

Reunion Souvenir
Issued by the
121st Field Artillery
Veterans' Association
upon the occasion of the
First Annual Reunion of the
32nd Division ("Les Terribles")
At Milwaukee
September 18-21, 1920



The 121st Field Artillery

The 121st Field Artillery came into being in 1917, when the First Field Artillery, Wisconsin Army National Guard was mustered into federal service and made a part of the 32nd Division, United States Army. During its service in France, the regiment was armed with 155 mm. howitzers (Schneider) and its equipment was horse-drawn. After the armistice it was motorized.

As a part of the National Guard, the regiment was the outgrowth of Battery A of Milwaukee, which had been in existence since the Spanish-American war. In 1916, when the Mexican border troubles became acute and war was threatened there, the entire Guard of Wisconsin was ordered to Texas for the maneuvers and Capt. Philip C. Westfahl was instructed to complete the organization of a battalion of 3 batteries of light artillery. Battery A was then equipped with 3-inch field pieces. As a result of this order, Battery B was formed at Green Bay and Battery C at Racine. Many of the members of these organizations were attached to Battery A during its border service, the rest of the command spending two weeks at Camp Douglas in training.

Battery A returned to Milwaukee on Oct. 26, 1916. The organization of the 3 batteries were perfected, Capt. Westfahl being promoted to major, and regular drills were held in the armories during the winter. In spring of 1917 when American participation in the World War became a certainty, the War Department ordered the battalion to be increased to a full regiment

The Adjutant General of the state gave instructions to have the 3 new batteries recruited in the same cities - Milwaukee, Green Bay, and Racine.

Major Westfahl assumed the task, and completed it by the first of May, 1917, 3 weeks after the war was declared. Battery A had long been in possession of 4, 3-inch guns, and 42 horses. Battery B had 4 guns and rented horses for drill purposes. Battery E of Green Bay and Battery D of Milwaukee were allowed to use the material of Batteries B and A respectively. Batteries C and F of Racine had no horses or equipment of any sort excepting 100 uniforms possessed by the older of the 2 units.

In addition to the 6 batteries from Milwaukee, Racine and Green Bay there was a Supply company formed at Milwaukee with an authorized strength of 2 officers and 35 men. A medical detachment was formed with 5 officers and 23 men, and Milwaukee also contributed a regimental headquarters company of 16 men and a regimental band. The batteries each had a strength of 200 men and 5 officers, so the total strength of the Wisconsin Field Artillery was about 1,300 officers and men, when ordered to Camp Douglas, Wis., on July 2, 1917. Col. P. C. Westfahl was the commanding officer. Guy D. Armitage was lieutenant-colonel. The battalion commanders were Majors Alonzo J. Comstock and George W. Rickeman. Lieut. Louis A. Fuhrman was

regimental adjutant. The unit commanders were:

Battery A - Capt. Fraedrachs.
Battery B - Capt. Harvey F. Smith.
Battery C - Capt. Richard G. Bryant.
Battery D - Capt. Ralph R. Hibbard.
Battery E - Capt. John M. West.
Battery F - Capt. James W. Gilson.
Supply Co. - Capt. Arthur W. Walter.
Medical detachment - Major Clarence J. Kenney
Headquarters Co. - Capt. J. George Rood.

The Supply company was the first unit to go to camp and it arrived at the state reservation on July 1. The other organizations entrained on the morning of July 2, arriving at Camp Douglas on special trains during the afternoon of that day. The majority of the men had no uniforms, and had left home in old clothes which could be thrown away after they received suitable equipment, so that it was a somewhat motley looking body of men which started for war on the hot, murky day mentioned. The Milwaukee organizations had spent the previous night in their armory, and entrained at Whitefish Bay. There was little ceremony connected with their departure. In Green Bay and Racine, the departing troops received a tremendous send-off from the assembled citizens. It was estimated that fully 30,000 persons were gathered in the railroad yards at Racine when the special train bearing Batteries F and C pulled out at 7:30 a.m.

2 weeks were spent at Camp Douglas in drawing uniforms and personal equipment for the men, and completing the organizations according to the latest requirements of the War department. Drills were indulged in for eight hours a day. The greater part of the drill was infantry work, as the 8 guns in the possession of the regiment could only serve 2 batteries at a time. The regiment was the first one of the guard to mobilize at Camp Douglas, but one of the infantry regiments had been in service guarding bridges and military supplies at various points ever since war was declared in April.

During the entire training period in America, the artillerymen were quartered in pyramidal canvas tents, with a sleeping capacity of 8 men each. This capacity was sometimes stretched to 10 or 12, as the personnel was frequently increased upon short notice.

The regiment received word within a few days that it would be mustered into United States service on July 15 and 16 by batteries, and there were many busy days and nights spent by company clerks and first sergeants preparing the records for

the inspection by Colonel Jones, U.S.A., the mustering officer. Physical examinations were conducted by a large staff of army surgeons, and all men were inoculated against typhoid, and vaccinated against smallpox. There were a few discharged for physical disability, and others because of having dependent relatives. The strict requirements laid down for service in the National Guard is shown by the fact that many of those discharged at Camp Douglas were later drafted into service under the Selective Service act.

2 incidents which will be remembered by those at Camp Douglas are the rain storm which flooded some of the company streets to a depth of 2 feet, and a practice hike led by Col. Westfahl, on which the men walked 15 miles over the sandy roads at 4 miles per hour while carrying full packs. The regiment was mustered into federal service beginning July 15, and was notified that it was to be part of a National Guard division which would include the Wisconsin and Michigan guard contingents.

Early in August it was realized at Washington that the government would be unable to transport many troops to Europe before Christmas, and on account of the unfavorable winter climate in Wisconsin and lack of suitable housing facilities, it was decided to send all National Guard and Regular army divisions south to complete their training so they would be ready for action when the navy had completed arrangements for overseas transportation. During all of this time there was a marked lack of knowledge on the part of the War Department as to the correct organization of artillery units, or the sort of equipment with which they were to be provided. It was still assumed, however, that the 3 artillery regiments of this division would be given 3-inch American field pieces.

On Aug. 18, 1917, Battery F was assigned to precede the regiment to Camp Mac Arthur, at Waco, Texas, and prepare the site for the rest of the organization. The battery entrained that noon, accompanied by Battery C's pet goat which had been stolen after considerable intrigue, and arrived at Waco August 21.

The rest of the regiment continued its drilling and Camp Douglas until September 9, when it entrained for Waco, arriving there 3 days later. The regimental area had been staked out and mess halls had been constructed for each battery by the government contractors. Tents were pitched, and within 24 hours the regiment was settled comfortably and prepared to resume its ceaseless round of drills and hardening exercises and marches.

On September 22 the regiment was officially made a part of the 57th F.A. brigade, 32nd division, and re-christened the 121st Field Artillery. Maj. Gen. James Parker commanded the division at the time, and Brig. Gen. William G. Haan, who later commanded the division, was brigade commander. Capt Gilson of Battery F was transferred to brigade headquarters as adjutant, and Capt. Alvin A. Kuechenmeister was assigned to the Racine battery.

Having drilled in the dust and sand of Camp Mac Arthur for 3 months, under the burning Texas sun, the regiment was sent early in December for a few days,

firing practice at the China Springs range, 20 miles away. The men had learned everything which could be given to them to learn by their instructors. They were in fine physical condition. Hardened by constant work, and robbed of superfluous flesh by the oppressive heat, they were prepared for anything that might be wanted of them. They were pronounced ready for overseas service. For another month the regiment awaited orders continuing the tiresome drills. A Texas "norther" and a severe blizzard relieved the monotony during the holiday week. The canvas tents offered little shelter from the piercing wind. Construction of trenches and battery positions in a stratum of limestone rock served to keep some of the men warm by day, but the nights are still memories.

Throughout the stay of the division at Waco, the people of that city left nothing undone to make our stay pleasant and aside from the "profiteerin"g which occurred in stores around all army camps, there was no cause for complaints. Many of the northern lads returned to Waco after the war to marry southern girls whom they had met, wooed and won during the months spent at Camp Mac Arthur. The people of Waco watched the future accomplishments of the division in France with a real pride and interest, as frequent cablegrams and letters to the Commanding General testified.

Late in December Gen. Haan informed the officers that the trip to Europe would not be postponed much longer, and that orders might be expected any time after New Year's day. Early in January the horses and wheeled material were turned in to the quartermaster's department. At least once a week, the regiment practiced breaking camp, so it would be a simple matter to leave quickly when instructions came to entrain. Word was received on February 4 that the regiment would really leave Waco the next morning, so on February 5 all property was packed, the men made their rolls, and after an hour or two of policing the regimental area during a dust storm, the march to the loading platform began. By supper time the entire regiment was on its way west, each battalion train going over a different route but all arriving at Camp Merritt, N.J., near New York City, on February 11.

Here for the first time in months the soldiers enjoyed the luxury of real beds to sleep in, and real walls and roofs to shelter them. Aside from a mild epidemic of measles and scarlet fever which developed almost as soon as these outdoor soldiers began to live inside of barracks, there was little of importance to record regarding the stay at Camp Merritt. About half the regiment got 24 hour passes to visit New York, and half of the rest went anyway. We policed the camp, which had been covered with rubbish during the winter, and for the first time were subjected to the discipline of the "song leaders," who made everyone sing "Mr. Zipp" and "A Long, Long Trail" whether they wanted or not. Frequent physical inspections and distribution of identification tags and winter caps completed the preparations for departure to France.

On March 2 Batteries C and D left Camp Merritt at 5 o'clock in the morning and went by train to Hoboken. They marched three blocks to the docks and filed

aboard the U.S.S. Leviathan, formerly the Hamburg-American liner Vaterland. The next day the rest of the regiment and brigade came aboard. About 8,500 men and officers were between decks, not counting the ship's crew of nearly 1,000. The officers were crowded pretty tightly on the top two decks, but below these the entire interior of the vessel down to the tops of the boilers was filled with canvas bunks, four deep and separated by aisles 18 inches wide. The only exceptions were the spaces used for mess halls and the storage of baggage. Throughout the whole ship hung the odor of disinfectants, while the ventilation there was almost none. The transport sailed March 4, at noon.

The members of the 121st F.A. greeted their new surroundings with mixed emotions. Like all soldiers they had growled more or less over everything in the army from the food and clothing to the drill schedules and camp rules, and they had cause to growl over conditions on the Leviathan. Yet there was probably less real kicking there than at any resting point of the regiment. Certainly there was not a man who would have traded his suffocating berth aboard the Europe-bound boat for a tent at Camp Mac Arthur or an M.P.'s job in New York. They were at last moving in the direction that had been the focus of their thoughts and dreams for six months or more.

In many respects the artillery brigade was more fortunate than their fellow soldiers. The Leviathan was one of the fastest boats afloat and everyone knew that she would not require more than a week for the trip, whereas many of the convoyed vessels spent twenty days or more at sea,

While the regiment was on the way to Camp Merritt, news had been received of the sinking of the Tuscania with a large contingent of the Thirty-second division men aboard and everyone was inclined to expect a torpedo attack before foreign shores were sighted. The ship's officers and crew were very cautious in anticipation of an attack. Life belts had been worn or carried all the time, and "abandon ship" drills were held daily. These drills were useful in showing the men the methods of getting out of their quarters below the water line to the deck above, but they were also discouraging in that they demonstrated that in case of really abandoning ship there were not enough lifeboats or rafts to sustain a tenth of those on board. When ship's officers were consulted privately, they admitted that the best thing to do, if the ship were sinking, would be to jump overboard and try to swim around until picked up by someone (identity unknown). As the upper decks were fifty or sixty feet above the waves, even this jumping business did not seem especially inviting.

As the Leviathan, zig zagging across the ocean toward England, entered the danger zone off the western coast of Ireland there was a torpedo scare. The vessel was running without lights and between decks it was as dark as a cellar. Almost everyone had retired early, as there was nothing to do. Suddenly, about 10 p.m., the ship lurched violently while changing her course, there was a terrific explosion on "H" deck, below the waterline, followed by a crash of splintered wood and rushing of many feet. The

uproar occurred near the station of the military guard, and it is said that many of the guard made rapid time to open air above. There were several cries of "torpedo! torpedo!" and then mostly silence. Before there was any chance of a real panic, and before the startled sleepers could crawl out of their sections, it was discovered that the excitement was caused by an exploding steampipe and the capsizing of a pile of tables in the mess hall.

