

THEY FOUGHT LIKE MEN OF IRON AND LIKE IRON SHALL THEIR DEEDS ENDURE WHILE MEN LIVE

shrouded in mystery. He was given a military funeral, and having met his death when on the front lines of the Iron Division his name appears on the casualty list of the division.

Played an Independent Role in Aisne-Marne Offensive

Fifty-fifth and Fifty-sixth Infantry Brigades Pushed Way Through Chateau-Thierry to Vesle River and Fismes

THERE was no longer any doubt concerning the efficiency of the Iron Division, and when the German line began to crumble on July 18, and the boche hordes began the retreat that did not stop until Germany admitted its inability to continue the struggle on November 11, the fighting Pennsylvania outfit which had been christened "Iron Division," was put into the Aisne-Marne offensive.

Owing to the vast area covered it is impossible to detail the series of engagements. Division officers, and there are more than 1500, explain that a bulk of the records are in France, and that a year will elapse before anything like an authentic account of the campaign can be written.

Preparing Full Record Pennsylvania will get the real story because an officer has been detailed to remain in France until a complete record is obtained.

What is undoubtedly the most authentic report of the division's operations from the time it entered the Aisne-Marne offensive until August 6 has been prepared by the French officers in command of the operation.

Recording the work of the division they give the following details: "Compelled to make a general retreat as the result of our counter-offenses of July 18, the Germans attempted to take the positions on the Ourcq, and they took part in heavy fighting on the heights which dominated this river. They were compelled, however, to give away under the repeated blows of our Allies and then, from July 30 on, the enemy commenced a new retreat in the direction of the Vesle. Definitely dislodged from the heights of Serings and Hill No. 220, northeast of Sergey, they had to meet the strong advance on the part of the American units who were fresh and energetic, and who were prepared to descend the slopes of Ronchères, while on their right the French were advancing across the Meuniere Woods.

"It was the movement of the American division which advanced from Ronchères to Fismes, progressing nearly parallel to the route that runs through Coulonges, Cohan, Longueville farm and Saint Giles that we will follow, beginning July 30, the date of this division's entry into this sector, until August 5, when it entered Fismes.

"On August 4, the infantry combats localized with terrible fury. The outskirts of Fismes were solidly held by the Germans, where their advance groups were difficult to take. The Americans stormed them and reduced them with their light mortars and 37s. They succeeded, though not without loss, and at the end of the day, thanks to this slow but sure tenacity, they were within one kilometer of Fismes, masters of Ville-Savoie and of Chezeville Farm.

"All night long the rain hindered their movements and rendered their following day's task more arduous. "On the right the French had, by similar stages, conquered the series of woods and swamps of the Meuniere Woods to the east of Saint Giles and were at this hour on the plateau of the Bonneaison Farm.

"To the left, another American unit had been able to advance upon the Vesle to the east of Saint Thibaut. "On August 5 the artillery prepared the attack on Fismes by well regulated bombardment, and the final assault was launched. The Americans penetrated into the village and began the task of clearing the last points of resistance. That evening this task was almost completed. We held as far as the Rheims road and patrols were sent to the northern part of the village. Some even succeeded in crossing the Vesle, but they were satisfied with making a simple reconnaissance, as the Germans still occupied the right bank of the river in great strength. All that was left was to accomplish the complete mopping up of Fismes and the strengthening of our positions to withstand an enemy counter-attack.

"Such was the advance of one American division which pushed forward from Ronchères (July 30) a distance of eighteen kilometers, and crowned its successful advance with the capture of Fismes.

ing evacuated the village under American pressure, bombarded it heavily with gas. Americans did not stop in Clerges itself. They went around it and in a magnificent dash stormed the northern slopes. Then, after a short rest, they captured part of the Jomblets woods.

"TWENTY-EIGHTH" RESTING BEFORE ALLIES' FINAL DRIVES



Dug in on a hillside at St. Gilles, France, for a short rest. The Fifty-fifth B rigade, Twenty-eighth Division, taking a brief halt on August 8, 1918, before the final drives of the war

Sons of State Disregarded All Hazards to Crush Foe

French Commander Lauds Pennsylvanians for Remarkable Record Made After Reaching Vesle River

THE fighting during the three days of the last German offensive, July 15 to 18, produced many real heroes, but the Aisne-Marne offensive produced a number far greater.

On another page of this supplement is a list of the men who won war crosses and the exploits of many are detailed. Every story is an epic and ought to thrill the state with pride.

Its sons disregarded every hazard to win, and in aiding to crush Germany lived up to the best traditions in the army.

That it disregarded all hazards is shown in the casualty list from July 28 to September 7. In that time the division lost 785 in killed, 811 were severely wounded, 4232 sustained slight wounds and 589 were reported as missing.

The 110th Infantry suffered the greatest number of casualties in this period, for the records show that 314 men were killed, 235 severely wounded, 1198 slightly wounded and 211 missing.

