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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

Vol. 1

No. 7

PRICES & PRICE INDEXES

NOVEMBER, 1923

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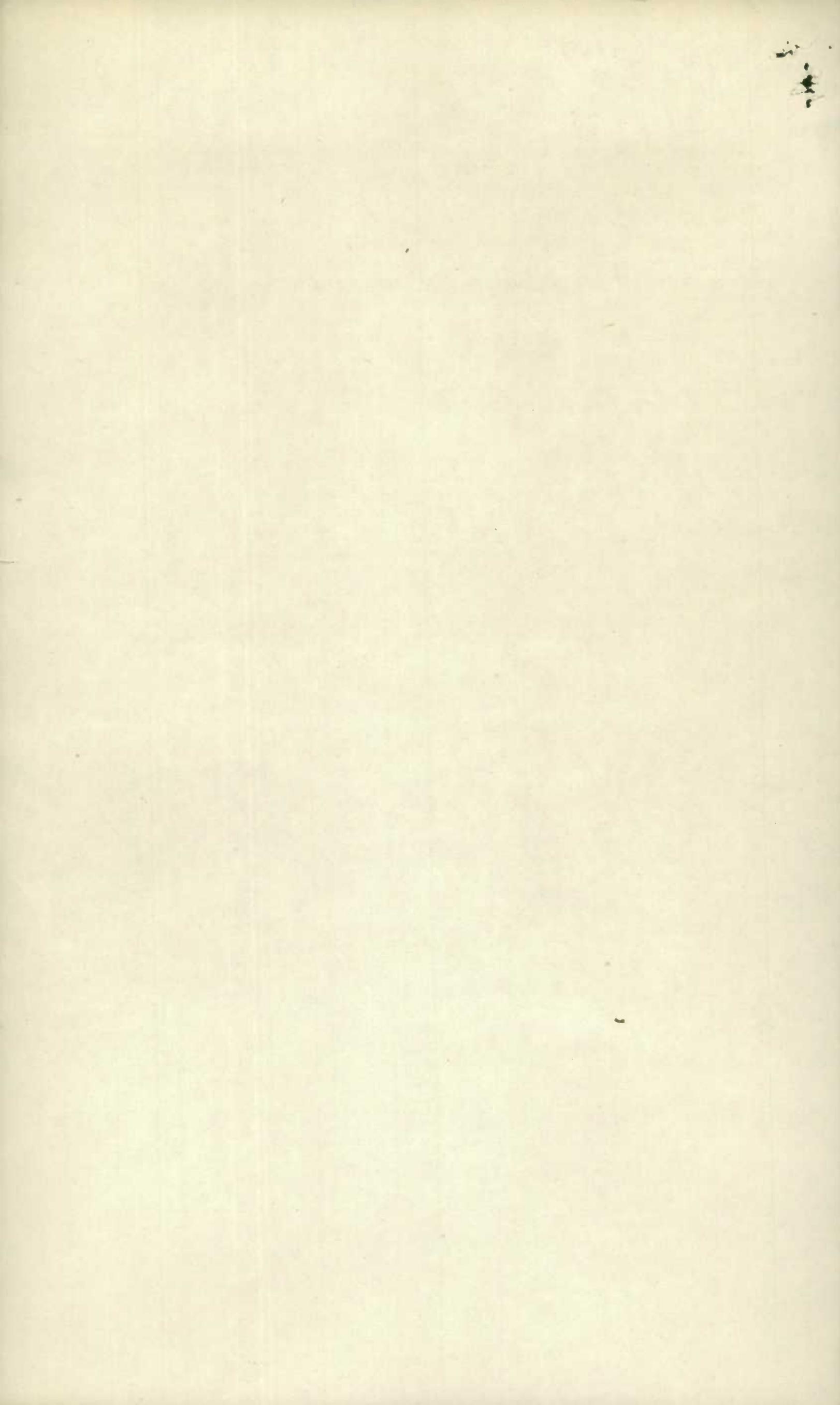
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O T T A W A

1923



DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS.

INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH.

OTTAWA.

(Issued December 5th, 1923.)

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PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES NOVEMBER, 1923.

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices (weighted) compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics was almost stationary being 153.3 in November as compared with 153.1 in October. The year 1913 is reckoned as 100 and the index is computed from 238 price series.

GROUP CHANGES: Declines in three of the main groups were offset by increases in two and the remainder were practically unchanged. Vegetable Products (grains, fruits, etc.) fell from 141.6 to 138.2 due to lower prices for grains, flour, sugar and vegetables. Animals and Their Products rose from 133.9 to 136.5 because of increases in egg and fish prices which more than offset declines in live stock, meats, hides and leather. Higher cotton raised the index for Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products from 197.8 to 204.1. Wood, Wood Products and Paper, Iron and Its Products and Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products showed, as a whole, little change. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products because of lower gasoline and western coal prices fell from 184.9 to 183.3 and Chemicals declined from 164.5 to 163.8 due in the main to easier heavy chemical and wood alcohol prices.

Consumers' Goods (i.e. food, beverages, tobacco, clothing, household goods, etc.) declined from 152.1 to 151.6. Increases in the prices of eggs, fish and tea were not quite equalized by decreases in flour, fruits, meats, sugar and vegetables. Producers' Goods (i.e. materials used in manufacture) fell from 143.5 to 142.5, the result, chiefly, of declines in prices of materials for milling, meat-packing and leather industries.

