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*the Editor*

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PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES USED BY FARMERS, APRIL 1951.

(1935-39=100)

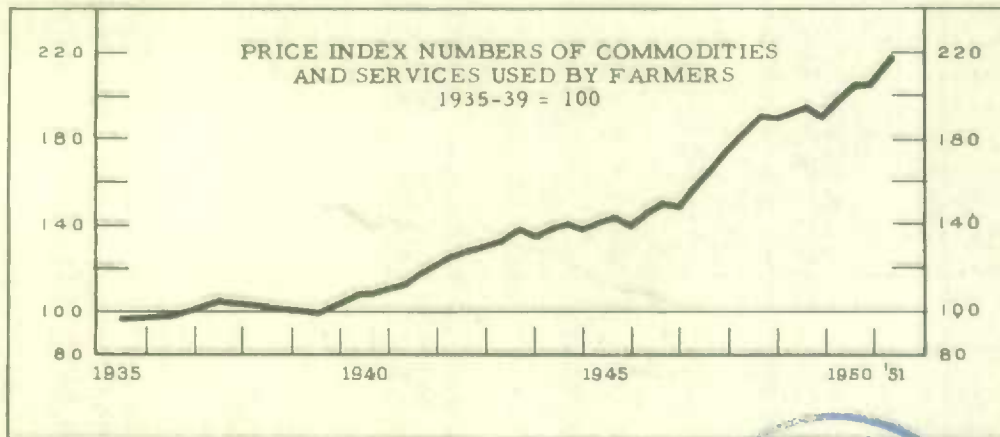
The Dominion composite price index of commodities and services used by farmers, including farm living costs, rose from 203.7 for January to 218.3 for April, for an advance of 7.2 p.c. This was 10 p.c. over April, 1950. The composite index exclusive of living costs also showed a percentage increase of 7.2 p.c. to 232.5 between January and April, and 9.2 p.c. over the comparable figure a year ago.

Seasonal strength in farm wage rates was principally responsible for the increase in the composite index as the index for this series rose to 427.1 in April for a gain of 16.7 p.c. The rise in the western wage index was 29.8 p.c. while that for the corresponding eastern series was 8.5 p.c.

An index for property taxes and interest rates calculated in January of each year, stood nominally at 143.0.

Farm operating equipment and materials increased 4.3 p.c. to 209.6 for April, with all sectional indexes showing gains over January levels. These rises ranged from 22.3 p.c. for binder twine to 1.2 p.c. for gasoline, oil and grease. Fertilizer in the west remained unchanged at 150.3 while this index rose 3.5 p.c. to 158.4 in the east.

An increase of 7.1 p.c. to 197.1 was registered for Canadian farm family living costs between January and April. All sub-groups of the index advanced, clothing moving up 12.1 p.c. to 216.7 followed by household equipment with an 8.3 p.c. rise to 204.7 and foods 6.7 p.c. to 243.9. The eastern regional index rose 7.3 p.c. to 195.0 and the western index 6.8 p.c. to 199.1. The greater advance for the eastern index was due to higher prices for clothing, fuel and foods. In the west household equipment price increases were greater.



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TABLE 1. - PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES USED BY FARMERS AND FARM FAMILY LIVING COSTS  
(1935-39=100)

	Composite Index Exclusive of Living Costs (a)	Equipment and Materials	Tax and Interest Rates	Farm Wage Rates	Farm Family Living Costs	Composite Index Inclusive of Living Costs (a)
<b>ALL CANADA</b>						
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
1948 - August.....	204.4	176.7	131.3	398.4	169.5	190.5
1949 - January.....	200.5	180.3	138.7	352.2	171.8	189.0
April.....	205.2	180.4	138.7	379.6	173.3	192.4
August.....	206.5	180.2	138.7	388.1	174.5	193.7
1950 - January.....	199.6	184.4	144.3	324.8	175.3	189.9
April.....	213.0	191.0	144.3	380.1	176.7	198.5
August.....	218.7	194.3	144.3	401.6	180.7	203.5
1951 - January.....	216.9	201.0	144.3	365.9	184.1	203.7
April.....	232.5	209.6	144.3	427.1	197.1	218.3
<b>EASTERN CANADA</b>						
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
1948 - August.....	210.3	180.0	118.0	394.1	168.4	193.6
1949 - January.....	207.5	183.9	126.1	359.4	170.5	192.7
April.....	208.9	183.0	126.1	369.7	171.3	193.9
August.....	210.2	183.0	126.1	376.4	172.6	195.2
1950 - January.....	204.7	186.8	131.2	331.4	173.5	192.2
April.....	216.4	194.5	131.2	367.3	174.4	199.6
August.....	220.4	196.1	131.2	382.3	178.3	203.6
1951 - January.....	223.1	200.5	131.2	382.0	181.7	206.5
April.....	235.4	210.2	131.2	414.5	195.0	219.2
<b>WESTERN CANADA</b>						
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
1948 - August.....	198.5	173.5	142.5	404.5	170.7	187.4
1949 - January.....	193.6	176.8	149.4	341.9	173.1	185.4
April.....	201.4	177.9	149.4	393.7	175.4	191.0
August.....	202.7	177.5	149.4	404.7	176.3	192.1
1950 - January.....	194.5	182.1	155.4	315.4	177.2	187.6
April.....	209.6	187.7	155.4	398.4	178.9	197.3
August.....	216.9	192.5	155.4	429.0	183.1	203.4
1951 - January.....	210.7	201.4	155.4	342.9	186.4	201.0
April.....	229.6	208.9	155.4	445.0	199.1	217.4

(a) 1951 indexes are subject to revision, since tax and interest rate figures are preliminary.

