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DUMINION

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> Historical File Copy PRICE MOVEMENTS, OCTOBER, 1945 (PRELIMINARY)

WHOLESALE:

Index numbers of Canadian farm product wholesale prices recorded strength in October due principally to a seasonal advance in the fluid milk subsidy from 35¢ to 55¢ per cwt., effective October 1. Between the weeks of September 28 and October 26, the composite index rose 2.6 points to 105.8. Animal products gained 6.5 points to 125.3. In addition to the milk subsidy, higher egg prices also influenced this group, although livestock quotations registered continuing weakness. Due mainly to strength in potatoes and onions which outweighed a decline in hay, field products recorded an increase of 0.2 to 94.1 during the month.

A drop of 0.4 points to 98.0 occurred in the composite weekly index for 30 industrial material prices between September 28 and October 26. The stable series of 12 commodities fell 1.5 points to 115.0 following mid-month price declines for imported iron ore and crude oil. These reflected removal of the 10 per cent war exchange tax. The index for five foods closed 0.5 points lower at 98.5, due to further recessions in steer and hog quotations while an increase in raw cotton was sufficient to advance the index for 13 manufacturing materials 0.4 to 84.4.

COST OF LIVING: (Wartime increase 18.8 p.c.-from 100.8 to 119.7). The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index fell 0.2 points between September 1 and October 1, 1945. A further decline in the food group from 134.2 to 133.3 overbalanced minor advances for rents, clothing, and miscellaneous items. In the food section firmer prices for eggs were outweighed by seasonal declines in potatoes and other vegetables. The rent index mounted from 112.1 to 112.3, clothing from 122.2 to 122.4, and miscellaneous items from 109.5 to 109.6. Fuel and light remained unchanged at 106.7, and homefurnishings and services at 119.4.

SECURITIES: Common share prices on Canadian exchanges continued upward in October led by further substantial strength in mining stocks. Between the weeks of September 27 and October 25, the composite index for 25 representative mining issues rose 4.8 p.c. to 100.0. Golds recorded a gain of 5.3 p.c. to 97.7 while base metals were 3.7 p.c. higher at 101.5. Led by a gain of 18.5 p.c. to 272.3 for beverages, the Investors' composite index rose 1.0 p.c. to 103.3 between September 27 and October 25. In the same period pulp and paper issues registered a rise of 7.6 p.c. to 185.0, while building materials were up 3.9 p.c. to 127.7. Utilities were weaker, the group index declining 2.7 p.c. to 122.7 during the month, due to losses of 4.7 p.c. to 185.1 for transportation stocks, 2.2 p.c. to 107.1 for power and traction and 0.7 p.c. to 110.0 for telephone and telegraph. Banks were 1.3 p.c. higher at 99.3. Dominion of Canada longterm bond prices improved slightly in October as indicated by the yield of a theoretical 15-year 3 p.c. issue which declined from 2.92 to 2.91 in the opening week of the month.

	Section 1	Sept. 1945	October, 1945 <u>Week ended</u>			
	Oct. 1944					
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WHOLESALE /		_		1	1	
Industrial Materials	99.7	98.7	98.4	98.1	97.8	98.0
Canadian Farm Products	102.9	103.5		105.6		
COST OF LIVING (1st of month)	118.6	119.9				
Foods	130.8	134.2	133.3			
INVESTORS' PRICE INDEX (100 com. stocks).	86.2	102.0	103.4	103.9	105.5	103.3
4 Industrials	81.5	95.6	97.4	97.9	100.1	97.7
8 Utilities	100.0	124.7	124.9	125.8	125.3	122.7
INING STOCK PRICE INDEX (25 stocks)	84.1	94.5	96.2	95.6	101.7	100.0
22 Golds	75.6	91.2	93.3	92.7	99.6	97.7
3 Base Metals	99.8	98.6	99.1	98.6	102.8	101.5
COMINION OF CANADA LONG. TERM BONDS						
teld Index	97.0	94.6	94.4	94,4	94.4	94.4

4 Week ends Friday instead of Thursday.

SUMMARY OF PRICE INDEXES



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