On the morning of March 11 three destroyers flying the American flag loomed up out of the fog and took their places as escorts of the transport. A high sea was running and during their occasional trips above decks the soldiers had a chance to see why sailors eat sandwiches. The destroyers were tossed about like corks. Waves frequently dashed over their whole lengths. Sometimes it seemed as though the little craft would stand straight up on their bows or sterns.

Within twenty-four hours, the green hills of Wales appeared, and then the rugged cliffs of Ireland became visible through the fog. Finally the sun came out gloriously and the last four hours of riding toward Liverpool were in perfect weather. The transport pulled into the Mersey and anchored, and later went into drydock. All hands were sent ashore the next day for an exercise march. On March 14 the brigade entrained with their baggage in cute little compartment cars at the London & Northwestern station. For twelve hours the trains sped along perfect roadbeds through checker-board fields of brilliant green and restful brown; past thatched cottages and red-tiled mansions; through Birmingham, Lemington, Oxford, Warwick, and finally to Winchester. Detrained, the artillerymen were met by a blasted British drizzle, which soaked through their winter overcoats and made their packs heavier than lead. Then for three miles they marched in pitch darkness through narrow streets and up hills and more hills and still more hills until at last the presence of long lines of barracks made themselves felt through the gloom. It took two or three hours, but the English sergeants finally assigned the visitors to shelter, where three planks did for a bunk. When they turned out in the morning for a hearty breakfast, they were met with a funny little ration of bread, cheese and tea, and not much of that. Everyone began to realize that war was hell. This view was confirmed as each meal reproduced the same menu, the only variation being in quantity.

This camp was named "Winnal Downs" but it didn't take the first American soldier more than one meal's time to rechristen it "Dwindle Down," although many also referred to it lovingly as "Camp Cheese." A couple of days were spent in this "rest camp," as some joker named these halting places. We all gained a little culture by visiting the famous cathedral, the old castle and Cromwell's battery positions, and looking over the original Round Table of King Arthur with cynical glances. "A good rig to shoot crap on," one buck decided after examining it carefully.

On March 18, the regiment again shouldered its packs and entrained for Southampton for the next leg of the journey. At Southampton palatial cattleboats, each about the size of a Milwaukee river tug, were provided for the accommodation of the Yanks,

and the first contingent started across the English channel just as the sun was setting. The trip only lasted six hours, but it was plenty. There was barely standing room, and officers and bucks alike shared the fragrant stalls and sties. Taken all in all, the regimental memories of England are not especially pleasant and the general sentiment seemed to be that the trenches would be welcome when they got there.

The landing in France was made at Le Harvre, and here again the weary plodders discovered that "rest camps" are always located on the top of high hills. The weather was hot, and so were the woolen uniforms, overcoats, caps and underclothes. The packs were also heavy, as tired feet pounded the brick pavements up and up until the big group of grey tents hove in sight.

The orders were for twelve men or ten officers to occupy a tent. Col. Westfahl just filled his all by himself, and the other nine in his quarters draped themselves on the guy ropes. In the "twelve bed" tents, the men laid three deep when they went inside to avoid rain storms. The food furnished was suitable to make stew of, but hardly suitable to eat. However, there appeared on the scene vendors of champagne at 5 francs a bottle and vin ordinaire at 2 francs, and if some hundreds sought comfort in this wicked stuff, they surely had some reason. It was worth buying just because it was a bargain.

At midnight of the first night in camp, there were heard several distant booming noises. We decided this was an air raid, and all shivered apprehensively. However, when packs were donned again the next day for the march to the railroad station, there were no visible signs of a raid and none of the citizens had heard of it.

On March 21 we bade good-bye to Camp Sanvic and got into half dozen trains made up of the world-famous "Hommes 40 au Cheveaux 8" box cars which furnished inspiration for so much humor in the A.E.F. Thirty hours aboard this contraption proved sufficient, and after feeding most of the reserve ration of corned willy and hard tack to the souvenir seeking French children along the way, we pulled into the station at Guer. As was always the case in France, no one had known where we were going until we arrived. Once again the packs were shouldered over the heavy winter clothing, and in a broiling sun, the regiment proceeded to march to its final training station - the ancient artillery camp, Coetquidan, Department of Ille et Vilaine, west to Rennes.

The entire 57th brigade spent three months at Coetquidan. It was hard work, but there was mighty little grumbling here. American rations were served; instructors were provided by the French army who knew just what had to be learned; the 121st regiment was finally and officially declared a heavy field artillery outfit, and the batteries were promptly equipped with four 155 mm. howitzers apiece, and with 8 caissons, a chariot du parc, forgan, battery wagon, rolling kitchen and water cart. Each battery got a hundred French horses, mostly mares and the rest stallions, and the job of teaching these beasts to learn English and behave was no small task. A score of drivers went into the hospital for treatment before the education of the animals

was completed. Firing with the new guns began almost immediately, and half of each day was spent in the various classes where selected details of officers and men studied map-making, equitation, mechanics, firing board work, signalling, wireless, field telephones, construction of shelters, and the dozens of other things that veteran French soldiers knew must be learned.

The camp was ideally suited for the purpose. The small villages nearby were not large enough to offer any temptation toward idleness, and the firing range had much the appearance of the actual front. Some deserted hamlets beyond a deep valley served as targets for firing and the rolling, wooded country in the vicinity offered suitable terrain for any maneuvers that were planned.

"Now we know what we are working for," was the general sentiment, and everyone went at the job with a will. Inside of six weeks the French instructors had declared the regiment ready for field service. Battery, battalion, regimental and finally brigade problems were fired on the range. The units were given practice in marching in field equipment, taking up positions at night, meeting gas attacks, and loading and unloading railroad trains.

Gen. McGlachlin, who had been brigade commander since the promotion of Gen. Haan at Waco, was assigned elsewhere upon our arrival in France and Gen. Chamberlain assumed command. He was a strict disciplinarian, a severe critic and at times harsh in his judgments, but he certainly kept the brigade working from morning until night. Battery D will long remember Gen. Chamberlain. Early in April there was a fight between some M.P.'s at the main camp gate and some soldiers off duty. Two members of Battery D were picked up near the scene of the trouble and placed under arrest. That evening, Gen. Chamberlain ordered all officers and men of the battery to parade with truffles and full packs and then required them to organize a sentry line around the entire camp as punishment. Capt. Haight posted his men through the woods and swamps and fields on a line four miles in length, in a drizzling rain. The last post was stationed at midnight. He then reported and was ordered to "relieve the guard," which took until 4:30 am. The battery marched in to the company street at 5 am. for an hour's rest before reveille. The next day there was quite a bit of interest in the courtmartial of the two suspected men. They were both acquitted of complicity. Battery D waited for an apology from the general, but it never came.

On May 12 Gen. LeRoy Irwin took command of the brigade, and while he was a strict disciplinarian, he also understood his men and during his service with the brigade, which lasted until the end of the war, he was respected and loved by all of his subordinates.

During the reorganization of the division at Waco, Texas, there were many changes in organizations. The 121st FA had been augmented by 50 men in each battery, and the enlargement of the headquarters and supply companies. Numerous officers had been shifted from battery to battery, and even from regiment to regiment in the brigade. Most of the enlisted men who joined the regiment there were former

members of the 4th, 5th and 6th Wisconsin infantry (National Guard) and there were also a few recruits from the first draft. A large number of new officers from the training schools had been assigned to duty with the regiment, and others had left, due to transfer or resignation. The roster of officers of the regiment at Camp Coetquidan on May 20, 1918, was as follows:

Phillip C. Westfahl,	Colonel.
Guy D. Armitage,	Lieut Col.
Alonzo J. Comstock,	Major.
Clarence J. Kenney,	Major.
George W. Rickeman,	Major.
Richard G. Bryant,	Captain, Battery C.
Ernest V. Cook,	Captain, Battery A.
Louis G. Fuhrmann,	Captain, Adjutant.
Walter L. Haight,	Captain, Battery D.
Ralph R. Hibbard,	Captain, Battery E.
Louis J. Hofman,	Captain, Battery F.
Charles Karst, Jr.,	Captain, Adjutant 3rd Bn..
Otto J. Langbecker,	Captain, Adjutant 2nd Bn..
Benoni O. Reynolds,	Captain, Unassigned.
Harvey F. Smith,	Captain, Battery B.
Arthur W. Walter,	Captain, Supply Co.
Arthur A. Hoffman,	Captain, Medical Dept.
Thomas A. Bedell,	1st. Lt., Headquarters Co.
Charles C. Benson,	1st. Lt., Headquarters Co.
Walter T. Bie,	1st. Lt., Headquarters Co.
Edward Bolzendahl,	1st. Lt., Headquarters Co.
Ralph A. Drumm,	1st. Lt., Battery B.
Charles Eddy,	1st. Lt., Battery D.
Oscar Frings,	1st. Lt., Battery F.
Wakeman Hackett,	1st. Lt., Headquarters Co.
Harry Herzog,	1st. Lt., Battery C.
Leroy J. Hoberg,	1st. Lt., Battery B.
Ridgely Hanscom,	1st. Lt., Medical Dept.
Frank H. Fancher,	1st. Lt., Medical Dept.
Frank W. Kemmerer,	1st. Lt., Supply Co.
Ludwig T. Kuehl,	1st. Lt., Headquarters Co.
George F. King,	1st. Lt., Medical Dept.

Charles R. Loomis,	1st. Lt., Battery E.
Walter E. Mueller,	1st, Lt., Medical Dept.
John McTammany,	1st, Lt., Medical Dept.
Frederick S. Penfold,	1st, Lt., Chaplin.
William P. Roberts,	1st. Lt., Headquarters Co.
Hugo A. Rickeman,	1st. Lt., Battery F.
Patrick E. Shea,	1st. Lt., Battery D.
Peyton Winlock,	1st. Lt., Headquarters Co.
C. C. Beals,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Ralph L. Beaudry,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Frank Bergier,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Bert E. Bewick,	2nd, Lt., Battery D.
Erle P. Blair,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Karl A. Burnside,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Charles H. Bunn, Jr.,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
William L. Crow,	2nd, Lt., Battery E.
John Dehner,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Guy K. Dohner,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Sanford B. Frank,	2nd, Lt., Battery E.
Robert C. Graewin,	2nd, Lt., Battery F.
Ward Griffing,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Roscoe Guilbert,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Victor R. Hansen,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Howard Haupt,	2nd, Lt., Battery C.
Fred O. John,	2nd, Lt., Supply Co.
Oliver R. Johnson,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Robert H. Johnson,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Fred G. Kendall,	2nd, Lt., Battery F.
Merle F. Lummis,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Edward G. Millstead,	2nd, Lt., Battery C.
John Mulder,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Herbert L. Nichols,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Joseph S. Nelson,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
John P. O'Leary,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Harold E. Petersen,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Herbert W. Perry,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Walter S. Phelps,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Robert W. Poolard,	2nd, Lt., Battery A.
Francis J. Redfield,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
George S. Ross,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.

John R. Slade,	2nd, Lt., Battery D.
Robert R. Stevenson,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Fred Stimpson,	2nd, Lt., Battery B.
Fred Stoeckman,	2nd, Lt., Battery A.
Elmer S. Terhune,	2nd, Lt., Battery B.
Harold Tinkelpaugh,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
William F. Thurmon,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Robert B. Warden,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Claude A. Webb,	2nd, Lt., Headquarters Co.
Samuel H. Shindelman,	2nd, Lt., Medical Dept.
Arthur F. Shrear,	2nd, Lt., Medical Dept.
Joseph P. Buckhannann,	2nd, Lt., Battery A.
Warren McCracken,	2nd, Lt., Battery A.

During April, the 121st sent two batteries away on detached service. Battery A went to Gondrecourt as firing battery for the First corps school, and Battery C to Montigny-sur-Aube to serve the Second corps school. Battery A rejoined the command in July, but Battery C was not relieved during the year. In June, Battery E, the last to leave camp, was assigned to Saumur to fire for the officers' school there, and remained on that duty until after the armistice.

In addition to the departure of these units, many officers and men were sent to various schools as instructors or students in special courses and for a time it looked as if the old regiment was to be scattered to the four winds and disbanded. This fear was not without some foundation, because the Thirty-second division had been declared a replacement division, and some of its personnel had already been transferred to the First division and other Regular army organizations which needed strengthening. Fortunately, early in June the need for numerous combat organizations caused a change in plans and the Thirty-second was declared a "temporary combat division" and the 57th F.A. brigade was ordered to entrain for "somewhere" to support its own doughboys. When the Thirty-second once got into action, there was never again any thought of destroying its identity and it proved to be one of the best of many good fighting divisions. Part of the damage had been done, however, and it became necessary to absorb hundreds of recruits to replace those who had been sent out as replacements.