Raw or Partly Manufactured Materials fell from 143.1 to 142.9 and Fully or Chiefly Manufactured materials from 157.9 to 156.4. Domestic Farm Products rose from 122.3 to 133.1 due wholly to higher egg prices. Fishery Products increased from 125.5 to 130.6. Articles of Forest Origin indicate little change and those of Mineral Origin fell from 155.6 to 156.0.

CHANGES IN IMPORTANT COMMODITIES: During November grain prices were, on the whole, downward, though the average of No. 1 Manitoba Northern wheat was only $\frac{1}{2}\%$ less than in October, being $97\frac{1}{2}\%$ per bushel as against $97\frac{3}{4}\%$. No immediate improvement in export demand was expected but there was some hope that the United States government might purchase wheat for European relief work; this, and the view that foreign countries must ultimately buy more largely kept prices from sagging lower. Occasional rising tendencies were immediately checked by the increased flow of grain which they set in motion. The arrival of new crop American corn brought prices down from $\$1.81\frac{1}{2}$ to $\$1.17$. Oats, No. 2 C.W., fell from 43¢ to 39¢; rolled oats declined 10¢ to 33.25 per sack, and flour, first patent, from $\$6.50$ to $\$6.30$ per 2-96's jute bags, in sympathy with lower grain prices. Raw Sugar, 96° centrifugal, at the middle of the month was $\$7.02$ per cwt. as compared with $\$7.42$ in October. The decline was temporary and prices rose thereafter owing to short visible Cuban supplies and the considerably reduced estimates of the European beet sugar crop which has been affected by unfavorable weather. Raw rubber, Para, upriver fine, fell from 24¢ to 23¢ per lb. Potatoes being in good supply brought lower prices. Quebec grades at Montreal fell from $\$1.04$ to $97\frac{1}{2}\%$ per bag in car lots and small lots of Ontario potatoes in Toronto were $\$1.20$ - $\$1.40$ per bag against $\$1.40$ - $\$1.50$ in October. No. 1 Northern Spy Apples went at about 50¢ per barrel cheaper being $\$7.00$ - $\$8.00$. Very good supplies of lemons forced prices from $\$5.50$ - $\$6.00$ per case to $\$3.75$ - $\$4.25$. Oranges being scarce rose about 75¢ to $\$6.50$ - $\$7.50$.

Heavy marketing further depressed prices of live stock. Western cattle were $\$5.00$ per cwt. in November and $\$5.25$ in October. Choice steers at Toronto fell from $\$6.75$ to $\$6.25$ and hogs, thick smooth, from $\$3.78$ to $\$8.40$. Meat prices moved in sympathy, fresh No. 1 carcass falling 1¢ to $15\frac{1}{2}\%$ per lb., dressed forequarters were $12\frac{1}{2}\%$

per lb. as compared with 15¢, and dressed shop hogs \$13.75 per cwt. as against \$14.50. Bacon fell from 28¢ to 27¢ per lb. The leather market was quiet, beef hides, city cured, dropping from 10¢--11¢ to 9¢--10¢, and sole leather, manufacturers' green hide crops, from 42¢ to 40¢ per lb. Seasonal influences forced fresh eggs, specials and extras, from 42¢--50¢ per dozen to 60¢--70¢. New cheese fell from 26¢ to 24¢ per lb.

Raw Cotton again swung upward, 1-1/16' reaching 36½¢ at Hamilton compared with 31½¢ last month. Upland middling spot (monthly average) was 34½¢ at New York against 30¢ in October. Boll weevils and bad weather are again cited as causes but additional reasons are offered in the governmental report of 5% acreage abandonment, largely due to short labor, and the increased activity of Lancashire mills due to Eastern orders. The range of spot cotton at New York during the month was 31.25¢ per lb. (November 2nd) to 37.60¢ (November 30th). Expensive raw material raised cotton hosiery yarn prices from 48¢ to 54¢ and sash cord from 68¢ to 78¢ per lb. Speculation in raw silk arising from the Japanese earthquake having now been eliminated more normal conditions are reflected in the fall of Kansai No. 1 from \$10.20 to \$7.80 per lb. Machine twist silk moved in sympathy from \$21.00 to \$19.75 per lb.

Canadian markets followed the American lead by further reducing pig iron prices, basic pig falling from \$27.00 to \$25.00 per ton. The lower prices prevailed to the end of the month and induced buying to such an extent that prices rose about \$1. The downward movement prevalent in copper prices for some months past at last stimulated buying which developed sufficiently to cause a rise. Electrolytic copper, domestic, rose from \$14.85 to \$15.15 per cwt. at the middle of the month. Large tinplate orders for 1924 delivery stimulated pig tin buying and resulted in an upward swing which took the price of ingots from 46¢ to 47¢ at Toronto. Lead rose in sympathy with copper and tin from \$7.10 per cwt. to \$7.75.

Gasoline, following the United States market, declined 1¢ to 23¢ per gallon. In the chemical group, because of slackening export requirements, soda ash declined from \$2.04 to \$1.99 per cwt. and caustic soda from \$3.45 to \$3.25, lump alum fell from \$3.10 to \$3.00. The supply of wood alcohol outran demand and again depressed prices .97% fell from 93¢ to 87¢ per gallon.

