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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA  
PRICES BRANCH

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PRICE MOVEMENTS, SEPTEMBER 1948 (PRELIMINARY)

**COST OF LIVING:** The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index increased from 157.5 to 158.9 between August 2 and September 1, 1948. Foods, clothing and homefurnishings contributed the major part of this advance, but all budget group indexes moved upward. The food index mounted from 202.6 to 203.9 as substantial increases in shortening, lard and meat prices overbalanced sharp seasonal reductions in vegetables and lower quotations for eggs. Changes in coal and coke caused the fuel and light series to rise from 127.7 to 128.5. Clothing rose from 175.9 to 179.9 as fall prices for many lines of men's and women's wear came into effect. Homefurnishings and services also moved up substantially from 161.4 to 164.2. Personal care items and some changes in newspaper rates advanced the miscellaneous index from 123.4 to 124.4. The rent index moved from 120.9 to 121.0, reflecting minor adjustments between May and September. It is planned to compute this index quarterly in future on the basis of a matched sample of household records collected by personal interview.

From August, 1939 to September, 1948, the increase in the cost-of-living index was 57.6 per cent.

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

	Combined Index	Food	Rent	Fuel and Light	Clothing	Home furnishings and Services	Miscellaneous
September 1, 1948...	158.9	203.9	121.0	128.5	179.9	164.2	124.4
August 2, 1948 .....	157.5	202.6	120.9	127.7	175.9	161.4	123.4
September 2, 1947...	139.4	165.3	117.8	121.1	152.0	147.4	117.5

**WHOLESALE PRICES (WEEKLY):** The tendency in industrial material prices was toward lower levels in September, and the Bureau's index declined from 163.2 for the week ending August 27 to 162.0 for the week ending September 24. Easier quotations for oats, steers, hogs, linseed oil and hides were largely responsible. The index for Canadian Farm Products moved from 145.2 to 144.2 during the same period, with declines in potatoes, livestock, hides and poultry outweighing slight increases in grains and eggs.

Weekly Wholesale Price Indexes, 1926=100

	Week ended -					Monthly Average		
	Aug. 27th	Sept. 3rd	Sept. 10th	Sept. 17th	Sept. 24th	Sept. 1948	Aug. 1948	Sept. 1947
Industrial Materials..	163.2*	162.9	163.0	162.0	162.0	162.5	161.7*	133.2
Canadian Farm Products	145.2	142.5	143.1	142.9	144.2	143.2	144.3	126.8

\* Revised.

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SECURITIES: The Investors' index for 100 common stocks changed from 113.6 on August 26 to 111.5 on September 30; the decline in this weekly record dated from a peak of 116.0 on September 2. From August 26, the index for 76 industrials declined 1.6 points to 106.3, while 16 utilities dropped 4.1 points to 118.8, and 8 banks 3.0 points to 127.9. Mining stocks, on the other hand, were firmer, the composite index for 30 representative issues gaining 1.2 points to 79.7 between August 26 and September 30. The gold stocks index registered an advance of 1.0 points to 61.6, while a similar index for 5 base metal issues moved up 1.7 points to 115.9.

Weekly Security Price Indexes, 1935-39=100

	Week ended -						Monthly Average		
	Aug. 26th	Sept. 2nd	Sept. 9th	Sept. 16th	Sept. 23rd	Sept. 30th	Sept. 1948	Aug. 1948	Sept. 1947
<u>INVESTORS' PRICE INDEX</u>									
(100 Common Stocks) .....	113.6	116.0	113.7	113.4	112.4	111.5	113.4	113.6	104.1
76 Industrials .....	107.9	110.4	108.6	108.3	107.6	106.3	108.2	108.1	97.2
16 Utilities .....	122.9	126.1	121.1	120.8	119.4	118.8	121.2	123.2	116.9
8 Banks .....	130.9	129.4	129.2	128.5	126.3	127.9	128.3	127.9	128.6
<u>MINING STOCK PRICE INDEX</u>									
(30 Stocks) .....	78.5	82.7	80.0	79.9	79.8	79.7	80.4	78.7	88.0
25 Golds .....	60.6	65.3	63.1	62.8	62.3	61.6	63.0	60.7	80.1
5 Base Metals .....	114.2	117.4	113.7	113.8	114.6	115.9	115.1	114.8	101.2
<u>DOMINION OF CANADA LONG-TERM BONDS YIELD INDEX ..</u>									
	96.4	96.0	96.0	96.0	96.0	96.4	96.1	96.2	84.0

