



## DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Labour and Prices Division

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PRICE MOVEMENTS, NOVEMBER 1953

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: (1949=100) The Consumer Price Index decreased 0.4 per cent from 116.7 to 116.2 between October 1 and November 2, offsetting an increase of the same amount which occurred during the previous month. The latest change was almost entirely due to a decline in the food index which moved down 1.8 per cent from 115.5 to 113.4, under the influence of a sharp drop in the price of eggs and materially lower prices for practically all meats. Prices of most other food items were about the same, the only notable changes being a decrease for grapefruit and an increase for fresh tomatoes. These changes in food prices were in combination with normal seasonal shifts in consumption which increased the quantities for some fresh vegetables, oranges and a few cuts of meat, and decreased the quantities for fresh tomatoes, lettuce and some fresh fruits. The clothing index remained unchanged at 110.3 as advances in men's suits and overcoats were counterbalanced by declines in women's and children's wear. The household operation component moved from 117.5 to 117.4 as scattered increases and decreases almost offset each other. An advance of 0.3 per cent from 116.0 to 116.3 in the index of other commodities and services was mostly attributable to an increase in theatre admission fees. Higher levels for both rent and home-ownership indexes served to increase the shelter component from 124.5 to 125.0

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Total Index	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities and Services
November 2, 1953	116.2	113.4	125.0	110.3	117.4	116.3
October 1, 1953	116.7	115.5	124.5	110.3	117.5	116.0
November 1, 1952	116.1	115.7	121.4	109.8	115.9	116.6

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

Industrial material prices at wholesale moved within narrow limits in November, the composite index for 30 commodities closing at 226.6 for the week of November 27th as against 227.1 for the week of October 30th. Scattered decreases among commodities were noted for hogs, western oats, fir timber, western wheat, raw sugar, bleached wood-pulp, copper, iron ore and raw cotton. Increases were registered for steers, tin, raw rubber, lead and white lead. Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets advanced slightly in November to 207.8 for the week of the 27th as against 207.0 for the week of October 30th. This compared with a mid-month level of 202.3 for the 13th. Changes in the two sub-groups were varied, the index for animal products moving down from 262.3 for the week of October 30th to 253.3 by November 13th but recovering to 264.0 by the 27th. Seasonal fluctuations in eggs were mainly responsible, final November quotations being substantially below prices at the end of October. A decrease occurred for hogs also, while a firmer price tone was noted for steers, calves, lambs, raw wool, and eastern milk for cheese manufacture. Field product prices showed no net change at an index level of 151.6, when higher prices for eastern barley, corn, wheat, hay and western potatoes were balanced by losses for eastern oats, rye, potatoes and western rye and flax.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939=100)

	1953 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Oct. 30th	Nov. 6th	Nov. 13th	Nov. 20th	Nov. 27th	Nov. 1952	Oct. 1953	Nov. <sup>P</sup> 1953
Industrial Materials.....	227.1	225.5	226.2	225.9	226.6	241.2	227.0	226.0
Canadian Farm Products.....	207.0	202.6	202.3	206.1	207.8	232.9 <sup>r</sup>	208.5	204.7
Field.....	151.6	151.4	151.4	151.4	151.6	199.3 <sup>r</sup>	151.7	151.4
Animal.....	262.3	253.8	253.3	260.8	264.0	266.5	265.3	258.0

P. Preliminary

r. Revised to include the 12-cent retroactive increase in payments for western wheat announced in September 1953.

**SECURITY PRICE INDEXES:**  
(1935-1939=100)

Security prices, following a slightly firmer tone in the opening week of November, declined moderately in the last three weeks of the month. The composite index for 102 common stocks moved up from 155.5 for the week of October 29th to 156.4 for the week of November 5th but subsequently receded to 152.7 by the 26th. Over the full period under review, two of the three major groups moved lower, the index for 81 industrials dropping from 154.8 to 151.4, while that for 13 utilities changed from 151.6 to 148.4. Bank shares, on the other hand, advanced from 171.2 to 176.6. Among sub-group changes losses were greatest for textiles and clothing, oils, industrial mines, transportation and power and traction. Pulp and paper, beverages and communication issues were firmer. Lower prices for both golds and base metals were reflected in a change in the composite index for 27 mining issues from 84.8 to 82.4 between October 29th and November 26th. In the same interval, the gold series declined from 61.6 to 59.1 while that for 5 base metals moved down from 137.8 to 135.9.

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

	1953 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Oct. 29th	Nov. 5th	Nov. 12th	Nov. 19th	Nov. 26th	Nov. 1952	Oct. 1953	Nov. 1953
<b>Investors' Price Index</b>								
102 Common Stocks .....	155.5	156.4	154.2	153.3	152.7	167.3	151.9	154.2
81 Industrials .....	154.8	155.7	153.4	152.1	151.4	169.2	150.9	153.2
13 Utilities .....	151.6	151.5	149.3	148.4	148.4	165.1	149.0	149.4
8 Banks .....	171.2	174.5	174.3	176.3	176.6	152.9	168.5	175.4
<b>Mining Stock Price Index</b>								
27 Stocks .....	84.8	85.0	83.8	83.5	82.4	100.8	82.7	83.7
22 Golds .....	61.6	61.5	60.3	59.6	59.1	71.1	60.1	60.1
5 Base Metals .....	137.8	138.7	137.6	138.2	135.9	168.8	134.3	137.6
<b>Government of Canada Long-Term</b>								
<b>Bonds - Yield Index</b> <sup>1</sup> .....	119.4	119.1	119.1	119.1	118.1	117.8	120.8	118.8

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

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

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