# C A N A D A <br> DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH 

## PRICES \& PRICE INDEXES

DECEMBER 1940

Wholesale Prioes
Retail Prices
Security Prices
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PRICE MOTEMENTS. DECRNBER 1940.
After touching 84.3 in the second week of December, the Bureau's general index of wholesale prices subsequently eased to 84.2 at the close of the month, which compared with 84.1 for the final week of November. Most of the advance over November levels was due to continued strength in Animal product prices, although fibres, textiles and textile products and iron and 1 ts products showed fractional increases also. For industrial materlals a preponderance of declines lowered the composite weekly index from 79.5 to 78.7 between November 29 and December 27. Declines were noted for both the stable and sensitive series, the former easing 0.1 points to 104.2 and the latter 1.0 to 65.9 . Refleoting the easier tone in field product prices, an index of Canadian farm product prices declined from 67.2 in the final week of November to 66.9 at the end of December. Animal products, the other constituent in this series, was unchanged at 91.3.

Further increases for foods and home furnishings were responsible for a moderate advance in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, cost of living index for Canada from 107.8 in November to 108.0 for December ( $1935-39=100$ ). The food group mounted from 108.7 to 109.1, due mainly to higher prices for butter, cereals, and vegetables. The home furnishings' index moved up from 110.0 to 110.7 , chiefly because of scattered increases for furniture, textile furnishings and hardware. Other group indexes remained unchanged, rents at 107.7, fuel and light at 108.5 , clathing at 113.5 , and the miscellaneous group at 102.8.

On balance, net changes for industrial and utility common stock prices during December were exceptionally small, though a moderate decline in the first three weeks caused the Investors' composite index to drop to a four months' low of 76.2. Subsequently the index recovered to close the month at 77.5 for a net loss of $0.6 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. Compared with the final figure for 1939, however, the average level of common stock prices at the end of December showed a net loss of 23.4 p.c., although still maintaining a level considerably above the mid-year low of 68.5 . The Bureau's mining stocks price index finished the month moderately higher at 115.2 compared with 114.0 on November 30. During 1940, prices in this section declined 20.9 p.c. Dominion of Canada long-term bond prices in December continued to show the firmer tone which has persisted over the past year. An index for this series mounted 0.4 p.c. during the month, and $3.6 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. for the year, to close at 117.1.

There was no change in official buying and selling rates set by the Canadian Foreign Exchange Control Board for sterling and United States funds during December. Rates for these currencies were $\$ 4.43-\$ 4.47$ and $\$ 1.10-\$ 1.11$ respectively, the level at which they have held since the middle of September, 1939. At New York sterling free market rates were comparatively steady, hovering between $\$ 4.031 / 2$ and ${ }^{*} 4.04$. During the same interval Conadian dollar yates at New York fluctuated between $871 / 16$ cents and 86 cents while the close at $861 / 8$ cents was $3 / 4$ of a cent below final November levels.

## SUMMARY OF PRICE INDEXES

(1926=100 for Wholesale and Security Prices) (1935-39=100 for Cost of Living)


## REVIEN OF IMPORTANT COMDODITY MARKETS

WFEAT AND CTMER GRAINS: All cash grains with the exception of outs moved higher during December. At the end of the month No.l Manitoba Northern wisat, Fort William and Port Arthur basis, was quoted $11 / 4 \not \subset$ higher at $733 / 4 \not /$ per bushel and compared with intermediate high and low points of $743 / 4 \epsilon$ on the 11 th and $725 / 8 \phi$ on the $19 t h$. Compared with prices in December 1939, quotations for this grade have fallen $111 / 8 \phi$. For lower grades of Manit oba Northern, fluctuations were considerably smaller over the month, No. 2 finishing $7 / 8$ of a cent higher at $713 / 8 \phi$, while No. 3 at $681 / 2 \phi$ per bushel was unchanged. It was reported that a few cargoes of No. 3 Northern were sold for export out of Vancouver early in the month and about 150,000 bushels to Ireland around the 2lst. However, damestic mils were reported to have taken a considerable amount of wheat against heavier flour sales. In the Southern hemisphere crop conditions continued varied, reports of an exceptionally large wheat crop in the Argentine being offset to a considerable extent by a paor yield in Australia. Latest reports from the Argentine indicated a crop of about 294 million bushels which would allow an exportable surplus of between 195 and 200 million bushols. The carry-over from last season's crop was exceptionally small. In Australia the first official estimate indicated an outturn of $91,900,000$ bushels, end a carry-over of about 50 milli on bushels from last season's crop.

