

DOMINION BUREAU
 OF STATISTICS
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PRICE MOVEMENTS, FEBRUARY, 1946 (PRELIMINARY)

WHOLESALE: Canadian farm product prices continued firmer in February, the composite index advancing 0.6 points to 107.2 between January 25 and February 22. Field products moved up 0.6 points to 96.1 due to higher prices for rye and onions which outweighed moderate decreases in hay quotations. Following two months of declining animal prices, eggs turned upward in February to support a gain of 0.5 points to 125.7 in the products series. The livestock index recorded no net change, advances in steers and calves being balanced by declines in hogs and lambs.

Industrial material prices were moderately stronger in February, the composite index for 30 commodities stiffening 0.3 points to 99.5 between January 25 and February 22. Thirteen manufacturing materials rose 0.6 points to 85.9 reflecting strength in rosin and raw cotton quotations, while twelve stable items advanced 0.3 points to 115.5. Five foods moved down 0.6 to 102.1 with lower prices for hogs outweighing strength in steers.

COST OF LIVING: (Increase since August 1939, 18.9 p.c.--from 100.8 to 119.9). The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index remained unchanged at 119.9 for February 1, 1946. A further small decrease in the food section, attributable to seasonal influences, was balanced by scattered increases in homefurnishings and clothing. The decline in foods from 132.8 for January to 132.5 was produced mainly by lower prices for eggs and citrus fruits, with fresh vegetables advancing moderately. The homefurnishings and services group index increased from 119.5 to 120.1, reflecting appreciably higher prices for kitchen brooms. The clothing group index moved fractionally from 122.6 to 122.7. Other group indexes remained the same: rentals at 112.3, fuel and light at 107.1, and miscellaneous items at 110.9.

SECURITIES: Selling waves during the latter half of the month were responsible for a drop of 4.6 p.c. to 118.9 in the Investors' weekly index for 100 common stocks between January 31 and February 28. This drop cancelled all gains accumulated since the beginning of January. The index for 74 industrials declined 5.5 p.c. to 110.5, while 18 utilities were down 3.6 p.c. to 143.3. Sub-group declines were relatively severe, beverages dropping 9.8 p.c. to 326.6 followed by transportation issues off 6.9 p.c. to 237.5; industrial mines 6.6 p.c. to 101.4, oils 5.9 p.c. to 82.8, pulp and 3.9 p.c. to 244.3, and food and allied products 3.4 p.c. to 127.5. Small advances were noted for three groups, banks up 0.9 p.c. to 127.2, telephone and telegraph 0.7 p.c. to 123.1 and machinery and equipment 0.3 p.c. to 171.6. Mining stock movements paralleled industrials and utilities, the composite weekly index for 27 issues declining 4.1 p.c. to 113.3 during the month. Base metals were down 5.7 p.c. to 121.6 while golds reacted 3.3 p.c. to 107.7. Dominion of Canada long-term bond prices continued to register strength as indicated by the yield of a theoretical 15-year 3 p.c. issue which declined from 2.73 on January 30 to 2.59 on February 27.

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

	Feb. 1945	Jan. 1946	February, 1946			
			Week ended -			
			7th	14th	21st	28th
WHOLESALE /						
Industrial Materials	100.1	99.1	99.4	99.7	99.5	-
Canadian Farm Products	104.6	106.5	106.9	107.0	107.2	-
COST OF LIVING (1st of month).....	118.6	119.9	----- 119.9 -----			
Foods	130.6	132.8	----- 132.5 -----			
INVESTORS' PRICE INDEX(100 common stocks).....	92.9	123.5	124.3	122.2	121.9	118.9
74 Industrials	87.5	116.0	116.7	114.4	113.7	110.5
18 Utilities	111.6	148.6	148.0	144.9	147.6	143.3
MINING STOCK PRICE INDEX(25 stocks)	91.7	114.9	120.8	118.0	115.5	113.3
23 Golds	87.3	107.2	115.3	113.0	110.2	107.7
4 Base Metals	98.2	127.5	128.9	125.2	123.4	121.6
DOMINION OF CANADA LONG-TERM BONDS						
Yield Index	96.6	90.0	88.6	86.3	84.7	84.0

/ Week ends Friday instead of Thursday.



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STATISTICAL REPORT ON THE ...

The following table shows the ...
 The total value of ...
 The average ...

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 The average ...

Year	1950		1951		Total
	Jan	Feb	Jan	Feb	
1950	100	100	100	100	400
1951	100	100	100	100	400
1952	100	100	100	100	400
1953	100	100	100	100	400
1954	100	100	100	100	400
1955	100	100	100	100	400
1956	100	100	100	100	400
1957	100	100	100	100	400
1958	100	100	100	100	400
1959	100	100	100	100	400
1960	100	100	100	100	400