

I do not know how the board got word of the case, but the result was that the poor old soul was taken to court and fined for giving an honorarium. It was claimed that he had paid a price higher than the ceiling price for sawdust.

I mention these two cases because I believe that we shall have to have a careful watch. Some men are not capable of handling authority. In case we drift along in this country until we are met with persecution, or we have a sort of gestapo running around, it would be just as well to have these things calmed down a little, and not be so keen to take some poor old soul to court, and say to him, "You are violating the price ceiling regulations, so I will make an example of you by hauling you into court."

I do not want the minister to say that this is a question of east against west, or British Columbia against the centre. But I have claimed that these inequalities cause a great deal of friction. The wartime prices and trade board touches every person, and there is a considerable amount of feeling throughout the country to the effect that people do not like regimentation.

For instance, I have in mind the time when rent control had to be put into effect. We in British Columbia were one or two years later than Ontario and Quebec in having war industries started in our province. Where do you think rent control was put into operation first? Well, it was in those very districts where war industries had not yet started. In New Westminster, Vancouver and, I believe, Victoria, rent control was put into effect in 1940, before war industries were started out there. In the boom in Ontario and Quebec which resulted from war industries in those provinces rents went up, but nothing was done by the wartime prices and trade board to control rents in the east. That is the information I got, anyway; if it is wrong I should be pleased to be corrected. However, the information given to me by those who have studied the matter is that such was the situation. Could we have an explanation of this situation?

I do not know whether I should speak of any other matters I have in mind. However, I had intended to say a word about sugar. In my opinion some statement should be made, something in greater detail than has been given thus far, in connection with sugar. There again, inequality has caused a great deal of criticism. We hear of some fruit districts receiving twelve pounds per person and other fruit districts receiving only eleven pounds, another district receiving twelve and

a half pounds, and some districts receiving ten pounds. The public are not altogether to blame in connection with the sugar situation, as the history of what has occurred will indicate. First of all, last year, the public were told, through statements emanating from the board, that there would likely be plenty of sugar for next year's canning. Then, later, housewives were told to put down all the jams and jellies they could, so as to release the national output for the armed forces. Then this spring we were told there would be plenty of sugar for canning. A form was sent out asking what amounts were required. Later on, another report went out stating that probably fifteen pounds per person would be allowed in urban districts, and twenty-five pounds in rural districts. Of course, now it has been made known that the maximum is about eleven pounds. So that I say the public is not altogether to blame for making complaints. Very often regulations put out by the board lead them to believe one thing, and later on something else crops up which is not in accordance with the first piece of information given to them.

I wish to draw the minister's attention particularly to the two cases in which wood was involved. In my opinion the sugar statement should be in greater detail than has been given thus far, because the situation has caused a great deal of discontent. People in the country tell me, "there are not available the jams and jellies which are available in the cities, for the use of city people." Then again, farmers are complaining that when they have to have four or five extra help for a day or two they cannot ask their neighbours for their sugar rations, with the result that they are left short. All these matters were not thoroughly canvassed before the regulations were let out to the public.

Mr. NOSEWORTHY: According to a copy of sessional paper 106B brought down in answer to my question of June 21 I find that section 4 of wartime prices and trade board regulation is entitled, "Maximum price regulations exempt all sales to the Department of Munitions and Supply, or any agency thereof." I learned that the commissary division of that board has paid more than the established ceiling prices for such commodities as beef, poultry, lamb, cheese, split peas and potatoes. I learned also that in September, 1942, as the result of a conference between the officials of this department, and the department of agriculture and finance, a system of allocation was instituted whereby beef and pork supplies were guaranteed on a pro rata basis at ceiling prices, that since October no purchases of beef or