Domestic coarse grain prices showed fairly general strength. Barley, No.l feed, quotations closed the month $31 / 4 \phi$ per bushel higher at $42 \phi$, while rye No. 2 C . W. advenced $5 / 8$ of a cent to $47 \phi$ in the same interval. Flax, No. 1 C. W. climaxed a month of steadily advancing prices by moving up $2 \phi$ on the closing day to $\$ 1.381 / 2$ per bushel for a net increase of $93 / 8 \phi$ since November 30 . Quotations for oats on the other hand showed a smell decline, No. $2 \mathrm{C} . \mathrm{W}$. easing $11 / 8 \phi$ to $341 / 4 q$ per bushel between November 30 and December 31.

|  | $\begin{gathered} 1939 \\ \text { December } \end{gathered}$ | 1940 <br> November | $\begin{gathered} 1940 \\ \text { December } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Deacription (Basis, cash per bushel, Fort William and Port Arthur) | d | ¢ | $\not$ |
| No.1 Nanitoba Northern wheat. | 82.4 | 71.8 | 73.4 |
| No. 2 Canada Nestern oats | 38.8 | 35.1 | 33.3 |
| No. 2 Canada Western rye | 72.3 | 46.1 | 46.0 |
| No. 1 feed barley | 47.3 | 44.1 | 40.2 |
| No. 1 Canada Western 11ax. | 177.0 | 128.2 | 131.4 |

FLOUR AND OTHER MILLED PRODUCTS: Flour prices at eastern centres showed a small advance in the first week of December, coinciding with an upward movement in wheat. From $\$ 5.45$ per barrel of $2-98^{\prime} s$ jute on November $29 t h$ quotations for lst patent flour at Toronto advanced $10 ¢$ to $\$ 5.55$ per barrel (tax included) on December 6 where they remained until the close of the month. Prices for the same grade of flour at Winnipeg held unchanged at ${ }^{\circ} 5.70$ per barrel of $2-98$ 's cotton after a 10 cent increase during November when eastern lists were unchanged. Millers reported that domestic trade in spring wheat flour was good during the month while winter wheat flour also was in better demand. November flour production of $1,588,000$ barrels compared with $1,960,429$ barrels milled in Novembor 1939, while exports during these same periods were 682,718 barrels and 572,810 barrels respectively. Reports from Vancouver during the month stated that flour sales to the Orient were the largest for a considerable time, and would have been larger if more shipping space had been available. In contrast to last month's sales to this source which were mostly clears, it was stated business currently being done was almost entirely in export straights, Among other milled products, prices for oatmeal and rolled oats at Toronto were unchanged while cornmeal advanced $15 \%$ to $\$ 2.90$ per $98-1 \mathrm{~b}$. bag. With demand quies, prices for milled feeds remained comparatively steady. Quotations on bran, Ontario and Montreal lake and rail rate points, closed the month unchanged at $\$ 26.50$ per ton, while shorts on the same basis dropped $\$ 1.00$ to finish at $\$ 26.50$ also.

| Description |  | (See above dates) <br> Flour No.l patent, per barrel, f.0.b. | \$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |

RAW RUBBER: Raw rubber prices sagged slightly in December while traders attention continued to be focused mostly on the shipping situation. There was a drop of $1 / 4$ of 1 per cent in war risk insurence during the month due to a sharp decline in shipping losses. As the month closed quotations on first latex thick crepe sheets at New York were $203 / 4 \phi$ per pound as against $21 \phi$ at the end of November, while during the same interval corlon plantation ribbed, smoked sheets eased a similar amount to finish at $203 / 4 \not / p$ per pound also. A weekly index of raw rubber prices in Canadian funds moved down from 52.2 at the end of

November to 51.6 on December 27 which indicated a net increase of 12.7 p.c. over levels of the final week of 1939. The latest estimate of United States raw rubber consumption during November was $54 ; 652$ tons against 56,477 tons in October and 55,677 tons in November, 1939. United States rubber imports during December were expected to reach a new record of close to 90,000 tons, but a good part of this may have been for Government reserves.

| Description | $\begin{gathered} 1939 \\ \text { December } \end{gathered}$ | $1940$ <br> November | $1940$ <br> December |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Raw rubber, per lb., at New York (Canadian Funds) | ¢ | d | $\phi$ |
| Standard latex crepe sheets | 23.7 | 25.7 | 25.5 |
| - Ceylon ribbed smoked sheets | 22.5 | 25.7 | 25.5 |

