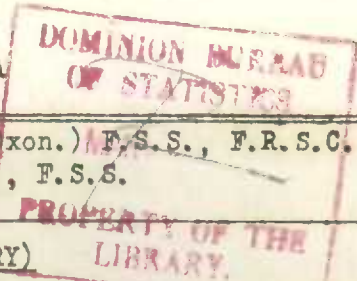


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PRICE MOVEMENTS, FEBRUARY, 1943 (PRELIMINARY)

WHOLESALE: Continuing strength in food material prices, notably wheat, steers, hogs and oats, and a small increase in rosin advanced the composite weekly industrial materials index on the base 1926=100, 0.2 points to 96.1 between January 29 and February 26. Sub-group changes showed the food series up 0.9 points at 93.2, while the manufacturing series of 13 commodities advanced 0.1 to 82.7. The stable series of 12 items remained unchanged at 114.7. Compared with August, 1939 the composite index has now shown an increase of 30.8 points while compared with the first week of December, 1941 (the date price ceilings became effective) there has been an advance of 4.7 points. Canadian farm product prices, reflecting a stronger tone for both field and animal product prices, moved up 0.9 points to 88.9 between January 29 and February 26. Field products closed 1.2 points higher at 72.1 on rising prices for grains, potatoes, onions and hay, while animal products stiffened 0.4 to 117.1, reflecting strength in livestock and hides and skins which offset further seasonal weakness for eggs.

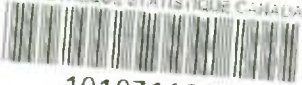
COST OF LIVING: (Wartime increase 16.0 per cent--from 100.8 to 116.9). The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index declined from 117.1 on January 2 to 116.9 on February 1, 1943. In compliance with Order-in-Council P.C. 6219 as amended, the price of cigarettes and tobacco in the February index does not include the tax imposed on June 24, 1942. The February index reflected a decrease of 0.6 points in the food group and fractional declines for fuel and lighting and clothing. The food index fell from 127.3 to 126.7 due mainly to lower prices for eggs and oranges. Moderate increases occurred for potatoes and meats. The fuel and light index fell from 112.8 to 112.7, and clothing from 120.2 to 120.1. Other indexes remained unchanged as follows: rent 111.3, homefurnishings and services 117.8, and miscellaneous items 107.5.

SECURITIES: Following further advances to the highest levels since early 1940, common stock prices on Canadian exchanges developed a reactionary tendency in the latter half of February. From an index level of 78.5 for the week of January 28, the Investors' index for 95 common stocks moved up to 79.3 for the week of February 11, but in the ensuing two weeks prices backed and filled to close the month at 78.6 for a net gain of 0.1. Changes among groups were diversified, milling stocks and pulp and paper issues being the only two series to hold their accumulated gains, the former rising 5.9 points to 89.1 and the latter 5.6 points to 80.1. Other groups registering more moderate increases were machinery and equipment stocks up 2.7 points at 94.8 and oils 2.3 at 66.7. Declines, chiefly in the utilities section, were noted for transportation, off 3.9 points at 86.2; power and traction 3.0 points at 87.3; food and allied products 2.7 points at 87.6; beverages 2.2 points at 109.8 and telephone and telegraph 2.1 points at 91.2. Mining stocks, paced by continued strength in gold shares, advanced 1.1 points to 62.0 between January 28 and February 25. For 22 golds an index increase of 1.8 points to 53.1 was recorded, while base metals weakened 0.3 to 79.4. Indicative of steady prices Dominion of Canada long-term bond yields, based upon a 15-year 3 p.c. theoretical issue, recorded no net change between January 27 and February 24, remaining at 3.03 p.c.

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

	Feb. 1942	Jan. 1943	February, 1943			
			Week ended -			
			4th	11th	18th	25th
WHOLESALE /						
Industrial Materials	93.2	95.8	95.9	96.0	96.1	96.1
Canadian Farm Products	78.4	87.6	88.0	88.4	88.7	88.9
COST OF LIVING (1st of month)	115.7	117.1	116.9			
Investors' Price Index(95 common stocks)...	64.7	76.3	78.2	79.3	78.5	78.6
68 Industrials	60.8	72.1	75.0	76.5	75.5	75.5
19 Utilities	67.7	90.0	88.2	88.2	87.9	87.7
Mining Stock Price Index (25 stocks)	57.5	60.0	60.9	62.0	61.1	62.0
22 Golds	45.4	50.1	51.3	52.0	51.4	53.1
3 Base Metals	81.5	79.4	79.3	81.7	80.2	79.4
Dominion of Canada Long-Term Bonds						
Yield Index	99.3	98.8	98.6	98.6	98.3	98.3
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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