BRITAIN TO BE PUT ON RATIONS

Lord Rhondda Says the Scheme Awaits Sanction of Cabinet.

London, Jan. 3.—The Director of Meat Supplies announces that Tuesday will be the meatless day in London, and would also affect the province. Compulsory rationing is to be put into effect in Britain at an early date, according to Lord Rhondda, the Food Controller, speaking at Silverton on Thursday. He prefaced his announcement by saying that he was afraid that compulsory rationing would have to come, and that it was on its way, and then declared that his department had completed a scheme, and that as soon as the sanction of the Cabinet had been received, it would be carried out.

Lord Rhondda warned his hearers that there would continue to be a shortage, though the position would improve, and improve steadily.

"There is nothing alarming in the situation," he said. "You have only to tighten your belt. The people of this country are undergoing nothing like the privations in Germany. There they have less than a pound of meat a week.'

RY. CARS RETURNED FROM U.S.

Shortage is Being Relieved For Canada by United States Management.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The new centralized management of the United States railroads, with its pooling arrangements of rolling stock and economies of routing and motive power, is already helping to solve one of the main problems of the Canadian Railway Companies, namely, the more prompt return of Canadian rolling stock routed to United States points. Rolling stock shortage in Canada has been aggravated to a large extent by the delays in securing return of cars from the United States roads. Thousands of Canadian box cars, etc., have been kept across the line for months. The shortage of cars in the United States, the keenness of railway competition, and the lack of any central co-ordinating management, have made the tracing and return of cars to Canada very difficult for a considerable time past.

ENEMY RAIDS ON CANADIANS

Beginning of Year Brings Great Activity on Front Held By Maple Leafers.

A despatch from Canadian Headquarters in France (via London) says: Our guns are grumbling around Lens after an evening of activity in which they were vigorously employed in assisting to break up an enemy raid against our flank. New Year's Day, which came in quietly, went out with unusual activity reported all along the front. The enemy attempted raids in no less than four places, one of them in strength.

Our patrols have been busy all along the front, and have come off victorious in various clashes with enemy parties. Both our own and the enemy aircraft have been active. Two of our machines attacked a party of seven hostile planes yesterday and brought down one in flames.

TO REMOVE CONTENTS OF MUSEUM TO SAFETY.

A despatch from London says: An official communication was issued dealing with the Government's proposed intention to take over the British Museum for use by the Air Board. The communication says the Government intends to utilize for office purposes the considerable space made vacant in the Museum by the removal of the art treasures to places where they are not exposed to air raids, and that special precautions have been taken to ensure the safety of the contents of the Museum which have not been removed. The announcement says that the reading-room will remain open to the public.

BRITISH DRIVE ACROSS PIAVE

Difficult Raid Successfully Carried Out and Prisoners Taken.

A despatch from London says:—"One of our battalions carried out successfully a difficult raid at night across the Piave, taking prisoners and inflicting damage on the enemy," said an official statement on Thursday from the British forces on the Italian front.

This was the British raid reported in yesterday's Rome official statement—the first time that British troops have been reported in an offensive action in this war theatre.

"On the whole front," says the official statement issued on Thursday by the Italian War Office, "there has been nothing of importance to report.

"On Tuesday night enemy airmen dropped bombs on Castelfranco Veneto, obtaining two direct hits on two hospitals. Eighteen patients were killed."

NET LOSS 1,621 MEN FOR HALF DECEMBER.

Total Enlistments in C.E.F. 2,081, Against Wastage of 3,702.

A despatch from Ottawa says: Recruiting figures showing the number of men enlisted in the infantry, artillery, railway construction and forestry units in Canada and the United States during the first half of December, and the wastage in the C.E.F. for the same period, have been issued by the Militia Department. The figures reveal a net loss for the half month, of 1,621 men, the total enlistments being 2,081, as against a total wastage of 3,702. The total enlistments were divided among the various branches of the services as follows:

Infantry, 1,308; Artillery, 375; Railway Construction and Forestry, 311; miscellaneous, 87. The total number of men enlisted in Canada during the two weeks was 1,310, in the United States 768, and in England 3.

