

Miscellaneous Group.—This group index is weighted by 26 p.c. to obtain the total Dominion cost-of-living index numbers. It contains many sub-groups, each of which is weighted to obtain the group index. Sub-groups and weighting data are seen in the following table:—

Sub-groups.	Number of Items.	Estimate of Average Number of Schedules.	Sub-group Weights.	Frequency of Calculation.
1. Medicine (drugs).....	15	95	15	Annually.
2. Household effects.....	49	Textiles..... 70 Hardware..... 95 Crockery..... 20	40	Quarterly.
3. Furnishings.....	20	80	119	Quarterly.
4. Tramp fares.....	2	60	59	Annually. ¹
5. Telephones.....	1	75	59	"
6. Amusements.....	1	55	90	"
7. Insurance.....	2	Data covering 14 Life and 44 Fire Co's.....	109	"
8. Tobacco.....	4	40	90	"
9. Newspapers.....	2	75	24	"
10. Books and Education.....	3	Periodicals..... 10 Publishers..... 3 Stationers..... 6	15	"
11. Doctor.....	3	35 (Provincial schedules of fees used)	71	"
12. Dentist.....	1	60	18	"
13. Hospitals.....	4	200	24	"
14. Laundry.....	4	60	14	"
15. Cleaning supplies.....	6	400	13	Quarterly.
16. Barber.....	3	65	27	Annually.
17. Toilet articles.....	10	95	16	"
18. Motor operation costs.....	2	Data covering motors operated by private owners, taxi companies, government fleets, civic fleets, etc.....	197	"
Totals.....	132	—	1,000	—

¹Where any important changes in rates occur during the year the index is recalculated to measure the effect of the change.

Method of Construction.—Several of the miscellaneous groups having no special characteristics and all being calculated in the same manner, may be considered together. They are computed from link relatives in much the same manner as is done in the case of the clothing sub-groups. Relatives are made from the quotations of the individual firms or persons. These relatives are averaged for every city and then weighted to obtain provincial and Dominion averages of relatives. Finally, a Dominion average price is calculated for each commodity in the group, which bears the same relation to the last previous price as the average of relatives bears to 100. The bases of these calculated prices are averages of actual prices in 1926. Thus if the average of relatives for the post-base period were 110 and the base price \$1 the new price would be \$1.10. The prices calculated in this way are weighted with estimates of national consumption and from the aggregates of the resultant products Dominion link relatives are obtained. These are changed to chain relatives on a base 1926=100. The indexes for prices of medicine, tobacco, household furnishings, laundry, cleaning supplies, barbers' services, and toilet articles are constructed on this plan. So also are those for dentists' fees and theatre admission prices, but the arrangement of the data is slightly different for these two indexes. The principle involved in the construction of the sub-group indexes for textiles, hardware and crockery, which are combined to form the