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INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

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INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES, APRIL, 1933. (PRELIMINARY)

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index number of wholesale prices on the base 1926=100, advanced from 64.4 in March to 65.9 in April. 102 quotations were higher, 68 were lower, while 332 remained unchanged.

Vegetable Products rose from 52.1 to 56.8 due principally to gains for flax, wheat, barley, corn, flour, bran, shorts and sugar. Animals and Their Products moved up from 58.2 to 59.6, advances for steers, hogs, lambs, hides, lard, and fresh and cured meats overbalancing declines for calves, furs, and eggs. Fibres, Textiles, and Textile Products fell from 67.9 to 67.3, lower prices for Manila rope and hemp, bleached flannelette, and Canadian rayon taffeta influencing the index more than higher quotations for raw silk, wool and cotton. Wood, Wood Products and Paper changed from 63.2 to 62.8 chiefly on account of price reductions for spruce lath, cedar boards and bleached sulphite pulp. Iron and Its Products were unchanged at 85.0, slight declines for steel tank plates offsetting gains for automobile body plates. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products rose from 59.8 to 60.5, gains for antimony, copper, silver, tin and solder, outweighing losses for lead, zinc and imported copper wire bars. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products fell from 84.3 to 84.0 influenced more by reduced prices for imported anthracite coal, than by gains for sulphur. Chemicals and Allied Products changed fractionally from 82.6 to 82.4. Zinc oxide and lithopone moved upwards, while copper sulphate, tartaric acid, and quinine declined.

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