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## PRICE MOVEMENTS

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THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: The Consumer Price Index advanced 0.5 per cent from 115.5 (1949 = 100) to 116.1 between May 1 and June 1. This is a slightly larger rise than was recorded between the same dates in 1953. The latest change was almost entirely attributable to an advance of 1.6 per cent in the food index. Among other groups shelter was the only one to advance. The food index rose from 110.2 to 112.0 as higher prices were reported for a wide range of items, in particular, meats, fresh vegetables, fresh and canned fruits, and coffee. A number of food items were unchanged in price while some others, notably butter and chicken, were lower. The increase in shelter from 125.8 to 126.4 was due entirely to higher rents. Lower prices for nylon hosiery, combined with small scattered decreases among other clothing items, resulted in a decline of 0.2 per cent in the clothing index from 109.9 to 109.7. In the household operation group decreases for several electrical appliances, cotton sheets and garbage cans and seasonal declines for coal, were more than sufficient to offset increases in a number of services, cleaning supplies and furniture items and the index for this group fell from 117.3 to 117.1. No significant changes were reported in other commodities and services and the index for this group remained at 117.5.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949 = 100)

	Total Index	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities and Services
June 1, 1954	116.1	112.0	126.4	109.7	117.1	117.5
May 1, 1954	115.5	110.2	125.8	109.9	117.3	117.5
June 1, 1953	114.9	111.4	123.6	110.1	116.6	115.1

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

Industrial material prices moved slightly lower in June as the composite index for 30 commodities declined from a level of 224.6 for the week of May 28th, to 223.6 for the week of June 25th. Among commodity changes, declines occurred in structural shapes, hogs, western wheat, and steers, followed by lesser recessions in raw cotton, raw sugar, domestic copper, iron ore and bleached sulphite pulp. Moderate increases during the period under review were recorded for cottonseed oil, domestic zinc, beef hides, western oats, raw rubber, tin, galvanized steel sheets and African sisal. Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets dropped from 213.1 for the week of May 28th to 205.5 for the week of June 25th, mainly reflecting weakness in animal products. Animal products moved from 274.0 to 259.0 due to decreases in steers, calves, hogs, cheese milk, eastern fluid milk, and western butterfat. Eggs were higher. Field products moved from 152.3 to 152.1 when decreases for eastern barley, rye, wheat and hay outweighed advances in potatoes, western flax, rye and hay.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939=100)

	1954 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	May 28th	June 4th	June 11th	June 18th	June 25th	June 1953	May 1954	June <sup>P</sup> 1954
Industrial Materials.....	224.6	224.4	224.1	223.7	223.6	234.0	224.2	224.0
Canadian Farm Products .....	213.1	213.6	212.1	208.9	205.5	226.6	209.6	210.0
Field .....	152.3	152.1	152.4	152.3	152.1	184.5	151.2	152.2
Animal .....	274.0	275.1	271.8	265.5	259.0	268.7	268.0	267.8

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

Common stock prices, after moving to higher levels in the opening week of June, dropped sharply in the second week, while fluctuations during the remainder of the month were narrow. The Investors' index for 99 common stocks advanced from 182.0 for the week of May 27th to 184.0 for the week of June 3rd, but reacted to 178.7 in the following week, while the closing weekly index for the month of 179.9 registered a net loss of 2.1 points. Among the major groups, the index for 79 industrials declined from 183.7 to 179.6 between the weeks of May 27th and June 24th, while the index for 12 utilities advanced from 162.4 to 167.0 and that for 8 banks from 210.2 to 212.7. Among sub-group indexes, declines were registered for beverages, milling, pulp and paper, oils and building materials among others. Advances were registered for transportation, machinery and equipment, and textiles and clothing issues. Mining stocks for the second successive month recorded no net change, the composite index for 27 representative stocks remaining at 90.0 for the week of June 24th after touching 89.6 for the week of the 10th. The index for 22 golds weakened slightly during the month to reach 63.9 for the week of the 24th as against 64.2 for the week of May 27th. The index for 5 base metals, on the other hand, advanced from 149.1 to 149.7 over the same period.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1954 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	May 27th	June 3rd	June 10th	June 17th	June 24th	June 1953	May 1954	June 1954
<b>Investors' Price Index</b>								
99 Common Stocks .....	182.0	184.0	178.7	179.4	179.9	156.8	179.5	180.5
79 Industrials.....	183.7	184.8	178.4	179.0	179.6	155.5	181.0	180.4
12 Utilities.....	162.4	168.4	166.1	167.3	167.0	157.5	162.4	167.2
8 Banks .....	210.2	213.0	211.1	211.9	212.7	168.4	204.0	212.2
<b>Mining Stock Price Index</b>								
27 Stocks.....	90.0	90.5	89.6	89.9	90.0	90.2	89.4	90.0
22 Golds .....	64.2	64.1	64.0	63.7	63.9	66.8	64.4	63.9
5 Base Metals.....	149.1	150.9	148.2	150.0	149.7	143.7	146.5	149.7
Government of Canada Long-Term Bonds - Yield Index <sup>1</sup> .....	99.6	99.9	99.9	100.9	99.6	120.6	99.7	Not available

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

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



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