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PRICE MOVEMENTS

AUGUST 1964

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:
(1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index decreased 0.1 per cent to 136.1 at the beginning of August 1964 from 136.2 in July. The August index was 1.6 per cent above the August 1963 index of 133.9. The Food, Clothing and Transportation components contributed to the decline in the current period. The Housing, Recreation and Reading, and Tobacco and Alcohol components were unchanged while Health and Personal Care increased slightly.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Component Weights (1)	1964			1963
		August	July	June	August
All-Items	100	136.1	136.2	135.3	133.9
Food	27	135.1	135.4	132.5	133.2
Housing (2)	32	138.7	138.7	138.4	136.3
Clothing	11	118.9	119.0	119.0	115.9
Transportation	12	141.4	141.6	142.0	141.0
Health and Personal Care	7	167.5	167.3	167.3	162.8
Recreation and Reading	5	151.5	151.5	151.4	148.8
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	120.2	120.2	120.2	118.1

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

The Food index was 0.2 per cent lower in August at 135.1 from 135.4, reflecting lower prices for fresh fruit and vegetables, sugar, jam, lamb, veal and lower priced cuts of beef. Prices were higher for dairy products, eggs, coffee and tea, soft drinks, catsup, butter, margarine, higher priced beef cuts, rib chops, cured pork, fish, and poultry.

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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, rose 1.3 per cent from 258.1 to 261.5 in the three-week period July 31st to August 21st. Prices for seven commodities advanced and nine declined, while fourteen remained unchanged. Principal changes included a sharp increase for steel scrap, lesser increases for domestic copper, hogs, linseed oil, raw wool and beef hides, and decreases for sisal, steers and tin.

In the same three-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets moved down 2.5 per cent from 224.5 to 218.8. The Field Products index declined 8.0 per cent from 180.0 to 165.6 reflecting a sharp decrease for potatoes on both Eastern and Western markets, and more moderate decreases for peas and barley in the East and flax in the West. Prices were higher for hay in the West. The Animal Products index moved up 1.1 per cent from 269.0 to 272.0 reflecting higher prices on both Eastern and Western markets for eggs, hogs and fluid milk, and steers and raw wool in the West. Showing lower were lambs on both markets, and steers, calves and poultry in the East.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1964 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes		
	Aug. 28th	Aug. 21st	Aug. 14th	Aug. 7th	July 31st	Aug. (P) 1964	July 1964	Aug. 1963
Industrial Materials	AVAILABLE	261.5	261.8	261.8	258.1	261.8	257.3	251.4
Canadian Farm Products	AVAILABLE	218.8	220.9	223.0	224.5	220.9	223.7	227.6
Field	AVAILABLE	165.6	172.1	177.1	180.0	172.1	179.1	169.6
Animal	AVAILABLE	272.0	269.7	268.9	269.0	269.7	268.3	285.6
Regional Indexes:								
Eastern Canada	NOT	231.8	237.6	242.4	245.3	237.6	245.3	243.6
Western Canada	NOT	205.8	204.3	203.7	203.6	204.3	202.1	211.7

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, decreased 0.5 per cent from 165.5 to 164.6 in the four-week period July 30th to August 27th. All three major groups in the index declined as Industrials dropped 0.6 per cent from 169.4 to 168.4, Finance decreased 0.4 per cent from 156.1 to 155.5 and Utilities eased 0.2 per cent from 157.6 to 157.3. In Industrials, indexes for nine of the thirteen sub-groups declined and the remaining four advanced. Losses were headed by Metal Fabricating down 5.8 per cent from 151.9 to 143.1 and Foods down 4.4 per cent from 198.4 to 189.7, while gains were led by Petroleums up 2.2 per cent from 115.8 to 118.3. In Finance, both sub-groups declined with Banks down 0.5 per cent from 148.7 to 147.9 and Investment and Loan down 0.1 per cent from 169.9 to 169.8. Within Utilities, three of the five sub-groups showed lower while two increased. Principal changes included Gas Distribution down 1.6 per cent from 256.3 to 252.3, Pipelines down 1.3 per cent from 186.3 to 183.9 and Transportation up 1.9 per cent from 150.5 to 153.4.

The index of Mining stocks advanced 1.8 per cent from 100.2 to 102.0 over the same four-week period reflecting increases of 2.6 per cent from 93.0 to 95.4 for Base Metals and 0.5 per cent from 113.4 to 114.0 for Golds.

Of the two supplementary indexes, Uraniums moved 3.6 per cent higher from 77.5 to 80.3 and Primary Oils and Gas declined 0.8 per cent from 84.8 to 84.1.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956 = 100)

	Number of Stocks Priced	1964 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
		Aug. 27th	Aug. 20th	Aug. 13th	Aug. 6th	July 30th	Aug. 1964	July 1964	Aug. 1963
Investors Price Index:									
Total Index	111	164.6	164.7	165.6	163.8	165.5	164.7	164.8	133.2
Industrials	77	168.4	168.0	169.2	167.5	169.4	168.3	169.1	130.7
Utilities	20	157.3	158.1	158.1	155.8	157.6	157.3	157.2	134.7
Finance ¹	14	155.5	157.1	157.2	155.7	156.1	156.4	153.5	142.8
Banks	6	147.9	150.0	150.3	148.5	148.7	149.2	144.5	136.6
Mining Stock Price Index:									
Total Index	24	102.0	102.0	101.1	98.9	100.2	101.0	99.3	90.6
Golds	16	114.0	113.3	112.7	111.4	113.4	112.8	112.4	111.8
Base Metals	8	95.4	95.8	94.7	92.1	93.0	94.5	92.1	79.0
Supplementary Indexes:									
Uraniums	6	80.3	80.1	79.0	76.8	77.5	79.0	78.1	89.7
Primary Oils and Gas	7	84.1	84.4	83.4	83.0	84.8	83.7	83.3	62.8

¹ Composed of Banks and Investment and Loan.

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

The Housing index was unchanged from its July level of 138.7 as a slight increase in the shelter component offset a decrease in household operation. In shelter, higher insurance rates moved the index. The household operation index declined 0.1 per cent reflecting sale prices for furniture, floor coverings, curtain material, and utensils and equipment. Prices for household supplies and services were slightly higher.

The Clothing index declined 0.1 per cent to 118.9 from 119.0, as a result of sale prices for men's and children's wear and footwear. Slightly higher prices were recorded for women's wear and piece goods.

The Transportation index was 0.1 per cent lower at 141.4 from 141.6 in July. Lower prices for new cars moved the automobile operation component while lower taxi fares in a few cities were not sufficient to move the local transportation component.

The Health and Personal Care index increased 0.1 per cent to 167.5 from 167.3. An increase in the health care component resulted from higher prices for pharmaceuticals and prescriptions while the personal care component declined due to lower prices for some personal care supplies.

The Recreation and Reading index was unchanged at 151.5. Slightly higher prices for admissions to sporting events, camera film and bicycles were not sufficient to move the index.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index remained at 120.2.

NOTE

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

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