On June 8, 1918, the 121st F.A. started for the front. With baggage reduced to a minimum and individual equipment consisting of little more than the clothes on our backs, mess kits and blankets, the batteries entrained at Guer. The dinky engine hitched on the east end of the train of the "8-40" cars and flats, so everyone knew we were headed toward the front. Just where, made little difference. It was for this that the men had been working like slaves for ten months and they wanted to see whether they could do in actual warfare what they had done in practice.

The route took the regiment through some of the prettiest and most historic parts of France - Rennes, LeMans, Tours, Bourges, Nevers, Dijon and at last Belfort, where the units detrained. Regimental headquarters were established at Rougemont, and the batteries established their headquarters in the village of Ettuefont. On June 12 each battery sent a platoon and part of the B.C. detail to the front. Three or four days later, the rest of the firing batteries followed to reserve positions. Within a few days we had heard shells whizz and explode and had seen enemy avions overhead. We had also sent a receipt for what we had received. So it looked like war. It must be admitted, however, that it was a pretty nice kind of war. In fact it was nearer to a vacation than anything the regiment had seen since leaving home and mother.

Rougemont and its neighboring villages made a picturesque Alsatian settlement, just within the French side of the boundary between France and Alsace. During 1914 the French had penetrated clear to Mulhausen, and then had fallen back to a line east of the French border, where they had been stationary ever since. The firing batteries of the 121st regiment were over the line in Alsace - so they could claim properly that they had at least reached German soil, as they had promised to do when they left America. In this area German and French were spoken equally, and the Milwaukee boys were able to order anything on the bill of fare. The understanding between the French and the Germans had been excellent in this sector and away from the actual front lines there was little sign of ruin or destruction. Villages well within range of the German guns were unmolested, and the civilians went about their business as though they had never heard of a war. Women often cut hay in broad daylight along the edge of communicating trenches and barbed wire entanglements. In the early evenings the soldiers hid themselves to the lakes in the neighborhood and took their daily plunge. Fresh vegetables were easily obtainable, and 3in the cafes. The roads were good, the woods cool, the cuckoos sang merrily in the trees and payday arrived on time. We were livin' the life of Reily!

"If this is war," remarked a gallant corporal, "may there never be peace."

The artillery was put in with the French divisional artillery, occupying positions near the French batteries, and the personnel was under the guidance and typelage of these veterans for a month. As no great number of guns were required for the actual defense of the sector, and to prevent too heavy concentration in the normal position, where guns might be subjected to an intense bombardment unexpectedly, the American guns were escheloned back to a distance of 10 kilometers from the front lines. The rear platoons were prepared to defend a secondary line of defense in case of an infantry Retirement. The forward and support platoons changed places occasionally so that all cannoneers had a chance to fire and be fired upon.

By July 5 the 57th brigade was assembled in the form in which it was to go through the rest of the war. There was the 121st minus 2 batteries; the 119th complete; the 120th less 2 batteries, and the 147th less 1 battery. Battery A had rejoined the 121st

on June 23, the German advance having caused the abandonment of the corps school at Gondrecourt.

Not only were the batteries experienced in firing and dodging H.E., but they were becoming familiar with the odor of mustard gas and phosgene. On June 18th Battery B suffered several minor gas casualties before breakfast.

The overstrength of officer personnel brought from Coetquidian, and the fact that the batteries were under control of French battalion commanders, created a condition under which all officers could not function in their regular positions, so during June nearly half of the officers were sent to French units for observation of methods or out of the sector to attend various schools. Some went to the infantry position as observers.

The 9th French division moved out of the sector on June 27 and left it in charge of Gen. Haan and his 32nd division. A coup de main was prepared on the night of June 30, when the artillery fired about a thousand rounds to awaken the Germans, and then followed with an hour's intensive fire on the enemy lines near Burnhaupt le Haut, and then an interdiction fire at the rear to prevent the bringing up of reinforcements. The 125th Infantry made a raid and under cover of the artillery, cut 5 enemy wire and penetrated 2 kilometers into his territory, but no prisoners were found. The German response was prompt, but the shelling prior to midnight was directed chiefly on the American infantry. Our batteries had taken temporary firing positions for the event, and pulled out before being subjected to any abuse. About 3 am., half a dozen German 210's fell close to the firing batteries of Battery D but no one was hurt.

The division was praised in orders from Gen. Haan for carrying out this raid exactly in accordance with orders, "which is the best evidence of discipline."

For 2 weeks the entente cordiale was resumed, and all was quiet along the border. On the 15th of July another coup was carried out at 2:30 am, all batteries participating in a heavy diverting fire at a position distant from the place selected for the raid, the object being to deceive the enemy until prisoners could be captured by the infantry. Again the artillery drew some retaliatory fire upon their own guns, but there were no casualties.

On July 7, a chance shot from one of the batteries set fire to the Nonnebruck woods, where the German had several positions and an ammunition dump. A high wind was blowing and as there were several dozen barracks disclosed, it was deemed advisable to encourage the conflagration. All the incendiary shells in the sector were scattered through the woods and a few dozen H.E. shells were added to disturb the Boche fire-fighters. By the morning of the 18th nearly a third of the woods was in ashes, and only the shortage of incendiary shells prevented the Americans from making it a thorough job.

Just as word was received that the Americans had begun their Aisne-Marne push near Chateau-Thierry, orders came for the division to entrain and it was assumed that we would go either there or to Italy. The kitchen wireless seemed to favor Italy

and there was a good deal of betting on the probable destination. But there was no doubt that we were now going where there would be real fighting, and the 121st, like the rest of the division, was ready for it.

During the tour of Alsace, the following were the principal locations for various regimental units, or parts of them:

- Battery A - Menoncourt, Rougemont, Badricourt.
- Battery B - Etteufont, Loaw, Lacolonge, Fullern, Brebotte, Vezelois.
- Battery D - Etteufont, LaChapelle, Buchwald, Bretton.
- Battery F - Etteufont, Bretton, LaGrange, Bellmagny.
- Headquarters - Rougemont, Saurce, St. Germain.
- Medical detachment - Divided among the batteries at their firing positions.

On the night of July 21 the regiment concentrated in the near Bessencourt, and 2 days later marched to Belfort to entrain for parts unknown. Each Battery, augmented by sections of the headquarters and medical detachments, required one train to carry men and materiel.

The experience in Alsace was valuable to the Americans because it gave them confidence, showed them that they were capable of handling themselves properly under fire, taught them the best ways of providing cover in emergencies, and brought them to a realization of the need of discipline and submission to orders at all times at the front. Considerable experience was had in taking artillery positions, observing fire and utilizing observation posts.

A sad blow was received by the regiment here, when its organizer, Col. Philip C. Westfahl, was selected by the general headquarters, to take charge of important construction work in the S.O.S. Not a man in the command but heard the news with feelings of real sorrow and regret. Major Arthur, U.S.A., who took command in Alsace, was found to be a very able and considerate commander and all agreed that if a change must be made, no better C.O. could be asked than Col. Westfahl's successor.

By midnight of July 23 all the units had entrained at Belfort, the evening starting out with a pouring rain, and winding up with several hours of beautiful moonlight. The 6 long trains moved north through Lure and Vesoul, and in 6 hours were out of the foothills of the Vosges. The 2nd night on board found the troops passing through the outskirts of Paris, and we knew then that we certainly were not going to Italy. We even figured that we were going to get a few days rest among the lights of the big city, but this "rest" evaporated in thin air the way most of them had done in the past. However, the trains passed across the eastern part of the city and the boys could get a glimpse of the Eiffel tower, the Avenue Vincennes and a few prominent buildings. The French people seemed very cordial and cheered the American compatriots of the divisions which had recently helped to halt the German advance toward Paris and

hurl Von Ludendorff's army back to the Marne for a 2nd time. About 38 hours after leaving Belfort, the regiment detrained in various hamlets near St. Florentine, and marched to Pont Ste Maxence, on the Oise river. Passing through the city, we made camp in a big woods on a hill south of town.

The whole brigade was there, and the rest of the division a few miles away. The next day it rained from morning mess until evening, but the inactivity seemed pleasant enough. As dark was falling, orders came to prepare to take the road for a long hike the next morning at 1000.

The regiment was ready at 1000, but the troops ahead held up the procession for nearly 6 hours when they had trouble pulling their guns over a steep hill. That made it nearly dark when we started, and instead of reaching our first night's destination by dark, we were on the road all night, hiking through Fleurines, Viller-St. Framburg and Veleneuve, turning into our blankets near Crepy at 0400. For the first time, there were now strict orders against men putting any baggage on carriages, or riding there themselves. The horses must be spared at all costs. Despite the hard march, all hands were lined up before noon on July 28 and the regiment marched all that afternoon and all night, with 10 minutes rest each hour and 2 stops for lunch, along the road. In the pitch darkness we passed through Vamoise, Thiery and St. Quentin to Damard, where we drew into a swampy field at 5 a.m., having been on the road 18 hours. We were ordered to be ready at 0900 and after 4 hours rest, horses were harnessed and hitched and the column lined up on the road side of Damard. Other divisions got in ahead of us somehow and we were unable to start until 1600, so it was a weary and disgusted crew that took up the hike at that time. By nightfall we were in the outskirts of Chateau-Thierry, and all kicks were forgotten. We had now entered the area of the last month's victorious fighting, and marks of the struggle were on every hand. Ruined houses, bullet scared trees and shell-marked roads, all told the story graphically. A hearty meal from the rolling kitchens, and an all night sleep, restored all the regiments "vim, vigor and vitality." Men who had been too tired to eat, who had slept as they marched or rode and had become peevish and irritable from sheer fatigue, were now ready for any task. The hike from Pont St. Maxence had been conducted with great efficiency, not a man being lost on the way. Some new replacements received a week before they found that they were in for some real work, but with the friendly aid of huskier soldiers and an occasional lift on an ambulance, these men came through with the rest. The infantry had made the trip by truck so they would be ready for the attack the next day.

On July 29, at noon, the battalion was ready to move forward. Major Rickeman here received orders to report to a corps school and he left the regiment temporarily. Major Paul V. Kane took command of the 1st battalion and Capt. E. V. Cook of Battery A assumed charge of the 2nd, consisting of D and F batteries. Lieut. Smith was in command of Battery A, Capt. Drum of B, Lieut. Shea of D and Capt. Hoffman of F. Capt. Langbecker was adjutant of the 1st battalion; Capt. Haight of the 2nd.

Lieut.-Col. Armitage had previously left to attend a staff officers school and did not return to the regiment during the war. No succession had been assigned.

Crossing the Marne River, the 2 battalions passed through Chateau-Thierry and past 10 miles of battle-scarred rural country. The ground was strewn with discarded German equipment, dead horses, broken ordnance and occasional bodies of Germans. Fresh made graves lined the road side at frequent intervals. Fox holes along the roads and through the fields showed successive battle fronts. Souvenirs were so numerous that the men quickly got over collecting them. They were too heavy to carry for we knew we were not going home very soon.

Late in the afternoon, the batteries reached a woods north of Mont St. Pere where horses were unhitched and picketed. Water was scarce. The ground was covered with debris and with gruesome relics of the recent conflict. All night long artillery fire could be plainly heard off to the north, and the sky was lighted by flashes from the guns.

At noon July 30 the fire batteries were all ordered to move, and by 1800 we had picked our way through the shattered roads to LeCharmel. After 2 days spent in this area no one wanted to rest with the despoiler of the country almost within reach - and no one did. They had seen houses willfully despoiled, and property maliciously ruined, in addition to the destruction to be expected in the course of modern war. In houses which were left standing, pictures had been slashed and destroyed, books torn and burned.

On the evening of August 1, the regiment suffered its first battle casualty. The enemy bombing planes had been making frequent trips across the lines, strafing every road and woods. The 1st battalion had halted near Jaulgonne for a brief rest about 2100 when a plane was heard approaching. The soldiers took it for one of the new Liberty planes and stepped into the road to watch. It proved to be a Boche, however, and he let drop several bombs in quick succession. Private Hutchinson of Headquarters company was in the highway, and before he could find shelter, a fragment of the bomb struck his body, killing him instantly. He was later buried near Jaulgonne village.

The relief of the 39th French and 3rd Division American artillery was completed by the 57th brigade the night of July 31.