T A B L E.

Table of price indexes and of the prices of leading commodities during November, with comparative figures for preceding months and for 1922 etc., will be found on the indicated pages according to the following arrangement:

I. Summary of Tables of Index Numbers	Page 3
II. Detailed Tables of Index Numbers (arranged according to component material)	Pages 4-5
III. Detailed Tables of Index Numbers (arranged according to Purpose)	Page 6
IV. Wholesale prices of Important Commodities	Page 7
V. Charts	Pages 8-9

SUMMARY TABLES.

Commodity	No. of Commodities	Sept. Oct. Nov. 1923 1923 1923			
		Prices 1913 = 100			
Total Index 238 Commodities	238	150.4	154.7	153.1	153.3

INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED
ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIAL.

I. Vegetable Products (Grains, fruits, etc.)	67	148.3	148.0	141.6	138.2
II. Animals and Their Products	50	135.1	132.5	133.9	136.5
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products	28	178.2	196.7	197.8	204.1
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper	21	166.4	177.9	178.2	178.5
V. Iron and Its Products	26	149.7	168.2	167.4	167.5
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products	15	99.0	98.3	97.5	97.6
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products	17	189.3	183.6	184.9	183.3
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products	14	166.7	165.7	164.5	163.8

INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED
ACCORDING TO PURPOSE.

I. Consumers' Goods	98	153.5	152.3	152.1	151.6
Foods, Beverages and Tobacco	74	145.9	150.9	149.3	149.2
Other Consumers' Goods	24	163.3	153.7	155.6	155.4
II. Producers' Goods	148	146.5	145.2	143.5	142.5
Producers' Equipment	16	189.0	185.0	186.4	185.2
Producers' Materials	132	142.0	141.0	139.0	137.9
Building and Construction Materials	32	162.0	166.7	167.0	167.4
Manufacturers' Materials	100	137.5	135.2	132.7	131.3

INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED
ACCORDING TO ORIGIN.

Total Raw or Partly Manufactured	108	145.5	145.2	143.1	142.9
Total Fully or Chiefly Manufactured	130	154.9	158.9	157.9	156.4

I. Articles of Farm Origin (Domestic and Foreign)					
A. Field (grains, fruits, cotton, etc.)					
(a) Raw or Partly Manufactured	46	147.7	146.2	139.1	137.3
(b) Fully or Chiefly "	42	159.1	168.2	167.9	164.8
(c) Total	88	152.6	155.7	150.9	148.9
B. Animal					
(a) Raw or Partly Manufactured	25	134.3	122.6	125.1	129.4
(b) Fully or Chiefly "	28	141.7	147.9	148.4	143.6
(c) Total	53	136.0	135.1	136.2	138.3
C. Canadian Farm Products					
(1) Field, (grains, etc.)	20	144.3	134.0	122.3	119.7
(2) Animal	16	130.4	119.8	122.4	124.6
(3) Total	36	139.2	128.8	122.3	123.1
II. Articles of Marine Origin					
(a) Raw or Partly Manufactured	2	114.7	119.8	124.8	124.8
(b) Fully or Chiefly "	6	150.7	122.7	125.7	132.3
(c) Total	8	142.7	122.1	125.5	130.6
III. Articles of Forest Origin					
(a) Raw or Partly Manufactured	16	158.3	170.3	170.6	171.0
(b) Fully or Chiefly "	5	199.1	208.6	208.6	208.6
(c) Total	21	166.4	177.9	178.2	178.5
IV. Articles of Mineral Origin					
(a) Raw or Partly Manufactured	19	161.2	161.4	161.6	159.7
(b) Fully or Chiefly "	49	153.3	151.3	150.1	150.0
(c) Total	68	155.5	156.6	156.6	156.0

INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES

(Classified according to Chief Component Material)

