

### Satellite phone services

Residents of Chesterfield Inlet, Northwest Territories, will be able to make telephone calls using satellite services by the end of 1976, when an earth station of the *Anik* satellite begins operating in that community. Chesterfield Inlet is 325 miles north of Churchill, Manitoba, on the west shore of Hudson Bay.

The Federal Government and Bell Canada will share the cost of installation. Federal participation will enable Bell Canada to replace less reliable high-frequency radio-telephone service in this Keewatin District community with high-quality communications.

In recent years, financial assistance from the Federal Government has made possible high-quality long-distance service through *Anik* at 14 other isolated northern communities.

### Consumer price indexes

Consumer price indexes rose in all regional cities in July with increases ranging from 0.2 per cent in Winnipeg to 0.6 per cent in Halifax and Montreal. Increased shelter charges for both owned and rented accommodation were a large contributing factor in these advances. Seasonally higher prices were also recorded for hotel and motel accommodation and for train fares. Household help rates were also up. The movement of prices for food at home was mixed across the country with fresh vegetable prices generally higher.

*St. John's, Newfoundland* – All items: June to July 1976, up 0.5 per cent; July 1975 to July 1976, up 7.9 per cent.

*Halifax, Nova Scotia* – All items: June to July 1976, up 0.6 per cent; July 1975 to July 1976, up 8.5 per cent.

*Saint John, New Brunswick* – All items: June to July 1976, up 0.5 per cent; July 1975 to July 1976, up 6.6 per cent.

*Quebec City, Quebec* – All items: June to July 1976, up 0.4 per cent; July 1975 to July 1976, up 6.2 per cent.

*Montreal, Quebec* – All items: June to July 1976, up 0.6 per cent; July 1975 to July 1976, up 6.0 per cent.

*Ottawa, Ontario* – All items: June to July 1976, up 0.3 per cent; July 1975 to July 1976, up 7.0 per cent.

*Toronto, Ontario* – All items: June to July 1976, up 0.5 per cent; July 1975 to July 1976, up 6.5 per cent.

*Thunder Bay, Ontario* – All items: June to July 1976, up 0.4 per cent; July 1975 to July 1976, up 8.4 per cent.

*Winnipeg, Manitoba* – All items: June to July 1976, up 0.1 per cent; July 1975 to July 1976, up 8.0 per cent.

*Saskatoon, Saskatchewan* – All items: June to July 1976, up 0.2 per cent; July 1975 to July 1976, up 7.6 per cent.

*Regina, Saskatchewan* – All items: June to July 1976, up 0.3 per cent; July 1975 to July 1976, up 8.4 per cent.

*Edmonton, Alberta* – All items: June to July 1976, up 0.5 per cent; July 1975 to July 1976, up 7.1 per cent.

*Calgary, Alberta* – All items: June to July 1976, up 0.3 per cent; July 1975 to July 1976, up 7.9 per cent.

*Vancouver, British Columbia* – All items: June to July 1976, up 0.2 per cent; July 1975 to July 1976, up 9.1 per cent.

### News briefs

■ The Prime Minister and Mrs. Trudeau returned to Ottawa September 4 from a vacation in Europe and the Middle East. Mr. Trudeau visited, among others, King Hussein of Jordan, Israeli Prime Minister Rabin, Italian Premier Andreotti and Pope Paul VI.

■ As this issue went to press September 9, Team Canada was leading in the Canada Cup ice hockey tournament with three straight wins. They beat Finland 11-2, the United States 4-2 and Sweden 4-0, for a total of six points. Czechoslovakia was in second place with 5 points, Sweden and the Soviet Union were tied with 3 points each, the U.S. had 1 point and Finland none.

■ The province of Quebec intergovernment affairs department announced August 30 that a series of economic agreements had been made between Quebec and Iran. Among the principal contracts to be undertaken is an agreement to set up an Iranian government company to promote a mining industry there and for Hydro-Quebec to sell expertise and services to the Teheran Regional Electric Company.

■ The Federal Government has lowered the export charge on gasoline and partly processed oil shipments to the United States, effective August 1. The export charge on motor gasoline and gasoline components dropped to \$4.50 a barrel from \$4.75. The charge on partly processed oils dropped to \$3.65 a barrel from \$4.60. The charge on middle distillates such as heating oil remain at \$3.75 a barrel and on heavy fuel oil at

\$3.25 a barrel.

■ University and college enrolment this fall will rise by 4 per cent over that of last year, while a decline in elementary and secondary school attendance will continue, Statistics Canada said September 1. Spending on education is expected to rise by 12 per cent this year to \$14.5 billion.

■ General domestic air fare increases of up to 8 per cent took effect September 1 on Air Canada and CP Air routes. The increases, the second this year and the fifth in three years, were judged "fair and reasonable" by the Canadian Transport Commission. They average 4.5 per cent on economy tickets.

■ Agreement has been reached with the National Joint Council on a formula for compensating deserving public servants working in both official languages, effective November 1, the Public Service Alliance announced August 31.

■ Energy Minister Alastair Gillespie has announced that the Federal Government and the three western provinces will work together towards a new national coal policy.

■ In 1975, there were 188 persons still receiving allowances arising out of Canada's participation in the Boer War. Of these 17 were veterans. The total cost was \$105,528.

■ The Consumer and Corporate Affairs Department has announced that the import, advertising and sale of rugs and carpets that do not meet Canadian flammability regulations would be banned immediately.

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