

some fresh vegetables and the food index moved from 124.4 to 123.4. The shelter index was unchanged at 144.7, with the rent component continuing at the January level while minor price changes within the home-ownership component were offsetting.

The clothing index remained at 11.6, as price increases in women's wear were offset by lower prices for men's and children's wear, and footwear. Higher prices for fuel and textiles balanced lower prices for furniture, floor coverings, some utensils and household supplies and the household operation index was unchanged at 123.3. The index for "other" commodities and services, unchanged at 138.3, reflected price increases for transportation, recreation and tobacco, which were offset by lower prices for pharmaceuticals and personal care items.

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NEW HOSPITAL AT INUVIK

A 120-bed hospital, constructed at a cost of \$2 million to serve 370,000 square miles of the Northwest Territories and the Western Arctic, has just been opened at Inuvik, N.W.T. Beds are available both for TB treatment and for general medical and surgical cases.

The hospital will be staffed by three medical officers, 25 registered nurses and 20 auxiliary nurses, as well as 60 other persons, provided by the Indian and Northern Health Services of the Department of National Health and Welfare. An INHS official described it as "comparable in services and facilities to many southern Canadian hospitals." "We must be equipped for most emergencies, working as we do in isolation," he added. Facilities include modern operating and case rooms, a blood bank, nursery, laboratory and pharmacy.

When specialist medical-surgical treatments are called for, patients will be transferred to hospitals in the south with requisite facilities.

The area served by the Inuvik General Hospital includes Old Crow and Herschel Island in the Yukon, seven health districts in the Northwest Territories covering the lower Mackenzie and the Western Arctic, including the Western Arctic Islands. The population of this area is estimated at about 5,500. The hospital will receive patients referred from nursing stations at Coppermine, Tuktoyaktuk, Fort McPherson, Fort Good Hope, Fort Norman and some DEW Line stations.

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EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER

Canada's industrial composite-index number of employment for December 1960 was 115.0 (1949=100), down 3.9 per cent from 119.7 for November and down 2.6 per cent from 118.1 for December 1959. Month-to-month reductions were recorded for all provinces and for all in-

dustry divisions except trade. Seasonal influences were the main factor in the employment declines, although reductions in a number of industries were somewhat greater than seasonal.

Average weekly wages and salaries declined considerably as usual during November and December, the composite figure falling to \$78.18 from \$76.43. Many workers were laid off part way through the pay periods for which data were collected, or were on unpaid leave for some days during the holiday season. The composite-payroll index was 202.7 for December, down 5.5 per cent from November and up 1.4 per cent from December 1959.

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ESKIMOS TO STUDY DIESELS

The first of 15 Eskimo men to take a diesel-operating course in Barriefield Camp, Ontario, arrived recently in Montreal. The group, sponsored by the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, will attend classes at the Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers School. Their course will last four months, beginning March 27.

The success of a similar project last year involving 20 Eskimos who trained as power-plant operators led to the decision to repeat the operation.

The trainees come from various settlements in the Eastern Arctic. At Barriefield they will learn how to operate and maintain the diesel lighting plants used at their settlements. To help them in their work at Barriefield and when they return home, the men will receive operators handbooks written in Eskimo syllabics. Most of their training period will be spent on the actual operation of machinery. The course will also include basic English lessons.

While at Barriefield, the men will live in army dormitories and make use of army facilities, although they will, of course, remain civilians. A programme has been arranged to help them adjust to the "southern" way of living. This includes sports activities, visits to nearby communities and field trips to local industries, farms and schools.

Of the 15 men who are taking part in the training course, nine are married. While the trainees are south, maintenance allowances will be provided for wives and children.

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VISIT BY MR. MACMILLAN

Mr. Howard Green, the Secretary of State for External Affairs and Acting Prime Minister, has announced that the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, accompanied by Lady Dorothy Macmillan, will arrive in Ottawa late on April 8, and will depart on Wednesday morning, April 12. It had previously been announced that Mr. Macmillan would arrive in