REDUCE RATIONS OF HOME ARMY

Except British Youths Under 19 Training For Abroad.

A despatch from London says:—The Earl of Derby, Secretary for War, has notified Field Marshal Viscount French, Commander of the Home Forces, of his decision to reduce the rations of meat, sugar and tea for all the home forces, except youths under 19 years, training for abroad.

"When the whole nation is being asked to reduce food consumption in the interests of our armies, abroad," says the War Secretary, "I think you will agree with me that the army at home will expect equally to be asked to make certain sacrifices. The burden cannot be allowed to fall wholly on women and children and civilian workers."

He explains that the reduced ration compares favorably with the field ration of most other armies, and says that the reasons for making the reduction imperative are known to all, adding. "The fate of the war may well depend upon the spirit in which such reductions are accepted. The grit of every individual soldier and civilian is now being tested and may be still further tested during the coming months. It is the duty of the army at home to set the whole nation an example of determination and cheerfulness, and I have no doubt of their response."

U.S. TRANSPORT SUNK BY ENEMY

Was Carrying 2,179 Soldiers, of Whom 1,912 Were Rescued.

A despatch from Washington, D.C., says:—The Cunard liner Tuscania, carrying 2,179 American soldiers, has been torpedoed and sunk off the Irish coast, and at a late hour on Wednesday night 1,912 officers and men had been accounted for in a despatch to the State Department from London.

News of the first great disaster in the war to America's armed forces came in a brief despatch to the War Department.

It did not mention the possibility of further survivors, but hope was built here upon the fact that all of those rescued were landed at two widely-separated Irish ports and indications are that relief vessels were at hand quickly.

The troops, composed chiefly of detachments of Michigan and Wisconsin National Guardsmen, were travelling on the Tuscania, a British vessel, under convoy of British warships.

CANADA EXPORTS $40,000,000 IN PULP AND PAPER

A despatch from Montreal says:—R. A. Pringle, K.C., Canada's paper controller, said in a recent speech that during the year ending March 31, 1917, the exports of pulp and paper from this country totalled $40,000,000. He called attention to the fact that Canada was supplying one-third of the newsprint used in the United States, partly in the finished product and partly in the raw material, and the requirements of the United States in pulpwood were 600,000 tons a day. Pulpwood has increased in value, he said, and brought from $2 to $7 a cord on the stump.

Canada stood third among the countries of the world with regard to forest possessions, he asserted, Russia and the United States having greater forest resources.

15 BRITISH VESSELS SUNK BY U-BOATS

A despatch from London says:—**15 British Vessels Sunk**

The Admiralty reports 15 British merchantmen sunk by mine or submarine in the past week. Of these, 10 were 1,600 tons or over, and five under 1,600 tons. Four fishing vessels also were sunk.

The British losses by mine or submarine during the past week are approximately the same as the previous week, when nine British merchantmen of more than 1,600 tons, and six of lesser tonnage, were destroyed.

Soap and tepid water will remove chocolate stains.

SUCCESSFUL RAIDS BY CANADIANS

Dominion Troops Enter Enemy Line in Two Places.

A despatch from Canadian Army Headquarters, says:—Raiding the enemy lines north of Lens, the Canadian troops on Tuesday night, supported by our artillery, succeeded in penetrating the hostile front line in two places. One party got within 20 yards of the enemy wire when it was discovered and heavily bombed, The enemy also opened a barrage on our lines, but despite the vigorous opposition and the strong wire one officer and two men succeeded in rushing the position.

The other party got within ten yards of the enemy's line before being discovered. It then bombarded its way into the trench. The Germans withdrew before the raiders, but maintained a stiff opposition.

Two hours later, after receiving support from an artillery bombardment, German raiders came across No Man's Land in strength in the Mericourt-Avion sectors. They met with such a vigorous reception from our rifle and machine guns that they were forced to retire with heavy casualties. They left five prisoners in our hands.

