

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

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SECURITY PRICES AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE, MARCH 8 - MARCH 14
(1926=100)

INDUSTRIAL AND UTILITY COMMON STOCK PRICES

Canadian common stocks showed little activity during the week ended March 14 and the Investors' daily price index for 95 common stocks held fairly steady, closing at 99.1 for a net loss of 0.4. All divisions of the composite index with the exception of milling and oils, recorded net declines. Transportation issues led the recession with a 4 p.c. drop, followed by pulp and paper, foods, and machinery and equipment. The industrial index fell from 159.5 on March 7 to 159.2 on March 14. Nineteen utilities were down 0.5 to 46.9 and banks 0.5 to 85.5.

MINING STOCK PRICES

Prices for gold and base metal listings were generally lower during the week ended March 14, although a broader trading interest developed. The Bureau's price index of mining issues receded from 134.5 on March 7 to 131.2 on the 14th. Golds declined for the ninth successive week, the index gradually losing 3.0 to close at 94.5. The index for this series is now 1.8 p.c. above the 1939 low, established on September 11 and 13.8 p.c. below the high for the present year. Base metals also lost ground, retaining only a small part of the gain of the preceding week. This index fell from 288.1 to 283.8 between March 7 and 14. Since the current downward movement commenced early in the year, percentage losses in base metals were approximately half of those in the gold section. Weekly indexes were 95.8 for golds and 284.9 for base metals as compared with 97.8 and 286.0 respectively, for the previous week ended March 7.

LONG-TERM BOND PRICES AND YIELDS

Dominion of Canada long-term bond prices continued firm during the week ending March 14 and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' index rose to 114.0 from 113.9 for the week ending March 7. Turnover was relatively light, however, and price changes were small and scattered. The Bureau's daily index stood at 113.9 for the first three days, but moved to 114.0 on the 12th, where it remained for the balance of the week. The index for yields fell from 73.5 to 73.4. In the provincial section, little of importance occurred, and changes were mixed and mostly of little consequence.

British Consols again moved lower, declining $1/2$ to $73 \frac{1}{4}$, while the Dow-Jones average of selected United States bonds rose from 88.84 to 88.90.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

(Quotations are Montreal noon rates unless otherwise specified)

Official buying and selling rates set by the Canadian Foreign Exchange Control Board for sterling and United States funds continued unchanged during the week ended March 14 at \$4.43-\$4.47 and \$1.10-\$1.11. At New York exchange rates were featured by erratic fluctuations. Sterling free rates finally closed the week $21 \frac{1}{2}\phi$ lower at \$3.72. The rapid drop reflected the announcement by the British Exchange Control Board of new regulations limiting the use of free sterling for export transactions. These new regulations, which were announced on March 8, will become effective March 25. Parallel-ing the movement in sterling there was a sharp decline in Canadian dollar, quotations at New York falling to 82¢ on March 14 compared with $85 \frac{3}{8}\phi$ a week earlier. Montreal rates on the French franc closed 11 points lower at 2.35¢ while neutral European units were mixed. Belgian belgas stiffened 5 points to 18.83¢ while Netherlands florins eased 2 points to 58.94¢. Following its rapid advance in terms of the Canadian dollar over the past few weeks the Argentine peso (free rate) remained steady at 26.03¢ during the week under review.

