Reviews Change To Peacetime Economy

OTTAWA, Dec. 30 — (CP) — Despite difficulties and delays, "material" progress was made in 1946 in the readjustment of the Canadian economy from a wartime to a peacetime footing, the Prices Board reported today in a year-end review.

Reporting a number of upward adjustments in price ceilings during the year, the Board said these were necessary to reflect the impact of higher production costs and the cessation of some of the subsidies introduced during the war years.

Essentially, these cost increases were the heritage of wartime conditions and resulted from increased wage rates and material costs and higher prices in other countries.

Despite these upward pressures, the rise in the cost-of-living index during 1946 was held to about seven per cent.

The Board reported production of civilian goods showed a "considerable" increase over 1945 and said that most of the goods that Canadians eat or wear were produced in quantities equal to or greater than in pre-war days.

Bottlenecks Appear

"However, the expansion of production was impeded by 'bottlenecks' of one kind or another," it added. "Shortages of a number of essential items continued to exist and the hopes of the public that many of the things which have not been produced for three or four years would become available in reasonably ample quantities were not fully realized."

In addition, world-wide shortages of many items imported from abroad —cotton goods, worsteds, oils and fats, sugar— also served to restrict the supplies available within the Dominion.

Production of manufactured goods in Canada was impeded by labor disputes in many key industries both in this country and the United States. Notwithstanding these obstacles, the rate of consumption in Canada, as measured by the volume of retail sales, was considerably higher than in 1945.

The review listed measures announced last July to protect the Canadian economy from existing inflationary pressures and to make the administration of price control more effective and workable.

These moves included the restoration of the Canadian dollar to parity with the United States dollar, a revised pricing formula for imported goods and removal of a number of goods and services from the price ceiling.

Subsidy Payments Reduced

Subsidy payments also were reduced during the year. Removed were the consumer and producer subsidies on milk and other payments to growers of tomatoes, peas, beans, corn and carrots and on imported raw wools and worsted yarns and fabrics. Subsidies paid on imported cotton goods were lowered.

In view of the continued increase in world prices subsidies being paid on items of prime importance to consumers, such as cotton textiles and coal, were continued to hold the cost of living "within reasonable limits."

Commodities on which price increases were granted, because of subsidy removals and other factors, including furniture, leather textile products, rubber footwear coal, motor cars, certain meats canned fish, canned poultry, dried fruits, butter, evaporated milk and peanut butter.

Although many foods continued in short supply, the over-all food situation showed improvement.

CHRISTMAS AT NOTRE DAME

The Christmas entertainment at Notre Dame Academy this year was an excellent performance and showed in every way both imagination and skill in the selecting of high class numbers and the training of performers from little tots to senior students.

The program opened with a Yuletide symphony, a medley of Christmas airs, enthusiastically played by a rhythm orchestra of twenty juniors accompanied at the piano by Miss Hilda Pickard and Miss Una Gallant. When this number was heartily applauded by an appreciative audience of over four hundred persons, the curtain opened on a charming scene depicting a birthday party which the children of Grade I were evidently enjoying to the full. Miss Jerrydine Robertson changed the gay party into a hushed silence when she appeared on the stage to tell the Christmas Story. This splendid number so sympathetically narrated moved the audience as well as the little listeners to re-live in imagination the first Christmas night. A beautiful crib scene concluded this realistic number.

While the stage was being prepared for the next performance, Miss Florence Callaghan recited "The Little Grey Lamb".

The opening of the curtain presented a colorful setting for the smart modern operetta "On Strike in Santa Land", acted by the pupils of Grade 2 to 7. The Chorus Orchestra in white dresses and wearing a bright red shoulder flower, formed a picturesque background. They sang their various numbers with joyful Christmas spirit. The characters, Santa, Mrs. Santa, Moonbeams, dolls, fairies and elves dressed in gay and appropriate costumes performed their respective roles with enthusiasm and abandon. Mrs. Santa was a bit disgruntled over a last minute order from Santa for five extra dolls. Fairies complained about being overworked. Elves were out of sorts. They had gone ahead, without Santa's orders, making toy soldiers and guns, and Santa had thrown them on the junk heap. All agree that Santa must be tired and in need of a vacation and they could manage without him. Santa consents and leaves taking with him the Sandman, the Magic Sack, the Reindeer. Trouble sets in and confusion reigns in Santa Land. When consternation is at its height, dear old Santa returns just in time, to the relief of all who had realized that there could be no Christmas without him. The audience thoroughly enjoyed this appealing and amusing number.

After a piano duet, "Mazurka", another magnificent stage setting greeted the guests of the evening.

Standing on a pedestal in the centre of the stage stood a representation of the Blessed Virgin with two small angels keeping watch at her side. Suddenly all lights were dimmed. Then to the soft strains of music the Senior students, attired in long gowns and each holding a small colored lantern, made their entrance on either side and took their places on the stage around the Virgin and Child. In the soft glow of multi-colored lights, they sang unaccompanied the beautiful message of "Silent Night". The lanterns being extinguished and stage lights turned on, the choir which was recently heard over C.F.C.Y. in a pleasing rendition of Christmas Carols, repeated this program with a sweetness and harmony which might well have rivalled the angels who sang long, long ago over the hills of Judea.

On the Saturday previous to this Concert, the pupils of the Academy entertained the children from St. Vincent's Orphanage in the Academy Auditorium. The above program was given for the enjoyment. Santa and Mrs. Santa with the elves assisting took pleasure in distributing to their little guests several gifts and a delicious lunch provided by the pupils. This gay party had been organized by the Sisters and Sodalists of the Academy.

Russians To Admit Inspection Teams

BERLIN, Dec. 30 — (AP) — The Russians gave notice today they would be prepared at last to admit four-power inspection teams into Soviet-occupied Germany Jan. 6 to check on progress of liquidation of the German armaments potential, thus indicating that their zonal troop demobilization is nearing completion.

Allied inspection teams were scheduled to enter all four zones Nov. 25 but the Russians asked postponement, saying that transport in their zone would be strained by re-deployment. There have been subsequent reports of large-scale reductions in the number of Soviet troops in Germany but no official figures have been released.

NOTRE DAME ACADEMY HONOR ROLL

Grade XI — Inez Doiron, Noreen Smith, Eileen Doyle.

Commercial Dept. — Florence Gillis, Edna McVarish, Helen MacDonald.

Grade X — Mabel Watts, Mildred Fardy, Velma Brown.

Grade IX — Mary Creighan, Justine Nealis, Ena Marjorie Murphy.

Grade VIII — Myra Murphy, Maustine Conroy, Barbara Walsh.

Grade VII — Noreen Shaw, June Doyle, Nancy Mullen.

Grade VI — H. Patricia McDonald, Joan Aylward, Patricia Wynn.

Grade V — Margaret McGee, Vera Hynes, Paula Raymond.

Grade IV — Rita Shanahan, Georgina Zakem, Betty Kelly and Nola Marie McCabe (equal).

Grade III — Mary Elizabeth Aylward, June Hennessey, Doreen Beven.

Grade II — Ruth Brun, Bernice Duffy, Jacqueline McKinley

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