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PRICE MOVEMENTS

MAY 1963

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:
 (1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index was unchanged at 132.3 between the beginning of April and May 1963. The May index was 1.7 per cent above the May 1962 index of 130.1. In the current period, declines in the Food, Clothing, and Tobacco and Alcohol indexes offset increases in the Transportation, Health and Personal Care, and Recreation and Reading indexes. The Housing index was unchanged.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Component Weights (1)	1963			1962
		May	April	March	May
All-Items	100	132.3	132.3	132.1	130.1
Food	27	128.3	128.9	128.9	124.5
Housing (2)	32	136.0	136.0	136.0	134.5
Clothing	11	115.6	115.7	115.6	112.8
Transportation	12	140.6	139.2	139.6	140.4
Health and Personal Care	7	162.6	162.1	159.9	158.2
Recreation and Reading	5	148.8	148.0	148.6	147.1
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	117.8	117.9	118.0	117.9

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

The Food index decreased 0.5 per cent from 128.9 to 128.3 as lower prices were reported for eggs, fats, lettuce, oranges, pork, veal, chicken and turkey. Prices increased for milk, sugar, jams, most fresh and canned fruits and vegetables, orange juice and beef.

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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 1.4 per cent in the four-week period April 26th to May 24th. Prices for 7 commodities advanced and 6 declined, while 17 remained unchanged. Principal changes included a sharp increase for raw sugar, lesser increases for hogs, tin, steers and raw cotton, and decreases for beef hides, raw wool, bituminous coal, oats and linseed oil.

In the same four-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products advanced 2.6 per cent. The Animal Products index moved up 3.8 per cent reflecting mainly higher prices for hogs and steers on both Eastern and Western markets, lambs and cheesemilk in the East and calves in the West. Prices were lower for eggs both East and West, and for fluid milk and raw wool in the West. The Field Products index rose 0.8 per cent as increases for potatoes both East and West offset decreases for rye on both markets, and oats, barley, peas, corn and tobacco in the East.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1963 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes		
	(2) May 24th	May 17th	May 10th	May 3rd	Apr. 26th	May (P) 1963	Apr. 1963	May 1962
Industrial Materials	257.7	256.7	256.1	255.0	254.2	256.7	252.1	251.8
Canadian Farm Products	222.7	221.9	220.7	218.5	217.0	221.9	219.0	237.1
Field	172.7	171.9	171.7	171.3	171.4	171.9	171.4	197.7
Animal	272.7	271.9	269.6	265.8	262.6	271.9	266.6	276.5
Regional Indexes:								
Eastern Canada	239.9	239.1	237.7	235.6	233.6	239.1	234.4	236.7
Western Canada	205.5	204.6	203.7	201.4	200.4	204.6	203.7	237.5

1 - All 1963 indexes are subject to revision. For Canadian Farm Products, indexes from July 1962 are subject to revision as and when participation payments are announced for Western grains.

(2) - Index for week of May 31st not available.

(P) - Preliminary.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES:

(1956 = 100)

The Investors Index of common stock prices, on the base 1956=100, advanced 0.9 per cent from 140.7 to 141.9 in the four-week period May 2nd to May 30th. Among the three major groups, Utilities advanced 2.1 per cent from 138.5 to 141.4, Industrials were up 0.9 per cent from 138.2 to 139.4 while Finance declined 0.8 per cent from 155.2 to 154.0. Within Utilities, four of the five sub-groups showed gains led by Gas Distribution up 7.4 per cent from 219.7 to 236.0, and Pipelines up 5.2 per cent from 150.8 to 158.7. Electric Power declined 2.1 per cent from 132.0 to 129.2. In Industrials, eight of the thirteen sub-groups increased and the remaining five decreased. Principal changes included increases for Petroleum up 5.4 per cent from 98.0 to 103.3, Retail Trade up 3.1 per cent from 177.7 to 183.2 and Non-Metallic Minerals up 2.7 per cent from 135.6 to 139.2, and decreases for Construction down 2.8 per cent from 78.6 to 76.4 and Pulp and Paper down 1.0 per cent from 134.9 to 133.5. Within Finance, the index for Banks declined 1.4 per cent from 147.1 to 145.0 while Investment and Loan rose 0.4 per cent from 170.2 to 170.9.

In the same period the Mining stock index fell 1.7 per cent from 92.8 to 91.2 reflecting a drop of 3.5 per cent for Base Metals from 86.1 to 83.1 and an increase of 1.0 per cent for Golds from 105.1 to 106.1.

Of the two supplementary indexes, Primary Oils and Gas moved 5.8 per cent lower from 70.5 to 66.4 and Uraniums rose 2.9 per cent from 95.7 to 98.5.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956 = 100)

	Number of Stocks Priced	1963 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
		May 30th	May 23rd	May 16th	May 9th	May 2nd	May 1963	Apr. 1963	May 1962
Investors Price Index:									
Total Index	110	141.9	142.3	142.4	143.0	140.7	142.1	137.6	132.5
Industrials	76	139.4	139.8	139.8	140.6	138.2	139.6	134.7	130.5
Utilities	20	141.4	140.6	140.3	140.0	138.5	140.2	135.7	125.8
Finance ¹	14	154.0	155.9	157.2	158.3	155.2	156.1	153.9	150.6
Banks	6	145.0	147.2	148.1	149.5	147.1	147.4	145.6	140.5
Mining Stock Price Index:									
Total Index	24	91.2	92.6	92.8	93.1	92.8	92.5	93.2	100.6
Golds	16	106.1	107.6	106.7	105.7	105.1	106.2	107.8	116.8
Base Metals	8	83.1	84.4	85.2	86.2	86.1	85.0	85.2	91.7
Supplementary Indexes:									
Uraniums	6	98.5	97.7	97.8	97.9	95.7	97.5	92.4	79.7
Primary Oils and Gas	7	66.4	68.7	69.1	69.0	70.5	68.7	67.9	62.2

¹ Composed of Banks and Investment and Loan.



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

The Housing index was unchanged at 136.0 with a fractional decline in the household operation component balanced by a rise in the shelter component. In shelter, rents were unchanged but the index of home-ownership was up slightly. In household operation, price increases for furniture, floor coverings and textiles more than balanced lower prices for fuel, utensils and equipment and household supplies.

The Clothing index declined 0.1 per cent from 115.7 to 115.6. Decreases in men's and women's wear outweighed higher prices for children's wear and footwear.

The Transportation index rose 1.0 per cent from 139.2 to 140.6 largely as a result of higher transit fares in Toronto at the beginning of May (rescinded May 20). The automobile operation component also increased, however, with higher prices for gasoline and automobile insurance. Prices for new passenger cars edged up.

The Health and Personal Care index increased 0.3 per cent, reflecting price increases for pharmaceuticals in the health care component and for both supplies and services in the personal care component. In personal care services, prices of men's haircuts and women's hairdressing were higher.

The Recreation and Reading index increased 0.5 per cent from 148.0 to 148.8. The reading component was unchanged but the recreation component rose as a result of higher prices for motion picture admissions, camera film, bicycles and toys.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index declined from 117.9 to 117.8 as lower prices for cigarettes moved the tobacco component. The alcoholic beverages component was unchanged.

NOTE

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

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