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL PRICE FACTORS

Dates	1940 <u>MARCH</u>						Weekly Average	Preceding Weekly Average	Corresponding Weekly Average	Weekly Average A Year Ago
	8	9	11	12	13	14	Mar.8-14	Mar.1-7	Last Month	
INVESTORS' PRICE INDEX, 95 COMMON STOCKS	99.4	99.4	99.3	99.5	99.4	99.1	99.4	99.4	99.9	107.5
68 INDUSTRIALS	159.4	159.4	159.5	159.8	159.7	159.2	159.6	159.7	162.6	178.0
Machinery and Equipment (8)	134.5	136.1	134.7	135.7	135.8	134.7	135.3	133.9	131.3	133.4
Pulp and Paper (7)	23.5	23.6	23.4	23.6	23.5	23.0	23.5	23.2	23.8	16.4
Milling (3)	97.4	99.6	98.8	98.7	101.0	98.1	99.1	96.2	99.6	81.2
Oils (4)	154.5	154.3	154.4	155.3	155.7	155.3	155.1	155.8	159.8	179.0
Textiles and Clothing (10)	92.1	92.4	92.2	92.2	91.9	91.6	92.0	91.6	90.9	59.3
Food and Allied Products (12)	185.5	185.5	185.8	184.6	183.9	183.7	184.8	188.0	184.2	175.9
Beverages (7)	134.6	133.4	134.1	134.0	133.7	134.8	134.0	133.9	135.1	132.6
Building Materials (15)	147.8	147.0	147.1	148.5	147.2	147.0	147.7	147.4	148.7	139.4
Industrial Mines (2)	360.0	360.6	361.2	361.1	360.0	358.9	360.3	359.5	368.5	445.0
19 UTILITIES	47.5	47.4	47.3	47.3	47.1	46.9	47.3	47.2	45.5	46.2
Transportation (2)	20.1	20.1	20.3	20.1	19.6	19.3	19.9	19.9	16.6	12.4
Telephone & Telegraph (2)	126.7	126.7	126.7	126.9	127.1	126.8	127.0	126.6	125.9	132.2
Power and Traction (15)	61.6	61.5	61.0	61.2	61.2	61.0	61.3	61.2	60.7	65.0
8 BANKS	85.9	85.8	85.5	85.5	85.7	85.5	85.7	85.5	84.3	86.1
MINING STOCK PRICE INDEX, 25 STOCKS	133.8	133.2	132.8	132.0	132.1	131.2	132.5	134.3	140.0	159.4
Gold Stocks (22)	96.7	96.3	96.1	95.6	95.3	94.5	95.8	97.8	103.2	121.9
Base Metals (3)	288.1	286.5	285.5	283.4	285.1	283.8	284.9	286.0	293.0	314.1
DOMINION OF CANADA LONG-TERM BOND PRICE INDEX	113.9	113.9	113.9	114.0	114.0	114.0	114.0	113.9	114.2	120.0
DOMINION OF CANADA LONG-TERM BOND YIELD INDEX	73.5	73.5	73.5	73.4	73.4	73.4	73.4	73.5	73.0	65.8
FOREIGN EXCHANGE QUOTATIONSx - NOON RATES AT MONTREAL										
+Sterling	4.4500	4.4500	4.4500	4.4500	4.4500	4.4500	4.4500	4.4500	4.4500	4.7029
+U.S. dollars	1.1050	1.1050	1.1050	1.1050	1.1050	1.1050	1.1050	1.1050	1.1050	1.1050
French franc	.0246	.0246	.0243	.0241	.0235	.0235	.0241	.0246	.0250	.0266
Belgian belga	.1881	.1885	.1886	.1884	.1880	.1883	.1883	.1875	.1871	.1687
Netherlands florin	.5896	-	.5893	.5895	.5895	.5894	.5895	.5896	.5899	.5326
Japanese yen	.2602	.2602	.2602	.2602	.2602	.2602	.2602	.2602	.2602	.2741
Australian pound	3.5760	3.5760	3.5760	3.5760	3.5760	3.5760	3.5760	3.5760	3.5760	3.7623
Argentine peso - free rate	.2597	-	.2603	.2603	.2597	.2603	.2601	.2600	.2588	.2318

x Bank of Canada. + Since September 16, 1939, quotations used are the average of the daily buying and selling rate set by the Foreign Exchange Control Board. The current buying and selling rate for sterling is \$4.43 and \$4.47 and for U.S. funds \$1.10 and \$1.11.

INVESTORS' INDEX NUMBERS

(1926=100)

NOTE: The Investors' Index measures the trend of values for the Investor who buys a fixed list of stocks and holds them over a long period.