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

	Farm Machinery	Building Materials	Gasoline, Oil, Grease	Feed	Fertilizer	Binder Twine	Seed	Hardware
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
1948 - August.....	147.3	234.0	139.7	208.2	132.2	294.0	223.4	159.4
1949 - January.....	157.9	237.5	139.2	209.0	141.4	294.0	218.5	162.6
April.....	158.3	237.4	139.2	208.3	141.3	304.7	213.7	165.9
August.....	158.6	236.5	139.4	211.3	141.3	304.7	204.8	165.8
1950 - January.....	164.2	238.2	143.9	215.1	146.6	304.7	212.6	165.8
April.....	164.6	246.9	145.1	228.2	146.7	298.0	246.7	168.0
August.....	166.4	279.9	146.4	232.7	147.7	298.0	225.4	170.9
1951 - January.....	183.8	288.0	145.6	226.0	152.8	298.0	247.9	174.3
April.....	187.4	298.4	147.4	234.0	157.6	364.6	265.0	185.5
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
1948 - August.....	145.7	222.2	150.4	205.5	133.2	294.0	229.0	158.7
1949 - January.....	157.5	224.5	151.8	206.8	143.0	294.0	226.7	161.5
April.....	157.9	225.0	152.3	205.8	143.0	304.7	211.8	164.7
August.....	158.2	223.6	153.5	209.3	143.0	304.7	200.3	163.3
1950 - January.....	163.1	223.2	157.7	213.5	148.6	304.7	208.1	163.5
April.....	163.2	225.8	159.6	226.6	148.6	298.0	245.1	167.0
August.....	164.5	244.5	160.2	232.3	148.6	298.0	215.7	169.5
1951 - January.....	182.7	257.9	162.4	223.1	153.1	298.0	235.8	172.9
April.....	186.3	268.5	164.9	231.3	158.4	364.6	266.1	185.3
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
1948 - August.....	147.9	246.5	133.5	217.9	123.1	294.0	218.7	160.1
1949 - January.....	158.1	251.2	131.9	216.8	126.0	294.0	211.6	163.8
April.....	158.4	250.5	131.6	217.4	125.3	304.7	214.3	167.3
August.....	158.7	250.1	131.3	218.6	125.3	304.7	208.6	168.6
1950 - January.....	164.6	254.1	136.0	220.9	127.7	304.7	216.4	168.4
April.....	165.2	269.2	136.7	234.0	128.6	298.0	248.0	169.1
August.....	167.1	317.2	138.5	234.0	139.3	298.0	233.5	172.5
1951 - January.....	184.2	319.8	136.0	236.6	150.3	298.0	258.1	175.8
April.....	187.9	330.0	137.3	243.8	150.3	364.6	264.1	185.8



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TABLE 3. - GROUP INDEX NUMBERS OF CANADIAN FARM FAMILY LIVING COSTS  
(1935-39=100)

	Composite Index	Food	Clothing	Fuel	Household Equipment	Health Main- tenance	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
1948 - August.....	169.5	193.7	190.4	160.9	179.4	136.5	113.5
1949 - January.....	171.8	198.7	190.4	163.5	179.4	143.8	114.2
April.....	173.3	198.1	192.3	164.5	185.1	144.2	115.3
August.....	174.5	200.9	193.3	163.8	186.6	144.2	115.5
1950 - January.....	175.3	202.3	193.3	166.5	186.7	147.2	115.9
April.....	176.7	207.1	192.4	167.3	188.0	147.2	116.2
August.....	180.7	220.2	193.3	168.7	189.0	147.2	118.1
1951 - January.....	184.1	228.5	193.3	172.9	189.0	156.3	119.0
April.....	197.1	243.9	216.7	177.7	204.7	158.2	119.7
<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
1948 - August.....	168.4	198.9	191.3	141.5	173.1	136.5	113.8
1949 - January.....	170.5	203.0	191.3	145.2	173.1	143.8	114.6
April.....	171.3	200.5	192.6	146.1	177.7	144.2	115.7
August.....	172.6	204.5	194.0	145.3	178.0	144.2	115.8
1950 - January.....	173.5	205.8	194.0	148.8	178.0	147.2	116.3
April.....	174.4	210.1	192.3	150.2	178.8	147.2	116.6
August.....	178.3	222.7	193.5	152.4	179.9	147.2	118.5
1951 - January.....	181.7	231.0	193.5	157.4	179.9	156.2	119.6
April.....	195.0	248.6	217.1	163.9	193.2	158.1	120.1
<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
1948 - August.....	170.7	188.4	189.5	180.2	185.7	136.5	113.2
1949 - January.....	173.1	194.4	189.5	181.7	185.7	143.8	113.8
April.....	175.4	195.7	192.0	183.0	192.5	144.2	115.0
August.....	176.3	197.2	192.6	182.3	195.2	144.2	115.1
1950 - January.....	177.2	198.7	192.6	184.2	195.3	147.2	115.6
April.....	178.9	204.2	192.5	184.4	197.2	147.2	115.8
August.....	183.1	217.7	193.2	184.9	198.1	147.2	117.6
1951 - January.....	186.4	226.0	193.2	188.5	198.1	156.3	118.5
April.....	199.1	239.1	216.4	191.4	216.2	158.2	119.2

Footnote: An historical record of the series contained in this bulletin, together with a statement of construction method and weighting detail, is available in PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES USED BY FARMERS, 1913-1948. It may be obtained, upon request, from the Prices Section, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.