1913 = 100

Commodity	No. of Commod- ties	Avee. 1922	Sept. 1923	Oct. 1923	Nov. 1923
Total Index of all Commodities	238	150.4	154.7	153.1	153.3
I. Vegetable Products	67	148.3	148.0	141.6	138.3
Fruits	8	216.1	202.4	197.1	189.7
Fresh, domestic	1	213.2	-	183.7	172.2
Fresh, foreign	3	215.8	213.2	217.6	210.7
Dried	4	283.2	176.2	173.4	173.4
Grains	9	138.4	124.7	114.2	112.6
Flour and Milled Products	6	143.7	132.9	125.5	121.3
Bakery Products	4	161.3	154.9	154.9	154.9
Vegetable Oils	2	162.0	172.8	172.8	175.7
Rubber and Its Products	3	35.2	51.5	48.7	48.6
Sugar & Its Products & Glucose	4	158.1	227.9	240.4	227.5
Tea, Coffee, Cocoa and Spices	8	178.1	199.4	200.1	203.0
Tobacco	3	183.8	183.9	183.9	183.9
Vegetables	10	143.1	196.6	171.2	158.7
Miscellaneous	10	158.2	123.1	123.3	127.7
II. Animals and Their Products	50	135.1	132.5	133.9	136.5
Live Stock	4	102.4	98.3	94.1	87.6
Fishery Products	8	142.7	122.1	125.5	130.6
Furs	5	194.2	140.5	185.3	190.3
Hides and Skins	2	68.6	73.0	73.0	66.2
Leather, unmanufactured	4	116.8	116.9	114.7	110.2
Boots and Shoes	4	146.4	138.2	138.2	138.2
Meats and Poultry	11	141.9	135.9	132.1	126.7
Milk and Its Products	11	136.0	142.6	147.7	146.2
Fats	2	111.3	116.9	124.1	128.0
Eggs	2	133.9	126.0	130.4	171.8
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products	28	178.2	196.7	197.8	204.1
Cotton, raw	2	173.5	226.8	236.1	271.4
Cotton Yarn and Thread	2	165.3	196.9	196.9	219.1
Cotton Fabrics	6	193.7	210.1	210.6	211.6
Cotton Hosiery	1	263.8	295.2	295.2	295.2
Sash Cord	1	183.7	230.5	230.5	264.4
Flax, Hemp and Jute Products	4	145.0	137.1	132.1	131.2
Silk and Its Products	3	211.2	258.6	261.7	226.4
Wool and Yarns	4	164.6	169.6	166.5	167.0
Woollen Cloth, Hosiery and Underwear	3	221.1	235.5	235.5	235.5
Miscellaneous	2	131.5	120.6	120.6	130.6
IV. Wood and Wood Products and Paper	21	166.4	177.9	178.2	178.5
Newsprint Paper Rolls	1	199.9	200.0	200.0	200.0
Lumber and Timber	14	160.2	166.4	167.0	167.4
Pulp	2	142.7	200.0	198.7	198.7
Furniture	3	220.4	229.1	228.2	228.2
Matches	1	331.3	332.4	332.4	332.4

Commodity	No. of Commod-Ave.	Sept.			Oct.	Nov.
		cities	1922	1923	1923	1923
V. Iron and Its Products	26	149.7	168.2	167.4	167.5	
Iron Ore	1	143.4	149.4	149.4	149.4	
Cast Iron Pipe	1	177.9	194.0	194.0	194.0	
Hardware (Chain, Bench Screws, Ninges, Wire Nails)	4	175.2	188.6	188.6	188.6	
Rolling Mills Products	9	146.2	164.0	164.6	167.9	
Scrap Iron	1	101.0	141.2	141.2	141.2	
Smelting Products	3	145.4	164.4	159.2	151.2	
Tools and Hand Implements	3	196.7	214.8	214.8	214.8	
Wire	2	179.4	190.1	193.0	193.7	
Miscellaneous	2	169.5	176.5	176.5	176.5	
VI. Non-Metallic Metals & Their Products	15	99.0	98.3	97.5	97.6	
Aluminina	1	81.6	99.9	99.9	99.9	
Antimony	1	85.1	89.6	89.6	89.6	
Brass Sheets	1	147.5	125.0	125.0	125.0	
Copper and Its Products	4	101.1	104.0	97.5	97.6	
Lead and Its Products	2	139.4	153.4	159.0	170.6	
Nickel Anodes	1	84.9	82.1	82.1	82.1	
Silver	1	114.1	106.5	108.8	106.7	
Tin Ingots	1	78.1	100.0	98.9	101.1	
Zinc and Its Products	2	128.2	143.8	139.0	139.2	
Solder	1	81.8	101.8	101.8	101.8	
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products	17	189.3	183.6	184.9	183.3	
Bricks	2	157.0	169.0	169.0	169.0	
Pottery	2	391.0	281.4	311.4	301.4	
Coal and Its Products	5	213.8	216.9	219.9	218.7	
Glass and Its Products	2	163.7	149.0	149.1	149.1	
Petroleum Products	2	129.2	104.8	102.0	99.2	
Lime and Cement	2	173.4	159.3	159.3	159.3	
Miscellaneous	2	226.3	201.5	201.5	198.0	
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products	14	166.7	165.7	164.5	163.8	
Coal Tar, Crude	1	212.5	231.3	231.3	231.3	
Sulphuric Acid, 66°	1	180.8	180.8	180.8	180.8	
White Lead, Putty and Shellac	3	178.4	194.4	186.3	186.3	
Soap	1	158.4	157.9	157.9	157.9	
Miscellaneous Inorganic Chemicals	5	172.2	156.7	156.7	155.1	
Other Chemicals	3	116.0	117.7	113.7	110.2	

INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES.

