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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES AND INVENTORIES

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BY PROVINCES

Total department store sales amounted to \$82,346,000 in October, 1948, 23% higher than the sales of \$66,866,000 in October last year. Sales were \$605,198,000 in the first ten months of the year, 14% above sales of \$532,107,000 in the same period of 1947.

The review of provincial comparisons in the following table shows that Alberta's increase of 36% in October was the highest recorded. Inventory figures are not computed on a provincial basis.

Mail order sales are attributed to the province in which offices receiving the orders are located.

Department Store Sales in October, 1947 and 1948

Provinces	Sales		% Change, 1948/1947
	1947 (000's)	1948 (000's)	
CANADA	66,866	82,346	+23.2
Maritime Provinces	5,101	5,862	+14.9
Quebec	11,034	12,905	+17.0
Ontario	24,453	30,359	+24.2
Manitoba	10,102	12,602	+24.7
Saskatchewan	4,103	5,119	+24.8
Alberta	4,211	5,731	+36.1
British Columbia .	7,862	9,768	+24.2

BY SELECTED DEPARTMENTS

Sharp increases in sales of apparel featured the October results. Women's clothing sales were up 38% over October a year ago, while men's wear sales advanced 34%. Piece goods sales were up 24%. Substantial sales increases occurred in sales of all other types of merchandise, and durable goods departments particularly showed a strengthened position in October as the following gains were recorded: furniture, 15%; home furnishings, 14%; appliances, 18%; hardware, 21%; and radios, 18%.

Inventories increased by about \$24,000,000 in value (15%) at the end of September this year compared with the same date a year previously. The increases were greatest in apparel, food and home furnishings and appliances. Inventories of radio departments were down 14% at the end of September this year compared with a year ago.



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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES AND INVENTORIES

October, 1947 and October, 1948

STATISTICS BUREAU
OF STATISTICS

These figures are estimates of total department store sales and inventories. Inventories are at selling value.

Department	SALES			INVENTORY (*)		
	Oct. 1947	Oct. 1948	% Change 1948/47	Sept.30 1947	Sept. 30 1948	% Change, 1948/47
	(\$000)	(\$000)		(\$000)	(\$000)	
TOTAL, ALL DEPARTMENTS ...	66,866	82,346	+23.2	156,984	180,946	+15.3
1. Women's dresses, coats and suits	7,543	11,423	+51.4	13,487	18,223	+35.1
2. Girls' and infants wear .	3,334	4,069	+22.0	6,495	6,758	+ 4.0
3. Hosiery and gloves	2,411	2,981	+23.6	4,867	5,919	+21.6
4. Lingerie and corsets	2,331	3,160	+35.6	5,582	7,426	+33.0
5. Millinery	792	992	+25.3	835	829	- 0.7
6. Women's and children's apparel - (Total, 1-5)..	15,614	22,625	+37.9	31,266	39,155	+25.2
7. Men's and boys' clothing and furnishings	8,248	11,078	+34.3	20,643	24,279	+17.6
8. Drugs, toilet articles and preparations	1,346	1,461	+ 8.5	4,413	4,371	- 1.0
9. Piece goods	4,823	5,989	+24.2	13,133	15,371	+17.0
10. Smallwares	2,336	2,613	+11.9	7,329	7,919	+ 8.1
11. Food and kindred products	5,213	5,887	+12.9	4,371	5,344	+22.3
12. Furniture (including mattresses and springs)	4,144	4,745	+14.5	9,465	9,618	+ 1.6
13. Home furnishings	5,111	5,800	+13.5	17,695	20,796	+17.5
14. Household appliances and electrical supplies ...	2,703	3,187	+17.9	4,332	5,394	+24.5
15. Hardware and kitchen utensils	2,478	2,987	+20.5	7,153	7,960	+11.3
16. Radios, musical instruments and supplies	1,225	1,439	+17.5	3,578	3,083	-13.8
17. Shoes and other footwear	4,896	5,571	+13.8	11,922	14,721	+23.5
18. Stationery, books and magazines	933	1,074	+15.1	3,371	3,745	+11.1
19. All other departments, total	6,999	7,890	+12.7	18,313	19,190	+ 4.8

(*) Comparisons are based on inventories at the beginning of October in the two years.