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THURSDAY, 18 JANUARY, 1917.

War Office,
16th January, 1917.

ARMY COUNCIL ORDER.

LEATHER.

In pursuance of the powers conferred upon them by the Defence of the Realm (Consolidation) Regulations, 1914, the Army Council do hereby order that until further notice all persons engaged in the purchase, sale or production of any or all of the Leathers indicated in Schedule A hereto annexed shall comply with the following Regulations:—

(1) On any sale or delivery of leather of the description aforesaid by any tanner it shall be the duty of such tanner to ascertain from the purchaser thereof whether such leather is destined to be used directly or indirectly for the purpose of any Government order or contract.

(2) If it is found that such Leather is destined by the purchaser thereof to be used directly or indirectly for the purpose of any Government order or contract, no tanner shall sell or deliver such Leather otherwise than in exchange for a guarantee by the purchaser in the form set out in Schedule B hereto annexed,

and no tanner shall sell or deliver such leather at prices exceeding those at which the said tanner made the last delivery of Leather of a corresponding weight per piece, quality and description prior to 1st October, 1916.

(3) It shall be the duty of all parties to such sales or deliveries as aforesaid to require or disclose as the case may be all such information as may be required by such parties as aforesaid or by the Director of Army Contracts for the purpose of satisfying them or him that the provisions of this Order have not been contravened.

(4) It is hereby required that in all Factories, Workshops and other premises the business carried on in which consists wholly or partly in the production of Leather of the description aforesaid, work shall be done in accordance with the following directions, that is to say:—

(a) Priority over all other work shall be given to any work which is either directly or indirectly required for the purpose of any Government order or contract.

(b) Returns as to the nature and the amount of work done in any of the said workshops and factories shall be furnished