

REGIONAL PRICE INDEXES

Consumer price indexes increased in six of the ten regional cities from the beginning of January to February, and decreased in the other four. Increases were 0.1 per cent in Ottawa and Toronto and 0.2 per cent in the other four cities with higher indexes. Decreases ranged from 0.1 per cent in Montreal to 0.5 per cent in Winnipeg and Edmonton-Calgary.

Food indexes were up in four cities, down in five, and unchanged in one (Toronto). Shelter indexes increased in three of the cities, decreased in two, and remained unchanged in the other five. Both clothing and household-operation indexes rose in five cities, fell in three, and were unchanged in two. In the other-commodities-and-services group there were higher indexes in five cities, lower indexes in two, and unchanged indexes in three.

CHANGES BY CITY

St. John's: The total index rose by 0.2 per cent to 116.6 from 116.4 as a result of higher indexes for food, shelter, clothing, and household operation. The other-commodities-and-services index was unchanged from the previous month.

Halifax: The total index increased 0.2 per cent to 129.6 from 129.3, with higher indexes for food, clothing, and household operation. Indexes were lower for shelter and other commodities and services.

Saint John: The total index increased 0.2 per cent to 130.7 from 130.5. Indexes for four groups - foods, shelter, household operation, and other commodities and services - were higher. The clothing index was unchanged.

Montreal: The total index fell 0.1 per cent to 130.1 from 130.2. The food and household-operation indexes were lower, while the clothing index was higher. The shelter and other-commodities-and-services indexes were unchanged.

Ottawa: The total index rose by 0.1 per cent to 131.0 from 130.9. Indexes for food and household operation increased; indexes for shelter and other commodities and services were unchanged; and the index for clothing declined.

Toronto: The total index was up by 0.1 per cent to 131.7 from 131.6, owing to higher indexes for clothing and other commodities and services. The household-operation index declined, while the food and shelter indexes were unchanged.

Winnipeg: The total index declined 0.5 per cent to 128.1 from 128.7, with declines in the food and clothing indexes. Indexes for shelter and other commodities and services were slightly higher. The household-operation index was unchanged.

Saskatoon-Regina: The total index increased by 0.2 per cent to 126.7 from 126.5. Two indexes, household operation and other commodities and services, were higher; two, shelter and clothing, were unchanged. The food index was lower.

Edmonton-Calgary: The total index declined by 0.5 per cent to 125.1 from 125.7 as the indexes for food, shelter, and clothing declined. The household-operation index was unchanged. The other-commodities-and-services index was slightly higher.

Vancouver: The total index fell by 0.4 per cent to 129.6 from 130.1. There were lower indexes for food, household operation, and other commodities and services. The clothing index was higher; and the shelter index was unchanged.

NEW ESKIMO ART TECHNIQUES

The latest graphic art by Eskimos of Cape Dorset in Canada's Arctic is to be unveiled shortly, and new techniques and artists will be revealed, at an exhibition that will open April 4 at the Art Gallery of Toronto.

Eighty-three prints have been selected by the Canadian Eskimo Art Committee, a professional group formed by the Eskimos themselves, for exhibition and sale. Fifty copies of each print are available. The price range is roughly the same as in 1961, with a slightly higher maximum price.

CHARACTER OF INNOVATIONS

Dr. Evan H. Turner, chairman of the Canadian Eskimo Art Committee and director of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, states that the new prints feature "exploration of surface textures, while the earlier graphics depended on outline and color". Another innovation is the use of linoleum, the Eskimos' first departure from the stone-cut and seal-skin print techniques. "The artists introduced this year bring a new freshness and vitality to Eskimo graphic art," Dr. Turner adds.

The symbol of the Canadian Eskimo Art Committee's approval appears on every print passed by it. Prints not bearing this symbol do not have the Committee's approval.

The Committee evaluates the work of Eskimo artists, promotes it, sets prices and advises on marketing. While it is now advising only the West Baffin Eskimo Co-Operative, it has made it known that it is prepared to assist any other Eskimo co-operative, or any individual Eskimo artist, on condition that only work it approves is released for public sale.

Besides Dr. Turner, the members of the Committee are: Paul Arthur of Ottawa, managing editor of *Canadian Art*; M.F. Feheley of Toronto, collector and lecturer; Julien Hébert of Montreal, industrial designer and professor at the Ecole des Arts Appliqués; and Alan Jarvis, of Toronto, writer, sculptor, commentator, and former director of the National Gallery of Canada.

In the last two years, their graphic art has brought the Eskimos more than \$80,000, \$60,000 in 1960 alone.

THAI ENVOY INSTALLED

On March 20, Mr. Somchai Anuman-Rajadhon presented his Letter of Credence as first Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Thailand to Canada. The ceremony took place at Government House. Mr. Henry F. Davis, Chief of Protocol, Department of External Affairs, presented the Ambassador to the Governor General. Mr. G.P. de T. Glazebrook, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, and Mr. Esmond Butler, Secretary to the Governor General, were in attendance.

The Ambassador was accompanied by Mr. Nissai Vejajjiva, Second Secretary.