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In All Sizes

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500 Cases 24 1's Cooked Corned Beef  
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## FRENCH ARMY ARTILLERY MOST EFFICIENT IN WORLD

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—When the news came that the Kaiser's Uhlans had been mowed down by French machine guns in the skirmish at Saint Croix, some of the United States army officers watching the European situation exclaimed: "I told you so!"

The eyes of every artillery officer in the world to-day following the French artillery, on which is pinned the hope of France to whip the Germans.

Will the French artillery, admittedly the best in the world, wreak the havoc in the German ranks that has been predicted? Will the new pieces of the French repeat the awful slaughter for which their old pieces were responsible in the Balkan war of a little more than a year ago? At that time the Servians, in particular, were armed with the murderous French guns and swept from the field the opposing Turks armed with German guns.

If the French artillery refuses in this war to meet the expectations of France, then every nation in the world which has been copying it will begin to work on new lines, for it is predicted, a failure of the artillery will mean the defeat of the French.

The French since the times of Napoleon have specialized in artillery, and their guns of to-day, with their handling, form the backbone of the army.

### Guns Made in Secret

The guns are manufactured in secret, such is the value placed on them. The famous Dreyfus affair of fifteen years ago grew, in part, out of the suspicion that the secret of their manufacture had been sold to Germany. Friendly as France is to her Russian ally, she has never even lent to Russia any of her newer models.

There are three kinds of artillery pieces in use by the French army. One of these is the light machine gun, 75mm., a heavier 155mm. field gun of somewhat the same model, and the huge siege piece.

In action, the French use the method of indirect firing, which has been copied by every other nation. The gun, if possible, is planted behind a hill, in a ditch or some place where it is invisible from a distance. Then the officer in charge of the men handling the gun, but six if it is a 75mm., uses his glasses from the crest of the hill, or other high place, locates the enemy and calls out the direction and distance. The gun crew fire a first shot to plant the gun in the ground, and after that it settles in position and can fire as many as forty shells a minute.

### Punch Distance on Rim

Just before the shell reaches the breech, preparatory to firing, the correct distance is punched through figures stamped on the rim as a conductor punches a ticket. There are numerous time fuse marks, so that practically any desired distance is obtained.

The marks on the rim cause the mechanism automatically to aim the gun. According to the claims of French artillery officers, no enemy, once seen at a distance of from one to five miles, can possibly escape absolute destruction. The gun fire does not strike in the ranks of the enemy, but is aimed above them. The shells burst 45-feet from the ground and release a shower of small bullets which plunge downward. No matter how fast the enemy may retreat or disperse, so rapid is shell after shell sent that it can not escape. The gun is also constructed so that in firing it moves sidewise automatically to the right or left, thus covering possibly a quarter of a mile of an enemy's frontage.

The most terrible because the most numerous of the three classes of guns in the French army is the light machine gun, measuring but 3.2 inches at its muzzle. While only the French war office really knows, it is estimated that there are no less than 6,000 of these pieces in the hands of any single million of the troops mobilized.

### Artillery Main Body

There are three regiments of artillery to each army corps, or a total of two hundred regiments of artillery on a normal peace footing. This little gun, drawn by four horses and manned by six men, can fire at 500 yards or at five miles.

As organized to-day, the French army's cavalry and infantry are merely aids to the artillery. The artillery is the arm of the army, while the cavalry and infantry are merely its feet. The blanket fire of the machine gun can be kept up while the infantry is actually charging the enemy, and until within a few yards of it. The French do not care if, in such case, its artillery kills as many as 20 per cent of its own men, as the artillery officers have proved in the great yearly manoeuvres that otherwise at least fifty per cent of its own men would be killed by the enemy.

The light machine guns are used not only for skirmish work and to mow down the enemy's cavalry and infantry, but also to protect its own heavier 155mm. or 7-inch gun, and its own siege pieces.

### Protect Siege Pieces

Wherever there is a siege piece there is found a flanking dozen, at least, of the light guns to protect it from the enemy's charge. When protecting the heavier gun its shell is changed to a deadly short range shrapnel, which spreads its fire like bird shot from a fowling piece.

Because of the constant efforts of the German and other Governments to steal the secret of the little non-recoiling machine gun, it has been improved recently and its deadliness now can only be guessed at. Whenever abandoned on the field of battle, its crew destroys it, so that it can never be used again. By removing a small key, called the "clavette," made with as many contortions as a Yale lock and key, the piece is not only put out of service, but, it is said, drops apart in such a manner that its secret cannot be solved.

