

## REGIONAL PRICE INDEXES

Consumer price indexes decreased in nine regional cities, with no change in Montreal. The downward movements ranged from a decline of 0.1 per cent in St. John's to 0.7 per cent in Halifax, Ottawa and Edmonton-Calgary.

Food indexes declined in all cities, with Ottawa and Edmonton-Calgary showing the greatest change. Indexes for housing edged upward in five cities, downward in St. John's and Toronto, and remained the same in the three other cities. Clothing indexes moved up in all cities. Transportation indexes showed mixed movements, up slightly in three cities, down in two, and unchanged in five. The health-and-personal-care indexes were higher in all cities except St. John's, which remained the same as last month. The recreation-and-reading indexes moved up in five cities, down in four with no change in St. John's. Tobacco-and-alcohol indexes increased in all cities. The changes by city were as follows:

**St. John's** - The all-items index edged downward 0.1 per cent, from 121.9 to 121.8, as the decreases in the food and housing indexes outweighed the rise in the clothing, transportation, and tobacco and alcohol indexes.

**Halifax** - There was a decline of 0.7 per cent in the all-items index, from 132.4 to 131.5. A full 3 percent drop from 128.0 to 124.2 in the food index, with a slight decline in the recreation-and-reading index, more than compensated for increases in the indexes for clothing, health and personal care as well as tobacco and alcohol.

**Saint John** - The all-items index declined 0.5 per cent, from 135.3 to 134.6. The food index fell 2.3 per cent, from 133.9 to 130.8, while the recreation-and-reading index showed a more moderate decline. At the same time, indexes moved up for health and personal care, tobacco and alcohol, housing, clothing and transportation.

**Montreal** - There was no change in the all-items index from the September figure of 135.2. The decline in the food index was balanced by increases in all the other indexes except transportation, which remained unchanged.

**Ottawa** - A 0.7 percent decline occurred in the all-items index, from 136.6 to 135.6. The decreases in the food, transportation, and recreation-and-reading indexes were greater than the upward movements of the clothing, health-and-personal care, and tobacco-and-alcohol indexes.

**Toronto** - The all-items index fell 0.6 per cent, from 137.5 to 136.7. The food index declined 2.4 per cent, from 132.8 to 129.6. The transportation index moved lower by 1.0 per cent, from 140.4 to 139.0. Housing edged downward while increases were noted in the clothing, health-and-personal-care, recreation-and reading, and tobacco-and-alcohol indexes.

**Winnipeg** - There was a modest decline in the all-items index of 0.2 per cent, from 132.3 to 132.0. The fall in the food index outweighed increases in the other six component indexes.

**Saskatoon-Regina** - The all-items index declined 0.5 per cent, from 130.4 to 129.7. The food index

fell 2.7 per cent, from 131.6 to 128.0, while the other indexes moved upward, except for transportation, which remained unchanged.

**Edmonton-Calgary** - The 0.7 percent drop in the all-items index, from 128.9 to 128.0, resulted in a lower food index despite upward shifts in the clothing, health-and-personal-care, recreation-and-reading, and tobacco-and-alcohol indexes.

**Vancouver** - A lower all-items index of 132.6, a 0.4 percent decline from 133.1, reflected the fall in the food index and a downward shift in the recreation-and-reading index. Four other component indexes increased, while the transportation index remained unchanged.

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## CANADA FINANCES CHILE MILL

The Department of Trade and Commerce announced recently that the Export Credits Insurance Corporation had signed an agreement to provide \$2.82 million additional financing to Compania Manufacturera de Papeles y Cartones S.A., Santiago, Chile, in connection with the expansion of its Laja pulp mill. The original loan for \$5.7 million was made August 30, 1963.

The present loan will be used for the purchase of capital equipment from a number of Canadian suppliers, and for erection and engineering services. It will allow for the incorporation of design improvements in the pulp-mill project, and increase the output of the mill to meet the rising demand, which has developed since the expansion project was originally undertaken.

Foreign-exchange costs for both the original and the improved-design projects are being jointly financed by the Export Credits Insurance Corporation, Ottawa, and the Inter-American Development Bank, Washington.

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## BUILDING-SCIENCE SEMINARS

Basic considerations in the design of windows will be the subject of the 1965 Building Science Seminars being offered by the Division of Building Research, National Research Council. The Seminars will be given in two locations - Ottawa, February 3, 4, and 5, and Calgary, February 18 and 19.

The Seminars will consist of a course of lectures presented by members of the Division of Building Research, NRC, whose work is directly concerned with this aspect of building research. The subject of windows is, of course, closely related to the subject of the previous Seminar - exterior wall design - and will be of special interest to those responsible for the design and performance of windows and walls. It will, in addition, be of interest to manufacturers and suppliers of windows. The content of the lectures in the Ottawa and Calgary will be the same, with the exception that, on the third day in Ottawa, those attending will be given a guided tour of the Building Research Centre and will have an opportunity for discussions with research staff.