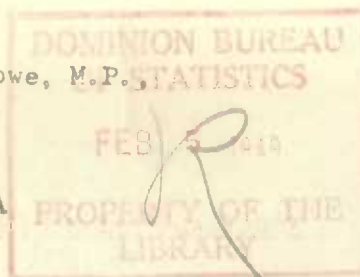


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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
PRICES SECTION



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PRICE MOVEMENTS, JANUARY, 1949 (PRELIMINARY)

COST OF LIVING: The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index advanced from 158.9 to 159.6 between December 1, 1948 and January 3, 1949.

All budget group indexes were firm, but more than half of the rise was due to changes in service rates including health, personal care, laundry and fuel gas which are priced only at annual intervals because of the characteristic stability in rates for services of this kind. The food index rose from 202.0 to 202.2 between December 1 and January 3, with further declines in egg and fruit prices acting as a partial offset to generally firmer levels for other foods. Fuel and light moved up from 129.1 to 130.0. The clothing index rose from 181.5 to 181.9, and homefurnishings and services from 166.2 to 167.0, on scattered increases which affected nearly all sub-groups. The advance in miscellaneous items from 124.6 to 126.6, reflected changes in health and personal care services already mentioned. The rent index remained at 121.7.

From August 1939 to January 1949, the increase in the cost-of-living index was 58.3 per cent.

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

	Combined Index	Food	Rent	Fuel and Light	Clothing	Home furnishings and Services	Miscellaneous
January 3, 1949	159.6	202.2	121.7	130.0	181.9	167.0	126.6
December 1, 1948	158.9	202.0	121.7	129.1	181.5	166.2	124.6
January 2, 1948	148.3	182.2	119.9	120.4	161.2	158.4	122.6

WHOLESALE PRICES (WEEKLY): (1926=100) The index of Industrial Material Prices fell from 162.1 for the week ending December 31 to 160.5 for the week ending January 28. Reductions were noted for pulp, oats, cottonseed oil and gum rosin, while steel sheets, crude oil and raw cotton moved higher. Canadian Farm Products dropped from 142.3 to 141.5 in the same period. This compared with a peak of 149.1 for the week ending June 25, 1948. Declines occurred in grains, tobacco, hay, livestock, hides and skins, and eggs, while higher quotations ruled for potatoes.

Weekly Wholesale Price Indexes, 1926=100

	Week ended -					Monthly Average -		
	Dec. 31st	Jan. 7th	Jan. 14th	Jan. 21st	Jan. 28th	Jan. 1949	Dec. 1948	Jan. 1948
Industrial Materials	162.1	162.3	162.4	161.4	160.5	161.7	162.3	147.0
Canadian Farm Products	142.3	142.9	143.0	141.9	141.5	142.3	142.5	139.6

SECURITIES: The Investors' index of 107 common stocks dropped 3.5 points to 112.3 between the weeks of December 30, 1948 and January 27, 1949. The industrial stocks sectional index dropped 4.0 points to 107.0 and the utility series moved down 2.7 points to 117.8. Banks eased 0.2 to 131.9. Mining stocks on the other hand, were firmer, supported mainly by strength in gold shares. Between the weeks of December 30 and January 27 the composite index

for 30 representative issues rose 1.6 points to 87.4. The gain in gold stocks moved the index for this series up from 65.7 for December 30 to a high of 71.0 for January 13, but a subsequent recession reduced this to the month's closing figure of 68.0. The index for 5 base metals rose to 131.2 on January 13 but thereafter declined to 126.2 by the 27th for a net gain of 0.1.

Weekly Security Price Indexes, 1935-39=100

	Week ended -					Monthly Average -		
	1948 Dec. 30th	Jan. 6th	1949 Jan. 13th Jan. 20th		Jan. 27th	Jan. 1949	Dec. 1948	Jan. 1948
<u>INVESTORS' PRICE INDEX</u>								
(107 Common Stocks)	115.8	116.3	114.9	113.8	112.3	114.3	115.8	107.5
83 Industrials	111.0	111.3	110.0	108.9	107.0	109.3	111.1	102.0
16 Utilities	120.5	121.2	119.4	118.5	117.8	119.2	120.2	112.9
8 Banks	132.1	133.6	133.0	131.7	131.9	132.6	132.4	132.5
<u>MINING STOCK PRICE INDEX</u>								
(30 Stocks)	85.8	88.6	91.1	88.5	87.4	88.9	84.2	84.8
25 Golds	65.7	68.5	71.0	68.7	68.0	69.1	63.0	71.6
5 Base Metals	126.1	129.0	131.2	128.0	126.2	128.6	127.1	110.0
<u>DOMINION OF CANADA LONG-TERM BONDS-YIELD INDEX</u>								
	95.4	95.1	95.4	95.4	95.7	95.4	95.5	92.1

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