

most important of these is the case where the new occupant of the accommodation will be able to make a better use of the land (e.g., the replacement of a parking lot by a substantial building). Some of the other conditions laid down in the code are as follows: where the new occupant will be able to provide substantially more employment of a permanent character than the existing tenant; where suitable alternative accommodation is available for the tenant; where the landlord or his son formerly conducted a business which was interrupted as a result of wartime conditions and now wishes to re-establish himself in business. Many hundreds of decisions have already been made under this code which, it is believed, have assisted materially in the expansion of peacetime enterprise.

Emergency Shelter.—Emergency Shelter Administrators were appointed at the beginning of 1945 in Halifax, N.S., Ottawa, Ont., Hull, Que., Toronto, Ont., Hamilton, Ont., Winnipeg, Man., Vancouver, B.C., and Victoria, B.C., to promote the utilization of dwelling space to the best advantage. The movement of families into these congested areas was controlled by a permit system, and surveys of vacant dwellings and other available space were undertaken.

By the fall of the year the system of permit control had to be abandoned since demobilized service men and ex-warworkers seeking civilian employment could not be barred from admission to the main industrial centres. By that time serious overcrowding was no longer confined to the major cities but had spread to all areas, and the sphere of the Emergency Shelter Administration was expanded to cover the whole Dominion. By September 15, 1945, every province had been declared an Emergency Shelter area and Emergency Shelter Officers were appointed for the various Regional Offices of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. The duties of these officers were primarily to assist municipalities in dealing with their housing problems, making use of certain emergency powers which the municipalities did not have.

At the end of 1945 responsibility for the Emergency Shelter Administration was transferred from the Wartime Prices and Trade Board to the newly established Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

Section 1.—Wholesale Prices of Commodities

Wholesale price index numbers in Canada cover the period dating from Confederation in 1867. An intermittent decline characterized the first 30 years of this interval, followed by a gradual advance for a period of 16 years prior to the outbreak of war in 1914; from an average of 43.6 in 1897, the general wholesale index (1926 = 100) advanced without appreciable interruption to 64.4 in July, 1914. By the end of the War in November, 1918, this index had reached 132.8, and it continued upward to a post-war inflationary peak of 164.3 in May, 1920. The subsequent deflationary period lasted about two years, and between 1922 and 1929 price levels remained in comparative stability. Annual averages in this interval held between a high of 102.6 for 1925 and 95.6 for 1929. For the four years following 1929, depressionary influences were so severe that prices fell to the level of those of 1913. In February, 1933, the wholesale index touched an extreme low