HUNDREDS OF CANADIANS BEING RETURNED

A despatch from London says:—The comb continues working among Canadians in England, three hunderd men last month were sent to reserve units. Some of these had been casualties in France but had become again fit; 129 men were raised from category B to A, nearly two thousand A men had completed training and were raised to category A1. Equally important towards general efficiency is that unfit men who cannot usefully be employed in England shall return to Canada. Two thousand were sent back last month and eleven hundred more were returned for further medical treatment in Canada. Over three thousand fromer casualties were made available for reserve units, these including men discharged from hospitals here. Two thousand more were placed in lower categories than A. Many of these had been made available for further service through a system of curative physical training now so largely adopted by the Canadian Medical Service. Over thirteen thousand Canadians in England were examined again by the Medical Board last month.

FIVE HOSTILE MACHINES SHOT DOWN BY BRITISH

A despatch from London says:—British aerial operations are reported in an official statement as follows:

"Nearly five tons of bombs were dropped Tuesday on hostile targets. Five German aeroplanes were brought down in air fighting, and four were driven down out of control. A hostile observation balloon was brought down. Four of our aeroplanes are missing.

"One and a half tons of bombs were dropped at night on an aerdrome south-east of Cambrai and on enemy billets."

DESPARATE BATTLE BETWEEN WHITE AND RED GUARDS

A despatch from Stockholm says:—General Mannerheim, commander of the Government forces in Finland that were organized to enforce the authority of the Finnish Diet, has defeated the Finnish Red Guard and the Russians at Uleaborg, and taken possession of the city. This is the most important victory as yet scored by the White Guard, as Uleaborg was the chief military depot of the Russians in Northern Finland, and contained considerable stores of ammunition and artillery. Military observers now confidently predict that the whole of Northern Finland soon will be in the hands of the Government forces. The battle of Uleaborg lasted two days, and there were several hundred dead on both sides.

BRITISH NAVAL FORCES BOMB OSTEND MARINE YARDS

A despatch from Armsterdam says:—British naval forces have bombarded Ostend, according to a despatch from the frontier.

The marine yards were severely damaged.

Markets of the World

Breadstuffs

Toronto, Feb. 12—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., 89⅝c; No. 3 C.W., 84⅝c; No. 1 extra feed, 83⅝c; No. 1 feed, 80⅝c; in store Fort William.

American corn—No. 3 yellow, kiln dried, nominal, $1.90.

Ontario oats—No. 2 white, 91 to 92c, nominal; No. 3, do., 90 to 91c, 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, $1.58 to $1.60, according to freights outside.

Buckwheat—$1.63 to $1.65, according to freights outside.

Rye—No. 2, $1.96 to $1.98, according to freights outside.

Manitoba flour—War quality, $11.10, new bags, Toronto freights.

Ontario flour—War quality, $10.60, new bags, Toronto and Montreal freights, 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, $3.40.

Hay—No. 1, per ton, $16 to $17; mixed, $13 to $16, track Toronto.

Straw—Car lots, per ton, $8.50 to $9.

Country Produce—Wholesale

Butter—Creamery, solids, per lb., 45 to 46c; prints, per lb., 46 to 46½c; dairy, per lb., 35 to 37c.

Eggs—Fresh gathered eggs, 50 to 52c; new laid, 55c.

Dressed poultry—Chickens, 26 to 28c; fowl, 23 to 25c; ducks, 23 to 24c; geese, 21 to 22c; turkeys, 28 to 30c.

Potatoes — Wholesalers are paying growers and country shippers, for first-class stock, f.o.b. outside points, $2.25 to $2.35 for Delawares, and $2 to $2.10 for Ontarios.

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

Cheese—New, large, 23½ to 24c; twins, 23¾ to 24½c; early cheese, 25½ to 26c; large twin, 26 to 26½c.

Butter—Fresh dairy, choice, 38 to 39c; creamery prints, 48 to 49c; solids, 47 to 48c.

Margarine—29 to 32c.

Eggs—New laid, in cartons, 65 to 70c; No. 1 storage, 49 to 50c; select storage, 52 to 53c.

Dressed poultry—Spring chickens, 30 to 33c; milk-fd chickens, 32 to 35c; fowl, 26 to 30c; turkeys, 35 to 40c; ducks, Spring, 27 to 30c; geese, 27 to 28c.

Live poultry—Turkeys, 30c; Spring chickens, lb., 22 to 26c; hens, 22 to 28c; ducks, Spring, 25c; geese, 15 to 17c.

Honey—Strained, tins, 2½'s and 5's, 20 to 22c per lb; 10's, 22c; 60's, 20c.

