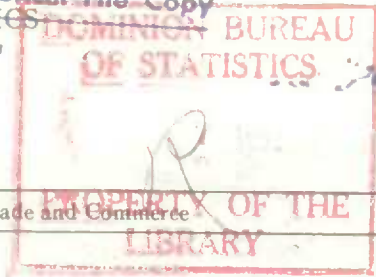




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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
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PRICE MOVEMENTS, OCTOBER 1952

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
(1949 = 100)

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics Consumer Price Index declined from 116.1 to 116.0 between September 2 and October 1, as declines in the food and clothing indexes outweighed increases in shelter, household operations, and other commodities and services.

The food index decreased from 115.8 to 115.1. Substantial decreases in the price of potatoes, beef and lamb were partly offset by reflection in the index of normal seasonal increases in the consumption of these foods. Among other foods, slight increases were registered by grapefruit, lettuce, fresh tomatoes, oranges, and fresh pork, while declines were shown for canned tomatoes, onions and cooked meats.

The clothing index decreased from 110.9 to 109.9 following decreases in men's wool underwear, women's fur and cloth coats, woollen yard goods and children's wear.

The household operation series increased from 116.0 to 116.2 as decreases in floor coverings, textiles and soap were overbalanced by increases in coal, fuel oil, and ice.

The index of other commodities and services increased from 115.8 to 116.4, largely as a result of higher local transportation charges.

The shelter index advanced from 121.2 to 121.5 as slightly higher quotations were reported for house repairs and replacement items, and mortgage interest rates. Rents were not surveyed during October and the rent component of the shelter index remained unchanged.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES (1949 = 100)

	Total Index	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operations	Other Commodities and Services
October 1, 1952	116.0	115.1	121.5	109.9	116.2	116.4
September 2, 1952	116.1	115.8	121.2	110.9	116.0	115.8
October 1, 1951	117.1	121.3	117.2	114.1	115.8	114.1

COST-OF-LIVING INDEX: (1935-1939 = 100) The Dominion Bureau of Statistics Cost-of-Living Index declined from 186.5 to 185.0 between September 2 and October 1, 1952. This decrease of 0.8 per cent compares with a decline of 0.1 per cent for the Consumer Price Index. The difference in the movements of the two indexes is largely accounted for by the fact that the Consumer Price Index is based on a more lengthy list of items reflecting current consumption habits, whereas the Cost-of-Living Index is based on pre-war expenditure patterns. Recognition of seasonal shifts in food consumption also accounts for part of the difference, as does the direct inclusion of home-ownership.

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

	Combined Index	Food	Rent	Fuel and Light	Clothing	Home Furnishings & Services	Miscellaneous
October 1, 1952	185.0	229.3	148.9	150.9	206.7	195.9	148.5
September 2, 1952	186.5	234.2	148.9	150.3	207.7	195.8	147.8
October 1, 1951	190.4	249.7	142.7	150.2	213.8	200.1	144.3

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES (WEEKLY) (1935-1939 = 100) The index for 30 industrial material prices registered a further drop to 238.1 for the week ending October 31st as compared with 239.7 for the week of September 26th. Among commodity changes decreases occurred for woodpulp, white lead, raw cotton, raw wool, steers, lead and tin. These outweighed advances for structural steel, merchant bars, western wheat, western oats, raw rubber, beef hides and sisal. Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets reversed their downward tendency of the past three months to record a small advance in October. Between the weeks of September 26th and October 31st the composite index moved up from 219.9 to 222.8 due mainly to firmness in field products. An index for this series stiffened from 177.6 to 181.2, largely as a result of higher quotations for potatoes. The index for animal products moved from 262.1 to 264.4 when strength in eggs, butter-fat and fluid milk outweighed a decrease in livestock in eastern Canada.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 =100)

	1952 Week Ended						Monthly Average		
	Sept.	Oct.	Oct.	Oct.	Oct.	Oct.	Oct.	Sept.	Oct.(P)
	26th	3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st	1951	1952	1952
Industrial Materials	239.7	238.4	240.3	239.1	238.2	238.1	289.4	241.0	238.8
Canadian Farm Products	219.9	217.6	220.6	221.9	221.6	222.8	259.3	225.5	220.9

(P) Preliminary

SECURITY INDEXES:
(1935-1939 = 100)

Common stock prices fluctuated erratically during October with a declining tendency predominating.

Between the weeks of September 25 and October 30 the composite index for 105 common stocks dropped from 168.4 to 163.7. This compared with a low point for the month of 161.7 touched on October 23. All major groups registered declines between September 25 and October 30, the series for 82 industrials receding 5.3 points to 165.1 while that for 15 utilities declined 3.9 points to 161.6 and the index for 8 banks 1.4 points to 153.7. Mining stock price movements paralleled those for industrials and utilities. Between September 25 and October 30 the composite index for 30 representative issues dropped 5.8 points to 98.5. In the same interval the index for 5 base metals moved from 176.1 to 165.0 and that for 25 golds from 72.9 to 69.4



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Weekly Security Price Indexes, 1935 - 1939 = 100

	1952						Monthly Average		
	Week Ended								
	Sept. 25th	Oct. 2nd	Oct. 9th	Oct. 16th	Oct. 23rd	Oct. 30th	Oct. 1951	Sept. 1952	Oct. 1952
Investors' Price Index									
105 Common Stocks.....	168.4	164.8	166.0	162.0	161.7	163.7	183.3	171.6	163.6
82 Industrials.....	170.4	166.4	167.6	162.9	162.7	165.1	189.5	174.3	164.9
15 Utilities.....	165.5	163.1	163.9	161.4	160.6	161.6	174.0	166.5	162.1
8 Banks.....	155.1	152.2	154.2	154.4	153.9	153.7	141.5	155.2	153.7
Mining Stock Price Index									
30 Stocks	104.3	102.2	101.1	97.2	96.5	98.5	107.5	106.6	99.1
25 Golds.....	72.9	71.6	71.4	67.8	67.3	69.4	75.3	74.4	69.5
5 Base Metals	176.1	172.4	169.0	164.4	163.5	165.0	181.2	180.2	166.9
Government of Canada Long-Term Bonds - Yield Index (1).....	119.7	119.1	118.8	118.8	118.4	118.1	105.7	119.6	118.6

(1) Yield Indexes based on rates as of Wednesday of each week.

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