



DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
Labour and Prices Division
OTTAWA

Historical File Copy BUREAU OF STATISTICS
MAY 4 1951
PROPERTY OF THE LIBRARY

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

Price \$1.00 annually; 10 cents each
18-4050

PRICE MOVEMENTS, APRIL 1951 (PRELIMINARY) *

COST OF LIVING INDEX; - (1935-1939=100) The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index advanced from 179.7 to 181.8 between March 1st and April 2nd. Nearly one-half of this increase of 1.2 percent, or 2.1 points, was accounted for by butter which moved to high levels during the latter half of March and the early part of April, and then dropped sharply. The balance of the increase was largely due to other foods, clothing, homefurnishings and miscellaneous items. The food index rose from 233.9 to 238.4. There were numerous but slight increases in foods other than butter, although decreases were registered for eggs, pork, and fresh vegetables. The clothing index moved from 196.3 to 198.8 following advances in men's wear and footwear. Increases throughout homefurnishings were sufficient to raise the index of homefurnishings and services from 188.6 to 190.7. The miscellaneous index advanced from 137.8 to 138.8 as a result of higher indexes for personal care, transportation and theatre admissions. Higher prices in some centres for coke and electricity raised the fuel and light index from 146.5 to 146.7. Rents were not surveyed during April and the rent index remained unchanged at 137.6.

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

	Combined Index	Food	Rent	Fuel and Light	Clothing	Home Furnishings and Services	Miscellaneous
April 2, 1951	181.8	238.4	137.6	146.7	198.8	190.7	138.8
March 1, 1951	179.7	233.9	137.6	146.5	196.3	188.6	137.8
April 1, 1950	164.0	204.5	132.7	138.0	181.2	166.4	132.3

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

Industrial material prices levelled off in April and the weekly index for 30 commodities closed at 304.5 for the 27th against 305.5 for March 30th. This compared with a mid-month peak of 307.0. Among commodities recording price decreases were: hogs, raw wool, oats, raw rubber and beef hides. Increases were registered for wood pulp, western spruce, rayon yarn, lead, zinc and copper. Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets declined sharply in April, the composite index closing at 254.4 (April 27th) compared with 262.6 for March 30th. Animal products dropped from 344.1 to 327.2, due mainly to lower prices for hogs, butterfat and raw wool. Eggs were moderately higher. Field products rose slightly from 181.1 to 181.5, due to small seasonal advances in eastern grains and potatoes.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES (1935-1939 = 100)

	Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	March 30th	April 6th	April 13th	April 20th	April 27th	(p) April 1951	March 1951	April 1950
Industrial Materials	305.5	306.6	307.0	305.1	304.5	305.8	305.3	223.7
Canadian Farm Products	262.6	258.4	258.0	257.1	254.4	257.0	264.2	228.8

(p) Preliminary

SECURITY INDEXES
(1935-1939 = 100)

Selective buying moved the level of common stocks higher during April. Between the weeks of March 29th and April 26th the Investors' composite index advanced from 160.5 to 166.4. In the same interval the index for 82 industrials rose from 163.1 to 170.1, while that for 16 utilities moved up from 155.7 to 159.4. The series for 8 banks dipped from 145.1 to 144.9. Weakness in gold shares eased the composite index of mining stocks from 97.2 to 95.8 between March 29th and April 26th. Golds moved down from 68.9 to 65.8, while base metal issues were firmer, the index for this series stiffening from 161.9 to 164.6.

Weekly Security Price Indexes, 1935-1939 = 100

	Week Ended 1951					Monthly Average		
	Mar. 29th	Apr. 5th	Apr. 12th	Apr. 19th	Apr. 26th	April 1951	March 1951	April 1950
<u>INVESTORS' PRICE INDEX</u>								
(105 Common Stocks).....	160.5	162.8	166.6	166.5	166.4	165.6	162.9	125.9
82 Industrials.....	163.1	165.6	170.4	170.1	170.1	169.1	165.0	120.5
15 Utilities.....	155.7	159.0	160.0	160.2	159.4	159.7	158.9	132.2
8 Banks.....	145.1	143.2	144.0	144.4	144.9	144.1	150.0	144.4
<u>MINING STOCK PRICE INDEX</u>								
(30 Stocks).....	97.2	96.6	97.6	96.8	95.8	96.7	100.3	93.0
25 Golds.....	68.9	67.7	67.1	66.4	65.8	66.8	71.2	75.4
5 Base Metals.....	161.9	162.8	167.4	166.4	164.6	165.3	166.7	127.5
<u>GOVERNMENT OF CANADA LONG- TERM BONDS - YIELD INDEX</u>	104.8	104.8	104.8	104.8	105.1	104.9	104.6	90.7

* 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.

1828
 35
 1000
 950
 50

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY
 BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010711714