

Mining Stocks.—Mining stocks registered major gains during 1958 as the composite index rose 29.9 p.c. from 89.4 in December 1957 to 116.1 in December 1958. Both groups shared the advance, with golds rising 34.3 p.c. from 60.0 to 80.6 and base metals 26.0 p.c. from 156.8 to 197.5.

10.—Weighted Index Numbers of Prices of Mining Stocks, by Month, 1955-58

(1935-39=100)

Year and Month	Gold	Base Metals	Total	Year and Month	Gold	Base Metals	Total
1955				1957			
January	68.3	181.3	102.7	January	70.6	265.7	129.9
February	69.3	191.3	106.4	February	69.3	243.2	122.2
March	69.0	189.6	105.7	March	68.1	249.6	123.3
April	71.1	199.8	110.2	April	72.4	255.4	128.0
May	72.8	209.0	114.2	May	76.2	234.2	124.2
June	75.9	226.0	121.5	June	80.6	227.7	125.4
July	75.0	241.8	125.7	July	79.3	222.2	122.8
August	76.3	250.0	129.1	August	73.2	192.6	109.5
September	75.3	252.0	129.0	September	71.4	180.7	104.6
October	71.0	224.2	117.6	October	63.4	167.2	95.0
November	71.2	230.2	119.6	November	61.2	167.0	93.4
December	72.6	233.0	121.4	December	60.0	156.8	89.4
1956				1958			
January	75.8	238.1	125.2	January	64.0	154.6	91.5
February	76.7	235.8	125.1	February	68.3	157.2	95.3
March	79.4	260.2	134.4	March	67.8	161.7	96.4
April	78.8	269.7	136.8	April	69.0	155.0	95.2
May	78.8	268.5	136.5	May	72.5	160.7	99.3
June	76.7	273.1	136.4	June	73.8	173.3	104.1
July	79.5	291.5	144.0	July	72.1	174.7	103.2
August	79.5	301.9	147.1	August	74.3	179.3	106.2
September	74.1	282.2	137.4	September	73.8	182.0	106.7
October	72.5	273.3	133.5	October	74.7	205.1	114.4
November	68.6	262.2	127.4	November	77.9	208.8	117.6
December	68.9	267.8	129.4	December	80.6	197.5	116.1

Preferred Stocks.—The index of preferred stocks recovered from a weak close of 151.1 at the end of 1957 to record an over-all increase of 3.7 p.c. for 1958. Opening in January at 154.0, the index reached a peak of 163.9 in June and again in September, from which it receded to close the year at 159.8.

11.—Index Numbers of Preferred Stocks, by Month, 1949-58

(1935-39=100)

NOTE.—Figures for 1927-45 are given in the 1948-49 Year Book, p. 958, and for 1946-48 in the 1950 edition, p. 1045.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1949	144.7	144.0	142.8	140.9	139.9	136.3	138.6	140.4	141.8	145.8	150.0	150.7
1950	152.4	153.0	153.7	154.4	157.3	158.2	154.6	155.6	158.2	161.1	161.1	160.2
1951	166.0	169.3	166.0	165.2	164.3	162.2	163.1	165.2	166.4	164.2	162.8	159.5
1952	161.4	160.6	159.5	157.2	157.2	157.7	159.8	163.6	162.4	161.2	160.3	160.7
1953	161.0	161.6	163.6	161.6	162.9	163.0	163.8	164.3	162.0	161.0	161.6	161.7
1954	162.6	163.6	165.4	168.0	169.7	170.7	171.3	173.0	173.4	174.1	175.4	175.4
1955	175.6	176.0	176.2	175.4	176.1	177.9	179.5	179.9	179.0	179.2	176.6	173.9
1956	175.5	175.3	173.6	171.1	167.7	166.2	167.5	166.1	161.7	158.7	157.0	154.4
1957	155.9	156.4	154.8	153.4	153.1	150.8	150.0	149.4	147.3	146.1	147.6	151.1
1958	154.0	156.4	157.5	158.5	161.6	163.9	162.4	163.4	163.9	162.7	162.7	159.8