Beans—Canadian, hand-picked, bush, $8 to $8.25; imported, hand-picked, Burma or Indian, $6.75 to $7; Japan, $8 to $8.25; Limas, 17¾ to 18½c.

Potatoes—Delawares, bag, $2.25 to $2.35; Ontarios, bag, $2.10 to $2.25.

Provisions—Wholesale

Smoked meats—Hams, medium, 32 to 34c; do., heavy, 26 to 27c; cooked, 44 to 46c; rolls, 28 to 30c; breakfast bacon, 40 to 42c; backs, plain, 43 to 44c; boneless, 45 to 46c.

Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 28 to 29c; clear bellies, 27 to 28c.

Lard—Pure lard, tierces, 28¾ to 29½c; tubs, 29 to 29½c; pails, 29¼ to 29¾c; compound, tierces, 25½ to 26c; tubs, 25¾ to 26½c; pails, 26 to 26½c.

Montreal Markets

Montreal, Feb. 12—Oats—Canadian Western, No. 3, $1.02; extra No. 1 feed, $1.02; No. 2 local white, $1.00½; No. 3 lo. 99½c; No. 4, do., 98½c. Flour—Manitoba Spring wheat patents, firsts, $11.60; do., seconds $11.10; strong bakers', $10.90; straight rollers, bags, $5.25 to $5.40. Rolled oats—Bag of 90 lbs., $5.30. Millfeed—Bran, $35; shorts, $40; middlings, $48 to $50; mouillie, $56 to $58. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car lots, $14.00 to $15.50. Cheese—Finest westerns, 21¾c; do., easterns, 21½c. Butter—Choicest creamery, 47½ to 48c; seconds, 46½ to 47c. Eggs—Fresh, 58c; selected, 52c; No. 1 stock, 48c; No. 2, do., 45c. Potatoes—Per bag, car lots, $1.90 to $2.25.

Winnipeg Grain

Winnipeg, Feb. 12—Cash prices:—Oats—No. 2 C.W., 89⅝c; No. 3, do., 84⅝c; extra No. 1 feed, 83⅝c; No. 1 feed, 80⅝c; No. 2, do., 77⅝c. Barley—No. 3, $1.59; No. 4, $1.54; rejected and feed, $1.30. Flax—No. 1 N.W.C., $3.27; No. 2 C.W., $3.23½; No. 3, do., $3.18.

United States Markets

Minneapolis, Feb. 12—Corn—No. 3 yellow, $1.75 to $1.80. Oats—No. 3 white, 83½ to 84½c. Flour—Unchanged. Bran—$32.50.

Duluth, Feb. 12—Linseed—On track, $3.55½ to $3.67½; to arrive and May, $3.55½; July, $3.50 bid; October, $3.15½ bid.

Live Stock Markets

Toronto, Feb. 12—Extra choice heavy steers, $11.25 to $11.90; do., good heavy, $10.50 to $11; butchers' cattle, choice, $10.75 to $11; do., good, $10.25 to $10.50; do., medium, $9.50 to $9.75; do., common, $8 to $8.50; butchers' bulls, choice, $9.50 to $10; do., good bulls, $8.75 to $9; do., medium bulls, $7.60 to $8; do., rough bulls, $6.35 to $6.85; butchers' cows, choice, $9.50 to $10; do., good, $8.50 to $9; do., medium, $7.75 to $8.00; stockers, $7.50 to $8.50; feeders, $9 to $10; canners and cutters, $5.75 to $6.25; milkers, good to choice, $90 to $125; do., com. and med., $65 to $89; springers, $90 to $140; light ewes, $12.50 to $14; sheep, heavy, $6 to $7.25; yearlings, $11.75 to $12.75; lambs, $18 to $18.75; calves, good to choice, $15 to $16.50; hogs, fed and watered, $18.75; do., weighed off cars, $19; do., f.o.b., $17.75.

GERMAN CITY BOMBED BY FRENCH AIRCRAFT

A despatch from Paris says:—"On February 5, one of our bombing escadrilles flew over Saarbrucke, dropping 3,610 kilograms of projectiles. Attacked by several groups of enemy aeroplanes, our crews accepted battle and brought down three German machines and then returned intact to their own lines."