The divisional infantry had already assumed their places in the front lines, and the 32nd occupied a front of 4 kilometers wide from Bois de Cierges, through Cierges and on to LaGrange au Pont Mill. The 121st established a regimental echelon at Jaulgonne. Batteries D and F underwent direct attack from 3 German planes on the road, while moving from Le Charmel to Fresnes in the evening of August 1, but had driven them off with rifles and machine gun fire without suffering any casualties. Batteries A and B were established at Reddy farm.

Everything was in readiness for a concerted attack on the morning of August 3. The regimental commanders were at brigade headquarters awaiting the expected

orders, which did not come until 0230. The attack was set for 0400. At the same time as the orders, came a flock of Boche planes which compelled the lights to be kept out at the brigade P.C. and Gen. Irwin could only give the verbal outline of the artillery mission to the subordinates and trust that they would be able to work the details out in time. They hurried to their regiments, and by 0345 the various batteries were ready to fire. Major Arthur had had to travel 5 kilometers to carry his orders to his battalions, and after that the usual preparations were necessary, but the guns were ready for action on the dot. The results of the hurried plans may be gained from a semi-official description of the attack in the *Stars and Stripes* later, where it was stated that the infantry moved forward "while ahead of them went a perfectly adjusted barrage laid down by batteries which proved themselves experts at the task." Inspecting the terrain later, Gen. Irwin declared that it was as nice a barrage as could be asked for under any conditions.

The Infantry pushed through Chunery, Col. Longes and Cohan, driving the Prussians ahead of them. There was severe losses on both sides. Off toward the Vesle, flames, smoke and explosions gave proof of the desperate attempts of the Germans to destroy all property before it could be captured, and to get out of the trap and back to the old trenches they had left so hopefully in March when planning the capture of Paris.

During the movements now, the artillery was escheloned, 1 battalion of each regiment going ahead, and as soon as it was ready to fire, the 2nd one would move forward to a new advance position. At times, even the 2 batteries in a battalion were escheloned in a similar way so that we were prepared to aid an advance, defend an established line or check a counterattack, regardless of the general advance.

Dysentery now began to claim its victims. The dead lay unburied in the fields, carcasses of horses were strewn everywhere. The water supply was contaminated and the horrible odors of the battlefield permeated everywhere. Clouds of flies and bees followed every kitchen and fought with the men for possession of their meals.

On the evening of August 3, the infantry being on the heights overlooking the Vesle river, the batteries moved forward one by one and took up a position in a deep valley near Chery-Chartreuve; "Death Valley" is the name by which it is remembered. In a drizzling, cold rain, the guns were dragged across hills, through streams, over muddy fields, and past the wreckage of the villages of Cohan and Dravengy down to their stations where the Germans had had their bivouacs 36 hours before. And to make it more binding, the weary drivers and cannoneers were greeted upon their arrival by a shower of gas shells that compelled them to wear their gas masks most of the night. It was a suitable initiation to opposition which was to become a symbol for all the miseries of war!

The tactical accomplishments of the regiment at this position consisted mostly of harassing fire delivered at the foe across the river, but on August 6 the regiment directed a destructive fire upon the village of Fismette which wiped out 50 machine

gun nests and enabled the infantry to get a footing on the north shore of the stream. It was perhaps the most accurate fire ever delivered by the regiment and the results were immediate and important. Lieut.-Col. Arthur claims credit to the regiment for the capture of the town. During the entire stay in Death Valley, the firing batteries were subjected to almost daily shelling, while the eschelons at Cohan, Dravegny and St. Martin underwent frequent bombing and some long range artillery strafing. In the valley, the 4 batteries were placed along the base of the rifge, with the horses picketed in a grove behind them. 17 horses were killed on Battery F's lines, 45 on D's, 10 on B's, and 30 on A's in 10 days.

The cannoneers working at the guns were seldom safe. Battery A had 2 men killed and 3 wounded, Battery B 1 killed and 2 wounded, Battery D 4 killed and 9 wounded, and Battery F 16 men wounded, and 1 killed while hauling ammunition near "Death Curve." Headquarters Co. reported 10 men as gas casualties, and the medical detachment of the 2nd battalion was almost entirely evacuated as a result of a gas attack. Members of the band, replacing the medics, also suffered heavily. In all there were 9 men killed and perhaps 100 major and minor casualties in this sector. While in the valley, orders were received for the return of 10 officers and men to the United States to act as artillery instructors, and they left on August 15. Some others had preceded them while the regiment was in Alsace, and there had been a constant procession of non-cons to the rear to attend officers' schools and to act as teachers in various military areas.

There were some fair days in Death Valley, when the sun brightened the landscape and even the Boche guns were quiet out of respect for nature's beauty. But generally the days and nights were mere rounds of shell fire, gas bombardments, rain, aeroplane battles, balloon destruction, dug-out construction, disposing of dead horses, dystentary, longing for fresh food and battery firing missions. With our numerous casualties, we realized now that we were in the war in earnest, and that our Alstian experiences were not a criterion by which to judge the future. "The first 10 years are the worst," was the common phrase when the unpleasant features of war were under discussion.

In this valley and in the eschelons we inherited something from the former German tenants, which was no welcome. This was a brigade of cooties. The little fellows were doing squads east and west in the tender parts of our persons, and there was little chance to acquire a bath or change of clothing to foil them. Mustard gas burns became an added attraction, and the A.E.F. itch appeared, to reinforce the cooties. On August 13 the Boche did such a job with his gas shells that the poisonous vapor filled the valley like a swamp mist for several hours, obscuring the vision and causing much discomfort. Constant changes took place in the personnel, due to casualties and transfers.

The Germans were now settled safely in their lines north of the Vesle, and the French high command decided upon a desperate venture north of Soissons, to relieve

the enemy pressure here and on the Chemin de Dames. It was planned to make a thrust toward the rear of the German defenses, by way of Juvigny. The 32nd was assigned to assist the French Moroccan division, under command of Gen. Mangin.

Prior to this we had had our first experience with the afterward familiar order, "relieving the 32nd division, less the artillery," and we began to have an intimation of the policy of leaving artillery in the battles forever, while the doughboys went back for a square meal and a taste of vin rouge. We supported the 28th division during the last week of our stay at Death Valley.

On August 23 the regiment was ordered to move out, and the firing batteries began their hike at midnight, picking up the eschelons on the way. We traveled all night, drawing into the woods near Fresnes as day began to break. On the march we passed Sergy, where a desperate hand to hand battle had occurred some 4 weeks previously. The town was a wreck, completely.

In the afternoon Col. Arthur held an officers' meeting, at which he declared that the high command was much pleased with the work of the regiment, both on the long hike to Chateau Thiery and in the subsequent fighting. All missions had been accomplished, the firing appeared to be very accurate, and our support had enabled the 28th division to make the only advance credited to it along the Vesle. On the long hike, he said that we covered 70 miles in 45 hours of actual marching time, without losing a horse, man or wagon or getting out of touch with headquarters at any time, which was a really remarkable performance.

On August 25, we started at 0100, and covered 20 miles before halting for a bivouac near Tronenes, in a big forest. On the way we passed through shell-torn Armentiers, and here we saw 3 old women, the first females to greet our eyes for nearly a month. The next day we resumed our march, passing through Villers-Cotterets, and into the beautiful beech forest at St. Eteinne, which holds so many pleasant memories for our brigade.

Just as we were getting settled joyfully for the night, a courier arrived, ordering us to pack up and be prepared to march to the Soissons at midnight. With eyes aching, bones creaking and hearts filled with resentment, the weary men left their blankets and shelter tents, hunted the horses in the Stygian darkness, prepared a meal in the kitchens, and stood around swearing dismally at their fate. By midnight all was set, when suddenly we heard a bugle call - the first one in weeks, - and it sounded "recall." It took a minute to realize what had happened. Then there was a yell from the regimental tent, "Unhitch, unharness and go to bed. We don't move until tomorrow." Disgusted though they were, the men would not stop to discuss their feeling, and within 20 minutes every head was pounding the old pillow and every cootie worked undisturbed on the soldiers sleeping the sleep of utter exhaustion. And how they did sleep! In that quiet woods, with no shells screaming overhead and no gas alarms or odious odors, it was no trick at all to keep on snoring until 0900 and most everyone did just that little thing.

The rest of the morning was spent in stealing potatoes and plums from Frenchmen in the neighborhood. By mid-afternoon the orders again came for our march, and with cheerful hearts and alert countenances, all hands were ready when "forward" sounded at night fall.

It was a regular hike. The 2 battalions followed different routes, but crossed the Aisne river at Vic-sur-Aisne, the 2nd battalion being delayed 2 hours by the error of a French sentry who refused permission to let pass the proper bridge and directed it over the wrong route. By dawn, however, the 1st battalion was in position at the big cave at Bieuxy, ready to fire the big barrage the next morning. The 2nd battalion was established in a valley near Vezaponin, and spent the day dodging "whizz bangs" and 150's. The echelon was moved up to Hors, on the Aisne. It rained all afternoon and evening.

The next day, August 29, the movement to outflank the German position on the Vesle began. A barrage was put on, beginning at 0400 and in a desperate struggle the divisional infantry took Juvigny. Our howitzers devoted their time to cutting off German reinforcements, and it was learned subsequently that we had caused heavy loss of life among the German support regiment near Juvigny. As the 63rd infantry brigade had made progress, the 2nd battalion of the 121st was ordered forward to support a further advance, and as a result of this order Batteries D and F underwent an experience which none of their members will ever forget. They took the road about noon, losing one gun temporarily when it rolled off the road to rest on its back in a ditch for a few days. Advancing toward Bagneaux, it found it had the road to itself, all other outfits appearing to prefer to stop prior to reaching Bagneaux. Soon German planes began to hover overhead and drop small bombs and grenades. Then it was found necessary to clear the road of fallen trees and bodies of soldiers. Finally shells started to drop, under the supervision of the Boche airman above.

Capt. Cook led his battalion into a shallow valley between Bagneaux and Juvigny at about 1600. The batteries found themselves a few rods behind an infantry line, firing rifles, which seemed rather unusual. Then a mass of gas shells and H.E. began to fall while the horses were being unhitched. Finally machine gun bullets began to whistle overhead and rifle balls strike the trees and carriages. Too late it was then learned that the infantry had fallen back from Juvigny to the railroad embankment above the artillery position while the batteries were on the road, and that the batteries were now to experience some of the joys of life in the front lines.

Shells dropping among the carriages killed several horses, and the bigger baggage wagon was totally destroyed in an instant by a shell which exploded inside the wagon box, under the driver's seat. Battery F seemed to have the worst of it in this position, as it was closer to some old barracks which served for an adjustment point for the German fire. One man killed and 16 injured, was the toll taken here from the Racine outfit. The headquarters company had some minor casualties, also. Capt. Cook, who had been suffering intensely for days with a carbuncle, was forced to go to the

hospital the next day, and the command devolved upon Maj. Kane, transferred from the 1st battalion.

During the activities around Juvigny the divisional, brigade and regimental P.C. were in the huge cave at Tartiers.

Late in the evening of August 30 the artillery again supported the infantry with a barrage and covering fire. The intensity of the fire increased gradually and it covered the ground thoroughly. The doughboys again took Juvigny, advancing to the road running north and south along the eastern edge of the village. Further advance was prevented by the failure of the French units on the right and left to keep up the pace.

On the morning of the August 31, the 121st and other regiments in the brigade began a 4-hour preparatory fire, confined to a kilometer and a half of front and so concentrated that nothing could stand against it. The enemy fell back rapidly, leaving many dead behind. Due to the double formation of the current fire, the troops that remained in the trenches after the first barrage passed were caught in the second. Thus hemmed in, many prisoners were taken from the caves and dugouts around Terny Sorny. A German document was found later which described this artillery work as "crazy." "There seemed to be no system to it, and wherever you turned you met with shells. The Americans were firing all over the terrain." This German seemed to be quite shocked that we didn't fire on specified points all the time so the enemy would know just where to go to avoid danger.

It was in the fighting here that the 64th infantry brigade won the name of "Les Terribles" and the title was later extended to include the whole division. Gen. Mangin gave high praise to the Wisconsin and Michigan troops in an army order because of the accomplishment around Juvigny.

On September 1-2 the 32nd division was relieved "less the artillery," which latter continued in the sector in support of the 1st Moroccan division infantry. In 5 days the 155mm. howitzers had fired about 4,000 rounds at the foe.

