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PRICE MOVEMENTS

JAN - 1970

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: (1961=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada moved up by 0.2 per cent to 128.2 in January from 127.9 in December. The January 1970 index stood 4.6 per cent above its corresponding level in January 1969. Of the seven main components, four increased, two decreased and one remained unchanged in the latest month. Among the indexes that registered increases, Housing rose by 0.4 per cent due mainly to increases in the home-ownership group while Transportation moved up by 0.6 per cent largely in response to seasonally higher train fares. The Food and the Tobacco and Alcohol indexes each increased by 0.2 per cent. A decline of 0.7 per cent in the Clothing index was associated with a number of mid-winter sales on apparel items. The Recreation and Reading index dipped by 0.1 per cent reflecting lower prices for television sets.

Consumer Price Index and Main Components (1961=100)

	Component Weight (1)	Index			Per Cent Change	
		1970	1969		Jan. 1970 From	
		January	December	January	December 1969	January 1969
ALL-ITEMS	100	128.2	127.9	122.6	+ 0.2	+ 4.6
Food	27	130.1	129.8	125.1	+ 0.2	+ 4.0
Housing (2)	32	128.1	127.6	121.9	+ 0.4	+ 5.1
Clothing	11	125.5	126.4	121.5	- 0.7	+ 3.3
Transportation	12	122.7	122.0	116.3	+ 0.6	+ 5.5
Health and Personal Care	7	136.8	136.8	129.5	-	+ 5.6
Recreation and Reading	5	128.0	128.1	124.2	- 0.1	+ 3.1
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	126.5	126.3	121.3	+ 0.2	+ 4.3

ALL-ITEMS Consumer Price Index Converted to 1949=100 165.6

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

The Food index rose by 0.2 per cent to 130.1 in January from 129.8 in December but was still 0.4 per cent below its August 1969 peak. In the latest month, prices increased for both restaurant meals and food at home. Among food items consumed in the home, most meat items rose in price while many produce items and eggs registered declines. Beef was up 2.0 per cent in the latest month and was 3.7 per cent higher than a year earlier. Pork moved up by 1.3 per cent since December, to a level some nine per cent higher than a year earlier. Chicken prices rose 3.6 per cent in the latest month but were 3.3 per cent lower than in January 1969. Among fresh

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Prices Division

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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, advanced 1.4 per cent to 275.3 from 271.5 in the four-week period January 2nd to January 30th. Prices were higher for ten commodities, lower for six and unchanged for fourteen. Principal changes included increases for sugar, steel scrap, bleached sulphite pulp, steers, hogs, unbleached sulphite pulp, raw rubber, iron ore, and oats while decreases occurred for spruce lumber, raw wool, beef hides and tin.

In the same four-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets advanced 3.6 per cent to 281.5 from 271.8. The Animal Products index moved 4.5 per cent higher to 374.8 from 358.8 reflecting price increases for hogs, steers and lambs on both Eastern and Western markets, and for poultry in the East. Lower prices were shown for eggs on both markets, and for raw wool and calves in the West. The Field Products index moved up 1.9 per cent to 188.2 from 184.7 on higher prices for potatoes, corn and wheat on the Eastern market and for rye, hay and flax in the West. Lower prices were shown for tobacco in the East.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939=100)

	1970 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes		
	Jan. 30th	Jan. 23rd	Jan. 16th	Jan. 9th	Jan. 2nd	Jan. (P) 1970	Dec. 1969	Jan. 1969
Industrial Materials	275.3	274.8	274.6	272.6	271.5	274.6	269.6	262.1
Canadian Farm Products	281.5	279.9	274.9	272.1	271.8	274.9	270.4	264.2
Field	188.2	187.6	185.3	185.0	184.7	185.3	182.9	185.4
Animal	374.8	372.2	364.4	359.1	358.8	364.4	357.9	343.0
Regional Indexes:								
Eastern Canada	305.6	302.2	294.9	293.2	293.9	294.9	293.0	285.8
Western Canada	257.4	257.6	254.8	250.9	249.6	254.8	247.8	242.7

1 - 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 decreased 2.5 per cent to 195.0 in the four-week period December 30th to January 29th. Indexes for the three major groups decreased, with Industrials, Utilities and Finance down 1.2, 5.0 and 5.8 per cent respectively. Within Industrials, indexes for eleven sub-groups decreased and two increased. Decreases occurred principally between the last two weeks of the month and ranged from 3.1 per cent for both Printing and Publishing and Industrial Mines, to 6.8 per cent for Foods, with an exceptional drop of 11.1 per cent in Chemicals from last month. Textiles and Clothing rose 6.5 per cent and Petroleum advanced 18.9 per cent in response to possible changes in the United States oil policy. In Utilities, all sub-groups registered losses ranging from 1.8 per cent for Gas Distribution to 6.6 per cent for Pipelines. In Finance, both Banks and Investment and Loan decreased throughout the month, ending 5.8 per cent lower than last month.

In the same period, the index of mining stock prices rose 2.2 per cent to 113.5 as a result of a break in the downward trend for Golds and Base Metals.

