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PRICE MOVEMENTS

JUNE 1968

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:
(1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada rose by 0.3 per cent to 154.7 at the beginning of June from 154.2 at the beginning of May. The index was 4.0 per cent above its level of 148.8 recorded twelve months earlier. Five of the seven main component indexes increased since the preceding month. Among them, the Food and the Housing indexes both recorded increases of 0.3 per cent; whereas, clothing and transportation prices rose 0.4 and 0.5 per cent respectively. A marginal increase was recorded in the Health and Personal Care component, while the indexes for recreation and reading and for tobacco and alcohol remained unchanged from the previous month.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Component Weight (1)	Index			Per Cent Change	
		1968		1967	June 1968 From	
		June	May	June	May 1968	June 1967
ALL ITEMS	100	154.7	154.2	148.8	+ 0.3	+ 4.0
Food	27	149.4	148.9	144.8	+ 0.3	+ 3.2
Housing (2)	32	157.6	157.1	151.2	+ 0.3	+ 4.2
Clothing	11	136.4	135.8	132.5	+ 0.4	+ 2.9
Transportation	12	161.8	161.0	158.2	+ 0.5	+ 2.3
Health and Personal Care	7	197.9	197.8	190.7	+ 0.1	+ 3.8
Recreation and Reading	5	174.2	174.2	167.1	-	+ 4.2
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	141.1	141.1	128.1	-	+ 10.1

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

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

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

The price index of Thirty Industrial Materials, calculated as an unweighted geometric average, declined 0.2 per cent to 254.3 from 254.9 in the three-week period May 31st to June 21st. Prices decreased for ten commodities, increased for four and were unchanged for sixteen. Principal changes included lower prices for linseed oil, raw sugar, steel scrap, raw rubber, steers, beef hides and tin.

In the same three-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets advanced 0.2 per cent to 259.8 from 259.3. The Animal Products index moved up 0.3 per cent to 329.1 from 328.1 reflecting higher prices for hogs and raw wool on both Eastern and Western markets and for eggs in the West. Lower prices were shown for lambs, calves and steers on both markets and for eggs in the East. The Field Products index was unchanged at 190.5. Higher prices were recorded for hay in the East and potatoes in the West, while lower prices were shown for rye and flax in the West.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1968 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes		
	June 28th	June 21st	June 14th	June 7th	May 31st	June (P) 1968	May 1968	June 1967
Industrial Materials	A V A I L A B L E	254.3	254.9	255.2	254.9	254.9	252.0	256.7
Canadian Farm Products		259.8	259.9	260.4	259.3	259.9	255.5	269.1
Field		190.5	189.8	190.8	190.5	189.8	188.7	207.4
Animal		329.1	330.0	330.1	328.1	330.0	322.2	330.7
Regional Indexes:								
Eastern Canada	N O T	278.4	279.0	279.9	277.6	279.0	273.4	280.2
Western Canada		241.2	240.8	241.0	241.0	240.8	237.6	257.9

1 - All 1968 indexes are subject to revision. For Canadian Farm Products, indexes subsequent to July 1967 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 rose 5.3 per cent in the four-week period May 30th to June 27th, reaching its highest level since mid-January 1968. Indexes for all three major group indexes increased, particularly Finance which responded to continuing advances for Banks, and Investment and Loan, with Banks at its highest level in three years. Increases were general throughout all sub-groups with Beverages, Metal Fabricating, Chemicals, Construction, and Transportation reaching highs for the year, while Retail Trade was at an all time high.

In the same period, the index of Mining stock prices fluctuated mildly throughout the month to show a decrease over last month, as did the sub-group Golds, while Base Metals rose slightly.

Among the supplementary price indexes, Primary Oils and Gas declined slightly after an earlier sharp rise to finish 5.3 per cent higher than last month, as did Uraniums.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956 = 100)

