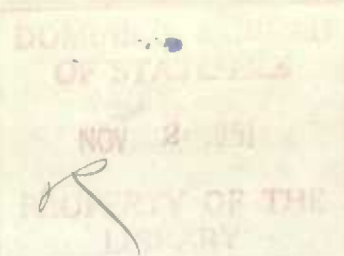


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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
Labour and Prices Division
OTTAWA



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

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

PRICE MOVEMENTS, OCTOBER 1951 (PRELIMINARY)*

COST OF LIVING INDEX: (1935-1939 = 100) The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index advanced 0.3 percent from 189.8 at September 1st to 190.4 at October 1st. As in the previous month, a decline in food prices was outweighed by increases in other groups. The food index declined 0.6 percent to 249.7, as decreases in meats, particularly fresh pork, along with lower egg prices, overbalanced small increases among other items. The clothing index increased 3.3 percent from 206.9 to 213.8 following the appearance of fall and winter lines which recorded the price change in these goods since last winter. Homefurnishings and services advanced 0.5 percent to 200.1 as a result of increases throughout most of this group, except for rugs which were lower. Higher prices for coal and coke in several centres, and narrow advances for gas and electricity rates, increased the fuel and light index 0.5 percent to 150.2. The miscellaneous items index rose 0.2 percent to 144.3 as increases occurred in health and personal care items, theatre admissions, and newspaper rates. Rents, which were not surveyed in October, remained unchanged at 142.7.

From August 1939 to October 1951, the increase in the cost-of-living index was 88.9 percent.

Dominion Cost of Living Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	Combined Index	Food	Rent	Fuel and Light	Clothing	Home Furnishings & Services	Miscellaneous
October 1, 1951	190.4	249.7	142.7	150.2	213.8	200.1	144.3
September 1, 1951	189.8	251.1	142.7	149.5	206.9	199.1	144.0
October 1, 1950	170.7	220.1	135.5	141.0	183.5	172.7	133.3

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES (WEEKLY)
(1935-1939 = 100)

The index for 30 industrial material prices at wholesale, reversing its downward tendency of the preceding four months, moved up from a level of 285.3 for the week of September 28th to 291.2 for the week of October 26th. Increases occurred in a broad list of commodities including steel merchant bars, white lead, raw rubber, beef hides, oats, steers, hogs, lead, zinc and tin. These outweighed narrow losses for wheat, raw sugar and copper. Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets moved up from an index of 249.3 for the week of September 28th to 255.4 for the week of October 26th. Strength was concentrated mainly in field products, the index for this series stiffening from 168.8 to 178.5 due principally to higher prices for potatoes and eastern grains. Animal products moved from 329.8 to 332.4 due to strength in livestock.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 =100)

	1951 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Sept. 28th	Oct. 5th	Oct. 12th	Oct. 19th	Oct. 26th	Oct. 1950	Sept. 1951	Oct. (P) 1951
Industrial Materials	285.3	285.8	286.0	290.4	291.2	269.3	(r) 285.8	288.4
Canadian Farm Products	249.3	250.4	251.6	253.6	255.4	228.5	253.9	252.8

(P) Preliminary

(r) Revised

SECURITY INDEXES;
(1935-1939 = 100)

Common Stock prices advanced to new twenty-two year peak levels in the opening week of October but declined sharply in the latter half of the month. The composite index for 105 common stocks touched 186.4 for the week of October 4th but thereafter reacted to a level of 173.1 for the 25th for a net loss of 1.8 points when compared with the index for the final week of September. The index for 82 industrials also registered a loss of 1.8 points to 183.7 after reaching a figure of 193.0 while 15 utilities declined 2.0 points to 170.4 and 8 banks 0.3 points to 139.6. Movements in mining stocks were similar to those noted for industrials and utilities. After rising from 106.1 for September 27th to 108.7 for October 4th, the index for 30 representative issues receded to 106.3 by the 25th for a net increase of 0.2 points. The index for 25 gold stocks touched 76.0 while the closing figure of 74.6 registered an advance of 1.1 points. Base metals, on the other hand, recorded a net loss of 1.9 points to close at 179.0 after standing at 183.6.

Weekly Security Price Indexes, 1935-1939=100

	1951 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Sept. 27th	Oct. 4th	Oct. 11th	Oct. 18th	Oct. 25th	Oct. 1950	Sept. 1951	Oct. 1951
Investors' Price Index								
105 Common Stocks	179.9	186.4	185.6	183.0	178.1	145.4	179.8	183.3
82 Industrials	185.5	193.0	192.2	189.1	183.7	143.7	185.4	189.5
15 Utilities	172.4	176.6	174.7	174.3	170.4	138.6	172.3	174.0
8 Banks	139.9	141.6	143.8	140.9	139.6	153.4	140.2	141.5
Mining Stock Price Index								
30 Stocks	106.1	108.7	108.3	106.6	106.3	91.7	104.0	107.5
25 Golds	73.5	76.0	76.2	74.3	74.6	64.0	73.7	75.3
5 Base Metals	180.9	183.6	181.9	180.4	179.0	147.6	173.6	181.2
Government of Canada Long-Term Bonds - Yield Index								
	105.5	105.5	105.8	105.8	105.8	92.0	105.0	105.7 (P)

(P) - Preliminary (average of first four weeks)

* 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.

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