

while the words "Postage" and "Postes" are printed along the left and right edges respectively. The stamp is the design of Philip Weiss of Ottawa; it will be printed in blue. Thirty-two million stamps have been ordered and first-day cover service will be given by the postmaster at Ottawa.

PRICE INDEX IN APRIL

Canada's consumer price index (1949=100) rose 0.5 per cent from 129.7 to 130.3 in March and April. Increases occurred in the food, clothing, transportation, health and personal-care, and tobacco-and-alcohol indexes. The housing index was unchanged, and the recreation-and-reading index declined fractionally.

The food index rose 1.1 per cent to 125.8 from 124.4, as seasonally higher prices were reported for most fruits and vegetables, particularly cabbage, lettuce, celery and apples. Price increases also occurred for beef, some pork items, chicken and bread. Prices were lower for eggs, frozen orange juice, fresh tomatoes, chocolate bars, and fats (including butter).

HOUSING

The housing index was unchanged at 134.0. The shelter component was unchanged, and a fractional decline in the household-operation component was not sufficient to move the index. In shelter, rents continued to show stability as the national index of rents was unchanged for the seventh successive month and was only fractionally above the level of a year ago. In contrast, the index for home ownership continued to edge up in April to stand 1.8 per cent above its April 1961 level. The slight drop in the household-operation component of housing resulted mainly from lower electricity rates in Vancouver and Victoria, which more than balanced somewhat higher prices for appliances and other home furnishings. Most household supplies were higher.

The clothing index moved up 0.3 per cent to 113.2 from 112.9 as prices for men's and children's wear, footwear and piece goods were higher. Some of this movement reflected changes from sale price levels in previous months.

TRANSPORTATION

The transportation index rose 0.2 per cent to 140.2 from 139.9 as a result of price increases for automobile repairs in the automobile-operation component, and higher fares for air travel in the travel component.

The health-and-personal-care index increased 0.6 per cent to 158.1 from 157.2 as both the component indexes were up. In health care, higher fees were reported for doctors, dentists, and optical care, but prepaid medical care premiums were down for one plan in British Columbia. The increase in personal care reflected higher prices for toilet soap in personal supplies and men's haircuts in personal services.

The recreation-and-reading index decreased 0.1 per cent to 146.6 from 146.7. Lower prices for radios and television sets in the recreation component outweighed price increases for magazines in the

reading component. The tobacco and alcohol index rose 0.3 per cent to 117.9 from 117.5 as a result of higher prices for alcoholic beverages in Quebec and Ontario.

CANADA AT WHO ASSEMBLY

Canada's delegation to the Fifteenth Annual Assembly of the World Health Organization, which opened in Geneva on May 8 is headed by Dr. G.D.W. Cameron, Deputy Minister of National Health. Dr. Jean Saucier, Director, Department of Psychiatry, Hotel-Dieu Hospital, Montreal, is delegate. Alternate delegates are Dr. Morley Elliott, Deputy Minister of Health, Province of Manitoba, and Dr. B.D.B. Layton, Principal Medical Officer, International Health, Department of National Health and Welfare.

Advisers to the delegation are S.C.H. Nutting, W.E. Bauer, and Miss Lise Gauthier, all of the Department of External Affairs.

The World Health Organization is budgeting for more than \$32 million in 1963, as against \$23 million last year. Canada's assessment last year was approximately \$660,000.

Technical discussions at this annual session will highlight "Mental Health in Public Health Planning", as well as review continuing and special programmes, and their financing.

HOURS & EARNINGS

Average weekly wages in manufacturing rose in February to \$75.97 from \$75.46 in January, as average hourly earnings were unchanged at \$1.86 and the work week lengthened slightly to 40.7 hours from 40.6, according to advance figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics that will be contained in the February issue of "Man-Hours and Hourly Earnings With Average Weekly Wages". Weekly wages averaged \$73.40 in February last year, hourly earnings \$1.82 and the work week 40.4 hours.

In durable-goods manufacturing, average weekly wages in February increased to \$83.29 from \$82.40 in the preceding month, average hourly earnings to \$2.03 from \$2.02 and the work week to 41.1 hours from 40.8. Wage-rate increases and overtime work in iron and steel products and transportation equipment accounted for the greater part of the gain in earnings.

In non-durable goods manufacturing, the average weekly wages in February edged up to \$69.18 from \$69.05 a month earlier, while average hourly earnings and the work week were unchanged at \$1.71 and 40.4 hours respectively. The effect of reduced overtime work in pulp mills and petroleum refineries was offset by overtime work in rubber and tobacco plants.

Average hourly earnings in mining rose 2¢ in February from January to \$2.17 as a result of a shorter work week in coal and metal mines, where earnings are below the average for mining generally. The work week in construction lengthened to 40.4 hours from 39.3.