

Historical File Copy

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PRICE MOVEMENTS, MARCH 1947 (PRELIMINARY)

WHOLESALE: The index of Canadian farm product wholesale prices registered a further rise of 0.7 points to 116.3 between the weeks of February 28 and March 28. Animal product prices recorded a gain of 1.1 to 140.7 reflecting higher quotations for livestock, fowl and eggs, while field products advanced 0.5 to 101.7, supported by firmer prices for barley, oats, rye, onions and hay.

The composite index for 30 industrial material prices rose 2.1 points to 123.2 between February 28 and March 28 reflecting in part the accelerating rate of price de-control. The sectional index for food materials rose 5.9 points to 119.2 due to changes in authorized selling prices for wheat and oats coupled with a firmer tone for steers. Thirteen items included in the manufacturing materials series averaged 2.3 points higher at 117.3 on strength in raw cotton, rayon yarn and rosin. The stable price group of twelve commodities remained unchanged at 132.0.

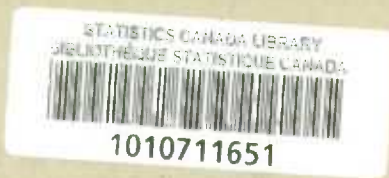
COST OF LIVING: (Increase since August 1939, 27.9 p.c.—from 100.8 to 128.9). The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index continued upward from 127.8 on February 1 to 128.9 on March 1. The rise in this series since March, 1946 has amounted to 8.8 index points. Foods mounted from 147.0 for February to 148.7 for March, with meats, fruits and vegetables contributing a major part of the increase. Eggs showed the only appreciable decline. Changes in other group indexes were as follows: clothing advanced from 131.9 to 133.1, homefurnishings and services from 130.9 to 133.6, and miscellaneous items from 115.5 to 116.0. Ten of the 12 sub-indexes forming the first two of these group series moved upward. Fuel and light remained at 109.1 and rentals at 113.4.

SECURITIES: The movement of common stock prices was generally downward in March, although in most instances losses were moderate. Between the weeks of February 27 and March 27 the Investors' index for 100 common stocks recorded a 1.5 p.c. decline to 106.5, with the industrial stock price index falling 1.6 p.c. to 99.4, while utilities declined 0.8 p.c. to 120.2. Group changes were paced by a drop of 4.2 p.c. to 182.4 for textiles and clothing issues followed by oils, down 3.4 p.c. to 65.7; milling shares 3.2 p.c. to 121.4; building materials 2.9 p.c. to 139.0; telephone and telegraph 2.9 p.c. to 118.6; food and allied products 1.9 p.c. to 128.7 and banks 1.4 p.c. to 130.2. Two groups recorded fractional increases, pulp and paper shares moving up 0.6 p.c. to 259.5 and power and traction 0.1 p.c. to 112.6. In the mining stocks section weakness for both golds and base metals lowered the composite index for 27 representative issues 2.1 p.c. to 86.0. The index for 23 golds fell 2.0 p.c. to 74.0, while 4 base metals were down 2.2 p.c. to 108.1. The yield on a theoretical 15-year 3 p.c. Dominion of Canada long-term bond eased .01 to 2.60 early in March and then moved back to its former position of 2.61.

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

	March 1946	February 1947	March, 1947			
			Week ended -			
			6th	13th	20th	27th
WHOLESALE /						
Industrial Materials	99.9	120.1	121.2	121.4	122.9	123.2
Canadian Farm Products	110.3	115.1	115.9	116.2	115.9	116.3
COST OF LIVING (1st of month)	120.1	127.8	----- 128.9 -----			
Foods	133.1	147.0	----- 148.7 -----			
INVESTORS' PRICE INDEX (100 com. stocks)	119.2	109.4	107.9	105.6	105.6	106.5
74 Industrials	110.9	102.4	100.7	98.2	98.4	99.4
18 Utilities	142.4	121.8	121.5	119.7	119.0	120.2
MINING STOCK PRICE INDEX (27 stocks)...	108.4	88.8	86.3	83.7	84.6	86.0
23 Golds	101.3	75.7	73.9	72.0	72.4	74.0
4 Base Metals	119.9	113.3	109.3	105.6	107.4	108.1
DOMINION OF CANADA LONG-TERM BONDS						
Yield Index	83.8	84.7	84.4	84.7	84.7	84.7

/ Week ends Friday instead of Thursday.



Statistical Year Book

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Table with multiple columns and rows of data, including headers and numerical values, though the text is too faint to transcribe accurately.