The artillery continued on this front until September 6. On September 3, a shell burst at the entrance of the 2nd Battalion dressing station, killing a Frenchman and wounding 6 members of the regiment. That night the battalion position was bombed, without damage being done. The next day a shell burst in some powder boxes in a Battery D gun emplacement, wounding Lieut. Bennett and Mechanic Piatek. Early in the evening of September 4 a flight of 40 German planes was met by 50 Allied flyers overhead and driven back after a 10 minute battle. 2 German planes and 1 Frenchman dropped near the battalion O.P. Gas shells were showered on the position during a rain storm that night.

In the meantime the 1st Battalion had been dispossessed of its underground quarters at Bieuxy, The cannoneers had had a hard fight to put out a fire starting from blazing camouflage, and 2 of Battery A's guns were put out of commission. On September 3, the battalion moved up to the eastern outskirts of Juvigny, the cannoneers using picks and shovels continually to make a road for the carriages through

the shell craters and rubbish of the town. The battalion was deluged with German gas that night, and another camouflage fire added some excitement to the occasion. All the ammunition details were hard put in this sector to keep the guns provided with shells.

Battery B had 2 men wounded in this sector, and there is not a man in the regiment who does not consider it a miracle that anyone escaped being a casualty during this exciting 10 days.

At sunset on September 6, the 2nd battalion was ordered to move forward to a valley full of shell holes and German dead, just south of Terny-Sorny and instructions were given that the 1st Battalion should proceed in advance of this position as soon as F and D batteries were ready to work, thus continuing the escheloning plan which had proved so successful. At midnight the 2nd Battalion was in position, and feeling about in the dark to find locations for picket lines and foxholes. The other one was getting ready to move. Just at that interesting moment orders came to get on the road again and proceed back to Tartiers to join the rest of the division. It was an awful job, getting that movement started in the rain and darkness, but the idea of a rest was satisfactory and by daylight all the outfits were out of reach of the German artillery and they kept right on to Tartiers for breakfast. There the entire division was mobilizing, and after a day's rest we marched back to the dear old woods at St. Eteinne, from which we had started for the Soissons sector. It was an 8-hour hike, but it was in daylight and the weather was fine. Arrived in the woods, we prepared to have a week's vacation.

Did we get it? You know the answer.

In the darkness of the next night, in the midst of a driving rain and howling wind, the regiment pulled out of the woods, and battery by battery, moved to Vaumoise, where after standing around a few hours awaiting our trains, we were able to load up and start for a car ride. The trains passed near Paris again that night, and finally reached St. Dizier, the next day. Orders were changed while we stopped there and we were carried to Euville, where we detrained. Marching to our billeting area at Wassy, we found that the 120th FA had grabbed this town for their own and left our regiment out in the cold and darkness. The battalions proceeded to some hamlets nearby. Instead of getting settled for a promised rest we were out hunting unoccupied billets. In the rain, toward evening, almost everyone found a barn or pigstye to sleep in, and the next day while trying to make the billets more permanent we got orders to return to Wassy. Reaching there, more confusion in orders was found to have occurred and most everyone had to sleep in swampy fields along the roads near town. The next day Col. Arthur dug up enough billets at Wassy to accommodate headquarters company, and near there in the suburb of Brousseval, enough more to give everyone a place to sleep. Then 44 hours was allowed for bathing, shopping, cognac and disorderly conduct, and then the customary orders came not to let anyone get out of the habit of working. Classes in everything were organized, and all hands made a pretense

of learning something for 12 hours a day, with a little foot drill thrown in for good measure. This lasted until September 16, and everyone enjoyed it, at that.

After 3 days of this so-called rest, the 121st FA found itself in shape to commence operations. Carriages had been cleaned and repaired, guns shined and greased, clothing patched and laundered and cooties treated rough if not banished.

After a brief flurry of profanity over their all-too-sudden departure from Wassy and its environs, the men rolled their packs, threw the newly polished harness on the now tamed and skinny chevaux, and prepared to mount. Orders provided for great secrecy in the movement and so all marches were conducted at night. (Strange to say, we generally moved by day at the front where someone could see us, and by night when we were back in the S.O.S.)

Billeting parties went one day ahead to pick out soft spots for their comrades to sleep upon, and the entire trip proved a model of road discipline.

Starting after super on September 17, the brigade was well on the way when the usual rainstorm began. The first march took us back to Euville, where a pleasant time was had by all, bivouacking in a big meadow near town. At 2100 that night the regiment started out again, tramping through the rain as far as Buerry. The day was spent in sleeping and swimming in a creek near the regimental area, and at 2200 that night the long column again wound its way in the direction of Verdun, reaching Varney, near Bar le Duc, at sunrise. Shortly after dark that night, another start was made, and by morning we were bivouacked at Beauzee.

The hikes, while long, were very orderly and without the vexatious delays which had resulted upon other occasions from conflicting orders and conflicts with other organizations seeking to use the same roads. Every day there was plenty of time to sleep and the old rolling kitchens were working well. General Pershing passed through the camp at Beauzee and took a flitting glance at the world's best heavy artillery regiment from his seat in a big O.D. limousine.

Another hike of 25 kilometers brought us around Verdun and to a skimpy woods near Dombasle-en-Argonne. It rained all day and the thermometer sank to the discomfort point. We shared our little woods with a balloon company. We stayed here 2 days, Maj. Rickman rejoining the regiment during the halt, and on the afternoon of September 24, in a dense fog which concealed our movements from the Boche airmen, we moved up to a position near the ruined hamlet of Esnes. This hillside had been occupied by the French for three years and there were some pretty deep dugouts there, which looked handy in case of trouble. From the O.P. at the top of the hill could be seen Montfaucon straight to the north, the German wire and trenches in the intermediate area, and Dead Man's hill on our immediate right front.

There was no use trying to describe No Man's Land, directly in front. It was a long stretch of brown mud, tossed and torn by countless shells and changed from a gently sloping, pretty grazing country, into a desert as desolate and terrible as the cratermarked face of the moon.

We were notified that an attack was now to be made on the Argonne positions of the Kaiser; that our artillery regiment would support the 79th division while our own doughboys were in reserve and that if the Yanks could only go through this hitherto invincible line, the end of the war would be something to talk about before another year had passed. That sounded fair enough, so everyone was ready to go.

The big doings started on the early morning of September 26 and there never was a 4th of July that produced more noise making machinery than the Americans and French put into action at zero hour. If all that artillery had been placed in a line, there wouldn't have been room to walk between the carriages, and they were all working. When they began their chorus at 0230 it sounded as if all the thunder in the skies had been released at one time, and the flashes of the guns served pretty well for lighting. And when the old shells began to burst on the other side of the fence, there was a steady roar that shook the earth.

For 3 hours the unearthly din kept up. It was foggy and cold. Observation was impossible, but no one had any doubt that a bit of damage was being done over yonder. The 79th infantry must have been cheered up when they heard that parade going north over their heads.

At 0530 there was a pause, and a silence that seemed oppressive. This lasted three minutes, and this was the cue for the doughboys to jump off.

Now it was up to us to protect them as they went. At the guns, orders were given for laying on new objectives. Men carried shells to the pieces in a frenzy of exertion. Executive officers checked their data, and tested their telephones. Eyes were watching the second hand of the watches strapped to grimy wrists. 20 seconds to wait - 10 second - 5, and the sharp bark of a 75 again broke the silence. More followed in the brief interval. As the exact time for the resumption of the fire arrived, again the thousands of guns crashed out in a nightly chorus and for 3 hours the fire kept up with diminishing intensity while the swearing, sweating artillerymen hoped against hope that the doughboys might, indeed, penetrate those apparently impenetrable fastnesses. Then word came that the feat had been accomplished; that the fulcrum of the Allied lever reaching from Switzerland to the sea, had been moved a bit toward Berlin, and the entire Allied army could unite in a movement which gave promise of clearing the Germans from Belgium and France.

All that day, the artillery waited orders to move, but no reconnaissance officers had been cunning enough to find a road through the swamps, shell craters and crevices of that ancient No Man's Land. The mist prevented decent aeroplane observation, and conditions of the terrain made even messenger service almost impossible. The engineers were working frantically under almost unbelievable conditions to repair the old Esnes-Malancourt road, but even the tanks had not been able to make a passable path thus far.

Early in the morning of September 27 orders were received by the 121st FA to try to go ahead. Ploughing doggedly over a sandbag road as far as Malancourt, the regiment

was ordered off the road, which was reserved for the 79th and 4th divisions. With officers bluffing and threatening and sending their units into the jam in single sections, they got the regiment started again and once on the road there was no turning back or turning off, by any general's orders. It took 5 hours to go the last mile and a half. Of course it rained all day. During the previous night our bombardment of Montfaucon had enabled the infantry to reach that city and pass a kilometer beyond it.

The 1st Battalion stopped near Malancourt for a little shoot, and the 2nd went into a depression a mile north.

The 1st Battalion then went forward to the Montfaucon ridge, Battery D followed the next morning and by that night the regiment's firing strength was all concentrated in a shallow valley within pistol shot of the town of Montfaucon. The 79th division was having its troubles up ahead. Stragglers began to appear. Someone started a cry that "Our artillery fire is falling short" and this was repeated up and down the line for hours. Most of the time there was no American artillery fire at all. It is presumed that some rooky had heard a "whizz bang" for the first time, which will account for almost any sort of a cry. At any rate it was quite a riotous evening. On the 29th, when the 79th division was found to be exhausting itself, it was relieved by the 3rd division and plans were made for a new start.

For several days the feature of the campaign that was most striking to our boys was the traffic condition. The roads were so clogged that traffic hardly moved at an average of a kilometer an hour. This was most distressing in the evacuation of the wounded, and many died of exposure and hunger in the stalled ambulances. A temporary field hospital was erected near Montfaucon, and the Germans immediately blew it to pieces - tents, patients and corps men. All along the roads were letters bearing dead bodies taken from the ambulances and wagons, and in many cases the original wounds were of a minor nature, but the trip had proven too much for them. Getting artillery ammunition to the front was a terrible job, involving days and nights of sleepless effort to make a round trip from battery to dump. Food supplies came seldom and at irregular intervals.

The position taken as noted were held for several days. On October 4 the artillery supported an attack by the 3rd division doughboys, and it was repeated the next day, with fairly successful results, though the advance was not great. On October 3 there was a good deal of aerial activity, several of our balloons having been sunk, among other incidents. Toward evening 3 German planes came over the 121st regimental position at half hour intervals, not noting the men through the light mist. As each one arrived it was met by a million or more machine gun and rifle bullets from everyone in the vicinity, and all 3 bit the dust. Of course, other regiments also claimed the credit for sinking them, but we know who really did it.

From now on every day was much like the others - firing 50 or 100 rounds per battery every night to keep the Boche dissatisfied with life, and dodging shells each morning. In the afternoon some entertainment was usually offered in the shape of

aeroplane battles or the sinking of all of our balloons which cared to attempt an ascension. Whenever a balloon arose, the betting started. It was usually on the basis of even money that the bag would be sunk within an hour.

Upon one occasion - October 13 - a burning balloon fell right in the middle of our camp.

On October 6 our own infantry came again into the front lines, and both artillerymen and doughboys felt better for it. In the center of our divisional sector, opposing the advance, was the Cote Dames Maroe, constituting the most difficult part of the Kriemhilde Stellung. Its approach was through a wooded ravine and up a steep hill - almost a bluff. Again the 32nd division was confronted by a key position of the German line; one that if captured would force withdrawal from the entire line. This position had been strengthened within the week, and nice new barbed wire shone in the sun as the doughboys glared up to the mounds of fresh dirt which showed where the trenches had been deepened and strengthened recently.

On October 8, all the divisional artillery united to break the wire, ruin the machine gun nests and make the underground work less pleasant for Heinie. This fire continued off and on for 24 hours.

During the night of October 9 considerable gas was sent across, and the next morning a barrage was laid down by the brigade. The infantry began its attack but was unable to penetrate the main German defenses. Harassing fire was kept up for 4 nights and days, trenches being bombarded, roads destroyed and the ravines filled with gas. On the morning of October 14 the 1st army attacked all along the line; in this assault the 32nd division obtained its objective and passed Romagne-sous-Montfaucon. The next morning the brigade assisted the infantry in advancing their lines well past Romagne and the Dame Marie crest. The enemy was now forced to retire to the north of Bantheville woods, and the artillery helped to hasten his departure. With our lines well within the woods, the infantry was relieved by the 89th division, the artillery remaining on the scene as usual. The firing batteries of the 121st had moved up to Exmereux farm, near Eclis-Fontaine. The eschelons had been left in the preceding battery positions, but came up to the farm on October 19, when the 1st Battalion moved up to Gesnes. Lieut. Terhune of B battery was killed at the Montfaucon position, and all of the batteries had some casualties.

