

special steps were taken to correct the situation and the rayon mills were given production schedules which directed them to produce specified quantities in the various price ranges. Such schedules are being continued in 1946.

Most of the important directives, such as those covering work clothing, men's suits, children's woollen clothing and women's low-priced dresses, were continued into 1946, though the direction of fabric supplies was less formal than previously.

*Priority Suit Purchase Certificates for Service Men.*—In view of the shortage of suits, special arrangements were made to ensure priority of purchase to demobilized service personnel. Under the plan, personnel discharged after May 1, 1945, received certificates entitling them to priority in the purchase of one suit. Retailers and merchant tailors secured replacement of suits sold against certificates on forwarding them to their suppliers. The latter in turn forwarded the certificates to the Textile Co-ordination and received drafts for the purchase of fabrics in addition to their quota. In July, it was stipulated that retailers would receive only 65 p.c. of their normal quota in the usual way and must surrender certificates for the remaining 35 p.c.

*Raw Materials and Durable Goods.*—In the course of 1945, most of the restrictions on distribution of durable goods were removed. In the later months of the year, a number of the Controls operating in the Department of Munitions and Supply were dissolved and regulations covering aircraft, metals, chemicals, oil and other materials were withdrawn. The following Controls remain: Motor Vehicles, Power, Steel, Coal, Rubber, Timber, Radio Active Substances, and Priorities. Jurisdiction over metals (except for steel) was transferred to the Wartime Prices and Trade Board and restrictions on the use and distribution of tin, tin-bearing alloys, cast iron and steel scrap were continued in force.

Operations of the Priorities Officer of the Department of Munitions and Supply, which had been closely tied in with the priorities system in the United States, were reduced greatly with the end of the War and the consequent removal of a large proportion of the United States priority controls. In January, 1946, however, as a result of the United States steel strike, priority controls over steel were re-established and in March, 1946, certain priorities in the distribution of construction materials were introduced.

During 1945 it was possible to discontinue permit rationing of certain types of durable goods which had been under the jurisdiction of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. Such controls were lifted in regard to farm machinery, construction equipment and small-arms ammunition.

*Motoring.—Motor-Vehicles.*—The production of automobiles was halted in 1942 and stocks on hand were set aside as a Government pool. From this reserve, the needs of certain essential users such as physicians were met by the issue of permits from the Motor Vehicles Control in the Department of Munitions and Supply. In June, 1945, all restrictions on the manufacture of motor-vehicles were lifted but a priority system of distribution was introduced. Applications for a purchase permit for an automobile are made to the Regional Motor Vehicle Rationing Officer. Top priority was given to the needs of physicians, nurses, police, fire-fighters and other essential users. Incapacitated veterans who needed a car for their rehabilitation and veterans who required a car for business purposes also received priority assistance. Dealers were at first not permitted to sell to persons not holding priority certificates