

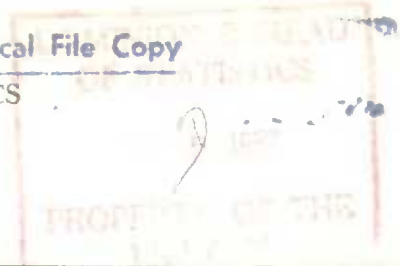


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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Labour and Prices Division

OTTAWA



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PRICE MOVEMENTS, AUGUST 1952 (PRELIMINARY)\*

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

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index

declined slightly from 188.0 to 187.6 between July 2 and

August 1, 1952, to place the index at the same level as July 1951. The latest decline was due to lower prices for food, clothing and homefurnishings, which were partly off-set by higher indexes for fuel and miscellaneous items. The food index declined from 239.5 to 238.0, largely as a result of lower prices for fresh vegetables, particularly potatoes, which outweighed increases for eggs, lemons and oranges. The clothing index moved from 209.1 to 208.6 following narrow declines in men's wear, piece goods, and footwear. The homefurnishings and services index also declined from 196.7 to 196.0 with lower prices for rugs, wool blankets, and soap, accounting for most of the change. The index of fuel and light advanced from 149.8 to 150.1 following seasonal advances in the price of coal and coke. The miscellaneous series moved from 147.4 to 147.8 as higher prices were registered for items of health care and magazine costs. The rent index was unchanged at 147.9.

From August 1939 to August 1, 1952, the percentage increase in the total index was 86.1.

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

	Combined Index	Food	Rent	Fuel and Light	Clothing	Home Furnishings & Services	Miscellaneous
August 1, 1952	187.6	238.0	147.9	150.1	208.6	196.0	147.8
July 2, 1952	188.0	239.5	147.9	149.8	209.1	196.7	147.4
August 1, 1951	188.9	251.4	139.8	148.2	204.6	199.0	143.7

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

The index for 30 industrial material prices at wholesale registered a further decline in August to 242.5 by the week of the 22nd from 248.2 for July 25th. Commodity decreases were scattered and included iron ore, bleached wood pulp, raw sugar, raw rubber, raw wool, steers, wheat, lead and zinc. Continuing firmness for the Canadian dollar in August was reflected in lower prices for both imports and exports. The composite price index for Canadian farm products at terminal markets dropped from 244.0 to 235.2 due mainly to lower prices for field products. The index for this series moved down from 212.2 to 196.1 due to declines in potatoes and western grains. Initial payment prices to producers for wheat and barley came into effect on August 1st at levels considerably below those prevailing in July. The index for animal products moved from 275.8 to 274.3 following a lower price level for livestock and raw wool which outweighed strength in eggs.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1952 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	July 25th	Aug. 1st	Aug. 8th	Aug. 15th	Aug. 22nd	Aug. 1951	July 1952	Aug. (P) 1952
Industrial Materials .....	248.2	248.4	247.7	247.2	242.5	287.4	248.0	246.4
Canadian Farm Products .....	244.0	244.1	237.2	236.8	235.2	263.3	244.3	238.3

(P) Preliminary

SECURITY INDEXES:  
(1935-1939 = 100)

Industrial and utility common stock prices moved down in August and as a result the composite index for 105 stocks receded from 178.3 for the week of July 31st to 175.1 for the week of August 28th. In the same interval the index for 82 industrials declined from 182.5 to 178.8, while that for 15 utilities moved down from 172.3 to 168.2. Bank shares, on the other hand, advanced from 149.6 to 154.2. In the mining stock section the composite index for 30 representative issues stiffened from 110.4 to 110.5 due to a firmer tone for golds. The index for this series moved from 76.2 to 78.6, while a similar series for five base metals declined from 188.7 to 183.4.

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

	1952 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	July 31st	Aug. 7th	Aug. 14th	Aug. 21st	Aug. 28th	Aug. 1951	Jul. 1952	Aug. 1952
<b>Investors' Price Index</b>								
105 Common Stocks .....	178.3	177.6	176.2	175.3	175.1	169.7	174.9	176.0
82 Industrials .....	182.5	181.4	180.0	179.1	178.8	174.5	178.6	179.8
15 Utilities .....	172.3	172.5	170.3	168.7	168.2	162.6	169.3	169.9
8 Banks .....	149.6	151.3	151.7	152.6	154.2	137.2	149.5	152.4
<b>Mining Stock Price Index</b>								
30 Stocks .....	110.4	110.6	110.5	109.2	110.5	97.7	107.0	110.2
25 Golds .....	76.2	77.3	77.5	76.9	78.6	69.7	76.6	77.6
5 Base Metals .....	188.7	187.0	186.0	183.2	183.4	161.7	176.6	184.9
<b>Government of Canada Long-Term Bonds -- Yield Index (1)</b>								
	118.1	118.8	118.8	119.4	119.4	104.9	117.3	119.1

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

(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.

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