The casualties overseas during the half month totalled 1,217, of which 45 per cent. will, it is estimated, within a period of six months, be fit for general service. A total of 972 men were discharged in England, 981 were returned to Canada for discharge and 532 were discharged in Canada. The total wastage in infantry units was 1,575.

CANADIAN TROOPS ARRIVE IN ENGLAND.

A despatch from Ottawa says: It is officially announced that the following troops have arrived safely in England:

Canadian Officers' Training Corps, candidates for army commission.

Royal Flying Corps, officers.

Draft: E. Yorkshire Regiment from Bermuda.

Draft: Artillery, horse, siege and field, from St. John, N.B., Montreal, Ontario, Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

Signalers from Ottawa.

Forestry from Montreal, Levis, Toronto, Winnipeg and Prince Albert.

Medical Corps from Ontario.

Canadian Nursing Sisters and V.A.D. Nurses from Toronto.

Newfoundland troops, Imperial recruits, details.

ONLY 150 CASUALTIES IN GUATEMALA 'QUAKE

A despatch from San Salvador says:—The latest advices here show that the first reports of the Guatemala earthquake were exaggerated. The fatalities as a result of the disaster aggregated 50, while only 100 persons were injured.

Earth shocks continue, but they are weak. Relief committees are being formed all over the country and a section of the Red Cross will depart shortly for Guatemala, taking medicines, blankets and other necessities.

HUNGARY'S WAR LOAN A FAILURE

A despatch from London says:—Subscriptions to Hungary's seventh war loan totalled about 3,000,000,000 kronen, whereas the Government expected 8,000,000,000 kronen, telegraphs the correspondent at Amsterdam of the Exchange Telegraph Company. Most of the subscriptions were forced on the leading banks, the message adds, only an insignificant share being taken by the populace.

Markets of the World

Breadstuffs

Toronto, Jan. 8—Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, $2.23½; No. 2, do., $2.20½; No. 3, do., $2.17½; No. 4 wheat, $2.10½, in store Fort William, including 2½c tax.

Manitoba oats—No. 2 C.W., 81⅝c; No. 3 C.W., 77⅝c; No. 1 extra feed, 77⅝c; No. 1 feed, 74⅝c, in store Fort William.

American corn—No. 3 yellow, nominal.

Ontario oats—No. 2 white, 79 to 80c, nominal; No. 3, do., 78 to 79c, nominal, according to freights outside.

Ontario wheat—New, No. 2 Winter, $2.22; basis, in store Montreal.

Peas—No. 2, $3.70 to $3.80, according to freights outside.

Barley—Malting, $1.32 to $1.34, according to freights outside.

Buckwheat—$1.55 to $1.58, according to freights outside.

Rye — No. 2, $1.78, according to freights outside.

Manitoba flour—First patents, in jute bags, $11.50; 2nd, do., $11.00; strong bakers', do., $10.60, Toronto.

Ontario flour—Winter, according to sample, $10.05, in bags, Montreal; $9.85, Toronto; $9.80 bulk, seaboard, prompt shipment.

Millfeed—Car lots, delivered Montreal freights, bags included—Bran, per ton, $35; shorts, do., $40; middlings, do., $45 to $46; good feed flour, per bag, $3.25.

Hay—No. 1, new, per ton, $15.50 to $16.50; mixed, do., $13 to $15, track Toronto.

Straw—Car lots, per ton, $8.50 to $9.

Country Produce—Wholesale

City wholesalers are paying at country points the following for butter and eggs:—

Butter—Creamery, solids, per lb, 42½ to 43c; prints, per lb, 43 to 43½c; dairy, per lb, 36 to 38c.

Eggs—Fresh gathered eggs, 50 to 52c.

Dressed Poultry—Chickens, 24 to 25c; fowl, 19 to 20c; ducks, 23 to 24c; geese, 21 to 22c; turkeys, 28 to 30c.

