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PRICE MOVEMENTS

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THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:
(1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada rose 0.6 per cent to 143.2 at the beginning of April 1966 from 142.4 in March. The April index was 4.0 per cent higher than the April 1965 index of 137.7. In the current period, all seven main components increased, ranging from 0.2 per cent for Food to 1.3 per cent for Tobacco and Alcohol. Increases in the non-food group indexes reflected the impact of the higher sales tax in Ontario.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Component Weights (1)	1966			1965
		April	March	February	April
All-Items	100	143.2	142.4	142.1	137.7
Food	27	143.7	143.4	142.5	133.4
Housing (2)	32	143.8	143.3	143.1	140.3
Clothing	11	125.3	124.2	123.3	121.2
Transportation	12	150.7	150.0	150.0	145.9
Health and Personal Care	7	179.2	178.1	178.1	175.0
Recreation and Reading	5	157.6	156.6	156.4	153.5
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	125.0	123.4	123.4	121.9

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

The Food index edged up 0.2 per cent to 143.7 from 143.4. Higher prices were reported for potatoes, tomatoes, carrots, eggs, dairy products, fats, bakery and cereal products, bananas, frozen strawberries, canned vegetables, chicken, and instant coffee. Prices were lower for pork, some cuts of beef, lettuce, celery, cabbage, and citrus fruits.

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Prices Division

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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, moved down 0.4 per cent to 266.2 from 267.2 in the three-week period April 1st to April 22nd, 1966. Prices declined for nine commodities, advanced for two and remained unchanged for nineteen. Principal changes included decreases for hogs, raw sugar, steers, beef hides and raw rubber, and increases for raw wool and oats.

In the same three-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products moved down 1.4 per cent to 242.5 from 246.0. The Animal Products index decreased 2.2 per cent to 300.0 from 306.9 due to lower prices for calves and hogs on both markets, for lambs and steers in the East and for eggs in the West. Prices were higher for raw wool on both markets, for eggs in the East and lambs in the West. The Field Products index declined 0.1 per cent to 185.1 from 185.2 resulting from lower prices for wheat and hay in the East, and hay in the West. Higher prices were shown for corn and barley in the East, and for rye and potatoes in the West.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1966 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes		
	Apr. 29th	Apr. 22nd	Apr. 15th	Apr. 8th	Apr. 1st	Apr. (P) 1966	Mar. 1966	Apr. 1965
Industrial Materials	A V A I L A B L E	266.2	266.6	266.9	267.2	266.6	264.6	256.6
Canadian Farm Products		242.5	243.9	242.9	246.0	243.9	250.4	241.8 r
Field		185.1	185.0	184.7	185.2	185.0	181.6	211.4 r
Animal		300.0	302.9	301.1	306.9	302.9	319.2	272.1
Regional Indexes:								
Eastern Canada	N O T	266.9	268.9	268.8	272.3	268.9	280.2	249.0
Western Canada		218.2	218.9	217.0	219.8	218.9	220.6	234.5 r

1 - All 1966 indexes are subject to revision. For Canadian Farm Products, indexes subsequent to July 1965 are subject to revision as and when participation payments are announced for Western grains. The April 1965 index reflects final payments for the crop year 1964-65 announced for barley March 17, 1966, for wheat February 25, 1966, and for oats March 17, 1966.

(P) - Preliminary.

r - Revised, see Note 1 above.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES:

(1956 = 100)

The Investors' Index of common stock prices edged up 0.6 per cent from 175.5 to 176.5 in the four-week period March 31st to April 28th. Among the three major groups, both Industrials and Utilities edged up 0.8 per cent and 0.3 per cent respectively, the former from 182.7 to 184.2 and the latter from 170.5 to 171.0, and Finance eased 0.5 per cent from 146.6 to 145.9. Within Industrials, indexes for seven sub-groups increased and six decreased. Gains ranged from 4.4 per cent for Metal Fabricating from 141.8 to 148.0 to 0.1 per cent for both Industrial Mines and Chemicals, the former from 205.6 to 205.9 and the latter from 154.3 to 154.4. Decreases were led by Pulp and Paper down 2.2 per cent from 148.0 to 144.8, closely followed by Non-metallic Minerals down 2.1 per cent from 147.2 to 144.1. In Utilities, indexes for four sub-groups decreased and one increased. Pipelines led the downward trend moving down 2.9 per cent from 167.7 to 162.8 while Electric Power advanced 8.2 per cent from 153.7 to 166.3. In Finance, Banks decreased 1.2 per cent from 138.9 to 137.3 and Investment and Loan edged up 0.7 per cent from 160.9 to 162.1.

In the same period, the index of Mining stock prices rose 1.2 per cent, reflecting an increase of 3.8 per cent for Base Metals from 108.3 to 112.4 and a decrease of 2.5 per cent for Golds from 140.6 to 137.1.

Of the two supplementary price indexes, Uraniums advanced 18.4 per cent from 153.0 to 181.1 and Primary Oils and Gas declined 1.9 per cent from 109.4 to 107.3.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956 = 100)

	Number of Stocks Priced	1966 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
		Apr. 28th	Apr. 21st	Apr. 14th	Apr. 6th	Mar. 31st	Apr. 1966	Mar. 1966	Apr. 1965
Investors Price Index:									
Total Index	111	176.5	178.3	178.3	177.4	175.5	177.6	175.0	180.5
Industrials	77	184.2	186.1	186.0	184.7	182.7	185.2	181.8	187.5
Utilities	20	171.0	172.5	173.3	172.7	170.5	172.4	172.5	169.8
Finance ¹	14	145.9	147.3	147.2	147.5	146.6	147.0	144.9	160.4
Banks	6	137.3	139.0	139.6	139.2	138.9	138.8	136.9	148.3
Mining Stock Price Index:									
Total Index	24	121.1	122.8	120.5	120.2	119.7	121.2	116.3	118.5
Golds	16	137.1	139.9	136.1	136.5	140.6	137.4	136.2	136.5
Base Metals	8	112.4	113.5	112.0	111.2	108.3	112.3	105.4	108.6
Supplementary Indexes:									
Uraniums	6	181.1	172.1	171.6	158.7	153.0	170.9	151.8	118.5
Primary Oils and Gas	6	107.3	109.4	112.1	112.9	109.4	110.4	112.5	102.7

¹ Composed of Banks and Investment and Loan.



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

The Housing index advanced 0.3 per cent to 143.8 from 143.3 as a result of a fractional rise in the shelter index of 0.1 per cent and an increase of 0.7 per cent in the household operation index. The increase in the household operation index stemmed from higher prices for furniture, appliances, floor coverings, textiles, and household utensils and equipment.

The Clothing index rose 0.9 per cent to 125.3 from 124.2. Indexes for men's wear, women's wear, piece goods, footwear, and jewellery moved up from March while the children's wear index decreased slightly.

The Transportation index advanced 0.5 per cent to 150.7 from 150.0. The increase resulted mainly from the effect of the Ontario sales tax on the purchase and operation of automobiles, outweighing lower automobile prices in western Canada.

The Health and Personal Care index rose 0.6 per cent to 179.2 from 178.1. Widespread increases were reported for doctors' and dentists' fees and optical care; prepaid medical care premiums decreased in British Columbia.

The Recreation and Reading index moved up 0.6 per cent to 157.6 from 156.6. Scattered price increases were recorded for radios, television sets, phonograph records, and bicycles.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index was 1.3 per cent higher at 125.0 from 123.4 as a result of the general increase in Ontario prices and slightly higher prices for imported liquor in Montreal and Vancouver.

NOTE

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

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