

ments. Veal and pork followed in February and March of 1943. Rationing of meat was introduced in May, 1943 (see p. 524). More effective control over retail prices was obtained by standardizing retail cuts, and setting standard retail prices for these cuts. This system was applied to beef sales in a number of large cities early in 1943. In the summer it was extended to all areas, and similar systems for veal and lamb were introduced later in the year.

Fresh fruits and vegetables presented another major problem in the summer and fall of 1943. While they were originally exempt from the price ceiling, the pressure on their prices arising from increasing demand and limited supply made it necessary to impose price control despite the very great administrative difficulties involved. Standard maximum wholesale prices and retail markups were, therefore, fixed for many of the more important fruits and vegetables with due provision for regional and seasonal variations in price.

**Rentals.**—Rent is an important element in the cost of living and one which, in the absence of control, would have increased in many areas where housing shortages have developed. The demand for housing has grown because of the influx of people to certain industrial areas and military centres and as a result of higher earnings of war workers and others. War-time restrictions, shortage of labour and other factors have prevented a sufficient increase in the supply of accommodation, and as a result there has been considerable upward pressure on rentals. Rent control was first introduced in a few special areas only, and applied only to residential accommodation. It was, however, extended step by step to cover all areas and all types of housing, rooming, hotel and commercial accommodation. The general principle of rent control is that rents are "frozen" at the level prevailing on a selected "basic date" (Oct. 11, 1941, for housing accommodation except where rents had been fixed earlier, and July 1, 1943, for rooming accommodation in most areas), and maximum rentals for new accommodation are fixed by Rentals Appraisers appointed by the Board for each district. Applications for variation of maximum rentals may be made by landlords or tenants to a Rentals Appraiser, and appeals against the Rental Appraiser's decision may be made to a "Court of Rental Appeals" in the locality. The main grounds on which an application for a variation in rentals may be made are a change in the amount of accommodation, furniture or services provided, an unduly high or low rental compared with rents prevailing on the basic date for similar accommodation in the neighbourhood, or an increase in rates or taxes.

In congested areas rent control can be effective only if the tenant is protected against eviction. Rental regulations, therefore, provide that well-behaved tenants of housing accommodation may be evicted only if the landlord or his family desire to live in the accommodation themselves, or if the landlord wishes to subdivide the accommodation so as to house more persons. Six months' notice is required in the first case, and three months, in the second case.

The Board also seeks to promote the most effective use of available accommodation by operating housing registries in congested cities, promoting subdivision of houses, etc.

**Control of Supplies.**—Associated with and as an integral part of the price-ceiling policy are measures designed to assure the supply and distribution of civilian goods. This involves arrangements to secure necessary imports, allocation of productive resources between military, civilian and export requirements, distribution of scarce materials among manufacturers and other measures to ensure the