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JULY 1954

PRICE MOVEMENTS

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THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:  
(1949 = 100)

The Consumer Price Index moved from 116.1 to 116.2

between June 1 and July 2, as four of the five main

groups registered small increases. The change in the food index from 112.0 to

112.1, was the result of mixed price movements as increases were reported for

eggs, beef, lamb, fresh and canned fruits, and potatoes, while decreases occurred

for pork, lard, sugar and some fresh vegetables. Advances in both rents and home-

ownership were reflected in the change in the shelter index from 126.4 to 126.6.

Household operation moved from 117.1 to 117.2 as slight advances in coal, cleaning

supplies, paid household help and a number of hardware items outweighed decreases

for a few furniture items and appliances. Among other commodities and services,

increases in drug prices, newspaper rates, and local transportation fares, over-

balanced decreases for gasoline and photographic films, and the index for this

group moved up from 117.5 to 117.6. Further decreases in nylon hosiery prices

were mainly responsible for the decline in the clothing series from 109.7 to

109.6.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949 = 100)

	Total Index	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities and Services
July 2, 1954	116.2	112.1	126.6	109.6	117.2	117.6
June 1, 1954	116.1	112.0	126.4	109.7	117.1	117.5
July 2, 1953	115.4	112.7	123.9	110.3	117.0	115.2

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

Industrial material prices recorded almost no change in July as the index for 30 commodities moved from 223.6 for the week of June 25th to 223.7 for the week of July 23rd. Increases in prices for steers, fir timber, raw rubber, tin and raw cotton, slightly outweighed declines in hogs, cottonseed oil, domestic raw wool, African sisal, beef hides, western wheat, iron ore, bleached sulphite pulp and domestic copper. Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets moved 5.0 per cent higher during July as the index advanced from 205.5 for the week of June 25th to 215.8 for the week of July 23rd. Principal strength was shown in the field products sub-group index which increased from 152.1 to 169.9, due mainly to a sharp seasonal rise in potatoes as the new crop reached the market. Increases were also noted for eastern barley, corn and rye and western flax and rye. Eastern wheat and western hay were lower. The animal products index advanced from 259.0 to 261.8 as higher prices for steers, calves, eggs, cheese milk and western butterfat overbalanced declines for hogs, eastern lambs and poultry.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939=100)

	1954 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	June 25th	July 2nd	July 9th	July 16th	July 23rd	July 1953	June 1954	July P 1954
Industrial Materials.....	223.6	224.5	224.2	224.6	223.7	231.7	223.9	224.2
Canadian Farm Products .....	205.5	205.5	213.9	213.7	215.8	226.5	209.6	212.2
Field .....	152.1	151.7	164.5	161.5	169.9	187.7	151.9	161.9
Animal .....	259.0	259.4	263.3	265.8	261.8	265.3	267.3	262.6

**SECURITY PRICE INDEXES:** Common stock prices on Canadian exchanges moved within (1935-1939 = 100) relatively narrow limits during the first four weeks of July, although the tendency was to slightly higher levels. Between the weeks of June 24th and July 22nd, the composite index for 99 issues changed from 179.9 to 181.8 while the group index for 79 industrials moved up from 179.6 to 181.3; 12 utilities from 167.0 to 169.3 and 8 banks from 212.7 to 215.7. Sub-group index increases were registered, among others, for machinery and equipment, pulp and paper, milling, beverages, building materials and power and traction stocks. Declines occurred for oils, industrial mines and transportation issues. Mining stocks, reflecting moderate strength for both golds and base metals, were firmer as the composite index advanced from 90.0 to 92.5 between the weeks of June 24th and July 22nd. The golds series moved from 63.9 to 65.4 in the same interval while the base metals index shifted from 149.7 to 154.5.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1954 Week Ended					Monthly Average (2)		
	June 24th	July 2nd	July 8th	July 15th	July 22nd	July 1953	June 1954	July 1954
<b>Investors' Price Index</b>								
99 Common Stocks .....	179.9	179.5	182.8	182.5	181.8	160.7	180.5	181.6
79 Industrials.....	179.6	179.2	182.2	181.8	181.3	160.5	180.4	181.1
12 Utilities.....	167.0	166.5	169.4	171.0	169.3	157.9	167.2	169.0
8 Banks .....	212.7	213.1	220.1	216.0	215.7	169.1	212.2	216.2
<b>Mining Stock Price Index</b>								
27 Stocks.....	90.0	91.1	91.2	91.3	92.5	91.4	90.0	91.5
22 Golds .....	63.9	64.0	63.5	64.3	65.4	66.3	63.9	64.3
5 Base Metals .....	149.7	153.2	154.6	153.0	154.5	148.9	149.7	153.8
<b>Government of Canada Long-Term Bonds - Yield Index<sup>1</sup> .....</b>	99.6	98.0	98.0	98.0	98.0	120.7	99.7	97.9

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

2. Four weeks average

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

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