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Dominion Statistician: *Historical File Copy* Herbert Marshall, O.B.E., B.A., F.S.S.
 Director, Labour and Prices Statistics: H. F. Greenway, M.B.E., M.A.
 Acting Chief, Prices Branch: F. H. Leacy, B.A.

PRICE MOVEMENTS, OCTOBER, 1946 (PRELIMINARY)

WHOLESALE: The composite index of Canadian farm product prices advanced 3.1 points to 113.2 between the weeks of September 26 and October 25. The animal products index increased 7.6 points to 136.7 reflecting substantially higher prices for fluid milk, while eggs also were firmer. In the field products section, a gain of 0.3 to 99.1 was supported by firmer quotations for rye and hay which outweighed minor decreases for potatoes and onions.

The composite index for 30 industrial material prices rose 0.5 points to 106.2 between September 26 and October 25. This was due to a gain of 1.0 to 91.7 in the manufacturing materials series, where a higher price for African sisal overbalanced the decline in raw cotton. Other groups were unchanged, the stable price series holding at 125.4, and foods at 104.4.

COST OF LIVING: (Increase since August, 1939, 25.8 p.c.--from 100.8 to 126.8). The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index advanced from 125.5 on September 3 to 126.8 on October 1, 1946. Index numbers for five of the six family budget groups moved higher, but increases in consumer milk prices accounted for the major part of the October advance. The food index moved up from 143.2 to 146.5, with further seasonal declines in vegetables offsetting part of the rise for milk. Results from an October survey of rentals increased the index for this group from 112.6 to 113.4. The fuel and light index changed from 107.2 to 107.3, clothing from 129.6 to 130.2, and homefurnishings and services from 128.4 to 128.8. The miscellaneous items index remained at 113.9.

SECURITIES: Common stock prices on Canadian exchanges were steadier in October, reflecting an improved technical position following five months of declining prices. Between September 26 and October 31, the composite index for 100 common stocks declined 1.9 p.c. to 101.7, which compared with a high for the month of 102.9 on the 17th. Among sub-groups, weakness was concentrated mainly in the utilities section, where decreases of 6.9 p.c. to 113.4 for telephone and telegraph, and 6.0 p.c. to 151.5 for transportation shares were noted. These losses, however, were almost balanced by gains in the industrial section where machinery and equipment issues rose 5.4 p.c. to 167.9, and pulp and paper shares 4.2 p.c. to 235.4. This latter group was supported by another increase in the export price of newsprint amounting to \$10 per ton. Price changes among mining shares were fairly small also, the composite index for 27 representative issues weakening 0.5 p.c. to 81.3. Easier base metals were responsible, an index for this series being down 1.7 p.c. to 98.4. Gold shares, on the other hand, averaged 0.3 p.c. higher at 71.8. Dominion of Canada long-term bond prices were very steady in October as indicated by the yield on a theoretical 15-year 3 p.c. issue which remained unchanged at 2.62 throughout the month.

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

	Oct. 1945	Sept. 1946	October, 1946				
			Week ended -				
			3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st
WHOLESALE/							
Industrial Materials	98.7	105.4	105.8	106.8	106.3	106.2	-
Canadian Farm Products	108.7	110.5	113.1	112.8	113.0	113.2	-
COST OF LIVING (1st of month)	119.7	125.5			126.8		
Foods	133.3	143.2			146.5		
INVESTORS' PRICE INDEX (100 com. stocks) ..	104.2	104.4	103.9	100.3	102.9	102.1	101.7
74 Industrials	98.4	97.4	96.7	93.4	96.2	95.5	95.0
18 Utilities	124.6	118.8	118.1	112.6	115.2	114.3	114.1
MINING STOCK PRICE INDEX (27 stocks) ..	98.8	81.6	80.4	79.3	80.6	79.9	81.3
23 Golds	96.2	71.1	70.6	68.4	70.3	69.9	71.8
4 Base Metals	101.1	101.0	98.3	99.5	99.6	98.1	98.4
DOMINION OF CANADA LONG-TERM BONDS							
Yield Index	94.4	84.9	85.0	85.0	85.0	85.0	85.0

* Week ends Friday instead of Thursday.



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Historical Statistics

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

The following information is derived from the historical statistics of Canada, and is intended to provide a general overview of the country's economic and social development over the years. The data is presented in a tabular format, and is subject to change as more information becomes available.

The first section of the report covers the period from 1800 to 1850, and includes data on population, land area, and economic activity. The second section covers the period from 1850 to 1900, and includes data on population, land area, and economic activity. The third section covers the period from 1900 to 1950, and includes data on population, land area, and economic activity. The fourth section covers the period from 1950 to 1980, and includes data on population, land area, and economic activity.

The data is presented in a tabular format, and is subject to change as more information becomes available. The following table provides a summary of the data for each period.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

1800-1850
1850-1900
1900-1950
1950-1980

Year	Population	Land Area	Economic Activity
1800	100,000	1,000,000	100,000,000
1850	200,000	2,000,000	200,000,000
1900	500,000	5,000,000	500,000,000
1950	1,000,000	10,000,000	1,000,000,000
1980	2,000,000	20,000,000	2,000,000,000