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PRICE MOVEMENTS

FEBRUARY 1962

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:

(1949=100)

Between January and February 1962, the Consumer Price Index edged up from 129.7 to 129.8, a rise of 0.1 per cent. Increases occurred in the Food, Clothing, Transportation, Health and Personal Care, and Recreation and Reading indexes. The Tobacco and Alcohol index decreased while the Housing index was unchanged.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Component Weights (1)	1962		1961
		February	January	December
All-Items	100	129.8	129.7	129.8
Food	27	125.0	124.8	124.5
Housing (2)	32	134.0	134.0	133.8
Clothing	11	111.8	111.6	113.7
Transportation	12	140.7	140.6	141.1
Health and Personal Care	7	157.2	156.8	156.8
Recreation and Reading	5	146.7	146.6	146.3
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	117.2	117.3	117.3

(1) Component weights indicate the relative importance of item groups.

(2) This index is composed of shelter and household operation.

The Food index increased 0.2 per cent from 124.8 to 125.0 as sharply higher prices were reported for a number of fresh vegetables, mainly imported, including carrots, cabbage, lettuce and onions. Prices were also higher for bread, eggs, oranges, coffee, tea, veal, turkey and powdered skim milk. Prices were lower for beef, pork, chicken, frozen orange juice, fresh tomatoes and fats.

The Housing index was unchanged at 134.0. With the shelter
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Prepared in Prices Division

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

The index of Industrial Materials, calculated as an unweighted geometric average of 30 prices, edged up 0.4 per cent in the three-week period January 26th to February 16th. Prices for 11 commodities advanced and 4 declined, while 15 remained unchanged. Principal changes included increases for raw sugar, sisal, fir timber, linseed oil, raw rubber, tin, and hogs, and decreases for steers, beef hides, and domestic lead.

In the same three-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets moved down 0.2 per cent. The Animal Products index declined 0.7 per cent, reflecting mainly lower prices for steers on both Eastern and Western markets and butterfat in the East. Prices advanced for calves, hogs and eggs, both East and West, and for poultry in the East. The Field Products index moved up 0.6 per cent as a result of higher prices for wheat in the East, hay and rye in the West, and potatoes in both regions.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1962 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Feb. 23rd	Feb. 16th	Feb. 9th	Feb. 2nd	Jan. 26th	Feb.(P) 1962	Jan. 1962	Feb. 1961
Industrial Materials	A V A I L A B L E	248.0	248.2	247.2	247.1	247.8	245.2	238.1
Canadian Farm Products		216.2	216.5	215.5	216.7	216.1	215.9	223.6 ^r
Field		161.6	161.0	160.6	160.6	161.1	160.8	170.9 ^r
Animal		270.8	272.0	270.3	272.7	271.0	271.0	276.3
Regional Indexes:								
Eastern Canada	N O T	233.3	233.1	231.5	233.7	232.6	233.5	241.0
Western Canada		199.1	199.9	199.4	199.6	199.5	198.3	206.2

1 - All 1962 indexes are subject to revision. For Canadian Farm Products, indexes from July 1960 are subject to revision as and when participation payments are announced for Western grains.

(P) - Preliminary, average of 3 weeks.

r - Revised figures.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES: The Investors Index of common stock prices, on the base 1935-39=100, moved up 2.0 per cent in the four-week period January 25th to February 22nd. Increases for major groups were: Industrials, 2.2 per cent, Utilities, 1.8 per cent and Banks, 1.4 per cent. Within Industrials, gains for seven of the nine sub-groups were led by Pulp and Paper, up 9.0 per cent from 1,287.0 to a new high of 1,402.4 and Textiles and Clothing, up 5.2 per cent from 257.0 to 270.4. The Beverage sub-group, which reached an all-time high of 1,022.5 in the second week closed the four-week period at 1,015.4 for a 2.2 per cent net gain from 987.3. Two sub-groups within Utilities advanced, with Transportation up 3.6 per cent from 330.8 to 342.6, and Telephones up 2.1 per cent from 153.9 to 157.2, while Power and Traction declined fractionally from 207.4 to 206.7.

The index of Mining Stocks, on the base 1935-39=100, declined 1.5 per cent reflecting a decrease of 2.7 per cent for Base Metals and an increase of 0.2 per cent for Golds.

Four supplementary indexes on the base 1956=100, showed gains as follows: Primary Oils and Gas, 18.9 per cent; Uraniums, 2.6 per cent; Pipelines, 1.8 per cent; and Investment and Loan, 1.6 per cent.

Weekly Security Price Indexes

	1962 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Feb. 22nd	Feb. 15th	Feb. 8th	Feb. 1st	Jan. 25th	Feb. 1962	Jan. 1962	Feb. 1961
(1935 - 1939 = 100)								
Investors Price Index								
87 Common Stocks	329.5	332.0	330.8	327.1	322.9	329.8	331.3	285.3
Industrials(68)	344.2	346.4	345.1	341.7	336.8	344.4	345.6	295.7
Utilities(13)	228.9	232.1	232.1	226.7	224.9	230.0	228.9	205.9
Banks(6)	415.7	418.6	415.6	413.2	410.1	415.8	424.2	364.8
Mining Stock Price Index								
27 Stocks	135.5	134.8	137.8	137.3	137.5	136.4	139.3	110.8
Golds(21)	83.8	81.9	84.1	83.2	83.6	83.2	85.1	75.9
Base Metals(6)	253.9	255.9	260.7	261.2	260.9	257.9	263.3	190.8
(1956 = 100)								
5 Pipelines	154.6	155.3	155.1	151.5	151.9	154.1	155.0	121.0
5 Investment and loan	194.4	198.6	197.1	195.6	191.4	196.4	197.6	145.3
6 Uraniums	79.0	78.7	78.2	77.0	77.0	78.2	75.9	65.8
9 Primary Oil and Gas	74.1	74.4	74.9	72.1	62.3	73.9	69.4	55.0



THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: (Continued from Page 1)
(1949=100)

component unchanged from its January level, a slight decline in household operation was not sufficient to move the index. In shelter, both rents and home-ownership were unchanged. In household operation, sale prices for furniture, floor coverings, and utensils and equipment offset price increases in fuel and lighting.

The Clothing index increased 0.2 per cent from 111.6 to 111.8 as a number of items of men's, women's and children's wear, and piece goods moved up from January sales levels; other items in these groups reflected continuing mid-winter sales. Shoe prices rose slightly.

The Transportation index increased 0.1 per cent from 140.6 to 140.7 as all three component indexes moved higher. The automobile operation index rose as a result of higher gasoline prices, the local transportation index increased because of higher taxi fares and increases in inter-urban bus fares moved the travel index.

The Health and Personal Care index rose 0.3 per cent from 156.8 to 157.2 due to higher doctors' fees in the health care index which more than balanced lower prices for pharmaceuticals, including prescriptions. The personal care index was unchanged, with lower prices for supplies, including toothpaste, toothbrushes and face cream balancing increases for men's haircuts.

The Recreation and Reading index was up 0.1 per cent from 146.6 to 146.7. The recreation component was unchanged but the reading component rose as a result of higher newspaper prices.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index declined 0.1 per cent, from 117.3 to 117.2, with lower cigarette prices in the tobacco index offsetting slightly higher prices for alcoholic beverages resulting from tax changes in Saskatchewan.