

Mining Stocks.—Mining stocks continued the upward trend evident throughout 1958 to reach 126.6 at March 1959, after which weakness set in which lowered the index to 112.8 in December, down 2.8 p.c. from the previous December and 10.9 p.c. from March. Base metals closed the year at 182.8, down 7.4 p.c. from December and 16.7 p.c. below the April high of 201.2. Golds showed a small net gain of 2.1 p.c. in the annual comparison and a smaller loss of 5.7 p.c. from the high of 87.3 in July.

10.—Weighted Index Numbers of Prices of Mining Stocks, by Month, 1956 to Mid-1960
(1935-39=100)

Year and Month	Golds	Base Metals	Com-posite	Year and Month	Golds	Base Metals	Com-posite
1956				1958—concluded			
January.....	75.8	238.1	125.2	May.....	72.5	160.7	99.3
February.....	76.7	235.8	125.1	June.....	73.8	173.3	104.1
March.....	79.4	260.2	134.4	July.....	72.1	174.7	103.2
April.....	78.8	269.7	136.8	August.....	74.3	179.3	106.2
May.....	78.8	268.5	136.5	September.....	73.8	182.0	106.7
June.....	76.7	273.1	136.4	October.....	74.7	205.1	114.4
July.....	79.5	291.5	144.0	November.....	77.9	208.8	117.6
August.....	79.5	301.9	147.1	December.....	80.6	197.5	116.1
September.....	74.1	282.2	137.4	1959			
October.....	72.5	273.3	133.5	January.....	85.6	211.2	123.7
November.....	68.6	262.2	127.4	February.....	85.7	214.8	124.9
December.....	68.9	267.8	129.4	March.....	86.1	219.4	126.6
1957				April.....	85.5	201.2	120.6
January.....	70.6	265.7	129.9	May.....	87.0	194.0	119.5
February.....	69.3	243.2	122.2	June.....	87.0	193.4	119.4
March.....	68.1	249.6	123.3	July.....	87.3	196.9	120.6
April.....	72.4	255.4	128.0	August.....	86.1	196.9	119.8
May.....	76.2	234.2	124.2	September.....	82.0	179.2	111.5
June.....	80.6	227.7	125.4	October.....	76.7	179.9	112.2
July.....	79.3	222.2	122.8	November.....	82.6	181.3	112.6
August.....	73.2	192.6	109.5	December.....	82.3	182.8	112.8
September.....	71.4	180.7	104.6	1960			
October.....	63.4	167.2	95.0	January.....	82.4	187.8	114.4
November.....	61.2	167.0	93.4	February.....	82.0	175.6	110.4
December.....	60.0	156.8	89.4	March.....	82.5	164.4	107.4
1958				April.....	78.4	166.4	105.1
January.....	64.0	154.6	91.5	May.....	67.8	167.2	98.0
February.....	68.3	157.2	95.3	June.....	64.9	167.4	96.0
March.....	67.8	161.7	96.4	July.....	64.7	166.0	95.5
April.....	69.0	155.0	95.2				

Preferred Stocks.—The index of preferred stocks showed little change in 1959 until August, when a downward trend set in which by December had brought the index to 149.9, down 6.2 p.c. from December 1958. By February 1960 the index had declined to its lowest point since November 1957 and then began to rise, reaching 158.7 by July.

11.—Index Numbers of Preferred Stocks, by Month, 1950 to Mid-1960
(1935-39=100)

Notes.—Figures for 1927-45 are given in the 1948-49 Year Book, p. 958, and for 1948-49 in the 1956 edition, p. 1045.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Yearly Av.
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	156.7
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	164.5
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	160.1
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	162.3
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	172.3
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	177.2
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	166.2
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	151.3
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	160.6
1959.....	158.1	159.5	159.8	160.0	161.9	160.5	160.8	159.2	155.3	151.0	150.1	149.9	157.2
1960.....	149.0	148.7	153.0	153.3	154.2	157.7	158.7