On October 23 came rumors of the long desired "rest." Batteries A and B came back to the farm to join the regiment, and everyone packed up preparatory to going back to a leave area. Then came the blow! We were told that the "rest" consisted of staying where we were without firing for 2 days.

It was rather worse than nothing, because everyone had been fairly comfortably settled before, but B and A batteries now crowded our valley and its ancient barracks so that hundreds of men had to spend the nights in fox holes again. We also had the jolly news that this "rest" would be considered sufficient for the balance of the year.

Beyond a few opportunities for the men to stroll out of the regimental area occa-

sionally, the "rest" was no different than regular duty, and everyone was illtempered.

On October 25, the firing batteries resumed their duties, and the 2nd battalion moved up to Romagne. The next day the 1st Battalion joined it. Here the batteries remained under fire of varying intensity until November 5. They participated in the big attack on the morning of November 1, when they fired their last shot at the enemy. The village of Romagne, (Where an American national cemetery was later established) was the scene of many casualties. The regimental reel cart was blown up, killing 2 horses and wounding the driver. Major Cook and Captain Haight were both severely injured there. An ammunition wagon and its driver and 2 other men were blown to bits one night at the corner in front of the church. While the 32nd division infantry was out, the regiment supported the 89th division, and for a few days did some firing for the 90th.

During the 52 days and nights in the sector, the artillery brigade had lost 42 killed and 300 wounded. Not a battery had enough horses to enable it to advance of the orders had come.

Moving back to the echelon on November 5, the materiel was hauled back by trucks on November 8, and billets were found at Villesur-Cousances. The armistice came on November 11. On November 15 the regiment went by truck to Bussy-la-Cote, where drilling and cootie-chasing was enjoyed until December 22. On that date the regiment hiked to Revigny, and entrained for Demanges. Upon arrival a hike was made to Roziers-en-Blois, where camp was made on a hill of mud in barracks hidden by underbrush. Christmas was forgotten in the rush of work, although many of the boys received their Christmas packages at about the right time.

Tractors and trucks were assigned to the regiment here, and artillery practice was resumed. With the ending of the war practically everyone got a furlough and they were able to show their skill at craps in all parts of southern France. At Roziers the men suffered considerably from the unhealthful conditions, and a hundred or more were sent to the hospital. Several died of disease. The whole brigade was assigned to the 88th division, much to the disgust of all, and they were compelled to wear the insignia of this division, which had not been in action. Aside from that, the 88th proved very companionable and likeable.

Batteries C and E rejoined the regiment at Roziers.

On January 20, occurred one of the biggest events of our army career - the train wreck. Beaucoup champagne, vin blanc, eggs, chocolate and cookies. Thousands soused. Liquor buried under every hay pile and hidden in every corner. Battery D had 1100 eggs for breakfast. Battery C matched this with champagne and cookies. Barrack partitions were crammed with chocolate and other contraband. The occasion was beyond description, but no one present will ever forget it.

April 7 the regiment was reassigned to the 32nd division and within an hour the Red Arrow appeared on every shoulder, as if by magic. On April 15, 1919, the regiment entrained at Mauvages for Brest and after a 3-day ride reached Camp

Pontenezen to have a few days work with picks, shovels and other plebian implements. Col. Westfahl was now in command of his old regiment, to the joy of everyone. Col. Thomas, who had assumed command at about the time the armistice was signed remained in France.

On April 30, the regiment embarked on the USS Georgia, and bade goodbye to France without a tear being visible on any sun baked face. America was reached safely; the boys were duly greeted and cheered; the usual "rest" was taken at Camp Devens, and then the homeward trip was resumed. Arriving at Camp Grant, Ill., the regiment was mustered out on May 19, 1919, and it was all over excepting the brief celebrations in Racine, Green Bay and Milwaukee when the boys marched into the arms of their loved ones, and then rushed home to get into civilian clothes. The regimental parade at Racine, led by Col. Westfahl, was the last appearance of the regiment as a whole.

The official records of the regiment as regards casualties still seem to be incomplete and efforts are to be made to get them correct. The great difficulty is that persons who were sent to hospitals were transferred out of the regiment automatically and their individual records appear with those of organizations to which they were attached. Often these were casual companies which passed out of existence without leaving any history extant. Thus if a man died in a base hospital, the fact might never become known to his former comrades unless special inquiries were made through official channels. The records of the brigade make no mention of 121st FA men who died in America, as an example.

Following is the regimental casualty list taken from the brigade history and partially corrected from Battery records.

Killed in Action

Pvt. Mark S. Duane
Pvt. John L. Galvin
Corp. Blansezeuski
Pvt. Nick V. Garski
Pvt. Clarence D. Hutchinson
Pvt. John J. Hagan
Pvt. Leo Janowski
Corp. Harold T. Kister
Pvt. Helmet Stever
Lieut. Elmer S. Terhune

Died of Wounds

Corp. Thos. E. Delorma
Pvt. Frank Gatza
Pvt. Peter J. Heffron
Corp. Arthur Mueller
Pvt. Elmer Schram
Sgt. Roy J. Sinnott
Pvt. Harold Smith
Corp. William Weiss
Pvt. George E. Beuttemiller
Bugler Menzo J. Bixby
Pvt. Albert Brind
Pvt. Gurerina Casseline
Pvt. Enrico Chiurri
Pvt. Julius Cologne
Pvt. Lester D. Erskine
Pvt. Gilbert O. Evans
Corp. Alfred Israel
Pvt. James W. Foley
Pvt. Charles Gervais
Pvt. Carl Hanson
Pvt. Edward T. McDonald
Pvt. Nelson McGough
Pvt. Clarence Maroney
Pvt. Carl Pamperin
Pvt. Paul Poguette
Pvt. James S. Rodgeron
Second Lieut. John R. Slade
Pvt. Elmer C. Whitney
Pvt. John Williams
Pvt. George H. Wilkins
Pvt. William C. Kunz

No official records appear to be accessible yet as to those of the regiment who were wounded. The records of the batteries mention 10 officers and 72 men injured by shell fire and about 40 gassed badly enough to require medical treatment in a field hospital. In addition to these there were fully 200 evacuated to hospitals for illness. It is hoped that by the time of the next reunion these lists may all be compiled.

The 32nd Division

The history of the 32nd Division in tabloid form, necessarily consists largely of a record of its indomitable infantry brigades. It is the infantry which seizes the holds terrain, and drives or captures opposing armies. Other branches of the service are important, also, but mainly because of the assistance which they can give the infantry.

The artillery is the main support of the infantry in action, protecting it in positions, shielding its advance, destroying enemy works, and if necessary, warding off attack or pursuit. Ammunition and supply trains carry the necessary food and ammunition to these combatant branches, and engineers maintain roads and bridges and other means of travel. Signal corps units provide communication between headquarters, and the medical corps cares for those who fall in battle or are victims of disease and accident. The quartermaster corps is charged with the distribution of food and clothing, and other units attend to various necessary technical details. The division is a self-supporting unit in battle and if necessary can function for a considerable period with no assistance from anyone but the Service of Supply at the rear. In the recent war the size of a division was increased to about 2,700 men and it was in itself a formidable force.

In following the story of the 32nd division, it is necessary for the reader to visualize all the various arms of the service as performing their work in support of the infantry, for the glorious results achieved by the "doughboys" were the culmination of the efforts of the entire divisional organization.

Wisconsin and Michigan naturally take a great deal of interest and probe in the glorious record of the famous division which wore the barred red arrow as its shoulder insignia. It contained the only organized bodies of volunteer soldiers from those states, and consisted originally of none but volunteers who hastened to offer themselves in the service of their country when war against Germany was declared. While some of the regiments of the division had been in existence prior to the declaration of war, all of them were greatly increased in size after that date, and many entirely new regiments were recruited.

Maj. Gen. William G. Haan commanded the division during its service at the front in France and won deserved fame and honors by his military skill. Also, he was greatly loved and respected by his men. Bold and aggressive though he was in conducting battle operations, he was nevertheless considerate of his troops at all times. A strict disciplinarian he was, but never unreasonable or unjust in his demands, and his men were quick to appreciate his merits as a commander as well as his skill as a military leader.

The following sketch of the division's activities is reproduced largely from a report

written by General Haan shortly after the close of the war:

The 32nd Division was organized under orders of July 18, 1917, from National Guard troops from Wisconsin and Michigan, and was trained for the overseas service at Camp MacArthur, near Waco, Texas. During the latter part of November and the early part of December, 1917, the division, which was the 6th in order of line to join the A.E.F., was inspected by the War Department artillery and infantry inspectors, and as a result of their reports was designated as the division most advanced in its training. Jan. 2, 1918, the first troops of the 32nd left for the port of embarkation, and on the following February 5 the division suffered its first casualties, when 15 men of the 107th Sanitary Train lost their lives in the sinking of the transport *Tuscania*. Division headquarters were established at Prauthory, Haute Marne, near Langres, France, on Feb. 24, 1918.

For about 4 weeks after its arrival in France the division functioned as a replacement organization, but when the enemy offensive of May 21, 1918, made it imperative that all the available American troops in France be utilized for combat duty, inspection of the division was made by the Training and Operation Section of the General Staff, G.H.Q., and a decision was made to make a temporary combat division of the 32nd. Replacements were sent to the division in sufficient numbers to bring the strength of each rifle company to about 160 men. A course of 4 weeks' training in the 10th training area followed.

Shortly before the completion of this training period, orders were received directing the division to proceed to the region of Belfort, Alsace and report to the commanding General of the 40th French Corps for further orders. On May 18, 1918, the first troops of the 32nd Division, consisting of 4 battalions, were assigned to front line duty in Haute Alsace, relieving French troops.

In the Alsace sector our losses were: Killed, 1 officer and 39 men; severely wounded, 3 officers and 105 men; slightly wounded, 9 officers and 195 men; gassed, 7 officers and 67 men; died of wounds, 1 officer and 17 men. Total losses from all causes, 419. The losses inflicted on the enemy were fully equal to our own, according to reports of our raiding parties. In the sector 3 German divisions, the 30th Bavarian Reserve Division, the 44th Landwehr, and the 125th Landwehr, were in the trenches opposite the 32nd Division. In their skirmishes with the enemy in this quiet sector the infantry acquired a fine degree of confidence in its ability to cope with the enemy.

The withdrawal of the division from the Alsace sector was begun on July 19, 1918, and completed 2 days later. Beginning July 22, the division was sent by rail to join the 10th French Army near Verberie, in the region of Soissons, where it was assembled on July 26 as a general reserve of the 10th French Army. On that date orders were received to prepare the division for movement to the region of Chateau-Thierry by motor bus for all foot troops, and by marching for the mounted troops. This movement was expeditiously accomplished, and the division was placed in reserve

of the 38th French Corps, 6th French Army.

On the night of July 29-30 the 64th Infantry Brigade relieved the 3rd American division on the Oureq, in the vicinity of Roncheres. At that time the 28th United State Division was on our left, and the 4th French Division on our right. The 3rd United States Division, which we relieved, had been fighting continuously since the German offensive started about July 15, and was very much exhausted, being at the time held up by strong German resistance in the Bois des Grimpettes. At 1100, on July 30, the command of the sector passed to the commanding general, 32nd Division. He at once had a conference with the commander of the 3rd Division Artillery, which was left in the sector to support the 32nd Division, the 57th Field Artillery Brigade not having yet come up. The 28th Division had reported that it was unable to advance until the Grimpettes woods was carried, and the division commander accordingly planned to take this position at once. Liaison was established with the 28th Division, and the support of the artillery of the 28th Division was secured for the attack on Grimpettes. The plan was for the 28th Division to advance as soon as the 32nd had taken the Bois des Grimpettes.

In accordance with this plan, at 0230, just 3 and a half hours after the division had taken over the sector, troops of the 127th Infantry, then in the front line, went over the top, and followed a rolling barrage into the Bois des Grimpettes. There had been a brief but intensive artillery preparation on these woods for a period of 20 minutes before the attack was launched.

The division's first major attack was entirely successful and was made exactly according to the schedule arranged. The 127th Infantry pushed through the woods until they were stopped by machine-gun fire from the right flank. On this flank, from positions in the Bois des Cierges, the Germans continued during the day to oppose every effort to advance, but the 127th Infantry gained the edge of the Cierges woods and established themselves there. During the night of July 30-31 the 63rd Infantry Brigade relieved the 28th Division so that on the morning of July 31 the 32nd Division occupied the entire front of the 38th French Corps with a line extending across the sector through the Bois des Grimpettes, one-half kilometer south of the village of Cierges, to Caranda Farm on the left. Our 2 brigades side by side thus occupied the sector formerly held by 2 divisions side by side.

