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PRICE MOVEMENTS

MAY 1964

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:
(1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index for May 1964 was 135.0, unchanged from April, but 2.0 per cent higher than the May 1963 index of 132.3. Between April and May, decreases in the food, clothing and transportation indexes offset increases for housing, health and personal care, recreation and reading, and tobacco and alcohol.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Component Weights (1)	1964			1963
		May	April	March	May
All-Items	100	135.0	135.0	134.6	132.3
Food	27	131.2	131.8	131.3	128.3
Housing (2)	32	138.3	137.8	137.5	136.0
Clothing	11	118.7	119.1	118.6	115.6
Transportation	12	142.4	142.8	143.0	140.6
Health and Personal Care	7	167.3	166.5	165.4	162.6
Recreation and Reading	5	151.5	151.0	152.3	148.8
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	120.2	119.5	119.4	117.8

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

The Food index declined 0.5 per cent to 131.2 from 131.8 in April. Prices for fresh fruits and vegetables, powdered skim milk, bread, flour, cake mix, sugar, coffee, and some cuts of beef and fresh pork increased. Lower prices were reported for eggs, tea bags, pickles, some seasonal vegetables, cured pork, veal and chicken.

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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 0.7 per cent from 260.7 to 259.0 in the three-week period May 1st to May 22nd. Prices for seven commodities declined, three advanced and twenty remained unchanged. Principal changes included a sharp decrease for raw sugar, lesser decreases for beef hides and domestic wheat, and increases for hogs and raw rubber.

In the same three-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets advanced 1.3 per cent from 216.6 to 219.4. The Field Products index rose 2.8 per cent from 166.4 to 171.1 as potato prices showed sharply higher on both Eastern and Western markets, and more moderate increases were reported for corn and peas in the East and rye in the West. Prices were lower for tobacco in the East and hay in the West. The Animal Products index moved up 0.3 per cent from 266.8 to 267.6 reflecting higher prices for hogs on both Eastern and Western markets and for calves in the West. Showing lower were eggs and raw wool on both markets, calves in the East, and fluid milk and steers in the West.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1964 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes		
	May 29th	May 22nd	May 15th	May 8th	May 1st	May (P) 1964	Apr. 1964	May 1963
Industrial Materials	E L I A B L E	259.0	260.5	260.9	260.7	260.5	258.8	254.8
Canadian Farm Products	A V A I L A B L E	219.4	219.1	217.0	216.6	219.1	215.4	234.5
Field		171.1	170.8	167.3	166.4	170.8	165.7	197.1
Animal		267.6	267.4	266.7	266.8	267.4	265.0	271.9
Regional Indexes:								
Eastern Canada	N O T	235.3	234.7	230.9	229.9	234.7	228.3	239.3
Western Canada		203.4	203.5	203.1	203.4	203.5	202.5	229.7

1 - All 1964 indexes are subject to revision. For Canadian Farm Products, indexes from 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, advanced 4.1 per cent from 155.0 to a high of 161.4 in the four-week period April 30th to May 28th. Indexes for all three major components increased. Utilities rose 5.2 per cent from 145.9 to 153.5. Industrials moved up 4.2 per cent from 158.7 to 165.4 and Finance increased 2.2 per cent from 148.3 to 151.6. In Utilities, indexes for all five sub-groups advanced led by Transportation up 10.8 per cent from 139.1 to 154.1 and Telephone up 5.8 per cent from 124.2 to 131.4. Also within Industrials, indexes for all thirteen sub-groups increased, headed by Metal Fabricating up 14.1 per cent from 128.5 to 146.6 and Retail Trade up 8.8 per cent from 211.5 to 230.1. Both sub-groups in Finance showed gains as Investment and Loan rose 4.2 per cent from 162.4 to 169.3 and Banks rose 1.0 per cent from 140.8 to 142.2.

The index of Mining stocks declined 0.3 per cent from 97.8 to 97.5, reflecting a decrease of 3.0 per cent for Base Metals from 92.7 to 89.9 which was partially offset by an increase of 4.0 per cent for Golds from 107.1 to 111.4.

Of the two supplementary indexes, Primary Oils and Gas moved 2.7 per cent higher from 81.2 to 83.4 and Uraniums declined 2.6 per cent from 87.9 to 85.6.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956 = 100)

	Number of Stocks Priced	Week Ended					Monthly Average		
		May 28th	May 21st	May 14th	May 7th	Apr. 30th	May 1964	Apr. 1964	May 1963
Investors Price Index:									
Total Index	110	161.4	160.8	160.4	157.8	155.0	160.1	154.4	142.1
Industrials	76	165.4	165.1	165.2	161.7	158.7	164.4	158.0	139.6
Utilities	20	153.5	152.0	150.2	148.9	145.9	151.2	145.7	140.2
Finance ¹	14	151.6	151.0	149.8	150.0	148.3	150.6	147.8	156.1
Banks	6	142.2	142.7	142.2	142.6	140.8	142.4	138.7	147.4
Mining Stock Price Index:									
Total Index	24	97.5	99.5	100.2	98.8	97.8	99.0	97.9	92.5
Golds	16	111.4	110.0	110.6	107.3	107.1	109.8	106.9	106.2
Base Metals	8	89.9	93.8	94.5	94.2	92.7	93.1	93.0	85.0
Supplementary Indexes:									
Uraniums	6	85.6	82.4	82.9	83.6	87.9	83.6	89.8	97.5
Primary Oils and Gas	8	83.4	80.9	82.2	81.8	81.2	82.1	78.7	68.7

¹ Composed of Banks and Investment and Loan.



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

The Housing index rose 0.4 per cent to 138.3 from 137.8. Higher prices for both rent and home-ownership moved the shelter component. In the household operation component slightly higher prices for furniture, floor coverings and household supplies were balanced by lower prices for textiles and utensils and equipment.

The Clothing index declined 0.3 per cent to 118.7 from 119.1 as a result of sales in men's, and women's wear and piece goods. Prices for children's wear and footwear were slightly higher.

The Transportation index decreased 0.3 per cent to 142.4 from 142.8, reflecting scattered lower prices for new cars and lower train fares. Prices for gasoline and motor oil increased in a few cities.

The Health and Personal Care index advanced 0.5 per cent to 167.3 from 166.5. Higher prices were reported for some personal care supplies, men's haircuts, and women's hairdressing.

The Recreation and Reading index increased 0.3 per cent to 151.5 from 151.0. Higher prices for motion picture admissions, camera film, bicycles and toys moved the recreation component, while higher prices for newspapers caused a slight increase in the reading component.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index was up 0.6 per cent to 120.2 from 119.5 mainly as a result of higher prices for beer and liquor in the Maritimes.

NOTE

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

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