Of the two supplementary price indexes, Uraniums dropped steadily and were 9.1 per cent below their year end level while Primary Oils and Gas rose 6.6 per cent to 231.1.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956=100)

Index and numbers of stocks priced	Week ended					% change from Dec. 30th	Monthly average		
	Jan. 29th	Jan. 22nd	Jan. 15th	Jan. 8th	Dec. 30th		Jan. 1970	Dec. 1969	Jan. 1969
Investors Price Index114	195.0	200.5	200.6	199.9	199.9	- 2.5	199.0	199.3	203.1
Industrials80	206.8	213.1	213.2	210.3	209.4	- 1.2	210.8	208.4	208.7
Industrial mines 4	228.5	237.5	236.1	237.1	235.7	- 3.1	234.8	232.7	212.8
Foods10	248.6	256.5	259.6	264.6	266.8	- 6.8	257.3	259.6	238.9
Beverages 7	318.4	327.0	329.8	322.1	329.6	- 3.4	324.3	335.3	311.8
Textiles and clothing . 5	140.2	141.9	136.7	134.0	131.6	+ 6.5	138.2	132.3	164.3
Pulp and paper 7	148.9	154.1	157.5	159.4	159.5	- 6.6	155.0	157.8	144.4
Printing and pub. 4	818.1	849.8	851.1	847.4	843.9	- 3.1	841.6	832.7	752.9
Primary metals 8	92.3	93.3	94.5	94.7	96.9	- 4.7	93.7	97.8	111.8
Metal fabricating 9	127.3	132.2	136.8	139.6	131.7	- 3.3	134.0	132.6	157.5
Non-metallic minerals . 4	115.4	120.8	123.2	119.5	122.9	- 6.1	119.7	120.6	130.3
Petroleum 7	190.8	193.1	186.2	166.3	160.5	+ 18.9	184.1	159.3	194.7
Chemicals 4	87.0	91.5	92.2	95.5	97.9	- 11.1	91.6	99.6	126.3
Construction 4	65.2	67.6	70.5	71.5	69.5	- 6.2	68.7	72.6	112.8
Retail trade 7	248.8	256.2	260.6	264.8	262.5	- 5.2	257.6	259.8	275.2
Utilities20	156.2	159.9	161.8	163.2	164.5	- 5.0	160.3	164.4	181.7
Pipelines 5	179.7	186.3	189.7	189.5	192.5	- 6.6	186.3	191.7	195.5
Transportation 4	210.2	211.9	213.8	218.9	222.1	- 5.4	213.7	217.8	247.3
Telephone 3	98.1	100.2	100.3	103.9	104.6	- 6.2	100.6	103.6	110.7
Electric power 3	115.5	120.6	121.1	120.8	121.3	- 4.8	119.5	122.4	138.3
Gas distribution 5	345.7	348.9	357.8	353.2	352.2	- 1.8	351.4	359.6	432.2
Finance14	189.0	193.0	190.8	197.5	200.6	- 5.8	192.6	201.5	204.2
Banks 6	201.3	205.4	202.5	210.7	213.7	- 5.8	205.0	213.8	223.5
Investment and loan ... 8	164.6	168.5	167.5	171.3	174.7	- 5.8	166.0	177.2	165.2
Mining Stock Price Index .24	113.5	116.9	115.8	115.3	111.1	+ 2.2	115.4	110.0	125.7
Golds 6	106.1	108.8	113.0	114.5	103.5	+ 2.5	110.6	104.5	172.6
Base metals18	117.6	121.4	117.3	115.8	115.3	+ 2.0	118.0	113.0	100.1
Uraniums Price Index 4	130.5	136.5	138.8	141.9	143.5	- 9.1	136.7	148.8	245.9
Primary Oils and Gas 6	231.1	246.0	243.9	232.7	216.8	+ 6.6	238.4	207.8	277.6



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

produce items, substantial declines for lettuce, tomatoes, and a number of fresh fruits outweighed increases for potatoes, celery, and cabbage. With the exception of lettuce and potatoes, fresh vegetable prices were from ten to thirty per cent higher this January than last. Within the less volatile foods, prices of dairy products and fats were unchanged, while the price of bread registered a marginal decline. The January Food index was 4.0 per cent above its level of twelve months previous.

The Housing index increased by 0.4 per cent to 128.1 in January from 127.6 a month earlier. Higher mortgage interest rates and increased prices for new houses and repairs moved the home-ownership index up by 1.0 per cent, while rents rose by 0.2 per cent in the same period. The household operation index, by contrast, declined by 0.1 per cent as lower prices for appliances, floor coverings and household textiles and supplies outweighed increases for furniture, utensils, parcel postage and domestic help. The January Housing index stood 5.1 per cent above its level of twelve months previous.

The Clothing index declined by 0.7 per cent to 125.5 in January from 126.4 in December due mainly to mid-winter sales. Among women's wear items, wool dresses, sweaters and winter coats each registered declines of three per cent or more, while in men's wear, suits, slacks and sport shirts registered the largest decreases. Children's wear and piece goods components also recorded declines but footwear edged up by 0.1 per cent. The January Clothing index was 3.3 per cent higher than a year earlier.

The Transportation component increased by 0.6 per cent to 122.7 in January from 122.0 in December. While gasoline prices moved up by 0.3 per cent, the bulk of the increase in the latest month was attributable to seasonally higher train fares. Among local transportation items, bus fares increased by thirty per cent in Halifax and taxi fares by about nineteen per cent in Winnipeg. The Transportation index was 5.5 per cent above its level of twelve months previous.

The Health and Personal Care index was unchanged from its December level of 136.8. Minor increases were recorded for several personal care items. At its December level, the Health and Personal Care index was 5.6 per cent higher than a year earlier.

The Recreation and Reading index declined by 0.1 per cent to 128.0 in January from 128.1 in December. Price decreases for television sets more than offset increases for phonograph records, cinema admissions and newspaper subscriptions. The Recreation and Reading index stood 3.1 per cent above its level of twelve months previous.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index rose by 0.2 per cent to 126.5 in January from 126.3 a month earlier. This latest price rise was attributable to a four per cent increase for beer in Alberta. The Tobacco and Alcohol index was 4.3 per cent higher than a year earlier.

NOTE

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

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