

OFFICIAL COPY.

54
Infantry
1133

THE PATTERN 1914
LEATHER INFANTRY
EQUIPMENT.

WAR OFFICE.

1915.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FITTING THE INFANTRY EQUIPMENT, PATTERN 1914.

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1. The waist belt should be adjusted equally at either side until it becomes comfortably tight, care being taken that the back buckles are central on the back.

2. When the belt has been adjusted as above, it should be laid down flat on the ground with the outside uppermost. The bayonet frog should then be slipped on the left hand side of the belt so that it will hang on the left hip.

3. The ammunition pouches should then be attached to each side of the belt by passing the two small straps on the back of the pouch round the belt, and securing them fairly tight.

4. The rear end of the braces (*i.e.*, the part where the buckle is attached) should then be secured to the rear buckles on the back of the belt; they should be pulled through the buckle until, in the case of a man of average height, it hangs about 1 inch lower than the strap with buckle on the back of belt. Pass the front ends of the braces through the top buckle of the ammunition pouch, and between the V-shaped leather fitting thereon. The braces should be crossed at the back.

5. The equipment should then be fitted on the man in its present state, and adjusted as may be necessary. When properly fitted, the belt should rest in its natural position all round the waist, and the braces should be taut. The equipment should then be taken off and laid out as before. The bayonet and scabbard should then be inserted in the frog, and the strap on the frog tightly buckled.

6. The carrier for the helve of the intrenching tool should then be attached to the scabbard by the rear loops being slipped over the same, and slid up until the top edge of the buckle abuts against the bottom edge of the frog. The strap connecting the two loops should be nearest to the hip. The carrier should then be buckled to the frog by means of the 1-inch strap on the back of the same, care being taken that the buckle rides just below the frog, and not between the frog and the thigh. The intrenching tool helve should then be inserted in the carrier and buckled up tightly.

7. The haversack should then be attached to the outer end pieces of the braces on the left hand side. It should be adjusted so as to hang in a convenient position on the left hip, so as not to interfere with the withdrawal or insertion of the sword bayonet.

8. The carrier, intrenching tool, head, should be attached on the right hand side to the loose strap on the pouch, and the loose strap with buckle on the belt, and should be adjusted so as to ride comfortably on the hip.

9. The water-bottle carrier should then be attached on the right hand side to the end pieces of the braces, and adjusted so that it rides correctly over the carrier, intrenching tool, head.

10. The equipment as thus assembled should then be laid face downwards, and the pack placed thereon. The straps without buckles on the belt should then be passed through the buckles on the bottom of the pack and tightly buckled, the ends being then