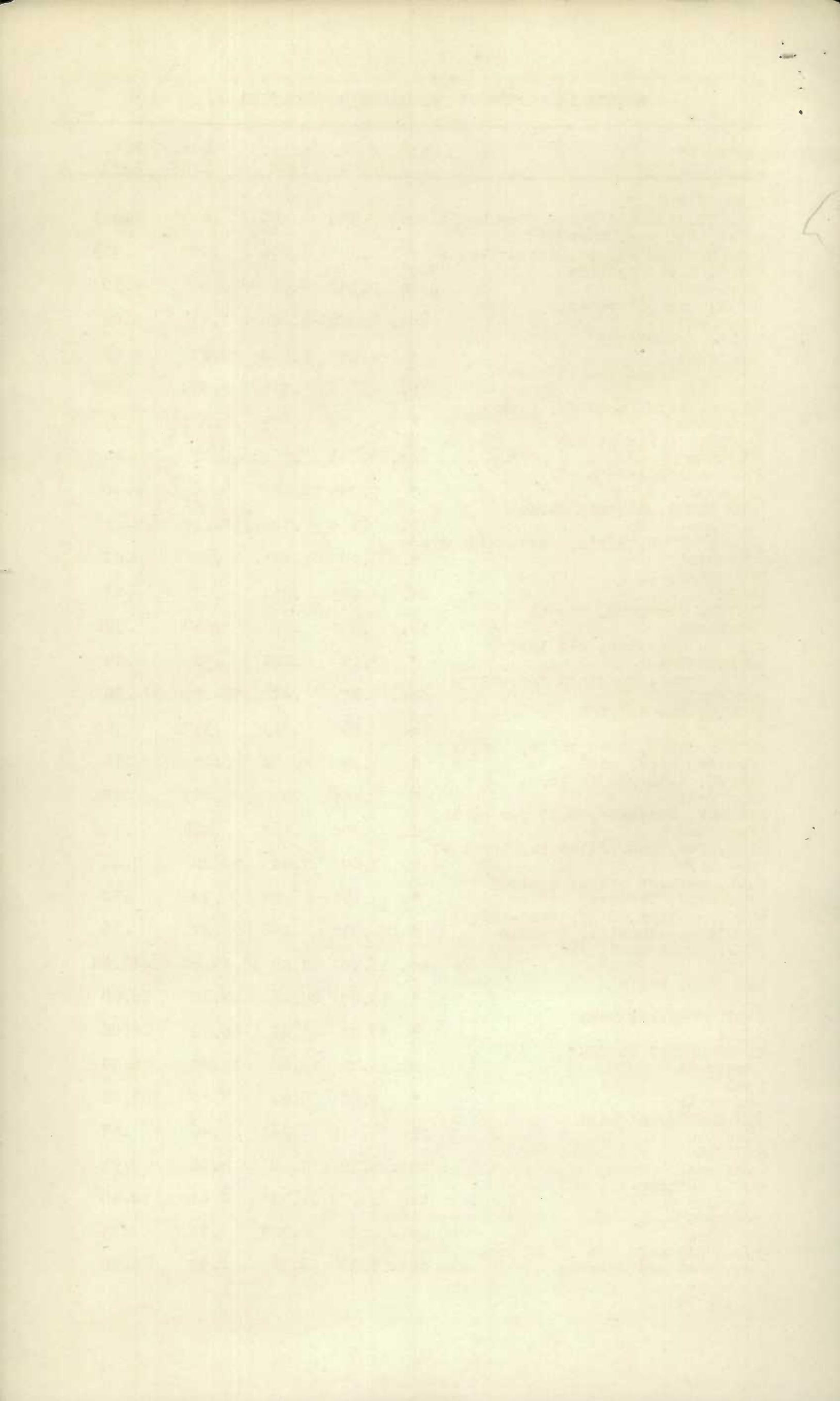
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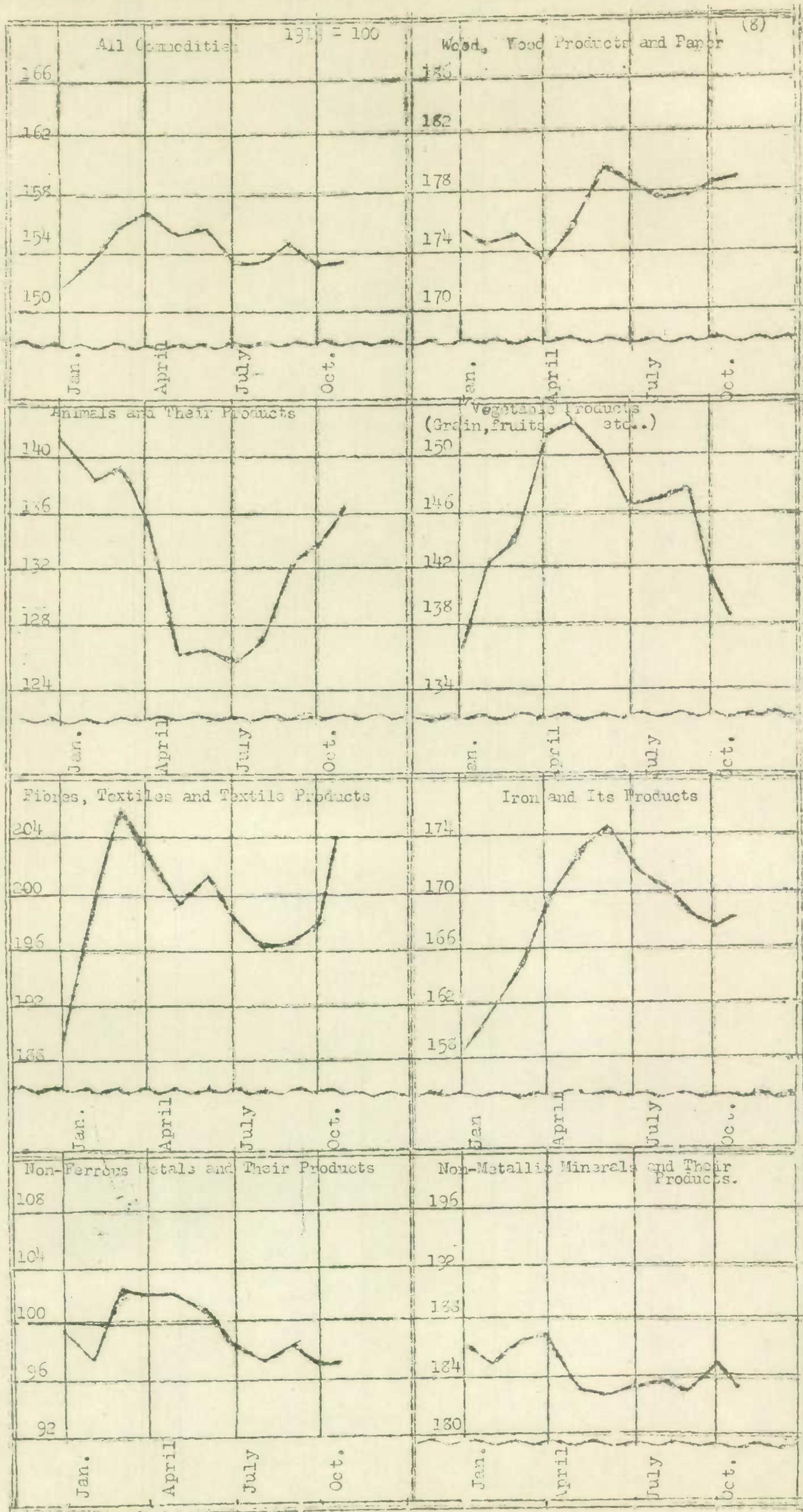
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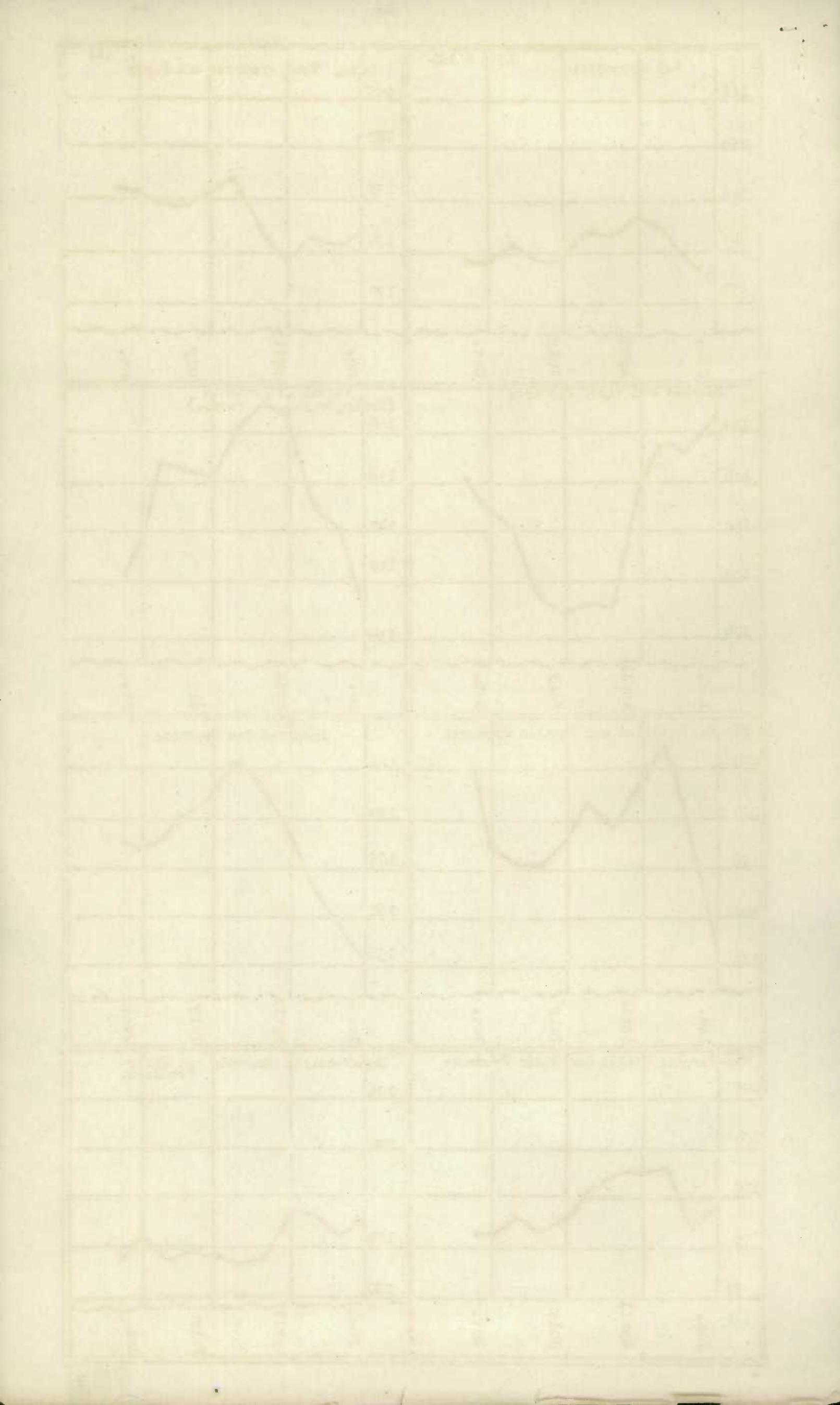
Commodity	No. of Commod- ties	Avge. 1922	Sept. 1923	Oct. 1923	Nov. 1923
Total Index of all Commodities	238	150.4	154.7	153.1	153.3
I. CONSUMERS' GOODS (GROUPS A & B.)	98	153.5	152.3	152.1	151.6
A. Food, Beverages and Tobacco	74	145.9	150.9	149.3	149.2
Beverages	4	193.9	220.4	221.1	225.1
Breadstuffs	8	149.0	136.2	130.1	126.9
Chocolate	1	98.8	96.0	96.0	96.0
Fish	8	142.7	122.1	125.5	130.6
Fruits	2	216.1	202.4	197.1	189.7
Meats, Poultry and Lard	12	140.0	134.8	131.6	126.8
Milk and Milk Products	11	136.0	142.6	147.7	146.2
