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Published by Authority of Hon. H.H. Stevens, M.P.,  
Minister of Trade and Commerce

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA  
INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

(Issued April 2nd, 1931)

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INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES  
MARCH, 1931

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index number of wholesale prices, 1926=100, fell from 76.0 in February to 75.1 in March. This was the lowest number recorded since December, 1915. 58 quotations were higher, 96 were lower, while 348 remained unchanged.

Vegetable Products declined from 59.0 to 58.6, owing chiefly to reduced prices for wheat, corn, cottonseed oil, coconut oil, and potatoes, which influenced the index more than advances for barley, rye, oatmeal, and rolled oats. Animals and Their Products moved down from 84.2 to 81.0, price reductions for canned salmon, calves, hogs, lambs, eggs and leather more than offsetting gains for steers and hides. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products advanced for first time since September, 1929 from 74.7 to 74.9, mainly because of better prices for raw silk, grand double extra, and hessian. Wood, Wood Products and Paper changed from 84.9 to 84.8, lower quotations for pine lumber and lath, spruce deals and scantling, and oak lumber, influencing the index more than advances for fir lumber, fir drop siding and cedar bevel siding. Iron and Its Products moved fractionally from 87.9 to 87.8, owing to easier prices for galvanized steel sheets and automobile body plates. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products rose from 67.9 to 68.6 because of better prices for copper, copper sheet and wire bars, silver and tin. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products dropped from 89.0 to 86.9 because of reductions in the prices of asbestos, crude oil, kerosene, and gasoline. Chemicals and Allied Products moved down from 88.2 to 87.9 lower quotations obtaining for white lead, potassium iodide, bone meal and tankage.



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