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**Memorandum**

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PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES USED BY FARMERS

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APRIL, 1958 (1935-39 = 100)

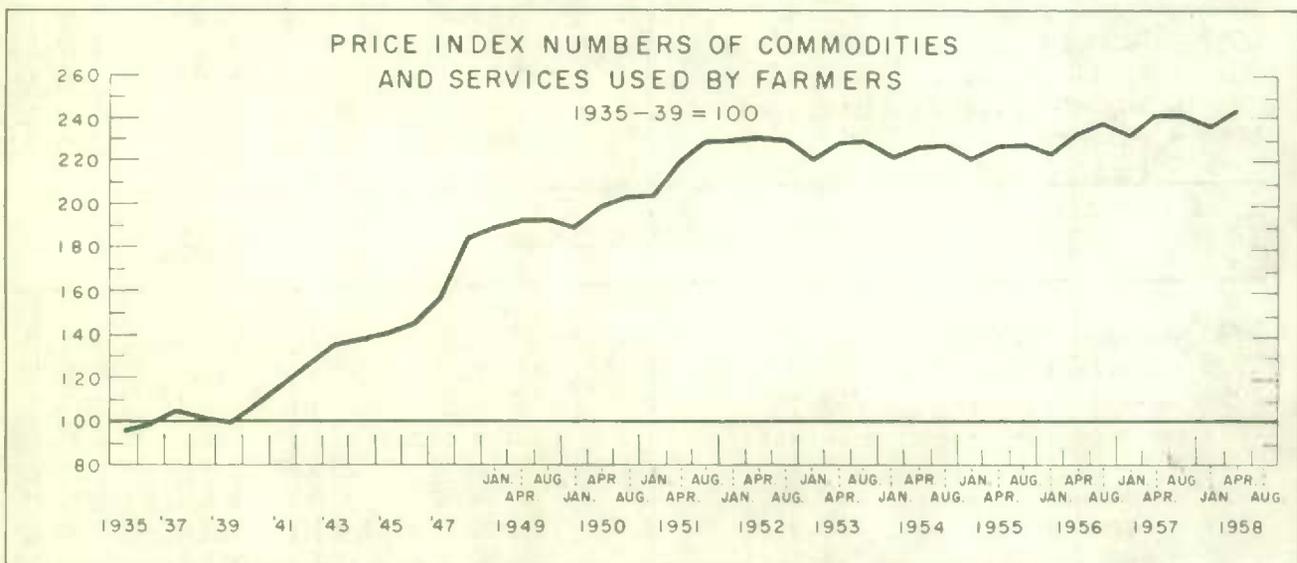
Due, to a large extent, to seasonally higher farm wage rates, particularly in the West, the All Canada Composite Price Index of Commodities and Services Used by Farmers advanced 3.3 per cent from 236.8 in January to 244.7 in April. The April, 1958 index stands at 1.3 per cent above the comparable figure of a year ago. The Composite Index, exclusive of Farm Family Living, rose 4.6 per cent to 262.7 between January and April and recorded an increase of 1.0 per cent during the past twelve months.

The All Canada Farm Wage Rates index increased 13.8 per cent from 470.3 for January to 535.2 for April, as the Western series moved up 28.2 per cent to 581.0 and the Eastern series 4.3 per cent to 503.0.

The preliminary All Canada Tax and Interest Rate index for 1957 was revised to 191.9, with the final Eastern index standing at 186.4 and the Western series at 196.5. These indexes are nominal until January 1959.

Farm Equipment and Materials advanced 0.4 per cent to 213.1 for April. Feed showed an increase of 2.3 per cent to 193.6 reflecting notably higher price quotations for the Eastern region. Gasoline, Oil and Grease and Binder Twine remained steady at 156.0 and 223.7 respectively. Price fluctuations in other sub-groups were narrow, changes varying less than one per cent.

The All Canada Farm Living Component rose from 215.2 in January to 217.8 in April to show an increase of 1.2 per cent over last January and 2.0 per cent over April, 1957 level. With the exception of Miscellaneous Items, which are unchanged at 125.8, all other sub-groups participated in the upward movement. The Health Maintenance index moved up 3.1 per cent, Food 1.6 per cent, Clothing 0.9 per cent, Household Equipment 0.8 per cent and Fuel 0.7 per cent. All components of the Farm Family Living were above levels of a year ago, leading were Health Maintenance costs with an increase of 5.8 per cent while Food registered the smallest gain, 0.3 per cent.



