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PRICE MOVEMENTS

APRIL 1962

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:
 (1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.5 per cent from 129.7 to 130.3 between March and April 1962. Increases occurred in the Food, Clothing, Transportation, Health and Personal Care, and Tobacco and Alcohol indexes. The Housing index was unchanged and the Recreation and Reading declined fractionally.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Component Weights (1)	1962		
		April	March	February
All-Items	100	130.3	129.7	129.8
Food	27	125.8	124.4	125.0
Housing (2)	32	134.0	134.0	134.0
Clothing	11	113.2	112.9	111.8
Transportation	12	140.2	139.9	140.7
Health and Personal Care	7	158.1	157.2	157.2
Recreation and Reading	5	146.6	146.7	146.7
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	117.9	117.5	117.2

- (1) Component weights indicate the relative importance of item groups.
 (2) This index is composed of shelter and household operation.

The Food index was up 1.1 per cent from 124.4 to 125.8 as seasonally higher prices were reported for most fruits and vegetables, particularly cabbage, lettuce, celery and apples. Price increases also occurred for beef, some pork items, chicken and bread. Prices were lower for eggs, frozen orange juice, fresh tomatoes, chocolate bars, and fats, including butter.

The Housing index was unchanged at 134.0. The shelter component was unchanged and a fractional decline in the household operation component

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Prepared in Prices Division

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

The price index of 30 Industrial Materials,

calculated as an unweighted geometric average, eased 0.1 per cent in the three-week period March 30th to April 19th. Prices for 5 commodities declined and 8 advanced, while 17 remained unchanged. Principal changes included price decreases for beef hides, raw rubber, steers, raw sugar and tin, and increases for domestic lead, raw cotton and hogs.

In the same three-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets advanced 0.6 per cent. The Animal Products index rose 1.0 per cent reflecting higher prices for hogs and calves on both Eastern and Western markets, lambs and poultry in the East, and cheesemilk and steers in the West. Prices were lower for eggs, both East and West, and for steers in the East. The Field Products index moved up 0.1 per cent with higher prices for rye on both markets, barley and oats in the East, and hay and potatoes in the West. Showing lower were potatoes and hay in the East.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1962 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Apr. 27th	Apr. 19th	Apr. 13th	Apr. 6th	Mar. 30th	Apr. (P) 1962	Mar. 1962	Apr. 1961
Industrial Materials	AVAILABLE	249.6	249.5	250.3	249.9	249.8	247.1	241.7
Canadian Farm Products	AVAILABLE	220.3	219.2	219.0	218.9	219.5	217.3	225.1 ^r
Field	AVAILABLE	166.7	166.3	166.3	166.5	166.4	167.1	188.5 ^r
Animal	AVAILABLE	273.9	272.0	271.6	271.2	272.5	267.5	261.7 ^r
Regional Indexes:								
Eastern Canada	NOT AVAILABLE	232.5	231.6	232.2	232.1	232.1	230.3	231.2 ^r
Western Canada	NOT AVAILABLE	208.1	206.8	205.8	205.7	206.9	204.3	219.0 ^r

1 - All 1962 indexes are subject to revision. For Canadian Farm Products, indexes from July 1961 are subject to revision as and when participation payments are announced for Western grains. The April 1961 index reflects final payments for wheat for the 1960-1961 crop year announced April 2nd, 1962.

(P) - Preliminary, average of 3 weeks.

r - Revised, see note 1 above.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES: The Investors Index of common stock prices, on the base 1935-39=100, moved down 2.2 per cent in the four-week period March 29th to April 26th. Decreases for major groups were: Industrials, 2.3 per cent, Banks, 1.7 per cent and Utilities, 1.1 per cent. Within Industrials, all nine sub-groups declined, led by Machinery and Equipment, down 7.7 per cent from 690.1 to 637.1, Food and Allied Products, down 3.6 per cent from 310.8 to 299.6 and Milling and Grains down 2.9 per cent from 241.3 to 234.3. The Pulp and Paper sub-group, which reached an all-time high of 1,432.0 in the third week, closed the four-week period at 1,424.8 for an 0.2 per cent loss from 1,428.3. Two sub-groups within Utilities declined, with Telephones down 2.7 per cent from 155.9 to 151.7 and Power and Traction down 0.3 per cent from 200.8 to 200.1, while the third sub-group Transportation advanced 3.4 per cent from 326.8 to 337.8.

The price index of Mining Stocks, on the base 1935-39=100, rose 0.4 per cent reflecting an increase of 1.5 per cent for Golds and a decrease of 0.8 per cent for Base Metals.

Three of the four supplementary price indexes, on the base 1956=100, declined as follows: Investment and Loan, down 4.0 per cent; Primary Oils and Gas, down 3.1 per cent; and Pipelines, down 2.8 per cent. The index for Uraniums rose 1.0 per cent.

Weekly Security Price Indexes

	1962 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Apr. 26th	Apr. 18th	Apr. 12th	Apr. 5th	Mar. 29th	Apr. 1962	Mar. 1962	Apr. 1961
(1935 - 1939 = 100)								
Investors Price Index								
86 Common Stocks	322.1	326.8	326.5	324.7	329.2	325.0	331.6	304.8
Industrials (67)	337.2	342.1	341.9	339.7	345.3	340.2	347.4	319.6
Utilities (13)	221.9	227.2	225.7	225.9	224.3	225.2	227.9	208.8
Banks (6)	403.3	404.1	405.6	403.2	410.1	404.0	413.9	377.6
Mining Stock Price Index								
27 Stocks	134.0	134.9	135.1	132.5	133.4	134.1	135.6	116.6
Golds (21)	81.5	82.0	82.1	80.5	80.3	81.5	82.9	72.1
Base Metals (6)	254.3	255.9	256.3	251.5	255.0	254.5	256.4	218.2
(1956 = 100)								
5 Pipelines	147.5	150.3	151.3	150.7	151.8	150.0	154.2	137.9
5 Investment and loan	184.1	186.7	186.9	184.9	191.8	185.6	194.7	164.8
6 Uraniums	81.5	81.7	81.5	80.2	80.7	81.2	79.6	70.0
9 Primary Oil and Gas	67.9	67.5	67.9	67.9	70.1	67.8	72.6	59.9



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

was not sufficient to move the index. In shelter, rents continued to show stability as the national index of rents was unchanged for the seventh successive month and was only fractionally above the level of a year ago. In contrast, the index for home-ownership continued to edge up in April to stand 1.8 per cent above its April 1961 level. The slight drop in the household operation component of housing resulted mainly from lower electricity rates in Vancouver and Victoria which more than balanced somewhat higher prices for appliances and other homefurnishings. Most household supplies were higher.

The Clothing index moved up 0.3 per cent from 112.9 to 113.2 as prices for men's and children's wear, footwear and piece goods were higher. Some of this movement reflected changes from sale price levels in previous months.

The Transportation index rose 0.2 per cent from 139.9 to 140.2 as a result of price increases for automobile repairs in the automobile operation component and higher fares for air travel in the travel component.

The Health and Personal Care index increased 0.6 per cent from 157.2 to 158.1 as both the component indexes were up. In health care, higher fees were reported for doctors, dentists and optical care, but prepaid medical care premiums were down for one plan in British Columbia. The increase in personal care reflected higher prices for toilet soap in personal supplies and men's haircuts in personal services.

The Recreation and Reading index decreased 0.1 per cent from 146.7 to 146.6. Lower prices for radios and television sets in the recreation component outweighed price increases for magazines in the reading component.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index rose 0.3 per cent from 117.5 to 117.9 as a result of higher prices for alcoholic beverages in Quebec and Ontario.