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Castro Sees Year of Tight Restrictions Because of Low World Sugar Price

From News Dispatches

HAVANA, Sept. 29—Premier Fidel Castro warned the Cuban people last night that they might be facing a year of tight restrictions on imported consumer goods because of the low world sugar price.

The Premier told a rally in Havana's Plaza de la Revolution that the sharply reduced sugar price meant "less resources to divide to buy articles we need."

But he pledged that Cuba would pay all its foreign debts and said the Cuban people were ready to make sacrifices "before defaulting on one cent." Cuba has obtained credit in various European countries.

"We are going to guard our credit abroad as our most valuable reserve," the Premier said.

The occasion of Castro's address was the fourth anniversary of the founding of Committees for the Defense of the Revolution—volunteer groups located in every town and city block who inform the authorities of any "counter-revolutionary activities."

Castro also blamed a large part of the country's economic difficulties on "dead-beat" tenants living in con-

fiscated houses and apartments.

Castro said the Cuban Government, as landlord of the dwellings seized by the thousands from their rightful owners during the past four years, really should evict the delinquent tenants.

But then he added, "The revolution can never evict a family for not paying the rent." He indicated this generosity wasn't due entirely to sentiment.

"Where would they go?" he asked. "A city the size of Havana would be needed to accommodate all the tenants who could be evicted for not paying their rent." Havana has a population of about one million.

Castro said he plans to end food rationing within one year. Food rationing, along with restrictions on clothing

and all consumer items, has been in effect on the island since 1962.