The 111th Infantry lost 193 in killed, 131 were severely wounded, 843 slightly wounded and ninety men missing.

The 112th lost 122 men, had 131 severely wounded, 461 slightly wounded and listed 195 as missing.

The 109th, which had sustained the greatest number of casualties in the first campaign, is fourth on this list. It lost eighty-three in killed, 163 men were severely wounded, 874 slightly wounded and 211 missing.

When the division reached the Vesle and continued its drive against the boche, General Mangin, of the French army, appreciating that the Pennsylvanians were making a splendid record, paid them the following tribute:

"Shoulder to shoulder with your French comrades, you were thrown into the counter-offensive battle which commenced on the 18th of July. "You rushed into the fight as though to a fete. "Your magnificent courage completely routed a surprised enemy, and your indomitable tenacity checked the counter-attacks of his fresh divisions. "You have shown yourselves worthy sons of your great country, and you were admired by your brothers in arms. "Ninety-one guns, 7200 prisoners, immense booty, ten kilometers of country reconquered. This is your portion of the spoil of this victory. "To attack him is to vanquish him. "American comrades, I am grateful to you for the blood so generously spilled on the soil of my country. "I am proud to have commanded you during such trying days and to have fought with you for the deliverance of the world."

Supreme Blow Is Struck in Region of Argonne

Iron Division Lost 562 Killed, 3434 Wounded in Terrific Fighting Around Flaville on October 4

THE successful operations in the Vesle sector convinced the Allied chiefs that the hour had come to strike a supreme blow in the Argonne. Marshal Foch had been working on the details of the campaign in that region, and in the early days of September began to rush troops into the sector.

September 26 was the day selected for the big drive, and again the fortunes of war decreed that the Iron Division should participate. The Pennsylvanians were relieved in the Fismes sector on September 7, and rushed by motor-trucks and other facilities to the Argonne region.

It must be borne in mind that from July 1 until September 7 the Pennsylvanians had been under fire virtually every day. They had sustained heavy losses, but had proved their worth as shock troops.

They were assigned to a place on the left of the long line of American doughboys that were destined to drive the boche from the Argonne stronghold and established headquarters a short distance from Bouraillies.

The division commander is authorized to inform all from the lowest to the highest, that their efforts are known and appreciated. A new division, by force of circumstances, took its place in the front line in one of the greatest battles of the greatest war of history. The division has acquitted itself in a creditable manner. It has stormed and taken a point that was regarded proof against assault. It has taken numerous prisoners from a vaunted guard division of the enemy. It has inflicted on the enemy far more loss than it has suffered from him. In a single gas application it inflicted more damage than the enemy inflicted on it by gas since its entry into the battle.

It is desired these facts be brought to the attention of all, in order that the tendency of new troops to allow their minds to dwell on their own losses to the exclusion of what they have done to the minimum may be reduced to the minimum.

Let all be of good heart! We have inflicted more loss than we have suffered; we are better men individually than our enemies. A little more grit, a little more effort, a little more determination to keep our enemies down and the division will have the right to look upon itself as an organization of veterans. CHARLES H. MUIR, Major General.

Augusta, Ga., Sent the 28th Away With Prayers for Their Victory

The following is a copy of a resolution of the City Council of Augusta, Ga., drafted by Isaac S. Peebles, Jr., then city attorney of Augusta, and passed upon the eve of departure of the Twenty-eighth Division from Camp Hancock for overseas duty: "Whereas, The cries of Belgium, the heroic sufferings of France, the murder of women and children, have called together in our midst, at Camp Hancock, the flower of Pennsylvania's young manhood, for equipment to battle for their country, and mankind's cause; and they possess the finest sense of duty and the deepest realization of courtesy and refinement, and are dominated, above all, with such a love of country that they have placed upon its altar their lives and pledged to its sacred honor; and "Whereas, They have removed from this community and state the last vestige of sectionalism, a remnant of days that are gone, and have woven themselves into our hearts with their manly bearing and their self-sacrifice that democracy may not perish from the face of the earth and that the unspoken Hun shall not prevail; and "Whereas, This division will possibly soon depart from our city for the battlefields of France to help pay the debt we owe to France and to our children and children's children; therefore, be it "Resolved, by the City Council of Augusta, That we express to our patriots and friends, the said Twenty-eighth Division, our appreciation and love for their courtesy and manly bearing while in our midst and for the noble sacrifices they have already made and are to make on what we know to be fields of suffering, but of heroic sacrifice and glory in France; and be it further "Resolved, That we bespeak for the said Twenty-eighth Division the daily applications of this community to a most high being for their safety and for their glory, along with their prayers for our own boys, many of whom, too, will make the supreme sacrifice that we may live as free men."

