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Alexander J. Diesl and **Thomas J. Dorsey*** (dorsey@ccrwest.org). *Rings of maximal clean index.*

Lee and Zhou introduced the notion of clean index of a ring or element thereof. Specifically, for $x \in R$, the clean index of x is the cardinality of the set of idempotents e for which $x - e$ is a unit, and the clean index of R is the supremum of the clean indices of the elements of R . Along these lines, we will say that $x \in R$ is maximally clean if $x - e$ is a unit for each idempotent e of R , and that R is maximally clean if it has a maximally clean element. We will examine the class of maximally clean rings and variants thereof, and we will examine the clean index of certain rings. (Received February 18, 2013)