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PRICE MOVEMENTS

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THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:
(1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada advanced 0.7 per cent to 136.8 in December 1964, from 135.9 in November. The December index was 1.9 per cent higher than the December 1963 index of 134.2. In the current period, six of the seven main components increased, with the Tobacco and Alcohol index unchanged.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

| | Component Weights (1) | 1964 | | | 1963 |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------|----------|---------|----------|
| | | December | November | October | December |
| All-Items | 100 | 136.8 | 135.9 | 135.6 | 134.2 |
| Food | 27 | 133.2 | 132.0 | 131.0 | 131.4 |
| Housing (2) | 32 | 139.6 | 139.3 | 139.2 | 137.0 |
| Clothing | 11 | 121.0 | 120.9 | 120.7 | 118.9 |
| Transportation | 12 | 142.7 | 141.4 | 141.4 | 140.6 |
| Health and Personal Care | 7 | 174.3 | 171.1 | 170.4 | 165.4 |
| Recreation and Reading | 5 | 153.5 | 152.3 | 151.1 | 151.4 |
| Tobacco and Alcohol | 6 | 121.6 | 121.6 | 121.4 | 118.5 |

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

The December Food index of 133.2 was 0.9 per cent above the previous month's index of 132.0. Higher prices were reported for fresh vegetables, particularly lettuce and tomatoes, and for fats, and powdered skim milk, while prices were lower for eggs, grapefruit, and canned orange juice, with slight decreases for most cuts of beef and pork, and turkey.

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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, eased 0.9 per cent from 259.1 to 256.7 in the three-week period December 4th to December 24th. Prices for nine commodities declined and four advanced, while seventeen remained unchanged. Principal changes included decreases for tin, raw sugar, raw wool and hogs, and increases for white lead and raw rubber.

In the same three-week period the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets advanced 1.1 per cent from 217.9 to 220.4. The Field Products index rose 2.4 per cent from 171.0 to 175.1 reflecting a sharp increase for potatoes on both Eastern and Western markets and lesser increases for tobacco, corn and hay in the East, and rye in the West. Prices were lower for hay in the West. The Animal Products index increased 0.4 per cent from 264.7 to 265.7 reflecting sharp price increases for calves in the West and lambs in the East, and more moderate increases for eggs on both markets and calves and poultry in the East. Prices were lower for hogs and raw wool on both Eastern and Western markets.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

| | 1964 Week Ended | | | | | Monthly Indexes | | |
|------------------------------|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Dec. 31st | Dec. 24th | Dec. 18th | Dec. 11th | Dec. 4th | Dec. (P) 1964 | Nov. 1964 | Dec. 1963 |
| Industrial Materials | A V A I L A B L E | 256.7 | 257.5 | 258.4 | 259.1 | 257.5 | 258.5 | 257.5 |
| Canadian Farm Products | | 220.4 | 220.3 | 220.2 | 217.9 | 220.3 | 215.8 | 213.9 |
| Field | | 175.1 | 175.1 | 173.8 | 171.0 | 175.1 | 165.9 | 164.7 |
| Animal | | 265.7 | 265.5 | 266.6 | 264.7 | 265.5 | 265.7 | 263.1 |
| Regional Indexes: | | N O T | | | | | | |
| Eastern Canada | 239.4 | | 239.4 | 239.0 | 235.3 | 239.4 | 229.7 | 228.3 |
| Western Canada | 201.5 | | 201.2 | 201.4 | 200.4 | 201.2 | 201.9 | 199.5 |

1 - All 1964 indexes are subject to revision. For Canadian Farm Products, indexes subsequent to July 1963 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, was 170.6 at December 31st, unchanged from the index at the beginning of the four-week period December 3rd to December 31st. Among the three major groups, Utilities advanced 1.2 per cent from 164.7 to 166.7, Finance declined 0.3 per cent from 158.7 to 158.2 and Industrials eased 0.2 per cent from 174.5 to 174.1. Within Utilities, indexes for four of the five sub-groups advanced. Principal changes were Transportation up 11.3 per cent from 172.1 to 191.5, Gas Distribution up 3.6 per cent from 260.7 to 270.1, and Electric Power down 7.5 per cent from 133.5 to 123.5. In Finance, the index for Banks declined 1.1 per cent from 149.5 to 147.9 and Investment and Loan rose 0.9 per cent from 175.9 to 177.5. Within Industrials, indexes for five sub-groups declined, seven increased and one remained unchanged. Losses were headed by Metal Fabricating down 3.6 per cent from 143.2 to 138.0 and Industrial Mines down 1.5 per cent from 184.8 to 182.1, while gains were led by Textiles and Clothing up 6.7 per cent from 326.2 to 348.1 and Non-metallic Minerals up 6.4 per cent from 159.6 to 169.8.