Number of Securities 1940	INDUSTRIALS											UTILITIES				
	General	Total	Machin- ery and Equip- ment	Pulp and Paper	Mill- ing	Oils	Tex- tiles and Cloth- ing	Food and Allied Pro- ducts	Bever- ages	Build- ing Mater- ials	Indus- trial Mines	Total	Trans- porta- tion	Tele- phone and Tele- graph	Power and Trac- tion	Banks
	95	68	8	7	3	4	10	12	7	15	2	19	2	2	15	8
1926	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
x1929 - High	198.3	317.6	432.5	113.4	273.4	423.5	113.5	197.8	204.6	281.1	591.3	166.0	164.1	129.6	197.6	131.7
Low	134.6	199.3	184.7	70.9	196.6	251.4	77.5	135.1	84.1	179.1	256.2	126.7	119.0	107.7	134.8	116.7
x1935 - High	98.8	180.5	130.7	17.3	78.6	231.8	76.6	149.5	165.4	118.0	377.9	52.4	33.4	109.4	67.6	79.8
Low	75.7	123.7	109.1	10.3	54.0	173.1	60.1	123.5	97.1	102.6	193.3	43.5	23.3	92.9	53.2	75.3
x1936 - High	135.5	226.1	142.7	31.9	115.4	254.5	76.5	182.9	152.6	192.2	557.3	64.7	37.6	121.7	84.5	89.5
Low	109.4	180.2	102.0	16.5	79.5	216.5	65.6	145.2	122.8	123.6	371.2	50.6	28.1	108.8	63.2	74.5
x1937 - High	149.6	245.4	170.2	50.2	128.3	249.7	81.8	191.9	144.2	216.2	631.8	74.5	42.5	129.0	99.9	97.3
Low	99.0	159.7	98.5	16.9	66.4	184.1	64.0	149.6	102.1	124.0	336.2	47.7	18.9	120.0	63.8	78.3
x1938 - High	111.9	187.3	145.0	23.4	90.5	202.1	66.0	171.3	145.2	145.8	485.7	48.9	19.8	127.7	66.7	86.2
Low	92.5	151.3	93.3	13.2	69.7	160.7	52.1	147.3	95.6	109.1	354.8	40.8	13.3	115.3	55.1	79.5
x1939 - High	108.0	181.9	151.5	25.0	108.6	191.0	85.4	184.1	135.8	165.0	469.4	46.2	20.4	134.2	65.0	86.1
Low	92.2	150.2	104.7	10.0	69.7	143.1	51.3	156.6	105.9	116.0	370.0	39.7	8.9	110.1	52.1	72.2
1939 - January	102.9	171.4	129.4	16.9	79.1	173.5	52.9	172.9	126.9	133.3	422.1	42.7	13.4	127.3	57.5	85.2
February	104.1	174.0	129.4	16.4	77.6	175.9	54.3	175.3	130.4	133.6	433.1	42.9	12.4	129.7	58.2	85.3
March	103.7	171.4	126.6	15.1	79.8	173.9	57.2	172.5	127.6	132.9	419.2	44.4	11.5	131.7	62.0	85.1
April	96.2	157.7	111.1	11.5	71.4	162.9	53.1	169.2	116.9	119.3	381.9	41.9	9.6	129.7	58.9	83.7
May	99.2	163.0	112.5	12.0	78.9	170.2	55.0	176.3	120.4	124.6	387.9	43.2	10.0	132.6	60.8	84.7
June	97.0	157.6	114.2	12.4	77.4	153.2	56.2	179.2	124.7	128.8	389.0	43.7	11.0	133.8	60.8	85.0
July	97.3	159.2	118.0	12.7	75.0	154.0	59.8	182.1	124.8	129.5	393.1	42.7	10.4	132.8	59.2	85.0
August	94.2	154.2	108.6	11.1	76.0	147.9	60.1	180.5	117.7	121.6	386.7	40.9	9.3	130.0	56.8	84.3
September	100.1	168.2	132.8	19.1	99.8	164.6	71.9	170.8	108.5	145.3	426.3	42.2	17.8	116.7	53.8	78.4
October	106.0	177.0	149.1	23.4	106.3	185.9	81.4	178.8	121.4	160.9	399.6	45.7	19.6	123.4	59.5	81.0
November	103.6	171.9	141.1	22.7	100.9	173.9	82.9	174.3	127.5	156.5	394.8	44.7	16.0	125.2	59.6	84.2
December	101.2	165.3	142.1	23.7	101.8	162.5	84.7	180.1	130.8	155.3	376.8	45.7	16.6	126.5	61.3	84.4
1940 - January	99.7	162.1	134.3	24.5	98.8	155.5	86.4	183.0	135.4	150.7	373.6	45.7	16.4	126.1	61.3	84.5
February	99.0	161.1	129.8	23.4	98.4	158.2	90.7	184.3	134.0	146.8	365.5	45.3	16.7	125.8	60.3	84.3
Weekly Index Numbers																
February 22	98.7	160.3	129.8	22.9	99.8	157.1	90.4	183.1	133.8	145.9	365.6	45.1	16.1	126.1	60.2	84.3
February 29	98.4	159.7	128.9	22.8	97.8	155.9	91.3	186.8	134.2	144.4	361.7	45.2	17.3	125.2	59.6	84.4
March 7	99.4	159.7	133.9	23.2	96.2	155.8	91.6	188.0	133.9	147.4	359.5	47.2	19.9	126.6	61.2	85.5
March 14	99.4	159.6	135.3	23.5	99.1	155.1	92.0	184.8	134.0	147.7	360.3	47.3	19.9	127.0	61.3	85.7

x Weekly figures.



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