LIVESTOCK: Livestock prices, hogs excepted, moved upward in December to average about 5.4 p.c. Over November. Caln markets led the advance with a $9.7 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. rise, followed by lambs and cattle with gains of $8.0 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. and $6.7 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. respectively. Fog markets closed above opening levels but the average for December was almost one p.c. below the November level. Cattle runs were light and prices held generally firm to higher, despite competition from plentiful supplies of moderately priced poultry. Good steers over 1050 pounds at Toronto showed small losses of $1 \phi$ and $2 \phi$ per cwt. in the weeks of December 13 and 27 but closed at $\$ 8.65$ per cwt., $10 \phi$ above the opening figure. Prices for this grade at Winnipeg held at $\$ 7.50$ for the first three weeks and then rose to $\$ 7.75$ per cwt. for the week of December 27.

|  |  | (See above dates) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Description |  | 軆 | \$ | \$ |
| Good steers over 1050 pounds per cwt. at |  |  |  |  |
|  | Toronto . | 7.34 | 8.07 | 8.63 |
|  | Winnipeg... | 6.09 | 7.12 | 7.55 |
| Good veal calves per cwt. at | Toronto ..... | 10.75 | 10.42 | 11.12 |
|  | Winnipeg .... | 9.30 | 8.33 | 9.66 |
| Bacon hogs per cwt, at | Toronto ..... | 8.94 | 8.31 | 8.17 |
|  | Winnipeg .... | 8.49 | 7.79 | 7.73 |
| Good handyweicht lambs | Toronto ..... | 10.48 | 9.50 | 10.38 |
| per cwt. at | Winnipeg .... | 9.20 | 7.94 | 9.12 |

BUTTER: Prices of butter continued to move upward in December, and an average for creamery prints at 6 Canadian centres was $35.0 ¢$ per pound, 3.9 q ahove the corresponding November average. On December 28th, an order became effective whereby wholesale maximum prices for various grades were pegged at the levels obtaining on December 12 . offerings were light throughout the month and trade was limited to immediate requirements. The December out-of-storage movement approximated 8,700,000 pounds and ool. storage holdings of creamery butter were shown at $33,058,000$ pounds by the Agriculturel Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics on January 1, 1941, compared with 41,000,000 pounds a year earlier.
(See sbove dates)
Description
$\Varangle$ Nee
Jobbing price of first grade creamery
butter per lb. at
Montreal ..... 29.2
Toronto ..... 29.1

| 31.2 | 35.8 |
| :--- | :--- |
| 31.3 | 35.9 |

EGGS: Steadily declining prices during December brought an average for Grede A large eggs at 8 representative Canadian cities down from $45.9 \phi$ in November to $35.4 \phi$ per dozen for December. Other grades strengthened somewhat during this period with B's rising from $32.1 \not \subset$ to $32.6 \not \subset$ and C's from $25.0 \phi$ to $26.9 \not \subset$ per dozen. Fresh supplies continued to increase and towards the close of the month some accumulation was reported in western areas, particularly at Vancouver. The Agricultural Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics showed cold storage stocks for Canada on January 1, 1941, at 96, 700 dozen compared with 715,500 dozen on December 1 and 670,000 dozen on January $1,1940$.

Description
(See above dates)

Eggs, Grade A large per dozen at Montreal..


Toronto.. 31.1

| $\not \subset$ | $\not \subset$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| 49.3 | 36.5 |
| 45.5 | 33.6 |

CCTPON: Somewhat stronger prices were noted for spot cotton, upland midding, $7 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ staple, at New York during December, Following relative steadiness during the first three weeks of the month prices stiffened considerably in the final week to $10.43 \%$ per pound as against $10.04 \not \subset$ at the end of November. In the same period the Bureau's weekly index of raw cotton prices $(1926=100)$ stiffened from 71.0 to 71.3 which was 3.2 p.c. above December 1939 levels. Market observers continued to associate strensth in cotton with artificial tightness of 'free' supplies. Repossession of cottor from 1940 loan stocks at current price levels would be profitable, but little of this had been done, it was stated.