In the same period, the index of Mining stock prices advanced 6.2 per cent from 110.5 to 117.3, reflecting a sharp increase for golds of 15.7 per cent from 130.7 to 151.2 and a minor decrease of 0.6 per cent for Base Metals from 99.4 to 98.8.

Of the two supplementary price indexes, Uraniums moved up sharply 15.6 per cent from 80.3 to 92.8 and Primary Oils and Gas eased 0.3 per cent from 87.0 to 86.7.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956 = 100)

| | Number of Stocks Priced | 1964 Week Ended | | | | | Monthly Average | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
| | | Dec. 31st | Dec. 24th | Dec. 17th | Dec. 10th | Dec. 3rd | Dec. 1964 | Nov. 1964 | Dec. 1963 |
| Investors Price Index: | | | | | | | | | |
| Total Index | 107 | 170.6 | 169.8 | 168.1 | 168.0 | 170.6 | 169.4 | 173.6 | 139.8 |
| Industrials | 73 | 174.1 | 173.5 | 171.8 | 171.8 | 174.5 | 173.1 | 178.1 | 139.2 |
| Utilities | 20 | 166.7 | 164.4 | 162.2 | 161.9 | 164.7 | 164.0 | 167.0 | 137.6 |
| Finance ¹ | 14 | 158.2 | 158.2 | 157.3 | 157.3 | 158.7 | 157.9 | 159.5 | 145.2 |
| Banks | 6 | 147.9 | 148.6 | 148.4 | 148.7 | 149.5 | 148.6 | 149.7 | 139.4 |
| Mining Stock Price Index: | | | | | | | | | |
| Total Index | 24 | 117.3 | 112.1 | 112.7 | 110.5 | 110.5 | 112.6 | 113.4 | 86.5 |
| Golds | 16 | 151.2 | 136.5 | 140.7 | 133.3 | 130.7 | 138.5 | 130.4 | 100.2 |
| Base Metals | 8 | 98.8 | 98.7 | 97.4 | 98.0 | 99.4 | 98.5 | 104.0 | 78.9 |
| Supplementary Indexes: | | | | | | | | | |
| Uraniums | 6 | 92.8 | 89.5 | 88.6 | 79.5 | 80.3 | 86.1 | 80.3 | 85.0 |
| Primary Oils and Gas | 7 | 86.7 | 86.1 | 85.6 | 85.9 | 87.0 | 86.3 | 88.5 | 66.6 |

¹ Composed of Banks and Investment and Loan.



THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: (Continued from Page 1)

The Housing index increased 0.2 per cent to 139.6 from 139.3 as a result of higher indexes for both the shelter and household operation components. In shelter, rent was unchanged despite increased prices for repairs, while home-ownership prices were higher. The household operation component moved upward with the imposition of a 5 per cent tax in Manitoba on gas, electricity and telephone rates and with increased prices for carpets and some household supplies.

The Clothing index edged up 0.1 per cent to 121.0 from 120.9 mainly as a result of higher prices for clothing services, cotton and wool dress material, and footwear. Price movements for men's, women's and children's wear were mixed and offsetting.

The Transportation index rose 0.9 per cent to 142.7 from 141.4, reflecting an increase in the automobile operation component. Initial prices of 1965 models of new passenger cars were higher than year-end prices of 1964 models. Gasoline prices decreased in some cities but not sufficiently to offset increases in other areas.

The Health and Personal Care index increased 1.9 per cent to 174.3 from 171.1 as a result of higher rates for prepaid medical care in Ontario. The personal care component was fractionally higher with an increase in personal care supplies.

The Recreation and Reading index at 153.5 was 0.8 per cent higher than the previous month's index of 152.3, primarily reflecting higher prices for magazine subscriptions and an increase in the price of newspapers, in the reading component. The recreation component was fractionally higher as bicycle prices moved up slightly.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index was unchanged at 121.6 as lower prices for imported whiskey in British Columbia were not sufficient to move the alcoholic beverages component.

NOTE

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

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