

### REGIONAL PRICE INDEXES

Consumer price indexes rose in nine of the ten regional cities in May and June, with increases ranging from 0.1 per cent in Saint John to 0.5 per cent in Toronto. The St. John's index declined 0.2 per cent.

Food indexes were up in all cities except St. John's. Housing indexes rose in six cities, declined in one city and remained unchanged in three cities. Clothing indexes increased in six cities, decreased in three cities and remained unchanged in one. The index for transportation rose in five cities, declined in two and held steady in three. City indexes for health and personal care were up in seven cities, down in three. Recreation-and-reading indexes were unchanged in six cities, rose in three cities and declined in the remaining city. Tobacco-and-alcohol indexes were unchanged in all ten regional cities.

**St. John's:** The all-items index declined 0.2 per cent from 117.6 to 117.4 as a result of a decrease in the food index which offset increases in the clothing, and health-and-personal-care indexes. The housing, transportation, recreation-and-reading, and tobacco-and-alcohol indexes were all unchanged.

**Halifax:** The all-items index rose 0.3 per cent from 129.2 to 129.6 as increases occurred in the food, transportation, health-and-personal-care, and recreation-and-reading indexes. The housing index declined while the clothing, and tobacco-and-alcohol indexes were unchanged.

**Saint John:** The all-items index increased 0.1 per cent from 130.8 to 130.9 as upward movements occurred in the food, housing and transportation indexes which more than balanced decreases in the clothing, health-and-personal-care indexes. The recreation-and-reading and tobacco-and-alcohol indexes were unchanged.

**Montreal:** The all-items index rose 0.2 per cent from 130.2 to 130.5 as the food, housing, clothing and transportation indexes all moved to higher levels. The health-and-personal-care index declined while the recreation-and-reading and recreation-tobacco-and-alcohol indexes were unchanged.

**Ottawa:** The all-items index increased 0.4 per cent from 131.2 to 131.7 as a result of higher indexes for food, housing, and health and personal care. Both the clothing and transportation indexes declined while the recreation-and-reading, and tobacco-and-alcohol indexes were unchanged.

**Toronto:** The all-items index rose 0.5 per cent from 131.7 to 132.3 owing to increases in the food, clothing, health-and-personal-care, and recreation and reading indexes. The housing, transportation, and tobacco-and-alcohol indexes were all unchanged.

**Winnipeg:** The all-items index increased 0.3 per cent from 128.7 to 129.1 as the food, housing, clothing, transportation, and health-and-personal-care indexes all moved to higher levels. The recreation-and-reading, and tobacco-and-alcohol indexes were unchanged.

**Saskatoon-Regina:** The all-items index increased 0.4 per cent from 126.9 to 127.4 as the food, housing, transportation, health-and-personal-care and recreation-and-reading indexes were all up. The clothing index declined while the tobacco-and-alcohol index was unchanged.

**Edmonton-Calgary:** The all-items index rose 0.3 per cent from 125.5 to 125.9 as higher indexes occurred for food, clothing, and health and personal care. The housing, transportation, recreation-and-reading, and tobacco-and-alcohol indexes were all unchanged.

**Vancouver:** The all-items index increased 0.2 per cent from 129.1 to 129.4 as higher indexes occurred for food, housing and clothing. The transportation, health-and-personal-care, and recreation-and-reading indexes were all lower, while the tobacco-and-alcohol index was unchanged.

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### AWARDS TO NAUTICAL WEATHERMEN

Masters and officers of 20 ships trading into Canada have received a total of 40 awards for excellence in weather observing while at sea. These men were honored for the valuable service they had rendered to the Department of Transport by relaying reports of weather conditions during their voyages on the high seas, in coastal waters, and on the Great Lakes.

Out of a world total of 3,500 merchant ships, Canada received reports from 91 during 1961. Recording the pressure, temperature, humidity, clouds, visibility, state of the sea, and other aspects of the weather four times a day at fixed hours, these ships made approximately 24,000 reports for the benefit of Canada and any other country receiving them. Some vessels, sailing from east and west coast ports, travel to the Far East, Australia, South Africa and the United Kingdom. About 30 send reports from eastern coastal waters and the Canadian Arctic, while 22 send reports from the Great Lakes.

### QUID PRO QUO

Dr. McTaggart-Cowan, director of the meteorological branch of the Department of Transport, pointed out that ships' officers by tradition performed weather-observing duties on a voluntary basis. However, he added, in return they received weather advice from the meteorological branch in the form of forecasts, bulletins and maps by radio and facsimile. Such information was of vital importance to the safe passage of a vessel through dangerous or stormy waters.

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### TUNISIAN AMBASSADOR

On July 17, His Excellency Taieb Slim presented to the Governor-General his Letter of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Tunisia to Canada. Mr. Taieb Slim is a brother of Mr. Mongi Slim, the first Tunisian Ambassador to Canada. Before his present assignment, he was Ambassador in London with concurrent accreditation to Sweden, Norway and Denmark. He will continue to serve concurrently as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations.