### DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH OTTAWA, CANADA

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## PRELIMINARY REPORT ON DEPARTMENT STORE SALES, JUNE, 1942

The dollar value of department store sales in Canada in June, 1942, was 12 per cent higher than in the same month last year and declined 2 per cent from May. Unadjusted indexes of sales (on the base, 1935-1939 = 100) stood at 139.0 for June, 1942, 142.2 for May, 1942, and 123.7 for June, 1941. The average gain in sales during the first half of this year over last amounted to 15 per cent.

After adjustment for differences in number of business days and for normal seasonal variations, the index for June stood at 133.5, the decline below May being the third in a series of month-to-month decreases since the index reached a high peak in March of this year. The March index was 156.9; April, 148.8, and May, 140.1.

## INDEXES OF THE DOLLAR VALUE OF DEPARTMENT STORE SALES, 1935-1939 = 100

|                      | 1941  |                                  | 1942  |       |  |
|----------------------|-------|----------------------------------|-------|-------|--|
|                      | June  | June April May 123.7 145.1 142.2 | May   | June  |  |
| Unadjusted Indexes   | 123.7 | 145.1                            | 142.2 | 139.0 |  |
| Adjusted Indexes (a) | 123.1 | 148.8                            | 140.1 | 133.5 |  |

Regional increases in dollar volume of sales in June, 1942, over June, 1941, with increases for the first six months of this year over last in brackets, were as follows: Maritime Provinces, 15 per cent (19 per cent); Quebec, 18 per cent (17 per cent); Ontario, 9 per cent (13 per cent); Prairie Provinces, 9 per cent (12 per cent); and British Columbia, 22 per cent (19 per cent).

#### DEPARTMENT STORE SALES IN CANADA, BY SELECTED DEPARTMENTS

Sales of 17 departmental firms which reported June sales by departments averaged 12 per cent higher than in June, 1941. A decrease of 5 per cent occurred in salos of household appliances and electrical supplies, but increases were recorded for all other departments. Furniture sales were up 5 per cent, hardware sales gained 7 per cent and home furnishings, 12 per cent, while radios and musical instruments gained 17 per cent in the same comparison. Sales of women's clothing were 16 per cent higher while men's clothing departments reported improvement of 14 per cent over June a year ago. Footwear sales were 9 per cent greater than in June last year. Sales of food departments averaged 18 per cent higher.

#### DEPARTMENT STORE SALES IN OTTAWA

Ottawa department store sales averaged 21 per cent higher in June this year over last.

Note: The sales indexes given in this bulletin are based on dollar volume of business transacted. No adjustments are made for price changes. The indexes do not reflect changes in the quantities of goods purchased.

(a) Adjusted to allow for differences in number of business days and for normal seasonal variations.

# DEPARTMENT STORE SALES IN CANADA, BY SELECTED DEPARTMENTS

## JUNE, 1941 AND JUNE, 1942

(Based on dollar sales of 17 firms)

|   | June<br>1941 | June<br>1942 | % Change,<br>1942/1941 |
|---|--------------|--------------|------------------------|
| TOTAL SALES                                       | 22,372,701   | 25,016,736   | +11.8                  |
| 1. Women's dresses, coats and suits               | 2,243,583    | 2,691,878    | +20.0                  |
| 2. Girls' and infants' wear                       | 755,627      | 885,568      | +17.2                  |
| 3. Hosiery and gloves                             | 824,525      | 962,741      | +16.8                  |
| 4. Lingerie and corsets                           | 1,144,609    | 1,271,394    | +11.1                  |
| 5. Millinery                                      | 281,391      | 288,577      | + 2 • 6                |
| 6. Women's and children's apparel (Total, 1-5)    | 5,249,735    | 6,100,158    | +16+2                  |
| 7. Men's and boys' clothing and furnishings       | 2,486,020    | 2,825,723    | +13.7                  |
| 8. Drugs and toilet articles and preparations     | 590,602      | 672,374      | +13.8                  |
| 9. Piece goods                                    | 1,514,277    | 1,801,372    | +19.0                  |
| 10. Smallwares                                    | 646,658      | 762,334      | +17.9                  |
| 11. Food and kindred products                     | 1,865,569    | 2,203,518    | +18.1                  |
| 12. Furniture (including mattraces and springs).  | 1,388,598    | 1,460,085    | + 5.1                  |
| 13. Home furnishings                              | 1,666,958    | 1,866,564    | +12.0                  |
| 14. Household appliances and electrical supplies. | 709,715      | 674,076      | - 5.0                  |
| 15. Hardware and kitchen utensils                 | 1,147,017    | 1,221,787    | + 6+5                  |
| 16. Radios, musical instruments and supplies      | 241,402      | 281,170      | +16.5                  |
| 17. Shoes and other footwear                      | 1,899,670    | 2,068,244    | + 8.9                  |
| 18. Stationery, books and magazines               | 230,510      | 285,469      | +23.8                  |
| 19. All other departments, total                  | 2,735,970    | 2,793,862    | + 2.1                  |
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