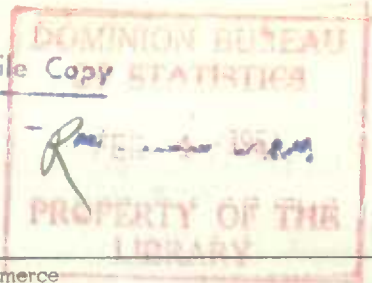




DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
Labour and Prices Division  
OTTAWA

Historical File Copy



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

For release 3 p.m., February 2, 1951  
Price \$1.00 annually; 10 cents each  
18-4050

PRICE MOVEMENTS, JANUARY 1951. (PRELIMINARY) \*

COST-OF-LIVING INDEX:-  
(1935-1939 = 100)

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics urban cost-of-living index advanced from 171.1 to 172.5

between December 1, 1950 and January 2, 1951. All group indexes, except rents, registered increases between these dates. Foods advanced 1.4 points to 220.2, as a result of higher prices for meats, butter, vegetables and fruits. These increases were sufficient to overcome a sharp seasonal drop in eggs of nearly eleven cents per dozen. The clothing index moved from 184.9 to 187.1, following higher prices concentrated mainly in men's wear. The largest group index increase was shown for homefurnishings and services, which rose 3.4 points to 179.8. The more important advances in this group were registered by furniture, carpets, blankets, laundry and telephone rates. Fuel and light moved up 0.8 points to 141.5, largely owing to higher prices for coal. The index of miscellaneous items increased from 134.1 to 135.8, influenced by higher quotations for health care, barbers' fees, gasoline, street car fares and newspapers. Rents were unchanged at 136.4.

From August 1939 to January 1951, the increase in the cost-of-living index was 71.1 percent.

DOMINION COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES (1935-1939=100)

	Combined Index	Food	Rent	Fuel and Light	Clothing	Home furnishings and Services	Miscellaneous
January 2, 1951	172.5	220.2	136.4	141.5	187.1	179.8	135.8
December 1, 1950	171.1	218.8	136.4	140.7	184.9	176.4	134.1
January 2, 1950	161.0	199.4	125.0	135.6	183.3	167.0	131.6

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES (WEEKLY)  
(1926 = 100)

Wholesale prices for a selected list of industrial commodities registered further substantial increases in January.

Between December 29 and January 26, the composite index for 30 items advanced 7.3 points to 206.2. As of January 1950, the index stood at 151.0. Current strength was a reflection of higher quotations for wood pulp, tin ingots, linseed oil, rosin, steers, hogs and raw wool. Canadian farm product prices at wholesale were firmer also, the composite index registering an increase of 3.0 points to 147.7 between December 29 and January 26. Both sub-groups were higher. Animal products rose 5.9 points to 217.2, due to higher prices for livestock, hides and skins, fowl and raw wool. Eggs were easier during the month. A gain of 1.2 points to 106.1 for field products reflected higher quotations for rye, flaxseed, potatoes, and onions.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES (1926 = 100)

	Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Dec. 29th	Jan. 5th	Jan. 12th	Jan. 19th	Jan. 26th	(p) Jan. 1951	Dec. 1950	Jan. 1950
Industrial Materials	198.9	199.1	200.5	204.5	206.2	202.6	196.0	151.0
Canadian Farm Products	144.7	145.0	145.8	147.3	147.7	146.5	144.3	146.8

(p) Preliminary

SECURITY INDEXES  
(1935-1939 = 100)

Common stock prices continued to forge ahead in the opening month of 1951, and by the week of January 25th the Investors' Index

had risen 4.5 percent to **157.0** from 150.3 for December 28. Among a broad list of sub-groups contributing to the advance were: pulp and paper, oils, textiles, building products, power and traction, milling and transportation. During the same interval the composite index for 30 representative mining issues stiffened 15.4 percent to 104.3. Price increases for both golds and base metal shares were reflected in the advance.

WEEKLY SECURITY PRICE INDEXES, 1935-1939 = 100

	Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Dec. 28th	Jan. 4th	Jan. 11th	Jan. 18th	Jan. 25th	Jan. 1951	Dec. 1950	Jan. 1950
<u>INVESTORS' PRICE INDEX</u> (106 Common Stocks) .....	150.3	152.1	155.2	158.9	157.0	155.8	146.3	119.0
<u>MINING STOCK PRICE INDEX</u> ( 30 Stocks) .....	90.4	92.6	99.3	104.2	104.3	100.1	88.2	92.8
<u>GOVERNMENT OF CANADA LONG-TERM BONDS - YIELD INDEX</u>	97.3	98.0	97.7	98.0	98.0	97.9	96.7	90.1

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

N.B. Inquiries concerning indexes in this release should be directed to The Prices Section, Labour and Prices Division.