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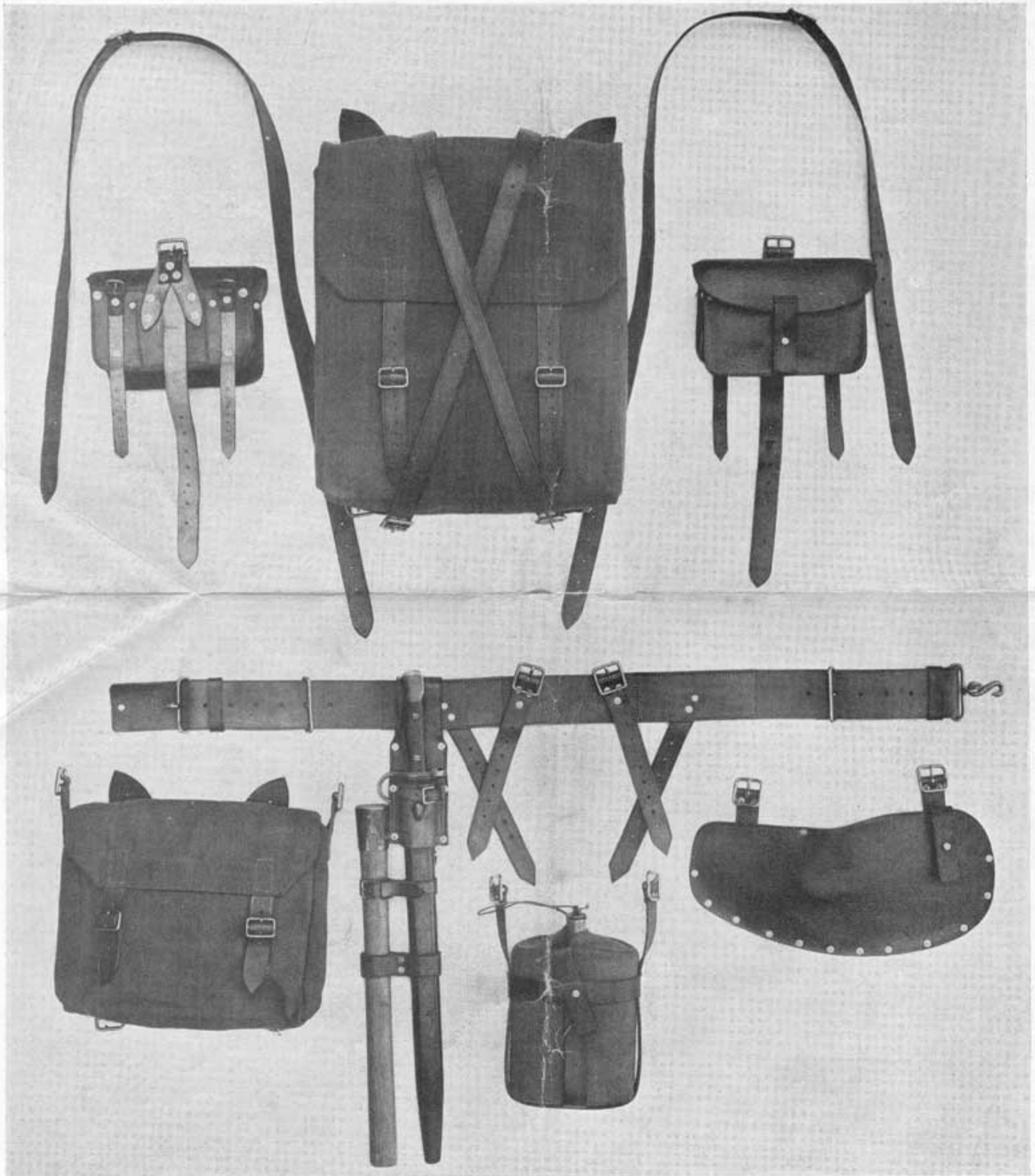
passed through the leather loops on the bottom of the pack. The ends of these straps should then be attached to the buckles of the pack straps, and the other ends of which should be fastened to the buckles on the top of the pack, or as an alternative to the 2-inch buckles on the braces. The pack straps should be crossed.

11. The brace buckles, with tongues pointing downwards, should then be adjusted to a position opposite the sewing in the two inch top straps on the pack. The straps should then be passed through the buckles. They should not be buckled too tightly. If the equipment is properly fitted, the braces should lie flat against the back of the pack, being neither slack nor strained. The bottom of the pack should be on a level with the lower edge of the waist belt.

GENERAL REMARKS.

As the correct balance of the equipment when the pack is worn depends upon the proper adjustment of the two straps without buckles on the waist belt, it is essential that they be kept fairly tight when fitted to the pack, so that the bottom of the pack rides close up to the waist belt.

The entire weight of the pack should be taken by the two straps without buckles referred to above, and not by the two inch securing straps at the top of the pack, which are only intended for steadying purposes, and to keep the pack from falling away from the body.



COMPONENT PARTS.



COMPLETE EQUIPMENT ASSEMBLED.



MARCHING ORDER EQUIPMENT, WITHOUT PACK.



MARCHING ORDER EQUIPMENT, WITHOUT PACK.



MARCHING ORDER EQUIPMENT, WITHOUT PACK.



COMPLETE EQUIPMENT. SIDE VIEW.



COMPLETE EQUIPMENT. SIDE VIEW.



COMPLETE EQUIPMENT. FRONT VIEW.



COMPLETE EQUIPMENT. BACK VIEW.



COMPLETE EQUIPMENT, FRONT VIEW, SHOWING COTTON BANDOLIER CONTAINING 50 ROUNDS OF S.A. AMMUNITION.



COMPLETE EQUIPMENT, SHOWING EXTENSION OF WAIST BELT.



EQUIPMENT WITHOUT PACK, SHOWING CARRIAGE OF HAVERSACK.



BRACES SEPARATED FROM EQUIPMENT AND ATTACHED TO WATERBOTTLE AND HAVERSACK, SHOWING ORDINARY METHOD OF SLINGING ACROSS THE SHOULDERS.