

## PRICE MOVEMENTS

FEBRUARY 1966

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:

(1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.6 per cent to 142.1 at the beginning of February from 141.2 in January. The index for February was 3.6 per cent above the February 1965 level of 137.2. Six of the seven indexes advanced in the current period, with changes ranging from 0.1 per cent for Housing to 1.4 per cent for Food. The Health and Personal Care index remained unchanged.

## Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Component Weights (1)	1966		1965	1965
		February	January	December	February
All-Items	100	142.1	141.2	140.8	137.2
Food	27	142.5	140.6	139.6	133.1
Housing (2)	32	143.1	142.9	142.4	140.1
Clothing	11	123.3	122.7	123.8	119.5
Transportation	12	150.0	149.1	148.8	146.3
Health and Personal Care	7	178.1	178.1	177.9	173.5
Recreation and Reading	5	156.4	155.4	155.4	153.4
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	123.4	123.1	122.3	121.8

(1) Component weights indicate the relative importance of item groups.

(2) This index is composed of shelter and household operation.

The Food index increased 1.4 per cent to 142.5 from 140.6 reflecting generally higher prices. Prices advanced for all foods except eggs, oranges, canned and frozen orange juice, apple juice, celery, canned peas, macaroni, cake mix, cookies and a few miscellaneous grocery items. Increases among major food groups included a 3.1 per cent rise for fats (including butter), 3.0 per cent for meats, fish and poultry and 2.9 per cent for vegetables.

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WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES (WEEKLY)<sup>1</sup>  
(1935-1939 = 100)

The price index of 30 Industrial Materials, calculated as an unweighted geometric average, edged up 0.3 per cent to 269.9 from 269.1 in the three-week period January 28th to February 18th, 1966. Prices advanced for nine commodities, declined for four and remained unchanged for seventeen. Principal changes included increases for beef hides, oats, domestic wheat and raw rubber, and decreases for raw sugar and tin.

In the same three-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products moved up 0.6 per cent to 255.0 from 253.5. The Animal Products index advanced 0.7 per cent to 331.4 from 329.2. Prices were higher for eggs on both markets, for fluid milk and cheesemilk in the East and for lambs, hogs and steers in the West. Prices were lower for calves on both markets. The Field Products index rose 0.5 per cent to 178.6 from 177.7. Higher prices were shown for potatoes, hay, wheat and barley on the Eastern market. Prices were lower for tobacco in the East and for potatoes in the West.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1966 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes		
	Feb. 25th	Feb. 18th	Feb. 11th	Feb. 4th	Jan. 28th	Feb. (P) 1966	Jan. 1966	Feb. 1965
Industrial Materials .....	AVAILABLE	269.9	268.7	269.5	269.1	269.9	265.4	255.3
Canadian Farm Products .....	AVAILABLE	255.0	254.3	254.6	253.5	255.0	248.5	224.9
Field .....	AVAILABLE	178.6	177.1	177.0	177.7	178.6	174.2	182.1
Animal .....	AVAILABLE	331.4	331.6	332.3	329.2	331.4	322.8	267.7
Regional Indexes:								
Eastern Canada .....	NOT	281.1	279.7	281.6	279.4	281.1	273.0	244.9
Western Canada .....	NOT	229.0	229.0	227.7	227.5	229.0	224.0	204.8

1 - All 1966 indexes are subject to revision. For Canadian Farm Products, indexes subsequent to July 1964 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 decreased 3.1 per cent from 182.9 to 177.3 in the four-week period January 27th to February 24th. Indexes for all three major groups decreased as Finance declined 5.3 per cent from 157.4 to 149.0 followed by Utilities down 3.8 per cent from 181.9 to 175.0 and by Industrials down 2.5 per cent from 188.3 to 183.6. In Finance, indexes for both sub-groups declined with Banks down 5.6 per cent from 147.5 to 139.2 and Investment and Loan down 4.8 per cent from 176.0 to 167.5. In Utilities, indexes for the five sub-groups decreased, led by Transportation down 5.7 per cent from 210.4 to 198.4. Within Industrials, indexes for ten sub-groups decreased, two increased and one remained unchanged. Decreases were led by Non-metallic Minerals down 7.9 per cent from 160.1 to 147.4 followed by Chemicals down 5.2 per cent from 164.2 to 155.6. Other decreases were less than 5.0 per cent. Gains were led by Textiles and Clothing up 4.4 per cent from 347.5 to 362.8.

In the same period, the index of Mining stock prices decreased 1.6 per cent from 122.1 to 120.1, reflecting a decrease of 3.0 per cent for Base Metals from 111.8 to 108.5. Golds edged up 0.2 per cent from 141.0 to 141.3.

Of the two supplementary price indexes, Primary Oils and Gas advanced 13.8 per cent from 111.5 to 126.9 while Uraniums decreased 1.1 per cent from 148.4 to 146.7.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956 = 100)

	Number of Stocks Priced	1966 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
		Feb. 24th	Feb. 17th	Feb. 10th	Feb. 3rd	Jan. 27th	Feb. 1966	Jan. 1966	Feb. 1965
<b>Investors Price Index:</b>									
Total Index .....	111	177.3	180.7	182.0	181.8	182.9	180.4	182.0	177.8
Industrials .....	77	183.6	187.0	188.6	187.5	188.3	186.7	187.3	182.0
Utilities .....	20	175.0	178.4	179.0	180.7	181.9	178.3	181.9	172.0
Finance <sup>1</sup> .....	14	149.0	152.7	153.3	154.6	157.4	152.4	156.3	164.9
Banks .....	6	139.2	143.2	143.2	144.2	147.5	142.4	147.1	152.8
<b>Mining Stock Price Index:</b>									
Total Index .....	24	120.1	121.0	122.9	124.0	122.1	122.0	120.1	117.6
Golds .....	16	141.3	144.5	146.1	147.3	141.0	144.8	137.3	138.0
Base Metals .....	8	108.5	108.1	110.2	111.3	111.8	109.5	110.7	106.5
<b>Supplementary Indexes:</b>									
Uraniums .....	6	146.7	152.1	156.3	148.0	148.4	150.8	147.8	144.0
Primary Oils and Gas .....	6	126.9	121.6	118.7	110.3	111.5	119.4	107.4	91.8

<sup>1</sup> Composed of Banks and Investment and Loan.



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

The Housing index edged up fractionally to 143.1 from 142.9 as both the shelter and household operation components rose slightly. Higher prices for insurance, fuels, some utensils and equipment and household supplies outweighed lower prices for floor coverings and some furniture.

The Clothing index rose 0.5 per cent to 123.3 from 122.7. Prices were higher for men's and women's wear, footwear and piece goods but were lower for children's wear. The return to regular prices from January sales for several clothing items outweighed February sales prices reported for men's and boys' overcoats and sweaters, boys' shirts, girls' winter coats and women's overshoes.

The Transportation index moved up 0.6 per cent to 150.0 from 149.1 reflecting higher prices for automobile operation and local transportation. Increased automobile insurance rates combined with higher gasoline and motor oil prices and increased taxi fares more than balanced a seasonal decline in train fares.

The Health and Personal Care index remained at the January level of 178.1. Mixed price movements were recorded in both pharmaceutical and personal care items.

The Recreation and Reading index advanced 0.6 per cent to 156.4 in February from 155.4 in January. While slightly higher prices for camera films and bicycles were insufficient to move the recreation component, the reading component increased as a result of higher magazine subscription rates.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index moved up 0.2 per cent to 123.4 from 123.1 as a result of increased cigarette prices. Prices for alcoholic beverages were unchanged from January.

NOTE

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

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