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#### 10 OF 15 IN BAND FALL

French Musicians Killed Wounded in One Advance.

#### NEVER A BREAK IN THE MUSIC

Win a Crisp Twenty-Word Mention in General Orders--Every Instrument Injured by Bullet or Shrapnel. Stirring Feat at Capture of Town of Vauquois Recorded.

Paris. April 28 (by mail). Daily reports of feats of heroism by men who fight have overshadowed the heroism of the men who battle solely with musical instruments as doggedly as their comrades of the bayonet.

Here is a true story of the Forty-sixth French infantry band, which before the war used to play summer afternoon concerts in Paris. The band composed of fifteen musicians under Bandmaster Laty, never ceased to play, though ten were killed or wounded before the troops conquered the town of Vauquois.

#### One After Another Falls.

Advancing with the regiment, Laty was beating time for the "Marseillaise" when the first bandsman dropped. Immediately afterward another was wounded, but he continued to play where he fell. Bullets were flying everywhere as the band advanced. With the "Marseillaise" half played the casualties numbered four. Soon the regiment was in the German trench and the band had struck up "The Charge." Laurent, one of the three clarinets, was hit in the stomach. He grasped the shoulder of his neighbor, but the latter shook him off and marched on without removing his instrument from his lips. German machine guns were hammering the advancing French from a height in the town. The noise was terrific but the remnant of the band forged ahead without a break in the music. Blanchard, the big drummer, was the next to drop. The same bullet wounded a flute player.

#### Hand-to-Hand Fighting.

The troops were now engaged in hand-to-hand fighting with the Germans in the streets of Vauquois. The bandmaster signaled his remaining men for the "Marseillaise." It came promptly, though not so loud and strong as on the first occasion. Prevost, first trombone player, dropped his instrument when a shell splinter shattered his hand. Meunier, second trombone, shot through the hip, crawled to the instrument Prevost had dropped, and went on playing. The band had now reached a place where it came under a heavy enfilading fire. Another bandsman was shot through the heart.

When the day was won there remained but five of the heroic bandsmen who had escaped unwounded. One of these was Bandmaster Laty, who had continued to beat time with his white gloves throughout the entire engagement. Every instrument was damaged by bullets or shrapnel. A saxophone was torn from the hands of its player by a shrapnel splinter.

The general orders a few days later included this crisp sentence: The Forty-sixth infantry band played under the enemy's fire to encourage the attacking troops in spite of a heavy bombardment."