20 Cases CALIFORNIA ORANGES.
- 10 Large Ripe WATER MELONS.
- 2 Crates TOMATOES.
- 10 Large New CANADIAN CHEESE
- 20 TWIN CHEESE.
- 20, 30 lb. Tubs NEW GRASS BUTTER.
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