

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA  
INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

Historical File Copy  
R  
1935

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Dominion Statistician:        | R.H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S. (Hon.) |
| Chief, Internal Trade Branch: | Herbert Marshall, B.A., F.S.S.             |
| Prices Statistician:          | H.F. Greenway, M.A.                        |

PRICE MOVEMENTS, APRIL, 1935 (PRELIMINARY)

COMMODITIES

Strength in a number of leading commodity markets including those for grains, livestock, silver and tin carried April weekly wholesale price index numbers upward again to levels approximating the highest recovery peak reached in August 1934. Between March 29 and April 26 the Canadian weekly wholesale index mounted from 72.1 to 72.7, which compared with the high of 72.9 for the week of August 10, 1934. The persistent advance in grains led by a 5 cent rise in wheat prices was the most important single influence upon the general index during April, although it was less spectacular in character than the increase of roughly 20 cents per ounce in silver prices. Other primary commodities such as rubber, copper, zinc, cotton, and silk fluctuated within narrow limits throughout the month.

COST OF LIVING

A moderate recession in food prices was reflected in a slight decline in the general Canadian cost of living index from 79.0 in March to 78.8 in April. The April food index was 68.6 as compared with 69.5 in the month preceding, and 71.0 a year ago. Other groups such as clothing, fuel and rent were on approximately the same level as in April 1934.

SECURITIES

Common stock prices continued to advance gradually during April following the upturn in the latter half of March. The extent of this movement was indicated by the Investors' index of common stock prices which mounted from 84.7 for the week ending March 21 to 89.8 for the week of April 25. The industrial group led in the advance, mounting from 123.7 to 133.1. Utilities remained practically unchanged, after declining gradually throughout February and March. The price index for 20 utilities was 44.6 for the week of April 25 as compared with 44.7 for the week of March 21. Gold stocks were three weeks behind the upturn in industrials. Indexes for 19 gold stocks for the weeks of March 21, April 11, and April 25 were 125.6, 122.4, and 126.4 respectively. Prices for high grade government bonds declined fractionally during April.

|             | <u>April, 1935</u> |                 |                 |                 | <u>April, 1934</u> |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
|             | <u>1st Week</u>    | <u>2nd Week</u> | <u>3rd Week</u> | <u>4th Week</u> | <u>4th Week</u>    |
| Industrials | 126.0              | 128.8           | 131.3           | 133.1           | 133.4              |
| Utilities   | 43.5               | 43.6            | 43.8            | 44.6            | 58.0               |
| Gold Stocks | 124.1              | 122.4           | 124.3           | 126.4           | 128.5              |

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Foreign exchanges were relatively stable again in April, following the flurry in March which accompanied devaluation of 28 p.c. by Belgium. Sterling at Montreal advanced from \$4.83½ on April 1 to \$4.87½ in the third week of the month, and then dropped back to \$4.86 on April 30. The premium on United States dollars varied little from ½ of one per cent. throughout April. The French franc fluctuated between 6.60 cents and 6.66 cents.

Exchange Rates, April 1935.

(Averages of daily Montreal rates supplied by the Bank of Montreal)

| <u>Currencies</u> | <u>1st Week</u> | <u>2nd Week</u> | <u>3rd Week</u> | <u>4th Week</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Sterling          | 4.8454          | 4.8629          | 4.8720          | 4.8660          |
| New York funds    | 1.0061          | 1.0042          | 1.0039          | 1.0059          |
| French franc      | .0664           | .0662           | .0663           | .0663           |



1010711510

STATISTICS CANADA  
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY  
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY  
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY  
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY  
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY  
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY  
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY  
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA