

### Food again pushes up consumer prices

Canada's consumer price index (1961=100) rose 1.1 per cent to 147.3 in April from 145.7 in March. Food prices, which increased 2.6 per cent, were again the major contributor to the latest advance. The level of prices for all-items other than food rose 0.5 per cent as the clothing index increased 1.4 per cent, and that for health and personal care moved up 0.9 per cent. Both the housing and the recreation-and-reading components rose 0.4 per cent, while the indexes for transportation and for tobacco and alcohol remained unchanged. From April 1972 to April 1973, the all-items index advanced 6.6 per cent.

The food index rose 2.6 per cent to 156.2 in April from 152.2 in March, in contrast with an average increase of 0.8 per cent between the same two months the preceding five years. In the latest month, restaurant meal prices rose 1.4 per cent, reflecting increases in many cities across the country, while the price level of food consumed at home moved up 2.8 per cent. Higher quotations for meat, milk and fresh produce were important contributors to the latest month's advance in the price of food for home consumption. The index for meat, fish and poultry rose 3.0 per cent, with beef advancing 2.3 per cent, pork 2.1 per cent, and poultry 6.6 per cent. In the 12 months since April 1972, the price of beef has risen on average, more than 16 per cent, pork prices nearly 30 per cent, and poultry over 26 per cent. Egg prices, which normally rise at this time of year, increased 8.5 per cent in the latest month to a level 43 percent above that of a year earlier. Between March and April, when the fruit prices usually increase, the fruit index rose 11.3 per cent. The index for vegetables also moved up, despite lower quotations for tomatoes and celery, because of price rises for other produce items, notably onions. In the latest 12 months, the vegetable index advanced over 22 per cent and

fruit 13 per cent. During March and April, the price of fresh milk rose 4.4 per cent as higher retail quotations were registered in the Atlantic Provinces as well as in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia. Among the other dairy products, butter registered higher prices mainly in cities east of Winnipeg. On the other hand, the bakery and cereal products index fell 0.2 per cent largely as a result of lower bread prices featured in some Western cities. Price decreases were also recorded for some other items, including soft drinks, sugar and chocolate bars, all of which were retailing at price levels slightly below those of a year earlier. In the 12 months since April 1972, the food index advanced 12.9 per cent, with the price of food consumed at home rising 13.3 per cent and that for restaurant meals 10.7 per cent.

### Housing and clothing

The housing index rose 0.4 per cent to 150.1 in April from 149.5 in March as a result of increases of 0.5 per cent in the shelter and 0.2 per cent in the household-operation components. From April 1972 to April 1973, the housing index advanced 6.0 per cent.

The clothing index advanced 1.4 per cent to 136.4 in April from 134.5 in March, which compares with an average March-to-April increase for the preceding five years of 0.6 per cent. In the 12 months to April 1973 the clothing index advanced 4.0 per cent.

### Novel sport among those receiving federal grants

Health and Welfare Minister Marc Lalonde recently announced federal grants totalling \$36,414 for recreation projects.

A grant of \$1,000 was awarded to the Canadian Orienteering Federation to help defray the administrative overhead of the national office in Toronto. (Orienteering, a novel sport that combines the skills of map and compass reading with jogging, is becoming popular in Canada among people of all ages.)

The Rideau Trail Association will receive a \$1,750-grant to assist in the printing of books of maps and trail descriptions for the 180 miles of hiking trail between Ottawa and Kingston. The Rideau Trail is linked to the

Rideau Waterway, recently declared a national historical site by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Another \$9,000 will cover part of the cost of the 1973 National Conference of Recreation Students, which is to be held in Ottawa. The purpose of the meeting is to promote "academic orientation" services to students and develop insight into career opportunities.

The Canadian Council for Co-operation in Aquatics will apply its \$2,000-grant to extra expenses incurred by printing the conference materials and proceedings of the International Aquatic Conference held in Quebec City in November 1972.

The Boy Scouts of Canada will receive \$19,840 to assist in the implementation of Beavers, a new experimental community program in Canada that seeks to provide a growth experience for boys from five to eight years of age.

### Building dedicated to working people of Canada

Donald MacDonald, President of the Canadian Labour Congress, dedicated the newly-completed CLC headquarters building in Ottawa to the "working people of Canada" during an official opening ceremony on May 15.

The modern five-storey brick and glass structure overlooks Mooney's Bay Park and the Rideau River. It has been in operation since mid-March, when the CLC executive officers and the Ottawa staff of 70 moved there from the old building.

The CLC occupies the ground floor and two top floors. The Newspaper Guild and Letter Carriers' Union of Canada have also established their headquarters in the building, which is expected to house labour organizations exclusively.

The building's architects, Schoeler, Heaton, Harvor and Menendez, also designed the Canadian pavilion at Expo 67 and the Ottawa headquarters of the Public Service Alliance of Canada.

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