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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
FEB 5 1948
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Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C.D. Howe, M.P.,
Minister of Trade and Commerce
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
PRICES BRANCH

For release, 3 P.M. February 4, 1948.

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PRICE MOVEMENTS, JANUARY, 1948 (PRELIMINARY)

COST OF LIVING: The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index advanced a further 2.3 points from 146.0 to 148.3 between December 1, 1947 and January 2, 1948. The increase in this series between January, 1947 and January, 1948 has amounted to 21.3 points. Group indexes for foods, homefurnishings and services, and miscellaneous items contributed a predominant proportion of the rise for the month ending January 2, 1948. The food index moved from 178.7 to 182.2, with prices for butter and vegetables accounting for most of this change. Although meats showed scattered increases, prices at the beginning of January had shown no general rise over December 1st levels. Prices for eggs and citrus fruits declined moderately during December. Increases in many lines of homefurnishings advanced the homefurnishings and services index from 154.9 to 158.4. General increases in the miscellaneous group produced a 2.8 point rise to 122.6 for this group. Clothing mounted from 159.3 to 161.2, and fuel and light from 120.3 to 120.4. The rent index remained at 119.9.

From August, 1939 to January 2, 1948, the increase in the Dominion cost-of-living index was 47.1 per cent (from 100.8 to 148.3).

Dominion Cost-of-Living Indexes (1935-39=100)

	Combined Index	Food	Rent	Fuel and Light	Clothing	Home-furnishings and Services	Miscellaneous
January 2, 1948	148.3	182.2	119.9	120.4	161.2	158.4	122.6
December 1, 1947 ...	146.0	178.7	119.9	120.3	159.3	154.9	119.8
January 2, 1947	127.0	145.5	113.4	109.0	131.5	129.8	114.7

SECURITIES: Stock prices on Canadian exchanges weakened in the latter half of January following a firm opening. Between the weeks of December 26, 1947 and January 8, 1948 the composite index for 100 common stocks rose from 106.8 to 109.6, but had eased to 105.9 by the 29th. An easier tone was noted for the three principal groups: industrial issues declined 0.9 to 100.2, utilities 1.0 to 111.6, and bank shares 0.2 to 132.3. During the same interval the composite index for 30 representative mining stocks receded 1.9 points to 84.6, reflecting declines of 1.7 points to 71.5 for golds and 2.4 points to 109.4 for base metals.

Weekly Security Price Indexes, 1935-39=100

	Week ended -					Monthly Averages -		
	Jan. 2nd	8th	15th	22nd	29th	Jan. 1948	Dec. 1947	Jan. 1947
INVESTORS' PRICE INDEX								
(100 Common Stocks)	108.9	109.6	108.3	104.9	105.9	107.5	106.2	106.2
76 Industrials	103.3	104.5	102.9	99.1	100.2	102.0	100.3	99.2
16 Utilities	114.2	113.4	113.4	111.7	111.6	112.9	112.1	117.7
8 Banks	133.9	132.9	133.0	130.6	132.3	132.5	133.6	133.1
MINING STOCK PRICE INDEX								
(30 Stocks)	86.1	87.5	84.0	81.7	84.6	84.8	86.6	86.6
25 Golds	72.6	74.3	70.6	68.8	71.5	71.6	74.8	74.1
5 Base Metals	112.0	112.7	109.6	106.4	109.4	110.0	108.5	109.8
DOMINION OF CANADA LONG-TERM BONDS - YIELD INDEX ...	-	92.1	92.1	92.1	92.1	92.1	84.8	84.9

WHOLESALE PRICES (WEEKLY): The index of Industrial Material Prices on the base 1926=100, rose from 145.0 for the week ending December 26 to 147.6 for the week ending January 30. Among the more important commodities to show increases were wood pulp, oats, livestock and tin ingots. Canadian Farm Products moved from 130.9 to 133.7 in the same period. Declines, concentrated mainly in the latter half of January, for hides, eggs and wool were outweighed by advances in grains, livestock, milk and potatoes.

Weekly Wholesale Price Indexes, 1926=100

	Week ended -						Monthly Averages -		
	Dec. 26	Jan. 2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th	Jan. 1948	Dec. 1947	Jan. 1947
Industrial Materials.	145.0	145.2	145.4	147.9	147.7	147.6	146.8	143.9	109.7
Can. Farm Products ..	130.9	131.5	131.8	134.3	134.2	133.7	133.1	129.4	114.4

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