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

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PRICE MOVEMENTS, SEPTEMBER, 1943 (PRELIMINARY)

WHOLESALE: The weekly index of 30 industrial material prices continued upward in September. For the week of the 24th the composite index showed an increase of 1.0 points to 99.3 over the final August level. The stable series of 12 commodities advanced 2.0 points to 119.1 on substantial increases for B.C. fir and eastern spruce, while continued strength in wheat more than counterbalanced weakness in steers and hogs to move foods 0.8 points higher to 99.1. The manufacturing materials sub-group stiffened 0.3 points to 83.9 on an increase in cottonseed oil which outweighed a small decline in rosin. Rapidly rising wheat prices were mainly sufficient to account for an increase of 2.3 points to 97.8 in the composite Canadian farm products index between August 27 and September 24. Field products moved 4.4 points higher to 85.9 on an average increase of 10¢ per bushel for wheat coupled with a 25¢ per bushel increase in the "ceiling" price of flax and a small rise in rye. This offset a further seasonal reduction in potato prices. Animal products fell 1.2 points to 117.7 during the month when a relatively sharp drop in livestock quotations and a small decline in poultry prices overbalanced

continued seasonal strength in eggs. COST OF LIVING: (Wartime increase 18.5 per cent-from 100.8 to 119.4). The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index advanced from 119.2 on August 2 to 119.4 on September 1, 1943. Small increases for foods, homefurnishings, and in the miscellaneous group accounted for this further rise. The food index increased from 133.2 for August to 133.5 for September as advances for eggs, beef and pork outweighed declines for potatoes and lemons. The homefurnishings index moved up from 117.9 to 118.2 on scattered increases for furniture and hardware. An advance in the transportation section caused the miscellaneous group index to rise from 108.2 to 108.3. Other groups remained unchanged, rents at 111.5, fuel and light at 113.4, and clothing at 120.6. SECURITIES: Overcoming weakness apparent in August, industrial and utility prices on Canadian exchanges rallied slightly in September while mining stocks were up substantially. Closing at 89.3 (1935-39=100) for the week of September 30, the Investors! composite index for 94 common stocks was 0.7 p.c. above the final August level. Both industrials and utilities shared in the advance, the latter rising 2.3 p.c. and the former 0.2 p.c. Sub-group changes were confined to relatively small percentages, however, among the most noteworthy being power and traction shares, up 4.2 p.c.; pulp and paper issues were 2.9 p.c. higher, beverages 2.3 p.c., and machinery and equipment issues 2.1 p.c. Declines were noted for industrial mines, down 2.4 p.c. and bank shares, off 1.4 p.c. Mainly due to continued strength in gold shares which advanced 5.1 p.c. to 70.7, the composite weekly index for 25 representative mining issues moved 3.8 p.c. higher to 78.6 between August 26 and September 30. Base metal issues mounted 1.7 p.c. to 93.2 in the same interval. The steadiness which has prevailed in Dominion of Canada long-term bond prices for the past several months continued through September. The yield on 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) September, 1943 Aug. Sent. Week ended -1943 1942 16th | 23rd 30th 2nd WHOLESALE / 99.0 99.1 99.3 94.8 96.0 97.8 Industrial Material ...... 98.7 98.8 94.8 96.4 95.2 Canadian Farm Products ...... 84.3 119.4 -----COST OF LIVING (1st of month) ..... 117.4 119.2 \_\_ 133.5 -----133.2 128.5 89.0 89.3 89.0 89.5 89.3 62.6 88.9 84.Q 83.5 84.2 83.7 83.7 83.6 68 Industrials ..... 59.8 109.6 109.9 110.3111.2 69.2 109.5 109.4 18 Utilities ..... 79.4 78.6 72.2 70.7 Mining Stock Price Index (25 stocks).... 75,1 77.6 79.8 78.9 49.7 73.q 70.1 71.5 66.4 22 Golds ..... 38.4 92. d 92.2 92.3 93.2 3 Base Metals ..... 72.1 91.5 91.4 Deminion of Canada Long-Term Bonds -99.4 97.3 97.3 97.3 97.3 97.3 97.3 ! Yield Index

<sup>/</sup> Week ends Friday instead of Thrusday.



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