



AIRMAIL BULLETIN

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Wage Controls Lifted: Wartime control on wages were removed at midnight last night. The removal is subject to one exception. Applications and appeals pending before Regional and National War Labour Boards on November 30 will be heard and expeditiously disposed of. The control of salaries is being removed from the same date. Applications for salary increases to be effective before November 30 will, however, continue to be dealt with under the order.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, announcing removal of controls on wages and salaries said: "The stabilization of wages and salaries was an essential element in the wartime anti-inflation programme of the government, which included the establishment of the price ceiling, heavy taxation of the incomes of individuals and corporations and intensive Victory Loan and war savings campaigns. By what it accomplished to prevent inflation the government kept down the monetary cost of the war effort, and distributed the burden more equitably among all the people of Canada.

"Since the close of hostilities, the battle against inflation has been continued with unabated vigour. Wartime methods were, however, too rigid for the period of transition, when the objective was no longer the reduction, but, once more, the expansion of normal peacetime production. To that end, it has been the policy of the government to remove wartime controls as rapidly as the need for them disappeared. With the gradual increase in production, the need for limitations on the expansion of purchasing power has decreased. Certain inevitable increases in costs made some increases in prices unavoidable. The pressure for wage adjustments has grown. It was only a matter of time until there would no longer be a need for wage and salary control in the battle against inflation. The government believes that time has now arrived.

"The removal of wage and salary control involves no change in the government's policy respecting price control and the control of rentals. It is the policy of the government to maintain these controls as long as they may be required to protect the people from a sudden and drastic rise in the cost of living. The experience of other countries has increased the determination to see that the removal of controls shall take place in a gradual and orderly manner so as to protect the standard of living and the value of the war savings of the people."

Tribute to Mr. St. Laurent: Speaking at a complimentary dinner to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. St. Laurent, at Quebec last night, Prime Minister Mackenzie King said that Mr. St. Laurent had entered the Cabinet for the duration of the war only.

Mr. King added: "When the war in Europe ended, Mr. St. Laurent reminded me of what had been said between us at the time he entered the government. But the party was then facing a general election. Mr. St. Laurent would have been the last to seek retirement at such a moment. He said he wished to be with the party through the campaign, but he hoped that soon thereafter it might be possible for him to retire. Since the elections, he has spoken to me at different times of considerations of which he felt he should be taking account. With characteristic chivalry, he has, on each occasion, met my request to carry on. Not only that, but in addition to the onerous duties of the portfolio of Justice, which he continues to hold, he has taken from my shoulders and is carrying, for the time being at least, the increasingly heavy responsibilities which belong to the office of Secretary of State for External Affairs.

"I have already made it known that in such re-organization of the Ministry as I may deem it advisable to make, and which will be made before Parliament re-assembles, the Department of External Affairs will be given a Minister who will be in a position to devote his time, more or less exclusively, to intra-commonwealth and international affairs. With the

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