In compliance with a request from the corps commander that an attempt be made to capture the village of Cierges and Hill 212, an attack was prepared and launched on July 31, in which both brigades participated.

Their objective was the long open slopes of the Oureq valley reaching up to the small woods leading up to the Les Jombiettes on Hill 212, a spur of Hill 230.

The assault was made in much the same manner as the attack on the day before. After a brief artillery preparation the troops advanced under the protection of a barrage. On the left the 63rd Infantry Brigade promptly reached its objective, Hill 212, and mopped up Les Jombiettes and the Bois Pelgers, allowing the 42nd Division

to advance. The 127th Infantry, on the right, took the village of Cierges and passed beyond, but was held up by very heavy fire from Bellevue Farm, which had been organized into a very strong center of resistance. This position we were unable to take by a frontal attack, but on the evening of July 31 the right flank of the 64th Brigade succeeded in infiltrating through as far as Hill 230. Unfortunately, however, the 4th French Division on our right was unable to move forward and in consequence our troops, which had reached Hill 230, were very much exposed to machine-gun fire from the right flank in the vicinity of Reddy Farm and from the left rear in the vicinity of Bellevue Farm. When it became apparent that the whole front could not be straightened out and brought up to the advanced position the troops in the fire-swept salient were withdrawn from Hill 130 and took up a position on the reverse slope between the village of Cierges and Bellevue Farm.

The line of Oureq had not been broken but it had been badly battered and the division commander decided to attack along the entire front on the morning of August 1. The Bois de la Planchette was the objective of the 63rd Brigade and Hill 230 of the 64th Brigade. The 64th Brigade had the added mission of turning the strong position at Bellevue Farm. The boche resisted desperately and the fighting was of a sanguinary character. Opposed by fresh troops who were amply provided with machine guns strongly supported by artillery, the 32nd Division had an extremely difficult task before it. But these men new to this vicious kind of warfare, rushed at the enemy with irresistible determination, captured both the Bois de la Planchette and Hill 230, maneuvering the boche out of Bellevue Farm and completely overwhelming the strong position which was the day's objective and the key to the entire enemy line to the north of the Oureq.

The possession of Hill 230 and the high ground extending across the sector to the left was especially valuable to the Germans, and they held tenaciously to the position. When it fell they were forced to retreat, and from information secured the night of August 1 it was apparent that they were pushing their retirement with great rapidity.

The 42nd Division, which was fighting on the left of the 63rd Infantry Brigade, also encountered an enemy position of great strength, but on August 1 succeeded in reducing the German resistance and pushing forward the American line. During the night of August 1, the 4th French Division, on the right of the 64th Infantry Brigade, came up on a line with the American who held Hill 230.

The situation was now such that the commander of the 6th French Army deemed it probable that a consolidated advance could break through and such an advance was ordered to begin on the morning of August 2.

On the morning of August 3 the pursuit was resumed and our troops continued to advance, meeting, however, more resistance, especially from the left flank, where the 42 Division, on account of the woods from which machine-gun fire was delivered, was unable to advance as rapidly as the 32nd. Our troops pressed forward rapidly, and at the end of the day had advanced 7 kilometers to the hills overlooking the valley

of the Vesle about 1 kilometer south of the Vesle on the left and 2 kilometers south of Fismes on the right flank. Here considerable resistance was encountered and the advanced elements were thinned out and withdrawn to prevent heavy casualties from the continuous stream of artillery and machine-gun fire from the organized German position on the heights north of the Vesle. About midnight, August 3, the corps commander ordered the division to push forward to the Vesle River and provide the means of crossing.

During its attack on Fismes the 127th Infantry was badly cut up and late in the day Colonel Langdon organized a provisional battalion out of what was left of his regiment and sent this force forward to storm the town. After a desperate assault the battalion succeeded, about nightfall, in passing through the city and establishing itself on the south bank of the river.

In the 7 days of fighting the division had gained 19 kilometers, broken through the strong German line of the Oureq, stormed the strongly held city of Fismes, and completely occupied the south bank along the Vesle. The casualties were heavy numerically, but light in comparison with the result achieved and to the losses which were known to have been inflicted on the enemy. Our casualties were: Killed, 77 officers and 645 men, severely wounded, 58 officers and 1,079 men; slightly wounded, 82 officers and 597 men; gassed, 21 officers and 597 men; missing, 46 men; died of wounds, 12 officers and 63 men; captured, 2 officers and 6 men. Total losses from all causes, 3,547.

The materiel captured included 4 pieces of heavy artillery, 5 pieces of light artillery, 10 trench mortars, 28 machine guns, and 400 rifles.

Our burial squads buried more German dead than the total 32nd killed and missing. During the action we were opposed by 3 German divisions, the 200th, the 126th, and the 4th Prussian Guards. Owing to the sanguinary character of the fighting the number of prisoners taken was less than might otherwise have been the case. But one German officer was captured and 96 men passed through the divisional cage.

The operation was fought almost entirely under the 38th French Corps, the 3rd United States Corps, commanded by Major Gen. Bullard, taking over the sector on the morning of August 5, after the 32nd Division had occupied the south bank of the Vesle.

Upon being relieved from the front line the division, less the artillery, was assembled in the support position between the Oureq and the Vesle and a training program was immediately prepared and put into effect. The training proceeded for a period of about 10 days, when orders were received to move the entire division again to the vicinity of Soissons and report to the commanding general of the 10th French Army, General Mangin.

Upon arrival in the sector of the 10th French Army the division was sent to the Aisne and placed in the sector behind the 127th French Infantry Division with instructions to be prepared to relieve that division at an early date. The relief of the French division

was ordered and accomplished on the night of August 27-28, and the command of the sector was taken over by the commanding general, 32nd Division, at 0700, on August 28, at precisely on our right. The 32nd Division was asked to move forward with the French. No reconnaissance of the sector had been practicable, but the 32nd Division agreed to attack in liaison with the French, and did so at the appointed hour, the 63rd Infantry Brigade, which was in the front line, promptly gaining its objective, the railroad track west of the village of Juvigny, and capturing about 100 prisoners.

On August 29, at 0525, a general attack for the entire 10th Army was ordered by General Mangin.

The contemplated general attack was, however, not carried out. At 1015, August 30, a message was received from the 59th French Division on our right flank that its right flank had advanced in close liaison with the division on the right of the 59th, which had penetrated the German line and was able to move forward. It appeared that the movement of the 59th Division was destined to make considerable progress and at 1300 word was received from the corps commander confirming the report that the Germans on our right were giving ground, and instructed us to advance our right flank in liaison with the division on our right. This gave us the looked-for opportunity to attack Juvigny and plans were immediately made to deliver the blow.

While progress was being made on our right such was not the case on the left where the 66th French Division was held up by heavy machine gun nests from the plateau on its front. Accordingly it seemed probable to the division commander that the attack on Juvigny would have to be a turning movement, with the right of the division swinging on Juvigny while the left kept liaison with the 66th French Division. This was exactly what happened. When the attack was launched the left flank, together with the division on our left, was held up by heavy fire coming from the northeast. The right flank, however, moved forward and while it encountered heavy opposition in getting through the woods, it succeeded in making its way through the ravine to a position to the south of Juvigny with the extreme right partially enveloping the town from the east. One battalion of the 128th Infantry in the left subsector moved forward west of Juvigny and finally reached a position to the north of the town and in this way the two forces practically surround the village.

The enemy was surprised by the direction in which the attack was delivered, but recovered and delivered a counter-attack on our left flank from a point to the north of Juvigny. This attack was easily repulsed by the 128th Infantry on our left, which had been reinforced by a battalion of the 125th Infantry. With Juvigny virtually surrounded, troops from the supporting battalion of the 127th Infantry entered the town from the southwest and mopped up after considerable bloody fighting. 156 prisoners, 3 of whom were officers, were taken in the town, and a large number of Germans were killed. The day's operation netted 189 prisoners.

In this operation the division sustained rather severe casualties especially on the left, where the 128th was exposed to machine gun fire from the sector immediately

in front of the 66th French Division, and also from artillery fire which had our front under observation.

On the morning of August 31 the front line of the 32nd Division was considerably in advance of that of the divisions on our right and left, which, on the 30th, had been unable to advance as far as the 32nd. The division on the left had made no advance whatever, and was about 1 kilometer to the rear, which the division on the right was about half a kilometer to the rear.

In compliance with instructions from the army commander for a general attack an assault was launched at 1600 on August 31, after an artillery barrage of 4 hours. For this attack the 57th Field Artillery Brigade and the divisional artillery of the 1st Moroccan Division were available.

A triple barrage covering a depth of about 1.5 kilometers was decided upon in order to flank machine gun nests, which might be too far to the west to be covered by the single barrage, and which might succeed in preventing our troops from moving forward. The 128th Infantry, in the left of our sector, was required to move forward and adjust itself at the same time to the barrage. This was a delicate operation, but was carried out with great skill and exactly according to the schedule. When the barrage arrived at the division's most advanced front line the remainder of the troops moved forward. Progress across the whole front continued until the division had reached the Terney Sorney-Bethancourt Road. Our casualties for the day, while considerable in number, were small when compared to the magnitude of the operation and the stubborn resistance of the enemy. The total number of prisoners captured during the 4 hours from 1600 to 2200 was 558. On the morning of September 1 further attempts were made to improve the position of our advanced elements, and a number of machine-gun nests were cleaned up. An effort was made to assist the 59th French Division to come up to the road on our right, and the division was engaged in this operation when the order came for our relief by the 1st Moroccan Division. This relief of the infantry was accomplished on the night of September 1-2, and the command of the sector passed to the Moroccan commander on the morning of September 2.

In an operation against a determined enemy, disposed in great depth, supported by adequate artillery and entrenched in highly organized positions in a country that lent itself naturally to defense, the division had again broken through a German key position, had penetrated his line to a depth of 5.5 kilometers, and started an enemy withdrawal, thus paving the way for a forward movement by the whole 10 French Army, which ultimately outflanked the German positions on the Vesle and the Chemin des Dames. For 5 days the battle raged with terrific intensity, both sides fighting with great determination and striking blow for blow. In spite of the sanguinary character of the operation and the constant exposure of our troops to every weapon with which the enemy was well supplied, our casualties were not unusually heavy. Our losses were: Killed, 15 officers and 335 men; severely wounded, 26 officers and 166 men; slightly wounded, 62 officers and 565 men; missing, 34 men; died of

wounds, 6 officers and 106 men, and captured, 5 men. Total losses from all causes, 2,848. The materiel captured included 2 pieces of heavy artillery, 2 of light artillery, 16 trench mortars, 112 machine guns, and 700 rifles. In this action the 32nd Division was opposed by 5 German divisions - the 7th, the 7th Reserve, the 223rd, the 238th, and the 237th. From these divisions 937 prisoners were captured, 9 of them being officers.

On September 5, orders were received to assemble the division south of Aisne and to run it back to the 1st American Army, which then was preparing for a big offensive at St. Mihiel and in the Argonne. The division marched to the vicinity of the Pierrefonds, where the troops entrained and moved to a rest area at Joinville, north of Chaumont, France. There were few changes in commanding officers during the Oise-Aisne offensive. On August 26 Brig. Gen. Alexander, who had commanded the 63rd Infantry Brigade during the latter part of the second battle of the Marne, was promoted to command the 77th Division and was succeeded by Brig. Gen. Convell, who had previously commanded the brigade. General Covell was relieved on August 29 by Brig. Gen. Frank R. McCoy.

The division was moved from the Joinville area to the Verdun front and the infantry assigned to the 5th Army Corps as a reserve. The artillery went into action on September 26. On October 3 an order was received changing the sector of the division, the 32nd Division relieving the 91st on our left and being relieved in part of our old sector by the 3rd Division, which had come in on our right, relieving the 79th Division. The relief of the 91st Division was accomplished by the 64th Brigade, the two brigades of the 32nd Division thus being placed side by side. The relief was completed by daybreak of October 4 and again ground in our immediate front was exploited by combat patrols and the line advanced under artillery support to a position running from northeast to southwest just south of the village of Gesnes, a gain of about 1 kilometer. Gesnes was taken but was not garrisoned, as the town was under constant shell fire.

