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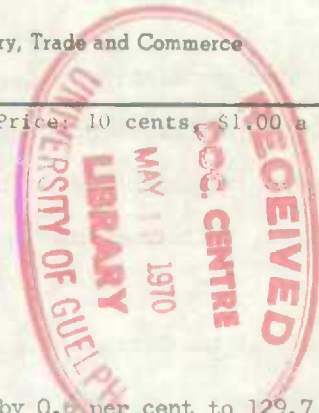
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PRICE MOVEMENTS

APRIL 1970

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: (1961=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada moved up by 0.8 per cent to 129.7 in April from 128.9 in March. The April 1970 index stood 4.1 per cent above its April 1969 level of 124.6. The movement in the latest index from the preceding month, though only about half that for April 1969, was equivalent to the average April change for the past five years. All major components, except Tobacco and Alcohol, contributed to the April 1970 rise in the index. The Food component moved up 0.8 per cent after declining by 0.6 per cent a month earlier. Higher professional fees were the main cause of a 1.2 per cent advance in the Health and Personal Care index. Among other major components the Clothing index increased by 0.6 per cent, largely reflecting higher prices for outer-wear items, while the Housing and the Transportation indexes each rose by 0.5 per cent. The Recreation and Reading component edged up by 0.1 per cent.

Consumer Price Index and Main Components (1961=100)

	Component weight (1)	Index			Per Cent Change	
		1970		1969	April 1970 From	
		April	March	April	March 1970	April 1969
ALL-ITEMS	100	129.7	128.9	124.6	+ 0.6	+ 4.1
Food	27	131.5	130.5	125.0	+ 0.8	+ 5.2
Housing (2)	32	129.8	129.2	123.7	+ 0.5	+ 4.9
Clothing	11	126.8	126.0	124.3	+ 0.6	+ 2.0
Transportation	12	124.6	124.0	119.9	+ 0.5	+ 3.9
Health and Personal Care	7	139.3	137.7	133.7	+ 1.2	+ 4.2
Recreation and Reading	5	129.6	129.5	125.4	+ 0.1	+ 3.3
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	126.5	126.5	125.5	-	+ 0.8

ALL-ITEMS Consumer Price Index Converted to 1949=100 167.6

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

The Food index advanced by 0.8 per cent to 131.5 in April from 130.5 in March. In the latest month higher prices for fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as for some meat items, outweighed smaller price declines for pork, eggs and some dairy products. Increases of five per cent or more were recorded since March for onions, turnips, cabbage, tomatoes, lettuce and grapefruit. Partially offsetting these advances, price declines were recorded for carrots, celery

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Prices Division

8200-503

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

The price index of Thirty Industrial Materials, calculated as an unweighted geometric average, advanced fractionally to 276.6 from 276.5 in the three-week period April 3rd to April 24th. Prices were higher for six commodities, lower for nine and unchanged for fifteen. Principal changes included increases for spruce lumber, unbleached pulp sulphite, tin and raw sugar, while decreases occurred for linseed oil, raw rubber, hogs, raw wool and beef hides.

In the same three-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets declined 0.1 per cent to 276.3 from 276.6. The Animal Products index moved 0.8 per cent lower to 361.4 from 364.4 reflecting price decreases for eggs on both Eastern and Western markets, for hogs in the East, and raw wool, calves and steers in the West. Higher prices were shown for calves in the East and lambs in the West. The Field Products index advanced 1.3 per cent to 191.2 from 188.8 on higher prices for potatoes on both markets, for hay in the East and flax in the West. Lower prices were shown for rye on both Eastern and Western markets and for hay in the West.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939=100)

	1970 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes		
	May 1st	Apr. 24th	Apr. 17th	Apr. 10th	Apr. 3rd	Apr. (P) 1970	Mar. 1970	Apr. 1969
Industrial Materials	N O T	276.6	276.3	276.4	276.5	276.3	273.7	267.7
Canadian Farm Products		276.3	274.5	274.7	276.6	274.5	280.3	267.9
Field	A V	191.2	188.6	188.6	188.8	188.6	189.4	183.0
Animal	A I	361.4	360.3	360.7	364.4	360.3	371.2	352.8
Regional Indexes:	L A B E							
Eastern Canada	L	299.1	297.2	298.5	299.5	297.2	304.7	281.6
Western Canada	E	253.5	251.8	250.8	253.7	251.8	255.9	250.2

