

## DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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## PRICE MOVEMENTS

MAY 1962

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:  
 (1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index declined 0.2 per cent from 130.3 to 130.1 between the beginning of April and May 1962. Declines in the Food and Clothing indexes offset increases in the Housing, Transportation, Health and Personal Care, and Recreation and Reading indexes. The Tobacco and Alcohol index was unchanged.

## Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

|                          | Component Weights (1) | 1962  |       |       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|
|                          |                       | May   | April | March |
| All-Items                | 100                   | 130.1 | 130.3 | 129.7 |
| Food                     | 27                    | 124.5 | 125.8 | 124.4 |
| Housing (2)              | 32                    | 134.5 | 134.0 | 134.0 |
| Clothing                 | 11                    | 112.8 | 113.2 | 112.9 |
| Transportation           | 12                    | 140.4 | 140.2 | 139.9 |
| Health and Personal Care | 7                     | 158.2 | 158.1 | 157.2 |
| Recreation and Reading   | 5                     | 147.1 | 146.6 | 146.7 |
| Tobacco and Alcohol      | 6                     | 117.9 | 117.9 | 117.5 |

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

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

The Food index declined 1.0 per cent from 125.8 to 124.5 as butter prices dropped from seventy to fifty-eight cents per pound and lower prices were also reported for eggs, fats, chicken, and some fresh and canned fruits and vegetables, particularly cabbage. Prices were higher for beef, some pork, lamb, veal, apples, fresh tomatoes and flour.

The Housing index rose 0.4 per cent from 134.0 to 134.5 as the shelter component moved to a higher level but the household operation component

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WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES (WEEKLY)<sup>1</sup> (1935-1939 = 100) The price index of 30 Industrial Materials, calculated as an unweighted geometric average, edged up 1.2 per cent in the four-week period April 27th to May 25th. Prices for 13 commodities advanced and 6 declined, while 11 remained unchanged. Changes included increases for sisal, raw wool, raw sugar, raw rubber, domestic copper, domestic wheat, bleached sulphite pulp, iron ore, crude oil, raw cotton, fir timber, steers and hogs, and decreases for steel scrap, bituminous coal and linseed oil.

In the same four-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets advanced 2.0 per cent. The Field Products index rose 2.3 per cent as potato prices showed sharply higher on both Eastern and Western markets, and more moderate increases were reported for corn, wheat and oats in the East. Prices were lower for hay, both East and West, barley in the East and rye in the West. The Animal Products index moved up 1.8 per cent reflecting higher prices on both Eastern and Western markets for steers, hogs and lambs, for poultry in the East and for raw wool in the West. Showing lower were eggs on both markets, calves and raw wool in the East and fluid milk in the West.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

|                              | 1962 Week Ended |          |          |         |            | Monthly Average |            |          |
|------------------------------|-----------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|-----------------|------------|----------|
|                              | May 25th        | May 18th | May 11th | May 4th | April 27th | May (P) 1962    | April 1962 | May 1961 |
| Industrial Materials .....   | 252.6           | 253.6    | 252.1    | 251.4   | 249.6      | 252.4           | 247.6      | 244.0    |
| Canadian Farm Products ..... | 224.2           | 222.8    | 220.2    | 219.7   | 219.7      | 221.7           | 219.2      | 225.8    |
| Field .....                  | 170.8           | 168.9    | 167.9    | 167.4   | 166.9      | 168.8           | 166.4      | 187.3    |
| Animal .....                 | 277.5           | 276.7    | 272.5    | 272.0   | 272.5      | 274.7           | 272.0      | 264.4    |
| Regional Indexes:            |                 |          |          |         |            |                 |            |          |
| Eastern Canada .....         | 237.9           | 236.9    | 233.3    | 232.6   | 232.1      | 235.2           | 231.7      | 232.9    |
| Western Canada .....         | 210.4           | 208.6    | 207.1    | 206.8   | 207.3      | 208.2           | 206.7      | 218.8    |

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.

(P)- Preliminary, average of 4 weeks.