In Canada the year 1940 was a record one is so far as cotton coneunption was concerned. For the eleven-month perlod ended November 30, total bale openings amounted to 350,259 and with December expected to equal the November figure of 32,816 bales, the total for the year would surpass the 1937 record of 363,202 . For the first quarter of 1941 at least, it was estimated, this rate will probably be maintained as mills were booked well ahead due to large orders of heavy cotton for war purposes, and also for prints.

|  | 1939 | 1940 | 1940 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Description | December | November | December |
| Raw cotton, upland middling $7 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ at | - $¢$ | \% | $\not \downarrow$ |
| New York, per pound (Canadian funds) | 12.2 | 12.2 | 12.4 |

LUMBER AND TMMBER: The Bureau's weekly indexes of representative lumber prices were unchanged during December. Compered with price levels of December l939, however, increases have been noted in all sections. As a whole the level of quotations advanced $7.1 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. to an index figure of 108.6 , while group series increases varied considerably. These were as follows: pine, up 5.3 p.c. at 112.4 ; spruce, 12.0 p.c. at 107.2; f1r, 4.2 p,c. at 106,2 ; hardwoods, 11.3 p.c. to 88.6 ; hemlock, 30.6 p.c. at 105.0 and B.C. cedar, 4.8 pec. at 122.0 . The lumber industry worked at a reduced rate in the latter half of December but it was stated there would be a sharp increase in January as mills entered the New Year with substantial orders ahead. By an Order-in-Council of Deoember 11 , the export of Canada Douglas fir sawlogs was forbldden except under permit.
(See above dates)
Description
Price Indexes $1926=100$

| Pine lumber | 106.7 | 112.4 | 112.4 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Spruce lumber | 95.7 | 107.2 | 107.2 |
| Cedar lumber | 116.4 | 122.0 | 122.0 |
| Fir lumber | 101.9 | 106.2 | 106.2 |

IRON AND ITS PRODUCTS: As the year closed the general index level of iron and steel prices at 106.2 was 0.1 p.c. above the closing figure for November, and 4.0 p.c. above December, 1939. One price change accounted for the index increase during the month under review, a quotation for steel boller plate, $1 / 2 \%$, advancing $3 / 10$ of a cent to $4.7 \not \subset$ per pound in the closing week. Among group changes over the year, cast iron and steel pipe with a gain of $24.5 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. showed the sharpest increase, while iron and steel scrap were up $10.1 \mathrm{p}: \mathrm{c}_{\mathrm{n}}$, and pls iron and steel billets $8.3 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. Increases for other groups amounted to less than one per cent. According to latest avallable reports domestic production of steel ingots during November was $22 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. over November, 1939 , and brought the total for the year to date $48.3 \mathrm{p} . c$. above the corresponding eleven months total of 1939 . With a substantial expansion in munition factories, it was anticipated that steel requirements for the current year would show a considerable increase.

|  | (See above dates) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Description | \% | \$ | \# |
| Pig Iron, malleable, per gross ton, f.o.b. plant | 23.50 | 23.50 | 23.50 |

INDEX NUMBERS OF INDUSTRIAL NATERIAL PRICES
$(1926=100)$

|  | No. of Price Serles | Yearly Average 1938 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Dec. } \\ & 1939 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Oct. } \\ & 1940 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nov. } \\ & 1940 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Dec. } \\ & 1940 \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| INDUSTRIAL MATERIAL PRICES | 30 | 66.3 | 78.8 | 78.8 | 79.8 | 79.1 |
| Stable | 12 | 90.8 | 94.8 | 104.6 | 104.5 | 104.5 |
| Sensitive | 18 | 53.8 | 69.3 | 65.3 | 66.7 | 65.7 |
| Manufacturing | 13 | 50.0 | 69.0 | 64.0 | 66.0 | 64.7 |
| Food | 5 | 65.7 | 70.1 | 68.5 | 68.6 | 68.4 |


(Classified Hecording to Chief Component Materials)
(1926=100)


(Classified sccording to Purpose for which used)
(1926=100)