Index and numbers of stocks priced	Week ended					% change from May 30th	Monthly average		
	June 27th	June 20th	June 13th	June 6th	May 30th		June 1968	May 1968	June 1967
Investors Price Index 114	178.4	174.5	174.0	170.7	169.5	+ 5.3	174.4	171.2	174.5
Industrials 80	186.3	182.6	182.7	179.2	179.0	+ 4.1	182.7	181.0	181.7
Industrial mines 4	200.8	201.9	206.1	201.3	202.0	- 0.6	202.5	208.2	193.6
Foods 11	207.5	208.5	193.3	189.9	191.9	+ 8.1	199.8	191.4	211.3
Beverages 7	272.8	261.0	259.7	261.5	260.2	+ 4.8	263.8	259.0	239.5
Textiles and clothing 5	150.2	145.9	149.8	138.4	144.6	+ 3.9	146.1	142.4	205.4
Pulp and paper 7	107.3	103.1	96.7	94.4	93.6	+ 14.6	100.4	93.6	134.4
Printing and pub. 4	693.4	670.6	677.1	670.6	678.9	+ 2.1	677.9	688.7	661.2
Primary metals 8	88.4	88.2	88.3	86.9	84.3	+ 4.9	88.0	87.6	110.4
Metal fabricating 9	124.9	122.2	124.4	123.6	124.9	-	123.8	115.3	115.9
Non-metallic minerals 4	94.1	92.8	93.7	91.4	91.7	+ 2.6	93.0	95.5	130.1
Petroleum 7	174.2	167.5	168.6	161.8	162.8	+ 7.0	168.0	163.3	152.9
Chemicals 4	112.1	107.0	104.8	102.9	103.0	+ 8.8	106.7	105.9	128.5
Construction 4	83.9	81.1	71.6	72.9	69.3	+ 21.1	77.4	71.3	66.6
Retail trade 6	301.1	296.0	294.0	287.1	278.8	+ 8.0	294.6	284.0	244.3
Utilities 20	163.2	159.8	158.0	155.2	153.5	+ 6.3	159.0	154.0	171.0
Pipelines 5	178.1	176.4	177.0	173.9	168.8	+ 5.5	176.4	167.6	193.1
Transportation 4	192.1	190.7	191.4	184.4	184.2	+ 4.3	189.6	176.7	223.5
Telephone 3	106.1	101.7	100.0	99.8	100.5	+ 5.6	101.9	101.5	118.8
Electric power 3	124.0	121.2	115.6	113.4	114.9	+ 7.9	118.6	120.0	132.8
Gas distribution 5	401.7	394.1	391.4	383.9	370.7	+ 8.4	392.8	374.7	337.2
Finance 14	159.8	154.3	152.3	149.6	144.2	+ 10.8	154.0	145.9	143.6
Banks 6	171.6	165.6	162.8	159.7	152.8	+ 12.3	164.9	154.6	141.3
Investment and loan 8	136.4	132.0	131.6	129.6	127.2	+ 7.2	132.4	128.6	147.4
Mining Stock Price Index 24	107.2	107.4	111.6	108.1	107.8	- 0.6	108.6	107.3	101.3
Golds 13	154.4	155.0	164.8	158.3	160.3	- 3.7	158.1	158.1	134.6
Base metals 11	81.4	81.3	82.5	80.6	79.1	+ 2.9	81.4	79.5	83.1
(1)									
Uraniums Price Index 4	260.2	258.2	262.1	250.7	247.0	+ 5.3	257.8	255.7	261.2
Primary Oils and Gas 6	203.3	205.6	214.6	198.5	193.1	+ 5.3	205.5	189.3	173.6

(1) Revision of this index has reduced the number of stocks priced.



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

The Food index increased by 0.3 per cent to 149.4 in June from 148.9 in May, reflecting generally higher meat prices. After declining for seven consecutive months, the price of beef rose by 2.5 per cent, with higher quotations also recorded for bacon, ham, chicken and fish. Fruit and vegetable price movements were mixed: potatoes, turnips, cabbage and apples were higher in price, while onions, tomatoes, and bananas were lower. Among staple items, milk and bread prices increased in several cities, whereas, butter and eggs declined. The Food index in June 1968 was 3.2 per cent higher than its level of twelve months earlier.

The Housing index rose by 0.3 per cent to 157.6 in June from 157.1 in May. Rents advanced by 0.9 per cent, reflecting the many contract changes at this time of year. Among the major cities, the largest rent increases were registered for Montreal, Ottawa, Calgary and Halifax. Home-ownership costs, by contrast, edged up by 0.1 per cent. Among household operation items, utensils, furniture, floor coverings, and textiles were slightly higher in price. The June 1968 Housing index was 4.2 per cent above its level of June 1967.

The Clothing index increased by 0.4 per cent to 136.4 in June from 135.8 in the preceding month. Men's and children's wear recorded upward price movements as many sale items returned to regular or higher prices. Footwear, piece goods and clothing services also were higher in price. However, lower quotations for spring coats and sweaters contributed to a 0.2 per cent decline for women's wear. The Clothing index stood 2.9 per cent above its level of June 1967.

The Transportation index rose 0.5 per cent to 161.8 in June from 161.0 a month earlier. Higher inter-city train and bus fares accounted for much of the rise. Automobile operation costs remained unchanged as higher gasoline prices and service charges offset a fractional decline in the price of new automobiles. The Transportation index was 2.3 per cent above its level of twelve months previous.

The Health and Personal Care component edged up by 0.1 per cent to 197.9 in June from 197.8 in May. Higher prices were recorded for some toiletries and for men's haircuts in Winnipeg. The Health and Personal Care index was 3.8 per cent above its level twelve months ago.

The Recreation and Reading index remained unchanged from the preceding month at a level of 174.2. This index was 4.2 per cent higher than a year earlier.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index also remained unchanged. At its June 1968 level of 141.1, this index was 10.1 per cent higher than at June 1967.

NOTE

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

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