**SECURITY PRICE INDEXES:** The Investors Index of common stock prices, on the base 1935-39=100, moved down 6.7 per cent in the four-week period April 26th to May 24th. Decreases for major groups were: Industrials, 7.3 per cent, Banks, 6.9 per cent, and Utilities, 3.0 per cent. Within Industrials, all nine sub-groups declined, led by Industrial Mines, down 9.2 per cent from 314.7 to 285.9, Building Materials, down 8.8 per cent from 549.9 to 501.4 and Oils 8.5 per cent from 234.1 to 214.2. The Pulp and Paper sub-group, which reached an all-time high of 1,470.9 in the first week, closed the four-week period at 1,342.7 for a 5.8 per cent loss from 1,424.8. Two sub-groups within Utilities declined with Telephones down 4.4 per cent from 151.7 to 145.1 and Transportation down 3.7 per cent from 337.8 to 325.4, while the third sub-group Power and Traction edged up 0.4 per cent from 200.1 to 201.0.

The index of Mining Stocks on the base 1935-39=100, rose 1.6 per cent reflecting an increase of 12.3 per cent for Golds and a decrease of 6.3 per cent for Base Metals.

Four supplementary indexes on the base 1956=100 declined as follows: Primary Oils and Gas, down 13.8 per cent; Investment and Loan, down 10.4 per cent; Pipelines, down 4.3 per cent; and Uraniums, down 3.3 per cent.

Weekly Security Price Indexes

|                                 | 1962 Week Ended |          |          |         |            | Monthly Average |            |          |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|-----------------|------------|----------|
|                                 | May 24th        | May 17th | May 10th | May 3rd | April 26th | May (P) 1962    | April 1962 | May 1961 |
| (1935 - 1939 = 100)             |                 |          |          |         |            |                 |            |          |
| <b>Investors Price Index</b>    |                 |          |          |         |            |                 |            |          |
| 86 Common Stocks .....          | 300.4           | 314.4    | 318.5    | 324.0   | 322.1      | 314.3           | 325.0      | 317.6    |
| Industrials ..... (66)          | 312.6           | 328.2    | 332.5    | 339.1   | 337.2      | 328.1           | 340.2      | 333.4    |
| Utilities ..... (14)            | 215.2           | 221.4    | 223.2    | 225.5   | 221.9      | 221.3           | 225.2      | 220.7    |
| Banks ..... (6)                 | 375.5           | 391.3    | 399.4    | 400.9   | 403.3      | 391.8           | 404.0      | 383.4    |
| <b>Mining Stock Price Index</b> |                 |          |          |         |            |                 |            |          |
| 25 Stocks .....                 | 136.1           | 137.8    | 137.7    | 139.4   | 134.0      | 137.8           | 134.1      | 122.5    |
| Golds ..... (17)                | 91.5            | 88.0     | 86.9     | 88.4    | 81.5       | 88.7            | 81.5       | 73.6     |
| Base Metals ..... (8)           | 238.3           | 251.9    | 254.1    | 256.3   | 254.3      | 250.2           | 254.5      | 234.4    |
| (1956 = 100)                    |                 |          |          |         |            |                 |            |          |
| 5 Pipelines .....               | 141.2           | 147.7    | 147.4    | 148.2   | 147.5      | 146.1           | 150.0      | 142.1    |
| 8 Investment and loan .....     | 164.9           | 168.9    | 172.7    | 182.0   | 184.1      | 172.1           | 185.6      | 175.9    |
| 6 Uraniums .....                | 78.8            | 80.7     | 82.5     | 81.4    | 81.5       | 80.8            | 81.2       | 71.6     |
| 9 Primary Oil and Gas .....     | 58.5            | 62.5     | 64.2     | 67.1    | 67.9       | 63.1            | 67.8       | 60.2     |

(P) - Preliminary, average of 4 weeks.



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

was unchanged. In shelter, rents were unchanged while the home-ownership index was higher. In household operation, lower prices for fuel and furniture balanced higher prices for floor coverings, textiles, utensils and equipment and household services.

The Clothing index declined 0.4 per cent from 113.2 to 112.8. Somewhat higher prices for men's wear and footwear were more than balanced by lower prices for women's and children's wear, and piece goods.

The Transportation index rose 0.1 per cent from 140.2 to 140.4 as a result of price increases in both the automobile operation and local transportation components. In automobile operation higher automobile insurance premiums offset lower prices for new passenger cars. Higher bus fares moved the local transportation index.

The Health and Personal Care index increased 0.1 per cent from 158.1 to 158.2. The health care component was unchanged but the personal care component rose as price increases occurred for both men's haircuts and women's hair-dressing.

The Recreation and Reading index moved from 146.6 to 147.1, an increase of 0.3 per cent. Prices were higher for motion picture admissions, bicycles and toys in the recreation component. The reading component was unchanged.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index was unchanged at 117.9 as minor price changes for cigarettes and cigarette tobacco failed to move the tobacco index.