

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS Labour and Prices Division OTTAWA

Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce

For release 3 p.m. December 2, 1949 Price \$1.00 annually; 10 cents each

## PRICE MOVEMENTS, NOVEMBER 1949 (PRELIMINARY)\*

COST-OF-LIVING: The Dominion Burea

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index receded 0.5 points to 161.7 between October 1st and November 1st. 1949. This

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marked the third successive monthly decline and lowered the index 1.1 below the August peak of 162.8. Easier food quotations again were primarily responsible for the decrease, although the clothing index moved down fractionally.

The food index dropped 1.7 points to 203.3 during October, due mainly to seasonal weakness for meats coupled with lower prices for eggs and fresh and canned vegetables. These outweighed increases for oranges, lemons and coffee. Clothing, the only other group to register a decline, receded from 184.1 to 183.7 due mainly to decreases for men's overcoats and suits and women's topcoats. Higher quotations for coal and coke imported from the United States were reflected in a further advance in the fuel and light index from 134.1 to 135.1. Homefurnishings and services moved up 0.2 to 167.4 when higher prices for certain furniture items overbalanced decreases for dishes and glassware. The group indexes for miscellaneous items at 130.2 and rentals at 123.9 remained unchanged.

From August 1939 to November 1949, the increase in the cost-ofliving index was 60.4 percent.

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	Combined Index	Food	Rent	Fuel and Light	Cloth- ing	Home Furnish± ings and Services	Miscell- aneous		
November 1, 1949 October 1, 1949 November 1, 1948	161.7 162.2 159.6	203.3 205.0 204.7	123.9 123.9 121.0	135.1 134.1 129.0	183.7 184.1 181.5	167.4 167.2 166.0	130.2 130.2 124.6		

DOMINION COST OF LIVING INDEXES (1935-39=100)

## WHOLESALE PRICES (WEEKLY): (1926 = 100)

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The index of Industrial Material Prices rose from 149.3 for the week of October 28 to 150.6 for the week of

November 25. Steers, raw rubber, raw cotton, copper and zinc were among the commodities to move higher, while cottonseed oil, hogs and lead declined. Price levels were approximately 7 p.c. below the corresponding period of last year, but 5 p.c. above the same period in 1947. The Canadian Farm Products wholesale price index advanced from 144.6 to 145.1. Strength was evident in potatoes, hay, livestock and hides, but eggs were in more plentiful supply and prices moved lower.

	Week Ended ~					Monthly Average			
	Oct. 28th	Nov. Ath	Nov. 11th	Nov. 18th	Nov. 25th	Nov: 1949	Oct: 1949	Nov. 1948	
Industrial Materials	149.3	149.4	150.3	150.2	150,6	150.1	149.1	162.1	
Canadian Farm Products	144.6	144.6	144.7	144.9	145.1	144.8	144.9	149.1	

SECURITIES: Common stock prices on Canadian exchanges registered further strength in November, although a narrow reaction

was noted in the final week of the month. Between the weeks of October 27th and November 24th the Investors' Index for 106 common stocks rose 2.8 points to 118.8. Price increases were concentrated mainly in industrials and banks; an index for the former recording an increase of 3.9 points to 113.7 while the latter series rose 1.8 points to 143.2. During the same period, the index for 16 utilities eased 1.4 to 121.2. In the mining stocks section advances for base metal issues were balanced by declines in golds and the composite index for 30 representative issues closed the month at 93.8 for no net change. A 1949 monthly peak of 97.2 for this index was reached in the first week of November. The section index for 5 base metal shares rose 1.3 points to 127.9 during the period under review, while a similar index for 25 gold shares receded 0.6 points to 76.4.

			c Ended	Monthly Average				
	Oct. 27th	Nov. 3rd	Nov. 10th	Nov. 17th	Nov. 24th	Nov. 1949	<b>Oct.</b> 1949	Nov. 1948
INVESTORS PRICE INDEX							2	
(106 Common Stocks)	116.0	116.3	118.3	119.3	118.8	118.2	114.3	117.8
82 Industrials.	109.8	1.10.5	113.0	114.2	113.7	112.9	107.9	113.5
16 Utilities	122.6	121.4	121.9	122.0	121.2	181.6	121.9	121.3
8 Banks	141.4	141.8	141.5	142.2	143.2	142.2	139.8	132.6
MINING STOCK PRICE INDEX			-					- 9,25
( 30 Stocks)	93,8	97.2	95.0	94.8	93.8	95.2	91.5	82.7
25 Golds	77.0	79.5	76.4	77.0	76.4	77.3	74.9	60.5
5 Base Metals	126.5	131.6	131.5	129.5	127.9	130.1	124.1	127.9
GOVERNMENT OF CANADA LONG- TERM BONDS - YIELD INDEX	88.6	88.6	89.2	89,2	89.2	89.1	89.1	95 <b>.7</b>

## Weekly Security Price Indexes, 1985-39 = 100

\* Indexes published in this bulletin do not yet include data covering Newfoundland

<u>N.B.</u> Inquiries concerning indexes in this release should be directed to Prices Section, Labour and Prices Division.

