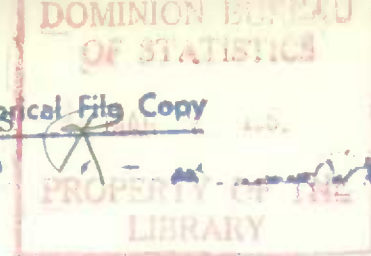




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PRICE MOVEMENTS, FEBRUARY 1951, (PRELIMINARY) \*

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

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index rose from 172.5 to 175.2

between January 2 and February 1, 1951. The increase in January was largely due to higher prices for foods, clothing and homefurnishings. The food index advanced from 220.2 to 224.4, as higher prices for most foods, particularly meats and vegetables, offset seasonal declines in eggs and oranges. Clothing rose from 187.1 to 192.4 as a result of increases in men's wear, piece goods and footwear. The index of homefurnishings and services increased from 179.8 to 185.1 following advances mainly in furniture, floor coverings and house furnishings. The fuel and light index remained practically unchanged, moving from 141.5 to 141.7. The index of miscellaneous items increased 1.2 points to 137.0, due to increases in items of personal care, tires, tobacco and hospital rates. Rents were not surveyed in February and the index remained at 136.4.

From August 1939 to February 1951, the increase in the cost-of-living index was 73.8 percent.

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

	Combined Index	Food	Rent	Fuel and Light	Clothing	Home furnishings and Services	Miscellaneous
February 1, 1951	175.2	224.4	136.4	141.7	192.4	185.1	137.0
January 2, 1951	172.5	220.2	136.4	141.5	187.1	179.8	135.8
February 1, 1950	161.6	201.3	125.0	135.9	183.0	166.4	132.1

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES (WEEKLY)  
(1926 = 100)

Industrial material prices were firmer again in February and the composite index for 30 commodities moved up to 212.3 for the week of February 23rd from 207.3 for January 26th.

Commodity price increases were recorded for hogs, raw rubber, raw wool, beef hides, tin, steel shapes and steel sheets. Narrow decreases occurred for wheat, oats and linseed oil. Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets moved up sharply in February, the composite index closing at 160.3 for the week of the 23rd, as against 155.1 for January 26th. Both animal and field product sub-groups were higher; the index for the former series gaining 11.3 points to 228.3 while field products moved up 1.6 points to 119.7.

The index of Canadian farm products has been revised back to August 1950 to include the 20 cent per bushel increase in the initial wheat price to farmers.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES (1926 = 100)

	Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Jan. 26th	Feb. 2nd	Feb. 9th	Feb. 16th	Feb. 23rd	(p) Feb. 1951	Jan. 1951	Feb. 1950
Industrial Materials	207.3	208.5	209.1	211.9	212.3	210.5	205.4	152.9
Canadian Farm Products	155.1	155.5	156.4	158.7	160.3	157.7	154.9	147.9

(p) Preliminary

SECURITY INDEXES  
(1935-1939=100)

Common stock prices registered continued strength in the first half of February, but receded slightly in the second half. Between January 25th and February 15th the Investors'

Index for 106 representative issues rose 14.1 points to 167.0. By the 22nd, however, the index had declined to 163.8. The index for 82 industrials closed at 162.3 (February 22nd) as against 151.8 for January 25th, while the series for 16 utilities advanced from 156.9 to 171.2 and that for 8 banks from 154.7 to 160.0. Mining stocks paralleled the changes in industrials and utilities. After touching a peak of 109.1 in mid February, the composite index for 30 representative issues receded to 108.5 by the 22nd for a net gain of 4.0 points for the period under review. The group index for 5 base metals recorded a net gain of 7.2 points to 174.1, while the series for 25 golds stiffened 2.5 points to 75.8.

## Weekly Security Price Indexes, 1935-1939 = 100

	Week Ended 1951					Monthly Average		
	Jan. 25th	Feb. 1st	Feb. 8th	Feb. 15th	Feb. 22nd	Feb. 1951	Jan. 1951	Feb. 1950
<u>INVESTORS' PRICE INDEX</u>								
(1) (106 Common Stocks).....	152.9	162.8	165.5	167.0	163.8	162.8	151.7	117.3
(1) 82 Industrials .....	151.8	161.5	162.6	165.8	162.3	163.6	150.4	111.8
(1) 16 Utilities .....	155.9	171.1	171.5	174.6	171.2	172.1	155.7	128.5
8 Banks .....	154.7	154.8	159.9	159.4	160.0	158.5	155.6	143.0
<u>MINING STOCK PRICE INDEX</u>								
(1) ( 30 Stocks).....	104.5	106.1	106.8	109.1	108.5	107.6	100.3	91.2
25 Golds .....	73.3	71.9	73.2	76.1	75.8	74.3	68.8	73.2
5 Base Metals .....	166.9	174.6	174.1	175.1	174.1	174.5	163.5	127.2
<u>GOVERNMENT OF CANADA LONG- TERM BONDS - YIELD INDEX</u>	98.0	97.7	97.3	97.3	98.3	97.7	97.9	90.3

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

(1) These indexes have been revised, beginning in January 1950

N.B.

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

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