

the parties primarily involved. These parties, together with other countries like the United States and Japan, must eventually achieve an agreement or an arrangement which would then be followed by formal action in the United Nations.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES

Canada's consumer price index (1949=100) rose 0.1 per cent to 145.5 at the beginning of November 1966 from 145.3 in October. The November index was 3.8 percent higher than the November 1965 index of 140.2. In the current period the housing, clothing, health and personal care, recreation and reading, and tobacco and alcohol indexes all recorded increases ranging from 1.3 per cent for recreation and reading to 0.1 per cent for tobacco and alcohol. The food index decreased 0.6 per cent and the transportation index remained unchanged.

FOOD

The food index moved down 0.6 per cent to 144.7 in November from 145.6 in October. Lower prices were reported for chicken, all beef, all pork except smoked ham, and all other meat and fish items except veal chops and sausages. Other important price decreases included seasonal reductions for root vegetables, cabbage, fresh fruits except oranges, and sugar. Minor price decreases were recorded for eggs, butter, dairy products infants' food, tea, instant coffee, shortening and frozen orange juice. Higher prices were reported for turkeys, smoked ham, veal chops, margarine, corn flakes, regular coffee, tomatoes, celery and lettuce.

HOUSING

The housing index moved up 0.3 per cent to 146.6 from 146.1 as a result of increases in both the shelter and household operations components. Higher rental rates and increased costs for repairs by both tenants and home-owners, and property taxes accounted for the increase in the shelter component, while increased prices for furniture, textiles, some utensils and most supplies and services raised the household operation component slightly. The clothing index advanced 0.5 per cent to 129.8 from 129.2. Prices were generally higher for men's wear, children's wear and footwear. The index for women's wear was slightly higher, while the index for piece-goods remained unchanged. The transportation index remained unchanged at 151.1. Higher prices for gasoline and oil offset seasonally lower prices for train fares.

HEALTH

The health and personal care index rose 1.0 per cent to 184.5 from 182.7. While increased prices for prescriptions and other pharmaceutical items raised the health care component only slightly, higher prices for most personal care supplies, men's haircuts and women's hairdressing resulted in an appreciable increase in the personal care component. The recreation and reading index advanced 1.3 per cent to

161.3 from 159.2, with higher prices reported for motion-picture admissions and sporting equipment. The tobacco and alcohol index edged up 0.1 per cent to 126.5 from 126.4. Scattered price increases for cartons of cigarettes moved the tobacco component, while the alcoholic beverages component remained unchanged.

CIGARETTE SMOKERS QUIT

A survey released recently by the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Allan J. MacEachen, indicates that more than 1 million Canadians who once smoked cigarettes every day have successfully overcome the habit. The study, carried out for the Health Department by Canadian Facts Limited from November 1965 to January 1966, also shows that of the country's estimated 5.5 million persons who are still regular cigarette smokers, 2.5 million or 45 per cent, have seriously tried to quit.

"Results of the survey are significant when it is realized that at least 300 young Canadians acquire the habit every day", said Mr. MacEachen. "The figures not only show that a large number of Canadians are personally concerned about cigarette smoking, but that many have been able to break the habit. There is no doubt that many thousands more are ready to stop if circumstances permit and family, friends and society encourage and allow them to do so. I believe this information will help young Canadians who have not started to smoke and give encouragement to smokers who are anxious to quit."

Conducted among persons 15 years of age and over, the survey shows that, among present non-smokers of cigarettes, 32 per cent of the men and 9 per cent of the women were at one time regular users. This amounts to 850,000 men and 380,000 women on the basis of the estimated number of non-smokers in Canada. There is also evidence that some people can "ease off". Among those who smoke cigarettes only occasionally, 46 per cent of the men and 23 per cent of the women, or a total of nearly 150,000 persons, formerly smoked cigarettes every day.

PROVINCES

Regionally, British Columbia shows the highest proportion of former regular smokers (49 per cent of male and 17 per cent of female non-smokers and occasional smokers were at one time regular cigarette smokers), and Quebec the smallest (30 percent male and 8 percent female). British Columbia also shows the highest proportion (53 per cent of regular cigarette smokers who have tried to stop smoking and Quebec the lowest (37 per cent).

Attempts to quit smoking tend to be more common among those under 40. Women who have succeeded are most commonly found in the 20-to-39 age bracket. Men who have stopped smoking are more frequently found among those 40 and over. Overall, however, the findings indicate that dissatisfaction with their cigarette smoking habits is common among all age groups.