

THE HAILEYBURIAN

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Department Tests Use of New Rations for Fire-Fighters

Standard emergency food rations for Ontario forest fire fighters, of a type and variety never tried before, are going out to all fire districts for test use this summer. The compact waterproofed kit weighs about thirty-eight pounds. Each of the thirty-three items in it is waterproof wrapped, too. The supply provides eighteen full meals—sufficient to furnish subsistence for a three-man fire fighting crew for three days—ample time for regular provisions to be brought up overland, if necessary.

The sturdy container which includes among its 33 items such other essentials as plates, spoons, can opener, can covers, soap, towels and water-sterilization tablets, is so devised that it can be dropped easily and safely through the camera hatch with which planes of the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests fleet of some 40 versatile Beaver aircraft are fitted.

Emergency rations always being an important consideration in fire fighting equipment needed by crews operating sometimes far from bases on fire sites reached in the past only after long overland pack-treks but now more quickly accessible by air. With the new food pack which all planes will carry as standard equipment if tests are satisfactory, fighter crews can be set down from patrol air-



HOT WEATHER ATTRACTS SUN BATHERS to cool Ontario beaches like this one at Rondeau Park on Lake Erie. Province is famed as vacation land.

craft immediately a "smoke" is heavy sugar syrup, tomato juice, spotted, taking over suppression operations at once without delaying to return to their base for food supplies and without need of service for several days.

The Hon. Clare E. Mapledoram Minister of Lands and Forests, expressed satisfaction at the addition of another "first" in Ontario's Air Service, long the world's largest aerial fire-fighting organization. The food pack, he said, was devised after extensive trial and inquiry by the Department and industry, especially the Forest Protection and Research Division, under the direction of the Chief of the Division of Forest Protection, T. E. Mackey.

Of new and particular interest Mr. Mackey said, is the development of white and whole-wheat vacuum-packed bread, in 10-ounce water-tight containers for serving cold or heated and capable of being kept indefinitely without spoilage. Ten-ounce packs of biscuits are also among the test items.

Its a far cry from the old routine pork and beans and bread and jam emergency provisions supplied over many years, sustaining as they were. The new standard food pack contains such foods, hitherto unheard of on the fire lines, as braised steak, additional attractive energy vegetables and gravy; fruit cocktail, peach slices, both in

cessfully drop equipment, even nique, we believe, will extend the most delicate, by the orange and green parachutes, which we, ourselves, developed. "This additional new tech-

Dr. and Mrs. W. C. Arnold and Patricia left this week for a two months' holiday on the West Coast.

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