1 - All 1970 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 dropped 8.3 per cent to 185.6 in the four-week period April 2nd to April 30th, its lowest level since the middle of 1969. Indexes for the three major groups and all of their respective sub-groups decreased, with Industrials down 9.3 per cent to 195.5, Utilities down 7.0 per cent to 150.2 and Finance dropping 4.3 per cent to 184.0. Nearly all sub-groups experienced noticeable drops in the week of April 23rd, when major losses were recorded on many North American stock exchanges. Within Industrials, decreases ranged from 13.2 per cent for Petroleum to 5.3 per cent for Metal Fabricating, although Textiles and Clothing, Printing and Publishing, and Chemicals recovered slightly towards the end of the month. In Utilities, indexes continued to be lower throughout the month, with Electric Power registering the largest decrease at 9.1 per cent. In Finance, Banks and Investment and Loan decreased 4.4 per cent and 4.0 per cent respectively.

In the same period, the index of Mining stock prices dropped 8.4 per cent to 109.8 in response to losses of 11.0 per cent for Golds and 7.0 per cent for Base Metals.

Both supplementary price indexes fell, with Uraniums down 13.0 per cent to 130.6 and Primary Oils and Gas down 22.8 per cent to 179.1.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956=100)

Index and numbers of stocks priced	Week ended					% change from Apr. 2nd	Monthly average		
	Apr. 30th	Apr. 23rd	Apr. 16th	Apr. 9th	Apr. 2nd		Apr. 1970	Mar. 1970	Apr. 1969
Investors Price Index ...114	185.6	187.0	195.1	199.2	202.4	- 8.3	193.9	199.5	203.5
Industrials 80	195.5	197.7	206.6	212.4	215.6	- 9.3	205.6	211.4	208.0
Industrial mines 4	222.1	225.6	237.7	243.8	245.9	- 9.7	235.0	242.6	210.9
Foods 10	249.4	255.0	265.0	265.1	266.6	- 6.5	260.2	263.9	229.8
Beverages 7	307.9	314.2	325.6	332.4	338.3	- 9.0	323.7	328.6	319.0
Textiles and clothing 5	114.0	108.0	113.7	123.1	126.8	- 10.1	117.1	128.5	172.1
Pulp and paper 7	144.6	145.2	151.9	156.7	158.8	- 8.9	151.4	156.2	165.2
Printing and pub. 4	792.5	781.5	816.5	841.2	852.5	- 7.0	816.8	841.4	744.8
Primary metals 8	93.0	94.6	99.5	101.3	101.0	- 7.9	97.9	99.5	115.4
Metal fabricating 9	120.3	121.9	126.8	127.9	127.0	- 5.3	124.8	128.6	149.9
Non-metallic minerals 4	109.4	109.4	118.5	121.2	117.8	- 7.1	115.3	113.3	134.4
Petroleum 7	163.4	164.7	171.0	182.1	188.2	- 13.2	173.9	179.2	177.9
Chemicals 4	79.5	77.5	82.2	83.9	84.2	- 5.6	81.5	87.9	132.4
Construction 4	54.2	55.1	56.3	58.8	59.1	- 8.3	56.7	61.2	123.5
Retail trade 7	205.9	214.9	221.7	222.7	235.6	- 12.6	220.2	229.0	269.6
Utilities 20	150.2	151.9	157.7	158.7	161.5	- 7.0	156.0	158.1	186.4
Pipelines 5	171.9	171.1	179.2	182.5	183.0	- 6.1	177.5	178.2	194.9
Transportation 4	133.9	190.0	203.8	205.4	205.2	- 7.9	196.7	207.8	264.8
Telephone 3	100.9	101.1	102.6	103.8	105.9	- 4.7	102.9	102.0	116.5
Electric power 3	112.2	119.1	118.9	117.7	123.4	- 9.1	118.3	118.9	136.4
Gas distribution 5	325.4	327.2	347.6	346.7	355.5	- 8.5	340.5	350.0	440.7
Finance 14	184.0	181.1	188.2	188.4	192.2	- 4.3	186.8	196.3	204.0
Banks 6	197.5	192.0	200.2	200.8	206.5	- 4.4	199.4	211.9	214.3
Investment and loan .. 8	157.4	159.3	164.4	163.8	164.0	- 4.0	161.8	165.4	183.3
Mining Stock Price Index .24	109.8	109.4	116.9	118.2	119.9	- 8.4	114.8	115.0	127.2
Golds 6	107.8	108.2	119.2	119.0	121.1	- 11.0	115.1	114.6	171.6
Base metals 18	110.9	110.1	115.6	117.7	119.3	- 7.0	114.7	115.2	102.8
Uraniums Price Index 4	130.6	131.0	146.5	150.4	150.1	- 13.0	141.7	153.9	206.4
Primary Oils and Gas 6	179.1	188.7	207.1	230.5	232.1	- 22.8	207.5	220.0	289.8



