

### ESTIMATED POPULATION

The estimated population of Canada at the beginning of the third quarter of 1962 was 18,683,000, an increase of 326,000, or 1.8 per cent since October 1, 1961, and 445,000, or 2.4 per cent, since the June 1, 1961, Census. The largest quarterly increase was 92,000, between April 1 and July 1 of this year. The other quarterly increases were: 88,000 between July 1 and October 1, 1961; 77,000 between October 1, 1961, and January 1, 1962; the smallest, 74,000, between January 1 and April 1 this year; and 83,000 between July 1 and October 1, 1962.

Of the provinces, Ontario had the largest increase in population over October 1, 1961, at 106,000 (1.7 per cent); Quebec was second at 105,000 (2.0 per cent). Alberta was third at 38,000 and first in rate of growth at 2.8 per cent. British Columbia increased 31,000 or 1.9 per cent in the year ending October 1, 1962. Manitoba increased by 13,000 or 1.4 per cent, Newfoundland by 12,000 or 2.6 per cent, New Brunswick by 7,000 or 1.2 per cent, Nova Scotia by 11,000 or 1.5 per cent, Saskatchewan by 3,000 or 0.3 per cent, and Prince Edward Island remained the same.

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### GABON ENVOY INSTALLED

On November 9, His Excellency Jules Mbah presented his Letter of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Gabon to Canada. The ceremony took place at Government House, where the Chief of Protocol, of the Department of External Affairs, Mr. Henry F. Davis, presented the Ambassador to Governor-General Vanier. Mr. Mbah was accompanied by Mr. G. Anchouey, Commercial Attaché.

In December 1961, Mr. Mbah was appointed Permanent Representative of Gabon to the United Nations and, in January 1962, Ambassador to the United States, where he will continue to reside.

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### XMAS AIR RATES FOR FORCES

Canadian servicemen overseas will get a Christmas bonus again this year in the form of fare reductions from Trans-Canada Air Lines. Fares less than half the regular economy rates are being offered to members of the Canadian armed forces in Europe returning home for Christmas and New Year's on TCA flights from Dusseldorf, Paris and London.

The round-trip fare for military personnel from London to Montreal will be \$216.30, compared to the regular return economy fare of \$494.30. From Paris to Montreal, it will be \$227.10, compared to the regular \$537.20; and from Dusseldorf \$243.30, compared to \$576.20.

These special fares will apply between December 15 and 31, for westbound flights from Europe to Canada, and between December 26 and January 15, for eastbound flights from Canada to Europe.

The fares are valid for groups of 15 or more travelling together in both directions. To be eligible, personnel must be stationed in Europe and travelling on furlough or on leave at their own expense.

### SECOND SPECIAL OFFER

In addition, TCA offers a 40 per cent fare reduction, valid until March 31, 1963, and good for 45 days, to Canadian servicemen and their dependents in both Europe and the Middle East. This discount applies to all round-trip travel.

The 45-day round-trip economy fare for servicemen and dependents from London to Montreal is \$296.60; from Paris to Montreal, \$322.40; and from Dusseldorf to Montreal, \$345.80.

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### CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The consumer price index rose 0.4 per cent, from 131.0 to 131.5, in September and October 1962. The October index was 1.8 per cent higher than the October 1961 index of 129.2. In the current period, the food, housing, clothing, health-and-personal-care, and recreation-and-reading indexes all moved to higher levels. The transportation index declined, and the tobacco-and-alcohol index was unchanged.

The food index rose 0.3 per cent from 126.8 to 127.2 as higher prices occurred for eggs, beef, pork, citrus fruits, tomatoes and lettuce. Prices declined for most other fresh vegetables, apples, ham and turkey.

The housing index increased 0.1 per cent from 135.2 to 135.4, with both the shelter and household-operation components up. In shelter, rents were unchanged but the home-ownership index was higher. In household operation, lower prices for most appliances were not sufficient to offset higher prices for furniture, floor coverings, textiles, utensils and equipment, and household equipment.

The clothing index rose 2.0 per cent from 113.3 to 115.6. Price increases occurred for most items of men's, women's and children's wear. However, most of the movement resulted from higher prices for women's fur and winter cloth coats and suits, with the new season's prices for fur and winter coats up from the end of last season as well as above October 1961 levels. Prices for footwear and piece goods were lower.

The transportation index declined 0.3 per cent from 140.3 to 139.9, as a result of price declines for gasoline. No changes were recorded in the automobile index; prices for 1963-model passenger cars will be reflected in the November index. The health-and-personal-care index increased 1.1 per cent from 158.2 to 160.0 owing to higher fees for doctors, dentists and optical care in the health component, as well as a fractional increase in personal-care supplies. The recreation-and-reading index rose 0.1 per cent from 147.6 to 147.8, as higher prices occurred for some items in the recreation component. The tobacco-and-alcohol index was unchanged at 118.0.