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### PRICE MOVEMENTS

OCTOBER 1969

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:

(1961=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada increased by 0.2 per cent to 126.8 in October from 126.6 in September. At its October 1969 level it stood 4.4 per cent higher than in October 1968. In the latest month, combined increases in four of the seven main component indexes were partially offset by a seasonal decline in the food component. Among the indexes that increased, Housing moved up by 0.6 per cent mainly in response to higher shelter costs, Clothing rose by 0.7 per cent, Health and Personal Care advanced by 0.8 per cent, and Recreation and Reading edged up by 0.1 per cent. The remaining two indexes, Transportation, and Tobacco and Alcohol, were unchanged from their September levels.

Consumer Price Index and Main Components (1961=100)

	Component Weight (1)	Index			Per Cent Change	
		1969		1968	Oct. 1969 From	
		Oct.	Sept.	Oct.	Sept. 1969	Oct. 1968
ALL-ITEMS	100	126.8	126.6	121.4	+ 0.2	+ 4.4
Food	27	127.8	128.5	122.9	- 0.5	+ 4.0
Housing (2)	32	126.4	125.7	120.3	+ 0.6	+ 5.1
Clothing	11	126.1	125.2	122.8	+ 0.7	+ 2.7
Transportation	12	120.9	120.9	114.9	-	+ 5.2
Health and Personal Care	7	136.1	135.0	129.0	+ 0.8	+ 5.5
Recreation and Reading	5	128.1	128.0	121.4	+ 0.1	+ 5.5
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	126.4	126.4	121.3	-	+ 4.2

ALL-ITEMS Consumer Price Index Converted to 1949=100 ..... 163.8

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

(Continued on Page 4)

Prices Division

8201-503

**WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES (WEEKLY)<sup>1</sup>**

(1935-1939 = 100)

The price index of Thirty Industrial Materials, calculated as an unweighted geometric average declined 0.7 per cent to 269.8 from 271.6 in the three-week period October 3rd to October 24th. Prices were lower for nine commodities, higher for three and unchanged for eighteen. Principal changes included decreases for raw rubber, hogs, linseed oil, raw wool, beef hides and steers, while increases occurred for raw sugar and raw cotton.

In the same three-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets declined 1.7 per cent to 265.2 from 269.7. The Animal Products index moved 2.3 per cent lower to 349.2 from 357.3 reflecting price decreases for hogs and eggs on both Eastern and Western markets, for steers in the East, and lambs and raw wool in the West. Higher prices were shown for lambs and raw wool in the East and calves in the West. The Field Products index moved down 0.5 per cent to 181.2 from 182.1 on lower prices for potatoes and corn in the East, and flax and hay in the West. Higher prices were recorded for hay and wheat in the East and for rye and potatoes in the West.

**Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)**

	1969 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes		
	Oct. 31st	Oct. 24th	Oct. 17th	Oct. 10th	Oct. 3rd	Oct. (P) 1969	Sept. 1969	Oct. 1968
<b>Industrial Materials</b> .....	AVAILABLE	269.8	269.4	270.5	271.6	269.4	270.4	255.3
<b>Canadian Farm Products</b> .....	AVAILABLE	265.2	266.8	267.5	269.7	266.8	271.4	260.1
Field .....	AVAILABLE	181.2	181.3	181.6	182.1	181.3	182.6	181.3
Animal .....	AVAILABLE	349.2	352.3	353.4	357.3	352.3	360.2	339.0
<b>Regional Indexes:</b>								
Eastern Canada .....	NOT AVAILABLE	284.2	285.2	286.3	290.6	285.2	290.2	276.9
Western Canada .....	NOT AVAILABLE	246.1	248.5	248.7	248.8	248.5	252.6	243.4

<sup>1</sup> - All 1969 indexes are subject to revision. For Canadian Farm Products, indexes subsequent to July 1968 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 2.3 per cent to 197.2 in the four-week period October 2nd to October 30th. Among the three major groups, Industrials rose 2.5 per cent, Utilities decreased 1.2 per cent and Finance rose 6.1 per cent. Within Industrials, indexes for seven sub-groups increased and six decreased. Apart from an exceptional 11.7 per cent for Metal Fabricating, increases were in the range of 2.9 to 5.7 per cent, while decreases registered 6.7 per cent for both Petroleum and Chemicals, and 0.7 to 3.3 per cent elsewhere. In Utilities, indexes for two sub-groups increased and three decreased, Electric Power registering the smallest loss, at just 0.1 per cent lower than before. In Finance, Banks advanced 8.1 per cent to 207.1 and Investment and Loan rose 1.9 per cent to 180.4.