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Prepared in Prices Section, Labour and Prices Division

TABLE I. - PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES USED BY FARMERS  
(1935-39 = 100)

	Composite Index Exclusive of Living Component (a)	Equipment and Materials	Taxes and Interest Rates (a)	Farm Wage Rates	Farm Family Living	Composite Index Inclusive of Living Component (a)
ALL CANADA						
1926 .....	130.6	119.9	135.5	164.5	121.1	126.8
1939 .....	99.3	95.7	101.1	110.3	99.5	99.4
1956 .....	247.6	208.8	184.7	470.3	204.5	230.3
1957 .....	255.9(r)	211.3	191.9(r)	501.4	212.7	238.7(r)
1955 - April .....	240.8	204.7	177.2	454.2	203.8	226.0
1956 - April .....	250.6	209.6	184.7	485.1	204.0	231.9
1957 - January .....	248.5(r)	212.3	191.9(r)	453.8	208.6	232.6(r)
- April .....	260.1(r)	212.0	191.9(r)	523.9	213.5	241.5(r)
- August .....	259.1(r)	209.7	191.9(r)	526.4	216.0	241.9(r)
1958 - January .....	251.2(r)	212.2(r)	191.9(r)	470.3	215.2	236.8(r)
- April .....	262.7	213.1	191.9	535.2	217.8	244.7
EASTERN CANADA						
1926 .....	129.5	122.8	128.4	151.1	120.2	125.8
1939 .....	98.7	94.8	99.2	110.6	99.5	99.0
1956 .....	251.9	207.3	178.8	461.4	201.9	231.9
1957 .....	260.9(r)	209.4	186.4(r)	493.4	210.5	240.7(r)
1955 - April .....	243.1	205.3	168.4	433.4	201.7	226.6
1956 - April .....	252.3	208.0	178.8	461.6	201.3	231.9
1957 - January .....	258.7(r)	210.8	186.4(r)	478.2	206.2	237.7(r)
- April .....	262.8(r)	210.8	186.4(r)	498.6	211.0	242.1(r)
- August .....	261.1(r)	206.5	186.4(r)	503.4	214.3	242.4(r)
1958 - January .....	257.4(r)	207.3(r)	186.4(r)	482.4	213.6	239.9(r)
- April .....	262.7	209.2	186.4	503.0	216.3	244.1
WESTERN CANADA						
1926 .....	131.8	117.1	141.6	183.5	121.9	127.8
1939 .....	99.8	96.6	102.7	109.9	99.5	99.7
1956 .....	243.3	210.1	189.8	483.0	207.0	228.8
1957 .....	251.0(r)	213.3	196.5(r)	512.7	214.9	236.6(r)
1955 - April .....	238.5	204.1	184.8	483.8	205.9	225.4
1956 - April .....	248.9	211.1	189.8	518.4	206.6	232.0
1957 - January .....	238.3(r)	213.7	196.5(r)	419.2	211.0	227.4(r)
- April .....	257.5(r)	213.2	196.5(r)	559.9	216.0	240.9(r)
- August .....	257.1(r)	212.9	196.5(r)	559.0	217.8	241.4(r)
1958 - January .....	245.0(r)	216.9	196.5(r)	453.1	216.8	233.7(r)
- April .....	262.7	216.9	196.5	581.0	219.2	245.3

(a) 1958 indexes are subject to revision, since tax and interest rate figures are preliminary.

(r) revised.

TABLE 2. - PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS USED BY FARMERS  
(1935-39 = 100)

	Farm Mach- inery	Build- ind Mater- ials	Gasoline, Oil, Grease	Feed	Com- pounded Ferti- lizer	Binder Twine	Seed	Hard- ware
ALL CANADA								
1926 .....	97.6	114.0	127.7	136.4	129.4	184.6	130.2	104.0
1939 .....	103.6	108.1	96.2	80.5	100.2	93.8	79.4	101.6
1956 .....	209.4	316.6	152.5	206.4	180.8	268.4	205.5	209.9
1957 .....	223.8	322.9	155.0	204.5	183.4	223.7	183.1	224.1
1955 - April .....	198.1	307.2	151.7	217.8	181.5	241.0	201.0	199.8
1956 - April .....	209.2	315.8	152.3	207.6	180.9	275.0	212.6	209.2
1957 - January ....	223.1	321.9	153.2	210.9	180.7	223.7	194.8	219.1
- April .....	223.8	323.5	155.7	207.6	184.0	223.7	182.4	223.9
- August .....	224.5	323.4	156.1	195.1	185.6	223.7	172.1	229.4
1958 - January ....	236.1	323.0	156.0	189.2	184.7(r)	223.7	177.8	230.2
- April .....	236.9	321.7	156.0	193.6	184.9	223.7	177.3	231.8
EASTERN CANADA								
1926 .....	97.0	114.0	136.6	134.9	129.4	184.6	121.4	101.9
1939 .....	104.3	108.1	100.1	81.0	100.1	93.8	82.4	102.1
1956 .....	208.2	291.0	173.6	203.7	182.0	268.4	203.1	201.7
1957 .....	224.6	298.5	176.7	201.4	185.0	223.7	179.0	214.5
1955 - April .....	195.1	279.0	172.7	215.5	182.3	241.0	192.5	193.3
1956 - April .....	207.7	290.6	173.1	205.4	182.1	275.0	207.5	200.7
1957 - January ....	224.0	296.6	174.9	207.7	182.0	223.7	192.0	209.1
- April .....	224.6	299.2	177.5	204.8	185.7	223.7	182.2	213.7
- August .....	225.1	299.6	177.8	191.7	187.2	223.7	162.9	220.7
1958 - January ....	237.9	299.2	177.5	185.4	186.0(r)	223.7	172.4	221.4
- April .....	239.3	299.1	178.1	190.9	186.0	223.7	172.2	222.9
WESTERN CANADA								
1926 .....	97.8	114.0	122.6	141.6	129.4	184.6	137.5	106.3
1939 .....	103.3	108.1	93.9	78.7	101.3	93.8	76.9	101.0
1956 .....	209.9	343.5	140.4	216.3	169.5	268.4	207.4	219.2
1957 .....	223.5	348.8	142.5	215.8	168.5	223.7	186.5	235.0
1955 - April .....	199.3	337.0	139.7	226.1	173.6	241.0	208.1	207.1
1956 - April .....	209.8	342.4	140.4	215.7	169.5	275.0	216.9	218.7
1957 - January ....	222.7	348.6	140.8	222.2	167.7	223.7	197.1	230.4
- April .....	223.5	349.2	143.1	217.6	167.7	223.7	182.6	235.3
- August .....	224.2	348.5	143.6	207.5	170.0	223.7	179.8	239.2
1958 - January ....	235.4	348.1	143.6	203.0	172.5	223.7	182.4	240.0
- April .....	236.0	345.6	143.3	203.2	174.0	223.7	181.5	241.9



