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PRICE MOVEMENTS

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THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: (1949=100) The Consumer Price Index recorded its first decline in ten months as it moved from 123.4 to 123.3 between October and November. The index now stands 2.5 per cent above the level of a year ago. In the month under review, a substantial decrease in the Food index was not quite offset by increases in the other four groups. Foods declined 1.2 per cent from 121.7 to 120.2 as appreciably lower prices were reported for all pork cuts, and smaller but still significant decreases for beef. Prices were slightly lower for grapefruit, coffee, sugar, canned fruits and most Canadian grown fresh vegetables. The only noteworthy price increases were those registered for oranges, tomatoes and lettuce. The Shelter index continued its long uninterrupted rise, moving from 135.9 to 136.3. The rent component remained practically unchanged, up only 0.1 per cent. The home-ownership series advanced 0.5 per cent, reflecting 1957 property taxes. The Clothing index recorded the sharpest rise in some time moving from 108.7 to 109.8. Women's fur coats, children's winter coats, parkas and snow suits were priced in November at levels higher than those prevailing at the end of last winter. Men's overcoats, children's shoes and rayon dress material were higher than the previous month. The Household Operation index rose from 120.1 to 120.5 as coal prices increased seasonally and prices were higher for furniture and dishes. Other Commodities and Services increased from 127.4 to 127.7, despite further declines in 1957 model cars, as price increases were recorded for a wide variety of items - taxi fares, theatre admissions, film, pharmaceuticals, beer, most personal care supplies, men's haircuts and women's hairdressing.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Total Index	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities and Services
November 1957	123.3	120.2	136.3	109.8	120.5	127.7
October 1957	123.4	121.7	135.9	108.7	120.1	127.4
November 1956	120.3	117.9	133.4	108.4	118.1	122.8

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EDMOND CLOUTIER, C.M.G., O.A., D.S.P., Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationery, Ottawa, 1957.

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

The price index of 30 Industrial Materials again eased over the four-week period October 25th to November 22nd, moving from 232.9 to 230.5. This is a continuation of the downward trend of this series apparent over most of 1957. Prices were lower for raw wool, steel scrap, beef hides, raw rubber, raw sugar, tin, spruce lumber, sisal, copper, hogs, rosin and wheat. Partially offsetting increases were noted for steers, linseed oil, raw cotton, oats, iron ore and bleached sulphite pulp. The relatively weaker position of the Canadian dollar in terms of United States funds continued to be a factor in foreign trade commodity price fluctuations.

The Index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal

markets rose fractionally in the four-week period October 25th to November 22nd, from 200.6 to 201.7. The Field Products index edged up from 152.7 to 153.6 reflecting higher prices for potatoes, flax, Western rye and Eastern wheat. Only corn was slightly lower. For Animal Products the slight index advance from 248.5 to 249.8 was due to increases for steers, lambs and fluid milk, and for calves on Western markets. Almost balancing the increases were price declines for raw wool, eggs, hogs, and calves in the East. The Eastern index moved slightly higher, from 214.9 to 217.4, while the Western series dropped fractionally from 186.2 to 185.9.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1957 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Oct. 25th	Nov. 1st	Nov. 8th	Nov. 15th	Nov. 22nd	Nov. 1956	Oct. 1957	Nov. P 1957
Industrial Materials.....	232.9	232.0	229.4	229.6	230.5	247.7	232.5	230.4
Canadian Farm Products	200.6	198.3	198.0	199.5	201.7	209.5	200.7	199.4
Field	152.7	153.0	153.3	153.6	153.6	163.1	152.8	153.4
Animal.....	248.5	243.6	242.8	245.4	249.8	255.9	248.6	245.4

P - Preliminary, average of four weeks.

(1) All 1957 indexes subject to revision. Canadian Farm Products subsequent to July 1956 are subject to further major revisions as and when interim and/or participation payments are announced. For further details see "Prices and Price Indexes, Monthly".

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES:
(1935-1939 = 100)

The Investors' Index of 95 common stock prices, after exhibiting mid-month weakness, subsequently recovered to register a net advance of 3.5 per cent from 217.2 to 224.7 between October 31st and November 28th. The month-end index now stands 22.7 per cent below the 1957 weekly high of 290.8 (June 13th) but 6.9 per cent above the low of 210.1 touched October 17th. Among major groups advances over the month were as follows: 75 Industrials 3.9 per cent from 225.1 to 233.8; 7 Banks 3.8 per cent from 234.0 to 243.0; and 13 Utilities 0.9 per cent from 175.5 to 177.1. Net increases for sub-groups were led by Beverages, Foods and Allied Products, and Oils. Two groups, Transportation and Machinery and Equipment, moved down slightly.

Mining stock prices, after opening strength, weakened to close the month almost unchanged at 93.9 as against 93.3 for the final week of October. Modest improvement occurred for both component groups as 21 Golds advanced from 61.5 to 61.9, and 6 Base Metals from 166.0 to 167.2.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1957 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Oct. 31st	Nov. 7th	Nov. 14th	Nov. 21st	Nov. 28th	Nov. 1956	Oct. 1957	Nov. 1957
Investors' Price Index								
95 Common Stocks	217.2	219.2	211.6	219.0	224.7	262.3	219.6	218.6
75 Industrials.....	225.1	227.4	217.9	225.8	233.8	276.0	228.0	226.2
13 Utilities.....	175.5	176.7	174.1	176.9	177.1	200.3	176.7	176.2
7 Banks.....	234.0	235.1	235.8	248.1	243.0	268.8	234.9	240.5
Mining Stock Price Index								
27 Stocks.....	93.3	95.8	91.1	92.7	93.9	127.4	95.0	93.4
21 Golds.....	61.5	61.1	60.3	61.5	61.9	68.6	63.4	61.2
6 Base Metals.....	166.0	175.3	161.5	164.0	167.2	262.2	167.2	167.0

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