| Commoditu゙ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { : Average } \\ & : \quad 1926 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Yearly } \\ & \text { :Average } \\ & : 1939 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { : Dec. } \\ & : 1939 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & : \text { Nov. } \\ & : 1940 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & : \text { Dec. } \\ & : 1940 \\ & : \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| OATS, NO. 2 CW W. |  | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| itorilliam and Pt.Arthur cash basis | Bush. | .548 | . 308 | . 388 | . 351 | . 333 |
| WHEAT, No. 1 iann. Northern |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ft.mijiiam and Pt.Arthur cash basis | Bush. | 1.495 | . 645 | . 824 | . 718 | . 734 |
| FLOUR, First Fatent, 2-9818 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jute, Toronto |  |  | 4.985 | 6.004 | $+5.450$ | $+5.550$ |
| SUGAR, gramulated, Montreal | Cwt. | 5.958 | 5.109 | 5.560 | 5.893 | 5.893 |
| xRUBBFR, Ceylon, ribbed, smoked sheets, foob b. New York | Lb. | . 488 | . 185 | . 225 | . 257 | . 255 |
| CATTIF, Steers, good over 1050 1be. Toronto | Cowt. | 7.330 | 6.905 | 7.340 | 8.070 | 8.630 |
| HOGS, Bacion |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Toronto | Owt. | 13.320 | 8.834 | 8.940 | 8.310 | 8.168 |
| BEEF HIDES, Packer Hides, Native Sieers, Toronto | Lb. | . 135 | . 118 | . 155 | . 159 | . 155 |
| LEATHER, Packer crops, No.I and II, |  |  |  |  | . 159 | . 15 |
| f.o.b. İstributing points | Lb. |  | . 390 | . 480 | . 460 | . 460 |
| BOX SIDES D, |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Oshawa | Ft. | . 263 | . 235 | .270 | . 190 | . 190 |
| BUTTMR, Cresmery prints: first grade Montreal | Ib. | . 390 | . 250 | . 292 | . 312 | . 358 |
| CHEESE, Canadian, old, large, Montreal | Lb. | . 227 | . 207 | . 230 | . 226 | . 228 |
| İGGS, Grade "A" large, |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Montreal | Doz. |  | . 309 | . 339 | .493 | . 365 |
| COTTON, raw $1^{\prime \prime}-1$ 1/16" Hamilton | Lb. | . 194 | . 115 | . 140 | . 137 | . 139 |
| COTTON YARNE, $10 \%$ mhite singlo |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hosiery cops, Mill | Lb. | . 368 | . 256 | . 313 | . 293 | . 293 |
| xSIIK, raw special grand XX |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 85 p.c. New York, 13-15 deniers | Lb. |  | 2.930 | 4.496 | 3.229 | 3.193 |
| WOOL, eastern bright, $1 / 4$ blood domestic, foob. ontario | Lb. | - 306 | .193 | . 270 | .310 | . 310 |
| TOOL, western Fange, semi-bright 1/2 blood, domestic, foab, Ontario | Ib. | . 316 | . 182 | . 260 | .240 | . 240 |
| PULP, groundwood, No. 1 loll |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Ton | 30.230 | 23.790 | 30.461 | 32.664 | 32.948 |
| STEEL, merchant bara, mild | 100 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kill | Lbs. | 2.450 | 2.550 | 2.550 | 2.550 | 2.550 |
| PIG IRON, Malleable, f.O.b. | Grose |  |  |  |  |  |
| plant | Ton | 25.680 | 21.500 | 23.500 | 23.500 | 23.500 |
| COPP WR, Blectrolytic, domestic Montreal | Owt. | 15.767 | 10.766 | 11.150 | 11.500 | 11.500 |
| LBAD, domestic, foo.bo carlots iSontreal | Cwt. | 8.154 | 4.235 | 4.760 | 5.000 | 5.000 |
| TIN INGOTS, Straite, f.o.b. Toronto | Lb. | . 669 | . 564 | .645 | . 607 | . 595 |
| ZING, domestic, f.o.b. carlots |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Montreal | Owt. | 8.825 | 4.068 | 4.760 | 5.150 | 5.150 |
| COAL, Anthracite, Toronto |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| foob berlots | Ton | 12.110 | 9.825 | 10.717 | 11.889 | 11.889 |
| COAL, 3ituminous, NoSa |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| run-of-mine | Ton | 6.083 | 5.500 | 5.500 | 5.500 | 5.500 |
| GASOIENTE |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Toronto | Gal. | . 253 | .149 | . 155 | . 165 | .165 |
| SULPHUHIS ACID $66^{\circ}$ Beume | Net |  |  |  |  |  |
| Toronto | Ton | 24.000 | 17.000 | 17.000 | 17.000 | 17.000 |

[^0]+ Beginning January, 1940, the basis of flour quotations was changed. For comparison with quotations given prior to January 1940, it will be necessary to add 30 cents per barrg? to current prices.





Pulp, Groundwocd.





The Dutinion Pureau of Statistics index rumber/Iiving costs on the base 1935$1.939=100$, rose from $207 . \delta$ in November to 108.0 in December. Prices for foods and homefuraishings avezaged higher.

An index for 45 foods advancad. from 108,7 to 109.l. Dairy products, cereals, and vegetables recorded geins, while meats and fruits averages lomer.

Moderate advances for furniture, floor coverings, textile furnishings, herdr. ware, dishes and household cleaning supplies, resulted in a rise in the homefurnishings group from 110.0 to 110.7 .

Living cost indexes during 1940 xose gradually by foum per cent from 203.8 in January to 108,0 in December. Indexes for the various groups recordod the following increases between January and December, 1940: Foods 404 per cent, cent 3.2 per cont, fuel 2.8 pox cent, clothing 9.9 per cont, homefurhishings 6.3 per cent and misc:ellaneous items $1_{0} 0$ per cont.