**TABLE 3. - PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES  
USED IN FARM FAMILY LIVING  
(1935-39 = 100)**

	Compo- site Index	Food	Cloth- ing	Fuel	House- hold Equip- ment	Health Mainten- ance	Miscel- laneous
<b>ALL CANADA</b>							
1926 .....	121.1	134.0	136.5	125.3	107.7	95.8	102.3
1939 .....	99.5	96.0	100.7	99.5	101.1	100.9	100.5
1956 .....	204.5	218.2	227.5	200.3	231.7	204.9	124.3
1957 .....	212.7	233.7	232.9	207.7	240.5	216.4	124.5
1955 - April .....	203.8	219.8	227.4	199.2	229.2	198.4	124.8
1956 - April .....	204.0	216.1	227.1	199.9	232.0	205.9	124.2
1957 - January .....	208.6	229.2	228.2	206.4	234.2	209.0	124.4
- April .....	213.5	234.4	233.4	208.4	241.8	219.0	124.2
- August .....	216.0	237.4	237.1	208.3	245.5	221.2	124.8
1958 - January .....	215.2	231.2	237.1	211.0	245.5	224.6	125.8
- April .....	217.8	235.0	239.2	212.4	247.4	231.6	125.8
<b>EASTERN CANADA</b>							
1926 .....	120.2	136.1	134.8	119.5	108.0	95.8	102.3
1939 .....	99.5	96.3	100.2	98.9	100.9	100.8	100.6
1956 .....	201.9	217.5	226.3	183.0	224.2	204.9	125.2
1957 .....	210.5	234.8	232.0	190.1	232.3	216.3	125.4
1955 - April .....	201.7	220.9	226.3	181.8	222.0	198.3	125.6
1956 - April .....	201.3	215.1	226.0	182.4	224.3	205.9	125.0
1957 - January .....	206.2	229.4	227.2	190.1	226.4	209.0	125.3
- April .....	211.0	234.9	232.4	190.0	233.0	218.9	125.1
- August .....	214.3	240.1	236.3	190.2	237.4	221.1	125.7
1958 - January .....	213.6	233.7	236.3	194.2	237.4	224.6	126.9
- April .....	216.3	237.9	238.9	194.5	239.3	231.6	126.9
<b>WESTERN CANADA</b>							
1926 .....	121.9	131.9	138.1	131.2	107.4	95.8	102.4
1939 .....	99.5	95.7	101.1	100.2	101.2	100.9	100.5
1956 .....	207.0	218.7	228.7	217.6	239.2	204.9	123.5
1957 .....	214.9	232.6	233.9	225.3	248.7	216.4	123.6
1955 - April .....	205.9	218.6	228.4	216.5	236.4	198.4	123.9
1956 - April .....	206.6	217.1	228.2	217.4	239.8	205.9	123.3
1957 - January .....	211.0	229.1	229.3	222.8	241.9	209.1	123.6
- April .....	216.0	233.9	234.5	226.8	250.5	219.0	123.4
- August .....	217.8	234.7	237.9	226.4	253.6	221.2	123.9
1958 - January .....	216.8	228.7	237.9	227.9	253.6	224.7	124.8
- April .....	219.2	232.2	239.5	230.2	255.6	231.7	124.8