

(Militia Orders No. 16, by J. R. Bennett, Esq., Minister of Militia.)

## Leave of Absence to Men in Class 1 Under Military Service Act 1918.

On the recommendation of the Military Service Board, leave of absence without pay until Tuesday, the 15th day of October next, is granted to all men in Class 1 who have been ordered by the Registrar under the Military Service Act, 1918, to report at the Armoury for duty on September first.

W. F. RENDELL, Lieut.-Col.,  
Chief Staff Officer, Dept. Militia.

aug17, 1918, o.d.

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We also Stock the BURBERRY and JAEGER Raglan. LET'S SHOW YOU.

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## To-Day's Messages.

1.00 P.M.

NOT UP TO SWEDEN.

LONDON, Aug. 16. According to a Copenhagen despatch to the Exchange Telegraph, Professor Eden, the Swedish Premier, replying to a deputation from the Swedish organizations of Good Templars, who asked whether one of the neutral States could take the initiative regarding peace negotiations, said that as there was no reason to believe that the belligerents were willing to consider mediation, Sweden could not commence negotiations. Sweden, the Premier added, was following the present developments with great interest, and was at the disposition of the warring powers, had any desire for mediation been expressed.

### AMERICANS HOME ENEMY.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Aug. 16. (By the A.P.)—An American bombing squadron, commanded by Lieut. Gundlach, dropped twenty bombs on the railway yards at Conflans yesterday. Eighteen direct hits were observed in the center of the tracks, in the east portion of the yard, and two on the round house. The squadron was pursued by eleven enemy planes, six of which were speedily left behind. One of the remaining five was hit by the American machine gun fire and forced to descend.

### PREPARING TO EVACUATE.

PARIS, Aug. 17. (Havas Agency.)—The Germans are preparing to evacuate the Roy-Lassigny-Noyon salient, says the Echo de Paris. It is indicated, the paper adds, that German pioneers and laborers are at work behind the German front lines on a new Hindenburg line. The German position in Roy is serious as not only are the Allies a mile and one quarter west of the town, but the roads leading out of it, towards Peronne, Noyon and Noyon, are under the fire of the Allied guns.

### GERMANS SEIZE KRONSTADT.

PARIS (Bulletin), Aug. 17. (Havas Agency.)—Reports are in circulation in Finland, that the Germans have seized the Russian naval port of Kronstadt, according to a Stockholm despatch to Lamsarin.

### GENERAL TALKS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, Aug. 15 (by the A. P.)—The Commander of the French Third Army, General Humbert, on receiving the correspondents just after the German rush toward Compiègne had been stopped in June, said: "We hope to do better." General Humbert talked to the correspondents to-day after the capture of Ribecourt. He modestly refrained from references to his previously expressed hopes, saying simply that he had got back on the Lassigny Massif and would stay there until he went further on. He described graphically the work of his men. The operations of the Third Army, which resulted in the wiping out of the Montdidier salient, was subordinate to the attack of Field Marshal Haig's forces north and south of the Somme. It was impossible for the Third Army to attack until the operations elsewhere had produced results, as there was serious terrain difficulties facing it. As soon as the Germans began to give way before the combined French and British forces, the Third Army began to advance on August 10.

### MORE GROUND GAINED.

LONDON, Aug. 17. British troops have gained further ground in the neighborhood of Vieux-berquin, at the apex of the Lys salient, says the last statement of Field Marshal Haig to-day.

1.30 P. M.

BUT NOT FOR BELGIUM.

LONDON, Aug. 16. According to a despatch to the Daily Mail, from the Hague, Germany has demanded that Austria send ten to fifteen divisions to the western front. Austria assented to this, the despatch says, on condition that Germany would accept Austria's solution of the

Polish question and make a strong peace move including the evacuation and restoration of Belgium. Germany promised to concede to Austria's solution of the Polish question, including the naming of an Austrian Archduke, as king, the despatch asserts.

