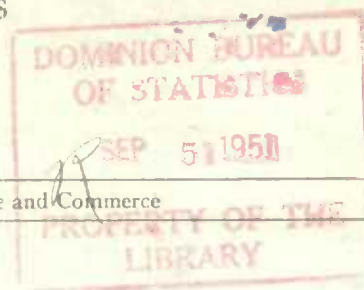


DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
 Labour and Prices Division
 OTTAWA



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

For release 3 p.m., September 4, 1951.
 Price \$1.00 annually; 10 cents each
 18-4050

PRICE MOVEMENTS, AUGUST 1951, (PRELIMINARY) *

COST OF LIVING INDEX: The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index advanced (1935-1939 = 100) from 187.6 to 188.9 between July 3rd and August 1st for a gain of 0.7 percent. More than one-third of this increase was due to continued strength in foods. Advances in this group included pork, beef, veal, lamb, eggs, milk, bread, sugar, turnips, canned vegetables and jam while decreases occurred for potatoes, carrots, onions, oranges, lemons, and vegetable shortening. Clothing rose from 202.9 to 204.6 reflecting higher quotations for a wide range of items, with footwear particularly firm. Street car fares, health charges, theatre admissions and newspaper rates moved the miscellaneous items index up from 142.2 to 143.7. Homefurnishings and services rose from 197.4 to 199.0 due to advances concentrated in the textile furnishings, hardware and glassware sections. Telephone rates were higher also. Firmer prices for coal were almost entirely responsible for the change in the fuel and light index from 147.2 to 148.2. Rents were not surveyed in August, and the index remained at 139.8.

From August 1939 to August 1951 the increase in the cost-of-living index was 87.4 percent.

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

	Combined Index	Food	Rent	Fuel and Light	Clothing	Home Furnishings & Services	Miscellaneous
August 1, 1951	188.9	251.4	139.8	148.2	204.6	199.0	143.7
July 3, 1951	187.6	249.7	139.8	147.2	202.9	197.4	142.2
August 1, 1950	168.5	216.7	134.9	138.4	180.9	168.9	132.5

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

The weekly index for 30 industrial material prices registered further weakness in August.

Between July 27th and August 24th the index dropped from 296.1 to 288.3 reflecting substantially lower prices for raw sugar, hogs, beef hides, raw wool and spruce lumber, coupled with lesser declines for lead, zinc and tin. Moving against the trend, higher prices were noted for sulphite pulp, structural steel shapes, raw rubber, cottonseed oil and western oats. Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets registered a drop in August due principally to a reduction in the initial payment price to producers for wheat for the 1951-1952 crop year. The price for No. 1 Manitoba Northern, basis in store, Fort William and Port Arthur was changed from \$1.60 per bushel to \$1.40 effective August 1st. In addition, potato prices were lower in western Canada and, as a consequence, the total field products index receded from 175.8 to 164.7 between July 27th and August 24th. Animal products declined from 359.8 to 349.1 in the same interval due to lower prices for live-stock, notably hogs. The composite index declined from 267.8 to 256.9.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 =100)

	1951 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	July 27th	Aug. 3rd	Aug. 10th	Aug. 17th	Aug. 24th	(P) Aug. 1951	July 1951	Aug. 1950
Industrial Materials	296.1	293.0	292.8	287.7	288.3	290.4	297.0	251.5
Canadian Farm Products	267.8	261.0	256.2	254.8	256.9	257.2	268.3	236.3

(P) Preliminary

SECURITY INDEXES:
(1935-1939 = 100)

Common stock prices eased in the latter half of August following the posting of twenty-one year peaks in the

first week of the month. The composite index for 105 common stocks closed at 167.9 for the week of August 22nd and compared with a level of 169.0 for the 8th and 166.2 for July 25th. The index for 82 industrials rose from 170.8 to 172.5 between July 25th and August 22nd while that for 15 utilities moved up from 158.2 to 161.0. On the other hand, the index for 8 banks receded from 138.4 to 137.3. Mining stock prices registered a firmer tone due to strength for both golds and base metals. The composite index for 30 representative issues closed at 98.5 as against 94.1 a month earlier. In the same interval, the index for 5 base metals advanced from 156.4 to 161.1 while the index for 25 golds stiffened from 66.9 to 71.1.

Weekly Security Price Indexes, 1935-1939=100

	1951 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	July 25th	Aug. 1st	Aug. 8th	Aug. 15th	Aug. 22nd	(P) Aug. 1951	July 1951	Aug. 1950
Investors' Price Index								
105 Common Stocks	166.2	167.5	169.0	168.1	167.9	168.1	162.0	135.7
82 Industrials	170.8	172.4	173.5	172.6	172.5	172.8	165.8	133.0
15 Utilities	158.2	159.2	162.5	162.0	161.0	161.2	155.4	133.6
8 Banks	138.4	136.9	138.3	137.0	137.3	137.4	140.0	145.7
Mining Stock Price Index								
30 Stocks	94.1	95.3	96.7	99.4	98.5	97.5	92.7	86.9
25 Golds	66.9	66.7	68.1	72.9	71.1	69.7	65.5	61.6
5 Base Metals	156.4	160.8	162.1	160.2	161.1	161.0	155.0	138.2
Government of Canada Long-Term Bonds - Yield Index	104.5	104.8	104.8	105.1	104.8	104.9	104.7	90.5

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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