Sponge cake can be made with potato flour.

Next to dirt the greatest sin in the kitchen is disorder.

FROM OLD SCOTLAND

NOTES OF INTEREST FROM HER BANKS AND BRAES.

What is Going On in the Highlands and Lowlands of Auld Scotia.

Private G. Brebner, son of Geo. Brebner, Aberdeen, has been mentioned for distinguished conduct in the field.

Rev. A. E. Laurie, rector old St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Edinburgh, has been awarded a bar to his Military Cross.

The late John Morton Drennan, Edinburgh, left £6,800 to various Edinburgh hospitals and the Royal Blind Asylum.

The Military Cross has been awarded to Captain Adam Turner, Portsoy, for gallant conduct in the field east of Ypers.

The Bothwell Parish School Board have granted to all the teachers in their employment a flat increase of £18 per annum.

The Military Cross has been awarded Major Wolfe Murray, Gordon Highlanders, son of Commander Wolfe Murray, Tain.

After thirty years' service, Inspector James Butler has retired from the Glasgow police force.

Sir Andrew McDonald has been for fifty years a member of the Edinburgh Merchant Company.

The Manufacturers' Agents Association of Great Britain have established a branch in Glasgow.

It is stated that the Secretary for Scotland is considering the purchase of the Island of Lewis.

William Urquhart, of Autchterarder, has been appointed inspector under the Food Control Orders.

Colonel R. Balfour Graham has been appointed to take charge of the Craiglockhart War Hospital.

Rev. Jacob Sykes, Seaforths, and son of Jack Sykes, Fochaber, has been awarded the Military Medal.

W. D. Esslemont, advocate, Aberdeen, has been appointed secretary of the Aberdeen Granite Association.

Sergeant James Main, son of Alex. Main, Lossiemouth, has been awarded the Military Medal for gallantry.

Robert Brown, secretary of the Scottish Miners, and twenty-one years a councillor, has been re-elected provost of Dalkeith.

The Women's Emergency Corps Hospital Supply has raised over £200 by a sale and entertainment given in Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh.

All the school boards of Caithness have adopted a minimum salary for assistant teachers, commencing at £80.

The late Dr. Archibald Campbell, of Perth, has bequeathed £12,000 to Aberdeen University for the advance of medical work.

Miss K. M. Robertson and Miss F. M. Robertson, Nairn, are gazetted assistant administrators in the Women's Auxiliary Corps.

The Church Army flag day held in Glasgow recently realized the sum of £878.

The sum of £637 was realized on a children's flag day held in Edinburgh and Leith.

Over £70 was realized at a military concert given in Brora in aid of war charities.

IMPORTATION OF CORN TO SATISFY ALL NEEDS

A despatch from Ottawa says:—The Food Controller has announced that arrangements had been made with the authorities at Washington, under which the United States War Trade Board has apportioned to Canada sufficient corn to meet the monthly requirements of this country. This corn will be moved just as quickly as the transportation situation will permit. The Bureau of Licenses of the Food Controller's office, in turn, has apportioned part of this corn among Canadian importers in accordance with their monthly needs, so that in future these importers will not be required to secure a separate import permit for each purchaser.

12 NORWEGIAN SHIPS SUNK IN JANUARY

A despatch from Washington says:—A cable despatch to the Norwegian Legation from Christiania, says that during the month of January 12 Norwegian vessels, aggregating 18,805 gross tons, were "lost by the war," and eight Norwegian seamen lost their lives.

Solving the Mysteries of of the Machine Gun.

Men in this branch of the service have become so efficient that they can assemble and dissemble their guns, while blindfolded.

From The Middle West

BETWEEN ONTARIO AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Items From Provinces Where Many Ontario Boys ond Girls Are Living.

Medicine Hat's bank clearings for 1917 were close to thirty million dollars.

Edmonton must borrow a million and a half dollars for current expenditure.

G. D. Venini has been elected chairman of the Calgary Separate School Board.

Controller Gray, Winnipeg, wants to have a complete building inspection of the whole city.

The province of Saskatchewan collected during December almost $100,000 for the Red Cross.

W. J. Dyson, Calgary, has been elected president of the Alberta Great War Veterans' Association.

Lieut.-Col. S. W. Prowse, of Winnipeg, is home on furlough, but expects to return to France shortly.