### FRENCH WHEAT CROP.

PARIS, Aug. 16. (Havas Agency.)—The total production of wheat in France, this year, is estimated at 183,000,000 bushels, being an increase of twenty-five per cent over last year's crop.

### SENATE TO INVESTIGATE.

PARIS, Aug. 16. (Havas Agency.)—The Temps says to-day that it is able to confirm that the case of former Premier C. Hillaux, who is charged with treason, will be referred to the Senate, sitting as a high court of justice. The newspaper adds, that it is on the initiative of the Government that the Senate will investigate the charges against M. Cailhau.

### NAVAL AIR OPERATIONS.

LONDON, Aug. 16. British aviators working with the navy from August 8th to August 15th, dropped sixty tons bombs on German docks and airfields in Belgium, says a statement issued by the Admiralty to-night. Their activities also include the bringing down of a German airship, previously reported, and a direct hit on a German destroyer. Sixteen German airplanes were brought down during the period covered by the report. The statement follows: "During the period of Aug. 8th to 15th, Royal Air Force contingents, working with the navy, have carried out a large number of bombing raids on military objectives with good results. In all, approximately sixty tons of bombs have been dropped on the Zeebrugge and Ostend Docks, the Varsenaers airdrome, the La Brugse works, the docks at Bruges and on Blaankenberg and Middelkerke, as well as on many enemy batteries and billets. As a result of the attack on the Varsenaers airdrome, six machines that were lined up were set on fire, and a fire started among the hangars on both sides of the airdrome. Two Gotha bombers were demolished and large petrol jumps also were set on fire. The first were observed burning three hours later. On the 11th as previously stated a German airship was sighted in the North Sea, and attacked by one of our machines. After a short engagement the enemy airplane fell in flames from a great height. Enemy shipping also have been attacked successfully."

### AIR REPORT.

LONDON, To-Day. Measured by the number of machines engaged, the intensity of the fighting and magnitude of the losses inflicted on the enemy in the fighting in the air during the past week was the most formidable of the war. Some of the most severe conflicts occurred on August 8 in the sector between Albert and the Amiens-Roye road, where the German air forces were increased considerably shortly after the opening of the Allied offensive.

The air fighting resulted in the destruction of 48 enemy machines while 17 others were driven down out of control; fifty British machines did not return. During the succeeding days 185 enemy airplanes were destroyed, and 89 driven down out of control, making a total of 339 German machines for the week, compared with 122 British airplanes missing. In the same period British bombing squadrons continually attacked enemy airdromes, railway and other military objectives, dropping more than 320 tons of bombs and causing great damage.

Low flying scout machines raided the enemy's congested roads of retreat with machine gun fire inflicting many casualties. A notable feature of the aerial operations was the virtual continuous night and day bombing of the enemy bridges over the Somme. This greatly hampered the supplies and reinforcements of the German troops. The week's work also included a number of destructive raids into Germany. COST OF BUNKER COAL AT ST. JOHN'S, Nfld.

The price of bunker coal at St. John's, Nfld., is \$20.50, without discount, according to a letter received in Halifax yesterday from a gentleman now at the capital of the Ancient Colony.—Halifax Chronicle.

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If you have purchased Victory Loan Bonds to help your country, and have no further investment funds, we will accept your Bonds at face value in payment for Bonds of the Spokane Valley Railroad at 6 per cent.

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The property of the above company is located on the Middle Barachois and Robinson's rivers in St. George's Bay and comprises among others the following valuable seams:

**THE JUKE'S SEAM:** Which is the best in the section, averages 4 ft. 8 inches of good, bright, clean coal; but at one point it was found to widen out to 14 ft., containing 8 feet of coal. This seam has been traced a quarter of a mile along the line of strike.

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The areas containing the above seams of coal have been estimated by geologists of repute to contain 26,000,000 tons of coal to the square mile.

A dense virgin forest covers these areas and has already been reserved by the Government for the development and operation of the property.

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