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PRICE MOVEMENTS

MARCH 1963

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: (1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index was unchanged at 132.1 between February and March 1963. The March index was 1.9 per cent above the March 1962 index of 129.7. In the current period, a decrease in the Food index offset increases in the Housing and Clothing indexes. The Transportation, Health and Personal Care, Recreation and Reading, and Tobacco and Alcohol indexes were unchanged.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Component Weights (1)	1963			1962
		March	February	January	March
All-Items	100	132.1	132.1	132.0	129.7
Food	27	128.9	129.4	129.0	124.4
Housing (2)	32	136.0	135.9	135.9	134.0
Clothing	11	115.6	114.8	114.7	112.9
Transportation	12	139.6	139.6	139.8	139.9
Health and Personal Care	7	159.9	159.9	159.8	157.2
Recreation and Reading	5	148.6	148.6	148.6	146.7
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	118.0	118.0	117.8	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 0.4 per cent from 129.4 to 128.9 as a result of further substantial price decreases for beef. Other price declines were generally limited to pork, fats, fresh tomatoes, lettuce, bananas and grapefruit. Higher prices were reported for eggs, sugar, jam, oranges and orange juice, and most fresh vegetables.

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

The price index of 30 Industrial Materials, calculated as an unweighted geometric average, edged up 0.2 per cent in the three-week period March 1st to March 22nd. Prices for 9 commodities advanced and 4 declined, while 17 remained unchanged. Principal changes included increases for sisal, raw sugar, beef hides, fir timber and tin, and decreases for hogs, steers, oats and linseed oil.

In the same three-week period the price index of Canadian Farm Products moved down 1.9 per cent. The Animal Products index declined 2.8 per cent reflecting lower prices for hogs and eggs on both Eastern and Western Markets, and for lambs, calves and steers in the East. Prices were higher for calves and lambs in the West. The Field Products index eased 0.5 per cent as lower prices were reported for potatoes, barley and tobacco in the East, and for hay and rye in the West. Showing higher were hay and peas in the East.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1963 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes		
	Mar. 29th	Mar. 22nd	Mar. 15th	Mar. 8th	Mar. 1st	Mar. (P) 1963	Feb. 1963	Mar. 1962
Industrial Materials	A V A I L A B L E	252.2	252.2	251.4	251.8	252.2	250.0	247.1
Canadian Farm Products		220.7	222.1	222.9	225.0	222.1	224.1	218.8
Field		174.6	175.4	174.9	175.4	175.4	174.3	170.2
Animal		266.8	268.8	270.8	274.5	268.8	273.8	267.5
Regional Indexes:								
Eastern Canada	N O T	239.7	241.9	243.0	245.9	241.9	243.0	230.2
Western Canada		201.7	202.4	202.7	204.0	202.4	205.2	207.5

1 - Indexes for 1963 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.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES:

(1956 = 100)

The Investors Index of common stock prices, on the base 1956=100, advanced 2.8 per cent from 129.9 to 133.6 in the four-week period February 28th to March 28th. The three major groups in the index advanced with Finance up 3.5 per cent from 144.9 to 149.9, Industrials up 2.8 per cent from 126.8 to 130.4 and Utilities up 2.4 per cent from 129.6 to 132.7. Within Finance, both sub-groups showed gains as Banks rose 4.2 per cent from 135.1 to 140.8 and Investment and Loan rose 2.1 per cent from 163.5 to 166.9. In Industrials, indexes for 12 of the 13 sub-groups advanced headed by Primary Metals up 6.6 per cent from 85.8 to 91.5, Textiles and Clothing up 5.0 per cent from 190.4 to 200.0 and Non-metallic Minerals up 4.4 per cent from 124.9 to 130.4. Foods declined 0.1 per cent from 171.8 to 171.6. Within Utilities, indexes for all sub-groups advanced led by Transportation up 5.2 per cent from 87.2 to 91.7 and Telephones up 2.4 per cent from 121.8 to 124.7.

The index of Mining Stocks rose 3.0 per cent from 90.9 to 93.6 in the same period, reflecting increases of 5.1 per cent from 80.7 to 84.8 for Base Metals and 0.3 per cent from 109.5 to 109.8 for Golds.

In the supplementary indexes, Primary Oils and Gas rose 4.6 per cent from 60.9 to 63.7 and Uraniums dropped 3.0 per cent from 90.8 to 88.1.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956 = 100)

	Number of Stocks Priced	1963 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
		Mar. 28th	Mar. 21st	Mar. 14th	Mar. 7th	Feb. 28th	Mar. 1963	Feb. 1963	Mar. 1962
Investors Price Index:									
Total Index	110	133.6	132.4	131.6	131.7	129.9	132.3	131.8	141.4
Industrials	76	130.4	129.0	128.2	128.4	126.8	129.0	129.0	138.6
Utilities	20	132.7	132.1	131.6	131.1	129.6	131.9	130.1	132.9
Finance ¹	14	149.9	148.6	147.9	148.3	144.9	148.7	147.7	165.6
Banks	6	140.8	139.3	139.2	140.1	135.1	139.8	138.2	150.1
Mining Stock Price Index:									
Total Index	24	93.6	93.1	92.7	92.1	90.9	92.9	92.9	100.4
Golds	16	109.8	109.4	109.6	109.8	109.5	109.6	111.6	109.4
Base Metals	8	84.8	84.1	83.4	82.4	80.7	83.7	82.7	95.4
Supplementary Indexes:									
Uraniums	6	88.1	87.9	90.6	91.4	90.8	89.5	91.7	79.6
Primary Oils and Gas	8	63.7	64.3	63.6	62.1	60.9	63.4	62.4	72.6

¹ Composed of Banks and Investment and Loan.



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

The Housing index increased 0.1 per cent from 135.9 to 136.0 as the shelter component was unchanged but the household operation component was higher. In shelter, a fractional increase in the home-ownership index was not sufficient to move the index and the rent index was unchanged. Higher prices for furniture, floor coverings and household supplies moved the household operation index.

The Clothing index rose 0.7 per cent from 114.8 to 115.6, reflecting higher prices for men's, women's and children's wear, and footwear. Lower prices were recorded for piece goods and clothing services.

The Transportation index was unchanged at 139.6 with a decline in the automobile operation component balanced by a rise in the local transportation component. In automobile operation, lower prices for gasoline, batteries, tires and mufflers offset higher prices for motor oil, lubrication, brake relining and repairs. Higher bus fares in one eastern Canadian city moved the local transportation index.

The Health and Personal Care, Recreation and Reading, and Tobacco and Alcohol indexes remained at their February 1963 levels of 159.9, 148.6 and 118.0 respectively.

NOTE

For comprehensive detail on these and other price statistics, see Prices and Price Indexes (Monthly), Catalogue No. 62-002.

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