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PRICE MOVEMENTS

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THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: (1949 = 100) The Consumer Price Index advanced 0.4 per cent from 119.8 to 120.3 between October and November 1956 to reach a new high. In November 1955 the index stood at 116.9. Increases in the Other Commodities and Services index and, to a lesser degree, in the Food index, were responsible for most of the latest change in the total index. Higher prices for 1957 models of passenger cars, together with increases for theatre admissions, haircuts and hairdressing, some drug items and liquor, resulted in the largest monthly movement in this component of the index in several years as it rose from 121.6 to 122.8. The Food index moved from 117.4 to 117.9 as higher prices were reported for bread, milk, most canned fruits and vegetables and some fresh imported vegetables. Fresh beef and pork declined seasonally while cured pork prices were somewhat higher. Eggs, grapefruit, bananas and domestic grown vegetables were lower. The Shelter index increased fractionally from 133.3 to 133.4 as the rent component advanced slightly and home-ownership remained unchanged. The Clothing index was practically unchanged as it declined from 108.5 to 108.4. Women's wear was lower as price decreases for fur coats and hosiery more than offset increases for other items. Increases for men's winter overcoats, shirts and hats, as well as other minor changes, moved men's wear to a higher level. Small price increases were recorded for footwear. A rise in the Household Operation index from 117.7 to 118.1 resulted from higher prices for coal, most items of furniture, some utensils and equipment and household supplies.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Total Index	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities and Services
November 1956	120.3	117.9	133.4	108.4	118.1	122.8
October 1956	119.8	117.4	133.3	108.5	117.7	121.6
November 1955	116.9	113.0	130.6	107.9	116.5	118.3

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

The index of 30 industrial materials advanced 0.9 per cent between October 26th and November

23rd, from 247.2 to 249.5, as higher prices were reported for raw rubber, raw sugar, hogs, beef hides, bituminous coal, tin, sisal, raw wool and raw cotton. On the other hand, sizable losses occurred for linseed oil and fir timber, followed by lesser declines for oats, wheat, copper, iron ore, and bleached sulphite pulp. Further improvement in the Canadian dollar in terms of United States funds served to lower prices for a number of items.

The index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets advanced 1.6 per cent from 208.5 to 211.8 in the period under review. The index gain of 2.8 per cent for Field Products, from 160.0 to 164.5, reflected sharp increases for Eastern potatoes and lesser gains for Eastern corn, oats and wheat and Western potatoes, hay and flax. Lower prices were reported for rye and Eastern peas. In Animal Products, for which the index moved up 0.9 per cent from 256.9 to 259.1, firmer prices were registered for Western calves and steers and Eastern and Western hogs, lambs, wool and milk for fluid sales. Eggs showed major price losses on all markets while cheesemilk dropped slightly.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Oct. 26th	Nov. 2nd	Nov. 9th	Nov. 16th	Nov. 23rd	Nov. 1955	Oct. 1956	Nov. P 1956
Industrial Materials	247.2	248.2	247.6	248.3	249.5	240.8	247.6	248.4
Canadian Farm Products	208.5	207.4	208.2	209.2	211.8	196.9	208.0	209.2
Field.....	160.0	159.9	160.6	162.6	164.5	153.2	159.9	161.9
Animal.....	256.9	254.9	255.9	255.7	259.1	240.5	256.0	256.4

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SECURITY PRICE INDEXES:
(1935-1939 = 100)

The Investors' Index of 96 common stocks fell 6.6 per cent in the five-week period between October 25th and November 29th from 265.2 to 247.6, bringing the series to its lowest level since the week of January 19th. Week-to-week movement showed a firmer tone in the first part of the month followed by continuous weakness. Declines in the major groups were: 7 Banks, 7.1 per cent from 278.5 to 258.8; 76 Industrials 6.8 per cent from 278.3 to 259.3; and 13 Utilities 5.3 per cent from 202.7 to 192.0. Indexes were lower for all sub-groups, with losses led by Machinery and Equipment and Industrial Mines, each 10.0 per cent, Beverages 9.4 per cent, Pulp and Paper 9.2 per cent, Milling 8.9 per cent, Transportation 8.3 per cent and Building Materials 7.3 per cent.

The composite index of 26 mining issues declined 9.8 per cent in the period under review, from 130.4 to 117.6, the lowest level for this index since the final week of October 1955. For 21 Gold Stocks the index fell 10.7 per cent from 71.8 to 64.1, while that for 5 Base Metals dropped 9.2 per cent from 264.4 to 240.1.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1956 Week Ended						Monthly Average		
	Oct. 25th	Nov. 1st	Nov. 8th	Nov. 15th	Nov. 22nd	Nov. 29th	Nov. 1955	Oct. 1956	Nov. 1956
Investors' Price Index									
96 Common Stocks	265.2	267.9	270.5	267.5	258.2	247.6	245.6	270.3	262.3
76 Industrials.....	278.3	282.7	285.2	281.5	271.1	259.3	255.3	284.8	276.0
13 Utilities.....	202.7	202.3	205.9	202.9	198.3	192.0	201.4	205.1	200.3
7 Banks	278.5	270.3	272.0	275.7	267.4	258.8	250.8	275.3	268.8
Mining Stock Price Index									
26 Stocks.....	130.4	132.0	133.8	130.6	123.1	117.6	119.6	133.5	127.4
21 Golds	71.8	71.4	71.4	69.4	66.6	64.1	71.2	72.5	68.6
5 Base Metals.....	264.4	270.8	276.7	270.6	252.6	240.1	230.2	273.3	262.2

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