Potatoes — Wholesalers are paying growers and country shippers $1.75 for first-class stock, f.o.b., outside points.

Wholesalers are selling to the retail trade at the following prices:

Cheese—New, large, 23 to 23½c; rwins, 23½ to 23⅞c; early cheese, 25½ to 26c; large twin, 26 to 26½c.

Butter—Fresh dairy, choice, 40 to 41c; creamery prints, 45 to 46c; solids, 44 to 45c.

Margarine—29 to 32c.

Eggs—New laid, in cartons, 60 to 65c; No. 1 storage, 43 to 44c; select storage, 47 to 48c.

Dressed poultry—Spring chickens, 26 to 28c; milk-fed chickens, lb, 30c; fowl, 22 to 25c; turkeys, 35 to 37c; ducks, Spring, 27 to 30c; geese, 25 to 27c.

Live poultry—Turkeys, 28c; Spring chickens, lb, 20 to 21c; hens, 16 to 18c; ducks, Spring, 20 to 22c; geese, 20 to 21c.

Honey—Comb—Extra fine, 16 oz., $3.50; 12 oz., $3; No. 2, $2.40 to $2.50. Strained—Tins, 2½'s and 5's, 19 to 19½c per lb; 10's, 18½ to 19c; 60's, 18 to 18½c.

Beans—Canadian, hand-picked, bush., $8 to $8.50; imported, hand-picked, $6.50 to $7; Limas, 17 to 17½c.

Provisions—Wholesale

Smoked and cured meats and lard are quoted to the trade by Toronto wholesalers as follows:—

Smoked meats—Hams, medium, 30 to 31c; do., heavy, 26 to 27c; cooked, 43 to 44c; rolls, 27 to 28c; breakfast bacon, 38 to 42c; backs, plain, 40 to 41c; boneless, 43 to 44c.

Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 27½ to 28c lb; clear bellies, 26½ to 27c.

Lard—Pure lard, tierces, 28½ to 29c; tubs, 28¾ to 29¾c; pails, 29 to 29½c; compound, tierces, 24½ to 25c; tubs, 24¾ to 25¼c; pails, 25 to 25½c.

Montreal Markets

Montreal, Jan. 8—Oats—Canadian Western, No. 3, 92c; extra No. 1 feed, 92c; No. 2 local white, 87½c; No. 3 local white, 85½c. Flour—Manitoba Spring wheat patents, firsts, $11.60; seconds, $11.10; strong bakers', $10.90; straight rollers, bags, $5.20 to $5.37½. Rolled oats—Bags, 90 lbs, $5.30. Bran—$35. Shorts—$40. Middlings, $48. to $50. Mouillie—$56 to $58. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car lots, $14.50 to $15.50. Cheese—Finest westerns, 21⅞c; finest easterns, 21½c. Butter—Choicest creamery, 44½ to 45c; seconds, 43½ to 44c. Eggs—Fresh, 54 to 55c; selected, 46c; No. 1 stock, 42c; No. 2 stock, 38 to 39c. Potatoes—Per bag, car lots, $1.90 to $2.10. Dressed hogs—Abattoir killed, $26.50 to $27; do., country, $24.50 to $25. Pork—Heavy Canada short mess, bbls, 35 to 45 pieces, $52 to $53; do., Canada short cut back, bbls, 45 to 55 pieces, $50 to $51. Lard—Compound, wood pails, 20 lbs net, 25 to 26c; pure, wood pails, 20 lbs. net, 27½ to 28c.

Winnipeg Grain

Winnipeg, Jan. 8—Cash prices—Oats—No. 2 C.W., 81⅝c; No. 3 C.W., 77⅝c; extra No. 1 feed, 77⅝c; No. 1 feed, 74⅝c; No. 2 feed, 71⅝c. Barley—No. 3, $1.38; No. 4, $1.33; rejected and feed, $1.17. Flax—No. 1 N.W.C., $3.18½; No. 2 C.W., $3.15; No. 3 C.W., $2.98.