W. H. Pritchard's general store at Mitchellton, Sask., was burned recently, the loss being about $20,000.

The dates for the annual convention for rural municipalities of Saskatchewan have now been set as March 6, 7 and 8, to be held in Moose Jaw.

Sergt.-Major Adams and Sergt. Knight rounded up 18 defaulters of the Military Service Act in Moose Jaw in one evening. Ten claimed to be American and one claimed to be a German.

Twenty-five thousand 'teen age boys will be raised by the Y.M.C.A. of Saskatchewan in the campaign organized by the national council of the Y.M.C.A. to aid with the crop this year.

F. A. D. Bourke, a pioneer rancher in the Battleford district, died recently. He was one of the earliest members of the R.N.W.M.P., and held also the post of farm instructor to the Indians.

Efforts are being made by the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture to have grain screenings ground at Saskatoon and Moose Jaw in the Government elevators in order to provide feed for live stock breeders.

It is announced that the Manitoba department of public works will shortly call for tenders for the erection of a deaf and dumb institute at Tuxedo Park, Winnipeg, to cost in the neighborhood of half a million dollars.

Nineteen million three hundred and eighty thousand bushels of wheat are stocked in elevators west of Winnipeg, showing a big decrease compared to the same week in 1917, when 33,887,000 bushels were stored.

Easy.

The lieutenant was instructing the squad in visional training.

"Tell me, Number One,' he said "how many men are there in that trench-digging party over there?"

"Thirty men and one officer," was the prompt reply.

"Quite right,' observed the lieutenant after a pause. "But how do you know one is an officer at this distance?"

"'Cos he's the only one not working, sir."

NEWS FROM ENGLAND

NEWS BY MAIL ABOUT JOHN BULL AND HIS PEOPLE

Occurrences in the Land That Reigns Supreme in the Commercial World.

The Margate Education Committee are supplying penny dinners for needy children.

It is proposed to give London firemen an increase of fifteen shillings a week until after the war.

King George's Fund for Sailors has now reached the sum of £250,000.

The Lord Mayor of London's Halifax Fund has now reached the sum of £58,000.

Two million cups of tea are given every week by the Y.M.C.A. in France and Flanders.

There are now 5,063 prisoners of war working in agriculture, and 1,400 more are to be employed.

There are 3,150 British Red Cross ambulances now at the front and twenty tons of spare parts are sent from England every week.

The Army Council have decided to grant military funerals, where possible, to discharged and disabled soldiers.

The Tyneside works suggest that peace terms should provide for an international shortened working day.

The additional war bonus to be given to the police of the city of London will amount to £12,000 a year.

Captain Batten, V.C., M.C., of Road Manor, Bath, who was reported missing, is a prisoner of war at Karlsruhe.

The Rev. J. Pugh Jones, curate of St. Anne's, Brookfield, Highgate, has joined the Royal Flying Corps as a pilot.

Paddington Council has laid in seven hundred tons of coal to be sold in small quantities in case of emergency.

Sergeant Cooper, V.C., was presented with an illuminated address and £150 in war bonds at Stockton-on-Tees.

Private Thomas Thompson, Durham Light Infantry, was presented in the hospital at Ongar with the D.C.M. and Military Medal with bar.

The British Government is considering the formation of an all-British company for developing oilfields outside the Empire.

The Food Production Department has booked orders amounting to 10,000 tons of seed potatoes for planting by small growers in 1918.

The school children of Hurst, Berks, have collected one ton two hundredweight of horse chestnuts for the Government.

The Military Cross has been awarded to Lieutenant A. Walsh, son of Mr. Walsh, Labor M.P. and Parliamentary Secretary to the Local Government Board.

It is not proposed to order women employed at the Ministry of Munitions to wear a khaki uniform.

The London post office officials have contributed 107,000 razors for the troops at the front.

Lord Clinton sold 5,790 acres of land in North Devon from which he realized the sum of £91,000.

A Waterloo medal awarded to Sergeant Hugh Hines was sold at the galleries of Messrs. Glendining & Co., for £19.

All the graves of Canadian soldiers dying in England are to be marked with a temporary oak cross.

The Doings of the Duffs.