

Except for the early months of the year and in November, the course of prices for mining stocks in 1931 was gradually downward. A general index of prices rose from 68.5 in January to 82.3 in April, the highest index for the year, and then reacted steadily to the lowest level of 59.0 in December. Three sub-groups followed substantially the same path as outlined for the general index. The gold stocks index rose from 68.1 in January to 77.5 in April and declined thereafter to 59.0 in December. From 103.7 in April, the copper group fell to 58.4 in October, while silver and miscellaneous declined from 43.9 in March to 27.6 in December.

### 13.—Weighted Index Numbers of Mining Stocks, by Months, 1930-31.

(1926=100.)

Year and Month.	Types of Stocks.			
	Gold.	Gold-Copper.	Silver and Miscellaneous.	Total.
Number of Stocks.....	11	2	4	17
1930.				
January.....	57.4	191.4	49.6	78.9
February.....	62.9	209.3	50.1	86.1
March.....	62.5	206.3	47.8	85.2
April.....	63.6	189.8	43.5	83.3
May.....	64.5	144.6	35.8	76.3
June.....	64.3	126.3	32.2	73.1
July.....	61.3	115.3	28.1	68.7
August.....	61.2	111.0	29.4	68.0
September.....	62.6	108.4	28.5	68.7
October.....	59.7	76.2	25.1	61.3
November.....	56.9	83.3	28.3	60.5
December.....	57.8	69.1	30.0	59.2
Number of Stocks.....	11	4	5	20
1931.				
January.....	68.1	74.4	34.1	68.5
February.....	72.0	82.7	36.8	73.3
March.....	72.3	96.7	43.9	77.1
April.....	77.5	103.7	39.2	82.3
May.....	72.9	90.1	35.1	75.9
June.....	68.6	75.1	31.5	69.1
July.....	66.8	79.1	32.0	68.6
August.....	66.0	77.1	33.1	67.8
September.....	62.6	67.8	32.1	63.1
October.....	60.7	58.4	29.4	59.5
November.....	64.4	68.6	32.3	64.6
December.....	59.0	62.4	27.6	59.0

### Section 4.—Prices of Services.

A study of the prices of services sheds considerable light on the cost of living as such services are a considerable item in the average family budget. Information with regard to the trend of street car fares, of rates for manufactured and natural fuel gas, of domestic electric light rates and of telephone charges was published on pp. 801-4 of the 1927-28 Year Book. Later information shows that the prices of manufactured fuel gas have shown a downward tendency, the Dominion index number for 1930 being 97.4, as compared with 100.0 in 1926. The index number of the price of natural fuel gas also declined from 100.0 in 1926 to 92.1 in 1930.