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## PRICE MOVEMENTS

JUNE 1955

### THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:

(1949 = 100)

The Consumer Price Index decreased 0.4 per cent from 116.4 to 115.9 between May 2nd and June 1st. Most of the change was attributable to a decline in the food index, although four of the five group indexes were lower. The food series declined 1.2 per cent from 112.3 to 111.0 as sharply lower prices were registered for potatoes, followed by lesser price decreases for tea, coffee, and butter. Apples, grapefruit, and most cuts of meat were higher. The clothing index declined from 107.9 to 107.8 under the influence of small scattered decreases. Declines in coal, fuel oil, and furniture were the principal factors accounting for the change in the household operation index from 116.4 to 116.1. Other commodities and services receded from 118.3 to 117.8, largely as a result of further declines in automobiles. Shelter, the only group to advance, moved from 128.8 to 129.2 due mainly to higher rents, although home-ownership costs also moved up fractionally.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949 = 100)

	Total Index	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities and Services
June 1, 1955	115.9	111.0	129.2	107.8	116.1	117.8
May 2, 1955	116.4	112.3	128.8	107.9	116.4	118.3
June 1, 1954	116.1	112.0	126.4	109.7	117.1	117.5

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

The weekly composite index for thirty industrial materials advanced 1.6 per cent during June, from 233.1 for May 27th to 236.8 for June 24th. Commodity price changes were led by substantial gains for raw rubber, beef hides, hogs and linseed oil, followed by lesser increases for spruce lumber, zinc, sisal and tin. Western oats, raw sugar, steers and raw cotton were lower.

Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets showed an increase of 0.8 per cent during June, as the index moved from 212.3 for the week of May 27th to 214.1 for June 24th. Strength was concentrated in animal products, as the group index rose 2.8 per cent to 252.0, when higher prices for hogs, eggs, western lambs and eastern poultry outweighed decreases for calves, steers, eastern lambs and cheese milk, and western raw wool. Field products declined 1.9 per cent, from 179.5 to 176.1, due mainly to lower potato prices, although eastern rye, barley, corn, wheat and hay, and western rye also weakened. Eastern oats and tobacco, and western flax and hay, registered moderate strength.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939=100)

	Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	May 27th	June 3rd	June 10th	June 17th	June 24th	June 1954	May 1955	June 1955
Industrial Materials.....	233.1	233.6	235.0	236.8	236.8	224.0	233.2	235.6
Canadian Farm Products.....	212.3	211.6	211.1	212.9	214.1	214.8	213.3	212.4
Field.....	179.5	176.1	172.4	175.9	176.1	162.3	183.2	175.1
Animal.....	245.1	247.2	249.9	249.8	252.0	267.3	243.4	249.7

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## SECURITY PRICE INDEXES:

(1935-1939 = 100)

Common stock prices again moved strongly as the Investors' index advanced from 226.7 to 240.8 between the weeks of May 26th and June 23rd for a gain of 6.2 per cent. Among the major groups the index for 77 industrials advanced from 233.1 to 248.5 for a gain of 6.6 per cent, while the index for 14 utilities increased 5.1 per cent to 205.1 from 195.2 and 7 banks 4.9 per cent to 246.0 from 234.6. All sub-groups moved up led by substantial advances in milling, machinery and equipment, oils, industrial mines and building materials.

The composite index for 27 mining stocks advanced 7.6 per cent during the period under review, from 114.8 to 123.5. Both sub-group indexes shared in the advance, as 5 base metals changed from 212.0 to 230.1 and 22 golds from 72.4 to 77.0.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1955 Week Ended					Monthly Average (2)		
	May 26th	June 2nd	June 9th	June 16th	June 23rd	June 1954	May 1955	June 1955
<b>Investors' Price Index</b>								
99 Common Stocks .....	226.7	229.7	236.2	239.2	240.8	180.5	222.1	236.5
78 Industrials.....	233.1	236.2	243.5	246.8	248.5	180.4	227.8	243.8
14 Utilities.....	195.2	198.1	202.2	204.8	205.1	167.2	191.7	202.6
7 Banks.....	234.6	237.5	241.0	241.7	246.0	212.2	234.4	241.6
<b>Mining Stock Price Index</b>								
27 Stocks.....	114.8	117.9	120.6	122.9	123.5	90.0	114.2	121.2
22 Golds .....	72.4	74.0	76.1	76.6	77.0	63.9	72.8	75.9
5 Base Metals.....	212.0	218.5	222.6	228.9	230.1	149.7	209.0	225.0
Government of Canada Long-Term Bonds - Yield Index <sup>1</sup> .....	96.4	96.0	95.1	95.4	96.0	99.7	96.2	95.6

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

2. Average of four weeks.

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

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