The campaign cannon, commonly called "Le Rimailho 155," about twice as large as the machine gun, works on a principle which is known to but few men in France. Invented by an officer named Le Rimailho, it is said to be the most terrible cannon ever invented.

### Gun Does Not Recoil

Like the smaller gun, it is non-recoiling, its body being fitted into a larger holder supposed to be filled with glycerine. It can destroy an enemy at a distance of eight miles.

If the secret of this gun is ever discovered, then it is claimed there is another model, the secret construction of which is locked up in the French war office, which is fifty per cent more destructive.

The Rimailho gun is operated in connections with aeroplane scouts, whose duty it is to discover the enemy. The scout climbs to the height of say a mile, being meanwhile followed with glasses by the officer in charge of the big gun. When the enemy is discovered in number, then the scout, using an arm as a semaphore, signals the enemy's position and probable distance. Then the annihilation of the enemy is but a question of time.

### FORGING AHEAD!

That is the position of The Mail and Advocate, as each issue sees a larger sale. What about that WANT ADVT?

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### HOW KAISER'S LAND FOES COMPARE WITH NAPOLEON'S

1813	
French forces	400,000
Allied forces of England, Prussia, Russia, Sweden and Spain	500,000
French troops	260,000
Against	
Austrian troops	210,000
Russian troops	150,000
English-Dutch troops	93,000
Prussian troops	116,000
Total	569,000
1914	
Germany and allies	11,200,000
France and allies	17,721,000

## AUSTRIANS ARE DISAPPOINTMENT TO THE GERMANS

Their Army Doing Practically Nothing to Assist Hard Pressed Fatherland

### AUSTRIA STUNNED BY EXTENT OF WAR

Did Not Anticipate Action Against Serbia Would Cause General Hostilities.

Paris, Aug. 11.—What Austria's army is doing to sustain Germany in her gigantic task is a complete puzzle to the people of Europe.

Is Kaiser Wilhelm now suffering from the proverbial ingratitude of the Hapsburgs? It is indisputable that Emperor Franz Josef is horror-stricken at the conflagration provoked by his war declaration on Serbia. Austria has prided herself upon the friendly relations with France and England, and the news reaching Paris from every source shows that Vienna's population is stunned at the enormous calamity which the Serbian question has brought upon the world.

### Not at War With France

Austria's check on the Danube gives rise to the speculation that either Austria's war ardor has cooled off, or she has moved the bulk of her army to the Russian frontier or into Germany to support the latter's attack on France and her Ambassadors are still at their posts in Paris.

Whatever is known officially here about Austria is being kept a rigorous secret. The French Government will not again allow any newspaper article or other indiscretion to prejudice her chances against Germany as was the case in the war of 1870. When the Paris newspapers unwittingly revealed to the German general staff Marshall MacMahon's march from Chalons, enroute for Metz. Only Cabinet Ministers and war officers and the general staff know of the disposition of the French forces, and the newspapers, as well as the public, are not likely to get the faintest enlightenment until the general staff gives the word. One fact, confirmed from every source, is that the first great hero of this war is General Linear, whose magnificent defence in the furious battle of Liege sheds eternal lustre on Belgium.

### F. A. MEWS,

BARRISTER, SOLICITOR and NOTARY.

ADDRESS: Law Chambers Building, Duckworth Street, St. John's, N.F. (Offices opposite Crosbie Hotel.)

### POTENTIALITIES OF THE TRIPLE ALLIANCE AND THE TRIPLE ENTENTE.

	Population in Millions.	Reckoned in Million Dollars.			Naval Efficiency Based on Gt. Britain		
		Debts.	Imports.	Exports	Peace	War Footing	@ 100%
Germany	65	\$4302	\$2179	\$1687	.75	2.54	80
Austria	51	3158	479	451	.42	1.87	40
Italy	35	2500	726	487	.29	1.24	50
Totals	151	\$14,343	\$3384	\$2625	1.46	5.65	56
THE TRIPLE ENTENTE.							
England	45	\$3553	\$3124	\$2348	.30	1.07	100
France	40	6076	1192	1102	.64	2.37	60
Russia	157	4714	485	533	1.20	3.62	30
Totals	242	\$14,343	\$4801	\$3983	2.14	7.06	63

## F. Gordon Bradley, LL.B.

(Dalhousie University.)

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