

PERSONAL EQUIPMENT FOR INFANTRY *continued.*

Article.	Number of Each issued per Man.	Cost of Issue per Man.			
		1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.
<i>Accoutrements.</i>					
Identity-discs		0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1
Rifle		3 4 3	5 10 0	5 13 6	5 13 6
Slings, rifle, web				0 1 0	0 1 0
Bayonet		0 8 3	0 12 0	1 0 0	1 0 0
Scabbard		0 2 5	0 6 10		
Pull-through		0 0 4	0 0 5	0 0 6	0 0 6
Oil-bottle		0 0 3 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 0 10	0 0 6	0 0 6
Protector, F.S.				0 0 6	0 0 6
Web equipment, pattern 1908		1 6 5	1 11 9	1 12 6	1 12 6
Water-bottle		0 2 7	0 2 10	0 2 10	0 3 10
Implements, entrenching, heads		0 1 2	0 1 4	0 1 9	0 1 9
Implements, entrenching, helvcs		0 0 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 0 6		
Mess-tins complete		0 3 10	0 3 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 3 9	0 3 9
		5 10 0	8 9 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 16 11	8 17 11

FOODSTUFFS FOR TRAINING-CAMPS.

3. The following table indicates the cost per man per day for food in the two important training-camps.

1917.					Featherston Camp.		Trentham Camp.	
					s.	d.	s.	d.
June .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1	7-838	1	7-354
July .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1	8-073	1	6-703
August .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1	7-001	1	6-320
September .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1	7-140	1	6-506
October .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1	7-312	1	6-103
November .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1	7-436	1	6-043
December .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1	7-146	1	5-044
1918.								
January .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1	7-447	1	7-858
February .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1	7-376	1	6-359
March .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1	7-107	1	6-781
April .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1	4-842	1	4-800
May .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1	5-673	1	4-750
June .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1	4-589	1	4-720
July .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1	5-382	1	4-640
August .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1	5-618	1	5-790
September .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1	5-233	1	5-530

In regard to the above table showing the cost of rations, it will please be noted that the figures up to 31st March, 1918, include the cost of rations, fuel, light, and straw used or consumed up to the point of time when they were delivered to the military storekeepers in the camps mentioned. From 1st April, 1918, the cost is for foodstuffs consumed only, the cost of same being based on all charges incurred in delivering the goods to the camp storekeepers concerned. The actual cost of distributing rations from the storekeepers to the men has not been worked out by the military authorities. It is clear, however, that the cost per day per man for food has been kept steady, notwithstanding the increased cost of foodstuffs; the results therefore reflect credit on the management of the military authorities concerned.

4. It being found under ruling conditions advantageous to establish a bulk store for the reception of necessary merchandise when suitable opportunities occur for purchasing same, an arrangement accordingly was made with the Wellington Harbour Board under which their "K" shed is now used as a military bulk store on reasonable terms. From this store the main Expeditionary Force camps have lately been largely supplied, and, as a result of the close surveillance exercised by the Director of Supplies and Transport, many supplies for outlying camps, sanatoria, and District Headquarters have also been despatched therefrom more economically than they could have been procured by accepting prices tendered locally. The same comment is equally applicable to the distribution of stores which come under the control of the Director of Equipment and Ordnance Stores, who has throughout brought a practical mind to bear in effecting and suggesting economies in similar directions.