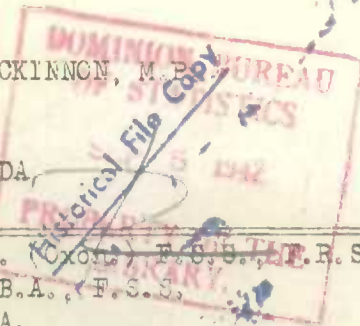


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PRICE MOVEMENTS, AUGUST, 1942(PRELIMINARY)

WHOLESALE: The Bureau's composite weekly index for 30 industrial materials on the base 1926=100 moved 0.2 points lower to 94.4 between July 31 and August 28 due to price declines in the sub-group for five food products. Easing 0.9 points to 86.9 in the same interval, the decline in the food series reflected lower prices for oats, steers and hogs which more than offset a sharp increase in the price of wheat following establishment of a 90¢ per bushel minimum carlot price for No.1 Manitoba northern, basis in store, Fort William or Vancouver, on August 11. The manufacturing sub-group, reflecting fluctuations in the price of rosin, decreased 0.2 points to 81.8 in the first three weeks of the month but recovered to 82.0 in the final week for no net change. The stable series of 12 items held steady throughout the month at 114.0. On strength in the field products section, Canadian farm products registered an index increase of 0.5 points to 80.7 during the month. An advance of 4.8 points to 66.5 for grains more than offset drops of 41.6 points to 74.6 for potatoes; 10.5 points to 95.8 for onions and 1.3 points to 91.8 for hay to raise the field products series 1.3 points to 67.5. Animal products declined 0.8 points to 102.8 due to continued weakness in livestock prices which outweighed advances in eggs and fluid milk.

COST OF LIVING: (Wartime increase 16.8 per cent--from 100.8 to 117.7). The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index declined from 117.9 on July 2 to 117.7 on August 1. This index has increased 16.8 per cent between August 1939 and August 1942. In compliance with Order-in-Council P.C. 6219 as amended, the price of cigarettes and tobacco in the August index does not include the tax imposed on June 24, 1942, under the Special War Revenue Act. The decline in the August index was due mainly to lower prices for beef and potatoes. These decreases more than offset advances for eggs, lemons and oranges, and the food index dropped from 130.3 for July to 129.6 for August. The clothing index rose fractionally from 120.0 to 120.1, while housefurnishings and services recorded a slight decline from 117.9 to 117.8. Other groups remained unchanged, rents at 111.3, fuel and light at 112.5 and miscellaneous items at 107.1.

SECURITIES: Measured by the Investors' index of 95 representative common stocks, the average level of share prices on Canadian exchanges showed exceptionally small change in August. At 61.7 for the 27th the composite index was at a peak for the month and indicated a net gain of 0.3 points since July 30. The increase reflected gains in industrials and utilities which more than offset further weakness in bank shares. For 68 industrials there was an index increase of 0.9 points to 58.8 between July 30 and August 27, while 19 utility issues moved up 0.4 points to 67.9. Banks declined a further 5.2 points to 70.4, marking a drop of 17.1 points since the end of June. Mining stocks averaged slightly lower in August, the composite figure for a representative list of 25 issues decreasing 0.9 points to 48.9 after touching a mid-month peak of 50.2. Both golds and base metals shared in the decline, the former series being 1.4 points lower at 37.1 and the latter 0.2 points at 72.2. Based upon a 15-year 3 per cent theoretical issue, Dominion of Canada long-term bond yields gained 0.3 points to 99.3 in August.

SUMMARY OF PRICE INDEXES

(1926=100 for Wholesale Prices)

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

	August 1941	July 1942	August, 1942			
			Week ended -			
			6th	13th	20th	27th
WHOLESALE /						
Industrial Materials	90.3	94.6	94.3	94.4	94.3	94.4
Canadian Farm Products	72.1	81.1	80.7	81.5	81.4	80.7
COST OF LIVING (1st of month)	113.7	117.9	117.7			
Investors' Price Index(95 common stocks)...	67.8	62.4	61.5	61.5	61.6	61.7
68 Industrials	64.4	58.6	58.1	58.2	58.6	58.8
19 Utilities	71.2	67.8	67.7	68.2	68.1	67.9
Mining Stock Price Index(25 stocks)	74.6	50.6	49.8	50.2	49.3	48.9
22 Golds	66.0	39.3	38.4	38.5	38.1	37.1
3 Base Metals	91.7	73.3	72.6	73.3	71.7	72.2
Dominion of Canada Long-Term Bonds -						
Yield Index	101.2	98.7	99.0	98.6	99.0	99.3
FOREIGN EXCHANGE QUOTATIONS -noon rates at Montreal						
U.S. dollars (x)dollars ..	1.105	1.105	1.105	1.105	1.105	1.105
Sterling (x)dollars ..	4.450	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 16, 1939.



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