NDDEX NUNBMRS OF LIVING COSTS, 2913-1940, JANUARY, 2939-DEGEMBER, 1940.
(1935-1939-100)


[^1]IIEEK NUMBERS OF RETA II PRICES OF PRINGIPAI ARTICIES OF FOOD IN CANGA (1935-1939-100)



[^2]
## 

Price movenents on Canadian common etock markets were narrower in December than in the preceding montho Nost indastrial isfues reachod lower levels, although utilities showed streagth in the last weok which was sufficient to move the group above December 1 levels. The daily price index oi 95 comon stocks closed the month at 77.5 , yhowing a net loss of 0.6 poce Beverages, witi a rise of 5.3 pocu for the month to 135.9 on December 31, provided the cole exception to the general movement. The decline was led by the machinery and equipment shares which moved $8.1 \mathrm{p}_{c} \mathrm{c}_{0}$ lower. Other sub-groups followed with losses of 4.0 pocofor milling issues, 2.9 poc. for textiles and clothing, and 2.8 p.c. for oil.c. Recessions ranging from 0.9 poc. to $1.9 p_{0} c_{0}$ occurred in the remaining sections of the industrinl incoro Utilities rose from 38.4 to 39.4 betweon November 30 and Decomber 3l, while transportation issues moved up 5.3 p. co, power and traction stocks $2.2 p_{0} c$ and telephone anj telegraph $l_{0} 3$ poc. in index for eight banks closed at 78.0 as compared with 76.4 a month earlier.

## WINIMG STOCZ PRICES

In contras" to the industrjais, the mining section closed the month with an index gain of lil poco The bureauts price index vir twenty-five mining is sues mounted from 114.0 on November 30 to a hi.gh of 17.7 .5 on December 13 and reacted to 115.2 on the 30 th. Net increases for cellds ans bese metals amounted to $l_{0} 1$ poc. and 1.0 p.c. respectively. A series for golds mored wi.thin the limits of 2.7 points and stood at 88.3 on December 31 . The base metal index: from a low of 217.9 on Leceraber 6 rose 27.3 points to a monthly peak of 235.2 on the 23 th. This advance ras aimost entirely cancelled in the ensuing two weaks. However, closing quotations for the month were still above opening levels and the index was 226.8 on the final day of trading: showing a rise of 2.3 points over the comparable day in Noromber. Following is a table of average priccs for the woeks of November 28,1940 , and January 2,2943 , as compiled by the Dominion Bur oau of Statistics.


The Burearis preferred stcck price index declined 1.3 poc. to 84.3 in December, 1940. This figure compared with 91.3 for December, 1939. The low point for the year was in June when the incex stood at 72.1 . From that time onward there was a gradual upward. trend which reached a peak early in November, Then a reaction set in which continued throughout December. Net changes during December ranged from losses up to 7.7 p.c. to gains as high as 5.6 poc. Duli end irregulas trading with slowly sagging prices prevailed in most cases during the month. Ths heaviost trading occurred on the 10 th , 20 th and 21 st and again on the 30 tir. Oils were aix.od with gains to $5.4 \mathrm{p}, \mathrm{c}$. and losses to .8 p.c. Machinery and Equipment issues lust to 6.3 poc Textiles likewise were mixed With losses to 1.9 peco and gains to $13.2 \tilde{x}^{c}$ co Power issues were buoyant with gains to 2.3 p.c. while most iesues of the Building Material group were moderately lower,

Belom is a tablo of monthly prica indexee for the list from 1929 to dato.
INDEX NUMBRAS OF 25 ERTFTRRRD SIOCKS 1929, 1933, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940
(1926-100)

|  | Jan. | Feb. | Vi | Ap: | May | Juno | July | Aug. | Sep | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1929 | 107.4 | 108.1 | 1.06 .8 | 204.3 | 204.3 | 104.8 | 104.8 | 105.6 | 105.1 | 102.9 | 99.8 | 100.4 |
| 1933 | 49.6 | 49.6 | 47.3 | $47 . \varepsilon$ | 54.6 | 58.5 | 61.9 | 61.7 | 61.0 | 59.7 | 59.1 | 60.2 |
| 1937 | 99.2 | 200.4 | 102,6 | 103.1 | 100.2 | 99.3 | 99.4 | 101.5 | 91.0 | 82.2 | 82.0 | 81.0 |
| 1938 | 83.4 | 82.1 | 77.5 | 78.2 | 80.1 | $8 \mathrm{~L}_{6} 8$ | 87.2 | 86.8 | 81.3 | 88.0 | 87.5 | 86.9 |
| 1939 | 85,0 | g4. 4 | 33,9 | 78:9 | 79.0 | 81.9 | 83.0 | 81,0 | 83.3 | 89.0 | 90.1 | 91.3 |
| 1940 | 91,8 | 91.0 | 90.2 | $90^{3}$ | 80.1 | 72.1 | 73.8 | 77.9 | 82,2 | 83.5 | 85.4 | 84.3 |

