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PRICE MOVEMENTS

FEBRUARY 1965

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:
(1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada increased 0.2 per cent to 137.2 at the beginning of February from 136.9 in January. The February index was 2.0 per cent higher than the February 1964 index of 134.5. Five of the seven main components increased in the current period, with the largest rise, 0.5 per cent, occurring in the Food index. The Recreation and Reading index declined 0.4 per cent, while Transportation was unchanged from last month.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Component Weights (1)	1965		1964	1964
		February	January	December	February
All-Items	100	137.2	136.9	136.8	134.5
Food	27	133.1	132.5	133.2	131.3
Housing (2)	32	140.1	139.8	139.6	137.3
Clothing	11	119.5	119.2	121.0	117.8
Transportation	12	146.3	146.3	142.7	142.6
Health and Personal Care	7	174.6	174.4	174.3	165.4
Recreation and Reading	5	153.4	154.0	153.5	152.3
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	121.8	121.7	121.6	119.4

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

The Food index rose 0.5 per cent to 133.1 from 132.5, resulting from price increases for fresh fruit and vegetables, fats other than butter and lard, some beef cuts, both fresh and cured pork, liver, lamb, veal and chicken. Prices were lower for eggs, sugar, oranges and grapefruit, canned and frozen orange juice, celery, cabbage, and lettuce.

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Prices Division

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

The price index of 30 Industrial Materials, calculated as an unweighted geometric average, eased to 257.7 from 257.8 in the four-week period January 29th to February 26th. Prices for five commodities declined and nine advanced, while sixteen remained unchanged. Principal changes included decreases for sisal, domestic wheat, tin, raw wool and steers, and increases for beef hides, steel bars, linseed oil and raw rubber.

In the same four-week period the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets eased 0.6 per cent from 226.0 to 224.7. The Field Products index moved down 2.1 per cent from 185.1 to 181.2 reflecting lower prices for potatoes and tobacco in the East. Prices were higher for hay on both Eastern and Western markets, peas, corn and wheat in the East and potatoes, flax and rye in the West. The Animal Products index edged up 0.5 per cent from 266.9 to 268.2 with higher prices for eggs on both markets, poultry in the East and calves, hogs, lambs and raw wool in the West. Prices declined for lambs, raw wool, calves and steers in the East.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1965 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes		
	Feb. 26th	Feb. 19th	Feb. 12th	Feb. 5th	Jan. 29th	Feb.(P) 1965	Jan. 1965	Feb. 1964
Industrial Materials	257.7	257.3	257.0	256.7	257.8	257.3	256.7	258.6
Canadian Farm Products	224.7	224.9	225.7	225.5	226.0	224.9	222.5	215.9
Field	181.2	182.1	183.0	183.0	185.1	182.1	182.5	165.5
Animal	268.2	267.7	268.3	268.0	266.9	267.7	262.5	266.2
Regional Indexes:								
Eastern Canada	244.5	244.9	247.3	247.4	249.1	244.9	244.0	230.4
Western Canada	204.8	204.8	204.0	203.6	202.9	204.8	200.9	201.4

1 - All 1964 and 1965 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 1.3 per cent from 181.0 to 178.6 in the four-week period January 28th to February 25th. Indexes for all three major groups declined as Utilities moved down 2.9 per cent from 176.9 to 171.8, Finance decreased 1.7 per cent from 167.3 to 164.5 and Industrials eased 0.9 per cent from 184.8 to 183.2. In Utilities, indexes for all five sub-groups declined led by Electric Power down 4.1 per cent from 130.8 to 125.4, and Pipelines down 3.8 per cent from 196.9 to 189.5. Both sub-groups in Finance showed losses as Investment and Loan dropped 1.8 per cent from 190.0 to 186.5 and Banks declined 1.5 per cent from 155.2 to 152.8. Within Industrials, indexes for seven sub-groups declined, four advanced and two remained unchanged. Losses were headed by Petroleum down 2.8 per cent from 130.0 to 126.3 and Retail Trade down 2.6 per cent from 282.0 to 274.8, while gains were led by Printing and Publishing up 2.8 per cent from 360.5 to 370.6.

The index of Mining stock prices advanced 1.8 per cent from 117.4 to 119.5, with Golds up 2.5 per cent from 136.3 to 139.7 and Base Metals up 1.2 per cent from 107.1 to 108.4.

Of the two supplementary price indexes, Uraniums advanced 5.0 per cent from 113.2 to 118.9 and Primary Oils and Gas rose 3.4 per cent from 90.2 to 93.3.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956 = 100)

	Number of Stocks Priced	1965 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
		Feb. 25th	Feb. 18th	Feb. 11th	Feb. 4th	Jan. 28th	Feb. 1965	Jan. 1965	Feb. 1964
Investors Price Index:									
Total Index	107	178.6	176.9	175.5	180.3	181.0	177.8	177.2	145.4
Industrials	73	183.2	181.0	179.5	184.1	184.8	182.0	181.0	146.4
Utilities	20	171.8	171.5	169.4	175.3	176.9	172.0	173.5	140.6
Finance ¹	14	164.5	163.7	163.7	167.6	167.3	164.9	162.7	146.4
Banks	6	152.8	151.6	151.3	155.4	155.2	152.8	151.0	137.4
Mining Stock Price Index:									
Total Index	24	119.5	118.1	116.0	117.0	117.4	117.6	118.2	92.2
Golds	16	139.7	140.3	136.3	135.7	136.3	138.0	142.6	105.3
Base Metals	8	108.4	106.0	104.8	106.8	107.1	106.5	104.8	85.0
Supplementary Indexes:									
Uraniums	6	118.9	111.1	112.7	113.4	113.2	114.0	104.5	87.4
Primary Oils and Gas	7	93.3	92.4	90.4	91.1	90.2	91.8	89.2	71.6

¹ Composed of Banks and Investment and Loan.



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THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: (Continued from Page 1)

The Housing index rose 0.2 per cent to 140.1 from 139.8. The shelter component was 0.4 per cent higher, reflecting increased prices for home-ownership and tenant repairs. Rent was unchanged. The household operation component declined 0.2 per cent as sale prices for furniture and carpeting outweighed higher prices for household supplies and cotton and wool textiles.

The Clothing index advanced 0.3 per cent to 119.5 from 119.2, mainly reflecting women's wear prices up from sale levels, and higher prices for cotton and wool piece goods, and footwear. Price changes for men's and children's wear were mixed.

The Transportation index was unchanged at 146.3. Higher prices for taxi fares in a few cities and bus fares in one city were offset by scattered lower gasoline prices.

The Health and Personal Care index edged up 0.1 per cent to 174.6 from 174.4 chiefly as a result of higher prices for personal care supplies. The health care component decreased slightly with lower prices for prescriptions and other pharmaceutical products.

The Recreation and Reading index declined 0.4 per cent to 153.4 from 154.0 as lower prices for magazine subscriptions moved the reading component down 1.6 per cent. The recreation component rose fractionally with price increases for bicycles and camera film.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index was 0.1 per cent higher at 121.8 from 121.7. Scattered price increases for cigarettes and cigarette tobacco moved the tobacco component. The component for alcoholic beverages 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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