Second Army Leader Cited 28th as A-1 Shock Division

Fighting Spirit of American Troops Exemplified by Operation of Pennsylvanians, General R. L. Bullard Declares

IT WOULD take the commanding general of the Iron Division to tell the real story of the Argonne campaign, but General R. L. Bullard, commanding the Second Army, in which the Pennsylvania division was a unit, gives a pithy analysis of its worth.

Citing the organization for its performances in the Argonne, he said: "This division has always been a combat division in every sense of the word and in my belief should be classed as an A-1 shock division. I desire to extend my most sincere congratulations to the officers and men of this division, which has, in its operations, exemplified the fighting spirit of the American troops."

Although the Argonne campaign was a continuous fight from September 26 until the division was relieved the most severe fighting took place at Apremont.

September 29 stands out conspicuously in the operations, and the name of Major Mackey, commander of a battalion in the 109th Infantry, is worthy of mention. Accompanied by nine tanks, his battalion, coupled with a battalion of the 109th led by Major Thompson, attacked the town. The battalion of the 109th was the first to reach Apremont, but owing to the intense artillery fire of the enemy the advance was checked until reinforcements arrived.

Resistance Was Stubborn Division officers assert that the Germans put up a wonderful fight against the division at Apremont and that the resistance was stubborn until October 8, when the Pennsylvanians were relieved.

The artillery brigade, under command of Brigadier General William G. Price, participated in this campaign, and then proceeded to Belgium. Its work is told in another section of this supplement.

Although the infantry and machine-gun units were reduced to small numbers of men, the division, on October 8, was relieved and sent to the Thiaucourt sector.

Marshal Foch had planned for a big offensive in that sector, and November 14 was the day chosen for the launching of the drive. The division to reach Lachaussee Lake near Chably made a long detour and passed through Verdun, St. Mihiel and Minil La Tour.

The movement gave the boys a slight rest, but on October 17 they were again in contact with the enemy.

Campaign Was Peculiar The Allied leaders planned a peculiar campaign in this sector. In a word, the enemy was to be harassed, and the doughboys from Pennsylvania were selected for the job. They were to make raids on the enemy lines and make themselves hated by the enemy. By doing so they would keep the enemy on the alert and prevent the sending of any Germans from this sector into the Argonne. The plan worked to perfection, for the Pennsylvanians behaved in a fruitful manner.

They made life miserable for the enemy and kept it until November 11. The last day of the war found them hard at work, and a partial casualty list, compiled on the morning of November 11, proves that they were obeying orders to the letter.

The following list gives the names of the men who gave up their lives on the last day of the war: Mike Parnoki, Company B, 108th Machine-Gun Battalion; Oliver Frazas, Ernest Francis and Anton Peroutka, Company B, 109th Infantry; Leo G. Ray and Robert P. Mason, Company H, 109th Infantry.

Captain Charles H. Crowe, Company G, 109th Infantry, was wounded in a raid and died the following day. First Lieutenant Francis R. Austin met a similar fate. Patrick J. Nixon, Charles M. Wood and Samuel Raisor, wounded on November 9, died on the morning of the 11th.

Casualty List for November 11 The following men sustained wounds on November 11: A company, 109th Infantry, Sergeant Thomas McKeen, Robert Brown, Dominic Pantone, Roy B. Arms, Daniel Barry, Norman W. Emerick, Cyrus E. Gross, Andrew S. Kouns, B company, 108th Machine-Gun Battalion, Jesse Churchman, Mose Hedrick, J. L. Strickle, B company, 109th Infantry, Corporals Herard Klaber, Gale Ragdale, Stanley Gagacki, Bert V. Haskell and Franklin P. Keast, Privates Quinten O. Casten, James M. Johnson, William O. Koppin, Russell Waters, Anton Rily, H company, 109th Infantry, Corporals George B. Woodward and William Dudley, F company, 109th Infantry, Sergeant George R. Cushing, Robert Holloran, Clarence Miller, Albert O'Geary, John Shershook, Nicolla Giannacana. A company, 109th Infantry, Sergeant Irving A. Daniels, Privates C. R. Harbridge, Fred Prazcna, Leroy Adams, Julius F. Anderson, Raymond Brown, E company, 109th Infantry, First Sergeant Frank A. Miller and Corporal Daniel F. Fratz, G company, William Corbin, Fred G. Hauser, William S. Lackie, Jesse Lamey, Headquarters company, Sergeant Edward R. Wolf, Carroll A. O'Connell, B company, 111th Infantry, Percy McKee, William Barsbarski, George LaDuke, William Matsavake, Lester A. Prentice, Leo J. Reinhardt, John Scarborough. Move to Colomby Les Belles While operating in this sector the division lost eighty-four in killed, ninety-six were seriously wounded, 644 sustained slight wounds and 193 were missing. The 111th Infantry headed the casualty list with twenty-nine dead and the 12th recorded twenty-eight killed. The 109th lost eleven and the 110th ten.