$\begin{array}{ccc}\therefore & \ddots & \ddots \\ \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots\end{array}$

( $1935-39=100$ )


[^3]
## INDEX NUMBERS OF DCNITIONI OF CANADA LONG TERUK BOND FRICES AND YIELDS

Continuing the advance begun last June, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' index of Dominion of Canada long-term bond prices, on the base 1926w100, rose from 116.3 for November to 116.8 for December. This was the highest point reached since the August 1939 level of 118.1. While well above the December 1939 index of 112.7, the 1940 close was below that of 118.7 for December 1938. The Bureau's daily index atood at 116.6 as the month opened, but by the 11 th had risen to 117.0. A decline of 0.1 on the l2th was cancelled on the 20 th, and a pinal increase of 0.1 on the 26 th establisbed a closing figure for the month of 217.1. The index of yields fell from 70.5 for November to 69.8 for December. During the twelve months of 1940 , this index daclined approximately 7.1 poc. Provincials were mixed, with most of the changes relatively small. Bared upon information received from Nood, Gundy and Company, Iimited, an index of Province of Ontario bond yields declined from 71.4 for November to 69.1 for December, and the everage yield of the iasues included in the index fell from 3.42 to 3.32.

British Consols moved slightly higher in December, closing $1 / 2$ up at $765 / 8$, while the Dow-Jones average of selected United statee bonds increased from 90.10 to 90.73.

MONTHY INDEX NMIRFTG OF DOMINION OF CANADA LONG-THRM BOND PRICES, 1932101940. (2926=100)

|  | 1932 | 19 | 12 | 19 | 1936 | 19 | 1938 | 1939 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| January | 94.2 | 103.9 | 105.2 | 116.9 | 114.1 | 118.7 | 116.0 | 118.6 | 113.2 |
| February | 95.2 | 104,2 | 106.1 | 115.2 | 115.7 | 116.3 | 116.4 | 118.8 | 114.0 |
| Narch | 96.9 | 102,6 | 108.6 | 115.7 | 116.3 | 113.6 | 216.6 | 119.6 | 114.0 |
| April | 96.7 | 103.6 | 210.3 | 115.5 | 216.5 | 113.1 | 117.5 | 118.8 | 114.9 |
| May | 96.6 | 104.4 | 111.2 | 116.4 | 116.6 | 113.9 | 118.3 | 118.1 | 115.4 |
| Junc | 94.2 | 105.7 | 111.1 | 115.2 | 117.8 | 114.9 | 118.0 | 119.1 | 114.4 |
| July | 97.0 | 105.7 | 111.9 | 115.3 | 118.7 | 115.2 | 117.8 | 119.2 | 114.6 |
| August | 101.8 | 106.5 | 113.1 | 115.6 | 120.0 | 115.7 | 117.7 | 118.1 | 115.2 |
| Soptomber | 102.7 | 106.4 | 113.4 | 111.9 | 120.3 | 115.6 | 116.4 | 109.6 | 115.7 |
| october | 104.9 | 105.9 | 112.0 | 111.2 | 118.3 | 114.7 | 116.9 | 111.3 | 115.9 |
| Wovember | 103.6 | 105.1 | 113.3 | 113.3 | 118.6 | 114.7 | 118.4 | 113.5 | 116.3 |
| December | 101.9 | 204.3 | 116.3 | 113.1 | 119.1 | 115.8 | 118.7 | 112.7 | 116.8 |