United States Markets

Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 8—Corn—No. 3 yellow, $1.70 to $1.75. Oats—No. 3 white, 78 to 79c. Flour—Standard, in carload lots, $9.75 per barrel in 98-lb. sacks. Bran—$32.50.

Duluth, Minn., Jan. 8—Linseed, on track, $3.50 to $3.62; arrive, $3.50; January, $3.50 bid; May, $3.47¾; July, $3.39¾ asked.

Live Stock Markets

Toronto, Jan. 8—Extra choice heavy steers, $11.25 to $12; do., good heavy, $10.75 to $11; butchers' cattle, choice, $10.60 to $10.85; do., good, $9.60 to $10.25; do., medium, $9 to $9.25; do., common, $8.25 to $8.50; butchers' bulls, choice, $9 to $10; do., good bulls, $8 to $8.25; do., medium bulls, $7.10 to $7.35; do., rough bulls, $5.25 to $6.25; butchers' cows, choice, $9.50 to $10; do., good, $8.50 to $9; do., medium, $7.75 to $8; stockers, $7.25 to $8.75; feeders, $9.25 to $10; canners and cutters, $5.15 to $5.50; milkers, good to choice, $95 to $140; do., com. and med., $75 to $90; springers, $90 to $130; light ewes, $12 to $14; sheep, heavy, $6 to $7.75; yearlings, $12.25 to $13.25; lambs, $17.75 to $19; calves, good to choice, $14 to $16.25; hogs, fed and watered, $18.50 to $18.75; do., weighed off cars, $18.75 to $19; do., f.o.b., $17.50 to $17.55.

Montreal, Jan. 8—Choice steers, $12 to $12.50; good steers, $10 to $12; choice cows, $7 to $9.50; good, $6 to $7; butchers' bulls, $7 to $10; milk calves, $13 to $15; grass, $7 to $9; canners' cattle, $6.25 to $6.50; sheep, $11.50 to $12; lambs, $15 to $16.50; select hogs, off cars, $19; good select, $18.50.

Australians viewing the destroyed bridge at Bapaume.

HOLY CITY SAVED FROM TURK

Battle For Possession of Jerusalem Won by British.

A despatch from London says:—Since Boxing Day Gen. Allenby's army has followed up one brilliantly fought battle by a series of engagements which have brought under control of the British Palestine army the whole of the watershed between the Mediterranean and the Jordan as far north as Bireh, and they have a splendid line across the scene of many conflicts of ancient times.

The troops are now well north of this line, for on Wednesday they occupied Beitin, the Bethel of the Scriptures, and a bountiful water supply between Bireh and Ramallas has been secured.

The rapid advance in a most difficult country was due to the overwhelming defeat of a Turkish attempt to retake Jerusalem on December 27, when, after resisting desperate attacks for nearly twelve hours, the British delivered a masterly counter-stroke and rolled up the enemy right, cauing the Turks, who sustained tremendous losses, to yield almost impregnable positions and fall back along the Nablus road, leaving in the British possession points of great strategical importance.

LONDON MEAT SUPPLY IS WOEFULLY SHORT

A despatch from London says:—So meagre is the supply of meat in London that the first meatless day is expected for a large number of the inhabitants during this week-end. Retail butchers to-day crowded the wholesale markets in an attempt to obtain a supply for their customers, but the majority of the dealers met with disappointment.

The Government has released 3,000 carcasses of lambs, but this supply is reserved for distribution among butchers in the poorer disricts.

The West End butchers have been told to advise their customers to eat fowl, game and fish until meat conditions are improved.

4,600 GERMAN MINES SWEPT UP BY TRAWLERS.

A despatch from London says: During the past year 1,000 trawlers, which are used as mine sweepers around the British Isles, have swept an average of 3,000 square miles daily. During the year they swept up 4,600 German mines.

