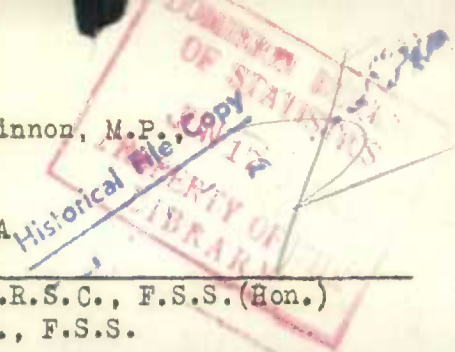


Published by Authority of the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, M.P.
 Minister of Trade and Commerce
 DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
 DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
 INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH



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, MAY, 1941 (PRELIMINARY)

WHOLESALE: All eight sub-groups participated in a further gradual increase in the Bureau's index of wholesale prices during May, the general index on the base 1926=100 advancing from 87.5 to 88.7 between the weeks of May 2 and May 30. The industrial material prices series on the same base showed a more substantial gain, the index moving up from 84.2 to 86.6. Currently the level of prices in the chemical and allied products group is the same as in 1926, the iron and its products group is 11% higher than in 1926 while the other six groups are all lower than 1926 levels, the indexes being 76.3 for vegetable products, 86.7 for animal products, 88.8 for fibres, textiles and textile products, 95.4 for wood and wood products, 78.1 for non-ferrous metals and 96.0 for non-metallics. In the Canadian farm product prices section slightly firmer quotations for livestock and eggs in the animal products group advanced the index 1.0 p.c. to 69.9 between the weeks of May 2 and 30. Field products were unchanged at a level of 55.4.

COST OF LIVING: The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost of living index rose from 108.6 on April 1 to 109.4 on May 1. Rentals advanced from 107.7 to 109.7, clothing from 114.3 to 114.5 and home furnishings and services from 111.7 to 111.8. Several upward revisions in domestic fuel and gas and slightly higher prices for coke in one or two centres, resulted in a rise in the fuel index from 108.9 to 109.2. The miscellaneous index rose from 102.9 to 105.1 due to the recent 3¢ per gallon tax imposed on gasoline, an increase of 10 per cent in rail fares and a 20 per cent tax on theatre admission charges. Food prices declined from 110.1 to 109.7, decreases for dairy products and eggs exerting more influence on the index than moderate advances for meats, dry groceries, vegetables and fruits.

SECURITIES: With the exception of a slightly firmer tone for oil issues and food stocks sub-group indexes for industrial and utility common share prices moved to lower levels during May. As the month closed the Investors' general weekly index for 95 common stocks on the base 1935-39=100 showed a net loss of 1.6 p.c. at 63.5 with the section index for 68 industrials off 0.6 at 60.3 and the utilities group 1.7 at 64.8. Mining shares showed a weaker tone also, the general weekly index for 25 mining issues closing down 4.2 p.c. at 70.4. Golds were off 3.1 at 64.7 and base metals 2.7 at 81.4. In the bond market yields were firmer over the month, the Bureau's index of Dominion of Canada long-term bond yields on the base 1935-39=100 stiffening 0.7 to 96.5 between the final week of April and the week of May 29.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE: Sterling and United States funds remained unchanged in terms of the Canadian dollar during May at official buying and selling rates of \$4.43-\$4.47 and \$1.10-\$1.11 respectively. At New York sterling free market rates held close to the official rates for the pound throughout the month, hovering between \$4.03 1/4 and \$4.04. After easing to a mid-month low of 86 15/16¢ the unofficial Canadian dollar rate at New York subsequently stiffened to finish practically unchanged from the previous month's close at 87 3/4¢.

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

	May 1940	April 1941	May, 1941			
	1940	1941	Week ended -			
			8th	15th	22nd	29th
WHOLESALE						
General - 567 Price Series	82.2	86.6	87.7	88.0	88.5	88.7
Industrial Materials	78.6	83.4	84.8	85.8	86.7	86.6
Canadian Farm Products	68.0	69.5	69.4	69.7	69.7	69.9
COST OF LIVING (1st of month)	104.9	108.6	-----109.4-----			
Investors' Price Index (95 common stocks) ..	73.3	65.8	63.9	64.3	63.9	63.5
68 Industrials	69.2	62.3	60.6	61.1	60.8	60.3
19 Utilities	78.2	68.2	65.6	65.8	64.5	64.8
Mining Stock Price Index (25 stocks)	74.5	75.1	71.9	71.9	70.5	70.4
22 Golds	67.6	69.0	67.2	67.1	65.4	64.7
3 Base Metals	88.5	87.6	81.1	81.6	80.6	81.4
Dominion of Canada Long-Term Bonds						
Price Index	99.2	100.9	101.0	101.1	100.6	100.5
Yield Index	99.8	95.9	95.6	95.3	96.1	96.5
FOREIGN EXCHANGE QUOTATIONS - noon rates						
(Bank of Canada) at Montreal						
U.S. dollars x	dollars.	1.105	1.105	1.105	1.105	1.105
Sterling x	dollars.	4.450	4.450	4.450	4.450	4.450

*Week ends Friday instead of Thursday. x Average of daily buying and selling rates set by the Canadian Foreign Exchange Control Board since September 18, 1939.



1010711581

[Faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]

[Faint, illegible table structure with multiple columns and rows]