October 5 saw the Bois de la Marine overwhelmed and the enemy machine-gun nests cleaned up. The direction of the attack was then changed to the north with a view of reducing the Bois de Chene sector. Considerable resistance was met within these woods, and there was hand-to-hand fighting when our men followed the barrage into the thick undergrowth and found that the enemy had not yet had enough. The Bois de Chene sector was finally mopped up, but the advance was halted by the strong positions on Hill 255 and Hill 269. After considerable effort these strong points were finally cleaned up.

The division had completed its approach to the Kriemhilde Stellung, and was directly in front of what was known to be the strongest position on the whole Hindenburg line in the Argonne sector. Preparations were made at once to take this position. The division commander's idea was to capture the strong point by maneuver and a special maneuver map was prepared showing graphically the movement to

be executed when the attack was launched. This map was distributed down to company commanders. The general idea was to penetrate the wire and works at some point to the south of Romagne, and then to roll up the remainder of the position by a movement to the left, taking the heights from the rear. October 8 was devoted to disposing the troops for this attack. The assault was launched on the morning of October 9. Our troops followed the barrage right up to the wire, and on the right the 126th Infantry, supported by tanks, succeeded in breaking through and reaching the southern outskirts of Romagne. On the left, 1 battalion of the 125th Infantry succeeded in getting to the top of Hill 258. Along the remainder of the front we were stopped by organized positions about 1 kilometer south of Romagne.

The number of prisoners taken in this operation was more than 500, nearly all of whom were taken in the main trench line or front outposts in front of that line. This operation brought the division up to the wire on the Kriemhilde Stellung, with both flanks almost astride of the positions.

On October 13 a renewal of the attack was directed by the corps commander. The attack was launched at 0530, October 14. A barrage was laid down on the enemy trench system along the entire front, and held there for 5 minutes, while our troops moved forward as close to the wire as possible. On Hill 258 1 battalion of the 126th Infantry, when the barrage lifted, succeeded in getting through the wire, and kept close to the barrage as it advanced to the 1st objective.

The 127th Infantry, in the left of the sector, found it impossible to advance up the hills which flank La Cote Dame Marie on account of the wire being in perfect condition, and the enemy position, garrisoned by strong groups of machine guns, held up the advance. Both battalions of the 128th Infantry on the right succeeded in getting through the trenches south of Romagne, and by skillful maneuvering virtually surrounded the town, and established a line on the northern outskirts. Mopping-up parties were sent into the town from the 125th Infantry. Some 200 prisoners were taken in the vicinity of Romagne. A new line was made north of the village of Romagne, and liaison established upon the left with the 126th Infantry.

The battalion of the 126th Infantry which had broken through the line early in the attack passed La Cote Dame Marie on the right and continued forward, establishing a line north of that position.

On October 15, 16 and 17, assisted by special artillery fire, machine-gun concentrations, and covering fire of infantry weapons, the line was pushed steadily forward until it extended across the sector about 2 kilometers north of the village of Romagne.

During the 20 days which the division was in line in the Argonne battle the troops were constantly in action. The struggle was over the most difficult terrain the division had ever been called on to conquer. The enemy realized the importance of holding the line at this point. His positions were organized with every means that 4 years experience in trench warfare had suggested. The troops with which opposed the 32nd Division were shock units of the 1st order, and their instructions, as captured prisoners

stated, were to hold the line at all costs. The enemy was abundantly supplied with machine guns and artillery. He was fully familiar with the country in which the battle took place. In spite of all these advantages he was completely beaten in every clash with the 32nd Division, the famous Hindenburg line was wholly broken, and not only was the Kriemhilde Stellung penetrated but the Freya Stellung, his third line position, was also turned by the capture of the Bantheville woods during the last few days in which the division was in line. It is significant that our losses in the Argonne sector were little larger than in the Aisne-Marne offensive. Although in the line over twice as long as engaged in heavy fighting all the time, contesting every inch of the ground won, the division had but 39 officers and 860 men killed, 32 officers and 1,176 men severely wounded, 83 officers and 2,784 men slightly wounded, 17 officers and 537 men gassed, 9 officers and 140 men missing; 10 officers and 200 men died of wounds. Total losses from all causes, 5,950.

In the approach and penetration of the Kriemhilde line the 32nd Division met and vanquished 11 German divisions, including the 5th Prussian Guards, the 3rd Prussian Guards, and the 28th Division, known as the "Kaiser's Own." The others were: The 37th Division, the 52nd Division, the 115th Division, the 39th Division, the 123rd Division, the 236 Division, the 41th Division, and the 13th Division. During our long tour of duty in the front line the 79th, 3rd and 5th U.S. Divisions occupied the sector on our right, and the 91th, 1st, and 42nd U.S. Divisions the sector on our left. The haul of prisoners made in the Argonne was the heaviest in any sector, 28 officers and 1,067 men being captured. The materiel captured included 2 pieces of heavy artillery, 6 pieces of light artillery, 61 trench mortars, 50 machine guns, and 800 rifles.

On November 1 the division passed to the command of the 3rd Army Corps, and when the Argonne offensive was renewed the 32nd Division followed in the wake of the 89th, 90th, and 5th U.S. Divisions, which were driving up the left bank of the Meuse in the direction of Stenay.

When the fighting ceased on November 11 the Germans at once attempted to fraternize with our men, but on strict orders from the army all boche overtures were turned sternly refused and the enemy soldiers were turned back from our lines when they sought to enter.

The night of November 11 was the first peaceful night that the division had known in 6 months.

The 121ST FIELD ARTILLERY VETERAN'S ASSOCIATION

The 121st Field Artillery Veteran's Association was formed aboard the USS Georgia, when the regiment was enroute home from France. At the call of COL. P.C. Westfahl, a committee met with him on May 8, 1919, to draw up preliminary plans. Major Clarence J. Kenney was chosen temporary chairman and Lieut. Robert C. Graewin secretary. It was agreed that it would be advisable to form a society to keep intact, as far as possible, the regimental personnel and perpetuate the memory of the deeds performed by the 121st FA, as well as to cooperate with the 32nd Division Association in act future activities. It was decided to ask organization commanders to appoint an enlisted man and officer from each battery and other units to meet and discuss the proposition

This committee met aboard ship on May 9, and it was decided to have each battery elect 6 representatives, the supply company 4 and the medical detachment 3, to complete the plans.

This meeting was held on May 10, the following being chosen as delegates:

Battery A
Lieut. Cost
1st Sgt. Weiss
Sgt. Horohan
Sgt. Hinz
Corp. Reynolds
Corp. Brockhausen

Battery B
Lieut. Doolin
Corp. Conig
Corp. Leist
Sgt. Sasse
Pvt. Shumerth
Pvt. Weisgerber

Battery C
Lieut. Herzog
Sgt. Hilt
Sgt. Jandl
Sgt. Clickner
Corp. Albright
Corp. Geyer

Battery D
Lieut. Loomis
1st Sgt. Burkhardt
Sgt. Hansen
Sgt. Krueger
Corp. Petri
Pvt. Sprengler

Battery E
Capt. Hibbard
Sgt. Seyk
Sgt. Bowser

Battery F
Lieut. Nelson
Sgt. Zirbes
Sgt. Nelson

Corp. Duncan
Pvt. De Magie
Pvt. Outland

Sgt. Thompson
Mech. Voelker
Corp. Yonnos

Headquarters Co.
Lieut. Stevenson
Sgt. Cernahan
Sgt. Snetscher
Sgt. Ouweneel
Corp. Wolff
Pvt. Messener

Supply Co.
Lieut. Millstead
Sgt. Lancaster
Sgt. Danzer
Pvt. Neacy

Medical Det.
Maj. Kenney
Sgt. Brown
Pvt. Ross

At this meeting Lieut. Stevenson presided and Pvt. Outland acted as secretary. It was decided to have a committee of five draw up a constitution, and the chairman appointed Maj. Kenny, Lieut Herzog, 1st Sgt. Zirbes, Sgt. Weiss and Corp. Coniff.

On May 11, the delegates again met to receive the report of the Committee of Five, and upon their recommendation the following constitution was unanimously adopted:

1. The Name of the Association shall be: 121st Field Artillery Veteran's Association.

2. The object of this Association shall be: To foster and perpetuate the spirit of comradeship which has been the greatest single factor in the success of the regiment and to perpetuate in act and deed by strong Americanism the memory of our dead comrades, who by their supreme sacrifice have permitted us to return in honor.

3. The active members of the Association shall be: All persons of the military forces of the United States who honorably served with the 121st Field Artillery at any time from the the date of embarkation, until the 30th of April, 1919, or any other persons who similarly served with the 121st Field Artillery in any other official capacity during the time specified.

The associate members of this Association shall be: All persons who honorably served as members of the 121st Field Artillery and who through no effort of their own were prevented from serving with the American Expeditionary Forces. The Executive

Committee, hereinafter formed, is empowered to admit as Associate Member, upon the personal application, any person entitle to such membership.

honorary members may be elected by a majority vote of the members of the Association present at a regular convention of the Association, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, for valuable services rendered to the spirit of the Association. In addition the next of kin of all former members of the 121st Field Artillery who were killed in action, or who died fro other causes and whose status at the time of death was such as to warrant the membership, may be admitted as Honorary Members under like conditions.

4. No fees shall be charged for membership in this Association.

5. The officers of this Association shall be a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, chaplain, and historian. There shall also be an Executive Committee consisting of one member from each on the following organizations:

Batteries A, B, C, D, E, F, Headquarters Co, Supply, Medical Detachment and Ordnance Detachment.

The term of office shall be for 1 year, or until their successors are elected and qualified.

The president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and historian shall be ex-officio members of the Executive Committee. There will also be selected an Honorary President and an Honorary Vice-President, whose duties are to preside at all Memorial Meetings of the Association.

The executive committee shall have power to fill vacancies occurring between conventions

6. This Association shall meet in convention at least once a year. The first regular convention to be held in the year 1920 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin at a time and place to be designated by the executive committee.

7. The executive committee shall have full control of all affairs of this Association, between the time of its conventions and may act through duly delegated Sub-committees selected by them. They shall make annual written reports to the President at each convention of their individual official activity and the collective association activities since the last regular convention.

8. Associate and Honorary Members shall be eligible to all benefits of this Association, but shall not hold office therein nor have any voice or vote on the changes or

additions to the Constitution, or of the Association bylaws.

9. The Executive Committee shall have power to adopt an official emblem.

10. This constitution may be amended by two-thirds vote of all the members present at a regular convention of the Association.

Following the adoption of the constitution, the following men were elected to serve on the Executive Committee by the representatives of the various units:

Battery A,	Sgt. Weiss
Battery B,	1st Lt. Doolin
Battery C,	Sgt. Hilt
Battery D,	Sgt. Krueger
Battery E,	Corp. Duncan
Battery F,	Sgt. Zirbes
HQ Co.,	Sgt. Bloodgood
Sup. Co.,	Sgt. K. Wegner
Med. Dept.,	Sgt. Brown
Ord. Det.,	Pvt. Goddard

The executive committee met that same evening, and elected the following officers of the association:

President,	Col. Westfahl, Milwaukee.
Vice-President,	Capt. Ralph Drum, Green Bay.
Secretary,	Capt. Walter L. Haight, Racine.
Treasurer,	Lieut. Chas. Loomis, Milwaukee
Historian,	Sgt. Erwin Novotny, Milwaukee

The second meeting of the executive committee was held at Whitefish Bay Armory June 14, 1919. Routine business was discussed, and the President authorized to make preliminary plans for the convention in September, 1920.

On April 11, 1920, the board met a Milwaukee. The treasurer reported \$1,972.34 on hand, of which \$1912.19 came from a committee of loyal citizens, headed by Wheeler P. Bloodgood. The committee had raised a large fund for the benefit of the 120th and 121st artillery regiments, and had decided to divide it equally between the Veterans' Associations of the organizations. A committee consisting of Messrs. Haight, Drum, Hoberg, Weiss and Loomis was appointed to notify members of the forth-coming convention. A committee consisting of Messrs. Kenney, Bloodgood,

Wegner and Brown was appointed to arrange for entertainment of the visitors. President Westfahl was made chairman of this committee ex-officio. An emergency appropriation of \$100 was authorized to cover expenses of these committees. A committee consisting of Messrs. Haight, Zirbes and Hilt was appointed to suggest a revision of the constitution at the convention in September.

The secretary was instructed to prepare a souvenir history of the regiment for free distribution to members of this Association, and was authorized to solicit advertising for it.

The Association was to be put to no expense from this project.