



## PRICE MOVEMENTS

JUNE 1959

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:

(1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index increased 0.2 per cent from 125.6 to 125.9 between May and June 1959. Increases in the Food, Shelter, and Other Commodities and Services group indexes were partially offset by a lower Clothing index. The Household Operation index was unchanged.

An increase of 0.5 per cent in the Food index, from 118.5 to 119.1, resulted almost entirely from a sharp seasonal rise of 35 per cent in potato prices. Some other fresh vegetables and fruits were up moderately and pork advanced fractionally. Beef, coffee, and sugar prices continued to ease to somewhat lower levels.

A 0.4 per cent increase in the Shelter index, from 141.0 to 141.5, resulted from both higher rents associated with the traditional May first moving date, and an increase of 6.0 per cent in fire insurance rates.

The Other Commodities and Services index advanced 0.4 per cent from 134.9 to 135.4 as higher prices were reported for a wide range of pharmaceuticals. Price increases were also reported for personal care items, train fares and inter-urban bus fares. First of June gasoline prices returned to April levels following a break in gasoline prices in May brought on by "price wars".

A decrease of 0.5 per cent in the Clothing index, from 109.7 to 109.2, reflected sale prices on men's suits and topcoats, women's and girls' spring coats, and cotton piece goods.

The Household Operation index was unchanged at 122.5 with further seasonal price declines for coal balancing higher prices for some household supplies and services, particularly shoe repairs and insurance rates for household effects.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Total Index	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities and Services
June 1959	125.9	119.1	141.5	109.2	122.5	135.4
May 1959	125.6	118.5	141.0	109.7	122.5	134.9
June 1958	125.1	122.7	138.3	109.7	120.6	130.7

(1)

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

The price index of thirty industrial raw materials was almost unchanged in the three-week period May 29th to June 19th, moving from 242.9 to 242.7. For the comparable week of June in 1957 and 1958 the index stood at 240.0 and 226.8 respectively. The current easing reflects moderately lower prices for nine commodities, led by raw rubber and raw sugar, which were almost balanced by gains for six items, headed by raw cotton, beef hides and fir timber.

The index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets in the same period edged up from 219.9 to 221.0. In Field Products a gain of 3.2 per cent from 167.6 to 172.9 represented sharply higher potato prices and slight gains for hay and some Eastern grains which were partially offset by lower quotations for flax and Eastern peas and barley. In Animal Products, which declined 1.1 per cent from 272.1 to 269.1, lower prices were reported for steers, calves, poultry, Eastern eggs and Western wool. Spring lambs came on the market at advanced prices while hogs on Eastern markets and Western butterfat showed small increases.

**Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)**

	1959 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	May 29th	June 5th	June 12th	June 19th	June 26th	June 1958	May 1959	June (P) 1959
<b>Industrial Materials.....</b>	242.9	242.7	242.6	242.7	Not Available	227.3	241.4	242.7
<b>Canadian Farm Products .....</b>	219.9	221.2	222.7	221.0		227.7	218.8	221.6
<b>Field .....</b>	167.6	171.8	175.3	172.9		169.1	166.5	173.3
<b>Animal.....</b>	272.1	270.6	270.2	269.1		286.4	271.0	270.0

P - Preliminary, average of three 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:**  
(1935-1939 = 100)

The Investors' Index of 93 common stocks moved up fractionally from 268.2 to 269.4 in the four-week period May 28th to June 25th. Among major groups, 7 Banks advanced 1.1 per cent from 372.7 to 376.7, and 73 Industrials edged up from 272.8 to 275.2, while 13 Utilities declined 2.6 per cent from 203.5 to 198.3. Seven sub-groups within Industrials advanced, led by 12.6 for Machinery and Equipment and 10.5 for Milling, while Oils and Food and Allied Products declined 6.1 and 5.1 per cent respectively. Losses within Utilities were shared by all three sub-groups.

The index of 27 Mining issues moved 3.2 per cent lower from 121.0 to 117.1 in the period under review, reflecting declines of 3.8 per cent for 6 Base Metals from 195.1 to 187.6 and 2.6 per cent for 21 Gold stocks from 88.6 to 86.3.

**Weekly Security Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)**

	1959 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	May 28th	June 4th	June 11th	June 18th	June 25th	June 1958	May 1959	June 1959
<b>Investors' Price Index</b>								
93 Common Stocks .....	268.2	269.5	270.2	268.9	269.4	237.8	267.2	269.5
73 Industrials.....	272.8	273.3	275.1	273.8	275.2	246.4	271.5	274.4
13 Utilities.....	203.5	204.4	202.9	200.7	198.3	187.6	204.3	201.6
7 Banks.....	372.7	382.5	378.0	378.6	376.7	266.6	370.4	379.0
<b>Mining Stock Price Index</b>								
27 Stocks.....	121.0	120.0	121.2	119.3	117.1	104.1	119.5	119.4
21 Golds .....	88.6	87.4	87.7	86.7	86.3	73.8	87.0	87.0
6 Base Metals.....	195.1	194.5	197.8	193.8	187.6	173.3	194.0	193.4

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