Sugar, refined	2	159.5	230.9	243.5	229.8
Vegetables	10	143.1	196.6	171.2	158.7
Eggs	2	133.9	126.0	130.4	171.8
Tobacco	2	206.5	206.5	206.5	206.5
Miscellaneous	6	173.0	163.1	163.6	169.4
B. Other Consumers' Goods	24	163.8	153.7	155.6	154.5
Clothing. (Boots, shoes, rubbers)					
Hosiery & Underwear	11	161.8	159.9	159.9	159.9
Household Equipment	13	163.5	151.7	151.2	152.8
Furniture	3	220.5	229.1	228.2	228.2
Glassware and Pottery	3	331.0	274.2	303.5	274.7
Miscellaneous	7	161.9	150.4	152.8	151.6
II. PRODUCERS' GOODS (GROUP C & D)	148	146.5	145.2	143.5	142.5
C. Producers' Equipment	16	189.0	185.0	186.4	185.2
Tools	4	199.5	216.0	216.0	216.0
Light, Heat & Power Equipment and Supplies	8	189.2	184.7	186.0	184.4
Miscellaneous	4	180.8	188.9	192.6	199.5
D. Producers' Materials	132	142.0	141.0	139.0	137.9
Building & Construction Materials	32	162.0	166.7	167.0	167.4
Lumber	14	160.3	166.4	167.0	167.3
Painters' Materials	4	177.4	196.7	192.5	192.5
Miscellaneous	14	165.1	164.8	164.8	164.9
Manufacturers' Materials	100	137.5	135.2	132.7	131.3
For Textile and Clothing Industries	21	182.0	204.3	205.4	212.4
For Fur Industry	2	194.2	140.5	185.3	190.3
For Leather Industry	6	102.9	95.4	94.2	83.6
For Metal Working Industries	27	111.2	118.8	117.8	117.9
For Chemical Using Industries	7	192.1	178.6	178.6	177.2
For Meat Packing Industries	4	112.0	101.4	95.8	89.8
For Milling & Other Industries	9	138.6	121.8	114.2	113.6
Miscellaneous Producers' Materials	24	151.4	154.1	154.4	152.3

