

chart does show, however, very clearly that prices have risen in England much more rapidly than in Canada. Doubtless the rise in English food prices would have been very much greater had it not been for food control. Food prices in Germany have shown a still more startling advance; while those of Austria, not shown in the chart, have advanced at an even more rapid rate.

The facts then are: Canadian prices have not risen nearly so much as have those of England, to say nothing of the case in Germany. While Canadian prices have risen more than those in the United States, this difference is almost wholly due to the slump in their prices in the early months of the war before the United States was engaged in war activities. Moreover, the starting point in the United States and hence the general level of American prices, is higher than the chart indicates. The rise of Canadian prices took place before the appointment of a Food Controller. The chart shows that since his appointment the price level

has shown a slight downward trend as has also been the case in the United States. This took place in spite of the immense increase of war activity in the United States, and flotation of millions of bonds, either one of which facts would tend to increase prices even in Canada. The midsummer drop is a regular affair. The easing off in September is unusual. It would be interesting to know how the American level has moved these last two months, but the series of the United States Bureau of Labour is always two months late in publication.

The following table shows a comparison of recent retail prices of certain articles for a few cities of the United States and for England with the corresponding prices of largest cities of Canada and with the average for all Canadian cities. In the case of milk it should be noted that the American quart is one-fifth smaller than the Canadian measure. Hence the price of a Canadian quart is given in brackets for better comparison with our prices.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES IN CANADA, ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES
FOR SEPTEMBER, 1917.

	New York.	Montreal.	Buffalo.	Toronto.	Chicago.	St. Paul.	Winnipeg.	England.
Milk..... Qt.	†14 (17.5)	11	†11 (13.75)	11.1	†10½ (13)	† 9 (11)	12	14
Fresh Eggs..... Doz.	68	55	57	55	44	46	45	85
Potatoes..... Bush.	2.20	1.31	1.68	1.19-1.39	1.76	1.40	1.00	.....
Sugar..... Lb.	8½	10	9	10	9½	9½	10½	.....
Bacon..... Lb.	50	43	53	45	47	46	38	51½-57 (Rump)
Round Steak..... Lb.	40	25-28	33	25-30	31	28	25	52½
Canned Salmon..... Lb.	25	22.5	24	25	27	32	.....	.....
Bread..... Lb.	9	6.7	11	7.3	11½	10	6½	* 4½ (Oat-meal)
Rolled Oats..... Lb.	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	9-10

† The figures in brackets show the price of the Canadian quart, which is in ratio of 5-4 to American quart.

* War bread subsidized by Government and containing other than white flour.

These commodities have been chosen solely because they were the most comparable of all those on the official lists of the Labour Department of each country and not with a view to getting a favourable case for Canada. With the exception of sugar, the comparison is quite favourable for Canada. Everyone knows that sugar is chiefly an imported product with this country, while the United States produces a large part of its

own and gets almost all the rest from its islands or from Cuba. The low cost of bread in England cannot fairly be compared with the price of Canadian bread. The latter is made of white flour, while the English loaf is war bread, made of mixed flour, and the English bread industry is subsidized by the Government. With these exceptions, the table is self explanatory.