

# RATIONING OF MILK LIKELY

## Decision Next Week

The city milk supply position was becoming worse daily, and a decision on the introduction of some form of rationing would be made by the Milk Board at a meeting on Monday unless something were done to maintain supplies, Mr J. T. Packer, chairman of the board, said yesterday.

He added that in any rationing plan all non-essential milk, such as supplies to milk bars, would have to be diverted during the winter. Highest priorities would be given to householders, nursing mothers, hospitals, and school children. Many retailers were being forced to ration their customers because of short supplies. Contract supply to Melbourne had been reduced by about 5,000 gallons a day, as some farmers had gone out of production.

An interim reply had been received to the recommendation by the board of a rise of 2d a gallon in the price of milk to producers, Mr Packer said. A decision was promised by the Prices Commissioner for next week.

### SUBSIDY FOR HOBART SUPPLIERS

CANBERRA, Thurs: As part of the Government's price stabilisation plan a subsidy of 2d a gallon will be paid to producers of milk sold in Hobart during the period May 1 to September 30 this year. The subsidy was necessary to tide producers over the winter months following a very adverse season, Senator Keane, Customs Minister, said today.

### SERVICE CASUALTIES

Mrs Edward Campbell, Lady Mayoress, has been informed through the International Red Cross that her son, Capt Edward Campbell, is now a prisoner of war at Hakodate, Japan. This is the first news received of her son since February of last year, when he was reported a prisoner at Java.

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Official information has been received that Pte David Best, AIF, son of Archdeacon and Mrs J. Best, of Ballarat, is a prisoner in Malaya. His brother, Alan, who was captured in Libya, is a prisoner in Italy.

Mrs J. J. Benjamin, Golden Square, Bendigo, has been officially advised that her husband, Padre J. J. Benjamin, is now a prisoner of war in Malaya. Padre Benjamin is the eldest son of Cr J. H. and Mrs. Benjamin, of Natte Yallock.

Mr and Mrs. J. Fiscalini, of Waratah av, Ararat, have received word that their son, Plt-Off Ronald James Fiscalini, 23, died in England on May 13, as the result of an air accident. Plt-Off Fiscalini was a member of a Coastal Command squadron. He was assistant engineer at the Beaufort electric light works when he enlisted. He has left a widow and young daughter.