



PRICE MOVEMENTS

NOVEMBER 1959

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: (1949=100) Between October and November 1959 the Consumer Price Index edged up slightly from 128.0 to 128.3. The November index is 1.6 per cent above the level of a year ago. The food component declined 0.3 per cent in the current period. Increases in Clothing (0.8 per cent) and Other Commodities and Services (1.0 per cent) were largely responsible for the movement of the total index. Both the Shelter and Household Operation indexes registered fractional increases of 0.1 per cent.

The Clothing index advanced from 110.5 to 111.4 as November prices for women's fur coats and boys' parkas were up from prices prevailing at the end of last season as well as above the level of a year ago. Footwear recorded further price increases, particularly children's shoes which were up 4.6 per cent. A number of men's furnishings rose slightly.

The rise in the Other Commodities and Services index from 135.5 to 136.9 was due largely to initial pricing of 1960 passenger cars which were 4 per cent above the 1959 model prices of a year ago and 13 per cent higher than model year end prices of October 1959. Higher prices were also in evidence for theatre admissions, pharmaceuticals, personal care items, men's haircuts, and women's hair-dressing.

The Shelter index increased from 142.4 to 142.6; rents were up 0.1 per cent and home-ownership up 0.3 per cent. The change in the Household Operation index from 123.4 to 123.5 reflected a number of minor price increases for household supplies, utensils, and fuel. The Food index declined from 124.2 to 123.8. Lower prices were reported for eggs, grapefruit, canned vegetables, some beef and pork cuts, and lamb. Most fresh vegetable prices were higher.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Total Index	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities and Services
November 1959	128.3	123.8	142.6	111.4	123.5	136.9
October 1959	128.0	124.2	142.4	110.5	123.4	135.5
November 1958	126.3	123.2	139.8	110.4	121.5	133.1

(1)

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

The index of 30 industrial raw material prices eased 0.2 per cent in the four-week period October 30th

to November 20th. The most significant price changes noted were a further drop for beef hides, an easing for linseed oil following recent sharp gains, and an increase for raw rubber which continued the upward trend apparent since July 1958. Lesser changes included declines for raw wool and oats, and gains for steers, domestic copper, raw sugar, raw cotton and wheat.

In the same period the index of Canadian farm products at terminal markets moved 0.4 per cent higher. The Animal Product index increase of 0.7 per cent reflected higher prices for calves and cheesemilk both East and West, and steers, hogs and poultry on Eastern markets, which were partially offset by declines for eggs, and for raw wool and steers in the West. The Field Product index was almost unchanged as lower prices for Western flax and rye and Eastern barley, corn and potatoes were almost balanced by gains for Western potatoes and hay and Eastern rye and wheat. Regional index changes were as follows: Eastern up 0.9 per cent from 235.5 to 237.6 and the Western down 0.2 per cent from 197.1 to 196.8.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1959 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Oct. 30th	Nov. 6th	Nov. 13th	Nov. 20th	Nov. 27th	Nov. 1958	Oct. 1959	Nov. (P) 1959
Industrial Materials.....	242.7	241.9	242.6	242.1	NOT AVAILABLE	233.1	242.0	242.2
Canadian Farm Products	216.3	218.0	217.4	217.2		212.1	215.4	217.5
Field	164.8	165.0	164.8	164.6		155.2	163.0	164.8
Animal.....	267.8	270.9	269.9	269.8		269.1	267.9	270.2

(P) - Preliminary, average of weeks.

(1) - All 1959 indexes subject to revision. Canadian Farm Products subsequent to July 1958 are subject to further major revisions as and when interim and/or final participation payments are announced for Western wheat, oats, and barley. For further details see "Prices and Price Indexes, Monthly".

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES: The Investors' Index of 92 common stock prices edged 0.5 per cent higher in the four-week period October 29th to November 26th. The week-to-week movement showed gains in the first two and last weeks, with a sharp dip in the week of November 19th which reflected losses for a number of Industrial component sub-groups. Changes for major groups were: 72 Industrials and 13 Utilities, up 0.6 and 0.5 per cent respectively, and 7 Banks down 0.3 per cent. Compared to the week of August 6th, the 1959 high to date for the Investors' Index, these major group indexes have fallen 10.7, 7.8, and 11.9 per cent respectively. Gains for 7 sub-groups since October 29th were led by 5.2 per cent for Pulp and Paper, from 1089.4 to 1146.1, 5.0 per cent for Industrial Mines, from 193.6 to 203.2, and 4.9 per cent for Telephones, from 108.8 to 114.1. Five sub-groups moved down, led by 3.6 per cent for Oils, from 171.0 to 164.9, and 3.6 per cent for Transportation, from 303.6 to 292.8.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1959 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Oct. 29th	Nov. 5th	Nov. 12th	Nov. 19th	Nov. 26th	Nov. 1958	Oct. 1959	Nov. 1959
Investors' Price Index								
92 Common Stocks	252.3	252.6	254.5	250.8	253.5	262.0	252.5	252.8
72 Industrials.....	258.4	259.0	261.4	256.5	259.9	271.2	257.4	259.2
13 Utilities.....	187.0	187.3	186.9	185.5	187.9	197.7	187.3	186.9
7 Banks	343.4	339.6	342.1	346.0	342.4	318.0	354.7	342.5
Mining Stock Price Index								
27 Stocks.....	112.6	113.9	113.0	112.5	110.9	117.6	112.2	112.6
21 Golds	81.9	83.0	83.1	82.6	81.5	77.9	82.7	82.6
6 Base Metals	183.0	184.8	181.4	180.8	178.2	208.8	179.9	181.3

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