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

and bananas. The price of beef rose 0.8 per cent since the preceding month but was still 6.6 per cent below its June 1969 peak. Poultry, fish and other meats registered lesser increases. Pork, by contrast, recorded a seasonal decrease of 0.9 per cent though its latest level was 10.1 per cent higher than a year earlier. Egg prices declined for the fourth consecutive month to a level thirty per cent below their December 1969 peak. Among dairy products, the price of fluid milk edged down by 0.1 per cent reflecting scattered declines in Toronto, while Canada average prices for ice cream, evaporated milk and process cheese were also lower. Other movements of note since the preceding month included sugar, up 1.3 per cent to reach its highest level since August 1969; regular coffee, up 1.8 per cent in contrast to instant coffee which declined by 1.0 per cent; and lard, up 2.3 per cent to reach a level 21.4 per cent higher than a year earlier. Restaurant meals rose 0.8 per cent since the preceding month to match the rise in the food at home component; however, in the latest twelve-month period, restaurant meals have advanced 6.8 per cent compared to 5.0 per cent for food consumed at home. The April Food index stood 5.2 per cent above its corresponding level a year earlier.

The Housing index rose by 0.5 per cent to 129.8 in April from 129.2 a month earlier. Increases were recorded for both the shelter and the household operation elements. The home-ownership component advanced by 0.9 per cent due almost entirely to increased mortgage interest rates. On the other hand, tenant costs edged up by only 0.1 per cent with isolated declines occurring in some Western cities. Among household operation items, the price of electricity rose 2.3 per cent due to a substantial increase in rates in British Columbia. Furniture, household textiles and most supplies increased in price, while slightly lower quotations were recorded for appliances, floor coverings and utensils. The April Housing index was 4.9 per cent higher than a year earlier.

The Clothing index moved up by 0.6 per cent to 126.8 in April from 126.0 a month earlier. Men's wear prices advanced by 1.1 per cent reflecting increases on virtually all items except dress shirts and some underwear. Women's wear prices moved up by 0.5 per cent, with most increases restricted to outerwear items. Prices for footwear advanced by 1.0 per cent, but piece goods and clothing services remained unchanged. Children's wear prices registered a 0.2 per cent decrease. The Clothing index was 2.0 per cent higher than twelve months previous.

The Transportation index rose 0.5 per cent to 124.6 in April from 124.0 a month earlier. Most of the increase in the latest month was associated with an advance in the travel and local transportation components. Inter-city train fares registered a seasonal rise, while local bus fares were increased in Vancouver and St. John's. The automobile operation component edged up by 0.1 per cent reflecting minor advances for insurance and motor oil. The Transportation index was 3.9 per cent higher than twelve months previous.

The Health and Personal Care index advanced by 1.2 per cent to 139.3 in April from 137.7 a month earlier. Generally increased dentists' fees, together with higher doctors' and optical care fees in non-Medicare provinces accounted for most of the rise in the latest month. In addition, increased prices for most toiletry items were registered in a number of regional cities. The Health and Personal Care index stood 4.2 per cent above its level of a year ago.

The Recreation and Reading index edged up 0.1 per cent to 129.6 in April from 129.5 a month earlier. Fractional increases were recorded for portable televisions and phonograph records. The Recreation and Reading index was 3.3 per cent above its corresponding level twelve months earlier.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index in April was unchanged from its March level and stood only 0.8 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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