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PRICE MOVEMENTS

OCTOBER 1960

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:

(1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.8 per cent from 128.4 to 129.4 between September and October 1960. All five group indexes contributed to this movement but a further seasonal increase of 2.0 per cent in foods accounted for most of it. Increases in the other four group indexes averaged 0.2 per cent. The October index of 129.4 stood 1.1 per cent above the October 1959 level of 128.0.

The rise in the Food index from 123.3 to 125.8 was largely seasonal and this movement placed the October 1960 index 1.3 per cent above the October 1959 level of 124.2. Price increases between September and October were reported for eggs, bananas, citrus fruits, tomatoes and most meats. Price declines were generally limited to apples, lamb, veal and domestically grown vegetables.

The Shelter index increased fractionally from 144.2 to 144.3 with both the rent and home-ownership components edging up.

The Clothing index rose 0.6 per cent, from 110.5 to 111.2, largely reflecting prices of new season's lines of winter clothing up from last season's year-end levels. Women's and girls' winter coats were particularly affected in these price changes.

The Household Operation index increased from 123.3 to 123.5, a rise of 0.2 per cent. Furniture prices moved up from previous months' sales levels while higher prices were reported for coal and some household supplies and services. Appliance prices continued to drift to lower levels as both current and new season's models reflected this movement.

The Other Commodities and Services index increased a fractional 0.1 per cent from 137.6 to 137.8 as fees were higher for doctors' and dentists' services and premiums for prepaid health care increased in some regions.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Total Index	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities and Services
October 1960	129.4	125.8	144.3	111.2	123.5	137.8
September 1960	128.4	123.3	144.2	110.5	123.3	137.6
October 1959	128.0	124.2	142.4	110.5	123.4	135.5

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Prepared in Prices Division

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES (WEEKLY) (1)
(1935-1939 = 100)

The price index of 30 industrial materials moved down 1.2 per cent from 241.7 to 238.8 in the three-week period September 30th to October 21st. Eleven commodities registered declines, led by hogs, fir timber, domestic copper, raw rubber, steers, raw wool, and beef hides. Cottonseed oil rose slightly. Compared to the same week a year ago, when the index stood at 243.0, prices were substantially lower for raw wool, linseed oil, beef hides and fir timber; rosin, sisal and hogs showed major gains.

The price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets eased 1.2 per cent in the same period reflecting price changes which were for the most part minor. In Animal Products, for which the index declined 2.1 per cent, lower prices were reported for hogs, for steers in the East, and for eggs, raw wool and lambs in the West. For Field Products the index edged up 0.3 per cent reflecting in the East a higher price for oats, followed by lesser gains for peas, wheat and hay, and lower prices for corn in the East and rye in the West. Regional indexes declined: The Eastern index moved down 1.8 per cent from 239.2 to 235.0 and the Western index 0.7 per cent from 196.9 to 195.5.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1960 Week Ended					Monthly Average			(P)
	Sept. 30th	Oct. 7th	Oct. 14th	Oct. 21st		Oct. 1959	Sept. 1960	Oct. 1960	
Industrial Materials.....	241.7	241.3	240.4	238.8	NOT AVAILABLE	242.0	241.0	240.2	
Canadian Farm Products	218.0	215.8	216.1	215.3		215.5	217.0	215.7	
Field	161.5	161.3	161.9	162.0		163.1	160.4	161.7	
Animal.....	274.5	270.3	270.2	268.6		267.9	273.6	269.7	

(1) - All 1960 indexes are subject to revision. Canadian Farm Products subsequent to July 1959 are subject to further major revisions as and when interim and/or final participation payments are announced for Western wheat, oats and barley.

(P) - Preliminary, average of three weeks.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

The Investors Index of 93 common stock prices, on the base 1935-1939 = 100, edged 0.2 per cent higher in the four-week period September 29th to October 27th. Among the major groups 72 Industrials showed a gain of 0.4 per cent, while 7 Banks and 14 Utilities declined 0.7 and 0.5 per cent respectively. Sub-group gains were led by Milling and Grains, up 2.5 per cent from 198.2 to 203.1, Machinery and Equipment 2.2 per cent from 612.7 to 626.3, and Food and Allied Products 1.6 per cent from 240.4 to 244.2. Declines for sub-groups were led by a drop of 4.9 per cent for Transportation from 268.0 to 255.0, its lowest level since January 1954, and 2.3 per cent for Textiles and Clothing from 174.9 to 170.9.

The index of 27 Mining stocks advanced 3.4 per cent in the same period reflecting a sharp rise of 7.4 per cent for 21 Golds and a fractional loss of 0.6 per cent for 6 Base Metals. Both groups were high in the third week; for Golds the index touched its highest level since August 1959.

In the same period, two of the supplementary indexes on the base 1956 = 100 showed gains: Pipelines, 3.7 per cent, and Uraniums, 2.0 per cent; while Investment and Loan, and Primary Oils and Gas declined 2.8 and 1.4 per cent respectively.

Weekly Security Price Indexes

	1960 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Sept. 29th	Oct. 6th	Oct. 13th	Oct. 20th	Oct. 27th	Oct. 1959	Sept. 1960	Oct. 1960
(1935 - 1939 = 100)								
Investors Price Index								
93 Common Stocks	239.4	241.5	243.0	242.4	239.8	252.5	248.9	241.7
72 Industrials	243.6	246.1	248.1	247.2	244.5	257.4	254.2	246.5
14 Utilities	187.2	189.2	188.1	187.8	186.3	187.3	191.7	187.8
7 Banks	318.7	317.5	319.1	321.2	316.6	354.7	329.3	318.6
Mining Stock Price Index								
27 Stocks	103.8	105.3	103.3	113.7	107.3	112.2	104.0	107.4
21 Golds	74.8	77.1	75.2	87.1	80.3	82.7	73.5	79.9
6 Base Metals	170.1	169.7	167.7	174.7	169.0	179.9	173.8	170.3
(1956 = 100)								
5 Pipelines	102.9	105.0	106.2	104.9	106.7	115.4	106.0	105.7
5 Investment and loan	124.3	123.2	123.6	124.9	120.8	118.1	128.2	123.1
7 Uraniums	58.8	58.9	58.3	60.7	60.0	73.9	57.4	59.5
9 Primary Oil and Gas	43.9	44.7	44.0	44.3	43.3	61.0	46.1	44.1

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