In the same period, the index of Mining stock prices rose 2.4 per cent to 111.9 as a result of an advance of 9.3 per cent for Base Metals and a decrease of 7.2 per cent for Golds.

Of the two supplementary price indexes, Uraniums and Primary Oils and Gas registered losses of 3.2 per cent and 5.8 per cent respectively.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956 = 100)

Index and numbers of stocks priced	Week ended					% change from Oct. 2nd	Monthly average		
	Oct. 30th	Oct. 23rd	Oct. 16th	Oct. 9th	Oct. 2nd		Oct. 1969	Sept. 1969	Oct. 1968
<b>Investors Price Index</b> ..... 114	197.2	198.5	195.9	190.1	192.7	+ 2.3	194.9	194.7	193.1
<b>Industrials</b> ..... 80	203.6	205.0	201.9	195.7	198.7	+ 2.5	201.0	201.0	198.2
Industrial mines ..... 4	212.9	215.6	208.6	199.5	205.5	+ 3.6	208.4	203.8	199.5
Foods ..... 10	245.7	242.0	240.8	235.4	236.8	+ 2.9	239.7	244.0	251.4
Beverages ..... 7	332.5	329.9	321.7	313.3	314.7	+ 5.7	322.4	320.2	292.6
Textiles and clothing ..... 5	132.4	134.3	134.3	130.3	135.6	- 2.4	133.4	139.7	178.5
Pulp and paper ..... 7	153.8	156.1	152.0	147.2	146.9	+ 4.7	151.2	149.4	120.8
Printing and pub. .... 4	811.3	819.7	805.5	784.8	782.1	+ 3.7	800.7	784.2	672.0
Primary metals ..... 8	106.6	105.3	106.2	100.9	102.0	+ 4.5	104.2	102.4	103.6
Metal fabricating ..... 9	147.1	143.3	131.1	128.3	131.7	+11.7	135.3	135.7	143.8
Non-metallic minerals ..... 4	117.0	116.1	115.7	116.1	119.6	- 2.2	117.1	119.7	128.8
Petroleum ..... 7	158.5	163.1	167.2	165.9	169.8	- 6.7	164.9	173.1	192.1
Chemicals ..... 4	100.1	103.3	105.2	104.5	107.3	- 6.7	104.1	110.6	129.2
Construction ..... 4	77.9	77.4	77.1	79.0	80.6	- 3.3	78.4	84.2	99.3
Retail trade ..... 7	251.5	254.4	258.5	247.8	255.3	- 0.7	255.1	251.8	301.2
<b>Utilities</b> ..... 20	172.8	176.3	175.5	171.9	174.9	- 1.2	174.3	176.9	182.3
Pipelines ..... 5	193.8	195.8	192.3	185.3	189.6	+ 2.2	191.4	188.5	201.3
Transportation ..... 4	230.8	237.8	238.4	228.5	229.3	+ 0.7	233.0	235.1	226.6
Telephone ..... 3	103.1	104.5	103.7	103.7	106.7	- 3.4	104.3	110.3	108.8
Electric power ..... 3	134.3	138.7	139.8	136.1	134.5	- 0.1	135.7	136.6	139.5
Gas distribution ..... 5	402.7	410.3	408.7	407.7	422.5	- 4.7	410.4	418.6	450.9
<b>Finance</b> ..... 14	198.2	196.1	193.5	186.3	185.8	+ 6.1	192.2	187.0	181.8
Banks ..... 6	207.1	202.8	200.0	192.5	191.5	+ 8.1	198.8	195.1	189.5
Investment and loan ..... 8	180.4	182.6	180.2	173.8	177.0	+ 1.9	178.8	174.7	166.5
<b>Mining Stock Price Index</b> ..... 24	111.9	111.1	109.6	107.1	109.3	+ 2.4	109.8	110.3	115.0
Golds ..... 6	120.3	121.2	123.6	123.3	129.6	- 7.2	123.6	130.0	160.5
Base metals ..... 18	107.3	105.6	102.0	98.2	98.2	+ 9.3	102.3	99.6	90.0
<b>Uraniums Price Index</b> ..... 4	169.0	174.5	171.7	166.5	174.6	- 3.2	171.3	175.6	265.4
<b>Primary Oils and Gas</b> ..... 6	212.5	212.9	224.5	215.7	225.7	- 5.8	218.3	219.4	244.7





THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: (Continued from Page 1)  
(1961=100)

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The Food index declined by 0.5 per cent to 127.3 in October from 128.5 in September. This latest seasonal decrease brought the Food index back to its June 1969 level, in spite of a marked increase in the price of restaurant meals since that time. Among items of food consumed in the home, beef prices dropped by 5.5 per cent with especially marked declines recorded for the more expensive cuts in many western cities. Beef prices in October were some thirteen per cent below their June peak and were at their lowest level since April 1969. By contrast, the price of pork rose 2.0 per cent since the preceding month, fish 3.5 per cent and chicken 1.0 per cent. Among produce items, lower quotations for apples, onions, carrots and turnips outweighed marked increases for tomatoes and lettuce. Some basic food items that registered marginal price declines included milk, bread, sugar and flour. Egg prices advanced by eleven per cent reflecting a seasonal increase usually evidenced in late summer and early fall. The October Food index was 4.0 per cent above its level of twelve months previous, with the price of food consumed in the home having advanced by 3.4 per cent and in restaurants by 8.1 per cent.

The Housing index rose by 0.6 per cent to 126.4 in October from 125.7 in September. Home-ownership costs moved up by 1.1 per cent reflecting increased mortgage interest rates and property taxes, while rents rose by 0.3 per cent. Higher prices for floor coverings, and household supplies contributed to a 0.3 per cent upward movement in the household operation component. The October Housing index stood 5.1 per cent above its level of twelve months previous.

The Clothing index increased by 0.7 per cent to 126.1 in October from 125.2 in the preceding month. An advance of 1.2 per cent for women's wear reflected marked increases in the prices of winter coats, suits and dresses. Children's wear moved up by 1.6 per cent in response to higher prices on a number of items which in the previous month were on sale. Men's wear and footwear prices each edged up by 0.2 per cent, while piece goods declined to the same extent. The Clothing index was 2.7 per cent above its level of a year earlier.

The Transportation index was unchanged at its September level of 120.9. Increased local transit fares in Windsor, and higher taxi fares in Ottawa were offset by seasonally lower intercity train and bus fares. The October Transportation index stood 5.2 per cent above its level of twelve months previous.

The Health and Personal Care index advanced by 0.8 per cent to 136.1 in October from 135.0 in September. Increased doctors', dentists' and optometrists' fees in provinces so far without federally approved Medicare plans accounted for most of the rise in this component.<sup>(3)</sup> Among personal care items, marginal decreases were recorded for several toiletries. The Health and Personal Care index was 5.5 per cent above its level of a year earlier.

The Recreation and Reading index edged up by 0.1 per cent to 128.1 in October from 128.0 in the preceding month. Higher prices for radios and sporting events admissions in a number of cities were the major contributors to the rise. The Recreation and Reading index stood 5.5 per cent above its level of a year ago.

The Tobacco and Alcohol component remained unchanged at its September level of 126.4 and was 4.2 per cent higher than in October 1968.

(3) Weights for doctors' fees, optical care, and prepaid medical care have been modified to reflect, at the national level, price movement in only those provinces in which federally approved Medicare plans are not operative.