MONTHLY INDEX NUMBMRS OF DOMINION OF CANADA LONG-TERM BOND YIELDS, 1932 TO 1240 (1926=100)

|  | 1932 | 1933 | 1934 | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Jenuary ....... | 112.4 | 97.9 | 94.9 | 73.6 | 76.6 | 67.8 | 71.5 | 67.4 | 74.4 |
| February ...... | 111.5 | 97.5 | 93.6 | 76.2 | 74.6 | 71.3 | 71.0 | 67.5 | 73.4 |
| March .. | 109.0 | 99.0 | 88.6 | 74.9 | 73.6 | 75.6 | 70.4 | 66.3 | 73.4 |
| April | 109.1 | 97.8 | 85.5 | 75.2 | 73.3 | 76.5 | 69.3 | 67.5 | 72.4 |
| May | 109.1 | 96.7 | 84.0 | 74.0 | 72.6 | 75.3 | 68.2 | 68.4 | 71.8 |
| June | 112.3 | 94.9 | 83.8 | 76.1 | 70.5 | 73.8 | 68,6 | 67.0 | 73.0 |
| July | 108.7 | 94.9 | 82.4 | 75.7 | 68.7 | 73.3 | 68.9 | 66.8 | 72.8 |
| August | 101.0 | 94.0 | 80.3 | 75.1 | 66.6 | 72.6 | 69.2 | 68.1 | 72.0 |
| Soptember | 100.1 | 94.1 | 79.8 | 81.2 | 66.0 | 72.5 | 70.6 | 78.3 | 71.3 |
| October | 97.3 | 94.9 | 81.6 | 81.9 | 69.1 | 74.0 | 70.0 | 76.5 | 71.0 |
| November | 98.2 | 95.2 | 80.1 | 78.0 | 68.1 | 73.7 | 68.1 | 74.0 | 70.5 |
| December | 100.6 | 96.0 | 74.6 | 78.5 | 67.2 | 72.0 | 67.7 | 75.1 | 69.8 |

WHAKIY INDEX NUMBERS OF DOMINION OT CANADA LONO-TERM BONDS, 1940.


EXCHANGE QUOTATIONS AT MONTREAK, 2340.


+ Since September 16, 1939, quotations used are the average of the daily buying and selling rate set by the Foreign Exchange Control Board The current buying and selling rate for sterling is $\$ 4.43$ and $\$ 4.47$ respectively and for U.S. Funds $\$ 1.10$ and $\$ 1.11$. $x$ Free Rated.

$$
\begin{gathered}
1 \\
\cdots \\
\cdots \\
\therefore \\
\cdots
\end{gathered}
$$



1930
June
July
Augus
Septe
Octob
Novem
Decem
1937
January
Tebrua
March
April
May
June
July
Augrast
September
October
November .................
December
1938
Jamuary
Bebruary
March
April
May ...........................
June .......................
Tuly
sugust ...................
September
Qctober
November ...............

December

## 1239



2940

| January | 92.7 |
| :---: | :---: |
| Fobruary | 91.5 |
| March | 91.5 |
| April | 92.9 |
| Nay .. | 83.0 |
| June | 73.3 |
| July | 76.1 |
| Augrst | 77.5 |
| Septambe | 80.9 |
| October | 81.4 |
| November | 82.1 |
| Decembe | 80.6 |

105.6
109.2
113.0
114.1
118.7
124.2
122.8
126.0
129.5
129.9
124.5
116.3
113.6
117.8
120.5
106.4
91.4
82.9
82.2
81.6
80.7
77.9
70.7
73.9
73.1
88.0
89.5
86.0
91.1
94.7
92.0
120.6
124.3
128.4
130.2
136.0
144.3
142.6
146.3
151.7
152.6
146.5
136.7
134.0
139.4
243.5
126.2
107.4
96.1
95.2
95.7
95.7
92.7
84.2
87.4
86.4
105.3
108.0
103.9
109.6
113.6
110.6
109.3
106.3
108.0
95.9
97.0
100.5
100.6
100.5
109.4
112.7
110.9
107.9
108.8
107.3
207.5
109. 2
97.3
84.3
87.2
89.1
93.7
94.6
95.8
94.3
47.7
50.7
53.9
55.4
58.4
57.9
54.4
102.0
105.8
108.8
107.7
109.1
108.9
110.6
113.2
110.7
105.7
100.7
94.1
91.3
95.9
97.0
89.2
81.3
79.5
78.8
75.7
71.2
68.5
64.0
69.5
69.2
76.5
75.0
72.2
77.4
80.9
77.9
$29.8 \quad 81.2$
83.8
85.8
80.0
82.4
84.7
84.9
87.0
84.3
86.0
87.3
86.7
88.4
87.6
87.1
87.8
80.6
75.1
80.1
80.3
81.0
80.2
73.0
77.4
29.6
28.7
28.9
29.1
25.4
22.7
24.4
24.9
27.0
27.4
27.8
26.5
26.5


[^0]:    $x$ Ganadian funds.

[^1]:    x Comparable 1935 indez was 97.8.

[^2]:    $x$ Corresponding indexes may be obtained for 1937 and 1938 in Prices and Price Indexes, 1913-1938, pages 67 and 68.

[^3]:    x Weekly figures.

