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## PRICE MOVEMENTS, JULY, 1943(PRELIMINARY) orical File Copy

WHOLESALE: Wholesale price indexes of farm products and industrial materials during July were almost exactly on a par relative to corresponding price levels in 1926. wholesale index of farm products advanced 3.4 points to 97.2 in the first three weeks of July, while industrial materials rose only by 0.4 points to 97.8. Both the field and animal products sections of farm products made appreciable gains during this period. The field product index mounted 4.2 points to 83.3 and animal products advanced 1.9 points to 120.4. Wheat and rye provided the principal strength in the field crop section while hay declined. Among animal products, eggs recorded sharp seasonal gains which came earlier than usual, and steers and calves were firm. Prices for lambs were lower at Montreal but gained slightly at Toronto and Winnipeg.

COST OF LIVING: (Wartime increase 17.9 per cent - from 100.8 to 118.8). The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index advanced from 118.5 on June 1 to 118.8 on July 2, 1943. This index which has been specified as the basis for calculating cost-ofliving bonus adjustments under Order-in-Council P.C. 5963 has increased 17.9 per cent between August, 1939 and July, 1943. Since February the index has risen steadily, with the total increase amounting to 1.9 points. It now stands exactly on a par with the December, 1942 index, and is 0.9 points above the July, 1942 index upon which the last cost-of-living bonus was authorized.

Foods continued to be mainly responsible for the further advance. The food index rose from 130.9 in June to 131.8 for July; the total increase in the food index since February has amounted to 5.1 points. Prices for eggs, lamb and potatoes showed the largest advances in July and there were fractional increases in other meats. Butter and oranges were moderately lower. Two other group indexes advanced in July, fuel and lighting from 113.0 to 113.4, and clothing from 120.4 to 120.5. Other groups remained unchanged, rents at 111.5, home furnishings and services at 117.9, and miscellaneous items at 108.2.

SECURITIES: Industrial and utility common stock prices made further substantial gains in the first half of July before reacting slightly to leave considerable net gains for the month. This movement was reflected in the Investors' index of common stock prices which moved up from 85.8 at the beginning of July to 91.8 on the 15th, and then dropped back to 90.9 on the 29th. Although strength was general with the exception of milling issues, the most pronounced gains were for pulp and paper and oil stocks. A July increase of 6.2 points in the industrial group compared with a 2.5 point increase for utilities. Mining stock prices were also stronger and continued to rise throughout the month. Gold and base metal stocks shared in this rise which advanced the index for 25 mining issues by 5.6 points to 74.1 in the first four weeks of July. The yield on Dominion of Canada long-term bonds as indicated by a 15-year 3 p.c. theoretical issue, remained unchanged at 3,00.

SUMMARY OF PRICE INDEXES (1926=100 for Wholesale Prices)

(1935-39-100 for Cost of Living and Security Prices) July, 1943 June July Week ended 1942 1943 lst 15th 22nd 29th WHOLESALE/ Industrial Materials ...... 94.6 97.3 97.4 97.5 97.8 97.8 Canadian Farm Products ..... 97.0 94.4 93.8 94.9 97.2 COST OF LIVING(1st of month) ...... 117.9 118.5 118.8 Investors' Price Index(94 com. stocks) 62.4 86.3 85.8 89.6 91.8 91.5 90.9 68 Industrials ...... 58.6 84.2 86.7 79,8 79.5 86.2 85.7 18 Utilities ...... 67.8 111.1 109.6 110.9 113.1 113.6 112.1 Mining Stock Price Index (25 stocks). 50.6 68.4 68,5 68.7 71.3 71.9 74.1 63.5 39.3 22 Golds ...... 62.5 59.1 59.3 59.5 65.5 3 Base Metals ...... 86.3 86.2 86,5 88.0 87.8 90.4 Dominion of Canada Long-Term Bonds -Yield Index ..... 98.7 97.3 97.3 97.3 97.3 97.3 97.3 Foreign Exchange Quotations -1.105 



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