SEEKS TO INCREASE USE OF FISH IN CANADA.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The Food Controller through the Fish Committee of his office is starting a campaign to increase the use in Canada of frozen fish. This effort will be part of the larger campaign to increase consumption of all kinds of fish in order to release beef, bacon and other meats for export to the allies.

BRITISH AEROPLANES BOMB METZ FACTORIES IN SUCCESSFUL RAIDS

Two Hundred Bombs Dropped on Ledeghem Ry. and Other Railway Junctions With Satisfactory Results.

A despatch from London says:—The following official statement dealing with aviation was issued Friday evening:

"Two hundred bombs were dropped Thursday on two hostile aerodromes on the Ledeghem Railway junction, on hutments in the neighborhood of the Houtholst Forest and billets south of Lille.

"Six hostile aeroplanes were downed in air fighting, and two others driven down out of control. Three of our machines are missing.

"During the night an additional 300 bombs were dropped on six enemy aerodromes, including the Gontrode aerodrome. Successful raids also were carried out in spite of the very bad weather against the factories at Mezieres-les-Metz, railway communications at Woippy and the railway junction at St. Privat, in the neighborhood of Metz. All of our machines returned."

TO SPEND BILLIONS ON SHIP-BUILDING

United States Government Arranging Gigantic Plans.

A despatch from Washington says: Plans for a $2,000,000,000 Government shipbuilding programme were revealed on Friday when the Shipping Board asked Congress for authority to place $701,000,000 worth of additional ship contracts. At the same time an immediate appropriation of $82,000,000 was asked for the extension of shipyards and for providing housing facilities for workmen.

FRENCH MAN-POWER SORELY STRAINED

A despatch from Paris says:—The drain upon French man-power, caused by the despatch of French divisions to Italy, has already rendered necessary the recall to the colors of men of fifty. A further measure in the same direction is announced by the Minister of Munitions, who has decided that workmen mobilized for the armed service belonging to the 1914 class and younger shall be withdrawn from workshops and placed at the disposal of the Commander-in-chief. The measure comes into force on January 15.

ANOTHER BRITISH GAIN IN PALESTINE

A despatch from London says:—An official communication issued by the War Office on Friday says General Allenby reports a further advance by a part of his line north of Jerusalem over a distance of a mile.

DENMARK AND NORWAY HAVE LOST MANY SHIPS

A despatch from London says:—Last year 367 Norwegian vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 566,000, were sunk, an Exchange telegraph despatch from Copenhagen reports.

Since the beginning of the war 215 Danish vessels, with a tonnage of 224,000 have been sunk, and 234 Danes have been killed.

RUSSIA AGAIN TURNS TO WAR

Will Not Capitulate to Germany's Terms of Peace.

A despatch from Petrograd says:—Russia has turned again to war. Realizing now that Germany will give Russia a democratic peace only if Germany succeeds in gaining a general peace, Russia sees anew the necessity for continuing the fight.

Russia has been swept by the demand for peace, which was partly idealistic, partly inspired by war fatigue. This transport of enthusiasm reached its highest wave when Germany offered what seemed a democratic peace. But all that is changed. Six hundred delegates gave Foreign Minister Trotseky's war speech before the Soviets the most enthusiastic and convincing applause. No war speech by Kerensky ever won applause so earnest.

The reason is that the soldiers know now they are fighting for their own democratic peace terms. The rousing scene attained its most inspiring height when the Baltic delegates cried: "The Baltic flag will be the last to come down!"

How far this new enthusiasm will prove capable of action has yet to be proved, but at all events Russia will not capitulate to Germany's terms.

JEWISH BATTALION SAILS TO FIGHT IN PALESTINE

A despatch from London says:—The new Jewish battalion of the British army, which has just completed its training, sailed for the Palestine front on Thursday.

The battalion is under the command of Col. J. H. Patterson, an Irishman and a great lion hunter in East Africa in the days before the war. His experience in command of Jewish troops dates back to the Gallipoli campaign, where he was in charge of the famous Zion Mule Corps, formed in Egypt of Jewish refugees from Palestine.

The Doings of the Duffs.