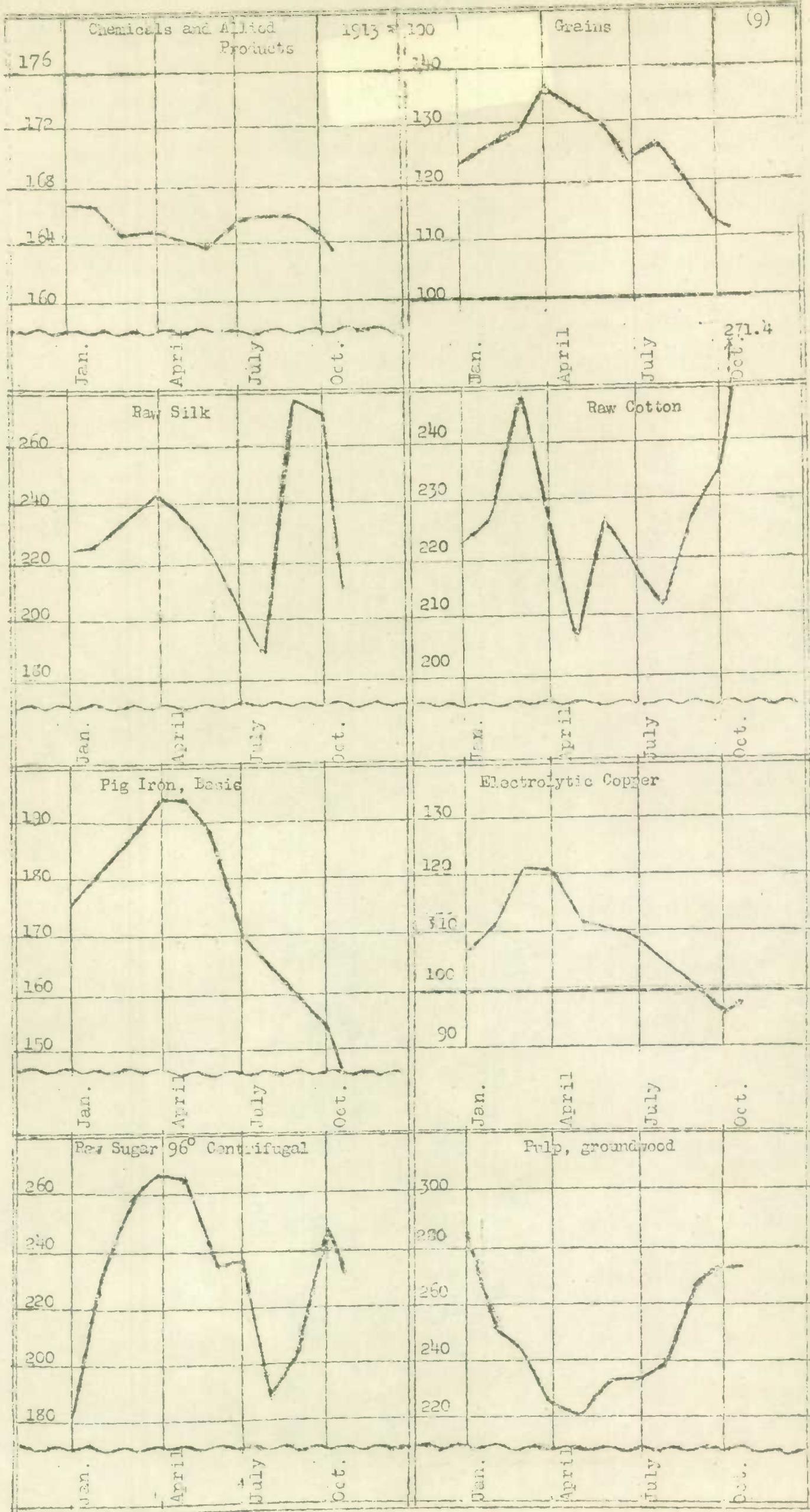
WHOLESALE PRICES OF IMPORTANT COMMODITIES

Commodity	Unit	Avg. 1913	Avg. 1922	Oct. 1923	Nov. 1923
OATS, # 2 C. W.					
Pt. William and Pt. Arthur basis bus.	.340	.482	.4238	.393	
WHEAT, #1, Man. Northern					
Pt. William and Pt. Arthur basis "	.832	1.235	.977	.973	
FLOUR, first patents	2-98's				
Toronto	jute	5.368	7.65	6.50	6.30
SUGAR, raw 96° centrif	cwt.	2.905	5.054	7.42	7.06
Montreal	"	4.198	6.672	10.17	9.60
SUGAR, granulated					
Montreal	"				
RUBBER, ribbed, smoked sheets	lb.	.666	.175	.272	.272
New York	"				
RUBBER, para, upriver, fine	"	.872	.199	.241	.23
New York					
CATTLE, choice steers	cwt.	6.893	7.176	6.75	6.25
Toronto					
HOGS, thick smooth	"	9.029	12.66	8.78	8.40
Toronto					
BEEF HIDES, #1 city cured	lb.	.144	.128	.10-.11	.9-.10
Toronto					
SOLE LEATHER, mfr's, green hide crops	lb.	.40	.441	.42	.40
Toronto					
BOX SIDES, D.					
Mill	ft.	.203	.262	.27	.27
BUTTER, creamery, finest	lb.	.274	.36	.389	.395
Montreal					
CHEESE, Canadian, old large	"	.17	.227	.32	.29
Montreal					
EGGS, fresh, specials and extras	doz.	.35	.47	.42-.50	.60-.70
Montreal					
COTTON, raw 1-1/16"	lb.	.155	.233	.3175	.365
Hamilton					
COTTON YARNS, 10's white, single	"	.244	.404	.48	.54
hosierie cops, mill					
SAXONY, 4-15 yds to lb.	"	.441	.83	.872	.872
Montreal					
CINGHAM, amoskeag, 6.37 yds to lb.	yd.	.995	.187	.175	.175
Toronto					
SILK, Raw, jap. filature, Kansai #1	lb.	3.80	7.40	10.20	7.80
New York					
WOOL, eastern bright $\frac{1}{4}$ blood					
domestic, Toronto	"	.165	.217	.30	.30
WOOL, western range, semi-bright					
$\frac{1}{2}$ blood, domestic, Toronto	"	.215	.276	.37	.36
PULP, groundwood, #1					
Mill	ton	15.90	27.58	40-47.50	40-47.50
PIG IRON, basic	"	19.00	28.08	27.00	25.00
Mill					
STEEL MERCHANT BARS	"	37.92	43.67	55.00	65.00
Mill					
ELECTROLYTIC COPPER					
Montreal	cwt.	15.72	16.04	15.20	15.30
LEAD					
Montreal	"	4.67	6.22	7.10	7.75
TIN INGOTS, straits	lb.	.465	.363	.46	.47
Toronto					
SEELTER					
Montreal	cwt.	5.30	7.40	8.00	8.05
COAL, anthracite, egg	ton	5.879	11.73	12.46	12.46
Toronto					
GASOLINE	gal.	.25	.327	.24	.23
Toronto					
SULPHURIC ACID, 66°	cwt.	1.30	2.35	2.35	2.35
Montreal and Toronto					









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